

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

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|---|---|
| HOME COMMANDS<br>(Classification<br>by subjects)    | - Policy<br>- Defence of United Kingdom<br>- Movements<br>- Operations<br>- Allied Air Activity<br>- Enemy Air Activity<br>- Mining<br>- Enemy Intelligence<br>- U-Boats<br>- Navigational<br>- Technical<br>- Casualties and Defects<br>- Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS<br>(Classification<br>by stations) | - North Atlantic<br>- South Atlantic<br>- Mediterranean<br>- East Indies<br>- America and West Indies<br>- Australia and New Zealand<br>- U-Boat Campaign   |

Additional subject headings are sometimes employed temporarily, e.g. when an important operation is in progress.

2. The following volumes should be used to supplement the War Diary: the dates given in brackets are those on which the series held by War Diary commences:-

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (23 February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1 September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1 September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot (1 March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21 June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1 July 1941, No.222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.

War Diary.

1.9.1942  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

The flag of R.A.(D) H.F. was transferred to SCYLLA today.

Two Sunderlands this morning attacked an Italian U-boat in 44° 40' N. 6° 5' W., silenced its guns and, it is considered caused several casualties. At 1744 a Whitley attacked a U-boat, believed to be the same in 44° 40' N. 5° 54' W., without definite result. At 0931 G.M.T. today a U-boat with Italian call sign reported being attacked by 2 Sunderlands and at 0935 the U-boat reported wounded on board.

Operation  
S.N.89.

R.A.(M) sailed today in SOUTHERN PRINCE with ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, NEWARK and CHARLESTOWN to carry out a minelaying operation ~~in the Denmark Straits.~~ JAMAICA sailed to cover the operation.

*N.W. of Foros, approx.  
63.31 N., 10.36 W.  
(Minelaying War Diary History  
Sec. 5, para. 338)*

North Atlantic.

A U-boat sighted by aircraft south-west of Lisbon may be one of two apparent minelaying submarines seen in St. Nazaire recently; one of these U-boats departed between 24/8 and 28/8.

South Atlantic.

*from/* In order to reduce traffic in the dangerous area near Trinidad suitable ships below 15 knots speed bound ~~for~~ South Africa or further east and Plate ports to U.S.A. and Caribbean ports are to be routed via Magellan Straits and Panama Canal.

SS ILORIN (Port Harcourt to Takoradi) was sunk off Legu (Gold Coast) at 2030 today, presumed by a submarine.



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SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

3 M.T.B.s returning on account of stress of weather last night from the west end of Crete where they had been operating with the object of attacking shipping were attacked by aircraft (up to 10 at one time), successfully beat off all attacks without casualties or damage, and damaged several of the enemy aircraft.

U.S. pursuit planes bombed shipping in Heraklion (Crete) today and report a hit on a ship. Shortly after dark 3 U.S. B.24s bombed a south-bound convoy consisting of a tanker; 3 merchant vessels and 2 destroyers midway between the west coast of Crete and Derna and report sinking a 3000 ton merchant ship. Aircraft were sent to continue the attack and hit a 2500 ton merchant ship 35 miles N.E. of Derna.)

East Indies.

U/B in Gulf  
of Aden.

SS PALMA (British) reports sighting a submarine on the surface at 0900 today in 11° 22' N. 51° 34' E. (331° Cape Guardafui 34 miles) and SS GAZCON carrying M.T., Tanks, planes and ammunition was sunk at 2315Z today in 13° 1' N. 50° 41' E. (Gulf of Aden.)

America and West Indies.

B.R.O. Norfolk reports that SS INDIAN PRINCE sighted a ship thought to be a raider about noon on 23/8, some 50 miles east of Barbados.

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SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand.

It is believed that the enemy main naval forces in the S.W. Pacific area have now retired northwards, possibly to Bougainville Straits or New Ireland.

The total number of Japanese aircraft in the New Guinea - Solomon Is. area is believed to be about 300.

A merchant ship was unsuccessfully attacked by a submarine at 1120Z today in 28° 22' S. 159° 13' E.



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1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

L.S.I.(L)  
Ships.

My 0316/21. Following further ships are to be taken in hand for fitting as L.S.I.(L):

Ship	Port
DUCHESS OF BEDFORD	Liverpool.
MONARCH OF BERMUDA	Liverpool.
VICEROY OF INDIA	Glasgow.
MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE	Liverpool (not yet confirmed.)

2. Completion date is not later than 20/9.  
3. Ships will remain under Red Ensign.  
(D.S.T., 0119A/1.)

Flag of  
F.O.C.(D)  
H.F.

Flag of F.O.C.(D) H.F. has been transferred to SCYLLA.  
(C. in C. H.F., 0801A/1.)

BRIGADIER,  
CANTERBURY,  
BIARRITZ,  
DUKE OF  
ARGYLL.

H.M.S. BRIGADIER and \*L.S.I.(H) CANTERBURY, BIARRITZ and DUKE OF ARGYLL are due to arrive shortly in your command.  
It is requested that these ships may be allowed to work up under the orders of the Senior Officer.  
(C.C.O., 2206A/1 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

*\* L. Oct. 1942 - Now L.C.A. Callender*

Movements.

P. 31.

My 1701/31 para. (d). Amend to read P. 31 approx position 43° 21' N. 10° 28' W. probably proceeding submerged by day through 45° 01' N. 12° 59' W. 47° 01' N. 12° 31' W. 49° 08' N. 11° 59' W. for Portsmouth.  
(F.O.S., 0802A/1.)

→ SCYLLA.

Scapa departure 0909 SCYLLA with ESKDALE and FARNDALE.  
(A.C.O.S., 0931/1.)  
Arrived SCYLLA, ESKDALE, and FARNDALE.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1709A/1.)

VANQUISHER.

Intend sailing VANQUISHER from Lough Foyle at 2200A/1 by Standard Routes and searched channels to Plymouth. E.T.A. 0600A/3. F.O.I.C.  
Belfast is requested to arrange fighter protection.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 0946A/1.)  
C. in C. Plymouth's 1703A/1. Sailed VANQUISHER.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 2120A/1.)

P. 615.

Arrived P. 615.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1029A/1.)

/FAULKNOR ...

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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- FAULKNER. Intend to sail FAULKNER with D.8 at noon tomorrow for Scapa. E.T.A. 1400/3. (F.O. Humber, 1130A/1.)
- BROADWAY. In view of recent heavy fuel consumption anticipate BROADWAY must detach for fuel p.m./2. My P.C.S. 058° 11' 028° 07' 098° 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ . (C.T.U. 24.1.12, 1130Z/1 to C. in C. W.A.)
- AMAZON. Sailing AMAZON in accordance with my 1814A/31. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1156A/1.)
- SOMALI, WILTON. Sailed H.M. Destroyers SOMALI and WILTON in accordance with my 1956A/31. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1158A/1 to C. in C. H.F.)
- ANSON, ECHO Force A. Intend to proceed in ANSON passing Hoxa Gate at 1315 tomorrow. R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to arrange sailing of ECHO and available destroyers of Force A to R/V outside gate. On completion of exercises about 1900 ANSON will be in approx. position JJ when remaining destroyers of Force A less OFFA should join me. Thereafter intend to proceed through positions 000° Cape Wrath 5 miles, 059° 01' N. 006° 45' W. 059° 01' N. 010° 30' W. 063° 01' N. 021° 01' W. to Hvalfjord. E.T.A. 1230Z/4 with 8 destroyers. C. in C. W.A. and A.C.I.C. are requested to provide air escort where practicable from daylight 3rd. (V.A.2, 1301A/1 to C. in C. H.F.)
- MANXMAID. Intend to sail MANXMAID independently to Rosyth at 0900/2nd. E.T.A. May Island 1400/2. Request fighter protection. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1418/1 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
- P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE. Captain (S) 9's 1055/29. Arrival. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1625A/1.)  
*LOLM MONTETH.*
- CHELSEA. Intend to sail CHELSEA for Londonderry by swept channels and Q.Z.S. 287 and 277 at 0700/4. (C. in C. Nore, 1732A/1.)  
*from London*
- ADRIAS, KANARIS. Proceed passing Switha with ADRIAS, in tow of FREEBOOTER, at 2000 tonight in accordance with A.C.O.S. sailing order 381 of 1/9/42 and escort her to Tyne.
2. On completion of escort duty return to Scapa. (R.A.D., 1845A/1 to KANARIS.)  
Scapa departure FREEBOOTER towing ADRIAS escorted by KANARIS. (A.C.O.S., 2114/1.)

/BRADFORD ...



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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

BRADFORD. Intend to sail BRADFORD at 1400/2 by usual searched channels and the Pentland Firth to Londonderry. E.T.A. 0730/4.  
(F.O. Humber, 1854A/1.)

ADRIAS, A.M. 1500A/31. Intend to sail ADRIAS in tow of FREEBOOTER escorted by KANARIS 2000 today for KANARIS. Tyne. E.T.A. 0600/3.  
(A.C.O.S., 1921A/1.) *Sailed - See Previous Page.*

TUSCALOOSA, E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1700A/3 for TUSCALOOSA, RODMAN, RODMAN, EMMONS. Request air coverage over as much of EMMONS. route as possible.  
(TUSCALOOSA, 1944A/1.)

LEDA, Archangel, LEDA, HALCYON, BRITOMART. HALCYON, (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2100A/31.) BRITOMART.

Operations.

Patrols. Patrol tonight. 1. KITTIWAKE. 2. LA MELPOMENE, A/A escort F.N. 2 and 3. FERNIE. 4. HAMBLEDON. 5. CATTISTOCK. 6. GARTH.  
(C. in C. Nore, 0956A/1.)  
Tonight M.T.Bs 55, 50, 49, and M.G.Bs 312, 326 patrol Cherbourg area.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1135A/1.)  
Two A/S Trawlers patrolling in vicinity of E.A5 Buoy.  
3 M.T.Bs and 2 M.G.Bs patrolling to southward.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1415A/1 and 1644A/1.)  
M.Ls 147 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2045, E.T.R. 0540/2.  
The following anti E-Boat patrols from 2100. M.Ls 140 and R.M.L. 495 from Newhaven S.W. of C.1 Buoy, M.G.Bs 329 and 322 near D Buoy.  
(V.A. Dover, 1834A/1 and 1837A/1.)  
Patrols tonight. (1) At Z.6 M.G.Bs 60, 63, 61. (2) At. Z.16 M.G.Bs 315, 327. (3) At. Z.19 M.G.Bs 334, 332. (4) Vicinity 53 Buoy M.G.Bs 76, 79.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1839A/1.)

Eddrachilles (1) F.S.A5 appendix (2). Propose a temporary Bay S/M S/M sanctuary be instituted with following limits. Sanctuary. Eddrachilles Bay chart 2386 bound on north by 058° 23' N. south by 058° 14' N. west by longitude 005° 30' W. east by coast.  
(2) Sanctuary is not required before 20/9 and will be imposed by Training Cdr. TITANIA. F.S.A5, para. 28 refers.  
(F.O.S., 1146A/1.)



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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

- P.Q. 18. Cancel my 1302/9th June.
- S/M Covering Force. (1) Following are instructions concerning patrol area D occupying cover zone K.61 to K.84.  
(2) Capt. (S) 9 is responsible for routing S/Ms and instituting bombing restrictions to and from cover zone. S/Ms are to be routed as far as practicable from Norwegian coast and to proceed on surface at C.O.'s discretion.  
(3) S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to route submarines and institute bombing restrictions for passage of submarines between North Russia and cover zone if and when required.  
(4) F.O.S. will detail submarines for and institute bombing restrictions in all British patrol zones.  
(5) Object of submarines whilst on passage or in patrol zone is to attack and then report enemy vessels and U-Boats provided a full salvo is kept for heavy ships. Attention is called to paragraph 6 (A). Early reports of outward bound enemy units are vital and justify risk of submarines being sighted when reporting.  
(6) Submarines whether on passage or in their cover zone are  
(A) Not to attack submarines unless definitely established as enemy.  
(B) Not to attack surface ships unless hostile identity is definitely established.  
(C) To identify themselves to surface ships and aircraft recognised as friend.  
(7) Surface ships will be instructed not to attack submarines in patrol zone unless hostile identity is established.  
(8) Submarines are normally to patrol in centre of their allotted zone. It is important submarines should not betray their position, but see para. 5.  
(9) Submarines in cover 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 Lerwick. Submarines are to report their P.C.S. as soon as practicable but not until they are at least 60 miles clear of other submarines.  
(10) When in cover zone submarines may be ordered to proceed from one patrol zone to another with despatch or ordered to be in a patrol zone by a particular time. In a latter event submarines are to adjust their average speed of advance so as to arrive in their new zone at time ordered.  
(11) Submarines are warned to economize in fuel strictly.  
(F.O.S., 1228A/1.)

- Western Channel Patrols. (1) Take M.Ls 259, 488, and 195 under your orders and pass the gate at 1730 today and proceed to patrol on line between positions (A) 50° 04' N. 03° W. (B) 50° 12' N. 02° 40' W. from 2200/1st till 0600/2nd. Codeword "Wheel". Proceed to Dartmouth on completion.  
(2) Object to intercept and destroy enemy light craft attempting to lay mines in Lyme Bay.  
(3) M.T.Bs leave Dartmouth 2000 today to operate in area between Guernsey and Sept. Iles. Codeword "Warrant".  
(4) Friendly M.G.Bs will be in the vicinity of Cherbourg. Codeword "Advent".  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1447A/1 to M.L. 181.)



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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Western Channel Patrols. (Contd.) (1) Information: enemy E-Boats are based at Cherbourg. Trawlers and shipping may be met and coastal lights may be showing. Friendly 4 M.Ls S.O. in 181, codeword "Wheel", leave Plymouth 1730 to patrol N.E. of position (a) 50° 04' N. 3° W. from 2200.

M.G.Bs codeword "Advent" will be in vicinity Cherbourg. (2) Forces taking part M.T.Bs 236 (S.O.), 229, 240. (3) Object: to attack any enemy vessels sighted. (4) Execution: weather permitting M.T.Bs are to sail at 2000 today and proceed to vicinity of Plateau des Roches Douvres thence to vicinity of Les Sept Iles thence to arrive Dartmouth after daylight. M.T.Bs are to be not less than 25 miles from French coast at first light and have discretion to abandon operation if necessary. (6) Codeword "Warrant". (C. in C. Plymouth, 1522A/1 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.) Return to harbour. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2144A/1 to M.T.B. 236.)

G.K. VAN HOGENDORP (surrendered 31/8.) My 1742/31. Arrived Hartlepool. (N.O.I.C. Tees, 1710/1.)

Combined operation. My 1533/17/8. Request V.A. Dover will arrange further attempt on first suitable occasion commencing 10/9. (2) TORMENTOR is to sail R.154 and R.201 to Dover on 7/9. (3) C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to inform V.A. Dover whether any M.G.Bs of 14th Flotilla will be available to provide cover. (C.C.O., 1900A/1 to V.A. Dover, TORMENTOR.)

Allied Air Activity.

Projected attack on Raider. Your 2253A/31, confirming telephone conversation. Striking Forces of Bomber Command have not been ordered to state of readiness to take off to attack this target at dawn. (Air Ministry, 0510A/1 to Admty.)

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions operation (1) 25 miles either side of lines joining (A) Bardhead, and (B) 063° 10' N. 001° 55' E. from 0600A/2 until 2359A/3. (2) 30 miles either side of line joining (B) and (C) 066° 10' N. 005° 20' E. from 0600A/3 until 2359A/4. (3) 40 miles either side of line joining (C) and (D) 068° 20' N. 007° 50' E. from 0600A/4 until 2200A/5. (4) East 006° E. between (?) 068° and 071° N. up to 021° E. from 0001/5 until further notice. (Capt. S.9, 0947A/1 to H.Q.C.C.)

/Request ...

War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - *contd.*

Bombing restrictions. (Contd.) Request surface bombing restrictions from 2030/1 to 0800/2 between meridians of Portland and 4° W. and north of latitude 50° N. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1511A/1 and 2322A/1.)

"Knocker". My 2337A/31. First plane airborne 0932/1. (A.C.I.C., 1110A/1.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Archangel bombed on 31/8. City attacked by A/C with incendiaries and H.E. from 2130A to 2330A/31st. Several large fires started in City and Solombola which owing to high wind are still burning. A.A. defences appear to have improved. No damage to British personnel or property. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1022A/1.)

SARPEDON, NETSUKIS attacked. Trawler SARPEDON and drifter NETSUKIS returning from patrol were attacked by four enemy fighter aircraft at 0555 today four miles south of Folkestone. Enemy aircraft were engaged without observed results and the bombs they dropped caused no damage or casualties. (V.A. Dover, 1309A/1.)

Mining.

S.N. 89. R.A.M. sailed in SOUTHERN PRINCE with ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN. (N.O.I.C. Port ZA, 0444/1.) Scapa departure JAMAICA. (A.C.O.S., 0816/1.)

Cromarty and Fort George Sweeps. C. in C. Rosyth 1203A/25. Operation completed 75% sweep Cromarty no results. Fort George O.M. field not swept as was relaid before arrival of sweepers. Propose sailing VALMONT and ELENA at 0700/2 from Cromarty, E.T.A. Granton 1200/3. Request fighter protection. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1559A/1.)

Thames Estuary. One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at 1357/31. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1650/1.)

Off Needles. One magnetic mine red detonated by LL on 31/8 in approx. 287° 1.45 miles from Needles Light. Details. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1745/1 and 1130A/3.)



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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats Am over enemy S/M in 44° 40' N. 6° 5' W. Enemy reported. was on surface at speed estimated 6 knots. (A.O.C. 19 Group, 1032/1.)  
Am investigating suspicious object possibly conning tower in 59° 23' N. 27° 54' W. (15 Group, 1300/1.)  
No further contact established. (15 Group, 1315Z/1.)  
Am over S/M in 57° 58' N. 27° 49' W. S/M dived. (15 Group, 1425Z/1.)  
Am over enemy S/M. (A.O.C. 19 Group, 1750/1.)  
Am over S/M in 44° 40' N. 5° 54' W. (19 Group, 1756/1.)  
Am over enemy submarine in 58° 8' N. 27° 35' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge when first sighted was on course 110°, estimated speed 8 knots. (15 Group, 1820/1.)  
Am over enemy submarine in position 58° 7' N. 27° 45' W. Enemy was on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 110°, estimated speed 8 knots. (15 Group, 1923/1.)  
Am over enemy submarine in 58° 45' N. 26° 30' W. (15 Group, 1938Z/1.)  
Am over enemy submarine in position 58° 20' N. 26° 43' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (15 Group, Recd. 2016/1.)  
S/M has dived in 58° 40' N. 26° 20' W. (15 Group, 2025Z/1.)  
Enemy submarine previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 100°, estimated speed 6 knots. (15 Group, 2030Z/1.)

U-Boats Am over enemy S/M in 58° N. 26° 30' W. Enemy attacked. was sighted on the surface and observed to submerge. (Reykjavik W/T, 1500Z/1 from A/C 15 Group.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges, and estimate nil hits. (15 Group, 1520/1.)  
Am over enemy S/M in 44° 40' N. 5° 54' W. S/M dived on a course 100°, speed 8 knots. (19 Group, 1800/1.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimated two hits hung up. (19 Group, 1809/1.)  
Result of attack hits probable. (19 Group, 1818/1.)  
My 1059/22/7. The only attack worthy of mention this week was made by a Hudson A/C E.S.E. of Iceland (C) on the 24th. The A/C flying at 5000 feet dived to attack, dropping 4 depth charges, of which two were of the latest very shallow firing type, ahead of the conning tower which was still visible. Depth charge spacing 36 feet dropped from 100 feet. U-Boat's

/stern ...

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Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

U-Boats stern lifted violently. After 1 minute part of  
attacked. the U-Boat broke surface momentarily and 2  
(Contd.) minutes later a large oil patch was seen. Night  
flying in the Bay of Biscay this last month was  
ineffective owing to the presence of a large  
number of fishing vessels which gave "non-sub" echoes to the  
Radar resulting in searchlight exposures. Steps are being  
taken to overcome this.

(D.A/S.W., 2000Z/1 to Cominch.)

Am over enemy S/M in 57° 38' N. 26° 4' W. Enemy was  
sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first  
sighted was on course 045°, estimated speed 8 knots.

(15 Group, 2100/1.)

Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no  
hits.

(15 Group, 2117Z/1.)

Navigational.

Wick. Wick Harbour opened at 0745/1.  
(R.N.O. Wick, 0950A/1.)

Mudyu Radio (Corrupt group). Mudyu Radio Beacon. Changed  
Beacon. permanently to following. Details.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0810A/1.)

Sandhead Sandhead buoy light extinguished.  
Buoy. (V.A. Dover, 1529A/1 and 1531A/1.)

N.E. Docking N.E. Docking Buoy missing from station.  
Buoy. (F.O. Humber, 2325/1.)

Casualties and Defects.

COWDRAY. My 1814A/31. COWDRAY delayed by defects.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0336A/1.)

SILICIA. Divers will commence working at noon tomorrow on  
wreck H.M.T. SILICIA sunk in Hull Roads.  
Operations will continue as weather permits at  
each subsequent daylight low and high water. Expect complete  
operations 4/9. GALLEONS REACH will leave Immingham 0800/2  
and will be in attendance during operations.  
(C.S. Officer, Eastern Area, 1025/1.)

VIRGINIA. My 1855/30. Owing to non-delivery of parts for  
main generators date of completion of VIRGINIA  
is extended until 15/9 ex trials.  
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1128/1.)



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Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

- NORTHCOATES. Anchored in Islay Sound NORTHCOATES repairing burst boiler pipes.  
(CONWAY CASTLE, 1345A/1.)
- FOREMOST 45. Intend to sail LADY SOUTHBOROUGH at 0730A/2 to Barry Roads to assist in salvage of FOREMOST 45. E.T.A. 0945A/2.  
(N.O.I.C. Newport, 1535A/1.)
- CARNATION. Arrived CARNATION with A/S defects.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 1808A/1.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Signals from Escorts. Signals from escorts containing positions should indicate clearly whether it is the position of the convoy or that of the transmitting ship only.  
(C. in C. W.A., 0947A/1.)

LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE. LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is due Clyde about 9/9. For details of personnel on board see V.A.C.N.A's 1017/29/8.  
2. Vessel should be ready to sail on 17/9. She will embark to full capacity at Tail of Bank on 16/9.  
3. Information in para. 2 is subject to confirmation.  
(D.S.T., 1100A/1.)

Convoys in Lyme Bay. My 1431/31.  
Convoys in Lyme Bay will now be swept as follows: W.A. convoys from Dartmouth to Portland, P.W. convoys from Portland to Dartbuoy. Sweepers then entering Dartmouth. (2) N.O.I.C. Portland and N.O.I.C. Dartmouth are requested to comply.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1119A/1.)

P.Q. 18. C. in C. H.F. 2237/30.  
WORCESTER is to pass Hvalfjord Boom at 1700/2 for Seidisfjord routed southabout. E.T.A.  
Seidisfjord Boom 1400/3.  
(C.S.18, 1146A/1.)  
My 2237/30 para. II. Force P expected to pass through position NN steering 355° 10 knots at 0001/5. WORCESTER is to sail so as to R/V about 0700/5.  
(II) On relief BRAMHAM is to proceed to Seidisfjord, refuel, and await further orders.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1713A/1 to C.S.18, A.C.I.C. OAKLEY, BRAMHAM, SURPRISE.)  
Intend to sail Loch Ewe at 1800A/2 with MALCOLM in company. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 0800A/4 routed through 058° 50' N. 007° 02' W. thence through Reykjanes Passage. Speed of advance 18 knots.  
2. Request A/S air escort.  
(R.A.D.H.F., 1754A/1.)

/Your ...

War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - con 5:

- P.Q. 18. (Contd.) Your 1930/29. There is only about 5000 tons in Kola Inlet some of which will be required for normal expenditure. To meet your requirements it will be necessary to send tanker in P.Q. 18 to Kola Inlet in addition to ATHELTEMPLAR to Archangel.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2154A/1 to C. in C. H.F.)
- A.T. 21. Admty. 1732A/29. Request action be taken on para. 5 similar to that defined in your A.250 26/4. Air Ministry taking up smoke screen question independently.  
(Air Ministry, 1205A/1 to F.C.)  
Admty. 1732A/29. Arrangements have been made for chemical smoke screen to cover SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH when at anchor in Clyde in the event of enemy activity. Screen to be manned and operated by Naval personnel. Request A.O.C. 13 Group be asked to contact F.O.I.C. Greenock to arrange procedure for putting screen into operation upon receipt of warning of approach of enemy aircraft.  
(Air Ministry, 1811A/1 to H.Q.F.C.)
- Special Movements Forecast. AMERICAN PIONEER. A.M. 1750/8/6 and your 2219/25/6 para. (b). Request information if Navy Dept. are now in a position to initiate Special Movements Forecasts. 2. Request special arrangements be made to advise U.S. and British Authorities concerned of extreme importance of cracking plant being shipped in AMERICAN PIONEER and subsequent vessels.  
(D.T.D., 1320A/1 to B.A.D. Washington.)
- ORMONDE. Intend sailing ORMONDE, SARDONYX, SABRE at 0700/2nd to Greenock. Speed of advance 14 knots. Routed from Reykjanes through  
F. 60.01 N. 16.59 W.  
F. 57.59, 10.01.  
G. 270° Barrahead 15 miles.  
If delayed orders given that Admty. 2002A/29 is to be complied with.  
(A.C.I.C., 1405A/1.)
- S.L. 119. My P.C.S. 49° 25' N. 21° 20' W. 46°, 22 knots. ZETLAND in company. KEPPEL 30 miles astern, speed 20 knots. BULLDOG and ZETLAND intend to join S.L. 119 2/9, KEPPEL later. Special weather report.  
(BULLDOG, 1701A/1.)
- ORMONDE, SARDONYX, SABRE. Sailed my 1405A/1 at 1815A/2. E.T.A. Clyde Boom 0200A/5.  
(A.C.I.C., 1845A/2.) *Should be on p. 44.*

/MAID ...



War Diary.

1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

MAID OF  
ORLEANS.

MAID OF ORLEANS will be used to transport approx. 800 U.S. troops from Roseneath to Londonderry. Ship should be sailed so as to arrive Londonderry at daylight 3rd September.  
(D.O.D.(H), 1849A/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

T.A. 20.

Convoy T.A. 20 consisting of SIBONEY will be ready to leave Clyde for New York p.m./5th.  
2. Escort will be provided by Task Force 37 consisting of PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, WILKES, SWANSON, EDISON, WOOLSEY, LUDLOW, NICHOLSON and COLE.  
3. Admiralty will promulgate route direct to New York.  
4. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to arrange for Destroyer escorts to join convoy from Londonderry as requisite.  
5. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail convoy as requisite.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 2010A/1.)

War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

A.M. 1810A/25. (1) STEPHEN HOPKINS overdue since 23/8 at Durban from Australia. May be a victim of Raider E.  
 (2) Up to 28/8 no Altmark tankers had left Biscay  
 (3) No further information concerning Raider H., Raider J or Japanese raiders.  
 (D.D.I.C., 1036A/1 to A.I.G. 13, B.A.D., R.A.W.A. Cominch Comnavu).

North Atlantic.

LEINSTER

Ref. Admty 2313/23/8. Sailed from U.K. on 28/8. For details of personnel on board see War Office signal 61814 of 30/8 to Governor and C. in C. Gibraltar.

(D.S.T., 0118A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

As no reply has been received to my 1356A/30 intend to embark about 500 Army Officers and other ranks in LEINSTER as RAMILLIES is unable to accommodate more than one half of battalion.

2. It may not be practicable to provide escort.

(V.A.C.N.A., 1058A/1 to Admty).

Your 1058/1. Approved to embark about 500 Army Officers and other ranks in LEINSTER.

(D.O.D. (F), 2000A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

110 M.S.F.,  
111 M.L.F.

Arrival VETCH escorting Tug DECISION B.D.V. BARDOLF 110th M.M/S F. 111th H.D. M.L.F., and 3rd L.C.T. F.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 0258A/1 to Admty).

CALEDON

Arrived.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0948A/1 to Admty).

Intend to sail for Plymouth at 2200A/1. Route. S. of A. 18½ knots.

C. in C. Plymouth is requested to signal onward route from position (T) CALEDON carries bullion. Is not fitted with R/T.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1600A/1 to Admty C. in C. Plymouth).

Left Gibraltar at 2200A/1 through 035° 59' 006° 03' W., 036° 40', 008° 58' W., thence course 297° S. of A. 18½ knots. At 2130/1 P.C. and S. of U-boat 038° 10', 011° 10' 170° 9 knots.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2238A/1 to P.247, OTUS).

SPIREA,  
ESSO GETTYS-  
BURG.

My 1346A/31 and my 2002/31 postponed 24 hours. Ships returned owing to machinery defect of escort (5 missing groups).\*  
 (N.O.I.C. Gibraltar 1016A/1 to Admty).  
 \*Missing groups called for.



War Diary.

1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

- P.222 My 1006/27. Sailed 0815.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1044A/1 to C. in C. Med).
- P.37 4 A.S.V. Swordfish A/C burning navigation lights will search for you after 2130 for about 1 hour. Acknowledge.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1106A/1 to P.37 R.R.N.A.S., R.A.F., Gibraltar).
- MALAYA MALAYA's 1550/13/8 to V.A.C.N.A. Intend to take in hand forthwith for wear and waste test and renewal of defective tubes. Ship will be at 6 hours notice for 20 knots and 24 hours notice for full speed during the period of tests. Anticipate completion about mid November subject to more urgent requirements for dockyard boilermakers and receipt of boiler tubes.  
(C.S. Gibraltar 1220A/1 to Admty).
- Vichy Convoy. My 1433/28/8 following French ships passed Straits westbound 1100 14/8 MARECHAL LYAUTEY, FAUZON half loaded, PESCAGEL loaded, and two fishing craft escorted by armed trawler ~~SERVANNAISE~~. This information can be accepted as reliable.  
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1246A/1 to Admty).
- OTUS My 11(06) ? 29/7. Sailing.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1328A/1 to Admty).  
Left Gibraltar p.m./1 September on the surface at 9½ knots through P.036° 05' N., 009° 05' W. at 1030A/2 and Q 042° 59' N., 012° 31' W., at 0930A/4  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1608A/1 to P.247).
- P.212 Arrived.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1452A/1 to C. in C. Med).
- Reports of S/M Movements. Can reply now be given to my 1644/3/8\*please.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1532A/1 to Admty).  
\* Dummy messages between Whitehall W/T and Gibraltar W/T.
- CLAN MACWHIRTER. My 2245/31/8 Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES reports picked up second boat with 14 survivors 0001/1. One boat still missing. Now informed vessel was sunk 035° 35' N., 019° 50' W., 26/8.  
(N.A. Lisbon, 1600A/1 to Admty).  
My 2055/31 and my 1135/31. Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES landed at Funchal 14 British and 30 Lascars survivors from 2 lifeboats ex SS. CLAN MACWHIRTER. She failed to find 3rd lifeboat after long search.  
(N.C.S.O. Funchal, 2200/1 to Admty F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, (R) B.N.A. Lisbon).

War Diary.

1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

CLAN  
MACWHIRTER  
(torpedoed  
26/8).  
Contd.

Torpedoed by U/B at  
(1) British. /2300 26/8 035° 45' N., 019° 45' W.  
Not sighted before attack. Afterhailing boats  
and demanding name of ship under threat of  
opening fire U/B proceeded on N. westerly course  
Ship sunk in 5 to 10 minutes. U.69, appeared  
large, one about 4.5" well forward of Conning  
Tower one anti-aircraft abaft. Very large  
Conning tower 10 torpedoes.  
(N.C.S.O. Funchal, 2341/1 to Admty and S.O.(I)  
Gibraltar).

P.247

My P.C. and S. 042° 53', 009° 34' 196° 10.  
(P.247, 1601A/1 to F.O.C.N.A. Capt. (S) 8).  
Your 1601A/1 to F.O.C.N.A. Proceed on surface  
at discretion to pass position 040° 20' 010° 31' at 0800A/2.  
(J) 037° 45' 009° 49' at 2330A/2 (K) 225° Cape St. Vincent 15  
miles at 0600A/3 then diving by day as necessary passing (L)  
036° 42' 007° 30' at 2200A/3 and to arrive (M) 350° Cape  
Spartel 5 miles to R/V escort at 0700A/4. One trawler on patrol  
off Lisbon. You may encounter OTUS in vicinity (J).  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2006A/1 to P.247 (R) OTUS, Admty F.O.S.)

LAFOREY

Your 1234A/1. Weather report. My position  
038° 08' N., 014° 26' W.  
(LAFOREY 1901A/1 to Admty).

Bombing  
Restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following  
areas

Area	From	Until
G.14	0001/3	1100/3
G.01	0300/3	2000/3
G.02	1200/3	0830/4
G.03	0030/4	1530/4

All times Zone minus one.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1906/1 to Admty H.Q.C.C.)

Request total bombing restrictions in following  
areas

Area	From	Until
G.16	0630/2	0030/3
G.15	1630/2	0830/3
G.14	0030/3	2359/3

My 1738/31. Cancel total bombing restrictions in extension  
to area G.27 and G.28 forthwith and cancel area G.27 and G.28  
after 1400/2. (3) All times zone minus one.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2008A/1 to Admty H.Q.C.C.)

S/M sighted

Am over enemy S/M in 38° 10' N., 11° 10' W.  
S/M previously reported was sighted on surface  
and observed to submerge when first sighted was  
on course 170° estimated speed 9 knots.  
(A/C Callsign TK7B 2130/1 Gibraltar W/T).



1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

S/M sighted My 2130. Have lost touch with enemy S/M last  
Contd. seen in 38° 10' N., 11° 10' W.  
U-boat not attacked.  
(A/C Callsign TK7B 2140/1 to Gibraltar W/T).  
U-boat reported in 038° 10' N., 011° 10' W., at 2130A  
today course 170° speed 9 knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2303A/1 to Ship and Authorities North Atlantic  
Station Trawlers Western Patrol (R) Admty).  
My 2130. Position revised at C.S.V. 38° 30' N., 11° 40' W.  
X.23.  
(A/C TK7B 2330/1).

BARBRAKE My 1638. BARBRAKE returned to Horta 1630 G.M.T.  
to repair steam pipes. Estimate 12 hours delay.  
F.O.C.N.A. please advise R.A.W.A.  
(R.O. Fayal, 1810C/1 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

Movements. SPANIARD searching for Survivors S. of Freetown.  
COWSLIP, CANNA, between Freetown and 3.30W. 11.40W.  
BRILLIANT altering to 7.45, 14.45 149. 10 at  
1959Z/1.  
BOREAS about 2.05 10.01 to Freetown through 03.30, 11.40 9½.  
ASTURIAS, CARNARVON CASTLE 04.35 S., 16.10 to (?06).49 S.,  
14.03 W. thence 283 14 friendly naval units patrol 05 S., W.  
(?14).30  
(R.A.W.A.F., 0917Z/1 to A.I.G.)

GAMBIA Your 1251/28. Cannot be accepted until CERES  
undocks about 15/10.  
(A.S. Simonstown, 1213B/1 to C. in C. E.F.)

NORDANGER Your 1217/31. Have no further information.  
overdue. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1214B/1 to Admty).

SCYTHIA, Your 1927/25 minimum bunker oil required in tons  
OTRANTO. at Freetown for SCYTHIA 1500 E.T.A. 13th  
For OTRANTO 1600 E.T.A. 10th.  
(P.S.T.O. Capetown, 1500B/1 to D.S.T.)

MEDON ROSEMOUNT has landed Master and 13 others from  
(torpedoed (?British ship) MEDON sunk by Italian U-boat,  
9/8). probably CALVI Class, on 10/8 in 009° 26' N.,  
038° 28' W.  
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1636B/1 to Admty (?C. in C.  
S.A., N.S.H.Q., S.O.(I) Kingston, B.A.D.,  
R.A.W.A.F.)



1141/1 September.

MESSAGE.

IN

From: C. in C. South Atlantic

Date: 1/9/42.

Recd: 2225

P/L BY C. & W.

Addressed: Admiralty Repeated: Sec. for Defence Pretoria  
High Commissioner Pretoria D.S.A.N.F. and Commodore  
in charge Simonstown.

Pretoria please pass to Sec Defence and H.C. Admiralty  
message 1313/3 August. Not to other addresses. Request  
following may be promulgated by a message. Begins

Government of Union of South Africa has decided to  
combine R.N.V.R. South Africa and S.D.F. with effect from  
1st August 1942 to form a new unit to be known as South  
African Naval Forces. From that date all members of the  
R.N.V.R.(S.A.) and S.D.F. will become members of the S.A.N.F.  
by duly promulgated emergency legislation. The R.N.V.R.(S.A.)  
will become dormant and the S. D.F. will cease to exist

*(Explanation, see 2102 B/9, page 242).*

2 Permanent force members of S.A.N.F. will be designated  
S.A.N.F. while personnel serving on a non-permanent i.e.  
active citizen force basis will be designated S.A.N.F.(V)

3 Union Government has also decided that R.N.V.R.(S.A.)  
at present serving with R.N. will from 1st August be  
seconded to R.N. from S.A.N.F. method of secondment and  
placing under Naval Discipline Act as laid down in C.A.F.O.  
891/42 for S.D.F. Same arrangement to be applied to future  
drafts of S.A.N.F. seconded to R.N. Any permanent force  
S.A.N.F. to be attached to R.N. instead of R.N.V.R.

4 All S.A.N.F.(V) commissions will be temporary and the  
rank and seniority of officers will date from date of  
commencing full time service during present war. This is  
standard procedure of Union Defence Forces.

5 Consequently following will be granted temporary  
S.A.N.F.(V) commissions in existing rank and seniority (A)  
All ex R.N.V.R.(SA) ratings granted temporary S.A.N.F.(V) *(Amended 17.3.41)*  
commissions. (B) A few temporary R.N.V.R.(UK) officers *(R.N.V.R.(UK))*  
who as Union Nationals have been granted dormant commissions  
in R.N.V.R.(S.A.) War Reserve. (C) R.N.V.R.(S.A.) Officers  
promoted since the war.

6 R.N.V.R.(S.A.) officers not promoted since the war will  
consequently be granted temporary S.A.N.F.(V) commissions in  
the rank they commenced full time service during the present  
war in R.N.V.R.(S.A.) or S.D.F. and with seniority of date  
of commencing such service.

7 Existing rules for promotion by Admiralty of R.N.V.R.  
(S.A.) officers seconded to R.N. to apply to S.A.N.F.(V)  
officers seconded to R.N. other than those serving in H.M.S.A.  
Ships under Admiralty.

8 R.N.V.R.(S.A.) Lieutenants on active list will however  
become eligible for promotion to Lieutenant Commander  
S.A.N.F.(V) on the same date as if they had retained their

R.N.V.R.(S.A.)....



8 R.N.V.R.(S.A.) seniority.

9 Present R.N.V.R.(S.A.) and future S.A.N.F.(V) ratings selected by Admiralty for commissions will be granted S.A.N.F.(V) commissions. Admiralty to telegraph S.A. Department of Defence name and rank and seniority as and when selections are made.

10 S.A.N.F.(V) ratings seconded to R.N. to be advanced by R.N. in accordance with R.N.rules in the same way as R.N.V.R.(S.A.) ratings have hitherto been advanced. This will not however apply to S.A.N.F.(V) ratings in H.M.S.A.Ships under Admiralty.

11 Uniform is same as R.N. but with distinctive buttons and orange flash or tab on lower part of each sleeve for both officers and ratings and top of shoulder strap for officers. Special cap ribbons for ratings and words South Africa on shoulder of each sleeve. Ex R.N.V.R.(S.A.) officers may wear present uniforms until they require replacement.

12 Union Government has accepted financial liability for difference between R.N. and S.A.rates of pay with effect from 1st June 1942 and for difference between U.K. and S.A. Pension rates with effect from 1st August 1942. Consequently all ex R.N.V.R.(S.A.) personnel seconded to R.N. are with effect from 1st June 1942 to be paid at S.A. rates laid down in A.F.O. 4910/41 and all S.A.N.F. personnel seconded to R.N. will be paid at these rates.

13 Death and disability pensions and benefits for all seconded S.A.N.F. personnel will with effect from 1st August 1942 be assessed at S.A. Rates laid down in War Pensions Act 1942 (Act No 44) of Union of South Africa.

14 The Cashier Simonstown will continue to pay allotments but transfer from R.N. marriage allowances to S.A. married allowances will require new allotments to conform to paragraph 22 of A.F.O. 4910/41 and paragraph 26 of Appendix 1. The following action will be necessary:  
(A) Accountant officers are to credit South African rates of pay and married allowances as from 1st June 1942 and deduct R.N. rates of pay already credited. They will also prepare new antedated allotments of at least half basic pay plus married and cost of living allowances. Married allowances are to be credited on a signed and witnessed statement by ratings where the requisite information in respect of family is not available from service certificate or in a marriage record form attached to service certificate. The South African rates and number of children are to be clearly indicated on forms S 53 to be forwarded direct to the Cashier Simonstown.  
(B) The Cashier will check the forms and will arrange to pay allotments at the new rates. He will also pay differences between the previous allotments plus R.N. marriage allowance and the new allotments for the period from 1st June 1942 to date of commencing payment of allotments at new rates.

15 Payment of dependants allowances in force at R.N. rates will be continued at R.N. rates until reassessed by South Africa Authorities.





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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- Rocket British ship FORT BARRACKGER sighted white rocket at 2055Z/23/8 in 029° 24' S., 012° 11' E. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1637B/1 to Admty C. in C. S.A.)
- AMIRAL PIERRE (French). My 1642/21/8. Report graded B.2. states due to sail Reunion Is. 1/9. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1802B/1 to C. in C. E.F.)
- BURDOCK, ARMERIA, CATHLAMET (U.S.A.) My 1625Z/28/8.  
1. Amend R/V to position 013° 44' N., 038° 04' W. at 0900Z/2 at 0900Z/2. From R/V proceed to position (?D).. BURDOCK detach ARMERIA to meet CATHLAMET in 010° 03' N., 040° 56' W. at 1500Z/3 and (?escort) direct to Freetown. CATHLAMET is routed through 010° 00' N., 043° 21' W., and 010° 22' N., 029° 41' W. S. of A. 9 knots. If not met ARMERIA steer to westward for 4 hours and then return to Freetown giving escort to any ship if possible. (R.A.W.A.F., 1817Z/1 to BURDOCK, ARMERIA, SNOWDROP)
- S/M base facilities in South Africa. Lt. Cdr. Hall has proposed programme for expansion at Port Elizabeth and East London. (C. in C. S.A., 1852B/1 to F.O. S/Ms).
- PINDOS Arrived 1st. *(Barrackger - Pink list)*  
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1911Z/1 to Admty F.O.C.N.A.)
- Routeing of Shipping to U.S.A. To reduce traffic in dangerous area near Trinidad the following instructions are to be put into effect forthwith for shipping proceeding from the Cape to U.S.A. and Caribbean ports.  
(A) All suitable ships below 15 knots from South Africa or further east and River Plate ports are to be routed via Magellan Straits and Panama Canal. Other ships below 15 knots to be routed to Trinidad in conformity with M.A.R.I.  
(B) For the purposes of the Magellan route N.C.S.Os. should consult with M.W.T.R. and Master as to the suitability of a ship for Magellan passage.  
(C) The following are the principal considerations:- (1) Ship should have ample margin of bunkers to reach next bunkering port safely taking into account probable weather conditions.  
(2) Ship should be of sufficient power for this voyage, say about 10 knots minimum.  
(D) The following types of ship are not to be routed by Magellan Straits:- (1) Ships in ballast. (2) Returning troopers.  
(3) Ships debarred by Asiatic crew articles.  
(E) In view of poor quality coal bunkers available West Coast South America and Diplomatic difficulties, coal burning ships using the Magellan route will require to bunker in South Africa right through to Panama Canal or supplement bunkers at Montevideo where appropriate bunker stocks will be arranged.

War Diary.

1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. ~~charts~~

Routeing  
of shipping  
to U.S.A.  
Contd.

(F) Oil burners and diesel ships, if unable to bunker from South Africa right through to Panama will require to supplement bunkers at Valparaiso where bunkers are being arranged.

(G) Masters may require to be supplied from Simonstown with appropriate charts.

(H) Masters should be warned not to discuss the Magellan route with anyone other than M. of W.T.R.

(I) Appropriate supply of coal bunkers at Panama will be arranged.

2. U.S. shipping is conforming generally with the above except for Para. 1 (D) and the U.S. Authorities will notify Alusna, Capetown repeated Admiralty what U.S. ships it is desired to route via Cape Horn or Magellan.

(D.T.D., 2330A/1 to C. in C. S.A., (R) R.A.W.A. B.A.D., Washington Connav).



War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy At 0205C/1 A/C report one medium sized and 5  
convoy. small vessels P.C.S 034° 53' 023° 06' 205° 8 knots.  
(Capt. S.1. 0255C/1 to P.46. (R) C. in C. Med.  
Capt. S.10.)

Am over two enemy M/Vs 4 destroyers in 35° 20' N 23° 22' E  
course 000° speed 7 knots.

(A/C using call sign QZ7A 0330/1.)

Air reports indicate vessels in my 0255C/1 may have turned  
back during night and resumed their course at any time unobserved.  
Move to intercepting position based on my 0255/1 within approx.  
15 to 20 miles of coast.

(Capt. S.1. 0812C/1 to P.46. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.)

Joint  
War  
Communique  
1/9.

In the early morning of 31/8 strong enemy columns  
approached our positions in the Southern Sector.  
They were engaged by our forces and fighting  
continued in this area throughout the day.  
An enemy attack in the early morning in the  
Central Sector was repulsed.  
(Mideast T.O.O. 0923Z/1.)

Movements.

August 31st Port Said arrival BOSTON, WHITEHAVEN,  
SNAPDRAGON, ~~CUMBRAE~~, GRAND CAYMAN, HYACINTH, PRIMULA.

(N.O.I.C. Port Said 0929C/1 to Admty. C. in C. Med.  
(R) F.O.R.S.F. R.A.Alexandria.)

*\* Not identified.*

Operation  
"Ascendant"

F.O.C.N.A. reports force was shadowed on day 2  
request amplification in order to assess risk  
should similar operation be required later.  
(V.A. Malta 1024B/1 to Admty.)

UTMOST.

Return to vicinity of position given in my  
2306/29th by daylight 2nd.  
(Capt. S.1. 1135C/1 to UTMOST (R) C. in C. Med.  
Capt. S.10. S/Ms on Patrol.)

S/M

Am over enemy S/M in 58° 5' N 27° 25' W. Observed  
to submerge.  
(No. 15 Group 1203/1.)

Cositrep  
No.500.

3. Night 30/31. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Near  
misses claimed on shipping outside port and fires  
started in docks.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1207 G.M.T./1 to W.O.)

P.35.

1st arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta 1215B/1 to Admty.)



War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- \* RORQUAL. Ref. your sailing orders anticipate RORQUAL will be in approx.  $034^{\circ} 30' 024^{\circ} 05'$  course  $095^{\circ}$  about 2359B/2.  
UNA.  
→ UTMOST.  
\* See next page. (Capt. S.10. 1216B/1 to UNA. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. S.O.S. Alexandria.)  
Area dangerous due British mines within 2 miles of  $039^{\circ} 17' 020^{\circ} 18'$ . Cancel my 1650/31. At 2000B/31 RORQUAL was in  $037^{\circ} 35' 091^{\circ} 39'$  returning to Beirut by route ordered in my 1815/27 making 130 miles daily.  
(Capt. S.1. 1230C/1 to \*UTMOST. (R) RORQUAL. Subs on patrol. Capt. S.10. C. in C. Med. No.201 N.C. Group.)  
\* See previous page.
- ORION. Suez Ist. Arrival from S. at 1245.  
(F.O.C. Red Sea Force 1301C/1 to C. in C. Med.)
- Fayid. Certain work for R.A.F. will be done at Fayid.  
Staff required etc.  
(C. in C. Med. 1303C/1.)
- S/M  
→ Movements. \*UTMOST leave patrol as ordered by Capt. S.1. through  $037^{\circ} 39' 020^{\circ} 05' 035^{\circ} 22' 015^{\circ} 06'$  and by reverse of outward route to R/V with sweeper end of searched channel  $0959/8$ . P.34 will leave  $035^{\circ} 22' 015^{\circ} 06'$  about 0430/3 for  $038^{\circ} 23' 019^{\circ} 45'$  and P.43  $035^{\circ} 29' 015^{\circ} (?57')$  same time following day for  $036^{\circ} 15' 020^{\circ} 42'$ .  
(Capt. S.10 1237B/1 to 10th S/M Flotilla. (R) Capt. S.1. C. in C. Med. No. 201 N.C. Group. S.O.S. Alexandria.)  
\* See previous page.
- THRASHER. On arrival in your area proceed direct to patrol N.E. of Derna just outside hundred fathom line. Attention is drawn to Q B 75.  
(Capt. S.1. 1240C/1 to THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. TRAVELLER. P.46.)  
Ref. A/C X report 1257/1 if you can reach it by 1100C/2 proceed to a position 20 miles N.W. of Tobruk. Otherwise act in accordance with my 1240/1.  
(Capt. S.1. 1935C/1 to THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med. No. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. Subs on patrol.)
- Enemy convoy. Following has been read:- Addressed 201 Group from A/C X of Squadron. P.C.S. of 4 unknown type enemy ships and 4 ? enemy A/C  $34^{\circ} 22' N 22^{\circ} 30' E$  180 approx. speed unknown.  
(Malta W/T 1257/1.)
- S/Ms. Until further orders S/Ms are not to be attacked in area T.  
(Capt. S.1. 1825C/1 to S/Ms on patrol.)



War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Malta Air  
Report.1.637 1/9. C.S.R.  
Night 30/1. 1 alert 2021 hours 2 raiders approached  
1 Beaufighter up could not intercept owing to  
serious R.D.F. interference. Raiders dropped  
bombs in sea 5 miles N of island and then turned  
back.During August 50 enemy aircraft destroyed 16 probably destroyed  
27 damaged by R.A.F. Malta 1 enemy A/C destroyed 1 probably  
destroyed by A.A.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1950Z/1.)

RORQUAL.

*See previous page.* Your 2029/31 if minelaying gear has been repaired  
proceed via Antikithera Channel to Suda Bay and  
lay remainder of mines vicinity 035° 32' 024° 14'.  
Your attention is drawn to Q B 65. If time proceed Beirut through  
035° 14' 026° 39' thence direct arriving Beirut dawn. Report  
your E.T.A. when E of 027° 00'. If unable comply, proceed as in  
my (?1815) 27th and report when safe to do so.  
(Capt. S.l. 2245C/1 to RORQUAL (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.l0.  
Subs on patrol. 201 N.C. Group.)

War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

JAN DE  
WAELE. Left 0130Z/1.  
(N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll 0133Z/1 to Admty. S.O.I.  
Bombay. S.O.I. Colombo. S.O.I. Kilindini.  
S.O.I. Aden.)

A/C My 1811/31. N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll reports:-  
sighted Your 1949/31. Aircraft was sighted by Signalmen  
at Addu. on duty P.W.S.S. flying at high altitude not seen  
by anybody elsewhere, consider possible mistake.  
T.O.O. 0141Z/1. Ends.  
(F.O. Ceylon 0405Z/1 to C. in C. E.F.)

U.S.16. Following are revised arrangements for escort of  
U.S.17. U.S.16 and 17.  
Escorts. Armed M/Vs sail in company from Fremantle on 6th  
escorted by TROMP. ADELAIDE. KANIMBLA and MANOORA.  
Routes from Fremantle to position W 030° 40'

032° 55'.  
DEVONSHIRE is to be sailed from Colombo to R/V in position 029°  
00' S 095° 02' E at 0600Z/10. M.L.A. 279° towards position M.  
DEVONSHIRE with both A.M.Cs is to escort combined convoy to  
vicinity of position (N). ADELAIDE and TROMP return to Australia  
as ordered by Cdre. W. Australia.  
MAURITIUS is to sail from Grand Port Mauritius so as to meet  
portion of convoy in position 25° 20' S 80° 1' at 0500Z/13 M.L.A.  
287 towards position N.  
When MAURITIUS has joined, convoys are to separate by order of  
S.O. of escort, U.S.16 proceed Colombo escorted by MAURITIUS and  
KANIMBLA: U.S.17 to Durban escorted by DEVONSHIRE. A.C.N.B. is  
requested to issue instructions for H.M.A.S. MANOORA.  
Cdre. W. Australia 1007/31 not to all addressees. If convoy is  
further delayed Cdre. W. Australia is requested to signal amended  
R/V to ships concerned. 0714Z/1.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0714Z/1 to F.O. Ceylon. MAURITIUS.)

Movements. My 1014/31 ROYAL SOVEREIGN and escort left  
Kilindini a.m./1. Due Durban 6th. C. in C. S.A.  
is requested to report intended programme of each  
group in due course.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0721Z/1 to C. in C. S.A. Admty.)  
Departure 1/9 ROYAL SOVEREIGN, DUNCAN, GRIFFIN, DECOY, MANXMAN.  
(F.O.I.C. East Africa and Zanzibar 1315Z/1 to Admty. (R)  
C. in C. E.F. Cdre. I.C. Durban. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.  
F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)  
Colombo arrival 1/9 1325Z WILLEM VAN DERZAAN, departures  
0742 TRUANT.1044Z D.S.O.23.  
(S.O.I. Colombo 1431Z/1 to Admty. S.O.I. Bombay. S.O.I. Aden.  
S.O.I. (?Kilindini.))

B.P.53A. Sailed 0830Z/1. Route. Details. Escort  
RATNAGIRI.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 0836Z/1, 0840Z/1, P.S.T.O.  
Bombay 1149Z/1, S.O.I. Bombay 0921Z/1.)



War Diary.1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

- A.F. mge. The following has been read. Ref. Admty. message A.F. position 011° 22' N 051° 34' E. (Kilindini 1220Z/1.)
- Katukurunda. Your 0136A/29/8 Katukurunda operates as R.N.A.S. Station as from today with part complement.  
2. - 9. Details of accomodation, and facilities under constructions.  
9. Increased facilities envisaged in message under reply will necessitate complete replanning. This may delay readiness of station to accept disembarked Squadrons.  
(11) C. in C. E.F. is requested to remark. (F.O. Ceylon 1309Z/31 to Admty.)
- U/B off C. Guardafui. S/M attack signal. 11.22N 51.34 E. PALMA sighted submarine on surface 0900/1 DE PALMA DE BRITISH AVIATOR. (BRITISH AVIATOR 1317/1.)
- Indian Ocean Danger Area. My 1652/13 and related signals. Text of notice is as follows  
"H.M.G. give notice that the following waters are dangerous to shipping -  
All the waters of the Indian Ocean to the eastward of the meridian of 75° E.  
Any vessel sailing within these waters without the permission of British naval authorities will do so at her risk and peril".  
Your are requested to arrange at your convenience for broadcast of the above from Colombo, and to signal to Admty. 4 days in advance the date of the time fixed by you, so that F.O. may conform with diplomatic notices.  
(Admty. 1353A/1 to C. in C. E.F.)
- U/B hunt 26-28/8 HARMONIDES survivors. My 0530/29 para. 2. About (?3) minutes later Catalina sighted 3 bright orange coloured lights about 2 miles away, 300 yards apart. These lights were also sighted by GERALDTON who was closest to position of U-Boat sighted. Lights were in sight for 24 minutes by Catalina and 20 minutes by GERALDTON who was within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile when all lights went out simultaneously. Flares were dropped over position but neither GERALDTON or Catalina sighted anything. HARMONIDES life boats now proved not to have been near this position at time. Comment. Having heard GERALDTON transmissions on locating A/C in vicinity, U-Boat ruses to escape on surface while (?hunting) force are investigating possible lights from rafts or boats. Both GERALDTON and Catalina agree to wasting an hour in ruse to locate suspected raft containing survivors.  
(F.O.I.C. Ceylon 1605Z/1 to C. in C. E.F.)
- Cable and Wireless report. Zanzibar Mombasa No.1 cable restored. Zanzibar Mombasa No. 2 cable faulty. F.A.S. Bahrein cable faulty simplex.  
(Chief Telegraph Censor 1815/1 to Admty.)

War Diary.

1.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

M/S craft  
for Shatt  
el Arab.

Your 0542/28 para 3. While your offer is appreciated recent reports from Ceylon show these craft are only in the early stages of building.  
2. As 129 and 130 are the only two M.M.S. craft nearing completion in the East I would be grateful if you would approach Gov. of India with a view to my having a call on these two M.M.S. should enemy minelaying start in the Shatt el Arab at a time that India is not being attacked.  
3. Am fully in agreement that these craft are best employed training crews in India in the meantime.  
(C. in C.E.F. 2001/1 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

China.

Singapore.

Chinese state prisoners terribly underfed and clad in rags.  
2. Singapore Naval Base available only for repairing small ships.  
(M.A. Chungking 0047 G.M.T./1 to W.O.)



War Diary.1.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

S/M. R.A.F.F.C. report A/C sighted S/M 25 miles N. St. Pauls Island steering 027° T.O.R. 2353/31.  
(F.O.N.F. 0137Z/1 to Admty.)

S.C.97 S/M sighted on surface by MORDEN (? shadowing) convoy and heavily attacked at 0130Z/1st. My position 058° 04' 030° 21'.  
(BURNHAM 0215Z/1 to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., Halifax, C.T.G.24.7.)

S.C.97. Has my 1642/31 been acted upon?  
(D.T.D. 0853Z/1 to Connav.)  
U-Boat bearing and distance 090° 10 miles. BURNHAM and BROADWAY chasing. My position 058° 11' 028° 07'.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.12 1158Z/1 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.T.Group 24.7.)  
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy at 0855Z/1. 10510 k/cs.  
(Cominch 1400/1 to C.T.U. No.24.1.12 (R) C.T.24, Admty.)  
U-Boat position by D/F at 0844Z/1 within 150 miles of 058° N. 026° W. 10510 k/cs. ENIGMA. Another U-Boat position by D/F at 1147Z/1 over 150 miles from 058° N. 028° 30' W. 10510 k/cs. B T.  
(C. in C. U.S.F. 1401/1 to ? (R) T.U. 24.1.12, Admty. C.T.24.)  
My 1158 S/M dived (? 58) miles distant area searched without contact. Both ships rejoined convoy.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.12 1431Z/1 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.T.G. 24.7.)  
U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made a sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1223Z/1st. 7640 k/cs. ENIGMA.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1529/1 to Cdr. T.U. 24.1.12 (R) C.T.24, Admty.)  
U-Boat estimated your vicinity by D/F at 1509Z/1 has submerged sighting report of convoy or important unit. 12260 k/cs. ENIGMA.  
(Cominch 1743/1 to C.T.U. 24.1.12 U.S.S. WASHINGTON, COLLINGWOOD, Admty.)  
This re-enciphers N.O.B. Iceland 2023/01 to Admty., for information. P.73 planes covering S.C.97 have made 6 sightings of S/Ms today. Estimate 3 S/Ms in vicinity of Convoy. Latest attack reported 58° 08' N. 27° 35' W. at 1940. Plane estimated 5 bomb hits. Also to Comtask for 24 and C. in C. Lant for information.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2226/1 to Admty.)  
Your 0853Z/1 negative in view C.T.U. 24.1.12 1243Z/31 and late hour your recommendation received by C. in C. U.S. Fleet (Convoys and Routeing.)  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet (Convoys & Routeing) 1123/1 to Admty.)

/Suspected ...



War Diary.

1.9.1942  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Suspected raider off Barbados.

B.R.O. Norfolk reports INDIAN PRINCE sighted ship (? likely) raider stopped about 50 miles East Barbados about noon 23rd after derrick was topped and ship appeared to have sailing craft alongside. Written report will be given to B.R.O., New York.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1400Z/1 to Admty., Cominch.)

Movements Summary.

1800 G.M.T./1.  
Ship Position. Course. Speed.  
H.M.S. QUEEN  
ELIZABETH. 26½° N. 292° 14  
with U.S. Escort 47½° W.  
PATHFINDER)  
VIMY } 19½° N. 236° 14  
QUENTIN } 47° W.  
SNOWDROP) 12½° N. 280° 8½  
2 ships) 35½° W.  
ARMERIA }  
BURDOCK } 16° N. 189° 9  
with \*Oiler) 37½° W.  
T.A.18 43½° N. 266° 15  
48½° W.  
A.T.21 39½° N. 085° 25  
59½° W.  
(D.O.D. (F) 1002Z/1 to Opnav.)  
\* ABBEYDALE

Caracas Bay net defence.

Admiralty's 1831/28th.  
Present state as follows.  
(B.S.N.O. Curacao 1047QR/1.)

S/M.

S/M sighted 1200 G.M.T/1 in 011° 04' N.  
061° 41' W.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston 1121Q/1 to Admty.)

U/B Positions.

S/M Estimate 0800Q/1.  
(Commaveu 1403/1 to Admty.)

Overdue Shipping.

Have you any news of NEWBRUNDOC due Guantanamo 22/7 from Havana.  
(D.T.D. 1422A/1 to S.O.(I) Jamaica.)  
CITY OF ELMWOOD (U.S) sailed Capetown 26/7 due

New York 20/8.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1647Z/1 to Admty.)

Has not arrived.

G.I.R.O.

Following is re-encyphered version my 2051/3rd.  
Details of amendment.  
(Connav 1430/1 to Admty.)

GIL EANNES.

Please comply with Admty. 2203/31. My 1703/22/8 and 2121/31/8 to C.O.A.C. only refer.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1452Z/1 to F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)



287

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1601Z/1 Sept.

CUT

To: - RAFDML Washington  
CYPHER.

Date. 1/9/42.

From Air Ministry Whitehall.

*Methods of Torpedo Aircraft,  
information wanted.*

WEBBER W. 878 1/9.

As result of discussion between C.N.S. and C.A.S. A joint Admiralty/Air Ministry Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of C.in C. Coastal Command, with terms of reference extending to all problems of aircraft torpedo attack both in the R.A.F. and the F.A.A. Committee is high-level one intended to fill important gap not covered by the Interception Committees, Bombing Committee and Air Fighting Committee and to apply all possible pressure for increasing efficiency of torpedo aircraft and crews.

2. Committee at its 1st meeting was particularly impressed with incompleteness of our present information on U.S. torpedo methods and their operational success. Same applies to Japanese Torpedo Operations against U.S. Forces. It asks that you should make every effort to increase flow of information from War and Navy Department on this subject. Admiralty will probably signal B.A.D. on same lines with a view to parallel approach by them.

3. Information obtained should be passed to Air Ministry, D.D.A.T. and should be signalled if it contains important new features. You will receive copies of Committee minutes and papers which will also be passed to U.S. Authorities.

1601Z/1.

1st S.L. (2)  
Dep. 1st S.L.  
C.N.A.S.  
A.C.N.A.S.  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
O.D. (5)  
D.N.A.D.  
D.A.C.D.  
Air Br.  
D.G.D. (2)  
D.T.S.D.  
M. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
Ad. Blake.  
I.P. (3)  
W.D.

Copies circulated by Air Ministry to:-  
A.C.A.S. (0)  
D.O.N.C.  
D.D.O.N.C. (T)  
D.D.A.T.  
D of I. (0)  
D.D.1.2.  
D.D.1.3.  
Admiralty.  
S.6. (Orig) (2 copies)  
S.4 (O.G.)

JA.



War Diary.1.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- B.U.S.R.A. C and R 2149/19/8 directed Cessation Mercos and route messages from Amcon Belsize as duplicated by British Reporting Officer Belize accordance Busra Serial 01637 para D. sub para C. British Vescas and route signals are transmitted direct to Admiralty Seafrons concerned and Cominch C and R without transmission through reporting center Guatamala City as British Belize without appropriate U.S. cipher.  
(Usnavcom 1623/1 to Alusna, Guatamala City.)
- MEROPE (French tanker.) Taken over by Mexico and Government renamed POTRERO DEL LLANO. Manned by Mexicans.  
(S.O.I. Kingston 1629Q/1 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., B.A.D. Washington, Con (?nav) Washington, Companseafrontier, Comgulfseafrontier, Comcarribseafrontier.)
- S/M estimates & notices. Cominch 1637/1.
- ROXBOROUGH. Will be ready to sail for Halifax 5/9.  
(B.A.R.M. Washington 1624Z/1 to Admty.)
- O.N\$122 KATVALDIS. Attack by S/M. KATVALDIS (Latvian under British Flag) 49° 35' N. 37° 00' W. 2130 convoy time. Ship sank in 3 minutes. Three causes unknown. (239?) survivors landed here (rescue ship STOCKPORT). One torpedo. C.Bs in perforated steel box sank with ship.  
(N.C.S.O. Halifax 1953Z/1 to Admty.)
- O.N\$122 SHEAF MOUNT. SHEAF MOUNT. SHEAF MOUNT (Br.) 49.00 N. 35.00 W. (Estimated) (7) Ship sank in 2 minutes. Boilers blew up. 20 survivors landed here Rescue Ship STOCKPORT. One torpedo. C.Bs in perforated steel box sank with ship.  
(N.C.S.O. Halifax 1955Z/1 to Admty.)
- FORT VILLE MARIE. My 1344/30. Ship arrived St. Thomas today.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 2028Q/1 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A.T., B.A.D. Washington, Connav, Washington, F.O.C. Trinidad.)
- LARRANAGA. Following received from ARCOLA at 2320 G.M.T. F.O.I.C. Trinidad, C. in C. A.W.I. Have picked up survivors from LARRANAGA. Two more boats adrift last seen heading S.W. from 10.30 N. 33.00 W. on 13th. 2237/29.  
(Demerara Radio T.H.I. 2040/1 to Admty.)

/M.A.R.I. ...



War Diary.1.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- M.A.R.I. Reference your 1639Z/30 concur.  
(Connav 2051/1 to Admty.)
- S/M attack and sighting summary. Surface craft sights S/M on surface 57° 37' N. 30° 15' W. about 2130Z/31/8. MICHAEL JEBSEN 2 torpedo hits. EMPIRE ARNOLD coat of arms on conning tower in red and black squares three castle lion rampant in gray upper quadrants. Possibly U-45 Type X patrol craft sights S/M 28° 50' N. 91° 50' W. 1820Z/01. S/M on surface reported 12° 57' S. 38° 15' W. 0600Z/01.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2119/1 to Admty.)
- MONT EVEREST. Connnav's 1659/1 to all Commands concerned with convoys in Atlantic between 25 and 40° N. and W. of 26 N. Estimated P.C. and S. 1900/1/9. French Red Cross ship MONT EVEREST under safe conduct 33.40 N. 50.40 W. 087° 11. A.T.21 39.51 N. 58.35 W. 086° 27.4.  
(Commaveu 2151/1 to Admty.)
- W.S.C.98. Sailing telegram.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 2216Z/1, 2218Z/1 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

- CHINA's U/B report. Cancel SSSS report from BLOEMFONTEIN 0545Z/18 in 033° 30' S. 164° 00' W. Tanker CHINA mistook blot (sic) for submarine and opened fire.  
(A.C.N.B. 0341Z/1.)
- Movements. Arrival Noumea 2015Z/29 CHEVREUIL and 0347Z/30 CAP DES PALMES.  
(S.O.I. Wellington 0738M/1 to Admty.)
- Situation. Digest Serial No.222 31/8.  
1 - 4 funnelled light cruiser 9 possibly 12 destroyers 9 M/Vs operating Buin Faisi Tonelei Harbour area ? 30/8.  
2. Bombers from N.E. joined by fighters from N.W. over Buka a.m.31/8. Approx. 40 A/C observed Buka Aerodrome 31/8 also 2 M/Vs off Buka unloading aviation spirit with one destroyer one gunboat standing by.

War Diary.1.9.1942  
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - contd.

Situation (contd.) One destroyer one 7,000 tons M/V last sighted 3° 50' S. 148° 50' E. at 0338Z/31 on Westerly course.

4. 5 Fortresses unsuccessfully attacked cruiser St. George's channel 30/8.

5. One enemy warship entered Gizo Harbour 25/8 while two enemy schooners visited area 29/8.

6. 9 Marauders 6 Bostons attacked late noon 31/8. Several fires started buildings destroyed one dive bomber several fighters damaged two Luggers hit.

8. Three Fortresses attacked Buna 31/8 results unknown.

9. Two minor air attacks Darwin early morning 31/8 no damage.

10. Ground position Milne Bay reported well in hand 31/8. Seven Zeros over area approx. noon 31/8 no attack made. (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0853A/1 to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1334A/1, 1347A/1.)



War Diary.

2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy P.Q.18, bound for North Russia, left Loch Ewe at 1645 today. The S/M patrols TIGRIS, TRIBUNE, STURGEON, UREDD, P.54 are also moving to their patrol positions in the North Lofoten area.

ANSON (F.O. 2 I.C. H.F.) left Scapa at 1743 today with ONSLOW, ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE, ESKIMO, TARTAR, ECHO, ASHANTI, SOMALI for Hvalfiord.

Whitleys were detailed to attack the Altmark Tanker at 0600 today, which was seen at La Pallice yesterday by P.R.U. One attacked and saw no results, one attacked St. Nazaire and reports a hit on a tanker, and a third is missing.

A Wellington attacked a U-Boat on the surface in 44° 30' N 4° 42' W (believed to be that attacked yesterday morning and evening near the same position (off Gijon) at 1140 B.S.T. today and appears to have damaged it by depth charges, as well as causing casualties by machine gun fire amongst the crew, 10 of whom dived overboard. The U-Boat made no attempt to use her gun or to dive.

Further mines were found off Dartmouth yesterday and today. Further mines were found to the eastward of Orfordness.

Operation  
S.N.89.

R.A.(M) reported the operation completed at 2244A today.

South Atlantic.

SS. OCEAN MIGHT was torpedoed at 2341 G.M.T. today in 0° (or 4°) 57' N 4° 11' W (in the Gulf of Guinea about 300 miles S.S.W. of Takoradi.)

War Diary.

2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Aircraft bombed and stopped a small tanker early this morning in  $33^{\circ} 37' N 22^{\circ} 25' E$ . The convoy had previously been attacked by U.S. pursuit planes which obtained a hit on another ship.

Naval aircraft report 2 torpedo hits on a merchant ship 15 miles N.E. of Cape Spartivento; at 2345B the ship was almost stopped and seen to be going down by the stern. On 3/9 P.R.U. reported a ship beached near this position (see also 5/9.)

The U.S. Consul, Tunis reports several E-Boats and 4 Italian minelayers apparently laying mines off Kelibia in French waters between the coast and the previous minefield.

East Indies.

MAURITIUS arrived at Mauritius this morning from patrol and left this afternoon to meet and escort convoy U.S.16 to Colombo.

Australia and New Zealand.

A ship made a submarine report at 1017 G.M.T. today in  $23^{\circ} 44' S 174^{\circ} 0' E$  (between New Caledonia and Norfolk Island.)



War Diary.

2.9.1942  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

- MINERVE. My 2055/31/8 as amended by my 1055/1/9. Sailed.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 0538A/2 to A.C.O.S.)  
Scapa arrival. MINERVE.  
(A.C.O.S. 1911/2.)
- LOTUS. Archangel arrival LOTUS, (██████████), POPPY,  
LA MALOUINE.  
POPPY. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0612C/2.)  
LA MALOUINE.
- COWDRAY. My 1814A/31, amended by my 0336A/1. Sailing  
COWDRAY for Scapa E.T.A. 0530A/3.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0708A/2.)  
C. in C. H.F. 1112A/2. Conference cannot now take place.  
Enter by Hoxa and fuel from WAR SUDRA. On completion proceed  
to overtake 177 0927/2nd.  
(A.C.O.S. 2250A/2 to COWDRAY.) *5 - P.41 (P.Q.12)*
- ANSON Capt.(D) 6th in ASHANTI with SOMALI proceeding  
ASHANTI passing by Switha at 1715 today to join ANSON  
SOMALI in approx. position J J.  
etc. (R.A.D. H.F. 1107A/2 to Capt. D.6.)  
Scapa departure F.O.2, H.F. in ANSON with  
ONSLow, ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE, ESKIMO, TARTAR,  
ECHO, ASHANTI, SOMALI.  
(A.C.O.S. 1743/2.)
- H.50. My 2219/27. Intend to sail H.50 to Portsmouth  
in C.W.120 tomorrow.  
(C. in C. Nore 1140A/2.)
- DURBAN. My 1613A/29 and 1235 arrived. Expect to  
sail DURBAN a.m.4th.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1239A/2 to A.C.O.S.)
- FAULKNER. Sailed my 1130/1 at 1245/2.  
(F.O. Humber 1255A/2.)
- GLASGOW Leave P.W.211 as necessary and proceed R/V  
CLEVELAND. GLASGOW at 0530/3 in position F. 049° 40' N.  
006° 20' W. and escort her up channel until  
relieved by Portsmouth destroyer escorting  
"Object" in approx. 050° 08' N. 003° 13' W. Codeword "Occasion".  
Category 2. GLASGOW's route is from F. to G. 180° The Lizard 6  
H. 180° Start Point 10. J. 050° 10' N. 003° W. K.180° Portland  
10. L 180° Portland 3½, and by Q.Z.S. 293 and 284 to Needles.  
2. In regard to L.S.I.'s S.O. QUEEN EMMA sailing (?convoy)  
0700/3rd for Greenock (?escorted by) 2 destroyers. Codeword  
"Object".



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

GLASGOW  
CLEVELAND. 3. When "Occasion" meets "Object" CLEVELAND is to leave GLASGOW and take over escort of L.S.Is until Milford Haven. S.L.S.Is then proceed independently. CLEVELAND to enter Milford Haven.  
(? C. in C. Plymouth 1443A/2 to CLEVELAND.)

EXE. At 2000/4 intend to sail EXE via Minches and standard route to South Shields, E.T.A. 0830/6, S. of A. 14 knots. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection.  
(WESTERN ISLES 1533A/2.)

CALEDON. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1600/1st. Route from position T. 045° 02' N. 014° 30' W. to U. 050° 01' N. 011° 59' W. V. 180° Bishop 10. W. 180° The Lizard 6 and by Q.Z.S. 278 to Plymouth. Adjust speed to arrive position V at 0530A/5. Fighter protection arranged.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1823A/2 to CALEDON.)

Operations.

Operation "Dryad". Intend sailing M.T.B. 344 at 2030 tonight, speed 33 knots, on passage Codeword "Artful". Request fighter protection and bombing restrictions be arranged also that fighter escort be available if M.T.B. 344 has not returned by dawn.  
(N.O.I.C. Portland 1235A/2 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

*(Raid on Casquets Lighthouse -)*

Patrols. Intend M.G.Bs 52 (S.O.) and 57 to patrol tonight from 2200 till 0600/3 on latitude 50° 20' N. between 1° 32' and 2° 05' W. Codeword "Device".

E.T.D. Weymouth 2100/2, E.T.R. approx. 0700/3. Request air protection.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1252A/2 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
M.Ls 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2040, E.T.R. 0540/3. M.L. 140 and R.M.L. 513 from Newhaven near C.1 buoy.  
(V.A. Dover 1707A/2 and 1759A/2.)  
My 1759/2. Add 4 M.G.Bs at number 10 Buoy.  
(F.O.C. Dover 2051A/2.)  
My 1707/2. Add M.G.Bs. 41, 46, S2, and S3 at No.10 Buoy.  
(V.A. Dover 2106A/2.)

JUNON  
Patrol. JUNON is to leave patrol tonight for Lerwick where she is to remain.  
(F.O.S. 1509A/2 to Capt. S.9.)

/Leave ...



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

> JUNON  
Patrol.  
(contd)

Leave patrol so as to pass through position  
(a) 061° 05' N. 002° 45' E. at 0400A/3 thence  
through (b) 061° 05' N. 000° 01' E.  
(c) 095° Out Skerries 5 miles and to Lerwick  
E.T.A. 0700A/4. Bombing restrictions will  
be arranged.. Proceed on the surface at C.O's discretion  
after passing 002° 01' E.  
(Capt. S.9. 1607A/2 to JUNON.)

North Russia. Your 1851/1. Following is repetition my  
Dikson 364 addressed S.B.N.O. North Russia. Begins.  
bombarbed on Soviet Staff here reports that Signal Section  
27/8. at Dikson bombarbed at 0120C today and suggest  
Possible that two raiders may be at large. 0953/27. Ends.  
Two Raiders. (Archangel 1649A/2 to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

Bombing Restrictions in accordance with my 0947/1st  
restrictions. para 1 in force.  
(Capt. S.9. 0927A/2 to S/Ms.)  
Request total bombing restriction in area 14 North of  
060° 30' N. and West of the meridian Greenwich from 0200A/3  
until further notice.  
(Capt. S.9 1457A/2 to H.Q.C.C.)  
Total bombing restrictions in force in Area 14 North of  
060° 30' N. and west of the meridian of Greenwich.  
→ (Capt. S.9 2041/2 to JUNON.)

"Knocker" My 2240/1. 2 took off 2nd at 10257.  
(A.C.I.C. 1225A/2.)  
Operation "Knocker" nil.  
(Reykjavik 2020Z/2 to Air Ministry.)

Bomber On night 30/31 no operations. On night 1/2,  
Command 208 A/C attacked Saarbrucken and Saalauten.  
Operations. (H.Q.B.C. 1630A/2.)

Use of 841 Your 1855A/31/8 and A.T. 1536A/14/8.  
Sqdn. There is no objection to these aircraft being  
put to any use that you and 11 Group Fighter  
Command consider suitable, providing the  
primary object, the attack on enemy coastal  
craft at night, is not prejudiced.  
(D.D.O.D.(H.) 1804A/2 to F.O.C. Dover.)



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War Diary.2.9.1942  
WednesdayHOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Iceland. 1 unidentified A/C sighted from Skalar at 0850A/2, course west. (A.C.I.C. 1007A/2.)

EVANBY attacked. Received 1738 G.M.T. from EMPIRE BARRIE. Following intercepted at 0455/2. AAAA EVANBY gunned, bombed. No position, no QSL QSA2 here. (Portishead Radio 1838/2 to Admty.)

S.L.119. My 2200/28 and my 1605Z/29. Entire crew attacked in ZUIDERKERK on board LEITH. one slightly injured. North Atlantic. Serious cases are from CITY OF CARDIFF on board ROCHESTER. ROCHESTER will require docking to make good leaks caused by depth charge about 3 days required. My P.C.S. (054° ?) 00', 013° 22', 032°, 7¼. (ROCHESTER 2000A/2.)

Jan Mayen. My 0017/30. Following from Jan Mayen. Supposed crashed aircraft not yet found. (A.C.I.C. 2111A/31.)

Mining.

Sweep of QZX 799. Two mines detonated near S.E. corner and two mines swept near N.E. corner of AM QZ.X.799. (M/S F.9 1132A/2.)

A.M.Q.Z.X.799. Will anchor Yarmouth Roads for the night. (M/S F.9 1320A/2.)

Detonated 3 mines in 3rd lap and swept one mine in 4th lap. 1 mile of clear water swept to eastward of last mine. Total sweeping (100%) of 3.8 miles to eastward of number 3 C buoy. (M/S F.9 1835A/2.)

Intend sailing 1145/3 and commence double Oropesa sweep search eastward of number 4 buoy at 1345, complete search and leaving number 3 buoy 1645, arrive (corrupt group) 1915. (M/S F.9 1853A/2.)

Your 1853. Continue search as far south as latitude of 54 B buoy. (C. in C. Nore 2222A/2 to M/S F.9.)

Off Dartmouth. \* PANGBOURNE reports 3 mines exploded and 1 cut on 31/8, and 1 mine exploded and 1 danned on 1/9. Details. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1134A/2.)

\* See next page

/North ...



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.North  
Channel  
Sweep.

Your 1014A/28. Arrangements have been made to take over sweep from N.O.I.C. Milford Haven in latitude Chicken Rock with 4 Oropesa trawlers from Ardrossan. (2) These 4 Oropesa trawlers will be relieved in latitude of Barra Head by sweepers(s) from Stornoway. (3) Request early information of expected time of passing latitude of Chicken Rock.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1154A/2.)

Yarmouth.

LL.Sweepers detonated blue magnetic mine at 1102A/2 in 53° 09' N. 1° 48' 24" E.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1220A/2.)

LL.Sweepers detonated 2 red magnetic mines at 1540A/2 in 53° 09' 36" N. 01° 45' 12" E.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1642/2.)

Convoys  
in Lyme  
Bay.

C. in C. Plymouth's 1119/1. The following sweeping programme is intended (three ships of 13th M.S.F. plus two ships of 4th M.S.F. in each case) 3rd September sweep W.P.211 out of Dartmouth a.m. changing over to P.W.212 which is to be swept as far as Dart buoy 4th September blank day. 5th September sweep W.P.212 out of Dartmouth a.m. changing over to P.W.213 which is to be swept as far as Dart buoy 6th September sweep W.P.213 as far as Portland Sweepers enter Portland for night. 7th September sweep P.W.214 from abreast Portland to Dart Buoy Sweepers enter Dartmouth.  
2. The routine to continue as for the 6th and 7th September. The P.Ws and W.Ps being on alternate days and the sweepers running a shuttle service between Dartmouth and Portland.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1739A/2 to \*PANGBOURNE.) *See previous page*

Archangel  
and  
Molotovsk.

Cancel my 0947A/29. Archangel and Molotovsk now open.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1857A/1.)

Dvina  
Approaches  
mined on  
28/8.

Enemy minelaying of Dvina Approaches night 28/8 by 3 or 4 (?aircraft) from about 4,000 ft. No parachutes. HAZARD on mine spotting duties in immediate vicinity, reports explosions 6 to 12 minutes after dropping in following positions from Modyugsky Light 185° 3.2 miles, 207° 2 miles, 247° 1.2 miles, 188° 2.3 miles, and 1 unexploded 186° 1.5 miles. Consider G.mines dropped although HAZARD exploded following morning 1 mine blue pole in 279°. Modyugsky 2.3 miles using 5 66 pulses. Mines exploded astern of tail on second lap. S.A. operating. Subsequent sweeping of channel and area for G and other ground mines has (?yielded) no further results.  
(1st M/S F. 2037A/2 to Admty.)

S.N.89.

Operation S.N.89 completed.  
(R.A.M. 2244A/2.)



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

SCHARNHORST. SCHARNHORST reported alongside passenger mole Gdynia outer harbour 26/8. Graded C.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1121/1).  
O.I.C. Comment:- P.R.U. on 20th August showed SCHARNHORST in this position.

Landing Craft at Gdynia. For D.N.I. Gdynia August 26th. Reported that about 70 landing craft each with two to three tanks sailed to northward in company with four or five transports. Graded C.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1131/1.) O.I.C. Comment: On 20/8 P.R.U. showed 41 T.L.Cs present Gdynia.

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. It is estimated that homeward bound U/B may be near you today. (D.D.I.C. 0934A/2 to P.31.)  
Am over enemy submarine in 44° 30' N. 4° 42' W. Submarine was on surface when first sighted and was on a course 100°, estimated speed 8 knots. (A/C 19 Group 1140/2.)

W.S.22. D/F bearings at 1629Z indicate U-boat may be in your vicinity. (D.D.I.C. 1831A/2 to Escorts W.S.22.)

Two abnormal U-Boats. Recent P.R.U. reports on St. Nazaire have shown two U-boats of abnormally broad beam though of similar length to ordinary 500 tonners. It is probable that these U-Boats are minelayers with vertical shafts through the saddle tanks or possibly are fitted to carry human torpedoes. One of these U-boats departed between 24/8 and 28/8 and may be that sighted by aircraft southwest of Lisbon at 2030Z/1. (D.D.I.C. 1150A/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U-Boats attacked. A/C attacked U-Boat on surface 064° 20' N. 001° 44' W. at 0831/2. Estimate two hits. S/M on course 260°, 12 to 15 knots when first sighted. (C. in C. Rosyth 1510A/2 to Ships.)

U-Boat attacked. Attack on U-Boat by Wellington A304 off Gijon at 1140 B.S.T. on 2/9 in 44° 30' N. 4° 42' W. 14 Wellington A/304 on CO 163° height 3000 feet sighted fully surfaced U-Boat 5/7 miles - 2 points on Port Bow. A/C dived to attack and U-Boat altered CO 20° to starboard just before A/C released 6 D.Cs along track of U-Boat which

/was ...



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boat was still surfaced. Explosions of 4th and 5th attacked D.Cs completely obliterated U-Boat and exploded (contd.) right alongside Conning Tower on Port side. A/C machine gunned U-Boat on run up and several of crew on deck of U-Boat were seen to collapse. No return fire from U-Boat was experienced but two five star red cartridges were fired as A/C ran up to attack. A/C then circled and released 1 A/S bomb from 400 feet at U-boat which had now stopped. This overshoot by 20 yards. A second A/S bomb was then released which undershot by 10 yards. By now the U-Boat had only moved 20/30 yards since the initial attack with D.Cs, and left a large oil patch just abaft the stern. A/C then circled and made 5 machine gun attacks expending about 2500 rounds altogether. 10 of the crew in swimming costumes then dived into the sea and U-Boat now had a definite list to Port and was down by the bows with part of her screw showing. A/C continued machine gunning and 3 or 4 more of the crew were seen to collapse on the deck and fall into the sea. When A/C left scene of attack half an hour afterwards having reached P L E, U-Boat was still down by the bows and the oil patch had grown to about 400 feet across. Throughout entire action U-Boat made no attempt to dive and crew made no attempt to man the gun.  
(R.A.F. Station, Talbenny 1810A/2 to H.Q.19 Group.)

Ship SSSS from Wick Radio. Help from unknown attacked. station at 2325 G.M.T. No further particulars.  
(Wick Radio 2334/2.)

Navigational.

Nore. N.E. Docking Buoy missing from station.  
North Knock Buoy missing from station.  
(C. in C. Nore 1539A/2) (Hydrog 1623A/2.)

Sandhead Sandhead Lightbuoy relit.  
Buoy. (V.A. Dover 1654A/2) (Hydrog 1848A/2.)

Newport My 1546A/31. Vessels over 340 ft. in length Docks. will be able to enter Alexandra Docks, Newport on p.m. tide only 4, 5 and 6/9. Normal traffic from a.m. tide, 7th.  
(N.O.I.C. Newport 1800A/2.)

Liverpool. Request you will ensure ships routed to Liverpool are aware that closing the port includes Q Z S 298. Ships must not therefore attempt to enter swept channel until sunrise.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1845A/2 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.S.)



2.9.1942  
Wednesday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

- AMAZON. At 2130A/1 AMAZON reported steering engine defective, that repairs expected to take 8 hours from 0001A/2, speed of advance 10 knots. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1226A/2 to A.C.I.C.)  
My 2130A/1 and my 0001A/2. Temporary repairs now effected to steering engine. Will require assistance of repair ship on arrival Hvalfjord. My P.C.S. 059° 10' N. 013° 30' W, 313°, 18 knots. (AMAZON 1300A/2.)
- ADRIAS. Adjust speed to arrive Tyne Pierheads 0800/3. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1620/2 to ADRIAS.)
- WINCHESTER CASTLE. 0316/21. WINCHESTER CASTLE requires extensive repairs. Approximate date of completion 25/9. (D.S.T.O. Glasgow 1701/2.)
- R.200. My 1031/1 and 1300/2. Returned Newlyn with engine defects. (R.N.O. Penzance 1731/2.)
- BETSWOOD. BETSWOOD is being sent into Yarmouth with boiler trouble. E.T.A. Yarmouth Roads 2045. (VERSATILE 1907A/2.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- P.Q.18. E.T.A. 0800.  
(BRAMHAM 0100Z/2 to A.C.O.S.)  
UREDD left Lerwick 0600A in accordance with Capt.(S) 9's 1011/31 for Zone K.154.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 0619A/2.)  
Intend to sail UNIQUE and P.45 escorted by CUTTY SARK at 0700A/4 via searched channel, Little Minches and West of Orkneys for Lerwick, E.T.A. 1000A/6.  
(Capt. S.3 0853A/2.)  
SHARPSHOOTER and P.615 are to proceed in company passing gate at 1530A/2 routed through following positions :-  
(a) 58° 55' N. 07° 01' W. (b) 60° 01' N. 10° 40' W.  
(c) 63° 50' N. 15° 50' W. thence Seidisfjord passing to Westward of mine barrier.  
(ii) On arrival act in accordance with E.V.  
(R.A.D. H.F. 0912A/2.) *see next page*  
OLIGARCH and BLUE RANGER are to sail so as to pass Hoxa Gate in that order at 0600/3.  
2. OAKLEY S.O., BRAMHAM, WINDSOR, \*COWDRAY are to sail so as to pass Switha at 0545/3 and R/V OLIGARCH and BLUE RANGER in Hoxa Sound.  
3. When met proceed by following route to Spitsbergen.

*\* see 12.34*  
/Westward ...



War Diary.2.9.1942  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.P.Q.18  
(contd.)

Westward through Pentland Firth thence through following positions north and west 058° 44' 003° 25', 059° 04', 003° 50' 30".  
 MM. 062° 10' 004° 27'  
 NN. 064° 30' 009° 15'  
 OO. 071° 18' 010° 40'  
 PP. 076° 14' 000° 05' thence Lowesound Spitzbergen.

4. Oilers are to anchor in Svea Bay (Chart No.300) and be prepared to fuel the covering force.  
 5. OAKLEY is to order movement of R. force (force P) to comply with C. in C. H.F. 01325/5 107 (operation E V) or as amended signal. Attention is called to amendment number 2 C in C.H.F. 1748/30.

6. When WORCESTER joins from Seidisfiord on day 4 BRAMHAM is to be detached to Seidisfiord. C. in C. Home Fleet 1713/1 refers (A.C.O.S. 0927A/2.)

1. F.O.(S) 1629/19 and 1034/25 para 3. P.221, P.45, and UNIQUE are to be sailed on 6/9 at 1300, 1600, and 1900 respectively for zone K.63, K.62 and K.61.

2. Submarines are to be routed through positions 090° Out Skerries 5 miles and 071° 01' N. 010° 01' E., thence direct to patrol areas proceeding on surface at discretion of C.O.

3. Object as in F.O.(S) 1228/1.

4. Bombing restrictions will be arranged for passage out by Capt.(S) 9.

(Capt. S.9 0949A/2 and 1311/2 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

P.614 left Lerwick at 1033A/2 unescorted and on the surface at C.O.'s discretion routed through position

(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 to Seidisfiord E.T.A. 0600/5.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1021A/2.)

My 2237/30 and N.O.I.C. Greenock 0708/2. Request you sail COWDRAY to join Force P. after fuelling.

(C. in C. H.F. 1108A/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Endeavour to arrive Scapa so as to enable you to visit S.O. Force P. in OAKLEY who sails at 0600/3rd.

(C. in C..H.F. 1112A/2 to COWDRAY.)

Estimate 1959A/2 SHARPSHOOTER and P.615 will be in 058° 34' N. 005° 37' W. speed about 9 knots. SCYLLA and MALCOLM in 058° 29' N. 005° 37' W., speed 18 knots. P.Q.18 in 058° 14' N. 005° 41' W, speed 7½ knots.

(C. in C. W.A. 1513A/2 to V.A.2.)

Sailed SHARPSHOOTER and P.615 in company for Seidisfiord. E.T.A. 1400A/5.

(R.A.D. H.F. 1530A/2.) *See previous page*

Sailed SHARPSHOOTER escorting P.615 in accordance with R.A.D. H.F. 0912/2.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1537A/2.)

Operation E.V. para 21. Force P leaves Scapa 0600/3, routed west Orkneys direct to position M M. Request A/S air escort to maximum range.

(A.C.O.S. 1620A/2 to C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.I.C.)

/Sailed ...



War Diary.

2.9.1942  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Sailed F.O.C.S.18's 1146A/1st. (WORCESTER)  
(contd.) (A.C.I.C. 1820A/2 to R.N.O. Seidisfiord.)  
Sailed R.A.(D) H.F. in SCYLLA escorted by  
MALCOLM in accordance with R.A.D.H.F. 1754/1st.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1823A/2.)  
E.T.A. <sup>H.M.S. 10</sup> 0430 G.M.T/3rd with ALYNBANK, ACHATES, BRYONY,  
BERGAMOT, \*ECHUCA, CAMELLIA.  
(ULSTER QUEEN 2359A/2 to A.C.I.C.)

*\* at Sydney N.Z. (Route list). BLUEBELL later 3rd. See 28/8-6.671.  
+ Arctic Convoy B.S.*

Colliers. At the request of the Ministry of War Transport  
a meeting will be held in Trade Conference Room  
Admiralty at 1500/7th to discuss the possibility  
of running a certain number of colliers over and above those in  
the regular C.E. and C.W. convoys.  
2. It is requested that a representative may attend.  
(D.T.D. 0223A/2 to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore, V.A.Dover)

S.L.119. Proceed to base.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1019A/2 to BULLDOG, ZETLAND,  
KEPPEL.)

A.T.21. Admiralty 1732/29.  
*See next page*  
(l) Route (g) 55° 40' N. 23° 30' W.  
(h) 56° 20' 12° 45'. (j) 56° 01' 08° 01'  
(k) 55° 35' 07° 00', thence Clyde. S.O.A. 25 knots.  
(ii) CURAÇOA from Belfast, BLYSKAWICA, ZETLAND, CASTLETON, WELLS  
from Londonderry are to R/V at Lough Foyle Buoy as arranged  
N.O.I.C. Belfast and sweep along route to meet A.T.21 in  
position (q) 056° 14' N. 014° 30' W: at 0600Z/5.  
(iii) (a) CURAÇOA and BLYSKAWICA are to escort to and remain  
in Clyde. (b) On reaching North Channel remaining destroyers  
are to proceed to Londonderry.  
(iv) S.O. of escort CURAÇOA. S.O. A/S escort BLYSKAWICA.  
(v) No risk of weather damage(ing) is to be taken. CURAÇOA  
is to use discretion as to reducing speed of convoy or  
detaching escort should weather deteriorate. If it is  
obvious on the way out that close escort will be impossible  
CURAÇOA is to turn escort to sweep ahead of A.T.21 reporting  
his intentions.  
(vi) Request you will sail escort accordingly.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1118A/2.)

S.S.QUEEN ELIZABETH expected to arrive Clyde p.m. 5/9 and  
sail thence p.m.8/9. Air Ministry have requested action similar  
to that defined in your AAC/Z/710/19/G/OPS.24/4.  
(H.Q.F.C. 2235A/2 to AA. Command.)

Bristol Channel Escorts. F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1616A/1. There are no  
ships from Holyhead.  
(N.O.I.C. Holyhead 1137A/2 to GAVOTTE.)

/DAXHOUND ...



War Diary.

2.9.1942  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- DAXHOUND. Understand that tanker DAXHOUND will be sailed for Faroes shortly on civilian charter. Request if possible 100 tons fuel oil may be included in cargo urgently required for naval vessels since no oiler is available in Faroes. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1141A/2 to Admty.)
- H.X.204. Loch Ewe ships are to proceed independently from splitting position. (C. in C. W.A. 1507A/2 to C.T.U. 24.1.18.)
- DILWORTH. If DILWORTH has not yet sailed from New York request diversion to Baytown for cargo. (D.T.D. 1521A/2 to Connav.)
- THE MARQUIS. Intend sailing THE MARQUIS escorted by TIREE to Kirkwall at 1900 tomorrow for onward routeing. E.T.A. 0400/5. Route. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1606A/2.)
- TJALDUR. Intend sailing TJALDUR to Aberdeen escorted by LEICESTER CITY, SCALBY WYKE at 1900/3. Route. E.T.A. 0700/5. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1622A/2.)
- ORMONDE.**  
**SARDONYX.**  
**SABRE.**  
Troop  
Transports. 4300 U.S. troops ex convoy A.T.21 will be transported from Clyde to Belfast in cross channel steamers in two flights:  
1st Flight night 6/7  
2nd Flight night 7/8.  
2. Request you will arrange sailings accordingly. (D.O.D. H. 1954A/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)  
Arrangements should be made to ferry 4,600 personnel from A.T.21 to Northern Ireland in BUTTERFLIES. Suggest two flights of three ships on successive nights since arrangements can be made to hold later parties in transit camp. (D.S.T. 2003A/2 to P.S.T.O. Scottish Ports.)

\* See previous page.



2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.

Amendment No. 74 to M.A.R.I. Pass to F.O.I.Cs and N.C.S.Os. Sect. I, para. 5. Amend sub-para.(b) to read "Ships in U.K.-bound convoys if separated (1) within the first 96 hours of sailing from New York or (2) within the first 48 hours of sailing from Halifax or Sydney, C.B. to New York or Halifax or Sydney, C.B. which-ever is nearest. Note - Sydney is only to be used for this purpose by stragglers from S.C. Convoys or those from H.X. Convoys which have straggled solely on account of inability to maintain H.X. Convoy speed. The latter ships may, if they fall in with one, join an S.C. Convoy at sea. Ships should not enter St. Johns N.F. for repairs unless they are unable to proceed further".

Amend sub-para. (e) to read "Stragglers from O.N. and O.N.S. Convoys unaffected by N.C.S.I. 53/42 paras. 1 and 2B, 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., 2215A/2 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. Western Atlantic, A.C.I.C., S.O.(I) Jamaica, (R) Connav, B.A.D. Washington.)

North Atlantic.

Bombing restrictions. Cancel my 1906/1st. (F.O.C.N.A., 0125A/2 to Admty., A.O.C. in C. C.C., (R) F.O.[S])

Cancel my 1020/30 (1010A/30 intended). Request total bombing restrictions in following areas.

G.14 1300/2nd - 0500/3rd. G.15 2000/2nd - 1130/3rd.  
G.16 0330/3rd - 0100/4th. G.(? 27) 1700/3rd - 1900/4th.  
G.27 (?07)00/4th - 2130/4th. All times zone minus one.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1310A/2 to H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)

BARBRAKE. My 1810/1st. F.O.C.N.A. please advise R.A.W.A.F. BARBRAKE sailing at G.M.T. T.O.O. this message. (F.O. Fayal, 0500/2.) *See 15.2.42*

P.37 (to patrol off Melilla.) My 1036/25. Sailed 0815, P.37. (F.O.C.N.A., 0912A/1 to C. in C. Med.)

OTUS. Proceed diving by day until further orders. Own aircraft proceeding to attack U-Boat in 036° 40' 011° 15'. Acknowledge forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A., 1006A/2 to OTUS, (R) P.247.)

/My ...



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

OTUS (Contd.) My 1006 to OTUS (R) P.247.  
OTUS estimated in 036° 52' 009° 25' at 0001A/3 is to proceed on surface at discretion to pass 042° 59' 012° 31' at 1800A/4 shifting wireless watch at that time.  
(ii) Bombing restrictions arranged on N.A. Station. (F.O.C.N.A., 1338A/2 to OTUS, (R) P.247, Admty., F.O.(S), C. in C. W.A., Capt. (S) 3, H.Q.C.C., C. in C. Plymouth.)

French Shipping. Passings 1/9 westbound 0735 LIEUT-DE-LA-TOUR laden with cargo 24 lorries. AUGUSTE-DENISE, BRITTIA trawlers. Eastbound 1455 GABRIEL-CUISTHAU SURVILLE, KERMARIA all laden SAINTE-BASILE, ILE-DE-BREAT, KEROMAN all laden deck cargo. (V.A.C.N.A., 1049A/2.)

Convoy from Lisbon. 5 merchant ships leave Lisbon p.m./2nd coastwise to R/V LOCH OSKAIG in 220° Cape St. Vincent 3 miles at 1130/3 for escort to Gibraltar. (ii) Fleet Unit and 4 destroyers leave Gibraltar 0100/3 westbound. (F.O.C.N.A., 1106A/2 to P.247, OTUS.)

JACK CARNES. My 1145/31 message was received from SS. JACK CARNES. No trace of wreckage or boat in vicinity further air search being devoted. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1226/2.)

PARTRIDGE, QUIBERON. Arrived Ponta Delgada 1500 G.M.T./2nd. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1441/2.)

L.C.Ts, M/S and other small craft being moved to Gib. Your 1431/12/8.  
(1) Request information when Engineer Officers base staffs and spare gear for motor M/S Flotillas and harbour defence M.L flotillas now at Gibraltar or on passage there may be expected.  
(2) Request composition of base staff may be signalled.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1618A/2 to Admty.)

DURHAM. Subject to favourable weather forecast intend sailing DURHAM towed by BUSTLER at 1700A/3 escorted by VETCH, LADY HOGARTH for Falmouth routed through  
A. 36.02 05.58. B. 36.02 07.40. C. 36.30 10.01. D. 40.02 18.03. E. 44.58 18.03.56. estimated 6 knots.  
2. C. in C. W.A., and C. in C. Plymouth are requested to signal onward route from (E).  
3. Admty. is requested to signal refitting port for LADY HOGARTH. (F.O.C.N.A., 1744A/2, 2142A/2 to Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, (R) H.Q.C.C., N.O.I.C. Falmouth, VETCH, LADY HOGARTH.)

/CLAN ...

War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

CLAN My 1600/1 and N.C.S.O. Funchal's 2200/1st.  
 MACWHIRTER. Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES proceeded to sea again today and has picked up survivors in 3rd life boat.  
 (2) My 2254/31/8 para. 2 further search by A/C over same position today unsuccessful.  
 (B.N.A. Lisbon, 1930A/2.)  
 My 2200/1st. Portuguese Sloop PEDRO NUNES landed at Funchal 6 British 25 Lascars survivors from 3rd and last life boats ex SS. CLAN MACWHIRTER.  
 (N.C.S.O. Funchal, 2017C/2.)

P. 247. My 2006/1st dive during daylight/3 and arrive position M 1100A/4th.  
 (2) Submerged bombing restrictions only, arranged on 3rd.  
 (3) Friendly A/C will be in your vicinity during daylight tomorrow searching for U-Boats.  
 (4) Acknowledge forthwith.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2210A/2 to P. 247.)

South Atlantic.

Communication. Between British and U.S. forces when engaged in a combined operation. (Technical).  
 (Admty., 0141A/2 to C. in C. S.A.)  
 See Lion Copy.

SNOWDROP, Following repetition of my 1817Z/1 addressed  
 BURDOCK, SNOWDROP, BURDOCK, ARMERIA my 1625Z/28th August  
 ARMERIA, amend R/V to position 013° 44' N. 038° 04' W. at  
 CATHLAMET. 0900Z/2. From R/V proceed to position (?) (D).  
 2. (? BURDOCK) detach ARMERIA as necessary to meet CATHLAMET in 010° 03' N. 040° (756') W. at 1500Z/3 and escort to Freetown direct CATHLAMET is routed through 010° 01' N. 043° 21' W. and 010° 22' N. 029° 41' W. S.O.A. 9 knots.  
 3. If not met ARMERIA steer to westward for 4 hours and then return to Freetown escorting any ships met. Ends.  
 (B) BURDOCK and SNOWDROP to carry out operation in A.M. 1351A/28 para. 3.  
 (R.A.W.A.F., 0909Z/2.)

/ANTHONY ...



47A. 27  
17

SECRET

MESSAGE 0141A/2nd Sep.

OUT

To:- C. in C. South Atlantic 313

Repeated E.A.D. 723  
F.O.C.N.A. 960  
S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic 733  
C. in C. Home Fleet 873

Date: 2.9.42

Naval Cypher (X)

From Admiralty

*Anglo-U.S. Communications*

Deferred. A.F.O. S.103/42 As amended by S.108 and S.123. C. in C. Home Fleet has proposed revision as follows to cover British U.S. co-operation over the whole of the Atlantic.

Begins "The following arrangements have been made for communication between British and U.S. Forces when engaged in a combined operation. They do not alter the existing British U.S. communication arrangements for convoy escorts.

- (1) The frequencies used for inter-communication are to be M/F-500 kc/s and H/F-4740 kc/s.
- (2) Forces of either nation operating in the Atlantic are to guard 500 kc/s.
- (3) After enemy surface forces have been reported in the Atlantic, units engaged in the operations are to guard 4740 kc/s.
- (4) Enemy reports are to be passed to shore stations who will take the necessary steps to broadcast them on the appropriate area broadcast and to pass them to the authority of the other nation for similar action. Ships having difficulty in clearing their enemy reports to stations of their own nation are to try and clear them to a station of the other nation.
- (5) Enemy reports of immediate import are in addition to the action in paragraph (4) to be broadcast on the frequencies in paragraphs (2) and (3). This is in addition to the instructions laid down for enemy reporting within the ship's own navy.
- (6) Enemy reports will be re-broadcast on the appropriate area broadcast. Ships are to read their own area broadcast. If difficulty is experienced in reading their own broadcast ships should if possible set an extra watch on the appropriate broadcast of the other nation.
- (7) Admiralty and Cominch will issue any further necessary orders at the time.
- (8) The senior officer of any allied forces acting in close co-operation may order a special inter-communication frequency in addition to

those

contd.



47<sup>B</sup>

ATN

(2).

those in paragraphs (2) and (3) but it must be remembered that the frequency is only known to those specifically ordered to guard it and reports made thereon will not be read by other authorities. Ends.

2. Request your remarks.

0141A/2

for Head of M (540)

D. S. D. (2)

O. D. (5)

U. S. N. (3)

Ad. Blake

M. (3) (M. O 51308/42.)

W. D.

I. P. (5)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

ANTHONY,  
REVENGE. Simonstown departure 0730B/2 ANTHONY for Durban route R.8 S. of A. 19 knots E.T.A. 0730B/4. Request ratings landed sick and C.E.R.A. Russel from REVENGE be available on arrival. (C. in C. S.A., 0916B/2 to Cdre. Durban.)

Japanese in  
AMIRAL  
PIERRE. A.M. 0023A/14/8 confirmation received that party of Japanese on Island and probably now embarked on AMIRAL PIERRE (Grade A.2) my 1802B/1st not to R.A.W.Af. Separate source confirm AMIRAL PIERRE expected sailing any time for Reunion Is. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0942B/2 to C. in C. E.F., Admty., C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.Af.)

BARBRAKE. R.A.W.A. 1307Z/30 delay to BARBRAKE can be accepted. *(Retention for 2 months at Takoradi)*  
*See p. 45* (C. in C. S.A., 1208B/2 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.Af.)

CHALLENGER. CHALLENGER arrived 1204Z/2nd. (N.L.O. Port Elizabeth, 1221Z/2.)

Transfer of Spanish destroyer. Spanish Ambassador has informed Commerce Counsellor that Spain will pay in part for wheat purchased by transfer of one of her destroyers. (B.N.A. Buenos Aires, 1501Z/2.)

SCYTHIA. H.M. Transport SCYTHIA sailed 2/9 E.T.A. Freetown 13/9. Requirements. Passengers. (S.T.O. Capetown, 1503Z/2.)

U/B operational methods. Your 1737Z/30. At present no clear interpretation has been formed. U-Boats now make cruises 9 - 10 weeks without refuelling. By obtaining supplies at sea a U-Boat might extend cruise to 15 weeks. It is possible that an unknown number of supply U-Boats are at sea. Their whereabouts are not known and there is no affirmative evidence of any in your area. There is no evidence of supply ships in South Atlantic but one or more may be at sea. Raiders could be used for restoring U-Boats. U-Boats bound to and from Bahia area would pass through Cape Verde's area but not close to Freetown. (D.D.I.C., 1703A/2 to R.A.W.Af.)

/ S/M ...



2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

S/M off  
Marica.

Brazilian authorities report submarine sighted off Marica about 18 miles east of Rio de Janeiro and attacked by 4 Brazilian bombers at 0700 G.M.T. today 2nd. Result unknown.  
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1715Z/2 to Admty., (R) B.A.D. Washington, C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Freetown, C.T.F.23, S.A. Station G.)

O.S. 38.

Escorts of O.S.38 are to fuel as necessary from BRITISH CHIVALRY by p.m./4. CLARE is to be detached a.m./5 to escort BRITISH CHIVALRY and DAGOMBA to Bathurst. CLARE to sail on arrival to rejoin convoy O.S. 38.  
(R.A.W.Af., 1859Z/2 to ENCHANTRESS, (R) CLARE, Admty.)

OCEAN MIGHT.

?° 57' N. 4° 11' W. OCEAN MIGHT torpedoed.  
(OCEAN MIGHT, T.O.R. 2255/2.)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

- Enemy convoys. P.C.S. of 2 vessels medium 3 destroyers in SCUB 0000 40° N 78° E (sic.) 090° 7 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs level. (A/C UO60 0155/2.)
- At 0155 2nd A/C reported 2 destroyers one tanker P.C.S. 33.17 22.40 150 8.  
(Malta W/T 0155C/2, Capt. S. 0240C/2 to S/Ms on patrol.)  
(?Air R/C) at 0730C this morning shows one medium sized merchant ship and 2 small vessels P.C.S. 032° 51' 023° 03' 132° 7 knots.  
(Capt. S.1. 0855C/2 to \*THRASHER (R) C. in C. Med. TRAVELLER. Capt. S.10. P.46.)  
P.C.S. of enemy 1 merchant vessel and 1 destroyer 34° 42' N 23° 35' E 305° 8 knots.  
(A/C Duty R 0938/2 to 101 Group H.Q.)\* *See p. 52*
- P.46. *See p. 52* Leave patrol when ordered by Capt. S. One and proceed through 034° 27' 018° 02' 035° 20' 014° 11' to R/V with sweeper 1001/7 at end of searched channel.  
(Capt. S.10. 1002B/2 to P.46 (R) S/Ms on patrol. Capt. S.1. C. in C. Med. 201 N.C.Group. S.O.S. Alexandria.)
- Bi-weekly Opsum 52. Night 28/29 August. 11 Halifaxes 10 American B.24s 6 R.A.F. Liberators 28 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 2 ships claimed hit and set on fire. Large fires started on waterfront main jetty area near north west petrol installations at Naval fuel tanks and on south shore. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Sollum causing explosion and fire. 3 Albacores bombed and illuminated Daba in co-operation with bombardment by H.M. ships. A Swordfish on patrol round H.M. ships sank E-Boat which had torpedoed destroyer.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1126Z/2.)  
29/8. During morning 49 Spitfires 17 Kittyhawks 11 Tomahawks 12 Hurricanes provided protective patrols over damaged destroyer (ERIDGE) under tow and covering sweeps along coast.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1148Z/2.)  
7 American B.24s despatched to make evening attack on 2 southbound convoys totalling 1 merchant ship 8,000 tons 2 of 5,000 tons 5 destroyers sighted during afternoon by Maryland off West Coast Crete. Ships not located night 29/30 Aug. 3 A.S.V. including 2 armed with bombs 6 torpedo 4 bomber Wellingtons despatched to attack convoys. 2 A.S.V. Wellingtons bombed 1 merchant ship escorted by 3 destroyers and 1 merchant vessel with escort 2 destroyers 104 miles N.N.E. Tobruk and 130 miles north Tobruk respectively 1 hit 1 probable hit claimed on former 1 Wellington fired 2 torpedoes at merchant vessel escorted by 2 destroyers 112 miles north Tobruk. Explosions resulted on vessel followed by red glow but further observation prevented by smoke screen laid by destroyers Wellington climbed to 3,000 feet and remained in area for 18 minutes when another explosion was observed in smoke screen. 1 Wellington subsequently bombed a stationary merchant vessel on fire and emitting explosions about 95 miles north of Tobruk. Results unobserved. Separate attacks were made by 1 bomber 3 torpedo Wellingtons on merchant vessels and destroyers during period 2½ hours in position varying from 110 to 70 miles north of Tobruk. Possible hit on destroyer caused column of water at bows.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1211Z/2.)
- Three Focke  
2261 tons*

/Remainder...



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Bi-weekly                      Remainder results unobserved owing to effective  
Opsum 52.                      smoke screens 6 Hudsons despatched to continue  
Contd.                            attack found 1 merchant ship apparently on fire  
                                      with oil streak 2 miles long position 42 miles north  
                                      east of Tobruk about an hour before dawn. No  
attack was made as vessel was considered total loss 1 Hudson  
attacked small vessel 60 miles north north west Tobruk. No hits.  
No other shipping sighted. 25 Wellingtons bombed shipping and  
harbour installations Tobruk starting fires on docks near main  
jetties and at petrol installations north west of harbour.

(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1233Z/2.)

20 Hurricanes 4 Fulmars shipping protection off Port Said  
and in Gulf of Suez. Night 30/31 August. 6 Halifaxes 11  
American B.24s 6 R.A.F. Liberators 20 Wellingtons bombed shipping  
and harbour installations Tobruk. Near misses claimed on shipping  
outside port. Fires started on docks main jetty area large fire  
with explosions near tank workshops. 1 bombed Sollum without  
result, 1 Wellington missing, 1 Halifax returning with engine  
trouble crash landed in Delta.

(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1259Z/2.)

✓ 1 Hurricane damaged on ground 1 enemy aircraft machine  
gunned Alexandria Harbour destroying a balloon 5 Beaufighters  
11 Hurricanes up 1 Beaufighter damaged a He.111 another claimed  
hit by A.A. fire 1/9.

(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1408Z/2.)

Jugoslav                      Jugoslav Naval Commander Saksida has been to see me.  
personnel.                      He is trying to get Jugoslav Naval recruits from  
                                      South Africa to augment his present small naval  
                                      forces here. He is very anxious that when he has  
enough ratings they should go to U.K. for courses with the  
eventual hope of being able to commission a corvette. Remainder  
undecypherable.

(C. in C. Med. 1226C/2 to Admty.)

Situation                      RORQUAL reports 4000 ton merchant ship hit and  
Report No.                      probably sunk 31/8 south of Corfu. Mines laid in  
262.                                039° 17.2 N 20° 18' E.

2. British aircraft sighted submarine on surface  
noon/1 in Cape Guardafui. Ref. my 1908/30/8

C. in C. E.F. considers submarine near Berbera was not Vichy.

3. R.D.F. plot gave indication of possible presence of U-Boat  
close to Alexandria night 31/8 - 1/9.

4. Three M.T.Bs with object of attacking shipping night 31/8 -  
1/9 off Western end of Crete were forced to turn back south of  
Crete due to weather. These M.T.Bs were refuelled from three  
others west of Alexandria. On return passage from vicinity of  
Crete M.T.Bs were attacked by aircraft (up to 10 at one time)  
All attacks successfully beaten off without casualties or damage.  
Several enemy aircraft damaged.

(C. in C. Med. 1558C/2.)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- Tanker & destroyers in Corfu. One tanker 3 destroyers in Corfu. If they leave this evening aircraft will endeavour to attack with bombs between Paxo and Dukato between 0130 and not later than 0300B/3. On completion of attacks flare may be dropped to assist you to locate target.  
(Capt. S.10. 1559B/2 to UTMOST. Capt. S.1. C. in C. Med. S/Ms on patrol. S.O.S. Alexandria.)
- P.46. Leave patrol p.m/2 and return to Malta by route given in Capt. S.10's 1002/2.  
*See p.50*  
(Capt. S.1. 1606C/2 to P.46. (R) C. in C. Med. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)  
My 1606/2 proceed through  $033^{\circ} 37' 022^{\circ} 25'$  where aircraft report small tanker bombed and stopped early this morning.  
(Capt. S.1. 1715C/2 to P.46. (R) C. in C. Med. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)
- THRASHER. If A/S activity is too great proceed to  $033^{\circ} 06' 023^{\circ} 40'$  keeping south until 0800C/3.  
(Capt. S.1. 1735C/2 to THRASHER (R) C. in C. Med. S/Ms on patrol. Capt. S.10. 201 N.C. Group.)
- Tanker attacked. 1455 hours 1 tanker 4000 tons from Taranto escorted by 2 D/Rs and 12 aircraft photographed  $310^{\circ}$  Gallipoli 10 miles course  $140^{\circ} 5$  knots.  
Night 1/2. 2330 hours 4 Wellington VIIIs attacked convoy now  $295^{\circ}$  Fano (group omitted) miles course  $090^{\circ} 20$  x 500 lb. 4 x 250 lb GP bombs dropped from average 2000 feet scoring near misses, intense A.A. from D/R'1'. 1 Wellington missing.  
(H.Q. Malta 1753Z/2.)
- UNA. You have freedom of action in area K (?Presumably) Kithera Channel is still best focal point.  
(Capt. S.1. 1830C/2 to UNA. (R) C. in C. Med. No.201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. Subs on patrol.)
- P.34. */N.T. 2/2/2.*  
My 1015/31/8. P.34 sailing delayed. C. in C. Med pass to No. 201 N.C. Group.  
(Capt. S.10. 1931B/2 to Capt. S.1.)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Naval Air  
co-op. on  
coast of  
India.Would be grateful for reply to my 0413 17th July.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0614Z/2 to C. in C. E.F.)

Liaison.

My 1504/29/8. In addition to proposed visit and in order to expedite creation of full liaison I would like to take the opportunity while Force A is so much reduced to send Commander Clark U.S. Navy by air to Washington to represent my views on liaison and obtain certain information on the recent battle experience of the U.S. Fleet. Request concurrence of U.S. Naval authorities may be sought. (C. in C. E.F., 0805Z/22 to Admty).

MAURITIUS

Arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 0900Z/2). Sailed (1400Z/2).Life  
saving.

Following are recommendations as result of air and sea search for life boats of HARMONIDES  
(A) Supply of rocket and/or very lights to all ships life boats to be expedited.  
(B) All merchant ships trading in Indian Ocean to be informed by N.C.S.Os. that Catalina aircraft are capable of receiving and transmitting messages on 500 k/cs if they are expecting such messages. In future Catalina of 222 Group employed in search of merchant ships or their boats will keep watch on this frequency and could home on the transmitting set. (F.O.I.C. Ceylon, 1008Z/2 to C. in C. E.F.)

B.C. 54,  
B.C. 55My 1035/27/8. Additions.  
(P.S.T.O. India, 1039Z/2).

BARLANE

BARLANE for Bombay direct route.  
(N.O.I.C. Karachi, 1056Z/2).

Chop

Your 1733/16 no difficulty anticipated in dealing with diverted ships provided requisite information can be supplied by C. in C. E.F.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 1225Z/2 to Admty).

KAMAKURA  
MARU.

My 1449/19 Japanese repatriation ship KAMAKURA MARU approximate noon/2 22° 20' S., 61° 12' E.  
(Admiral, Mombasa, 1149Z/2).

/EL NIL...



2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

EL NIL,  
NARKUNDA.

My. Tel. 229. Admiralty have sent route for EL NIL and NARKUNDA which instructs Master to call Capetown presumably for stores bunker and repairs if necessary.

2. May I assure Portuguese and Swiss Delegates that a call at Capetown for purposes indicated does not invalidate safe conduct ? please. Still most immediate.
3. Subsequent call Ponta Delgada Azores would presumably not affect safe conduct. Similary Lobito as alternative to Capetown. Please confirm most urgent.  
(C.G. Lourenco Marques, 1245/2 to F.O.)

Target A/Cs  
for A.H.Q.  
India.

A.H.Q. India informs me that he has no target touring aircraft in India or elsewhere and that in consequence all training has ceased. He asks 12 obsolescent or older type aircraft such as Swordfish or Fulmar may be provided by Eastern

Fleet.

- (2) Have replied these old birds still form substantial part of my carrier equipment and consequently no Swordfish can be released but that I can lend 4 Fulmars from Ceylon if India can fit them with winders.
- (3) Naval F.R.U. aircraft are at present serving other service at Kilindini and Ceylon and it seems high time to meet R.A.F. and Army requirements in this theatre as naval resources are barely adequate to meet Fleet requirements. Request early action to correct this state of affairs.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1546Z/3 to Admty).

PACIFIC

A.L.M 3393/41 of 12th December 1941 cable ship PACIFIC arrived Kilindini daylight 29th July, 1942. and sailed noon 1st August. Operation Repair of Mombasa - Zanzibar cable severed in Kilindini Harbour.  
(F.O.E.A. & Z. 1550C/20 (?/2)).

NEWCASTLE

When NEWCASTLE is ready for sea Com. R.I.N. is requested to sail her for Capetown. She should oil at Grandport Mauritius and thence be routed through position "S". (S) 35° 26' S., 32° 01' E. and South of Agulmas Bank or as directed by C. in C. S.A.  
(2) C. in C. S.A., is requested to sail her onwards to New York  
(3) Request programme be reported to C. in C. E.F. Admiralty and B.A.R.M. Washington in due course.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1707Z/2 to Com R.I.N. C. in C. S.A., (R) C.S.4 V.A.E.F. Admiralty).

Persian  
Gulf  
Shipping.

Your 1350Z/31/8 para. 6. Concur.  
(D.T.D., 1707A/2 to C. in C. E.F.)

/Ceylon...



War Diary.

2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Ceylon  
defences.

Your 0908Z/25 para. 3 and A.M.1605A/31 concur. If time permits suggest this should be done after Colombo guard loops have been repaired. Laying party referred to in para.4 of A.L. T.O.5998/42 of 8th August should arrive Ceylon early September and Layer JAY will be available when she has completed present duties under direction of D.C. in C. E.F.  
(D.T.M., 1943A/2 to F.O. Ceylon).



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

BROKE. Intend to sail 1130Z/2 by great circle route to Scapa. Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. Scapa 8th. (F.O.N.F. 0053Z/2 to C. in C. W.A.)  
*See next page (HX-205) Communication With U.S.N. in Combined Operations. (Admty. 0141A/2) Sea South Atlantic.*

RIPLEY LOOSESTRIFE. Proceeding at 0430Z/2 to sweep waters S of Aruba. Escorting 5 ships to Wilhelmstadt at 0900Z/2. (RIPLEY 0407Z/2 to C.A.F.A.C.)

KYLE. U-Boat sighted vicinity Point (2 corrupt groups) approx. 1700Z/1. Your exact position not known. If in that area you should seek anchorage for 12 hours from T.O.O. of this message. (Naval Ottawa 0443/G.M.T./2 to KYLE.)

U/Bs in Cabot Strait. 1 Canso 117 BR Squadron on patrol 0821 off 1743 on sweep of Cabot Strait and to investigate reports received 31st of U-Boats proceeding through Cabot Strait into Gulf of St. Lawrence swept area. (Halifax N.S. 0810/2 to Air Min.)

AMERICA SUN. Your 1748A/31. AMERICAN SUN arrived 1st. with two cracked cylinders Lloyds will only issue seaworthy certificate for nearest U.S.A. port. Request instructions. (S.B.N.O. Curacao 1125QR/2 to Admty.)

H.X.205. Expect to join with\* (?SORE)L at 2000Z today 046° 28' 051° 26' 204° 14 knots. (MIDLAND 1200Z/2 to C.T. 24.18.8.)  
*Imp. Sq. (0112.124) \* confirmed by Casualty Reports.*

U/B attack on O.N. 122 3 U/Bs sunk or damaged. 4 U/Bs sunk by Brazilian A/C OAKVILLE. C.G.C. 489 & DUCHESS OF BEDFORD. Ref. your 1059B/22/7. While escorting convoy O.N. 122 on 24/8, VISCOUNT executed final attack on U-Boat with Hedgehog torpex filled. Fired 21 and detonation followed 2 seconds later by smaller explosion. Contact faded, much oil. POTENTILLA on 25/8 also escort of O.N. 122, straddled a diving U-Boat with 50 foot depth charges fired when alongside. Second S/M stern attacked on 25/8 by POTENTILLA on surface with d/cs just ahead of where last seen. Reported considered sunk. *Not confirmed* POTENTILLA shelled third U-Boat on 25/8 on surface and conning tower was hit with 4 inch shell and 50 feet pattern was dropped close astern while the S/M was still on surface. Starboard thrower seen to burst along conning tower. Second pattern was very accurate. U-Boat which tried to escape on surface was attacked by VISCOUNT on 25/8. It was last seen diving at an angle of 50° stern first with no way on 200 yards away. Twenty seconds later 50 foot d/cs were dropped on swirl. Upheaval and unusual disturbances. Contact was regained astern then faded. Oil was sighted. Seven other attacks made by VISCOUNT, POTENTILLA, EGLANTINE and ACANTHUS all escorts O.N. 122 on 25/8. Near Bermuda, periscope attacked by U.S.S. MERVINE on 26/8 much oil. Brazilian aircraft reported as sinking S/M near Torres Light on 26/8 three prisoners. Not verified yet. Off



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

U/B  
attack on  
O.N.122  
3 U/Bs  
sunk or  
damaged.  
4 U/Bs  
sunk by  
Brazilian A/C  
OAKVILLE,  
C.G.C.489 &  
DUCHESS OF  
BEDFORD.  
Contd.

(U.S.A.) Cape Tiburon, Haiti, OAKVILLE gunned and rammed S/M on 28/8. 26 prisoners. Naval A/C forced S/M to surface dropping four 650 pound depth charges. U.S. Coast Guard Cutter 489 recovered cork, soap, oil and feathers after depth charge attack on 29/8 near Mississippi delta. No wrecks were charted in vicinity. Promising attack on 25/8 by R.A.F. Hudson off Barbados. Oil patch air bubbles, turbulence. Belated report, on 9/8 DUCHESS OF BEDFORD in mid-Atlantic shelled a periscope. Several hits 6 inch. Bow came up to 35 degree angle and disappeared stern first. For week ending 2400Z/30 fifty attacks were reported. Foregoing contained in Cominch's O11806 for action Admty. and information B.A.D. and Comnav. (Comnav 1212/2.)

O.N.S.J.  
128.

WILLIAM J.

^ DUANE (S.O.) and LEARY designated escort unit 24.6.5. Sailing about a.m./6 and for S.C.L.99. (C.T.G.24.6. 1219/2 to C.T.F.24.)

EMPIRE  
BREEZE.

Following for C.C.R.T. FRISKY returned from search. (F.O.N.F. 1235Z/2 to Admty.)

H.X.205.

VISCOUNT returning St. Johns N.F. from H.X.205 main steam joint blown. E.T.A. 1545/2. After repairs will be sailed to rejoin. Have ordered BROKE to join H.X.205 forthwith. Intend she remains until VISCOUNT rejoins. No other destroyers in escort. (F.O.N.F. 1439Z/2 to N.S.H.Q. C. in C. W.A. C.T.24. Admty. Connav.)

My 0053/2 and my 1439Z/2. Estimate VISCOUNT can rejoin before dark 4th and that BROKE's arrival Scapa will be delayed by not more than 36 hours.

(F.O.N.F. 1841Z/2 to C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F. BROKE. Admty. A.C.O.S. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)

H.X.206.

Port Director N.Y. 2010/1 request ASCANIA and AKAPOA be sailed to be included in H.X.206 sailing Halifax 6th. (N.S.H.Q. 1500Z/2 to C.E.S.F.)

CALDWELL.

Intend sail Halifax at 2000Z/4. Passing through 043° 05' N 064° 29' W speed 20 knots. (CALDWELL 1520Z/2.)

Overdue  
shipping.

Your 1647Z/1 CITY OF ELWOOD arrived Abadan 19/8. (D.T.D. 1550A/2 to N.S.H.Q.)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.U/B  
positions.S/M estimates and S/M notice 2nd.  
(Cominch 1620/2, 1621/2, 1622/2, 1623/2, 1624/2  
to Admty.)

VERITY.

My 1433/28 amend E.T.A. 1200Z/9.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1748Z/2 to F.O.C.N.A. B.C.  
Ponta Delgada for C.S.A.)Routeing  
of shipping.My 1653A/23 para 3 and Connav's 1735/30 (neither to  
all addressees) It is desired to make the follow-  
ing regulations applicable to British-managed  
shipping:-

- (a) All suitable ships below 15 knots from U.S. ports and Caribbean bound for South Africa or further east are to be routed via the Horn or Magellan Straits, preferably the former.
- (c) The following are the principal considerations:-
- (i) Ships should have ample margin of bunkers to reach next bunkering port safely taking into account probable weather conditions.
- (ii) Ships should be of sufficient power for this voyage.
- (iii) Ships with Asiatic crews must have a clause in the articles to permit Magellan or Horn route and crews to be provided with warm clothing.
- (d) Pending clarification of attitude of Chilean and Uruguayan authorities towards vessels of belligerents with warlike stores on board calling at their ports for bunkers, "suitable" vessels must be interpreted as those which can take sufficient bunkers for passage right through to South Africa without unduly reducing cargo.
- (e) Vessels not carrying warlike stores may use Valparaiso for oil bunkers and Montevideo for coal bunkers.
2. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa and S.O(I) Jamaica are requested to pass to B.R.Os.
3. It is requested that Connav will issue to U.S.R.Os such directive as may be considered necessary.  
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1849A/2 to Connav. N.S.H.Q. S.O(I) Jamaica. (R)  
S.B.N.O. W.A. C. in C. S.A. B.A.D.)

O.N.123  
H.J.9.WITHERINGTON sailed to rejoin O.N.123, MINAS,  
LOUISBURG, TENACITY sailed to overtake H.J.9.  
(S.O(I) Halifax 1936Z/2.)S/M  
reported.S/M reported off Cabo Frio Ist. area E of Rio  
considered dangerous zigzag during daylight hours.  
(Cominch 1955/2 to TRAFALGAR, N.O.I.C. Falkland Is.  
Area 2B and 4.)LARAMIE  
(torpedoed  
27/8.Connav serial 2. LARAMIE reached port.  
(Connav 2032/2.)St. John's N.F.  
prohibited  
anchorage.W.J.A. 127. Details.  
(C.N.S. Canada 2047Z/2 to All S.Os. S and E and  
other Naval Authorities which may be concerned.  
Admty. S.O(I) Gibraltar. S.O(I) Freetown. S.O(I)  
Capetown. S.O(I) Jamaica. A.C.I.C. Bermuda  
Coding or Cyphering Office.)

/Sub. attack...



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. Para A. Attacks at 0045Z/28 my 282144 now established as torpedoes. HELANES attack sub. 58.08N 27.35 W 1940Z/1/9. Surface craft attacks sub 22.35 N 84.40 W 0300Z/2. M.V. sights S/M on surface and escorting vessel attacks sound contact 19.59 N 74.14 W 0607Z/13. Surface craft attacks Radar and sound contact 19.29 N 47.46 W 1920Z/17. Surface craft attacks sound contact 24.58 N 79.58 W 1248Z/6. 31.04 N 80.01 W 0252Z/10. Panair Plane sights submerging 16.51 N 72.14 W 1930Z/1. Sub reported 23.04 S 42.22 W about 2040Z/1. Fisherman sights possible sub. 47.32 N 59.08 W 1/9. Surface craft attacks sound contact 33.19 N 75.13 W 1000Z/2. Planes attack sub 23.02 S 42.55 W 1330Z/2. Plane sights possible sub on surface 36.02 N 74.55 W 1700Z/2. Surface craft attacks sound contact 61.48 N 24.47 W 0122Z/23 May. Civilian plane reports sighting sub and airforce planes attack possible periscope 22.45 S 41.50 W 0300/1 and 1330/1. A/C reports four magnetic contacts 38.54 N 74.41 W 1313/1. Surface craft attacks sound contact 38.09 N 74.38 W 2345/1. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2108/2.)

M.A.R.I. Propose following amendment to M.A.R.I. "independent vessels approaching New York from overseas fitted with H/F transmitters shall when within 24 hours of New York harbour transmit using their wartime radio call signs addressed in P.L. to Commander Eastern Sea Frontier consisting of a date time group. This group to indicate E.T.A. Ambrose L.V. Q.M.". (Connav 2120/2 to Admty.)

O.N.S.124. Left O.N.S.124 at 2300Z/2 in 044° 39' N 053° (14') W 256° 7.5 knots escorted by CHAMBLY, NAPANEE, MIDLAND, SOREL, WATCHMAN. (C.T.U. 24.1.15 2330Z/2 to Connav. C.T.U. 24.1.8.)

Report of attack by Hudson A/C on U/B. Your 2000/1. Message 1059/22/7 has been passed to N.S.H.Q. (B.A.D. 2345Z/2 to Admty.)



War Diary.2.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

STORRAS. Your 2115A/31 not to Connav. Has been instructed by W/T to proceed to position Harry to Adelaide. (A.C.N.B. 0118Z/2 to Admty. Connav. Washington. C. in C. E.F.)

Situation. Digest serial No. 223. Further enemy activity observed Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area 1/9. Reports indicate minimum force sighted this day included two cruisers one Jintsu Class approx. 12 destroyers, 5 M/Vs other smaller craft. Landing party visited Buin afternoon 1/9. 3 Floatplanes observed on water.  
 (2) Photographs Buka aerodrome 31/8 indicate 19 Zeros 2 heavy bombers. Dispersal bays and runway further developed indications considerable activity from shore to probable fuel depot and dispersal bays.  
 (3) 4 vessels reported Buka Passage my serial No. 222 para 2 reported departed during night 31/8.  
 (4) Preliminary analysis photographs Rabaul Harbour 1/9 indicate 1 heavy cruiser 1 light cruiser 5 destroyers 2 Seaplane tenders (one with landing barges alongside) 1 minelayer, 3 S/M chasers 1 10,000 ton tanker 14 cargo vessels between 2000 and 10,000 tons 2 large transports 20 small unidentified vessels 50 landing barges near wharf 15 small motor boats 7 flying boats 5 floatplanes. Same R/C also reported 1 unidentified vessel approaching Rabaul from N. 2 unidentified vessels just N of Rabaul Harbour proceeding N.W. course.  
 (6) Mopping up operations continuing Milne Bay area. 1 enemy light cruiser Tatsuta Class one large destroyer sighted by air R/C vicinity Trobriand Island at 0030Z/1 proceeding towards Milne Bay. Vessels shadowed until 0555Z/1 during which time vessels frequently changed course and last observed in 08° 40' S 151° 45' E course 20° speed 28 knots.  
 (7) Unconfirmed report states 8 unidentified vessels Killi Harbour 29/8 but air R/C Killi 31/8 reported nil sightings.  
 (8) R/C Koepang area 1/9 reports 1 vessel approx. 2,500 tons 6 small craft 100 to 1,000 tons.  
 (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0855Z/2 to Admty. etc.)

"S" Report. Intercepted 1017 G.M.T. 12685 k/cs band DE ZLB SSSS KAFN suspicious object sighted 23.44 S 174.00 E at 0900 DE ZLB.  
 (Portishead Radio 0955/2.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.  
 (D.D.I.C. 1339A/2, 1352A/2.)



War Diary.3. 8. 1942.  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Convoy P.Q. 18 OAKLEY (S.O.) WINDSOR, BRAMHAM, BLUE RANGER and OLIGARCH (part of Force P) left Scapa at 0630 today for a position off Spitzbergen to fuel the covering force.

M.T.B. 344 raided the Casquets Lighthouse last night and brought back 7 prisoners.

Six U.S. submarines are to be transferred to the U.K.

North Atlantic.

Five merchant ships which left Lisbon yesterday coastwise to R/V LOCH OSKAIG in 220° Cape St. Vincent 3 miles at 1130 today for escort to Gibraltar to load for U.K. were attacked by U/B at 0355A today, 112° Cape Sines 3 miles (37° 59' N., 9° 1' W) and SS. PENROSE and HOLLINSIDE were torpedoed. B.N.A. Madrid reports that the submarine was inshore and within territorial waters.

CENTURIONE,  
REGINALDO,  
GIULIANI.

An Italian submarine is reported to have entered Santander early this morning and to have motor trouble. It was later reported that the S/M was damaged and had some casualties from air attack at 0400 today some 6 miles from Santander.

Mediterranean.

"S" class  
S/Ms for  
Malta.

The enemy is sending a stream of supply ships from Crete to Cyrenaica which is unlikely to slacken. Lack of numbers in the 1st Submarine Flotilla and distance from Malta makes effective interception of this traffic difficult. C. in C. Med., asks that the S class submarines. at Gibraltar may be transferred to Malta at a very early date; the Admiralty concurred and arrangements were made to transfer the vessels from 12/9 onwards as they become available.

Wellingtons from Malta hit a 4,000 ton ship off Antipaxos last night.

/About...



War Diary.

3.9.1942.  
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

About 9 enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the Haifa area early this morning. No naval damage is reported.

Palestinian SS. ARNON was shelled and whilst beached was torpedoed by 2 S/M today, north of Jonad Island (Levant).

The enemy's armoured forces began a withdrawal westward in Egypt today.

East Indies.

U/B in  
Gulf of Aden.

The tanker BRITISH GENIUS was attacked by a U-boat at 0340Z today in 13° 34' N., 50° 5' E., and again at 1445Z in 13° 0' N., 48° 4' E., (in the Gulf of Aden). The ship reported that she was torpedoed but the torpedoes missed and the ship reached Aden on 4/9.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet anticipates submarine activity in the Gulf of Aden with possible simultaneous attack in the Persian Gulf or its approaches and in the Mozambique Channel. He has arranged to use all available A/S vessels in the Persian Gulf area for convoy and escort directly the threat materialises, but during the present month current operations prevent him from sending any A/S vessels to reinforce the Gulf of Aden. He asked C. in C. Med., if he could help with A/S vessels or land-based aircraft and on 5/9 C. in C. Med., sent the destroyers HERO and TETCOTT. C. in C. E.I. has instructed A.O.C. Ceylon to send some Catalinas at once. The steps which are being taken by H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. to co-operate are given in their message No. 0954Z/6.

America & West Indies.

Attack on  
Convoy  
L.N.7

TRAIL at 0610Z today reported that the convoy had been sighted and attacked by torpedo in 50° 30' N., 58° 45' W., (Belle Isle Strait) and SS. DONALD STEWART torpedoed (Connav gives position 50° 16' N., 59° 4' W).

/H.M.C.S...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.America & West Indies. - Contd.*RACCOON  
attacked*

H.M.C.S. RACCOON<sup>c</sup> was unsuccessfully attacked by torpedoes at 0240 today in 49° 1' N., 67° 17' W. (River St. Lawrence.)

A submarine was sighted at 1400Z today in 42° 8' N. 125° 50' W., (off the Pacific coast of U.S.A.)

The first Guantanamo - Canal Zone convoy G.Z.1 arrived at Cristobal today.

Australia & New Zealand.

Indications of enemy counter-measures against U.S. offensive.

Ocean and Nauru Islands have not been heard since 26/8 and the enemy are presumed to be in occupation.

Enemy Air R/C of the Gilbert Islands has increased. There has been continuous air R/C of Abemana Kuria and Aranuku; at 0530Z/2 Kuria reported 6 warships and an unidentified ship proceeding towards Abemana; there have been no reports from Abemana since 1933Z/1 and it is presumed to be occupied by the enemy.

An enemy ship or ships shelled the Allied positions at Milne Bay today.



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. Disposition of operational units in North Atlantic. Area Iceland (C): ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, TUSCALOOSA, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, SCYLLA, JAMAICA, 9 destroyers, 2 destroyers (U.S.)  
Area Scapa: KING GEORGE V, NELSON, CUMBERLAND, LONDON, SHEFFIELD, 5 destroyers.  
Area Clyde: FURIOUS.  
Area Gibraltar: CHARYBDIS, 2 destroyers.  
Passage to S. Atlantic: AURORA, 2 destroyers.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1121Z/3 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

DELHI. Your 1627/1. DELHI will be stationed in Home Waters, but it is anticipated that she will occasionally be required to operate in the North Atlantic Command.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1218A/3 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Movements.

BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON sailed for Kola Inlet. Amended E.T.A. 1200C/4.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1014A/3.)

ACHATES. Your 2130/30. Arrived.  
(A.C.I.C. 1040A/3.)

CURACOA. C. in C. W.A. 1118A/2. Intend sailing CURACOA 0530A/4. Request destroyer may be sailed to R/V at Lough Foyle Buoy at 1000A/4.  
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 1048A/3 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

SUSSEX. Sailed SUSSEX for Scapa. E.T.A. 1100A/4.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1158A/3.)

AMAZON. Hvalfiord arrival your 1156/1st.  
(A.C.I.C. 1301A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

GLASGOW. Your 1233Z/27. Arrived.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1406A/3 to C. in C. A.W.I.)  
My 1705/27. Amend route as follows from position J to K 180° Portland 10, L 180° Portland 3½, then by QZS 293 and 284 to Needles. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to route L S Is and DURBAN on reverse route, all ships to run paravanes.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1621A/3 to GLASGOW.)

/RAMILLIES...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

RAMILLIES (A) RAMILLIES escorted by \*BEVERLEY and  
 \*CALEDON \*CHESTERFIELD passing through position  
 BICESTER 040° 30' N 020° 01' W.  
*X See next page* 046° 30' N 020° 01' W.  
 050° 31' N 015° 02' W at dawn 7th.  
 180° Fastnet Rock 10 mile at dusk 7th. 270° Longships 5 mile at  
 dawn 8th. Thence through 180° Lizard Head 6 miles to Plymouth.  
 S of A 14 knots.  
 (B) CALEDON pass through 045° 02' N 014° 30' W and 050° 01' N  
 011° 59' W due 180° Bishop Rock 10 miles at 0530A/5.  
 Thence through 180° Lizard Head 6 miles to Plymouth.  
 (C) BICESTER from S.W. due 049° 51' N 011° 01' W at 0530Z/4.  
 Thence through 180° Bishop Rock 10 miles and 180° The Lizard 6  
 miles for Plymouth.  
 (F.O.S. 1529A/3 to S/Ms.) \* *See p. 75.*

SALISBURY. Hvalfiord arrival. Your 2154/31.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1540A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)  
*See next page*

H.50. Sheerness departure H.50 with C.W.120.  
 (C. in C. Nore 1558A/3 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

DURBAN. Intend to sail DURBAN from Needles 1000/4 for  
 Scapa.  
 (ii) Routed QZS 284, 293 to 180° Portland Bill  
 3.5 miles, thence through (a) 180° Portland Bill 10 miles (b)  
 50° 10' N 03° W (c) 180° Start 10 miles (d) 180° Lizard 3 miles,  
 thence by standard route to North Channel and through The Minches  
 and by QZL 31 and 25.  
 (iii) Speed 7 knots until clear of QZX 766, thence S of A 23  
 knots to Longships at 1900/4, 20 knots to Smalls at 0300/5 and  
 thence 18 knots. E.T.A. 0930/6. Partial repair trial will be  
 carried out down channel.  
 (iv) Air escort will be arranged, code word "Artful". If  
 aircraft are grounded due to weather movement may be postponed  
 or ship diverted to Portland to await further orders.  
 (v) Surface escort will be provided by GLAISDALE during first  
 day, and GLAISDALE will be ordered to return to Yarmouth Road  
 (I.O.W.) Code word for return passage "Befoul".  
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1648A/3.)

25th *INT. 24.3.*  
 M.L.F. In consequence of F.O.I.C. Milford Haven's  
 1303/3 M.Ls. 238-280-338 will be fitted out at  
 Falmouth. M.Ls 273 and 444 at Fowey.  
 (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1657A/3 to R.A.C.F.)

CANTON. Hvalfiord arrival your 1746/1 at 1515Z/3.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1700A/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

VETCH. F.O.C.N.A. 1744/2. Onward route from (e) through  
*See p 75*  
*(DURHAM)* (f) 050° 01' N 011° 58' W (g) 180° Fastnet Rock 10,  
 then by Q 2 L 18 and thence as ordered by N.O.I.C.  
 Milford Haven to Milford Haven for onward routing  
 to Falmouth in convoy.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth 1713A/3 to VETCH.)



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- BERWICK. Anticipate sailing BERWICK a.m./9.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1724A/3 to C. in C. H.F.)
- VIRGINIA. F.O.I.C. Liverpool's 1855/30.  
When ready for sea request VIRGINIA may be sailed for Tobermory to work up. On completion she should be sailed with O.S. convoy to Freetown for onward routing to Kilindini.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1823A/3 to C. in C. W.A.)
- CALEDON. After disembarkation of passengers and cargo request you sail CALEDON for Chatham.  
*See previous page.*  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1829A/3 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- Landing craft. Your 2020A/31. L.C.P.(L)s 561, 562, 563, 564, 567, 568, 575, 576 and L.C.P.(R)s 771, 772, 773, 775 have been delivered to S.N.S.O. Portsmouth today.  
(TORMENTOR 1903A/3 to C.C.O.)
- SALISBURY. Reykjavik departure SALISBURY at 1905 in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1424/28/8. E.T.A. St. Johns N.F. p.m./8. Routed through (X) 62° 10' N 29° 59' W (Y) 57° 50' N 40° 01' W (Z) 50° 39' N 49° 59' W.  
(A.C.I.C. 2028A/3.) *See previous page.*
- A.F.D. XVII. (i) Weather permitting intend to sail A.F.D.XVII in tow of MASTADONTE, ST. OLAVES and SCHELDE a.m./5 for Loch Ewe.  
(ii) Escorts P.C.74 S.Os and BICESTER to latitude of Holyhead where trawlers as arranged by C. in C. W.A. take over. Six M.Ls additional escort to Longships. Minesweeping trawlers BEN URIE, S.O. POINTER and INCHGOWER will sweep ahead until relieved in the vicinity of Lundy Island by sweepers from Milford Haven.  
(iii) Estimated speed of advance 4 to 5 knots. Code word "Wheel"  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2101A/3.)

Operations.

Operation "Muskatoon" My Memoranda Number 04316 of 29/8. Operation "Muskatoon". For MINERVE read JUNON throughout.  
(*Raid on base station (F.O.S. 1026A/3.)*  
*Glasgow 20-21/9.*)

M.L. Patrol. M.Ls 181, 259 and 488 are to patrol on line between 050° 10' N 005° 17' W and 049° 57' N 005° 29' W from 2000/3 till P.W.212 has passed Start Point at about 2100/3. They are then to follow 10 miles astern of convoy, approx speed 4½ knots till daylight when they are to proceed Plymouth. Code word "National VI".

/2. Should...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

M.L. 2. Should convoy be delayed M.Ls will be informed.  
 Patrol. 3. Object. To intercept and destroy E-Boats  
 Contd. attempting to attack convoy.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth 1144/3 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Combined C.C.O. 1900/1. It is hoped 2 or 3 M.G.Bs of  
 Operations. 14th Flotilla will be available. Propose to sail  
 boats to Dover on 8/9.  
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1452A/3 to V.A. Dover.)

Patrol. M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between  
 Dumpton and North East Spit buoys, E.T.D. 2040,  
 E.T.R. 0540/4.  
 (V.A. Dover 1722A/3 and 2001A/3.)

Allied Air Activity.

ANSON. Air escort cancelled owing to weather.  
 (C. in C. W.A. 0019A/3 to V.A.2.)  
 Expect A/S escort by Sunderland A/C from 1230A/3  
 to 1700A/3.  
 (C. in C. W.A. 0958A/3 to V.A.2.)

S.N.89 My 1133/31. Escort delayed by engine failure.  
 Escort. (C. in C. Rosyth 0229A/3 to R.A.M.)

U.S.A. Position of U.S.A. Aircraft as at a.m. 3/9.  
 Aircraft. Fighters (P.38)

U.K.	133
Iceland	20
B.W.1.	1
B.W.8.	nil
Goose	2
Presque Isle.	nil
Transport (C.47 & C.53)	
U.K.	104
Iceland	1
B.W.1.	2
B.W.8.	nil
Goose	5
Presque Isle.	3
Bombers (B.17)	
U.K.	110
Iceland	nil
B.W.1.	2
B.W.8.	nil
Goose	1
Presque Isle.	2

No movement from Iceland to U.K. anticipated today.  
 (Air Ministry 1545Z/3 to 44 Group.)



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Off  
Dartmouth.

Mine and float referred to in my 1134A/2 both sunk in 28 fathoms in 50° 20' 48" N 03° 20' 30" W. PANGBOURNE further reports one mine out and later exploded 2/9 in 50° 19' 54" N 03° 19' 48" W. Belgian trawler report mine exploded in trawl in approx. 50° 21' 23" N 03° 26' 12" W. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0734/3.)

SCOTT  
PLOVER

SCOTT arrived Skaale Fjord for shelter. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1225A/3 to A.C.O.S.) Am waiting in Skaale Fjord till weather moderates. Request I may be informed of PLOVER'S movements.

(SCOTT 1500A/3 to M/S 15.)

Skaale Fjord departure SCOTT.

(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1717A/3.)

My 1500/3. Sailing from Skaale Fjord. E.T.A. R/V Noon 4th. (30 M/S.F. 1730A/3 to 15 M/S.F.)

Your 1500A/3. PLOVER and ARDROSSAN sailing postponed until 0900/4. They will then proceed to Broad Bay until the weather moderates.

(15 M/S.F. 1734/3 to SCOTT.)

Intend sailing ARDROSSAN in company at 0900 tomorrow for Broad Bay anchoring on arrival there to await time and date of R/V from SCOTT.

(PLOVER 1810A/3 to TRELAWNEY.)

Off  
Southwold.

1 magnetic detonated by PORTIA 52° 20½' N 01° 56½' E at 1410. Whole sweeping convoy diversion. (Cdr. M/S Lowestoft 1502A/3 and 1650A/5.) Detonated onemine in position 2.5 miles 103° from

number 3 buoy.

(9 M/S.F. 1627A/3.)

My 1627A/3. 3 mines swept in same position as the mine detonated. Search completed.

(9 M/S.F. 1725A/3.)

Your 1725. A QZX Area to the eastward of No.3 buoy is being declared. A clearance sweep of this area and as far beyond it as the mines extend will be required. Request your proposals for carrying this out.

(C. in C. Nore. 2300A/3 to 9 M/S.F.)

Faroes.  
Proposed  
Minefield.

Admty. 1242/30 and my 1151/1. Some 6 M.Bs capacity about 10 tons each fishing up to 24 miles west of Sydero. It is not considered any great hardship would result by restricting activities of these craft though the amount of fish available for export to U.K. would be slightly affected. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1505A/3 to Admty.)



War Diary.

3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Traffic in Russian S/M Areas. Your 1351/31.  
 (A) Traffic almost invariably keeping to leads. (?Minelayer) and escort recently torpedoed by K.21 are only recent exceptions to this. No regular patrols identified.  
 (B) Russian photographers substantially endorsed by Norway pilots. No report about lights since March when following believed operating Sorver R G Hasvik R both on Soroy. Sildem occasionally lit. Hylla G. Klubbneset in Stjersund R. Brnilen W.R.  
 (C) Nothing known.  
 (D) Promulgated Areas for attack between Silden Soroy and Stjersund Island and in Kvenanger Fiord between Island and Brnilen. Area south Fugloy Island not recommend. Channel believed existing through north east corner 67 QZR. K.21 recently passing through at 230 feet depth. No reliable information available for Area 2B.  
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1716A/3 to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Am over enemy S/M in 64° 17' N 0° 30' W. Enemy S/M was on surface when sighted was on a course 315° 10 knots.  
 (A/C 6YBE 0116/3 to 18 Group.)  
 (C. in C. Rosyth 0150A/3 to Ships.)  
 U-Boat bearing 160° distant 7 miles, course 260° my position 062° 15' N 001° 05' E.  
 (STURGEON 0629A/3) (F.O.S. 1148A/3 to S/Ms.)  
 D/F bearings on Series A at 1055Z and 1238Z indicate you are being shadowed.  
 (D.D.I.C. 1446A/3 to Escorts O.N.126.)  
 Am investigating suspicious oil patch in 47° 56' N 10° 3' W.  
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1555A/3.)  
 Am over enemy S/M in 46° 50' N 11° 10' W. Enemy was on course 130°, estimated speed 10 knots.  
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1800/3.)

U-Boats attacked. Asdic contact obtained at 1105N in 053° 32' N 017° 26' W. (Shadowed?) S/M and attacked with 10 depth charges at 1114B. Asdics out of action for 35 minutes after attack. Contact not regained.  
 Search abandoned 1330N to rejoin convoy as ordered by PELICAN. Condition very (?bad)  
 (SENNEN 1340N/3.)  
 Am over enemy S/M in 47° 56' N 10° 3' W. Enemy was on surface when first sighted, was on course 068° estimated speed 8 knots.  
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1544/3.)  
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits.  
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1548A/3.)  
 Am over enemy S/M in 63° 22' N 20° 25' W. Periscope only sighted. When first sighted was on course 314° estimated speed 8 knots.  
 (A.O.C. 16 Group 1735Z/3.)  
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges.  
 (A.O.C. 15 Group 1745Z/3.)  
 Have lost touch with enemy S/M last seen in 63° 22' N 20° 25' W.  
 (A.O.C. 15 Group 1800Z/3.)



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Miscellaneous.CLIO  
HARBINGER  
(Change of  
Names.)

Your 1547/24/7. Approved for N.A.B. CLIO to be transferred to N.F.S. reverting to her original name MINIDO. Inventory should be checked on handing over and date reported to Admty.  
2. M.F.V. HARBINGER should be re-named CLIO as nominal base ship.  
(Hd. of M. 0001A/3 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Casualties and Defects.

ADRIAS.

ADRIAS arrived in tow FREEBOOTER.  
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0720/3 to A.C.O.S.)

L.C.T. 390  
DAVID  
OGILVIE.

L.C.T. 390 ashore on lifeboat slip and DAVID OGILVIE aground in Peterhead Bay off Smiths Embankment. Hope to refloat both next tide.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 0800/3.)  
My 0800/3/9. Not possible to refloat L.C.T. 390 until repairs have been carried out. Engine room and hold flooded. Tank tops bulged in hold. Propellers lost and engine out of service.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1145/3.)  
ABEILLE IV sailed 1020/3 to assist DAVID OGILVIE aground in Peterhead outer harbour.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1150/3.)  
Failed to refloat DAVID OGILVIE. Trying again tomorrow.  
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1940/3.)

DIANTHUS.

Intend to sail DIANTHUS to Albion Dockyard Bristol at 1030/4 in tow of tugs from Avonmouth. Minesweepers sweeping ahead of tow.  
(N.O.I.C. Barry 1015A/3.)

Project  
"A".

Your 1341/3. Docking will be carried out 5/9 subject to arrival of docking plans.  
(A.S. Orkneys 1558/3 to Capt. S.9. F.O.S.)

ROCHESTER.

Request you sail ROCHESTER to comply with Admty. 1948/3.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2058A/3 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18.

Expect A/S escort by Whitley aircraft from 1000A/3 to 1545A/3.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0055A/3 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Scapa departures. 0630 OAKLEY with WINBOR, BRAMHAM, BLUE RANGER, and OLIGARCH.

(A.C.O.S. 0916/3.)  
Scapa departure 0950 COWDRAY.  
(A.C.O.S. 1003/3.)



War Diary.

3.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.P.Q.18.  
Contd.

E.T.A. Seidisfiord WILTON and WHEATLAND in company  
1100A/5 passing through  $060^{\circ}$  N  $009^{\circ}$   $30'$  W and  
 $064^{\circ}$  N  $014^{\circ}$   $30'$  W. S.O.A. 14 knots.  
(AVENGER 1032A/3.)

Your 0608/30 arrived (ULSTER QUEEN, ALYNBANK.)  
(A.C.I.C. 1039A/3 to N.O.I.C. Belfast.)

Expect escort Whitley aircraft from 1330A/3 to 2000A/3.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1124A/3 to Escorts P.Q.18.)

E V para 12 (b). Route through position

(a)  $058^{\circ}$   $45'$  N  $007^{\circ}$   $01'$  W. (b)  $062^{\circ}$   $12'$  N  $013^{\circ}$   $20'$  W, thence  
Seidisfiord.

2. C. in C. W.A. and A.C.I.C. are requested to provide A/S air  
escort as far as practicable from daylight 4th.

3. It is undesirable that AVENGER should expend her aircraft  
before E V.

(C. in C. H.F. 1235A/3 to AVENGER.)

Scapa departures AVENGER with WHEATLAND, WILTON.

(A.C.O.S. 1505/3.)

For patrol force only.

(1) My 1859/24 para (VII) Amend as follows A A to read  $070^{\circ}$   $25'$   
 $019^{\circ}$   $21'$  B B to read  $069^{\circ}$   $40'$   $017^{\circ}$   $10'$  C C to read  $069^{\circ}$   $44'$   
 $017^{\circ}$   $43'$  D D to read  $070^{\circ}$   $06'$   $018^{\circ}$   $13'$ .

(2) Submarines proceeding (?to) position should avoid passing  
within 10 miles of either patrol position in para (V) or of  
positions given above.

(3) Zone K.154. Amend Northern limit to read line drawn  $160^{\circ}$   
through position (D).

(4) My 2208 first refers.

(F.O.S. 1603A/3 to S/Ms.)

E V para 13 (B) Capt. (D) 3 in MILNE take FAULKNOR,

INTREPID, FURY and METEOR under your command and proceed passing  
Switha at 0800A/4 to Seidisfiord.

2. Route through positions

(A)  $058^{\circ}$   $45'$  N  $007^{\circ}$   $01'$  W.

(B)  $062^{\circ}$   $12'$  N  $013^{\circ}$   $20'$  W. thence to Seidisfiord west of mine  
barrier.

3. MARTIN will be sailed a.m./4 after undocking to overtake and  
join.

(R.A.D. 1715A/3.)

C. in C. H.F. 1156A/28. P.Q. trawlers are considered most  
suitable for towing the 3 motor minesweepers. Propose with your  
concurrence CAPE MARIATO, DANEMAN, ST. KENAN should each tow one  
M.M.S. on leaving ?Hvalfjord as far as North Cape if weather  
permits and no local submarine activity is reported.

(N.O.I.C. Iceland 2029A/3 to MALCOLM.)

Seidisfiord Iceland arrival WORCESTER at 1400/3.

(A.C.I.C. 2030A/3.)

Estimate 3 independent M/V from Iceland will cross your  
track about 0800/4 bound S.E.

(C. in C. W.A. 2122A/3 to Escorts P.Q.18.)

T.A.20.

Convoy T.A.20 comprising U.S. SIBONEY, should be  
ready to sail Clyde p.m. 5/9.

2. Any personnel to be embarked will do so at  
Tail of the Bank on 5/9, but numbers will be very  
small.

(D.S.T. 0416A/3.)



War Diary.

3.9.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

ORMONDE.  
DUCHESS OF  
BEDFORD.

My 0317/21/8 para (4).  
If ORMONDE can arrive Clyde before 0600/5 she will proceed to Tail of Bank for disembarkation and remain there. If not, she will proceed to Liverpool for disembarkation and then continue to Clyde.

2. Estimated total for ship 2786.
3. DUCHESS OF BEDFORD has been delayed.  
(D.S.T. 0418A/3.)

P.W.  
Convoy.

Plots indicate you are 7 miles to seaward of route and heading into Lundy Island.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0625A/3 to Escorts P.W.)

S.C.97.

Detached BROADWAY 0600Z/3 to Moville for fuelling.  
My P.C.S. 057° 48' 019° 03' 095° 7½  
(C.T.U. 24.1.12. 0652Z/3 to C. in C. W.A.)

TJALDUR.

My 1622/2. Escort sailed.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1902A/3 to A.C.O.S.)

H.X.204.  
BIRDLIP.

Request you sail BIRDLIP to meet H.X.204 in position "A" at 1100A/3.  
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2228A/3 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry)

R.U.39.

On completion of present escort duties request you will sail KING SOL and PAYNTER in company to Stornoway. Remainder of trawler escort should return with R.U.39.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2306A/3 to A.C.I.C.)



SECRETN.I.D. L.C. Report No. 364  
3rd September 1942EXTRACT FROM A LETTER TO D.N.I. FROM  
ADMIRAL MILES DATED 18.8.42Prime Minister's Visit.

We have just finished the P.M.'s visit. I had to interrupt my visit North to come back here for it. We thought he was going to arrive on 10th but eventually he appeared on 12th at 1645 and had his first meeting at 1900. The aircraft bringing C.I.G.S., Wavell, Tedder and Cadogan had trouble and went back to Teheran, but they arrived next day in a Russian Douglas.

2. You will probably know a good deal more about the fruits of the visit than I do. The Ambassador and Harriman took part in the first meeting, but subsequent meetings were tete-a-tete except for the interpreters. There is no doubt that the wicket was definitely sticky, even when we went in for our second innings at 1900 on August 15th. By midnight the pitch had dried and when the innings closed at 0330 on August 16th the P.M. had carried his bat. He then had a bath at his datcha and was on the aerodrome at 0450 to take his departure.

3. I had lunch with the P.M. one day at the datcha (the Russian version of Chequers except for dates). This was probably built about two years ago and had an underground marble-lined palace as an air-raid shelter.

Our Personal Relations.

4. As far as our personal relations are concerned the curve rises after a visit such as the P.M.'s or Eden's or after the signing of an agreement or Treaty. But when nothing material follows these incidents such as second fronts, or convoys are stopped, or we go backwards instead of forwards in Libya, then the curve falls steeply. In fact it all depends on the party line for the moment. It will be interesting to see how soon it takes to fall this time.

TELEGRAM DATED 30.8.42.

The curve has already taken a sharp bend downwards.

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Requests for further information on the above subject should be made in writing or by telephone to N.I.D.(16), Telephone Whitehall 9000, Extension 794.

N.I.D.(16)  
3.9.42.

Distribution:

First Lord  
First Sea Lord  
Deputy First Sea Lord  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(T)  
Secretary  
Parliamentary Secretary  
Financial Secretary  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
A.C.N.S.(H)  
D. of P.



War Diary.3.9.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

OTUS. F.O.C.N.A. 1338/2 not to C. in C. Plymouth cancel times in para 2 of my 1207/30 and substitute (a) and (b) 1400/4 to 0200/6 (b) and (c) 1600/5 to 0300/7 (c) and (d) 1700/6 to 0600/8 (d) and (e) 1900/7 to 0500/9 (e) and (f) 1800/8 to 0001/10 (f) to R/V 1100/9 to 1600/10.  
(F.O.S. 0014A/3 to H.Q.C.C. (R) Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, Capt. S.3, OTUS.) Amended 1054A/3.

Escort of My 1758/30. Sailed RAMILLIES escorted by  
RAMILLIES. WISHART, WESTCOTT, PANTHER, PENN. If BEVERLEY and CHESTERFIELD fail to meet, PANTHER and PENN have been ordered to continue Plymouth, WISHART, WESTCOTT to continue prudent limit of endurance then fuel Ponta Delgada.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0240A/3 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A., Admty., F.O.(S), S/Ms Rosyth Command North Area, Capt.(S) 3, CHESTERFIELD, BEVERLEY, H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., N.O.I.C. Falmouth.)  
My 0240/3 last line delete 010A/3.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0422A/3.)

ELIZABETH Barcelona reports that ELIZABETH HENDRIK FISSER  
HENDRIK ran aground p.m. 29/8 off Cape Oropesa. No  
FISSER. assistance in refloating is likely to be  
(German) forthcoming from Port of Barcelona.  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 0946A/3 to Admty., for D.N.I.)

U-Boat Italian S/M entered harbour early this morning  
Santander. said to have motor trouble.  
(Santander 0950/3 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar, Madrid.)

Consul Santander reports at 0950/3 Italian S/M entered Santander early this morning; said to have motor trouble. Later Bilbao reports telegraphic communication from Santander to Madrid deliberately suspended.

(D.D.I.C. 2300A/3 to N.A. Madrid (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

M.L. Propose absorbing 28th M.L. Flot. into 9th  
Flotillas. and 29th Flot.  
2. 443 and 307 having smoke producing apparatus being allocated to 9th Flotilla.  
3. 341, 493, being allocated to 29th Flot.  
4. This will ultimately result in all 9th Flot and two M.Ls of 29th Flot being torpedo armed.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1032A/3 to Admty., (R) R.A.C.F.)

/Reports ...



War Diary.3.9.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

Reports of S/M Movements. Your 1644/3/8. Para 1(a) Exhaustive analysis of signal traffic and past experience in dummyming have shown danger of trying to maintain constant level of traffic. A better plan is to insert up to three dummy messages per day at frequent but irregular intervals to prevent enemy placing reliance on any inferences drawn.

2. Para 1(b) Concur, bearing in mind qualifications in para 1 above. F.O.C.N.A. requested to arrange as this will not concern Admty.

3. Paras 2 and 3 Concur.

4. These arrangements should be introduced to coincide with bringing into force of S.P. 02396 (11) Block of dummy D.Gs to be used will be signalled.  
(Admty., 1049A/3 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) F.O.S., V.A. Malta, C. in C. Med.)

ANA MARIA  
(Spanish)

ANA MARIA 75 tons Tangier to Melilla with Tea Lard and empty bags sent in by patrol for suspicious behaviour in Straits. After searching Master's explanation accepted and ship released.  
(C.C.S.O. Gibraltar 1130C/3 to M.E.W.)

U/B attack on Convoy from Lisbon, PENROSE and HOLLINSIDE torpedoed.

Convoy reports S/M attack 3 miles off Cape Sines at 0355A/3. Details follow.  
(LOCH OSKAIG 1200A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) ALOUETTE.)  
META reports PENROSE and HOLLINSIDE torpedoed at 0355A/3 3 miles off Cape Sines. Am escorting META, ?USKGATEDALE and NORTH DEVON coastwise at 6 knots. My position 120° Cape Sagres 3 miles.

(LOCH OSKAIG 1230A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. ALOUETTE.)

My 1106/2nd para 1. This convoy was attacked by U-Boat 3 miles off Cape Sines at 0400/3rd.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1408A/3 to P.247, OTUS.)

Your 1417A/3. (1) Convoy can give no definite information.  
(2) Fate of survivors unknown.

(LOCH OSKAIG 1505A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. Stations.)

U-boat known to be in the vicinity 3 miles Cape Sines  
037° 59' N. 009° 01' W. at 0355A/3.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1511A/3 to S. and A. N.A. (R) Admty.)

100 survivors landed here 1800/3 from PENROSE and HOLLINSIDE torpedoed off Cape Ses 0330/3. Casualties PENROSE, HOLLINSIDE.

(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1919/3 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Have ascertained at Sines that 2 empty lifeboats were brought into Sines Bay today by Spanish fishing boats. No news of (?survivors) sinking known of in Sines.

(ALOUETTE 1930A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LOCH OSKAIG.)

Your 1536/3 100 survivors from PENROSE and HOLLINSIDE landed Lisbon 1800 today. 2 missing former vessel, 1 killed 2 missing latter vessel. Both ships torpedoed off Sines 0355/3.

(N.A. Lisbon 1944A/3 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar (R) Admty.)

/MIRROR ...



War Diary.3.9.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

MIRROR. My 1014/30/8 and your 1727/10/7. Cable and Wireless Ltd., report Emden-Fayal cable broken about 35 miles from Fayal. Operation given in para (A) of your 1727/10 is therefore cancelled.

2. Intend to sail MIRROR escorted by H.M.T. LEYLAND at 1930A/4 to carry out following operations:-

A. Repair Waterville-Fayal (Commercial Coys, main four) cable in 38° 49' N. 28° 31' W.

B. Restore Portuguese Fayal-Pico cable in vicinity of Fayal Channel.

C. Repair Fayal-San Miguel cable in 37° 48' N. 26° 20' W.

3. Intend to carry out operation (D) in your 1727/10/7 as soon as possible after MIRROR returns from completion of programme given in Para (a) above.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1256A/3 to Admty.)

U/B. Sunderland A/C searching for U-Boat in your vicinity during daylight today.  
A/C search. (F.O.C.N.A. 1310A/3 to OTUS, P.247.)

Movements. BEVERLEY and CHESTERFIELD arrived Ponta Delgada 1700/3.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1615/3 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty.) *p. 45 - (RAMILLIES)*

Resume for 3/9. Four Hudsons A/A Sweep 9 13° W. 0730 - 1345  
45 TLO Hudsons A/S Sweep TN 13° W. 1200 - 1800  
0-18. One Sunderland CLA A/S Patrol 0300  
between 37.10 N. 38.30 N. 0640 (?0630) - 1645 1  
Hudson A/S Patrol to Cape Sines 1530 - 1900. 3 Swordfish  
A/S patrol Spartel 2026 - 0109 operational hours 1800/2/9 -  
1800/3/9 Sunderland 10 hrs. 15 mins. Swordfish 4 hrs. 17 mins.  
Hudsons 36 hours 28 mins.  
(A.H.Q Gibraltar 1643Z/3.)

DURHAM. My 1744 and 2142/2. Sailed\* VETCH and LADY HOGARTH escorting SS DURHAM towed by H.M. Tug BUSTLER.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1750A/3 to Admty. C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A. (R) H.Q.C.C., F.O.I.C. Falmouth.)  
*\* see p. 45*

CAMPOMANES. Spanish tanker CAMPOMANES maximum speed 10 knots bound from Curacao to Corunna was in 036° 40' N. 012° 23' W. at 1500/3 steering north easterly course.  
(2) Endeavour to intercept board and examine log. If anything suspicious escort to Gibraltar.  
(3) This ship was sighted in 037° 47' N. 010° 33' W. at 1300/1 steer 90.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1947A/3 to ALOUETTE (R) Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, PETUNIA.)



War Diary.3. 9.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.ENRIQUE  
SECUNDO.  
Convoy  
S.L.120ENRIQUE 2 abandoned sinking in 36° 23' 8° 43'.  
Crew on board STELLA CARINA. Proceeding to  
reform convoy to carry out your 1612A/2. Not  
sunk when left owing to delay and difficulty  
maintaining contact all ships.  
(GERANIUM 2301A/3 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) S.L.120.)South Atlantic.

A.F.Mge.

A.M. A.F. in 0° 57' N. 4° 11' W. at 2255/2.  
(Freetown W/T 0058/3 to All Allied Merchant  
Ships.)

W.S.21 A.

1. W.S.21A to Aden B. to Bombay.  
2. 0500Z/3.  
3. R/V Capetown section outer end Durban swept  
channel 0600Z/3. (Route, escorts etc.)  
(N.C.S.O. Durban 0617Z/3 to Admty. etc.)OCEAN MIGHT  
torpedoed.0° 57' N. 4° 11' W. OCEAN MIGHT torpedoed.  
(OCEAN MIGHT, No T.O.O/3 recd 1003Z, S.O.(I)  
Freetown 0050Z/3.)OCEAN MIGHT torpedoed about 2340 G.M.T. 4° 57' N. 41° 11' W.  
(0043/3, 0055/3, 0124/3, 0636/3) (W.D. Note, Different  
latitude.)

AURORA.

E.T.A. 020° N. at 1800Z/6 S. of A. 13 knots.  
(AURORA 0700Z/3 to R.A. West Africa (R) Admty.)

— p. 78 — (W.S. 22.2)

NORDANGER.

My 1120B/31. Cancel NORDANGER. Ship arrived.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 0840B/3 to Admty. etc.)Re certain  
limits on  
coasts of  
America.Concur in proposed additional rule in A.M. No.  
2132/12/8.  
(C. in C. S.A. 0903B/3 to Admty. (R) C. in C.  
E.F., R.A. West Africa, Air Min. B.A.D.)

GENERTON.

My 1633B/29. Cancel GENERTON. Ship arrived.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 0928B/3 to Admty. etc.)Identifi-  
cation.Pass to N.C.S.Os. Attention of Masters of ships  
that are to proceed independently should be  
drawn to A.M.S.I. 71 42. Many complaints have  
been received that ships sighting well known  
liners have not complied with the instruction.  
(D.T.D. 1046A/3 to C. in C. S.A., R.A. West Africa,  
C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B.)

/MILFORD ...



War Diary.3.9.1942  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

MILFORD. Expect ship will be ready to sail about 15/9. (MILFORD 1202/3 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., R.A. West Africa, Force B.A.D., B.N.A., Rio de Janeiro, S.O.(I) Istanbul.)

T.S.16. Arrivals 3/9 MORRIS DANCE, M.Ls 277, 305, 285 with T.S.16. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1315Z/3.)

STEPHEN HOPKINS. My 1429/29. Cancel STEPHEN HOPKINS. Ship arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1628B/3 to Admty. etc.)

VOLENDAM, W.S.21. E 9 VOLENDAM sailed 3/9 in W.S.21 for Kilindini. E.T.A. p.m. 14/9. Personnel on board, (a) for Kilindini, (b) for Diego Suarez. (ii) C. in C. E.F. and D.S.T.O. Mombasa are requested to arrange for personnel for Madagascar to be landed at Diego Suarez on return voyage. (D.S.T.O. Durban 1705C/3 to D.S.T.O. Kilindini, (R) D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Capetown, C. in C. E.F., S.T.O. Diego Suarez.)

W.S.21 A. Durban portion W.S.21 A comprising SAMARIA sailed 3/9 for Aden. E.T.A. p.m. 17/9. Personnel on board for M.E. (D.S.T.O. Durban 1707C/3 to D.S.T.O. Aden (R) S.S.T.O. Suez, P.S.T.O. Egypt, S.N.O.R.S., C. in C. E.F., D. of S.T., P.S.T.O. Capetown.)

FORMIDABLE escort. Intend WIVERN and VANSITTART shall R/V with you in Q 000° 00' N. 013° 23' W. at 1200Z/7 and provide escort to Freetown. (R.A. West Africa, 1715Z/3 to FORMIDABLE, (R) WIVERN, VANSITTART, Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

Sunderland force landed. Your 1628Z/30. Sunderland aircraft on convoy service 17/8 engine trouble made forced landing in sea aircraft broken into three pieces 5 survivors got away rubber boat arrived Bissajos Archipelago 26/8. 5 survivors. Remainder crew missing. Survivors leave per H.M.M.L. 1066 due Bathurst 5/9. (R.O. Bissao 1802/3.)

BRITISH DILIGENCE and ANCYLUS. N.C.S.O. Lagos 2037/1. Destination Clyde as ordered in my 1321/18 and my 1233/18. (D.T.D. 1845A/3 to R.A.W. Af.) (Note.- See N.C.S.O. Lagos 1715Z/4.)



War Diary.

3.9.1942  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

W.S.22.

ANTELOPE is to be sailed to R/V with convoy W.S.22 in 021° 16' N. 021° 38' W. at 1600Z/6 and join escort to Freetown. Convoy consists of (?21) ships Commodore in CALIFORNIA escorted by \*AURORA S.O. CARTHAGE, QUIBERON S.O. destroyers and PARTRIDGE routed

R. 025° N. 022° W.

S. 014° N. 021° W.

T. 009° N. 018° W. thence Freetown S. of A. 12½ knots.

(R.A. West Africa 2045Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst  
(R) ANTELOPE, Capt (D) 18, Admty., C. in C. S.A.  
AURORA, QUIBERON.)

\* 5 p.76



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

7 transport barges. P.C. and S. of 7 transport barges 33° 10' N. 23° 5' E. 090° 8 knots.  
(A/C QZ7L, 0025C/3.)

P. 34. You are to proceed at 0600 and when clear of swept channel carry out trials in the Sanctuary as arranged verbally tonight.  
*See p. 81*  
Results are communicated to me not later 1200/3. If overdue you are to return to Marsaxlokk and arrange to meet minesweeper at end of south east searched channel at 1700 to be swept back to Marsamsxett. If satisfactory proceed in execution of previous orders, after reporting situation.  
(Capt. (S) 10, 0038B/3 to P.34, (R) N.O.I.C. Malta, Cmdr. Minesweepers, XDO.)  
Sailed P. 34.  
(V.A. Malta, 2000B/3.)

1 destroyer. 1 enemy destroyer position 37° 30' N. 17° 38' E. course 260.  
(A/C YU3Z, 0040B/3.)

1 Tanker P.C. and S. of one enemy tanker 3 destroyers 39° 4' N. 20° 5' E. 170° 8 knots.  
3 D/Rs. (A/C YUSF, 0135/3.)  
P.C. and S. of 3 enemy destroyers and 1 tanker 39° 3' N. 20° 5' E. 170° 10 knots.  
(Med. A/C, 0145B/3.)

1 M/V, 2 D/Rs. 1 M/V, 2 destroyers position 350 Tobruk 40 course 240 speed 6.  
(A/C QZ7J, 0145/3.)

N.A.S. attack on M/V. N.A.S. claim 2 hits on merchant ship 45° Spartivento Cape 15 miles. Ship almost stopped at 2345B/2nd.  
(V.A. Malta, 0305B/3 to P. 42.)

06' 016° 09' with three destroyers in vicinity a.m./3rd. Take no action until completion of project A.

(Capt. (S) 10, 1341B/3 to P.42, (R) C. in C. Med., ?S.1.)  
Details of attack. A. 2345/2. C. 1 M/V 5000 tons  
2 D/Rs 1 small flak ship 045° Cape Spartivento 15 miles course 090° 10 to 12 knots. D. 1 Special Swordfish 2 Albacores.  
E. 2 both aircraft attacked successively. M. 2 hits seen violent explosion black and white smoke vessel seen to be going down by stern.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1420/3, 1940/3 which gives time of attack 2145/2.)

N.A.S. claims 2 torpedo hits on merchant ship (? in) position 038° (?06') N. 016° 18' E. at 2345B/2nd. P.R.U. on 3rd reports ship beached near this position.

(V.A. Malta, 1435B/3 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty.)

*See also p. 137, +136.*

/T &amp; U ...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

T. & U. Class S/Ms. "bleeding" patrols. Following is a repetition of my 2033/1/9 (not previously received.) F.O.S. Letter S.M. 00106 of 10th April. The need for a "bleeding" patrol to follow up the initial quiet working up patrol is fully concurred in. The Tyrrhenian sea and the Adriatic are both very suitable areas.

2. It is not considered however, that the very small quantity of stores which can be carried by "T" and "U" class submarines justifies their returning to Gibraltar to load.

3. It is therefore suggested that the following procedure should be adopted subject to Captain (S) 8 being satisfied as to the efficiency of each submarine after its first working up patrol.

(A) "U" class carry out "bleeding" patrol in Tyrrhenian Sea, proceeding to Malta on completion.

(B) "T" class proceed to Malta with stores, then carry out "bleeding" patrol in Adriatic from Malta before joining 1st Submarine Flotilla. Final. Ends.

(C. in C. Med., 0340C/3 to F.O.S., (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A., S.1, S.3, S.8, S.10.)

Movements. 2/9 Port Said arrival M.L. 350, MAINE, ORION, departure BELVOIR, SEAHAM, BOSTON, JAVELIN, JERVIS, PAKENHAM, KELVIN, PALADIN, CLEOPATRA, ARETHUSA, DIDO, H.M. Hospital Ship ABA. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 0947C/3.)

Cositrep 503 Part 2. (4) Air. 1 Sept. American B.24s bombed shipping in Heraklion, Crete. One ship claimed hit and smoke seen to issue.

(5) Night 1/2 Sept. Enemy tanks and M.T. battle area continuously bombed over six hour period. Both Wellingtons and Albacores making double sorties. Many fires started and considerable damage inflicted M.T. Matter confirmed by light bombers following day who found many M.T. destroyed same area. Tobruk harbour bombed. Fires and explosions caused on docks. Wellingtons attacking southbound convoy north of Derna claim hit with torpedo on merchant vessel two thousand five hundred tons causing clouds of smoke. Large oil patch seen later. This convoy previously attacked by American B.24s which obtained hit on another ship.

(C. in C. M.E., 1030/3.)

P. 46. My 1002/2nd. Amend date arrival to 00 <sup>T</sup>UTMOST due same day passing through 035° 21' 015° 06' about 1600B/7th.

If able to arrive before 1730B/7th make E.T.A. when west of 018°. (Capt. (S) 10, 1120B/3 to P.46, (R) 10th S/M Flotilla, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

\* See next page

/Asking ...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Asking  
for S/M  
reinforce-  
ments.

The enemy is sending a stream of supply ships from Crete to Cyrenaica which is unlikely to slacken. Lack of numbers in 1st S/M Flotilla and distance from Malta makes effective interception of this traffic difficult. Any submarine reinforcements would be most welcome.

Request consideration may be given to transferring S class submarines at Gibraltar to Malta at very early date.

(C. in C. Med., 1225C/3 to Admty.) *Concur (1907A/4, page 102).*

THRASHER.

At 1310/3 R/C showed about 6 medium sized vessels P.C. and S. 034° 42' 023° 30' 164° 8. Moved to intercept in 032° 53' 024° 08'. PIGEON between 0100 and 0300, flares will probably be dropped to indicate position of convoy.

(Capt. (S) 1, 1420C/3 to THRASHER, (R) C. in C. Med., TRAVELLER, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

3 M/Vs.,  
4 D/Rs.

Position course and speed of 3 merchant vessels 4 destroyers is 34° 20' N. 23° 34' E. 180° 10 knots (A/C Duty R, 1511/3.)

UTMOST.

Leave patrol p.m./3 and return to Malta by route ordered in Capt. (S) 10 1237/1st.

(Capt. (S) 1, 1516C/3 to UTMOST, (R) C. in C. Med., No. 201 Naval Co-op Group, Capt. (S) 10, S/Ms on Patrol.) *See previous page.*

Haifa  
bombed.

Enemy aircraft raided Haifa early this morning and dropped 8 bombs in Haifa Bay area. Some damage to houses and essential services. No casualties.

(High Commissioner Palestine, No T.O.O./3.)

→ CLYDE, P.43.

3/9 sailed CLYDE, P.43.  
(V.A. Malta, 1650B/3.)

ASCANIUS.

My 1549/2 and my 1751/3.

ASCANIUS after disembarkation should be sailed to Berbera to embark 900 Italian evacuees for

Durban.

(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1753C/3 to D.S.T.O. Suez.)

\* P. 34, P.43.

My 1237/1st amend times of passing positions given to read P.34 0530B/4th and P.43 2030B/4. Approx. position 2030B/5th P.34 036° 33' 016° 55', P.43 035° 47' 017° 43'.

(Capt. (S) 10, 1835B/3 to 10 S/M Flotilla, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria, 201 Naval Co-op. Group.)

\* See p.79

/Torpedoes ...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Torpedoes for Malta. Your 1241/29 para. 7 not to S.1. After discussion with A.O.C. Med. and in view of present stocks and relative expenditure of submarine and air torpedoes. It is requested that all submarines bringing torpedoes to Malta may bring 21 inch in tubes and 18 inch in racks and that this may apply to PROTEUS sailing 10/9 which may entail flying 18 inch torpedoed to Beirut. (V.A.M., 1935B/3 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., F.O.S., 201 Group, F.O.C.N.A., S.1.)

Air attacks. Corfu. 1 tanker 4000 tons 3 D/Rs from Taranto arrived. Night 2/3. 1335 hours 2 Wellington 8s. attacked same tanker and 3 D/Rs now 230°  
Antipaxis 11 miles course 165° 8 knots. 6 x 5000 lb. G.P. bombs and 6 flares dropped from 4000 feet. 1 direct hit on tanker causing large explosion and clouds of white smoke. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta, 1940/3.)

German & Italian Morale. Your 1252C/30/8. Morale of crews of German U-Boats operating in the Mediterranean still high though some doubt as to their ultimate victory are beginning to creep in. Morale of Italian Navy is low and is only slightly improved by Axis successes and falls badly with Axis defeats.. Their hatred for their German Allies is very apparent and disaffection for their own Regime is growing. Their outlook (? which) way the victory goes is gloomy. The above low estimate must not blind one to the possibilities of units of the Italian Navy carrying out individual exploits nor of their Fleet operating offensives against weak forces. The personnel of supply ships and their escorts are apparently bravely facing the (? ordeal) voyages. (C. in C. Med., 2255C/3 to Naval Attache Ankara Personal, Admty. Personal for D.N.I.)



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Eastern Fleet. C. in C. E.F. message 56Y of 10th June (? T.O.O. 0850Z/10). The composition of the Eastern Fleet will in future be promulgated in appendix A to Eastern Fleet War orders. (2) On receipt of first appendix message 56Y is to be cancelled. (C. in C. E.F., 0724Z/2.)

MANXMAN. 0900Z/3 arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 0909Z/3.)

Liberator A/Cs for E.I. My 1627<sup>B</sup>4/8. Liberator three G.R. aircraft will not be fitted with A.S.V. before January. Request your views on whether:  
(a) Despatch of aircraft should be commenced in October with Liberators not fitted A.S.V. and if so how many out of the unit equipment of twelve should be sent unfitted.  
(b) G.R. Liberators sent after January or February should have A.S.V. fitted before despatch. Modification to fit A.S.V. is a large one and could not be done in India.  
(A.C.N.S.(F), 1332A/3 to C. in C. E.F.)

India Air Report. Part 2.  
2/9. Recco of Akyab and Arakan coast had nil sighting. Catalina patrols Ceylon - negative. Shipping patrol Wellington from Madras. 12 Hurricanes from Vizagapatam and 2 aircraft Bay of Bengal. No enemy movement seen.  
(A.H.Q. India, 1355Z/3.)

BRITISH GENIUS. Following has been received Aden W/T from G A I S (GKTB) BRITISH AVIATOR received from GPPG (BRITISH GENIUS) at 1452 G.M.T. S S S S 13.00 N. 48.04 E. BRITISH GENIUS torpedoed.  
(Colombo W/T, 1500 G.M.T./3, Navywireless Aden 1500 G.M.T./3)  
Following has been received. Submarine attack signal from BRITISH GENIUS 13° 00' N. 41° 94' (sic) E. BRITISH GENIUS torpedoed 1500 G.M.T.  
(Colombo W/T, T.O.R. 1514Z/3.)  
Following has been received. Addressed Aden W/T from G A I S (GKTB) BRITISH AVIATOR GPPG says torpedo exploded near them my position is 13.00 N. 48° 05' E.  
(Colombo W/T, T.O.R. 1536Z/3.)

/Measures ...



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1430GMT/3rd September.  
IN

From G.O.C. in C. East Africa.

Date 4.9.42.  
Recd. 0145.

CIPHER.

Addressed The War Office.

IMMEDIATE

071251. 48966 cipher 3 Sep.

For M.O.5.

SITREP 26 Aug. to 1/9. 12 Div. Somalibrit reports two officers observed submarine 4 miles off Berbera 1/9. Moves. One Coy. 3/6 K.A.R. from Mandera to Hargeina 25/8. Relief of 4/6 K.A.R. at Direedawa by 2/1 K.A.R. from Babile JYU 2918 in progress. 1 E.A. Pioneers less two Coys. left Berbera for Mombasa 1/9. Central Area. Move 3/4 I.A.R. from Moshi and 3 Armd. Recce Sqn. from Gilgil Bothuto Mariabani for training with 29 E.A. Bde. 22 K.A.R. arrived Yatta Camp from Bwana M'Kubwa 28/8. 14 K.A.R. from Gilgil to Yatta Camp 29 Aug. 19 K.A.R. from Yatta to Mombasa 1/9. 25 Bde. 8 and 9 sub areas abolished as from 2400 hrs. 31/8. 8 sub area replaced by O.C. Troops Nyasaland. Islands area. Islands area formed as from 2400 hrs. 31/8 comprising Diego Suarez fortress Sechelles Mauritius and Rodriguez with H.Q. Diego Suarez under command Maj. Gen. Smallwood.

1430GMT/3.

Recd. from W.O. 1225/4/9.

1st Lord.	W.O. circulation:
1st S.L. (2)	S. of S. D.D.M.O. (0)
Dep. 1st S.L.	C.I.G.S. M.O. 1.2.5. (10) 11
4th S.L.	V.C.I.G.S. D.M.I.
V.C.N.S.	D.M.O. D.D.M.I. (1)
A.C.N.S. (F)(2)	D.P. (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.	Hd. of War Reg. Admiralty
D.O.D. (F)(2)	A.M.C.S. Air Ministry
D.D.I.C. (2)	Foreign Office (Mr. Mack)
D. of P. (2)	Dominions Office (Mr. Holmes)
D.C. (2)	M.I. 3. D.Q.M.G.
Hd. of M.	D.D.S.D. Q. (Ops)(4)
D.N.I. (4)	S.D.2. D.D. Mov. (P)
D. of P. (Q)	Major Moreton 10 Downing St.
I.P. (2)	
D.P.D.	
W.D.	
Admiral Blake.	
D. of L.D.	
D./S.W.	



MOST  
SECRET**MOST SECRET**

MESSAGE.

IN.

1728/5rd September.

From: H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East

Date 4.9.42  
Rec'd 1139

Int. Gen. (X) BY T/P &amp; W/T

Addressed: A.H.Q. India. Repeated: C. in C. Eastern Fleet, A.H.Q. East Africa, Air Ministry Whitehall, Admiralty, 222 Group, 207 Group.

A 267/267 1/9 (1/9) MOST SECRET 222 (222) Group please pass second addressee. Ref. A.H.Q. India's A248/ (248) 18/8 (18/8) C. in C. Eastern Fleet. 2061/22 (2061/22) and A.H.Q. India 347 (347) 29/8 (29/8) Following comments offered operational point of view suggested distribution 12 (12) Flying Boat Squadrons.

(1) On proposed allocation and allowing 1200 nautical miles as maximum radius of action Catalina there is important area to East and South East of Gulf of Aden which would not be covered flying boat reconnaissance. Approximate boundaries of area as follows. To Westwards East African Coast Mogadishu to Cap Guardafui and entrance Gulf of Aden. Northwards by parallel 15 degs. North. Eastwards Meridian 70 degs. East to South East and South lines joining position 10 degs. North 70 degs. East to position 5 degs. North 65 degs. East to Mageraye Mogadishu.

(2) Shipping from South bound for Aden and possibly West Indian ports might well pass through this area.

(3) Landplace reconnaissance from Socotra and South Arabian advance landing grounds inadequate owing to short range.

(4) Understand Americans using amphibian Catalina (PBYSAs) in certain other areas Atlantic Oceans with success and therefore suggest that at least one of 12 Squadrons be equipped this type and operate from Socotra and/or Somaliland Aerodromes to cover this area.

(5) Agree allocation two squadrons Kilindini but point out that if the two squadrons earmarked for other Indian Ocean bases are to be operated for area under administrative control East Africa there are obvious advantages in basing repeat basing them on East African mainland rather than introducing permanent base facilities at Diego Suarez and Mauritius particularly as regards latter which in exposed position.

/Aircraft



836

Aircraft would work on detached bases as required from any of the seven sites in whole area at which operational facilities have been provided.

1728/3

✓ T.O.O. 1345/18

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 3rd S.L.
- C.N.A.S.
- A.C.N.A.S.
- Vico Controller
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- Civil Lord
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- N.A. to A.C.N.S. (F)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.C. (2)
- D.A.C.D.
- D.N.A.D.
- Hd. of Air
- D. of L.D.
- Hd. of M.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.T.D. (2)
- D. of P. (Q)
- Admiral Bellairs
- Admiral Blake
- Admiral Osborne
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.A.S.W.
- C.C.L.S.



SECRET

MESSAGE

0815/3 GMT Sept.  
IN

From: A.H.Q. India.

Date: 3/9/42  
Recd. 1515ACYPHER

Addressed: Air Ministry, Whitehall. Repeated: Allied H. Q.  
S.W. Pacific (Please pass Airboard Melbourne);  
Defence Depot, Wellington; New Zealand Air Attache,  
Chungking.

IMPORTANT : WX.9575. A900 3/9 Secret.

Conservative estimate of Japanese aircraft losses  
Burma and Ceylon from 8/12/41 to 31/7/42.

(A) Destroyed (B) Probably  
Destroyed (C) Damaged

Part 1 Burma.

By A.V.G.	222	43	Unknown
By R.A.F.	81	38	31
By U.S.A.A.F.	6	1	3
By A.A. Fire	6	Unknown	Unknown
Totals	315	82	34

Part 2 Ceylon

By R.A.F.	45	19	27
By A.A. Fire	2	Unknown	Unknown
Totals	47	19	27

Part 3 Grand Total  
for Ceylon & Burma

362	101	61
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Part 4 U.S.A. Air Force source gives total claims for A.V.G. as:

296	1000 (or 100 CPT)	Unknown
-----	----------------------	---------

Assumed that (A) 74 (B) 57 (C) Unknown were in China.  
0815/3 G.M.T.

Time received in War Registry - 1920/3

1st Lord.  
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W.D.  
D.P.D.



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Measures to meet U/B menace. It appears that renewal of S/M activity in Indian Ocean must be anticipated in near future. Present indications suggest an attack on M.E. communications in Gulf of Aden but possibility of simultaneous attack in Persian Gulf or its approaches and in Mozambique Channel cannot be ignored.

2. In accordance with Admiralty instructions action has been taken use (?) available A/S vessels in Persian Gulf area and to establish convoy and escort directly threat materialises.

3. Current operation precludes any reinforcement of A/S vessels from Eastern Fleet in Gulf of Aden this month.

4. In view of above please state -  
(a) Can any A/S vessels from Meditn. Fleet be sent to reinforce Aden.  
(b) What land-based aircraft can be available to cover Gulf of Aden and will any of these be A.S.V.

5. Am instructing A.O.C. Ceylon to send (?) Catalinas to Aden forthwith. These are all that can be made available immediately in view of commitments elsewhere.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1916Z/3 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty.)

Shipping signals. Your 1733/16th. Of the ships so far to reach the Indian Ocean the first two ETTBRICKBANK and SALAWATI both called at Durban, were reported by N.C.S.O. Durban 1401/17th and 1423/16th and were re-routed by Durban in the normal manner. No special advising signal from C. in C. South Atlantic was therefore necessary.

(2) Remaining ships have not yet arrived at destination. Advising signals have been received from Admiralty and ships are being plotted from these but no similar signal has been received from C. in C. S.A. nor was this expected from the instructions in A.M. 2131/9th July.

(3) If advising signal is received from C. in C. S.A. a future remainder from Admiralty does not appear necessary but it is suggested that present practice should continue until more experience is gained.

(4) No route signal has been received for any ships. Ships cannot therefore be accurately plotted no lettered positions are held from which to make diversions nor is it known what books are held. Request Vesca (Route) telegram may be sent for each.

(5) No route instructions were handed in at Durban by SALAWATI but master states that he was given instructions to close Bluff Point Signal Station, Durban for orders. Will this practice be continued.

(6) Request I may be informed what policy will be adopted for the return voyage of these ships. Observing that no routing instructions are held on my station for ports beyond the Cape or Australia.  
(C. in C. E.F., 2021Z/3 to Admty.)



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies

- S.C.98 My 1630Z/2nd Section East S.C.98 read Task Unit 24.1.13.  
(C.O.A.C., Halifax, 0137Z/3).
- EMPIRE St. Johns N.F. 2/9 arrivals ROSTHERN, FRISKY ex  
BREEZE, search for SS. EMPIRE BREEZE, VISCOUNT returned  
VISCOUNT. with defect. Departures, BROKE to Scapa Flow.  
(F.O.N.F., 0312Z/3).
- O.N.S.124 My 2330Z/2 for "CT.U. 24.1.8" read "C.T.U. 24.18.  
8".  
(C.T.U. 24.1.15 0400Z/3).
- U/B sighted At 0341 G.M.T. unknown station reports sub sighted  
22.40 N., 78.32 W., at 0045 G.C.T. Ends.  
(Wick Radio, 0447/3).
- SS. DONALD Ship torpedoed 050° 16' N., 059° 04' W.  
STEWART. (WEYBURN, 0600Z/3 to Halifax, W/T C.O.A.C., 0652Z/  
(Convoy L.N.7) 3 to Admty)  
Following has been read: Addressed Louisburg W/T  
See p. 89 From H.M.S. TRAIL. Enemy sighted, convoy, attacked  
by torpedo. My position 050° 30' N., 58° 45' W.  
(HALIFAX, 0610Z/3 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, 0750Z/3).  
My 0610Z/3 DONALD STEWART torpedoed survivors  
picked up 3 missing.  
(TRAIL, 0727Z/3).
- <sup>c</sup>RACCOON <sup>c</sup>RACCOON reports submarine firing torpedo across  
U/B attack. bow at 0240Z/3 in 049° 01' N., 067° 17' W.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 0610Z/3).
- U/B sighted. Intercept 0551 G.M.T. by Lands End Radio. De  
NAR addressed B.A.M.S. 2 B. H.R. from Cominch  
GR 12 urgent submarine sighted lat. 22.40 N., long  
78°32 W., at 0045/3. 0303/41.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0659/3 to Admty).
- O.N.S.122 E.T.A. 0730 local time. GEORGETOWN in company.  
WOODSTOCK escorting Boston portion (90.G.) 122.  
(NIAGARA, 0716Z/3). <sup>O.N.S.</sup>
- Your 0647/3 O.N.S.122 now safely inside Cape Cod Bay.  
Unable to conduct extensive search owing to shortage of fuel.  
GEORGETOWN reports being in that position at stated time and  
sighting small schooner.  
(NIAGARA, 0845Z/3 to Commander 1st U.S.N. Dest. <sup>Boston</sup> BOSTON,  
(R) Connav, Comtask Force 24. Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q.,  
C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F., C.T.G. 24.7).

/SIR HUON...



War Diary.

3.9.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

SIR HUON. Argentine TRECE DE DICIEMBRE (?reports) picking up a boat load of survivors SIR HUON Panamanian boat with Master not located. Details awaited. (S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica, 0940Q/3).

KENMAR, Overdue Trinidad U.S. KENMAR, British CLAN LAMONT.  
CLAN LAMONT. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0949Q/3).

Movements At 1800 G.M.T./3.  
Summary. Ship Position Course Speed  
H.M.S. QUEEN } 31° N. 292° 14  
ELIZABETH } 59½° W.  
with U.S. }  
escort. }  
A.88. PATHFINDER } 13° N. 236° 14  
VIMY, } 56½° W.  
QUENTIN. }  
(D.O.D. (F), 0956Z/3).

Submarine Commander Eastern Sea Frontier's 1835/2,  
Estimate addressed for action to all commands concerned  
0800/3. with submarine reports in the Gulf, Panama, and  
Caribbean Sea Frontiers, West of 25 W. and Eastern  
Frontier. For Escort Commanders KN NK and GN-NG  
convoys.  
(Comnaveu, 0959/3).

S.C.99 If size of convoy has to be reduced all ships for  
Russia via Iceland (C) must be sailed.  
Any which miss S.C.99 should follow in next H.X.  
to Loch Ewe.  
(D.T.D., 1058A/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

TOPA TOPA U.S. TOPA TOPA torpedoed sunk 0100 G.M.T./29/8  
010° 16' N., 051° 30' W., 24 crew 8 U.S. armed  
guard 3 passengers landed Trinidad. Master 18  
crew and 7 armed guards presumed dead.  
S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1108Q/3 to Admty. S.B.N.O.  
W. Atlantic, B.A.D., Opnav, S.O.(I) Freetown,  
S.O.(I) Capetown).

Transfer of Following arrangements have been proposed by  
6 U.S. S/MS F.O.(S) for transfer of six U.S. submarines to U.K.  
to U.K. and are concurred in by Admiralty.  
2. U.S. Authorities are requested:-  
(a) to route submarines as far as long. 26° W.,  
informing Admiralty, C. in C. W.A. and F.O.(S)  
of position and time of crossing this longitude.  
(b) to arrange that submarine C.Os. are instructed in F.O.S'  
memorandum F.S.A.5 (Bombing restrictions and sanctuaries) a  
copy of which is held by B.A.M.R., Washington).  
(c) to inform Admiralty estimated distance made good by sub-  
marines in 24 hours when proceeding submerged by day. Submarines  
will proceed submerged by day East of 20° W.



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

- Transfer of 6 U.S. S/MS to U.K. Contd. 3. C. in C. Western Approaches will be requested to inform F.O.(S) of proposed onward route of submarines from longitude 26° W., to vicinity of Barra Head, where Captain S.3. will arrange for them to be met and escorted to Gareloch.
4. F.O.(S) Will:  
(a) Arrange bombing restrictions for submarines when East of 26° West. (b) Pass information of our own and enemy movements to the submarines when East of 26° W.
5. B.A.D. Washington should supply submarines with copies of latest Q messages affecting their passage to Gareloch.
6. Communication arrangements for passage as already proposed by Comnavu.  
(D.O.D. (H) 1319A/3 to Cominch, Cinclant, Comnavu, B.A.D. B.A.M.R., F.O.(S) S. 3., F.O.I.C. Greenock. H.Q.C.C, H.Q.F.C., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F.)  
Communication arrangements.  
(D.S.D., 2049A/3).
- U/B sighted AAA X 329 SSSS S.G. C.A.M. De NKBKL (Signal letter undecypherable) position 4208 N., 125.50 W., sighted surfaced submarine.  
(Esquimalt W/T, 1400Z/3).
- A/A ammunition expenditure. U.S. Navy Dept. have requested information on ammunition expenditure of all types by Malta convoy against aerial targets during period 11th to 15th August. Especially during nine hour continuous attack to which it is understood the convoy was subjected.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 1527Z/3 to Admty). *Reply: 1333/9. per 250.*
- Attack on U/B. R.C.A.F. attacked submarine at 051° 00' N., 057° 43' W., at 1520/3.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1544Z/3).
- W/T Call sign Recognition Procedure. Admty. 779A 1411 of 6th June para. 3 confusion has arisen in number of U.S. ports in case of foreign (Russian and Norwegian) merchant ships as to whether signal letters used for identification should be ships international call sign or latest British signal letters issued. Several U.S.R.Os. are using former and most N.C.S.Os. and B.R.Os. latter. Request ruling be promulgated.  
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1545Z/3 to Admty).
- Convoy G.Z.1 Convoy G.Z.F arrived.  
(B.R.O. Cristobal, 1558R/3).

/S/M...



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

S/M estimates and notices. C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1650/3, 1651/3, 1652/3, 1653/3, 1654/3).

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. C. in C. E.F. 0720/26 July and A.M. 0050/19 August. On completion of refit ROYAL SOVEREIGN will have to return to U.K. to adjust complement and give leave before returning to her station.

2. B.A.M.R. Washington is requested to report whether the following two "R" class battleships can be taken in hand for refit in U.S.A. at the approximate dates mentioned and refit yards allocated:-

RESOLUTION about end February 1943. Refit and fit about 340 tons deck armour.

REVENGE about end June 1943. Refit and fit all deck armour. (D.O.D. (F) 1652A/3 to B.A.M.R., C. in C. E.F.)

O.N. 124 O.N. 124 E.T.A. Position P. 0800Z/5. (C.T.U., 24.18.8., 1705Z/3).

S/M estimates Following is Commander, E.S.F.'s 030912 containing 030800Q estimates of sub locations, addressed for information of all commands concerned with sub reports in Gulf, Pacific, Caribbean (W of 55 W) and East Sea Frontiers. (Comnavcu, 1731/3).

RIO COLORADO Your 0042Z/30 N.C.S.O. San Juan Service Argentine RIO COLORADO arrived San Juan 18th sailed 27th for New Orleans no merco received at this centre. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1758Q/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

KINGSLEY SS. KINGSLEY (British) sent S.O.S. position 021° 35' N., 108° 38' W., 2/9 engine disabled impossible to proceed require towing to nearest port.

SS. FORT PITT (British) is proceeding toward KINGSLEY to take her in tow to Mazatlan. Distance apart 170 miles 0510Z/4 weather bad. Please inform Lloyds and Salvage Association. (N.C.S.O. San Francisco, 1801Z/3 to Admty).

EEMLAND Empty lifeboat marked EEMLAND washed ashore South Coast Jamaica today no information of ship at this centre. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1812Q/3 to Admiralty B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.)

U/B One submerged S/M bearing 260° distance 1 mile my position 055° 12' N., 60° W. 33 miles. (PATHFINDER, 1818Q/3). *P-86*

K.G. Special 2. Convoy K.G. Special 2 will proceed Key West. at 1100 G.M.T./4. Details. (B.R.O. Key West, 1911Z/3 to S.O.(I) Jamaica).



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

VERITY

Sailed VERITY 1900Z/3 routed in accordance with my 2146/27. E.T.A. (?Trinidad) 1200Z/9. Latest Q.K.A. held 65.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1923Z/3).  
Sailed to Gibraltar.  
(S.O.(I) Halifax, 1939Z/3).

→O.N.S.124

Your 1631/2. It is regretted that an error was made in transmitting N.C.S.O. Mersey's 0816/25 This message is being re transmitted to all addressees.  
(D.T.D., 2041A/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, (R) Connnav, N.C.S.O. Mersey).

Sub attack  
and sighting  
summary.

Para. A. Unidentified ship attacked 22.40 N., 78.32 W., 0100Z/03. Plane attacks sub on surface 17.44 N., 80.57 W., 1530Z/02 course 167.  
Para. B. CLAN MACNAUGHTON two torpedo hits possible U-45 type. ARTHUR W. SEWALL three torpedo hits one miss forty to fifty shells.

YMEDON two torpedo hits one miss fifteen shells U.88 type.  
HECTOR U.88 type. Navy plane sights sub 23.27 N., 79.15 W., 1157Z/03 course 330.

Para. C. PIAVE winged cross device in black and white front conning tower smaller device red and gray starboard side apparently coast of arms with stripes right half and eagle quartered upper left. RODQEWIE (sic) Tiger Head port side conning tower. Also oval device one and one half feet high one foot wide. STRABO sub reported painted blue, crest insignia on conning tower. U.88 type. Plane sights sub 12.02 N., 80.12 W., 2132Z/02. Plane reports instrument contact 35.21 N., 73.48 W. about 1345Z/02. Surface craft attacks sound contact 29.55 N., 77.47 W., 0310Z/03. 11.34 N., 79.29 W., 0220Z/03.  
(Cominch, 2118Z/3).

TOPA TOPA,  
DONALD  
STEWART.

Connnav Serial 3. TOPA TOPA torpedoed sunk (corrupt group) 10/8 16° N., 51° 30' W., and DONALD STEWART 3/9 50° 16' N., 59° 04' W.  
(Connnav, 2122/3).

VENI  
(S.C.94).

Ref. Connnav 2045/28 re Serial 26. Request information whether VENI (Nor.) a casualty.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2134Z/3 to Admty).

→O.N.S.124

Expect to join at 1500Z/4. My P.C. and S. at 2300Z/3 045° 02' N., 055° 38' W., 228° 14 knots.  
(CAMROSE, 2301Z/3 to Comtask Unit 24.18.8., Connnav, (R) C.T.F. 24., Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., Halifax, C.T.G.24.7)

Q Mge.  
system.

Your 1928/22 July. Re bringing into force.  
(B.A.D., Washington, 2359Z/3 to Admty).



War Diary.3.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Maori 28. (1) Panamanian tanker OWLNA sighted BLOEMFONTEIN 0545Z/18/8 mistook her for submarine and opened fire. My 26 and 27 refer.  
 (2) Ocean and Nauru Islands unheard since 26/8 enemy presumed in occupation.  
 (3) Gilbert Islands air R/C increased. Abemama reports 1933Z/13 ships approaching and aircraft overhead. Kuria at 0530Z/2 reports six warships one unidentified ship proceeding towards Abemama. Continuous air R/C Abemama Kuria Aranuka. No reports from Abemama since 1933Z/1 presumed occupied.  
 (4) Reduction Japanese submarine activity. By D/F at least four units 8° to 12° south 161° to 167° 30' E., Second submarine sighted 23° 34' S., 174° E., at 0900Z/(?) (N.Z.N.B., 0248Z/3).

Digest No. 1 Light Cruiser 2 Merchant vessels 6 destroyers  
 224 2/9. reported departed Buin during night 1/9. Reports indicate 1 Sendai Class Cruiser 9 Merchant vessels including 3 large 12 destroyers 4 Seaplanes General Faisi Buin area 2/9.  
 (2) Air recco reports 3 enemy cruisers anchored Kieta Harbour 0015Z/2.  
 (3) 4 Catalinas attacked Buka Aerodrome 1513Z/1 results not known. 1 Cruiser 1 destroyer observed Buka Passage. Later report indicates these Vessels arrived by night 1/9 and departed 0516Z/2 on Southerly course. Another vessel reported proceeding North along west Coast Buka Is. 0745Z/2.  
 (4) Air recco reports one 10,000 ton Transport 3 funnels 1 8,000 ton cargo vessel stationary Kavieng Harbour 0001Z/2 also one 3,000 ton cargo vessel 7° 4' S., 149° 7' E., at 0213Z/2 course 60°.  
 (5) 6 Marauders bombed runway Lae Aerodrome 0205Z/2. Damaged aircraft observed near runway.  
 (7) 2 enemy cruisers or destroyers sighted vicinity Trobriand Island morning 2/9 and later shadowed during afternoon when last sighted 0812Z/2 position 10° 28' S., 151° 8' E. course 300° Later 2 enemy vessels reported sighted in Milne Bay between 1010Z and 1015Z/2.  
 (8) Reliably reported 70 well armed Japanese Marines located Dobo (Aroe Island).  
 (9) Air recco Ambon area 2/9 nil sightings. (G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0725A/3).

U.S.16 Giving to further delay due to defects convoy  
 U.S.17. will be at least 21 hours late on times given C. in C. Eastern Fleet 0614/1. Further signals will be made.  
 (Cdre. W. Austr. 1024Z/3 to DEVONSHIRE, MAURITIUS, (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. Ceylon, A.C.N.B., C.S.4 Admty).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions. (D.D.I.C., 1405A/3, 1425A/3)



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Enemy coastal batteries shelled Dover this evening and damaged some H.S.Ls and M.T.Bs in port.

Operation  
S.N. 89.

R.A.(M) and ships engaged returned to Port ZA at 1936 today.

South Atlantic.

The title Force V has now lapsed. SIRIUS and PHOEBE have been transferred to the operational control of C. in C. S.A. The Flag of S.O. Force V will be struck at sunset/6. (in SIRIUS)

Mediterranean.

Last night, north of Tobruk Torpedo Wellingtons attacked a southbound convoy of 3 merchant ships and 4 destroyers from Crete which had been attacked by B.24s yesterday without observed results; one 6000 ton merchant ship was sunk by torpedoes. A submarine torpedoed and set on fire an 8000 ton ship 38 miles N.W. of Tobruk. This morning only one hospital ship and the destroyer escort was seen; one of three destroyers 20 miles N.W. of Tobruk was hit by 3 bombs from a Hudson and set on fire.

Another ship, possibly a tanker, was seen by aircraft on fire in the neighbourhood. Aircraft reported a small tanker in tow approaching Ras-al-Hilil p.m. today.

At 2327 today 2 naval Albacores attacked the ship seen beached on 3/9 3½ miles south of Locri and report having hit the ship with a bomb and a torpedo and to have hit a destroyer alongside with a bomb.

Tobruk was bombed last night by 12 Halifaxes and 7 R.A.F. Liberators.

Last night, a party of San Marco Marines landed 16 miles west of Agami from an E-Boat and cut the water pipe line and laid demolition charges at the railway line; one officer and 13 other ranks were captured.



4.9.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

A submarine is reported in 7° 33' N. 82° 8' E.  
(close to the east coast of Ceylon.)

America and West Indies.

U/B destroyed. VIMY, PATHFINDER and QUENTIN on passage to Trinidad after escorting H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH from Freetown to meet escort for Norfolk Va. destroyed a submarine (said to be U.464) about 0055Z today in approx. 12° 19' N. 59° 33' W. and took 49 prisoners. VIMY damaged her port shaft when ramming the enemy.

\* U.162 - com. 2.6843 ?  
Ltr: Rowbotham's list.  
Both given date as 2/9.  
Ltr: J. 1/2: 12° 19' N. 59° 33' W.  
(U.464 - com. 2.01864 A/C)



War Diary.

4.9.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Italy and  
Brazil.

Intercept 0253 G.M.T. De Caglian Radio.  
Notice to Mariners. From 22nd August, 1942  
Italy considers herself to be in a state of war  
with Brazil. Riccardi.  
(Burnham-on-Sea Radio, 0353/4).

Salvage.

A.L. M/W.P.O.1020/41 dated 27th September 1941.  
The collection of salvage from ships is the  
responsibility of harbour and municipal authorities  
It is, however, desired to receive immediate  
information at the Admiralty of cases of lack of adequate  
facilities being afforded to ships.  
2. N.C.S.Os. are to instruct Boarding Officers to request Masters  
of ships arriving in harbour to inform the N.O.I.C. if any  
difficulty is experienced in disposing of salvage. The N.O.I.C.  
is then requested to send a signal to the Admiralty containing  
sufficient information to allow of the matter being pursued.  
(D.T.D., 2258A/4 to A.I.G. 12).

NEPTUN,  
KARINA,  
PETER  
NYBORG.

Your 1421/22 and my 0127/2. 3 Danish M.F.Vs.  
NEPTUN, KARINA and PETER NYBORG have been  
allocated Portsmouth Pool. Arrangements are in  
hand to release vessels from prize. When  
released they should be refitted and necessary  
As. and As. carried out.  
(D.S.V.P., 2336A/4 to F.O.I.C. Humber).

Movements.

JUNON

JUNON arrived Lerwick.  
(Capt. S.9., 0837/4) (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0843A/4).

HARRIER,  
GLENER.

Hvalfjord arrival your 1421/30.  
(A.C.I.C., 1000A/4 to R.A.D. H.F.)

SCYLLA

Hvalfjord departure R.A.(D) H.F., 1209/4.  
(A.C.I.C., 1028A/4 to C. in C. H.F.)

P.31

F.O.(S) 1906/31. From (f) 049° 36', 005° 02'  
proceed through following positions (g) 180°  
Start Point 20 miles (h) 180° Portland Bill 16  
miles to R/V escort in (j) 140° Portland Bill 6  
miles at 0700/10 for passage to Portsmouth.  
2. H.Q.C.C. is requested arrange submerged  
bombing restrictions, as follows.  
(Capt. S.5., 1037A/4 to P.31).

PENYLAN

Intend sail PENYLAN for Scapa p.m. today to  
comply Admty. 1821A/19.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1128A/4).  
Sailed PENYLAN in accordance with my 1128A/4.  
E.T.A. Scapa. 1530A/5.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1936A/4).



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.JAMAICA,  
SUSSEX.Scapa arrival 1135\* JAMAICA, 1149 SUSSEX.  
(A.C.O.S., 1151/4). \* *see next page*

FRANKLIN

My 1938A/28. Humber departure FRANKLIN escorted by SANDOWN at 1150 to vicinity Dudgeon Shoal returning Humber L/F for night anchorage. This programme continuing daily till further notice. Codeword "Tinsmith".  
(F.O. Humber, 1202/4).SCYLLA,  
IMPULSIVE.\* SCYLLA with IMPULSIVE in company will proceed 0900A tomorrow to Seidisfiord routed South of Iceland. E.T.A. 0800A/6.  
(R.A.D. H.F., 1209A/4).\* *See previous page.*

GLASGOW.

A.M. 0211A/28. Ship will not be ready to sail till about 5/10 unless leave is curtailed. Request instructions.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1301A/4).Request you will make the best arrangements you can to provide the C. and M. party forthwith. Every effort should be made, short of curtailing leave, to adhere to the date given in my 0211/28. *p. 268.*  
(D.O.D. (H.), 2300A/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

H. 50

Your 1558A/3. Arrived.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1422A/4 to C. in C. Nore).ANSON  
ON SLOW *etc.*Hvalfjord arrival your 1743/2. *p. 34*  
(A.C.I.C., 1534A/4 to A.C.O.S.)A.F.D. XVII  
*etc.*My 2101A/3. *p. 66* Sailing of codeword "Wheel" postponed owing to weather.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1753A/4).M/S F. 103  
and 114.  
T.Gs. 4 and  
8.(a) 103rd and 114th M/S Fs. to be sailed as soon as ready, to Milford Haven and Swansea respectively. (b) 4th and 8th Trawler Groups to arrive Milford Haven by 18/9. (c) 4th and 8th Trawler Groups, 103rd and 114th M/S Fs. are to assemble as directed by F.O.I.C. Milford Haven prior to sailing overseas on 19/9 or as soon after as circumstances permit.  
(D.M.S., 1906A/4).RAMILLIES,  
PANTHER.F.O.C.N.A's 1758/30 and 0240/3. PANTHER is to continue to Plymouth as escort in addition to PENN  
(D.O.D. (F.), 1915A/4 to RAMILLIES).



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

- DESERT CLOUD Admiralty 2334A/27 and 0134A/29. M.F.V. DESERT CLOUD is to proceed to Hull not Liverpool for shipment abroad. Departure from Hull is 12/9. (D.S.V.P., 1931A/4 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
- CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE. Take SHEFFIELD and ECLIPSE under your orders and proceed to Greenock passing Hoxa Gate 0900/6  
2. Route through Minches to Clyde.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1945A/4 to CUMBERLAND).
- LONDON, JAMAICA. Take \*JAMAICA under your orders and proceed to Hvalfjord passing Hoxa Gate 1130/5.  
2. Route through position (A) 058° 45' N., 007° 28' W., thence to Reykjanes passage and Hvalfjord.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1949A/4 to LONDON).  
*\* See previous page.*
- QUEEN EMMA Your 1533/30. "Object" arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2108A/4).
- FURIOUS Owing to shortage of screening destroyers at Scapa FURIOUS is to remain at Clyde until 9/9 to continue flying training and boiler cleaning at discretion of C.O.  
(C. in C. H.F., 2318A/4 to FURIOUS).
- WHITEHALL. Commodore WESTERN ISLES is requested to sail WHITEHALL to Merville on 14/9.  
2. Commodore Londonderry is requested to sail WHITEHALL to Argentia after refuelling at Merville On arrival at Argentia WHITEHALL is to join B.2.  
(C. in C. W.A., 2327A/4).

Operations.

- Operation "Branford". Intend sailing M.T.B. 344 from Portland at 2200 today to carry out operation "Branford" (vide C.C.O. letter number 10111 of 29th August, 1942). Speed on passage 33 knots, E.T.R. approx. 0400/5. Lettered positions and communication orders as in operation "Dryad". paras. 9 to 12 and 14. Request fighter protection and bombing restrictions. Also fighter escort if M.T.B. 344 has not returned by 1st light.  
(N.O.I.C. Portland, 1045A/4 to C. in C. Portsmouth).  
My 1045A/4. Postponed till next suitable night.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1937A/4).  
Intend M.G.Bs. 50 (S.O.) and 57 to patrol from 2200/4 till 0600/5 on latitude 50° 20' N., between 1° 32' and 2° 05' W.  
E.T.D. Weymouth 2100/4, E.T.R. approx. 0700/5.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1150/4).  
Cancel my 1150A/4 owing to weather.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1948/4).

/Patrols...



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Patrols. 2 A/S trawlers on patrol in vicinity E A 5. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1542A/4).  
M.Ls. 147 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys, E.T.D. 2030, E.T.R. 0545/5. M.L. 293 and R.M.L., 500 from Newhaven at C one buoy. (V.A. Dover, 1848A/4).

Allied Air Activity.

U.S.A. Position of U.S.A. Aircraft as at A.M. 4th/9  
Aircraft. Fighters (P.38). U.K. 133, Iceland 20, B.W.1.1 B.W.8 Nil, Goose 2, Presque Isle Nil.  
Transports (C.47 & C.53). U.K. 104, Iceland 1, B.W.1. 2., B.W.8 Nil. Goose 5, Presque Isle 3.  
Bombers (B.17 & X.24) U.K. 113. Iceland Nil B.W.1. 2, B.W.8 Nil Goose 1, Presque Isle 2. Eight V.17s have left Gander and are expected at Prestwick today. Fifteen B.24s are also expected today at Prestwick.  
(Air Ministry, 1600/4 to 44 Group).

Bomber On night 3/4, six A/C bombed Emden.  
Command (H.Q.B.C., 1840A/4).  
operations.

Mining.

East Coast My 1627A and 1725A/3. A total of 3 mines were  
Sweep. encountered, 1 floater being reported by 2 ships. All mines swept by ALGERINE within a space of 2 minutes in position 103° 3 miles from No. 3 Buoy. Line of mines about 040°. (M.S.9., 0859A/4).

PLOVER, Sailed PLOVER and ARDROSSAN in accordance with  
SCOTT. R.A.M's 1050/29.  
Op: M.S.N.3. (N.O.I.C. Lochalsh, 0905/4).  
Your 1730/3. Intend conforming to S.O.M/F 15  
1734/3 unless you consider weather suitable. In this event  
E.T.A. R/V 1800.  
(PLOVER, 1000A/4 to SCOTT).  
Your 1000/4. Weather conditions utterly impossible. I may  
make for Loch Eriboll. E.T.A. Broad Bay 5th.  
(SCOTT, 1530A/4 to PLOVER).  
E.T.A. Loch Eriboll 2200A/4.  
(SCOTT, 1900A/4 to A.C.O.S.)

Lyme Bay. Cancel my 1739/2.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1025/4 to PANGBOURNE)  
Cancel my 1119/1.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1123A/4).

S.N.89 Arrived <sup>Port L.A.</sup> ADVENTURE. (TRELAWNEY, 1634/4).  
Arrived R.A.M. in SOUTHERN PRINCE, AGAMEMNON  
PORT QUEBEC, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, NEWARK, CHARLESTOWN.  
(TRELAWNEY, 1936/4).



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

EISBAER Intercept 0152 G.M.T. De DYBG. (S O S EISBAER is hard aground and requires immediate assistance from tug. Position near Nidingeon Light.) (C.C.O., Plymouth, 0254/4 to Admty).

E-Boat. Suspect E-boat activity Yarmouth area. (C. in C. Nore, 2301A/4).

U-boats.

U-boat reported. By D/F at 0934Z/4 U-boat within 60' of 64° 40' N., 7° E. (D.D.I.C., 1157A/4).

Italian U-boat attacked. My 2300A/3. <sup>(see 73)</sup> At 1028/1 Sunderland sighted Italian U-boat in 44° 40' N., 6° 05' W., and attacked, dropping 4 bombs, one near miss. U-boat opened fire. Sunderland came in again dropping further bomb. At 1027 second Sunderland came up and made two m.g. attacks. At 1040 and 1042 he made two further m.g. attacks during which he dropped two bombs, numerous hits scored. U-boat's guns silenced. Considered several casualties caused. At 1744 in 44° 40' N., 5° 54' W. a Whitley A/C attacked U-boat, believed to be same boat and dropped depth-charges. No definite results. At 1140/2 Wellington A/C found U-boat in 44° 30' N., 4° 42' W., believed to be same boat and carried out very effective depth-charge and m.g. attack. Several of crew on deck seen to collapse. Wellington made five gun attacks firing 2,500 rounds. 10 of crew dived into sea. U-boat was stationary with definite list to port and down by the bows showing her screws. Patch of oil 400 feet diameter. During whole action U-boat appeared unable to dive and guns were not manned. At 1926 G.M.T./1st U-boat made P/L signal from S/L 77F with Secret Italian Call sign as follows PIPERLE Lat. 44° 49' N., Long. 06.06 W. At 0931 G.M.T. U-boat made "Am being attacked by two Sunderlands send fighters". At 0935 G.M.T. a further signal read "Have wounded on board, send aircraft at once". At 0948 signal made by C.O. as follows "Lieutenant Galzigna is taking over command. VIVA EL REY signal BRUNO". (D.N.I., 1313A/4 to N.A. Madrid).

Bilbao's September 3rd re Submarine (?docking). Spanish D.N.I. states all known officially is that Italian submarine arrived. Privately he informs me he believes she is seriously damaged including batteries because she had no lighting. She was also very low in the water.

(N.A. Madrid, 1059/4 to Admty).



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

SHUNA

H.G.88. Intend to detach DEPTFORD at 0800 tomorrow to escort SHUNA south of Ireland. SHUNA has an increasing leak through wooden patch put on at Gibraltar. Pumps are holding it at present. Propose Milford Haven ship should accompany them. (STORK, 1606A/4).

L.C.T.142

Your 1155/2. L.C.T. 142 has developed defective port bracket bearing. This can conveniently be repaired locally in present berth. Intend to complete on 7/9 sail L.C.T.142 for Sheerness on 8/9.  
(R.N.O. Burnham, 1615/4). *To whom?*

CITY OF  
CARDIFF  
sunk 29/30  
August.

Following is a repetition of ROCHESTER's 1417Z/29. Master of CITY OF CARDIFF reports convoy papers received Freetown amended Stragglers route, and R/V Saturday and Sunday left Mersigs in drawer in cabin. Envelope left in safe. Possibility volume two has not sunk. Ship abandoned at dusk and left unattended, escorts rejoining convoy. 1417Z/29. Ends.  
(Cmdre. Londonderry, 2051A/4 to Admty)

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.18

Following from Admiral Miles referring to his 2322C/25. "Soviet Defence Committee have refused to reinforce in the North with Army L/R bombers. Soviet aircraft state will be 19 bombers, 10 T/B, and 85 fighters including 40 L/R" Ends.  
2. Efforts are being made to improve this.  
(A.C.N.S.(H.), 0045A/4 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Sailed UNIQUE and P.45 escorted by CUTTY SARK in accordance with S.3's 0853A/2 as amended by S.3's 0821A/3.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0702A/4).  
Scapa departure 0819. MILNE, METEOR, MARTIN, MARNE, FAULKNOR, FURY, INTREPID. *(from 2nd 12/24 - see p. 71)*  
(A.C.O.S., 0924/4).  
My 1715A/3. Sailed. E.T.A., 1700A/5.  
(R.A.D., 1020A/4 to A.C.I.C.)  
Capt. (D) 17th D.F. with destroyers addressed is to proceed 1200A tomorrow to Akureyri. *(from 11/24/42)*  
(2) On arrival complete thence act in accordance with E? text of paragraph 18 and my memorandum H.D.00570 para. 3.  
(R.A.D. H.F., 1207A/4 to ONSLOW, ONSLAUGHT, OFFA, OPPORTUNE, ASHANTI, TARTAR, ESKIMO, SOMALI).  
This is repetition of my 1201A/4 to S.B.N.O. North Russia. Admiral Miles left for Moscow by Air 1125A/4.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1211A/4 to Admty).

/Situation...



War Diary.

4.9.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - cont.

- P.Q.18  
Contd. Situation report at 2000. P.Q.18, ESKDALE, FARNDALE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY, KING SOL, HUGH WALPOLE, PAYNTER, ARAB, DUNCTON 060° 36', 015° 08' to 61° 01', 17° 01' thence to 63° 02', 22° 02', 6 knots.
- (C. in C. W.A., 1342A/4 to Admty).  
My 1340A/4. Cancel reference to COWDRAY. (A.C.I.C., 1810A/4 to A.I.G. 54).  
Have returned to Moscow.  
(Ad. Miles, 1827C/4 to Admty).  
Your 2029A/3. Concur. (Transfer of 09.09.42 to H. Lapan - comp. p. 71)  
(MALCOLM, 1839A/4 to A.C.I.C.)  
Your 1039/4. SS. GOOLISTAN.  
(D.T.D., 2125A/4 to C. in C. H.F.)
- A.T.21 My 1048A/3. Sailed (CURACOA).  
(N.O.I.C. Belfast, 0555A/4).  
N.O.I.C. Belfast's 1048/3. Sailed BLYSKAWICA, CASTLETON, SKEENA, ZETLAND.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 0930A/4).  
A.M.1732/29 para. 7 and 8. CASTLETON, WELLS, ZETLAND, SARDONYX, SALADIN, SABRE, and CURACOA detailed. (for T.A. 22. QUEEN MARY - 29/4 - p. 912.)  
(C. in C. W.A., 1136A/4).  
*9 next page.*
- T.A.20 My 0416/3. Code number SIBONEY W.1.  
2. My 0418/3. If ORMONDE disembarks Clyde 50 U.S. civilians will tranship 5.9 to SIBONEY.  
(D.S.T., 0556A/4).  
T.A.20. Commodore 1300A R/V 6/9 055° 40', 009° 22'. 7/9 054° 46' 019° 20'.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1734A/4).
- TOMSK,  
SEVILLIA,  
SELLINGE. Your 0856A/4. Have lost contact convoy in gale believe convoy scattered. Will endeavour to contact ships concerned off Westland.  
(BLACKFLY, 1130/4 to C. in C. W.A.)  
*/N.T. in W.D.*
- S.C.97  
BURNHAM. Your 1209/4. Unable to comply owing weather and lack of fuel. Intend detaching 0600/5. Arriving Bar Light Vessel daylight 6th. My P.C.S. 056° 44', 013° 07', 114° 7½.  
(BURNHAM, 1230Z/4).  
Detail escort for Loch Ewe portion to 57° N. Ships then to proceed independently.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1409A/4 to C.T.U. 24.1.12).  
*/N.T. in W.D.*
- OLIVER  
ELSWORTH.  
RICHARD  
BASSETT,  
EL AMIRANTE  
JOHN PENN Request you will arrange with American representatives to supply Arctic clothing to the following ships:- OLIVER ELSWORTH, RICHARD BASSETT and EL AMIRANTE.  
2. An additional 65 outfits should also be shipped for transfer to SS. JOHN PENN as convenient.  
(D.T.D., 1239A/4 to A.C.I.C.)



War Diary.

4.9.1942.  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

MALPLAQUET

Intend sailing M/V MALPLAQUET escorted by STROKE CITY at 2100/4 for Faeroes speed adjusted to arrive 0600/6 routed Apple.  
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 1245A/4 to A.C.O.S.)  
My 1245/4 delayed 24 hours by weather. Amend route to read Plum.  
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 2045A/4 to A.C.O.S.)

Troopship Escort.

As I have no destroyer available until arrival of BROKE can you provide one to escort troopships from Invergordon to Berwick and return. Destroyer would be required to leave Invergordon p.m./8th returning Scapa. p.m./10.  
(A.C.O.S. 1512/94 to R.A.D.)

A.T. 22.,  
T.A. 21,  
T.A. 22.

A.M. 1732/29, Connav 2000/2, and B.A.D. Washington 2153/2.

*See previous page.*

1. In order that R/V may take place in daylight Connav is requested to amend time to 0600Z/10 in position "O" 06.35 N., 12.01 W.
2. QUEEN MARY will arrive Clyde p.m./10.
3. Fighter Protection Code word for A.T. 22 "Donkey".
5. C. in C. W.A. is requested (a) to arrange local escort of CURACOA and 6 destroyers, or as many as can be made available, to sail from Clyde with T.A. 21 parting company at dusk 9th to R/V with A.T. 22 in position O whence they will return as escort for A.T. 22. (b) to provide inward route from position O to Clyde. (c) to arrange sailing of T.A. 21 as requisite.
6. H.Q.F.C. is requested to provide maximum fighter protection for both ships.
7. Fighter protection code word for T.A. 21 "Gosling".
8. Air Ministry is requested to arrange special protection whilst at the Anchorage in accordance with A.M. 1045/18 April.  
(D.O.D.(H), 1537A/4).  
Convoy A.T. 22 is due Clyde 10/9.
2. Total of approx. 15,400 personnel will disembark 11/9.
3. Numbers to embark in T.A. 22 will be about 1,500. They will embark 13/9.  
(D.S.T., 2233A/4).



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War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

ENRIQUE ONE ENRIQUE TWO. My 2301A ENRIQUE ONE after reporting no trouble sprang heavy leak and was sunk 36.20 09.09. All saved and am proceeding weather report. (GERANIUM 0145A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
My 1258A/2 GERANIUM reports ENRIQUE ONE and ENRIQUE TWO both lost. Details to Admty. only later. (F.O.C.N.A. 0952A/4 to Admty. S.E.C. S.L.120. C. in C. W.A.)

LOCH OSKAIG. <sup>1746</sup> E.T.A. 1830A/4. (LOCH OSKAIG 1000A/4.) *to whom?*

\*PENROSE, HOLLINSIDE. My 1919/3. Corrected number of survivors 99. Casualties as stated. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1005/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)  
*\* See next page.*

U/B at Santander. **CENTURIONE** **REGINALDO GIULIANI.** <sup>p. 103</sup> Bilbao's 3/9 re S/M (?docking). Spanish D.N.I. states all known officially is that Italian S/M arrived. Privately he informs me he believes she is seriously damaged including batteries because she had no lighting. She (corrupt group) low in (remainder omitted). (A.N.A. Madrid ?1070/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)  
Begins S/M was attacked by aeroplane 4 a.m. 3/9 some 6 miles off Santander, received damage and Commander and 4 of crew wounded. Ship is to be dry docked for repairs. (Santander 1100/4 to Admty. (D.N.I.) (R) Gibraltar. Madrid.)

Movements. <sup>? BEVERLEY intended - see p. 76</sup> U.S. Destroyer BUCHANAN and CHESTERFIELD left Ponta Delgada 1145 G.M.T./4. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1101/4 to S.O.I. Gibraltar. (R) Admty.)

P.212 P.219 Intend to sail P.212 to West coast of Sardinia and P.219 for vicinity of Almeria both about 6/9 for working up patrols. (F.O.C.N.A. 1136A/4 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10. F.O.S.)

CLYDE. Onward route for CLYDE diving by day through position  
R. 036° 47' 000° 52' E at 1800A/8.  
S. 035° 45' 003° 01' W at 0130A/10 thence on surface at C.Ob discretion to arrive Gibraltar 1100A/10.  
2. Limit of bombing restrictions same as outward route.  
3. CLYDE report if unable to remain within bombing restrictions. (F.O.C.N.A. 1138A/4 to 8th Sub Flot. (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.10.)

/Bombing...



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Bombing AC 673 4/9. Institute submerged bombing  
restrictions. restrictions as follows. Serial number G.194.  
From 1600/5 to 0300/7 20 miles either side of a  
line joining 45° 01' N 12° 30' W and 46° 59' N  
12° 29' W. Serial number G.195. From 1800/5 to 1200/7 25 miles  
either side of a line joining 49° 08' N 11° 59' W and 49° 22' N  
09° 01' W.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1140A/4 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

Situation 1. Fleet unit (RAMILLIES) WESTCOTT, WISHART, PENN,  
2001A/4. PANTHER 38° 37' 16° 59' through 40° 30' 20° 01'  
thence 000° 14. 3 destroyers part company on  
relief by BEVERLEY, CHESTERFIELD and return to  
Gibraltar 15 knots.  
4. ALOUETTE patrol off Cape Roca.  
5. (?SCOTTISH) sails 1200 (corrupt group) 5th coastwise 10 knots  
to patrol off Lisbon.  
10. JONQUIL patrols off Cape St. Mary.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1218A/4 to A.I.G. 63.) Amended 1658A/4.

M.L. Your 1032/3 not approved. Existing organisation  
Flotillas. of 9th, 28th and 29th Flotillas is to remain in  
force.  
● (D.D.O.D. (C.) 1301A/4 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) R.A.C.F.)

ELIZABETH My 0146A/3. (Presumably 0946 intended) <sup>p. 73.</sup> Following  
HENDRIK report received from Valencia. Ship jettisoned  
FISSER part cargo as tug failed to move her. Two tugs  
sent from Valencia to assistance. Spanish  
Gunboat CANALEJAS reported to be standing by.  
Anticipated ship will be refloated shortly and  
resume voyage.  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 1324/4 to Admty.)

P.37. My 1608/31/8. Leave patrol to pass position G at  
2030A/5 thence on surface at your discretion  
direct to arrive Gibraltar 0930/6.  
(2) Do not cross 005° W before 0730/6.  
(3) Bombing restrictions arranged accordingly.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1436A/4 to P.37.)

PENROSE Master of ESKDALEGATE reports at 0455/3 when west  
(torpedoed of Cape Sines explosion occurred starboard of  
3/9.) leading ship presumed PENROSE. Course altered and  
usual precautions taken. At 0505 PENROSE appeared  
*see previous page* to be settling by stern. 0507 second explosion  
which Master thinks was torpedo forward Ling side. 0530 torpedo  
seen approaching his own ship but manoeuvred clear. Weather fine  
and nothing more seen of above mentioned 2 ships.  
(Huelva 1624A/4.)

/Transfer...



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

Transfer of Spanish destroyer. Your O334A/3 although discreet enquiries have been made including M of M not confirmed so far. Spanish D.N.I. had certainly never heard it and laughed at the idea. (Madrid 1700/4 to Admty.)

P.247. Arrival P.247. (F.O.C.N.A. 1702A/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.S. C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta. C. in C. Plymouth. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.3. Capt. S.5. Capt. S.10.)

NIGERIA. Electrical damage report. (C.S. Gibraltar 1732A/4.)

U/B at Santander. LENTURIONE REGINALDO GIULIANI. My (?Your) 2300/3 please see my 1059/3. Information from Bilbao re suspension of telegraphic communication incorrect as Santander reported incident to Embassy (not to B.N.A. Madrid) by signal T.O.O. 1250/3. (N.A. Madrid 1733/4 to Admty.) *See p 101.*

MANCHESTER survivors. Your 2346/28. I have discussed paras 2 and 3 with French N.A. who has promised to try to expedite transmission of names of survivors H.M.S. MANCHESTER CITY (As received? MANCHESTER intended) He states that Captain is safe. (N.A. Madrid 1811/4 to Admty.)

U/Bs sighted. German S/M sighted 180 miles E of San Miguel 1500/31/8. German S/M sighted 50 miles W of Lisbon 1200/3.A.O. (N.A. Lisbon 1857A/4 to S.O.I. Gibraltar. (R) Admty.)

"S" class S/Ms. C. in C. Med. 1225/3. Proposal to transfer S/Ms Gibraltar to Malta is concurred in. (D.O.D. (F.) 1907A/4 to F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta. C. in C. Med.)

LAFOREY. My 1830/3 and your 1058/1. Use LAFOREY to escort LEINSTER if adequate escort is not already arranged. (A.C.N.S. (F.) 1914A/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MIRROR. My 1256/3 sailed cable ship MIRROR escorted by H.M. Trawler LEYLAND at 1930A. (F.O.C.N.A. 2148/4 to Admty.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1830A armed tug HIPPOPOTAME and armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE escorting SS. DAHOMEY light deck cargo of logs, FAUZON laden deck cargo barrels and baskets, MAROC laden deck cargo cork eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 2219A/4 to Admty.)



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4.9.1942.

Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

ILORIN. SS. ILORIN torpedoed 1/9 off Winneba. (? 5 or 11) African survivors landed at Legu. (S.O.I. Freetown 0047Z/4.)

BULAN. Sailed BULAN to Simonstown by route R 9 S.O.A. 8½ knots E.T.A. 0900Z/8. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0836Z/4.)

STORMWRACK. Sailed STORMWRACK by route R 9 to Port Elizabeth S of A 10 knots E.T.A. a.m. 6/9. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0850C/4 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. S.O.I. Colombo. N.L.O. East London. N.L.O. Port Elizabeth. S.O.I. Kilindini.)

W.S. 22. My 2045/3.  
 ANTELOPE. (1) Amend position R/V to 020° 26' N 021° 33' W.  
 (2) Amend S of A to 13 knots.  
 (R.A.W.A.F. 0953Z/4 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst. (R) ANTELOPE. Capt. D.18. Admty. C. in C. S.A. AURORA. QUIBERON.)

ROBERTS. A.M. 1922/29/8 regret impracticable. ROBERTS has two boilers only. Suggest one European boiler cleaning party working shifts under competent supervision take over boiler cleaning releasing ships staff for work on underwater fittings and necessary relaxation.  
 2. Unless docking on arrival steam to be shut down and ship docked by tugs. Forward Capstan would not be available.  
 3. Steam from shore to be supplied for domestic purposes allowing both boilers to be shut down simultaneously.  
 (ROBERTS 1015Z/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

PINDOS. My 1101/2 para 3. Leave Bathurst p.m./6 to R/V ~~of~~ W.S. 22 in T 015° 31' N 021° 08' W at 1500Z/7. Convoy speed 13 knots. (R.A.W.A. 1043Z/4 to PINDOS. N.O.I.C. Bathurst. AURORA. QUIBERON.)

Re arrangements for communications between British and U.S. Forces when engaged in a combined operation. Admty. 0141/2 passed to you. Request your remarks in view of discussion taking place with C.T.F. 23. (C. in C. S.A. 1124B/4 to R.A.W.A.)

Saldanha Bay. Re development. (C. in C. S.A. 1157B/4.) See Lion Copy.



# MOST SECRET

1157B/4th September.

MOST SECRET ~~MESSAGE~~ IN

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 5.9.42.  
Recd. 1734

Naval Cypher X. by W/T.

*Saldanha Bay*

Addressed Admiralty.

839. Your 2323/4/7. A conference assembled at Capetown on 31st August under Chairmanship of General Manager Sar and H attended by Ministry War Transport representative and all authorities concerned to consider future development of Saldanha Bay. On following day the General Manager visited Yaluanha accompanied by the necessary advisers and representatives of myself and M.W.T. the following conclusions were reached.

(A) Oil fuel. That tankage for 25000 tons should be erected to maintain the necessary stocks of furnace oil both Admiralty and commercial and diesel and if considered desirable aviation spirit. That pending discussion with oil companies the best site seems to be on sand dunes in north west corner of Houtjes Bay and near present Railway station. The question of payment for tankage should be promptly tackled in London to avoid the delays that occurred when similar provision was being arranged at Port Elizabeth and East London.

(B) Lighter pier. Concurrently with construction of tanks the building of a pier to be undertaken in same area near Dial Rock. The pier would be taken up to the 3 fathom line and would carry oil and water for lines would be available as a lighter pier and would also serve for all work in connection with laying and maintenance of boom defences.

(C) Water. The Berg River scheme whereby the requisite fresh water can easily brought to Saldanha is already under way.

(D) Coal. Two small colliers already envisaged would be sufficient. Discharge to be made either direct or into lighters which could be moored in Houtjes Bay. If necessary any surplus could be discharged at Capetown which is generally short of coal.

(E) Repairs. Facilities are at present subject of cable exchanges between Ministry War Transport representative and Ministry and provision of shop for light repairs should not present great difficulty.

(F) Railway. Roads and electric system? the present station could be moved if necessary to more convenient site near pier. The main road passes close by and a power station is contemplated near the station sufficient to meet general needs including boom defence depot.

(G) Moorings. Permanent moorings to be laid or a Dolphin built as near the end of the pier as soundings permit at which tanker could lie to discharge into tanks. Pipe line to be carried along cat walk to pier and along pier to tanks. Fuelling of ships to take place either at moorings or by means of self propelled oil barge. Watering to be carried out similarly.



2.

2. It is considered that all above mentioned work could be completed in about eight months but everything depends on whether it will be possible to supply from overseas in that time a self propelled oil barge and water barge each of a capacity of at least 500 tons fitted with the necessary pumping plant. Lighters for coal and stores and the necessary launches can probably be obtained locally but it is not suggested that any cargo should be handled.

3. While development is in progress the only means of supplying water seems to be retention of BENARDT for this purpose after repairs referred to in Ministry War Transport representatives 6222 have been carried out during this period ship could also be available for watering monsters at Capetown or Simonstown if required. Oil fuel requirements could be similarly met by detaching a convenient tanker to fuel a number of ships at Saldanha when the shipping position there justified this action.

4. The General Manager was most helpful in guiding discussions leading to above conclusions and concurred with us that to neglect the opportunity of providing an additional or alternative harbour for the Union and a possibly essential convoy assembly port at this stage of the war would be inexcusable.

5. Agreed with Ministry War Transport representative.

1157/4.

1st Lord  
1st S.L. (2)  
3rd S.L.  
Vice Controller.  
4th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (T)  
Sec.  
Fin. Sec.  
Civil Lord.  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
P.A.S. (PR)  
P.A.S. (S)  
N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)  
D.O.D. (F) (2)  
A.S. (C)  
D.D.I.C. (2)  
D. of P. (2)  
D.C. (2)  
D.T.D. (3)  
D.T.D (M)  
D.T.D. (C)  
I.P. (2)  
W.D.  
D. of P. (Q)  
D.N.I. (4)  
D. of L.D. (3)

D.A/S W.  
D.M.S.  
D.B.D.  
D. of S.  
D. of S.T.  
C.E. in C.  
D.S.V.P.  
D. of D.  
Head of M. (10)  
D.T.S.D.  
D. of N.  
D.A.M.  
Head of W.G.F.  
Head of M.F. (L)  
Hd. of P. (Liaison)  
Deputy Controller.  
Asst. Under Sec.  
D.A/S W.  
D. of S.  
C.E. in C.  
D. of D.  
Hd. of M.F.  
Hd. of P.  
Hd. S.V.R.  
C.S.L.

Bath.



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- ELENI. Overdue shipping. ELENI due Capetown 28/8 from Bombay and diverted to Durban not arrived. (S.O.I. Capetown 1214B/4 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. S.O.I. Kilindini. S.O.I. Colombo. N.C.S.O. Bombay. (R) Com. I.C. Durban.)
- W.S.22. Following transports sailed from U.K., 28/8 in convoy W.S.22. (Details)  
(M.W.T. 1229A/4 to R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. F.O.R.S.C.A. F.O.C.R.I.N. N.O.I.C. Durban.)
- Force V. The title Force V has now lapsed. SIRIUS and PHOEBE have been transferred to operational control of C. in C. S.A. Flag of S.O. V will be struck in SIRIUS at sunset 6/9. Request C. in C. Med. will inform me to which ship flag of Admiral Power will be transferred. (C. in C. S.A. 1301C/4 to Admty. C. in C. Med. (R) C. in C. E.F.)
- MILFORD. Your 1202/3. On completion proceed to Freetown. Acknowledge.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1303B/4 to MILFORD. (R) Admty. R.A.W.A. B.A.D. B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro. S.O.I. Rio de Janeiro.)
- Survivors of Sunderland A/C. H.M.M.L. 1066 arrived 3rd left 4th Bathurst. Has 5 survivors aboard referred to in my 1802/3. (R.O. Bissao 1504/4.)
- F.A.A. requirements. C. in C. Med. 1303/1 in view of distance from Cairo and close liaison which already exists between F.A.A units in S. Africa and both Union authorities and C. in C. E.F., I do not consider that any advantage would be gained by placing F.A.A. requirements in S. Africa under control of A.V.M. Dawson in Cairo. (C. in C. S.A. 1614B/4 to Admty. C. in C. E.F. C. in C. Med.)
- U/Bs Congo. No.83. 4/9. My telegram No. 77.\*  
Following from same source.  
Please pass to Admty.  
Submarine flotilla should have arrived off mouth of Congo river some time after August 20th but are late owing to going out of the way trying and (sic ? to) sink in the middle of the Atlantic the American vessels carrying troops and war material to French Equatorial Africa and Belgian Congo. First halt for tanker submarine is fixed at 6° S and possible between 11° and 12° E. It should be there within the matter of a fortnight. Flotilla aims especially at intercepting traffic from North America to mouth of the Zaire. It would be advisable for vessels to approach the river as far as possible as though coming from the south. Germans hope to close the mouth of the Congo cost what it may.  
(H.M. Consul General Loanda 1700/4 to F.O.)



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. ~~conts.~~

U/Bs Telegram No.77\* reads as follows:-  
 Congo. German Consul has word that four submarines and  
 Contd. submarine tankers left Germany early this month  
 and should be due Central and South West African  
 waters about 10th and 15th September.  
 Capetown, Freetown and Lagos informed.

No.84 5/9.

Please pass to Admty.

Governor General informs me confidentially that a submarine of  
 unknown nationality was seen by a fisherman on 3/9 in Equimina  
 Bay between Cuio and Delagoa Bay.

Lagos, Freetown and Capetown informed.

(Consul General Loanda 1800/5 to F.O.)

BRITISH  
DILIGENCE  
ANCYLUS.

Ref. A.M. 1845 (23rd) and my 1828/1 and 2037/1  
 request you will divert to Freetown.  
 Cypher group of Clyde and Port of Spain differ  
 by figure only and letter seemed more likely port  
 for tanker in ballast.  
 Every such tanker hitherto without exception has  
 been so routed.  
 (N.C.S.O. Lagos 1715Z/4 to S.O.I. Freetown. (R)  
 Admty. R.A.W.A.)

VIKING  
STAR  
sunk 25/8.

My 1046Z/31/8. VIKING STAR sunk (corrupt group)  
 3 torpedoes in 006 N 014 W. U-Boat not seen the  
 W/T destroyed no distress signal made. Survivors  
 on raft not yet recovered.  
 (S.O.I. Freetown 1830Z/4 to Admty.)

A.F.D.  
XXV.

Details of loss.  
 (R.A.W.A. 1925Z/4.) See Lion Copy.



**MOST SECRET**

MESSAGE

IN

TOP SECRET

1925Z/4th September

*Details of loss of A.F.D. KAN*Date 5/9/42  
Recd. 1230

From R.A.W.A.F.

Naval Cypher (X) (Plug) by W/T and T/PAddressed Admiralty, B.A.D. Washington. Repeated  
C. in C. South Atlantic.

88.

A.M. 1536A/16 and B.A.D. Washington's 0151/20 not to C. in C. South Atlantic M on arrival at St. Thomas Dock was inspected by two shipwrights from the U.S. Naval Base and reports were satisfactory. Draft of the dock was forward 6 feet aft 10 feet as compared with forward 6 feet and aft 9 feet when the dock left Long Island Sound. All four pumps were working movements in the diagonal beams of up to 8 inches as the dock yawed on tow had first been noticed on the 24th July, a number of bolts had worked loose from the outer walls, and bottle screws on draw bolts were tightened and one plank in bow and three planks in port side replaced whilst at St. Thomas. Until arrival of ASTURIAS at St. Thomas on 27th July authorities there had no knowledge of impending arrival of dock and no facilities were available for emergency repairs.

2. General weather and sea conditions during earlier part of tow from St. Thomas were as follows. Moderate to fresh Easterly wind, moderate sea, and moderate to heavy East North Easterly swell.

3. At the time of the mishap conditions were as follows --

- (a) Slight sea and moderate swell.
- (b) Velocity and direction of wind North East two
- (c) course relative to sea and swell - 45 degrees
- course East wind, sea and swell 4 points on port bow.
- (d) Speed - 5½ knots.
- (e) After breaking her back the dock was down to an average draft of 25 feet trimming slightly forward.

4. Direct cause of loss of dock was inadequacy of pumping arrangements and inability to deal with leakage due to working of dock structure. On 4 August the starboard forward pump was the only one working, the two pumps aft were duly repaired but the port forward pump was beyond repair. During night of 14th/15th August starboard forward pump broke down, leakage was increasing forward and there was no means of checking flow. Port forward tanks filled, causing list to

port /



2.

port and after starboard tanks were flooded to compensate. Increase of draft caused portions of damaged walls from which caulking had come out to become submerged, all compartments flooded, dock sank to draught of 25 feet, became waterlogged and was abandoned. Dock broke her back a third of length from forward. The forward breakwater was gone and the after one was damaged.

5. Recommend for towing AFD 24

(a) At least 2 electric salvage pumps in addition to dock pumps, cross connection between forward pumps and after pumps and adequate spares.

(b) Officer in charge towing to be on board dock - crew of which should be augmented by Shipwright Officer, E.R.A. and mate, and 2 Signalmen.

(c) 2 Signalmen in each tug essential.

6. Full report with minutes and findings of Board follow to Admiralty.

1925Z/4.

Re loss of AFDXXV.

1st Lord	D. of P.(2)
1st S.L.(2)	Head of M.
Deputy 1st S.L.	D. of D.
Controller	D.A./S.W.
Vice Controller	D.T.D.(3)
4th S.L.	D.T.D.(M)
V.C.N.S.	C.C.R.T.
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)	D.N.I.(4)
A.C.N.S.(H)	Admiral Blake
A.C.N.S.(T)	D. of N.
A.C.N.S.(W)	Head of N.L.
Parl. Sec.	D.T.S.D.
Finan. Sec.	Hydrog. (2)
Secretary	I.P.(2)
Naval Sec.	W.D.
N.A. 1st S.L.	Deputy Controller)
N.L. to A.C.N.S.(T)(2)	D. of D. )
D.O.D.(F)(2)	D.N.C. ) Bath
D.O.D.(H)(2)	Head of S.W.R. )
D.C.(2)	
D.D.I.C.(2)	

GMM



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War Diary.4.9.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Mines off  
Kelibia.

Following received from Tangier begins:  
American Consul Tunis reports 2nd several  
E-boats and 4 Italian minelayers apparently  
laying mines off Kelibia in French waters  
between coast and previous minefield. Ends.  
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 0216A/4 to C. in C. Med.,  
V.A. Malta (R) Admty.)

Enemy  
Units.

OB3K reports P.C. and S. of enemy units 425  
2 M/V 3 unknown 33° 0' N. 24° 15' E.  
(Malta W/T 0245/4.)

P.C. and S. of enemy 1 destroyer and 2 unknown vessels  
32° 22' N. 23° 40' E. 140° 12 knots.  
(A/C HZ5K 0605C/4.)

Have attacked one enemy destroyer with bombs level and  
estimate 3 hits - fire.

(A/C Call Sign HZ5K 0610C/4 to A/C call O.N.1.)

Movements.

3/9 Port Said arrival KLO, ISLAY, GLOXINIA,  
PAKENHAM, PALADIN, JAVELIN, EURYALUS, CLEOPATRA,  
ARETHUSA, JARVIS, KELVIN, G.S. CONDOUROTIS, F.S.  
COMMANDANTE DOMINE. Departure G.S. CONDOUROTIS,  
F.S. COMMANDANTE DOMINE, KELVIN.  
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 0658C/4 to Admty., C. in C.  
Med.)

Tanker  
on fire.

At 0500C/4 A/C reported one tanker on fire in  
032° 50' 023° 30'.  
(Capt. (S) 1 0746/4 to THRASHER (R) C. in C.  
Med. Capt. (S) 10, Subs on patrol.)

2  
destroyers.

P.C. and S. of 2 enemy destroyers 32° 22' N.  
23° 52' E. 270° 20 knots.  
(A/C 7XGR 0829/4.)

Cositrep  
No.507.

4. One Officer and 13 O.Rs San Marco Marines  
landed in rubber boats during night 3/4 Sept.  
at 485925 and were captured between El Hauwariya  
and Bahig (on Arab information NR.) Had blown

gap in and laid time bombs under railway over which 4 trains  
passed undamaged, water pipeline also cut.

5. Air. Follows as Part Two.

(C. in C. M.E. 0850 G.M.T/4 Sept.)

\*

RORQUAL.

Your 0210/2 acknowledged. Estimate you will  
be in 034° 00' 030° 50' at 0530C/5 arriving  
outer end Beirut searched channel 0545C/7.  
Report as soon as possible if unable to comply.  
(Capt. (S) 1 0930C/4 to RORQUAL (R) C. in C.  
Med. S/Ms on patrol, 201 Naval Co-op Group.)

\* El Hauwariya and Bahig are on coastal railway respectively  
9 & 14 miles approx. S.W. from Amiriya.



War Diary.4.9.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

P.42.

*See p.110A*

Make every endeavour to be in vicinity 039° 08' 017° 22' by 1601B/4 until 2001. This takes priority over project A about which further instructions later.

(Capt. (S) 10 1015B/4 to P.42 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

016° 20' 000° 10 at 0930B/4. Reference my 1015/4 one M/V 5 destroyers 038° 15'

(Capt. (S) 10 1043B/4 to P.42 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1.)

My 1015/4 A/C may attack S.E. of position given after 2001.

(Capt.(S) 10, 1613B/4 to P.42, (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

COMMANDANT  
DUBOC.

Request information when COMMANDANT DUBOC may be expected. (2) R.A.W. Af. 1451Z/1/8 and Admty. 1815B/29/6 para 1. (a) (2) refers. (C. in C. Med. 1118C/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

Movements.

2nd Departures TAKU. 3rd arrivals SNAPDRAGON, SOUTHERN MAID, SOUTHERN ISLES, BURRA, SPETSAL, IERAX. Departures SOUTHERN MAID, SNAPDRAGON. (S.O.(I) Beirut 1120C/4.)

METE.

Turkish SS METE loaded 1800 tons Valonea and some Tobacco, due to sail Burgas 5/9. All cargo is Turkish destined for Germany: vessel will bring back German machinery and iron goods. A.I. Draw attention this is first occasion when Turks have allowed a ship of this size to sail for foreign Black Sea Port, and is disturbing as possible sign of Turkish compliance with German requests for shipping.

(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1205C/4 to S.O.(I) Med.)

N.I.D. Comment. The Turks have a commercial agreement with Germany and require German goods almost as much as the Germans require Turkish goods. The agreed exchange of goods has been held up by lack of rail communication, congestion in Bourgas, fear of the Turks that Russian submarines would sink their M.Vs. (which they have probably done.) This fear is presumably now subsiding and the Turks dare to send a larger ship than they have previously done. It certainly means greater commercial exchanges between Turkey and Germany. It would be surprising if it meant the surrender of Turkish shipping to Germany.

Asking for  
S/M re-  
inforcements.

Request you will pass my 1225/3 to F.O.(S) (C. in C. Med. 1303C/4 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. Capt.(S) 8, V.A. Malta, Capt.(S) 10, Capt.(S) 1.)

Sailings.

A.M. 1628/23/1/41 expected sailings ex Suez week ending 10/9. (F.O.R.S.C.A. 1834/c/4.)



War Diary.4.9.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

ALBARO. My 1234/29/8. ALBARO arrived 3/9 northbound in transit. Now anchored with CELENO. (S.O.(I) Istanbul 940C/4) (as received)

Cositrep Part 2 begins. Night 2/3 Sept. Albacores  
No.505. continued bombing of Army Targets. B.24s  
bombed Tobruk Harbour.

3/9. Beauforts and Beaufighters despatched to attack southbound convoy three M/Vs four destroyers S. of Crete. Beaufighters shot down one escorting enemy A/C but Beauforts did not locate. American B.24s attacked during evening. B.24s were attacked by enemy A/C and shot down one Me.110 results of bombing not observed. This convoy attacked by torpedo Wellingtons during night. One M/V received two torpedoes, broke in half and sank. One M/V torpedoed by S/M on fire. Following morning one hospital ship and destroyer escort only observed one of which hit by three bombs from Hudson and set on fire. A ship, possible tanker, was seen to be on fire in the vicinity.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1040 G.M.T/4 to War Office.)

METE Loaded 1800 tons Valonea and some Tobacco, due  
(Turkish to sail Burgas 5th. All cargo is Turkish  
3258 Tons) destined for Germany: vessel will bring back  
German machinery and iron goods. A.I. Draw  
attention this is first occasion when Turks have  
allowed ship of this size to sail for foreign Black Sea Port,  
and is disturbing as possible sign of Turkish compliance with  
German requests for shipping.  
(S.O.(I) Istanbul 1205C/4 to S.O.(I) Med.) (See previous page)

Torpedoes Request you will comply with N.O.I.C. Malta's  
for Malta. 1935/3rd.  
(C. in C. Med. 1301C/4 to F.O.C.N.A. Capt.(S) 1st)

THRASHER Act following (1) THRASHER freedom of action  
TRAVELLER. area T. Tobruk still being best focal point.  
(2) TRAVELLER proceed by coast route of area  
B. with freedom of action N. of Benghazi.  
Attention is called to Q.B.75.  
(Capt. S.1 1315C/4 to THRASHER, TRAVELLER (R)  
C. in C. Med. Capt.S.10, No.201 Group.)

P.34. P.34 proceed direct to arrive 037° 55' 019° 57'  
P.43. by 0301B/6 thence to centre of area ?Z.  
P.43 proceed direct to arrive 036° 06' 020° 48'  
by 2259B/6. Passage to be made on surface  
during daylight as necessary to comply. Further  
instructions from Capt.(S) 1.  
(Capt.(S) 10 1639B/4 to 10th S/M F. (R) C. in  
C. Med. Capt.(S) 1, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria,  
No.201 Co-op Group.)

/Information ...



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4.9.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Information  
re defences  
of some port  
for P.42.

(Capt.(S) 10, 2045B/4 to P.42.) *see p 108*  
See Lion Copy.

NEBOJEA.

Your 0024/17/8 and NEBOJEA\*(Y.S.S.) 1201/1 *INT. W. 3*  
being passed to Admiralty. I concur in  
conditions mentioned and consider that there  
is no objection to submarine continuing to  
fly the Yugo Slav flag.  
(C. in C. Med. 2046C/4 to Admty.)  
\* Re loan of NEBOJEA to Royal Navy for  
A/S Training.



**MOST SECRET**

~~MOST SECRET~~ ~~MESSAGE~~ 2045B/4th September IN

From: Capt. (S) 10

Date: 4.9.42

Rec'd 2020

NAVAL CODE (02) BY W/T

Addressed: H.M.S.P.42 *p.108*

Reference plan on chart 198 and photograph supplied following reference position establish point "A" red light at extremity outer arm point B green light on harbour end of inner Mole. Four ships now in harbour two alongside each Mole, position bow which all face seaward are:-

1. 1800 feet point A 153 degs. size 1000 tons
2. 2100 feet point A 154 degs. size 500 tons
3. 550 feet point B 194 degs. size 1200 tons
4. 30 feet point B 175 degs. 2500 tons

(4) Just arrived probably for loading is good target 310 feet long.

A/T boom supports on canisters about 3 feet apart stretch from B to position 400 feet 148 degs. from A.

This boom is in four equal sized sections the central section nearest outer arm forming the gate. Photograph enlargement show partially obstructed 50 foot gap in outer breakwater 420 feet 148 degs. from A and from which FOLBOT could pass through it arriving inside boom if calm, if choppy passage of boom consider safer since less (group missing) to meet jagged obstructions.

2045B/4

Advance copies sent Ops. O.D. &  
O.I.C.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(F)

N.A.1st S.L.

D.C.(2)

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

D.D.I.C.(2)

D. of P.(3)

D.N.I.(4)

I.P.(3)

~~W.D.~~

F.O.S. by courier



War Diary.4.9.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

VITA Arrived 0455Z/4.  
(Hospital (N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll 0457Z/4 to Admty., S.O.(I)s  
Ship.) Kilindini, Aden, Bombay, Colombo.)

Flying Your 1907A/1. Following is a repetition of  
Boat A.H.Q. India's 1140/29/8. Begins.  
Squadrons. Para 1. Your A.X.617 August 4th which in-  
corporated Admty. 2114\*(corrupt date) August  
to C. in C. E.F. on location and priority of  
allocation of flying boat squadrons in Indian Ocean. Delay in  
final agreement may be due to absence from Command of C. in C.  
India and A.O.C. in C. India.  
Para 2. Locations and priority of allocation of squadrons pro-  
posed by C. in C. E.F. is acceptable except that he proposes  
two squadrons for N.W.I. whereas it is considered here one in  
N.W. and one in N.E. India would be better suited to our joint  
needs. This H.Q. signal 248 August 18 refers. Comments on  
this alternative proposal not yet received from C. in C. E.F.  
If this agreed recommend move of one (corrupt group) based  
squadron from Cuttoc to Ceylon.  
Para 3. Confirmed (corrupt group) if second Dutch squadron  
is formed or if 321 squadron programme is doubled equivalent  
of four squadrons can be accommodated in Ceylon.  
Para 4. Question of operation of detachments at island bases  
now under discussion.  
Para 5. C. in C. India concurs. 1140/29. Ends.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0534Z/4 to Admty.) \*W.R.Signal requesting repetiti-  
on of C.in C.E.F's 1140/29 referred to C. in C. E.F. 1103Z/31.

Transfer Mauritius, Rodriguez, and Seychelles were  
of transferred from command of C. in C. I. to  
Command. G.O.C. in C. E.A. at 0001/1.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0637/4 to F.O. E. Africa and  
Zanzibar, F.O. Ceylon, F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in  
C. S.A. Station.)

B.D.Vs. Following is the future requirements of B.D.Vs  
at Indian Ocean bases in addition to those  
already on the station.  
(A) Kilindini - three from Diego Suarez - two.  
(C) Mauritius - three  
(D) Trincomalee - four.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0833Z/4 to Admty.)

NIZAM 0900Z/4 arrived.  
NORMAN. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 0924Z/4.)

S/M CLAN MACGILLIVRAY reported sighting S/M on  
(TRUSTY) surface in 005° 41' N. 080° 48' E. at 0110Z/4.  
Sighting was TRUSTY.  
(F.O. Ceylon 0930Z/4 to C. in C. E.F.)



War Diary.4.9.1942  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.

DEVONSHIRE. Your 0614/1 and Cdre W. Africa's 1024/3.  
Left Colombo 0600Z/4, routed through 006° 15' N.  
079° 37' E. thence direct to R/V. *(with U.S. 16)*  
(F.O. Ceylon 0939Z/4 to C. in C. E.F.)  
Colombo departure. 0245Z DEVONSHIRE.  
(S.O.(I) Colombo 1409Z/4.)

Patrol  
Craft. Your 0401/8/8. Request information when  
the ships due to leave Fremantle in August  
are now expected to sail.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1240Z/4 to A.C.N.B.)

Raider  
Situation  
No.5. (1) No further information of German or  
Japanese raider.  
(2) Raider Situation No.4 para 3 vessel  
resembling ERMLAND seen Bordeaux on 28/8,  
PORTLAND 7132 tons gross visited Saint Nazaire  
between 24th and 26th August and has not been seen at other  
Bay of Biscay ports.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1313Z/4.)

Boom  
defences. Reply to his 1408Z/19/8.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1916A/4 to C. in C. E.F.)

A.F.Mge. Ref. A.M. A.F. 7° 33' N. 82° 8' E.  
(Admiral Mombasa 1955Z/4.)

HECLA. An important requirement has arisen for a  
depot ship.  
2. Reinforcements of depot and repair ships  
at present allocated to Eastern Fleet are  
HECLA, RESOURCE and WAYLAND (ex ANTONIA)  
Request you will report the implications of  
releasing HECLA on completion of repairs.  
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2215A/4 to C. in C. E.F.)



SECRET

MESSAGE

2015/4 Sept.

OUT

To C. in C. India  
Repeated. C. in C. Ceylon

Date 4.9.42

CYPHER

From The War Office.

3200 cipher (M.O.12a) 4/9.

Following from Air Ministry begins:-

Your letter 5580/M.O.6 dated 15th July forwarding copy of C.in C. Ceylon's No.05714/30 dated 11th June. Latter communication suggests that Royal Air Force fighter aerodromes covering Trincomalee are at distance of 45 to 50 miles from vital port area. Allowing for inevitable time lag between first detection of enemy aircraft and fighters off calculated that it would be fourteen minutes before fighters could appear over Trincomalee area. Distance covered by enemy aircraft in this time about 60 miles. This R.D.F. warning range cannot be relied upon for aircraft flying below four thousand feet. Appears therefore that Trincomalee inadequately protected by Royal Air Force fighters against attacks delivered below four-thousand feet. Solution is to have forward aerodrome facilities for Royal Air Force fighters in China Bay area. Please state whether such facilities are being provided. Ends.

2015/4

Received from War Office at 1955/6

War Office Distribution:-

1st Lord  
1st S.L.(2)  
Deputy 1st S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
A.C.N.S.(W)  
C.N.A.S.  
A.C.N.A.S.  
N.A.1st S.L.  
Ops.(3)  
J.D.(5)  
J.I.C.(3)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.of P.(3)  
D.of P.(Q)  
D.of L.D.(3)  
D.N.A.D.

D.V.C.D.  
M.(2)  
Air Branch  
D.S.D.(2)  
Admiral Blake  
Admiral Bellairs  
I.P.(3)  
I.O.

INTERNAL  
D.O.M.O.(0)  
D.P.(2)  
M.O.7, 12a  
D.(Air)  
Air 1

EXTERNAL  
Hd. of War Reg. Admiralty  
A.M.C.S.(Air Ministry)  
India Office (Brig. McCay)  
Colonial Office (Lt.Col. Rolleston)  
Secy. D.I.O. Sub-Committee  
(War Cabinet Offices)



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

\*U/B sunk. My 1818Q/3rd S/M sunk.  
(PATHFINDER, 0055Q/4 to Admty.)  
PATHFINDER, VIMY, QUENTIN destroyed S/M in  
approx. 12° 19' N. 59° 33' W. at about 0055Z/4. 49 prisoners.  
E.T.A. Trinidad 1700Z/4. VIMY damaged port shaft ramming S/M.  
Further signal to follow.  
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad, 1102Q/4 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D.,  
R.A.W.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica, N.O.B. Trinidad.) *See p. 115.*  
Ref. S.B.N.O. Trinidad 1102/4. Arrangements for interrogation  
and disposal of prisoners.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 2251Z/4 to Admty.)

\*U.162. *See p. 92. ~~6-2-42~~ 3/9 2 pos: 12° 21' N. 59° 29' W.*

Movements. St. Johns N.F. 3rd. Departures CAMROSE to  
overtake O.N.124, VISCOUNT to overtake H.X. 205,  
WASAGA to escort J.N. 12.  
(F.O.N.F., 0230Z/4 to Admty.)

Air Operations 3/9. All patrols curtailed due weather.  
(H.Q. E.A.C., 0600/4.)

U/B attacked. Gander 1 Digby 10 Squadron 0820 off 1717 swept  
Belle Isle Strait with special attention to  
southern portion where L.N.7 was attacked at 0610  
AP 1510 this A/C attacked U/B on surface in 51° 03' N. 57° 24' W.  
Results indicate no hits but possible damage to U/B. 1 U.S.  
Army flying fortress also on patrol this area during day.  
1 Canso 117 Squadron North Sydney and 1 Canso 117 Detachment  
Gaspe on patrol 0930 off 2245 for convoy Q.S.32 swept area.  
1 A/C remained with convoy while other swept St. Lawrence to  
position of reported attack on H.M.C.S. RACoon. Patrols for both  
these convoys being continued throughout night.  
(E.A.C. Halifax, 0800Z/4.)

BRITISH INDUSTRY, SAINTONGE. At Puerto la Cruz since 26/8. Have been ready  
for sea and awaiting escort since 28/8.  
(N.C.S.O. Curacao, 1033A/4 to Admty.)

H.M.C.S. HALIFAX. Convoy control officer Key West's 1530/3 begins.  
My 1835/1 HALIFAX returned Key West for urgent  
engine repairs. Estimate 3 days. Ends.  
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad, 1112Q/4.)

A.C.Is. Your 1639/8/8. Atlantic Convoy Instructions are  
now in process of being printed in U.K.  
Request U.S. Naval Authorities may be asked  
number of copies they will require for issue to U.S. Shore  
authorities and all U.S. Convoy Escorts to whom they will be  
applicable. Also for details of distribution so that arrange-  
ments for despatch may be made.  
(Admty., 1233A/4 to B.A.D. Washington.)



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- SS. WINAMAC. SS. WINAMAC British torpedoed and sunk 1225 G.M.T. 31/8 in position 10.36 N. 54.34 W. Third W/T Officer and 20 survivors out of 51 crew landed here today. Master and all other officers among missing presumed went down with ship which was blazing fiercely sank in 3 minutes. (A) 200/250 feet. (B) Light grey good. (C) Deck gun forward. (E) H.7 on side of conning tower. Comcarib, Cominch C. and R. informed. (S.B.N.O. Trinidad, 1342Q/4.)
- CALDWELL. CALDWELL's 1520/3rd. <sup>/N.T.A.W.D.</sup> Request you route CALDWELL through 043° 05' N. 065° 29' W. Com. 1 please pass to CALDWELL. (C.O.A.C., 1556Z/4 to Cmdr. 1st U.S. Naval District Boston.)
- Derelict. Derelict reported 2300 G.C.T. 45° 02' N. 55° 38' W. 3rd. (Washington, 1613/4 to All American Men of War, C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1916Z/4 to British and U.S. Warships in Area D.)
- S/M Estimate (Cominch, 1615/4.)  
4/9.
- ARCOLA, P.C. and S. at 1200/4, 44.30 N. 60.46 W. 267°  
TAIGETE 10.93 knots, approx. E.T.A. Curacao 1200 G.M.T./6.  
(Italian.) (Barbados Radio, 1625/4 to Admty.)
- NIVOSE, Meter. My 2142/21 <sup>/N.T.A.W.D.</sup> (Referring to arrival NIVOSE  
LOT. at Dakar from Far East.) NIVOSE now in dry dock  
cargo estimated at 12,000 tons Diesel and fuel  
oil presence of rubber not confirmed. Casablanca  
31st August C.2. LOT discharged full cargo of fuel or peanut  
oil into Naval storage in addition 80 tons rubber.  
(B.A.D., 1633Z/4 to Admty.)
- BRITISH A.M. 1351/28 not to S.B.N.O. Curacao.  
GOVERNOR. Request oiler BRITISH GOVERNOR due Curacao about  
8th be included vice WINAMAC and whole convoy  
sailed for Gibraltar direct.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1740A/4 to Connav.)
- SS. My 1812/3. Name is in error. Lifeboat which  
ROTTERDAM. was empty is from SS. ROTTERDAM torpedoed 28/8  
in 018° 09' 074° 38'. Appears to have contained  
only Teunis Kerkhoven, Dutch of whom no trace  
(Stoker Gunner). In boat were German made red flares, Finnish  
made matches full details air mail.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1747Q/4 to Admty., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.)

/VIMY ...



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.

VIMY.

My 1102/4 <sup>/p.113.</sup> VIMY cannot use port engine propeller requires renewal other supheater defect can be made good at Trinidad in 5 days. She will not therefore be available for "Mincemeat". Request instructions as to port for docking endurance on one engine at 12 knots estimated 2500 miles, spare propeller is at Freetown. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1831Q/4 to S.B.N.O.W.A., (R) Admty., R.A.W.Af., Capt. (D) 18.)

Convoy  
N.K. 501.Sailing telegram part 2.  
(B.R.O. New York, 1849Z/4.)

MEADOWSWEET.

MEADOWSWEET grounded entrance Argentinia harbour 3/9. Had been refloated. Following damage. Estimate local repairs can be accomplished in two days to permit safe passage to Halifax for docking. Ship cannot be repaired locally to make eastward voyage. Advise whether Halifax is port desired to effect repairs. (C.T.F.24, 1947Z/4 to C. in C. W.A.)

S.S.  
SWIFTSURE.  
(Tanker)

SWIFTSURE U.S. sailed Durban 25/7 due New York 17/8 not arrived.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2009Z/4 to Admty., etc.)

S/M.

Sighted 47° 40' N. 63° 52' W. Course 180° at 1944Z/4.  
(Halifax W/T, 2016Z/4.)

U.S. S/M  
notices.

(Cominch 2035/4 to All Commands Atlantic Area interested in S/M position reports in E. Sea Frontier.)

Transfer of  
6 U.S. S/Ms  
to U.K.

Arrangements.  
(Comnavcu, 2131/4.)

S/M attack  
and sighting  
summary

Surface craft attacks S/M on surface 51° 15' N. 57° 31' W. 0820Z/04. Navy plane attacks S/M 19° 09' N. 82° 30' W. 1355Z/04. U.S.S. S.41 torpedoes and sinks Jap. I-61 type about 07° 30' S. 157° 20' E. 22/8. Plane and U.S.S. REID attack and sink XRO.61 about 52° 10' N. 174° W. 2231Z/31/8. Five prisoners. U.S.S. CUMMINGS reports S/M sunk 17° 45' S. 168° 20' E. 5/8. S/M heavily attacked by A/C and believed sunk 17° 30' S. 163° 50' E. 14/8. \*U.S.S. MONSSEN sinks S/M 02° 40' S. 160° 18' E. 1000Z/31/8. U.S.S. LITTLE attacks S/M 10° S. 160° E. 1630Z/30/8 believed damaged. U.S.S. GAMBLE attacks \*\*S/M similar to I-56 09° 20' S. 160° 45' E. wreckage and debris. Yacht sights S/M on surface 12° 57' S. 38° 21' W. 0150Z/01. Fisherman sights S/M 07° 37' S. 34° 29' W. 1940Z/02. S/M reported 12° 24' N. 69° 50' W. 0230Z/04. 19° N. 67° 30' W. 1000Z/04.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2150Z/4 to Admty.) \*Not confirmed.

\*\* I.123.

/CLAN ...



War Diary.4.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.CLAN  
LAMONT.Your 0949/3 CLAN LAMONT arrived New York 27/8.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2214Z/4 to S.O.(I) Kingston.)A.T.23,  
N.A.16.Your 0014/30 to Cominch.  
Will sail on 25/9. Further signal will be made  
by Cominch. B.A.S. request you inform Movements.  
War Office. Admty. pass to D. of S.T.  
(B.A.D. Washington, 2215Z/4 to Admty.)

Movements.

Bermuda arrival EVADNE, U.S. M/S.s Y.744, Y.745,  
Y.760.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 2219P/4 to Admty., B.A.D., N.S.H.Q.  
S.O.I. Jamaica.)Australia and New Zealand.Digest  
serial  
No.225 3/9.

Two enemy destroyers sighted by air R/C 9° 40' S.  
151° 46' E. at 2150Z/2 course 10°.

(2) One large destroyer reported patrolling  
vicinity Trobriand Island afternoon 3/9.

(3) Allied positions Milne Bay shelled by enemy  
vessel or vessels 1640Z/3.

(4) One Sendai class cruiser 14 destroyers one supply ship  
reported off Buin 0720Z/3.

(5) Aircraft attacking Faisi 0200Z/3 reported four warships  
one merchant ship.

(6) Photographs 2/9 show one destroyer, one minelayer type  
vessel Buka passage 0313Z/2. Further reports indicate these  
vessels departed south afternoon 3/9.

(7) Large number aircraft reported over Buin 2015Z/2 proceeding  
S.E. examination photographs Kieta 2/9 indicates three heavy  
cruisers, two floatplanes. Nil sightings reported this area  
noon 3/9.

(9) One Catalina dropped bombs Buka aerodrome night 2/3 hits  
on fuel dumps, fires started.

(10) Photographs merchant vessels sighted Kavieng Harbour  
0001Z/2 one 7,000 ton transport one 5,000 ton transport.

(11) Air Recco reported one 3,000 ton cargo vessel 6° 5' S.  
152° 05' E. 2305Z/2 course north.

(14) Merchant vessel reports unsuccessful torpedo attack by  
submarine 28° 22' S.159° 13' E. at 1120Z/1.  
(B.A.D. pass to Opnav.)  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0648Z/4.)

/Japanese ...



War Diary.

4.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Japanese  
Midget  
Submarine.

My 2301Z/28/8 explosive filling of warhead is  
as follows.  
(A.C.N.B., 0938Z/4.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1430A/4, 1431A/4.)



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

CALEDON arrived at Plymouth this morning from Gibraltar.

251 out of 277 aircraft detailed, bombed Bremen last night. Today, 12 Bostons attacked Le Havre and 36 Fortresses the shipyards at Rouen.

South Atlantic.

SS. MYRMIDON independent, ex Convoy O.S.37 was torpedoed and sunk at 0040Z today in 0° 27' N., 6° 10' W. (in the Gulf of Guinea).

East Indies.

MAURITIUS arrived at Mauritius at 0430 today from 7 patrol. See p.53

America & West Indies.

Attack at  
Wabana.

Submarines attacked Wabana anchorage Newfoundland this morning and torpedoed and sank two ships LORD STRATHCONA and SAGANAGA. At 2049Z a torpedo fired from a submarine exploded ashore in 49° 10' N., 64° 45' W.

A U.S. transport is reported to be on fire in 41° 42' N., 62° 32' W. This is WAKEFIELD (ex-MANHATTAN 24,289 tons) with a large number of troops and passengers on board.

Australia & New Zealand.

Gilbert Is.

No communication has been received from Abemana Island since 1933 G.M.T./1 when coast watching station reported 3 ships approaching with plane overhead. Kuria reported 6 waships and one other large vessel off the entrance of the passage into Abemana lagoon early on 2/9 and planes heard continually all the afternoon. An enemy landing

/from...



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

*Australia & New Zealand.*  
Home Commands.

Gilbert Is.  
Contd.

from a force which included at least 2 cruisers was reported at Tarawa at 0300 G.M.T./3, since when there has been no further communication.



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.SAKARA,  
BLENHEIM.

An important requirement has arisen for a depot ship. After consideration of capabilities of SAKARA request you will report the implications of releasing BLENHEIM.  
(A.C.N.S. (H.), 0019A/5 to A.C.I.C.)

North  
Atlantic  
dispositions.

Disposition of operational units in North Atlantic.

Area Iceland (C) - ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, SCYLLA, JAMAICA, AVENGER, 17 destroyers.  
Area Scapa - KING GEORGE V, NELSON, CUMBERLAND, LONDON, SHEFFIELD, 1 destroyer.  
Area Clyde - FURIOUS.  
Area Gibraltar - CHARYBDIS, 2 destroyers.  
Passage to S. Atlantic. - AURORA, 2 destroyers.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1119Z/5 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

Clyde.  
Request  
for Crash  
Boats.

Your 1617/30. Two of these three M.Ls are now defective and crash boats are required for FURIOUS until 9/9, for PEGASUS from 8 to 12/9, and for BITER until 25/9.  
2. Temporary use is being made of M.L. 284 when available.  
3. Request early allocation of additional boats.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1858A/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

Movements.CUMBERLAND,  
SHEFFIELD,  
ECLIPSE.

C. in C's 1945A/4. Intend to proceed 0830A passing Hoxa gate 0900A tomorrow. E.T.A. 0530/7.  
(CUMBERLAND, 1045A/5.)

OBDURATE.

Intend sailing OBDURATE at 1200A tomorrow for Scapa to comply with Admty. 1527/27.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1514A/5.)

WHADDON.

You will be required to sail 0600Z/8 and proceed to Invergordon by swept channel at 20 knots. Escort troop transport from Invergordon to Lerwick and back as ordered by N.O.I.C. Invergordon.  
Return to Rosyth on completion.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1517A/5 to WHADDON.)

Six U.S.A.  
S/Ms.

A.M. 1319A/3rd para. 3 and 5. Request confirmation that these S/Ms are proceeding Gare Loch.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1704A/5 to Admty.)

/LONDON ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.LONDON,  
JAMAICA.Scapa departure LONDON, and JAMAICA.  
(A.C.O.S., 1731A/5.)PENYLAN~~g~~.Scapa arrival PENYLAN.  
(A.C.O.S., 1807/5.)BLANKNEY,  
MIDDLETON.Arrival Kola Inlet 0700A/4 BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1938A/5.)Operations.

Patrols.

Cancel destroyer patrol tonight.  
(C. in C. Nore, 0950A/5.)M.Ls 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between  
Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 2035. E.T.R.  
0545/6.  
(V.A. Dover, 1659A/5.)Enemy  
Convoy  
and Dover  
shelled.  
H.S.L. 189  
damaged.  
H.S.L. 186  
damaged.At 1940/4 R.D.F. plotted one large vessel with  
nine escorts leaving Boulogne eastward at ten  
knots. In accordance with plan and in view of  
doubtful weather conditions for them, coastal  
craft were kept clear and a strong attack was  
made off Gravelines by aircraft of Coastal Command.  
Results not yet known. Our coastal batteries  
fired 44 rounds of 15-inch at this shipping between  
2053 and 2118 while it was between Wissant and  
Sangatte. Enemy coastal batteries replied with  
22 rounds. Of these one fell near Ferry Dock, causing some  
damage to pumping station considerable damage to H.S.Ls 189 and  
186 and superficial damage to H.S.L. 178 and several M.T.Bs.  
One naval rating and four airmen slightly injured. One fell  
near naval premises at Transit Camp causing superficial damage  
to naval property and two in the town damaging gas-works. One  
fell in the sea off Folkestone and the remainder in South  
Foreland area.  
(V.A. Dover, 0954A/5 to Admty.)Allied Air Activity.A/S Patrol  
A/C.Escorts are reminded that A/C on A/S patrol are  
not to be unduly interrupted in their duty for  
the purpose of passing signals for shore  
authorities by V/S.2. If U-Boats have recently been in contact the use of H/F will  
not compromise the position of the convoy as this must already  
be known to the enemy within fairly narrow limits.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1155A/5.)



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity - Contd.

18 Group A/S operations. Request arrangements be made for a daily report by signal of A/S air operations carried out by aircraft of 18 Group.

2. The following information is required:

(A) Number of sorties in daylight. (B) Number of sorties in dark. (C) Average duration of sorties. (D) Number and description of U-Boat sightings. (E) Number and description of attacks on U-Boats. (F) A/S escorts.

3. It is suggested that this information might conveniently be signalled by C. in C. Rosyth to Admiralty, repeated A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command.

4. Reports should cover 24 hours from 1800 to 1800.

5. Reports required as from 1/9.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1357A/5 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Bombing restrictions. Russian Naval Staff request total S/M bombing restrictions in area within a line joining following points from 1600A/6th until further notice.

070° 43' N. 022° 15' E. 073° 02' N. 022° 30' E. 073° 02' N.  
026° 30' E. 072° 25' N. 031° 35' E. 071° 46' N. 035° 46' E.  
069° 12' N. 035° 09' E.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1415A/5 to H.Q.C.C.)

U.S.A. Aircraft. Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m./5th.

Fighters (P. 38)	- U.K. 133, Iceland 20, B.W.1 1, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 2, Presque Isle Nil.
Transports (C.47 & C.53)	- U.K. 106, Iceland 1, B.W.1 Nil, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 5, Presque Isle 3.
Bombers (B.17 & B.24)	- U.K. 128, Iceland Nil, B.W.1 2, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 1, Presque Isle 2.

No further movements expected today.  
(Air Ministry, 1440Z/5 to 44 Group.)

Bomber Command operations. On night 4/5, 249 A/C attacked Bremen and 2 A/C bombed Wilhelmshaven.  
(H.Q.B.C., 1600A/5.)

Fleet R/C. Enemy activity may develop in Northern Waters. Special Fleet reconnaissance must now take precedence over trade protection.  
(A.C.N.S.(H.), 1914A/5 to A.O.C. C.C.)

/Own ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - Contd.Own A/C  
shot down.

One Hampden shot down by Russian Fighters when approaching Vaenga Bay today. I had received no notification of E.T.A. My 1211/23 also refers. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1936A/5 to Admty.)

Enemy convoy  
attacked.

See Operations.

Enemy Air Activity.

Iceland.

One enemy A/C heard at Husavik (Skjalafandi) at 1045A/4. One enemy A/C sighted from Oddi 063° 38' N. 020° 16' W. at 1620A. Passed over Keflavik 064° N. 022° 33' W. at 1632A and disappeared course North. (A.C.I.C., 0009A/5 to Admty.)

W.P. 213.

It is possible W.P. 213 was reported by hostile A/C at 1746 S.W. of Start Point. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1944A/5 to SLAZAK.)

Mining.

SCOTT.

SCOTT anchored Broad Bay. (PLOVER, 0830A/5.)

East Coast  
Clearance  
Sweep.

Weather unsuitable for clearance operation. SIDMOUTH and BUDE will lay datum dan buoys and then return to harbour. Remaining ships are returning now. (M/S 9, 0837A/5 to C. in C. Nore.)

"Tincture".

Request you will repeat operation "Tincture" by p.m./7th in the manner described in 1207/10/9/41. (D.M.S., 1041A/5 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Faroes.  
Proposed  
Minefield.

Your 1730/27/8, my 1242/30/8, and N.O.I.C. Faroos 1505/3. Proposed position of field is concurred in and resulting restrictions on local fishing craft can be accepted. (A.C.N.S.(H.), 1048A/5 to R.A.M.)

Sweep of  
Route "N".

Intend sailing TREVO TERCERO, NIGHT HAWK, and BRECON CASTLE at 0600/6 sweeping route "N" to Dartmouth. E.T.A. 1600/6. Codeword "Ounce 5". (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1737A/5.)



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5.9.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats off Your 1145/23rd August.  
Novaya Request immediate reply (a) Position of attack by  
Zemlya. Russian submarine. (b) Routes observed to be  
used by enemy. (c) Routes followed by U.S.S.R.  
submarine.  
(D.O.D.(H.), 0131A/5 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Your 0131/5.

(A) Approx. position 070° 32' N. 021° 45' E.  
(B) 3 patrol vessels in single line ahead of minelayer course  
S.E. 5 torpedoes at 2 leading ships. Remaining 2 turned to  
port then headed S.W.  
(C) Submarine was waiting between Silden and Soroy Islands  
having passed through North East corner of 67 Q.Z.R. at depth  
of 70 metres. Second attack made when 2 remaining ships had  
steadied on S.W. course.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0751A/5 to Admty.)

U-Boats Am over enemy S/M in position. Enemy was  
reported. sighted on surface and observed to submerge.  
My position 61° 29' N. 17° 6' W.  
(A/C HL6D, 1004/5.)

Am over enemy S/M in 61° 26' N. 27° 12' W. Enemy was on  
surface.

(A/C HL6B, 1415/5.)

D/F bearings at 1450Z indicate that U-Boat may be in  
vicinity of convoy and may have reported it.

(D.D.I.C., 1627A/5 to Escorts H.G. 88.)

My 1627A. Further transmissions at 1529Z and 1620Z  
indicate convoy is being shadowed.

(D.D.I.C., 1822A/5 to Escorts H.G. 88.)

Submarine sighted on the surface 300° distance 1 mile.  
My position 60° 57' N. 17° 46' W.

(FARNDALE, 1920A/5 to SCYLLA.)

Convoy Following is a precis of attacks on S.L. 119,  
S.L. 119 S.O. in ROCHESTER. No night attack. One  
attacked daylight attack in 40° 20' N. 16° 02' W. at  
on 28/8. 1713 G.M.T. 28/8. Convoy consists of 7 columns  
of 4 ships in each column, course 359°, speed  
ZUIDERKERK, 7.5 knots. Escorts ROCHESTER, ERNE, SANDWICH  
CITY OF LEITH detached on port quarter about 15 miles.  
CARDIFF First indication sighting report 0830 26/8.  
torpedoed. Thereafter until attack considerable enemy H/F  
from all bearings indicated 4 U-Boats shadowing.

U-Boats were sighted on 7 occasions. Five of these were chased,  
and 2 were subsequently attacked. At 1511 H.F/D.F bearing of  
close U-Boats was intercepted 345. This was confirmed on  
sighting report by Admiralty's 1706A/28. At about 1635 ERNE  
and ROCHESTER obtained a series of Asdic contacts all classified  
non-sub. At 1713 two ships in convoy, leading ship of fifth  
column SS. ZUIDERKERK and second ship of seventh column SS.  
CITY OF CARDIFF were torpedoed both on port side. At 1717  
operation "Artichoke" was ordered and carried out. Aircraft  
in company was ordered to rejoin and sweep close round convoy.

/At ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

Convoy  
S.L. 119  
attacked  
on 28/8.  
ZUIDERKARK,  
CITY OF  
CARDIFF  
torpedoed.  
(Contd.)

At 1727 ROCHESTER gained asdic contact with submarine echo and carried out one 10 D/C. pattern attack. This was considered accurate. ROCHESTER asdic temporarily out of action after attack, but after a short interval this was remedied and contact regained. During next approach contact was lost at 800 yards and it was then appreciated that U-Boat was very deep. Contact regained at 1000 yards and during subsequent third approach contact lost at 700 yards. Depth setting as follows.

After third approach contact was not regained, nor subsequently during organised search. Search abandoned at 1858 to pick up survivors and endeavour to overtake convoy before dark. Convoy was not menaced by U-Boat again, nor were any significant enemy H.F/D.F messages intercepted. Nothing was heard on M.F. throughout. Subsequently Focke-Wulf sighted and reported convoy on two occasions but no further incident is reported. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1044A/5 to Admty.)

U-Boats  
attacked.

Investigation of a Hedgehog attack by ABELIA during escort of H.X. 204 on 27/8 during a series of Asdic attacks commencing 1219P in 050° 06' N. 047° 52' W. Details.

(Commodore Londonderry, 1213A/5 to Admty.)

Am investigating a contact bearing 110° 1 mile from 52° 31' N. 2° 4' E.

(VICEROY, 1824/5.)

My 1824/5. Suspected non-submarine contact. 2 attacks carried out. Am rejoining convoy.

(VICEROY, 1935A/5.)

Navigational.

Clyde.

Celvay Light extinguished.  
(Hydrog., 2325A/5.)

Casualties and Defects.

CHELSEA.

Arrived CHELSEA with defects.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0951/5.)

MORVEN HILL.

N.C.S. Drifter MORVEN HILL sustained damage whilst proceeding alongside LEWES in Methil Roads approx. 0800 today.  
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1148/5.)

VARDEFJELL.

VARDEFJELL engine trouble and returning to Clyde.  
(MOLDE, 1310A/5.)

/MENESTHEUS ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

- MENESTHEUS. MENESTHEUS reports suspected interference with bearing of propeller shafts. Investigations proceeding cautiously to avoid fact becoming known. Guidance in any particular direction would be appreciated.  
(R.A.M., 1358A/5 to Admty.)
- SVOLVAER. Arrived SVOLVAER for engine repairs and fuel.  
(N.O.I.C. Oban, 1540A/5.)
- PACIFIC. Am returning with engine defects, arriving 0900 G.M.T./6th.  
(not cable ship.) (PACIFIC, 1739/5 to Greenock.)
- MEADOWSWEET. Your 1947/4. Agree proposition if convenient to C.O.A.C.  
(C. in C. W.A., 2147Z/5 to C.T.F. 24.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- A.T. 21. In view of weather return to base.  
(C. in C. W.A., 0053A/5 to CURACOA, BLYSKAWICA, ZETLAND, CASTLETON, WELLS.)  
Your 0053A/5. Weather improved. Intend turning escort at 0730A to meet A.T. 21. My speed 12 knots.  
(CURACOA, 0730A/5 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Intend turning at 0930A to 080° to sweep ahead at 16 knots until overtaken. My position 055° 24' N. 008° 51' W.  
(CURACOA, 0900A/5.)  
Your 1136/4. Delete ZETLAND. ZETLAND is to boiler clean now and will be required for service 11/9.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1729A/5.)  
Arrived A.T. 21 escorted by CURACOA, CASTLETON, and O.R.P. BLYSKAWICA.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1936A/5 to Admty.)

- P.Q. 18. Seidisfjord arrival your 1021/2 (P.614.)  
(A.C.I.C., 0145A/5 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)  
Russian authorities have instituted new S/M patrol zone 14 (? September) lines joining following positions -  
(1) 072° 22' N. 023° 30' E. (2) 072° 47' N. 023° 30' E.  
(3) 072° 47' N. (?026°) 30' E. (4) 072° 22' N. 026° 30' E.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1048A/5 to Admty.)  
My 1011A/29 para. 2.  
Russian air support promised in following general terms for passage of both convoys;  
(a) bombers will bomb enemy aerodromes.  
(b) torpedo bombers will attack surface craft within about 2 miles of Lolenga.  
(c) "continuous air cover" between position LL and Archangel.



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18. (2) I asked for more specific information and was shown map of projected Russian air co-operation but was unable to obtain details. Reason may be scheme based on numbers of aircraft which naval authorities hope will be available but uncertain of fulfilment. Own hope is that (a) (b) and (c) in paragraph one will be thorough but that escort referred to in my 1011A/29 para. one (c) will not materialize to westward of LL.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1100A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Your 1207/4. Sailed at 1330A/5. E.T.A. 0600/6.  
(A.C.I.C., 1355A/5 to R.A.D.)  
You were probably reported by enemy long range R/C aircraft at 1230.  
(D.D.I.C., 1530A/5 to AVENGER.)  
Following new Russian zone No. 14 instituted:  
A. 072° 22' N. 023° 30' E. B. 072° 47' N. 023° 30' E.  
C. 072° 47' N. 026° 30' E. D. 072° 22' N. 026° 30' E.  
(F.O.S., 1547A/5 to S/MS.)  
Your 0751A/5 (See U-Boats.) It would assist our submarines if detailed routes followed by Soviet submarines in this attack and on other occasions in these coastal waters could be signalled.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1758A/5 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Your 1713A/1, para. 2. Arrived. (BRAMHAM).  
(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 2018A/5 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Seidisfjord arrival your 1505/3 at 1140/5. (AVENGER, WHEATLAND, WILTON.)  
(A.C.I.C., 2204A/5 to A.C.O.S.)  
P.Q.18 has been delayed approx. 24 hours by weather.  
Capt. (S) 9 0949/2. Sailing of P.221, P.45, and UNIQUE is postponed 24 hours. Covering force is now required to reach zones on 12/9.  
(F.O.S., 2338A/5 to Capt. S.9, S.O. S/M Lerwick.)  
My 1624/5. Cancel paragraphs (G), (H) and (J).  
Sailing is delayed 24 hours.  
(F.O.S., 2339A/5 to Admty.)

Troopships Escort. Your 1512A/4. Only destroyer available is a worker up. (2) Request C. in C. Rosyth may be asked to provide an escort.  
(R.A.D., 1032/5 to A.C.O.S.)

DAXHOUND, SANDHILL. Your 1030/3. Arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1115A/5 to N.C.S.O. Kirkwall.)

QUEEN MARY. Admty. signal 1537A/4. Smoke screen arrangements for A.T. 22 will be as defined in Air Ministry signal AX. 909 1/9 for T.A. 21.  
(Air Ministry, 1204A/5 to H.Q.F.C.)

/S.C. 97 ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

S.C. 97. Ships not present 056° N. 008° 20' W, FLOWERGATE, BLAIRDEVON, STAR.  
(DRUMHELLER, 1430Z/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

AMSTERDAM, Intend to sail transports AMSTERDAM and PRAGUE  
PRAGUE. from Cromarty 0246/9th. 17 knots. Routed A.M.  
Q.Z.S. 150, 352 to 35 buoy, thence AMSTERDAM to  
Long Hope. E.T.A. 0801/9. PRAGUE and escort  
A.M. Q.Z.S. 324 to 054° Start Point 7½ miles, 3 miles west  
of Fair Isle to Lerwick, E.T.A. 1331/9.  
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1449A/5 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Monster Liners. Your 1741/1 and D.E.M.S. New York's 2130/24/8  
Manning. and 1404/2 September. No objection to 2 officers  
Instructions. and 98 ranks American Army remaining on board for  
this and subsequent trips until policy, now under  
consideration, is settled. Since over 40 British  
D.E.M.S. personnel are embarked supply of  
additional 98 men, however, appears extravagant.  
2. D.E.M.S. New York should discuss with Port Director, New York  
and report on the following points:  
(a) Have U.S. Authorities any objection to present part American,  
part British, scheme of manning for two "Queens", MAURETANIA,  
and AQUITANIA.  
(b) If not, suggest this should be on a 50-50 basis and  
approximately 45 U.S.A. personnel would then complete D.E.M.S.  
complement to 90. Two officers if detailed, should, if possible,  
be junior to the British R.N.V.R. Officer.  
(c) Whether U.S.A. personnel supplied at (b) would be Naval or  
Army. Would they be fully competent to man all types of British  
equipment.  
(d) If U.S. Authorities dislike (a) would they consider manning  
fully 2 of the 4 British Monster Liners, embracing full main-  
tenance of equipments, which at present includes rocket weapons.  
It is very desirable that control of personnel, whether (b) or  
(d) shall be according to British practice, i.e. under the  
ultimate control of the Master, although he may delegate  
authority, in whole or in part, to the Defence Officer.  
3. QUEEN MARY will be visited on arrival in U.K. and consider-  
ation given to all above questions in conjunction with D.E.M.S.  
New York's report called for in para. 2.  
4. Revision of armament possibility of fitting multiple Bofors  
and R.D.F. will be dealt with separately.

(A.C.N.S.(T), 1843A/5 to B.A.D. Washington.)

(1) On the last occasion of her arrival in New York from  
U.K. QUEEN MARY failed to comply with instructions contained in  
your 1837/16 July para. (1) and arrived early. As a result  
she received no surface or air escort in the approaches to New  
York.

(2) It appears that Master was not informed of expected time of  
arrival before sailing and that instructions as to breaking W/T  
silence were not fully explained to him.

(3) Request Master of QUEEN ELIZABETH may be fully instructed.

(B.A.D., 2035Z/5 to Admty.)

/A.N.D. ...



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

A.N.D.  
Ships. Re allocations.  
(D.T.D., 1926/5.)  
See Lion Copy.

MALPLAQUET. My 1245/4 amended by my 2045/4. Sailed.  
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 2100/5 to A.C.O.S.)

T.A. 20. Sailed T.A. 20 at 2143/5.  
(D.S.T.O. Greenock, 2105/5.)  
T.A. 20 sailed composed and escorted as in  
Admty. 2010A/1st, less COLE. SIBONEY, one ship, number 64. COLE  
sailed as in C.T.G. 24.7 1810/4. *N.T. = N.D. but see p. 1122. (Disruption times)*  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2204A/5 to Connav.)

CORDELIA. Sailed tanker CORDELIA.  
(Cdre. Londonderry, 2140A/5.)

LLANSTEPHAN  
CASTLE. My 1100/1. LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE now required for  
convoy D.S. 32 and should be ready to sail from  
Clyde p.m./16/9.  
2. She will embark to full capacity at the Tail  
of the Bank 15/9 and 16/9.  
(D.S.T., 2145A/5.)



SECRET

MESSAGE

1926A/5th September

OUT

Date: 5.9.42

To: A.I.G. 124  
N.S.H. 2, Ottawa  
B.A.D., Washington

Repeated: S.B.N.O., Western Atlantic.

Naval Cypher (Ad.Cy.Out).

From: Admiralty.

- Pass to N.C.S.O's and D.E.M.S. S.O's.
- A.M. 1146/6th June, paragraph 4, add sub-paragraph (D) "A.N.D. ships may also be allocated to sail in OS and SL convoys".
- 2. Amend paragraph (C) to read:-  
"When proceeding in HX or SL convoy - Clyde if unloading at an East Coast port".
- 3. A.M. 1146/6th June as amended has been despatched to C.-in-C., South Atlantic, C.-in-C., Mediterranean, C.-in-C., Eastern Fleet and R.A., West Africa.

1926/5.  
for D.T.D. (983)

- A.C.N.S. (H)
  - A.C.N.S. (T)
  - N.A. 1st S.L.
  - Capt. Fin (Admy.Hse.)
  - 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.D.
  - U.S.N. (3)
  - D.T.M.
  - Chairman A.N.D. Committee
  - U.S.N. (3).
- Commanders-in-Chief, Flag Officers-in-Charge, and Naval Officers-in-Charge ashore at home.



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

JONQUIL

Your 2323A/4 <sup>/D.T. & W.D.</sup> acknowledged. E.T.A. 1200A/5.  
(JONQUIL, 0017A/5 to F.O.C.N.A., D.13).

ALOUETTE  
search for  
CAMPOMANES.

My 1947/3. (Spanish Trawler CAMPOMANES suspected)  
Resume normal patrol.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 0737A/5 to ALOUETTE).  
Your 1947A/3 and your 0737A/5 have searched  
unsuccessfully in area 10 miles each side of  
track. D/F bearings put CAMPOMANES about 40  
miles to North and West of expected position, and impossible to  
intercept south of Cape Villano. My P.C. and S. at 0800A 040°  
23' N., 010° 25' W. 160° 11 knots weather B.C.7, wind N. 6, sea 45  
(ALOUETTE, 0830A/5 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) PETUNIA, NARCISSUS).

*See next page*

Transfer of  
"S" class  
S/Ms to  
Malta.

Admty. M. 1907/4 not to Capt. (S) 1 and Capt. (S) 10. P.211 will be ready to leave Gibraltar 12/9.  
2. P.(?222) now on patrol with C.C.R., (?S/M) due Gibraltar 19/9 and will be available shortly after.  
3. My 1136/4 and para. 2 of C. in C. Med. 2035/1. P.212 not sufficiently worked up and should return Gibraltar. Should be available to leave early October.  
4. Expect other S/Ms will be available to leave Gibraltar for Malta as follows TALISMAN,\*P.37 about 10/9 P.219 about 20/9. P.247 early October. P.48 uncertain owing to defects but not before mid October.  
5. S. class on passage to Malta will not be fitted for patrol as all available stowage will be utilised for their spare gear.  
6. Propose S. class be transferred from 8th S/M Flot. to 10th S/M Flot. on date of leaving Gibraltar.  
7. C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. (S) 1. (F.O.C.N.A., 1038A/5 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty. V.A. Malta, F.O.(S) Capt. (S) 1. Capt. (S) 10, Capt. (S) 8).

*\* See next page*

CLYDE

A.M. 1734/4/6 and your 1612/31/8.  
Owing to delay to REGENT, CLYDE cannot be released for refit at present.  
(D.O.D. (F), 1210A/5 to B.A.M.R., (R) F.O.C.N.A., F.O.S., S.8., C. in C. Med).

PETUNIA,  
DERWENT-  
DALE.

*See next page*

R.A.W.Af's.1121Z/4. Propose sailing PETUNIA to R/V with and escort DERWENTDALE to Gibraltar.  
(ii) PETUNIA escorting PRUDENT and CHARON would then be sailed for Freetown on return.  
(iii) All Gibraltar Corvettes will be employed on escort duty.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1648A/5 to Admty (R) R.A.W.Af.)

/CAMPOMANES...



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5.9.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

CAMPOMANES, Spanish Tanker CAMPOMANES sailed Curacao 17/8  
(suspicious). for Gijon due 3/9 speed 9.5 knots routed to 014°  
*See previous page.* 59' N., 061° 20' W. thence direct to destination.  
2. Ship was sighted by aircraft 1201/1 P.C. and S.  
037° 43' (010°?) 33' 090°. 7 knots and again at  
1040/3 P.C. and S. 036° 08' 015° 9 knots.  
Photos taken on both occasions established identity of ship  
beyond any doubt.  
3. According to usual practice ship reported her noon position  
by W/T at 1300/3 to Corunna as 036° 39' N., 012° 28' W., but no  
report of noon position was made any previous or subsequent days.  
At 1300/3 Ship also informed Campsa Vigo. She was arriving  
that port 1700 but no date specified.  
4. ALOUETTE was sent to intercept but failed to do so.  
5. Can you obtain any information to account for CAMPOMANES  
movements which appear highly suspicious.  
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1714A/5 to B.N.A. Madrid, (R) Admty (for  
D.N.I.))

PANTHER, Confirm PANTHER has not parted company from  
RAMILLIES. RAMILLIES as directed in para. 7 of my 0002/2  
*See p. 143*  
*(Dispositions)* (N.T. in W.R.). If so have other orders been  
received.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1718A/5 to WESTCOTT (R) RAMILLIES,  
Admty).  
Your 1718 confirmed. Orders were received in  
Admiralty's 1915A/4 for PANTHER to continue to  
Plymouth.  
(WESTCOTT, 1850A/5 to F.O.C.N.A.) *p 94*

U/B Have lost touch with enemy S/M last seen in 36°  
31' N., (?longitude).  
(A/C, T.V.5.P., 1735/5 to Gibraltar).  
For information. Sunderland reported at 1725A  
U-boat in 036° 31' N., 003° 00' W., course  
260° speed 8 knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1810A/5 to P.37).

U/B Transit aircraft reports S/M 043° 27' N., 009°  
01' W. at 1056Z/5 course 060° 4 knots. Dived  
at once and altered course to 090°.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1812A/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.,  
C. in C. Plymouth).

P.37 Remain patrol area until further orders. Acknow-  
*See previous page.* ledge.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1840A/5 to P.37).

Movements. Arrival\* PETUNIA H.M. Tug\* PRUDENT\* CHARON escorting  
M.M/S F., 108 and H.D. M.L.F. 117.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2114A/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.,  
N.O.I.C. Milford Haven R.A.W.Af. R.A.C.F.)  
*\* See previous page*



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- SS. MYRMIDON Torpedoed and sunk in 000° 27' N., 006° 10' W., at 0040Z/5 contact attacked for two hours until lost, no results observed, 116 crew and 129 passengers taken on board BRILLIANT, believed no casualties, am rejoining convoy. (BRILLIANT, 0330Z/5 to R.A.W.Af.)
- W.S.22 Split of W.S.22 between Capetown and Durban is as follows:-  
(D. of S.T., 0548A/5 amended 2124A/5).
- SS. ILORIN Port Harcourt/Takoradi sunk off Legu (Golf Coast) 2030/1. Five native survivors landed. Two explosions presumed torpedoes. 31 crew missing. (N.C.S.O. Takoradi, 0745Z/5).
- ELENI My 1214/4. Cancel ELENI. Ship sighted at 0145/2 in 33° 30' S., 29° 27' E., by an H.M. Ship. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0840B/5 to Admty C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., S.O.(I) Colombo, N.C.S.O. Bombay S.O.(I) Kilindini, (R) Com I/C Durban).
- Situation Report. RUMBA searching for survivors about 00° 55' 04" 05'. Portion of naval unit patrolling 05° S., to W., of 14° 30'. (R.A.W. Africa, 1031Z/5 to A.I.G. 150).
- Shipping diversion. In view of increasing submarine activity on existing Freetown Cape route suggest most advisable to (?route) shipping diversely between 10° S., 15° W., and 05° S, 05° W. Matter of opinion whether any advantage attained by bringing route in towards the coast in region of about 20° S. (R.A.W. Africa. 1137/5 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
In view of present U-boat activity request as far as practicable you will divert shipping other than coastal traffic to southward of parallel 002° S., when E. of 013° W. (A.C.N.S. (T), 1241A.5 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)
- MYRMIDON (British) torpedoed 5/9. MYRMIDON torpedoed in position 00° 27' N., 006° 10' W., at 0040Z/5. 116 crew and 129° passengers taken on board BRILLIANT. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1155Z/5 to Admty D.N.I., (R) C. in C. S.A.)
- EMPIRE GLADE A.M. 2151/3. EMPIRE GLADE has been diverted to Aden in my 1019 G.M.T./5. (C. in C. S.A. 1200B/5 to C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Aden, (R) Admty).



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

W.S.22 ANTELOPE. Departure 0700/5. ANTELOPE in accordance with your 0953Z/4. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1257Z/5 to R.A.W.A., (R) Capt. S.18 Admty C. in C. S.A.)

LADY DENISON PENDER. Cable Ship LADY DENISON PENDER sailed 1305Z/5. S. of A. 10 knots. Destinations St. Helena and Takoradi E.T.A. St. Helena 13/9. Route K. 034° 30' S., 017° 30' E. L. 032° 31' S., 010° 00' E. M. 027° 20' S., 002° 15' W. N. St. Helena O. 006° 20' S., 002° 50' W. P. 003° 05' N., 001° 30' W. Ref. position. Q. Alarm 008° 30' E. R. Southern 009° 20' W. S. Lagos (Nig). T. Ascension U. Takoradi. Chop 1 days north of St. Helena. Escort SOUTHERN PRIDE endurance 26 days. (N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1334Z/5 to Admty. R.A.W.A. C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Capetown, General St. Helena, N.C.S.O. Takoradi).

KEREN, KARANJA. Request instructions for KEREN and KARANJA due Freetown 7/9. (R.A.W.A. 1409Z/5 to Admty).

Ex Force V. C. in C. S.A., 1301/4. Flag of R.A. Power should not be rehoisted until the day on which he takes over the command of 15th C.S. unless he is taking passage to Aexandria in one of H.M. Ships in which case his flag may be flown in her. (Naval Sec. 1614A/5 to C. in C. Med., (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

CROCUS E.T.A. 0800Z/6. (Freetown) (CROCUS, 1930Z/5 to R.A.W.A. (R) Capt. (D) 18 D.F)

M.L. 301 survivors etc. My 0845 /11. Survivors ex M.L. 301 have been transferred to relieve crew of M.L. 261. M.L. 261 has been transferred to 27th M.L. F. as S.O's. boat. M.L. 278 has been transferred to 17th M.L.F (R.A.W.A.F., 2015Z/5).



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy ships. Am over small merchant vessel in 39° 57' N 17° 25' E course 090° speed 7 knots. (A/C 1 Sqdn. Z. 0155B/5.)  
Am over enemy destroyer in 39° 5' N 17° 50' E course 220° speed 10 knots. (A/C 1 Sqdn. Z 0220B/5.)

Tanker A/C reports having sighted a small tanker in tow approaching Ras al Hilil p.m. yesterday. (Capt. S.l. 0945C/5 to \*TRAVELLER.) \* *see p 137*

Air attacks. Allied bombing and air torpedo attacks on enemy shipping on the night of 3/4 to the N of Tobruk resulted in three vessels, one of them a destroyer, being set on fire and probably being sunk. (Mideast 0945Z/5.)

Proposals to deny W/T Intelligence to enemy of movements of submarines to and from Gibraltar. Has any reply been received to your 1644/3/8 to Admty. (C. in C. Med. 1030C/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Measures to meet U/B menace, G. of Aden. C. in C. E.F. 1916/3 para 4 (A) HERO and TETCOTT being sent. H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. have replied to para 4 (B) (C. in C. Med. 1105C/5 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F.)  
*see p 136. (Sent: 7/1-10)*

PAPANICOLIS. Rhodes may be a good area on Monday. (Capt. S.l. 1127C/6 to PAPANICOLIS.)

Air operations. Bi-weekly Opsum No. 53. At dusk 5 American B.24s bombed shipping in Heraklion Harbour Crete. Bombs straddled Mole and 1 ship alongside claimed hit. Large volume grey and white smoke seen rising from Mole after attack. Night 1/2 Sept. shortly after dark 3 American B.24s bombed southbound convoy 1 tanker 3 merchant vessels 2 destroyers midway between west coast Crete and Derna. Direct hit scored on bows of 1 M/V 3,000 tons. Considerable disturbance in water and oil patch on surface seen shortly after attack. Vessel claimed sunk. 2 near misses on tanker. 2 A.S.V. 7 torpedo 3 bomber Wellingtons despatched to continue attack. Low cloud hampered operation. 1 torpedo Wellington attacked 1 M/V 2,500 tons about 35 miles N.E. Derna. Hit amidships caused volume of smoke which completely obscured vessel confirmed by other Wellington. Large patch of oil subsequently seen on surface. 1 Wellington crashed landing on return. 5 Hudsons subsequently despatched to attack convoy unable to locate owing to 10/10 low cloud.



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-~~cont.~~Air  
operations.  
Contd.11 Beaufighters offensive R/C for enemy shipping  
off Cyrenaica. Two 'F' boats attacked and hit by  
cannon fire off Derna. Damage unknown.4 American B.24s bombed shipping and harbour  
installations Tobruk. Low cloud obscured results.About 9 enemy aircraft dropped bombs Haifa area during night no  
damage yet reported.3 Beauforts 12 Beaufighters despatched in afternoon to attack  
southbound convoy 3 merchant vessels 4 destroyers with escorting  
aircraft reported by Maryland 60 miles south of Cape Stavros Crete.  
Beauforts did not locate convoy but Beaufighters sighted 70 miles  
S Cape Kiavros and engaged escorting A/C destroying 1 HE.111.9 American B.24s despatched to make dusk attack found convoy 56  
miles S of Gavdos Island escorted by 1 Ju.88 3 ME.110s which  
attacked B.24s for over 20 minutes. ME.110 shot down into sea.1 near miss claimed on destroyer other results unobserved. All  
B.24s hit but returned safely. 2 A.S.V. Wellingtons 2 A.S.V.  
Liberators 5 torpedo 2 bomber Wellingtons despatched to attack  
during night. 1 torpedo Wellington attacked 1 6000 ton M/V with  
2 M/Vs about 4000 tons 1 destroyer (55 or 75 corrupt) miles N  
Tobruk with 2 torpedoes. Ship split in two with violent explosion  
both halves seen blazing and ? lone Liberator subsequently bombed  
burning ship in vicinity claiming one hit. 2 torpedo Wellingtons  
sighted 1 M/V estimated 8000 tons 2 destroyers 38 miles N.W.  
Tobruk but saw ship hit by torpedo presumably from S/M before they  
could attack.Ship exploded and enveloped in flames from stem to stern another  
fire was seen in vicinity believed to be a smaller ship burning.  
No other attacks made by Wellingtons as subsequent sightings were  
hospital ships or burning vessels. 7 Hudsons despatched after  
Wellington saw vessel on fire believed tanker surrounded by  
burning oil 2 other ships burning including 1 large vessel low in  
water and 3 hospitalships in area. 1 Hudson bombed 3? destroyers  
20 (? miles north) west Tobruk claiming 3 hits on one which caused  
explosion and set vessel on fire. Following morning Maryland saw  
1 M/V 5000 tons stationary 1 M/V 5000 tons? ?blazing and  
practically under water 2 hospital ships all within area 50 miles  
N.W. Tobruk.Night 3/4 Sept. 12 Halifaxes 7 R.A.F. Liberators bombed shipping  
and harbour installations Tobruk starting several fires on docks  
near main jetties and other near (?Naval) fuel tanks and petrol  
installations on south shore. A Beaufighter shot down a single  
Ju.88 in flames in Gulf of Arabs.A Bisley attacked S/M about 55 miles off Jaffa oil patches seen on  
water after attack.Shortly after midday 12 enemy A/C dropped bombs near Amiriya  
destroying a private house. No casualties. 2 Hurricanes up did  
not make contact 18 Hurricanes 8 Fulmars protection of shipping  
off Port Said and in Gulf of Suez.Night 4/5 Sept. About 10 enemy A/C operated over landing grounds  
Alexandria area. 3 Beaufighters up shot down 3 Cant Z1007s no  
further details.(H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1141Z/5, 1227Z/5, 1251Z/5, 1313Z/5, 1336Z/5,  
1359Z/5, 1448Z/5.)



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

UTMOST.

Your 1237B/1 and 1813B/1. ?Able to arrive and searched channel at 0959B/7. Request permission to do so.  
(UTMOST 1246B/5 to Capt. S.10.)  
Approved to arrive 0959B/7.  
(Capt. S.10. 2246B/5 to UTMOST.)

EXHIBITOR  
SANTA CRUZ  
SEACTRAIN  
TEXAS.

Request (a) Confirmation that EXHIBITOR ex W.S.21P arrived Suez.  
(b) You will signal arrival Suez SANTA CRUZ and SEACTRAIN TEXAS.  
(D.O.D. (F.) 1304A/5 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

U/B.

R/C shows submerged U-Boat 034° 38' 019° 21' at 1435B/5 course about 351. Anticipate position 2100 035° 27' 019° 11' and crosses P.43s line of advance about 0001B/6.  
(Capt. S.10 1525B/5 to 10th S/M.F.)

P.42.

R/C noon today shows no change from my 2045/4.  
(Capt. S.10. 1537B/5 to P.42.)

Situation  
Report  
No. 263.

? SAN ANDREAS  
5077 four

My 1212/28/8 para 5 this ship was in convoy of two merchant ships escorted by two destroyers.  
2. Naval A/C from Malta torpedoed merchant vessel north of Cape Spartivento 2/9 subsequent P.R.U. showed ship beached nearby (see V.A. Malta's 1435/3 to Admty. only.)  
3. Alexandria two hunts continue nightly sweeps to the westward up to now nothing met. During night 3/4 party of Italians landed 16 miles W of Agami from E-Boat. One officer and 13 other ranks taken prisoner all San Marco Marines. Landing was close to tactical 8th Army H.Q. Water pipe line and railway was cut.  
4. Red Sea. Master SS.\*BRITISH GENIUS reported torpedo exploded near (? vessel) in 13° 00' N 48° 04' E at 1500/3 (see my 1558/2 para 2) belated report received SS.\*GAZCON on passage New York to Alexandria sunk by S/M 2315/1 in 13° 01' N 50° 41' E. Survivors landed Aden 4th in SS. GRAINTON. GAZCON had cargo consisting of M/T tanks planes and ammunition.\*HERO and\*TETCOTT have been sailed to Aden as A/S reinforcements.  
5. EURYALUS is due Massawa 6/9 for docking and short refit.  
6. Levant. Palestinian ship ARNON attacked by gunfire from two S/Ms 3/9 north of Jouad Island. Ship beached and then torpedoed crew saved. Two schooners also attacked one of which sank.  
SS. NIRPURA has arrived Iskanderun from Australia with cargo of over 400 horses for Turkey. (D of S.T's 0338B/14 April refers.)  
(C. in C. Med. 1559C/5.) \* See p. 134

P.34.

Cancel (?previous) orders. Proceed area S, Southern half. Diving by day further instructions follow.  
(Capt. S.1. 1615C/5 to P.34. (R) C. in C. Med.  
Capt. S.10. 201 N.C. Group. S/Ms on patrol.)

/My 1615/5...



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War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - con/5.

P.34. My 1615/5 to P.34. P.34 proceed through  
Contd. (1) 036° 58' 019° 15'.  
P.43. (2) 036° 30' 020° 42'. thence operate in S.W.  
corner of Area S.  
P.43 operating in N.W. corner of area K. S/Ms are  
not to be attacked unless identified as enemy.  
(Capt. S.1. 1710C/5 to P.43. P.34. (R) C. in C. Med.  
No. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)

Malta Night 4/5. 4 Wellington VIIIs despatched on  
Air shipping R/C Corfu and Gulf of Taranto. 8 500 lb  
Report. GP bombs 6 flares dropped from 300 feet on small  
M/V 090° Point Alice 30 miles results unobserved  
owing to darkness. No other shipping seen. 2  
Albacores 1 with torpedo 1 with bombs attacked 2127 hrs. M/V  
5/6000 tons hit by Albacores my I.664 now beached 3 miles S.W.  
of Locri and escorted by 1 D/F. Each Albacore illuminated target  
with flares to help others attack. 1 Albacore dropped 1 contact  
torpedo depth setting 10 feet height 35 feet range 400 yards  
scoring hit and causing explosion and 60 feet column of smoke  
from M/V. Other Albacore dropped 6 X 250 lb GP 11 seconds delay  
bombs from (100 or 1000 corrupt) feet 1 M/V and D/R scoring 1  
hit on stern of D/R.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1631Z/5.)

Enemy R/C A/C report at 1530C today one merchant ship  
convoy. one destroyer P.C.S. 034° 40' 023° 31' 350° 7½.  
(Capt. S.1. 1632C/5 to \*UNA (R) C. in C. Med.  
No. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)  
*\* See next page.*

U/B. Am over S/M 36° 31' N 3° 30' W S/M dived on a  
course 260° speed 8 knots.  
(A/C TV5P 1725/5.)

Damaged My 1435/3 the 2 aircraft of N.A.S. attacked  
ship 15 beached ships, one with torpedoes the other dive  
miles N.E. bombed, night 4/5. Former confirmed hit, latter  
of one hit on M/V one hit on destroyer. Photograph  
Spartivento. of merchant ship today shows no great change but  
signs of a hole amidships.  
(V.A. Malta 1904B/5.)

TRAVELLER. If fuel consumption (?up to now) is too great you  
*See p. 134*  
*(Tan Ret.)* may proceed to 033° 09' 022° 13' keeping E until  
1600C/6.  
(Capt. S.1. 1905C/5 to TRAVELLER (R) C. in C. Med.  
Capt. S.10. S/M on patrol.)

Sardinia, Submarines on passage between Malta and Gibraltar  
intelligence should when possible be instructed to investigate  
required. the south west coast of Sardinia between Cape  
Pecora and Port Paglia with a view to attacking  
ships and schooners loading at the following places.  
(a) Porticeddu. (b) Buggerru. (c) Cala Domestica.  
(d) Porto Flavia. (e) Mosua. (f) Nebida.  
(C. in C. Med. 1931C/5 to F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta.  
(R) Capt. S.8. Capt. S.10.)  
/UNA...



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

→UNA.

You are to be within 20 miles of the S.W. corner of your area by dawn/7.  
(Capt. S.1. 2001C/5 to UNA. (R) C. in C. Med.  
Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)

Russian  
Ships.

(1) 2/9 two Russian gunboats, converted Don River steamers of 350 tons were blown up by their crews being unable break out of Sea of Azov. Russian tanker KUIBISHEV sunk by E-Boats in Temryk area. 4/9 two Russian destroyers shelled enemy positions to North Novorossisk.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea 2029C/5.)

→UNA.

My 2001/5 is to take priority over my 1632/5. p.137  
(Capt. S.1. 2137C/5 to UNA.)

German  
and  
Italian  
morale.

Your 1252/30/8 and C. in C. Med 2255/3.  
Evidence of recently captured German naval personnel especially U-Boat prisoners betrays slight but real deterioration in morale but so far no failure of fighting spirit in action or softening discipline in captivity. Morale of crews of light craft who return to harbour daily is worse than that of U-Boat crews. Conditions and stamina are worse on the home than on the naval front. Prisoners are becoming aware of this contrast which may later react on German Naval fighting efficiency. Italian Navy. Concur generally with crew in C. in C. Med 2255/3. Morale of Italian Atlantic U-Boat crews has been distinctly higher but certain recent U-Boat prisoners below previous standard.  
(D.D.N.I. 2106A/5 to N.A. Ankara.)

P.46.

Your 1120B/3 E.T.A. 1001/7. Acknowledge.  
(P.46 2115B/5 to Capt. S.10.)

Black  
Sea.

Situation report. Western Caucasus Front.  
(i) 1/9. 2 Russian destroyers bombarded 2 villages to North of Novorossisk. Results not observed.  
(ii) Enemy appear to be closing in on Novorossisk. Town is being shelled and bombed daily.  
(iii) Enemy has landed at points on Tamalean Peninsular in region of Capes Chushka and Grecula.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea 0916C/4 to Admty. Adm. Miles. Recd. 1240/9.)



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

MAURITIUS.

Arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius.0330Z/5.)

→ TRUSTY  
patrol  
report.

TRUSTY patrol 17/8 to 5/9. 24/8 to northwards of Diamond Point sighted 2 ships of about 3,000 tons steering to S.E. Chased but unable to get in an attack. 31/8 off (S) 1 small destroyer sighted entering harbour from northwards, some air activity by large R/C type aircraft. Remainder of patrol blank.  
(S.O. (S/Ms) Colombo 0439Z/5.)

GAZCON.

IDL Form SA dated 4th Sept. 1940. From D.T.D. Para 10.  
*Sum p. 136.*  
*(S.O. (S/Ms) 9140)* (3) 2302/1/9 13° 01' N 50° 41' E.  
(4) Periscope sighted 20 yards astern of sinking ship, course approx. N. Position as in (3).  
(5) Position as in (3). 2306. Approx. N.  
(6) Submerged when attacked. Surfaced astern of ship then dived.  
(7) GAZCON sunk. S/M escaped. Following reported missing.  
(9) Large 250 feet. Painted black. No stripes or markings. Chariot shaped conning tower. 1 mast and periscope both on conning tower, one slightly higher than the other. Net cutter. Raking bow. Only 1 gun seen thought to be 4" forward of conning tower. No number.  
(10) Torpedo.  
(11) All sunk in locked safes. Detailed report in accordance with U(2) D made to Admty.  
(Cdre. Aden 0831Z/5.)

ROBERTS.

A.M.1607/27/8 following is intended approx. programme of ROBERTS.

(1) Place.	(2) Arrives.	(3) Leaves.
Kilindini	-	7/9
Durban	(?) 15/9	21/9
Simonstown	24/9	25/9
Freetown	8/10	-

(C. in C. E.F. 1101Z/5 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A. ROBERTS.)

TALAMBA.

Hospital ship TALAMBA sailed from Bombay 5/9 for Basra E.T.A. 10/9 requirements water 200 tons draft 23 feet.  
(P.S.T.O. India 1113Z/5 to D.S.T.O. Persian Gulf)

→ TRUSTY.

Arrival 0030Z/5.  
(S.O.I. Colombo 1127Z/5.)



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.- Contd.U/Bs in  
Gulf of  
Aden.

Japanese U-Boats. Estimated one certain possibly two more Gulf of Aden. \*GAZCON sunk 2315Z/1 013° 01' N 050° 41' E. SS.\*BRITISH GENIUS unsuccessfully attacked 1500Z/3 013° 00' N 048° 04' E. One last heard of 000° 00' 091° 00' E 28/8 present whereabouts unknown.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1145Z/5 to S & A E.I. Station. (R) F.L.O. Delhi. Admty. C. in C. S.A. A.C.N.B.)

*\* See pp. 136 & 137*

Routeing.

Your 2021Z/3 para (4). Routes of ships proceeding from U.K. to ports in C. in C. E.F.'s area and beyond without calling at an intermediate port will

be passed by Admty. as follows:-

(a) Route from U.K. to Longitude of Capetown to S.O.I. Capetown only.

(b) "R" Route and remainder of route to eastward to S.O.I. Kilindini and S.O.I. Capetown. Recoding Tables held will be included.

Para (5) Practice of closing and signalling Bluff Point Durban will be discontinued.

Para (6) Ships homeward bound cannot be through routed and must call at Durban or Capetown.

(D.O.D. 2008A/5 to C. in C. E.F. C. in C. S.A. (R) S.O.I. Kilindini. S.O.I. Capetown.)

*and S.O.I. Colombo (D.O.D. 1838/6/11).*



War Diary.

5.9.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

- U/B. Fortress H.Q. Reserve Fleet, St. Johns, N.B. reports enemy submarine sighted by Blimp at 1830 Q 043° 06' N. 069° 16' W. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 0004Z/5.)
- U/B at Wabana. Sub. fired torpedo which exploded ashore at 2049Z/5 in approx. 049° 10' N. 064° 45' W. (Halifax 0315Z/6.)
- U/B. Received at 0325 G.M.T. 375 k/cs from Sheigra Radio, G K K begins:- Name missed S/M sighted at Lat.15.06 N Long. 75.54 W. at 2045. (Wick 0431/5.)
- P.555 P.555 former U.S. S/M S.24 proceeding from New London to Malacoota via Bermuda. Unescorted. Departing Onmtauk Point Whistle Buoy 01 hours 8th all times Z. All (?coasts) (?mined). Diving by day surfaced at night. At S. of A. of 110 miles per day arrives position 33.27 N. 65.21 W. at 01 hours/13. Thence proceeding at such speed as to arrive 32.27 N. 64.31 W. at 1300/13 remaining outside 23 miles circle from Mount Hill Light until 0900/13. Then to Bermuda via Narrows. Replenish fuel at Bermuda. Depart Bermuda to (?clear) Narrows 0200 16th. Pass through consecutive positions.  
(A) 34.15 N. 54.45 W. (B) 35.25 N. 40.30 W.  
(C) 34.55 N. 25.30 W. (D) 35 (corrupt group) N. 14.15 W.  
Until 300 miles distant of Bermuda diving by day surfacing at night S. of A. 100 miles per day. Thereafter on surface at average speed 10 knots diving at discretion remainder of passage. This delivered by hand to P.555 who will report if more than 50 miles ahead or astern of estimated positions and if more than 15 miles either side of track.  
(C.T.F. 25 0513Z/6 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Opanav, C.E.S.F., N.O.B. Bermuda, P.555, C. in C. U.S. Fleet A., B.A.D., S.B.N.O. W.A., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.(S) Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)
- C.T.U.24.1.14 C.T.U. 24.1.14 ST. CROIX plus OTTAWA, ARVIDA, O.N.127. AMHERST, SHERBROOKE and CELANDINE sailed for O.N.127. None fitted H/F D/F. Latest Q J A 602. (C.T.G. 24.7 0730/5.)
- PATHFINDER Arrival 4/9 PATHFINDER, VIMY, QUENTIN.  
VIMY (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0912Q/5.)  
QUENTIN.
- U/S Transport 1 Canso A.162 Squadron on patrol 1720 off 1908  
WAKEFIELD to assist U.S. Transport reported burning position  
on fire. 41° 42' N. 62° 32' W. unable to reach this  
area due fog.  
(Halifax 0930/5.)

/Movements ...



War Diary.5.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Movements.	Ship	Position	Course	Speed.
	1800 G.M.T/5.			
	H.M.S QUEEN )			
	ELIZABETH )			
	with U.S. )			
	escort. )	36°N. 71° W.	298°	14
	SNOWDROP )			
	BURDOCK )			
	with oiler )			
	& 2 ships. )	12°N. 49½°W.	262°	8½
	ARMERIA )			
	with tanker. )	10½°N. 33° W.	087°	9
	VERITY. )	43½°N. 49° W.	105°	13
	(D.O.D.(F) 1010Z/5 to Opnav.)			

U/B estimates. Comeastseafron's 1836/4.  
(Commaveu 1026/5, 1616/5, 1617/5, 1618/5,  
1619/5 to Admty.)

T.A.S.3. Sail 1300Z/5. Route, details.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1111Q/5.)

T.A.G.3. Ships.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1113Q/5.)

U/B Prisoners. Your 2251Z/4. Most happy to accept Navy  
Department's offer to take charge of  
prisoners.  
(D.N.I. 1201A/5 to B.A.D.)

Convoy "Mincemeat" Your 1041/4 not to all addressees.  
"Mincemeat" may be delayed until 9th if NORLYS  
can thereby be included. Delay beyond until  
9th not acceptable. If permitted delay cannot  
avail NORLYS "Mincemeat" should be sailed earliest possible  
and NORLYS should be included in Gibraltar convoy to which my  
1740/4 refers replacing BRITISH GOVERNOR. If you act as  
paragraph 3 BRITISH GOVERNOR should be sailed Halifax for  
orders. Report action taken.  
(D.T.D. 1327A/5 to B.R.O. Trinidad.)

AWATEA B.A.D. 2215/4 being passed. Every effort  
N.A.16. should be made to complete repairs to AWATEA  
in time to embark troops to full capacity and  
sail in N.A.16 on 25th. Request early report  
date of completion so that embarkation date can be arranged.  
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1333Z/5 to C.O.A.C.)  
My 2215/4 not to C.O.A.C. Request early confirmation  
that AWATEA can be ready to leave Halifax 27/9.  
(B.A.D. Washington 1439Z/5 to N.S.H.Q.)  
Your 1439/5. Unable to confirm but endeavouring to  
complete that date cannot give definite completion date until  
10 days before.  
(C.O.A.C. 2031/5 to B.A.D. Washington.)



War Diary.5.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

H.X.205 N.U. H.X.205 N.U. recommend change route from H. to new L 55° N. 28° W. then to J. (D.T.D. 1340A/5 to Connnav.)

Dispositions. Sit. Rep. at 2000 Section S.W.  
U.S. Destroyer\*COLE 55.04 17.32 to Argentina\*<sup>5-129</sup>  
speed 15\*Fleet unit BEVERLEY, CHESTERFIELD,  
PENN,\*PANTHER 43.26 20.01 to 46.30 20.01 speed 14.  
O.S.39 PELICAN, FOLKESTONE, WELLINGTON, SENNEN 51.43 21.02  
to 44.35 22.50 speed three and half.  
O.G.89 BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, MYOSOTIS, CARNATION, MALLOW,  
COREOPSIS 53.37 17.18 to 53.00 19.00 3.  
\*\*1 merchant ship DEPTFORD 50.02 15.22 to 50.45 13.01 7 knots.  
H.G.88 STORK, MARIGOLD, SAMPHIRE, CONVULVULUS 50.27 16.31 to  
53.40 14.05 6 knots.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1358A/5 to Ships and Authorities in W.A. Area.)

\*\* SHUNA - see p. 98.

\* RAMILLIES.

Shipping WINAMAC torpedoed sunk immediately 1225 G.M.T/31  
Casualties. in 010° 36' N. 054° 34' W. 3rd W/T operator and  
20 crew at Trinidad all others presumed lost.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1438Q/5 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A.  
B.A.D. Connnav, S.O.I. Gibraltar.)  
SATARTIA G.S. aground Kodiak 3rd.  
(Connnav 2045/5 to Connaveu.)

FORT POTOMAC Panamanian arrived from Guantanamo 4th  
LORRAINE. and landed 6 survivors of SS FORT LORRAINE,  
survivors. 2 Naval ratings (gunners) and 4 merchant seamen.  
These men were sent here from Guantanamo.  
(? Originator not stated; message received from  
Ottawa 1450Z/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, Admty.)

S/M attack. S/Ms attacked Wabana anchorage. 2 ships  
torpedoed.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1511Z/5 to Admty.)

U/B sunk. My congratulations on the fine work of VIMY  
U 162.3/4. in abolishing another German S/M.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1517/5 to Admty.)

VENI Your 2134Z/3 Sept. Vessel not a casualty.  
(S.C.94) Arrived Falmouth 27th.  
(D.T.D. 1531A/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

B.X.H. B.X.H. (?236) 13 ships E.T.A. 0330Z/6. Your  
(?236) 2318/4 badly corrupt. Area indicated by  
Blimp searched without result.  
(C.T.U. 24.18.6 1536Z/5 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

/S/M reported ...



War Diary.5.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

S/M reported. Aruba reports S/M at entrance San Nicolas Harbour 2100/3 attacked by patrol vessel result unknown. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1541Q/5 to Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. Opnav.)

HARDWICK  
GRANGE.  
(Torpedoed  
12/6.) Second Officer of HARDWICK GRANGE has stated that at dawn 11/6 (some 20 hours before ship was torpedoed) an A/C was sighted. The plane did not challenge nor approach closer than 3-4 miles making identification not possible. Ship's position was about 28° N. 69° W. From enquiries in Bermuda and Washington, it appears that plane was not U.S. craft. (B.A.D. Washington 1605Z/5 to Admty.)

Dispositions. S.G.7 U.S.S. TAMPA, MODOR, 046° 24' 055° 15' 092° 8 alter in 052° 48' W. to 024°. PONTIAC U.S.S. OSMOND INGRAM 047° 00' 054° 30' to Argentia 8. VIBRAN 048° 20' 050° 08' 036° 13.5 alter in 049° 05' N. to 062° (?12') 043° 27' 049° 30' 105° 12. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1645Z/5 to Admty.)

MIDLAND. P. C. and S. 044° 26' N. 063° 27' W. 220° 14 expect to join 0100Z/6. (MIDLAND 1650Z/5 to 24.18.8.)

BRITISH  
MERIT.  
(Torpedoed  
25/7.) My 1304Z/26/8. TENACITY arrived at 1423Z/5 from assisting with tow of BRITISH MERIT to repair port. (F.O.N.F. 1739Z/5.)

Movements. Arrived Boston 1200 G.M.T/4th. B.Y.M.S. 1 and \*B.Y.M.S.27. NIPIGON arrived fuelled and sailed 2306 G.M.T/5. CALDWELL sailed 2150 G.M.T/4. (N.S.H.Q. 1800Z/5 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C., B.A.D., F.O.N.F.)

\*29 2/2 - 2 - 30/8 - 1.951 - 4/20 6/9 p.164

Unidentified  
Boat or A/C. Burning on water 052° 15' N. 055° 35' W. at 1725Z/5. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1818Z/5 to Admty.)

Escort of  
O.N.S. No change in present system recommended. (C.T.G. 24.6 1944Z/5 to C.T.F. 24.)  
Convoys. This is my 1754/02. In view of (A) Recent increase in mid-ocean submarine activity, (B) Requirement that convoys of more than eight ships have three escorts and (C) Present length of time of four days between Icomps recommend that Iceland (C) escorts be augmented by two ships. Using different escort units to meet O.N.S. and S.C. convoys will not remedy situation except to reduce each period at sea but total time at sea remains the same in each case. Until convoy schedule is again altered desire to continue present system on account of additional

/protection ...



War Diary.5.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.Escort of  
O.N.S.  
Convoys  
(contd)

protection now being accorded ocean convoy by Iceland (C) escort for about three days. Also consider that it is highly desirable in these waters where U-boats are now thickest to provide escort of more than two vessels if convoy numbers four or more ships a total of seven in Iceland (C) shuttle will always provide escort of three ships with a fourth available to augment when necessary and for extraneous duties. In this connection WILLIAMSBURG is not suitable for continuous escort service nor for escort service in winter. (C.T.G. 24.6 2241/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

LORD  
STRATHCONA.  
SAGANAGA.

Torpedoed and sunk at Wabana a.m. today. LOUISBURG and 4 M.Ls patrolling anchorage. (F.O.N.F. 1952Z/5 to N.S.H.Q.)

SAGANAGA and LORD STRATHCONA torpedoed and sunk while at anchor south of Belle Isle

Conception Bay in position 47.35 N. 52.59 W. reported none missing from LORD STRATHCONA. At present 3 killed and 30 reported missing from SAGANAGA. Further particulars to follow.

(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1955Z/5 to Admty.)

S/M Attack  
& Sighting  
Summary.

Para.A. Navy plane attacks S/M possibly U-88 type 18.54 N. 82.10 W. 1800Z/4.

Para.B. F 2U - 45 type. ARARAQUARA two torpedo hits. S/M sighted 47.40 N. 63.52 W. 1944Z/4 course 180. Surface craft attacks

periscope 43.06 N. 69.16 W. 2230Z/4.

Para C. Surface craft attacks possible contact about 19.55 N. 74.16 W. 0307Z/13/8. Surface craft attacks sound contact 34.33 N. 76 W. 1334Z/14/8. Plane attacks S/M 63.22 N. 20.25 W. 1735Z/3. S/M reported 15.06 N. 75.54 W. 2045Z/4 130 Panair plane sights S/M 11.06 N. 61.55 W. 1615Z/5 attack reported my 2133/23/8 at 0546Z/17/7 read 19/7.

Para D. Surface craft attacks sound contact 55.14 N. 23.04 W. 1338Z/30/5. 39.12 N. 73.55 W. 2245Z/19/6. Sighting at 11.15 N. 73.25 W. 30/8 reported my 2108/31 now cancelled. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2049/5 to Admty.)

A.T.23.

Ready to sail New York 25th joined at Halifax by N.A.16. Destination of all ships U.K. All transports remain U.K. and escorts return U.S. as soon as possible. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2356/5 to Cinclant.)



War Diary.5.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

- Situation. Reports Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area 4/9 indicate one light cruiser approx. 16 destroyers 7 M/Vs. Major portion this force observed in Tonolei Harbour at 0056Z/4. R/C B.17 intercepted by 2 Zeros and 2 Biplane type floatplanes over area; 4 flying boats also observed on water.
- (2) Photographs Lae Aerodrome 3/9 reveal 26 fighters and 4 heavy bombers on ground. Majority in same positions as at 31/8 suggesting unserviceable A/C. 11 small boats shown in harbour. Evidence runway recently repaired and signs other recent improvements.
- (4) Unidentified A/C sighted over Samarai 0445Z/4.
- (5) Air R/C 4/9 reported (a) two ketches off Uraisi Island (northernmost island d'Entrecasteaux group) (b) cruiser in 9° 18' S., 151° 10' E., at 0030Z/4 course 42°. This vessel observed several times during day in same general area and last sighted at 0745Z/4 in 10° 18' S., 151° 20' E.
- (c) One destroyer 10° 13' S., 151° 20' E., approx. 2150Z/3 course 40°. (d) One cruiser 9° 5' S., 153° 20' E., at 0714Z/4 course S.
- (6) Cruiser (b) above attacked by one Hudson at 0715Z/4 without effect. B.25s. despatched to attack vessels morning 4/9 failed to locate targets.
- (7) Conservative estimate enemy casualties Milne Bay area to September 1st reported 600.
- (8) Indications enemy air R/C Darwin area noon 4/9. (B.A.D. pass to Opnav). (G.H.Q., S.W. P.A., 0743Z/5 to Admty).

Ocean and Nauru Islands Abemana, Tarawa, etc. No. 335. Your telegram No. 273 and telegram from High Commissioner for U.K. in New Zealand No. 394 to S. of S. for Dominion Affairs. Ocean Island. See my telegram No. 328 (1315/31) Following telegram received from C. in C. Honolulu (begins).

Have such convincing evidence that Ocean and Nauru are occupied by enemy that unless you have positive information to contrary will abandon project of landing food at former island (ends).

2. I have replied I have no further information but as recent development in Gilbert Islands (see below) increase probability of occupation of Ocean Island, I am compelled to agree with his view, but hope it may be possible before long to obtain certain knowledge.
3. At 1933 G.M.T./1 coast watching station in Abemana Island reported 3 ships approaching that island with plane overhead. No further communication received from Abemana. At 03.30 G.M.T./2 Kuria Island reported 7 warships seen east of Aranuka Island travelling north. 2 hours later Kuria reported 6 warships and 1 other large vessel reported off entrance to passage into Abemana lagoon and planes heard continually all the afternoon.
4. At 0300 G.M.T./3 Morgan reported from Tarawa 7 vessels, including at least 2 cruisers, at that island, 4 of them and a flying boat in the lagoon and that many people had landed with what appeared to be cargo. No further communication received from Tarawa.
5. Coast watching stations in islands of Maiana, Kuria, Noncuti still working and no reports yet of presence of enemy at those islands other than air R/C.  
(High Commr. Sir P. Mitchell, 1745/5 to S. of S. for Colonies.)



War Diary.

5.9.1942.  
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1341A/5, 1416A/5).



War Diary.

6.9.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Ten Bostons attacked a ship in Boulogne today but did not hit it.

P.R.U. to Narvik was unsuccessful today owing to cloud. It is reported that 4 or 5 destroyers left Narvik eastbound on 3/9.

Mediterranean.

At 1301B today a convoy of 4 merchant ships (2 from Taranto and SS. ANKARA and one from Brindisi) escorted by 11 destroyers and fighter aircraft was reported about 60 miles south of Sta. Maria di Leuca, steering 140° at 12 knots. P.34, P.43, UNA, TRAVELLER and THRASHER were ordered to intercept, and a torpedo bomber strike of 12 Beauforts and 16 Beaufighters was sent from Malta. The aircraft attacked at 1330, 30 miles south of Sta. Maria di Leuca and hit with torpedoes one 7000 ton ship and did considerable execution amongst the fighter escort: 2 Beauforts were lost.

Aircraft attacked Heraklion harbour and aerodrome Crete last night. Tobruk harbour was also bombed and good fires were started on the docks.

East Indies.

Four Blenheims bombed Akyab today; 2 direct hits were obtained on the W/T station outbuildings.

Australia.

Papua.

The British supply ship ANSHUN was sunk alongside the wharf at Milne Bay by gunfire from two enemy cruisers at 1217Z today.

It is reported that the enemy occupied Erfogi at midnight tonight.



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War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.M.Ls at  
Portsmouth.

Pending further instructions M.Ls 346, 343 and 291 of the 23rd M.L. Flotilla are to remain in the Portsmouth Command when ready for service. (D.D.O.D. (C.) 1826A/6.)

OTRANTO  
TEGELBERG.

My 0119/1. As MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE will not now arrive U.K. till early October OTRANTO should be fitted as L.S.I.(L). She should be completed within fourteen days of arrival date in U.K.

2. TEGELBERG should also be fitted as quickly as possible as L.S.I.(L).

4. Ships will remain under Red Ensign. (D.S.T. 1923A/6.)

Movements.FRANKLIN.  
SANDOWN.

My 1202/4. Sailed at 0705/6 to continue programme. (F.O. Humber 0740A/6.)

KEPPEL  
VENOMOUS.

My P.C.S. due to weather 058° 47' N. 012° 33' W. 317°, 15 knots. VENOMOUS in company. (KEPPEL 0900A/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

SHEFFIELD  
CUMBERLAND  
ECLIPSE.

Scapa departures. SHEFFIELD with CUMBERLAND and ECLIPSE. (A.C.O.S. 0901/6.)

DURBAN.

Scapa arrival. DURBAN. (A.C.O.S. 0946/6.)

CALEDON.

My 1615/5. CALEDON sailed. E.T.A. Sheerness 1200/9. (C. in C. Plymouth 0949A/6.)

C. in C. Plymouth's 1615/5. Onward route from Q Z S 83 through Pentland Firth thence Q Z S 323, Q Z S 322, Q Z S 321, Q Z S 334, Q Z S 290, Q Z S 289, Q Z S 277, Q Z S 287, Q Z S 350, Q Z S 351, Q Z S 285, and Q Z S 185 to Sheerness. One Destroyer from Nore Command will R/V you at May Island 1600/8 and act as escort to Sheerness. (A.C.O.S. 1938/6 to CALEDON.)

OTUS.

Intend sailing WHITE BEAR from Holy Loch at 1800/8 to R/V OTUS at 0600/10 in 250° Trevose Head 10 miles.

2. Thence OTUS escorted by WHITE BEAR proceeds direct to Holy Loch. (Capt. S.3 1045A/6.)



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

PRINSES~~§~~ Intend to sail PRINSES~~§~~ ASTRID at 1500A/6 for  
 ASTRID. Liverpool to discharge 3 L.C.As. E.T.A. 0600A/7  
 PRINCE CHARLES. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to sail PRINSES~~§~~  
 PRINCE ASTRID to R/V with PRINCE CHARLES (S.O.) PRINCE  
 LEOPOLD. LEOPOLD, and PRINSES~~§~~ ALBERT in 270° Skerries 13  
 PRINSES~~§~~ miles at 1815A/7.  
 ALBERT. (2) PRINCE CHARLES, PRINCE LEOPOLD, and PRINCE  
 ALBERT will sail from Clyde at 0915A/7 at 18  
 knots. E.T.A. Needles 2015A/8.  
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1048A/6 and 2304A/6.)

? My 2003/5. Sailed.  
 (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1103A/6 to A.I.G. 187.)

L.23. (1) Intend sailing L.23 escorted by BARBARA  
 ROBB at 1900A/7 via swept channel for  
 Tobermory Submarine Sanctuary. E.T.A. 0900A/8.  
 (2) L.23 escorted by BARBARA ROBB will exercise in this area  
 until 1700A, thence Oban to fuel, E.T.A. 1930A/8.  
 (3) N.O.I.C. Oban is requested to sail L.23 and BARBARA ROBB  
 to arrive Port D in daylight. 9th.  
 (TITANIA 1113A/6 and 2114A/7.)

OBDURATE. Sailed OBDURATE in accordance with my 1514A/5.  
 E.T.A. 0830A/7.  
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1244A/6.)

SCYLLA. Seidisfiord arrival my 1028/4 at 0805/6.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1527A/6 to C. in C..H.F.)

DEPTFORD. My P.C.S. at 2000A/6 051° 10', 010° 05',  
 079°, 8 knots.  
 (DEPTFORD 1605A/6.)

TUNA. F.O.I.C. Tyne's 1021/5 <sup>arrived.</sup> arrived. (31.7.42)  
 (Capt. S.6 1753A/6.)

BULLDOG. My P.C.S. 058° 24' N. 011° 14' W., 315°, 16.  
 (BULLDOG 1900A/6.)

Operations.

Patrols. 1. ALBRIGHTON and BLEASDALE on patrol 15 miles  
 south of Anvil Point.  
 2. 2 A/S trawlers on patrol in vicinity of  
 E.A.5 buoy.  
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1530A/6.)

M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between  
 Dumpton and North East Spit buoys, E.T.D. 2030, E.T. R/V 0545/7.  
 M.G.Bs 41, 46, S2, S3 and 7 at "V" Buoy from 2130. The  
 following anti-E-Boat patrols from 2045. M.L.138 and R.M.L.  
 513 near C.one Buoy. S.G.Bs 9 and 8 near D. buoy. M.G.Bs.  
 329 and 322 near No.7 buoy. WATERFLY and ADAM near No.4 buoy.  
 (V.A. Dover 1839A/6.)

/Channel ...



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Channel Islands Patrol. Information has been received that large enemy M.Vs or tankers may be proceeding from Cherbourg to Brest or vice versa.

2. 3 M.T.Bs are to sail at dark and proceed to patrol between Roches Douvre and Sept Iles returning so as to be within 20 miles of Dartmouth at first light.

3. Object to attack enemy ships with torpedoes.

4. Code word "Stencil".  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1843A/6 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
Your 1843/6. "Stencil" sailed.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2034A/6.)

Allied Air Activity.

Bombing Restrictions. From 0001/7 until 0800/9 instituting submerged bombing restrictions 25 miles either side of line joining 49° 22' N. 09° 01' W. and 49° 36' N. 05° 02' W.  
(H.Q.C.C. 0112A/6 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

"Knocker". My 2207/5. Operation completed 0930Z/6th.  
(A.C.I.C. 1250A/6.)

Enemy Air Activity

Iceland. Seidisfiord bombed. One enemy A/C unidentified picked up on plot S.E. of Westmann Island at 1002A/5. A/C proceeded off South coast to position 5 miles West of Utskalar 064° 05' N. 022° 39' W. and was sighted from Hvalfjord flying high, course N.E. at 1142A. Visibility good. At 1238A F.W. dropped one bomb from 5000 feet on South side of fiord at Seidisfiord opposite Vedalseyri. Four children injured.  
(A.C.I.C. 1037A/6 to Admty.)  
Enemy A/C reported 6/9. 0911 one F.W. circling over Reydarfiord. 1111 one unidentified over Seidisfiord, course west. 1145 one unidentified sighted at 2000 feet over Neskampstadur.  
(A.C.I.C. 2320A/6.)

Scapa and Orkneys. Enemy A/C flew over Scapa Flow at 34,000 feet from N.E. to S.W. at 1140A today. Photograph probable. Fighters are up.  
(A.C.O.S. 1145A/6.)

My 1145A/6. Enemy A/C believed Heinkel III passed over Kirkwall and Torness at 30,000 - 34,000 feet and turned S.E. at Dunnet Head. Excellent plotting. Fighters did not intercept, but 3 gun sites fired 31 rounds.  
(A.C.O.S. 1815A/6.)



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity - contd.

North Cape. A A A A North Cape 7 East HINDSHOLM.  
(Iceland W/T 1923/6 and T.O.R. 1940/6.)

Dover bombed. At 1024 today enemy A/C dropped six bombs in Dover damaging house property and interrupting telephone communications. No naval casualties or damage.  
(V.A. Dover 2336A/6.)

Mining.

M.S.N.3. My 1050/29. Weather conditions have delayed the start of this operation as SCOTT has been unable to lay beacons. Revised programme will be signalled.  
(R.A.M. 0906A/6 to Admty.)

East Coast Clearance Sweep. Rear ship in 1st lap detonated one mine in 106°, 2.7 miles from No.3 Buoy.  
(M/S 9 1005A/6 to C. in C. Nore.)

Number 3 Buoy. Detonated 2 mines near 107° 2.8 miles from One mine dragged from same position.  
Amend position given in my 1005A/6 to read 106°, 2.7 miles from number 3 Buoy.  
(M/S 9 1205A/6.)

3 mines cut near 070°, 3.4 miles from Humber 3 Buoy in third lap. One mine detonated in 139°, 4.4 miles from Humber 3 Buoy in fourth lap. Have extended area one mile to southwards.  
(M/S 9 1533A/6.)

Clearance area completed. No mines encountered in last two laps. About 1.4 miles swept to eastward, one mine. This mine appeared to have been a stray.  
(M/S 9 1900A/6.)

Off Dartmouth. PANGBOURNE reports mine detonated in sweep during check clearance of Q Z X 793 approximately 350 yards outside area in 50° 19' 24" N. 03° 18' 36" W.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1214A/6.)

Humber. At 1051/6. One magnetic mine exploded by sweepers. Details.  
(F.O. Humber 1807A/6.)

Sweep of Route "N". Intend to sail at 0600/7. TREVO TERCEIRO, (Lyme Bay) CONCERTATOR, PATTI and SCARRON sweeping route "N" to Portland. E.T.A. 1500/7. Code word "Ounce V".  
2. F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them to Dartmouth sweeping same route at 0600/8.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1845A/6 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

North Russia. Reported that 4 or 5 destroyers left Narvik area on 3/9 bound eastward. Graded A.2. Comment. These destroyers are probable to operate against Russian shipping off White Sea and to the eastward.  
(D.D.I.C. 0853A/6 to S.B.N.O. North Russia, (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Tankers at Rouen. Photographs taken during attack on Rouen Marshalling Yards at 1035/5 show tanker 430 ft. T.36 arrived in Port Maritime Rouen. T.36 berthed north side almost opposite and N.W. of tanker 450 ft. T.10, which is still present in same berth on south side of Port Maritime.  
(R.A.F. Medmenham 2130A/6 to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. H/F bearings indicate U-boats may be in position roughly 053° 55' N. 025° 54' W. at 1300Z/6. My P.C.S. 55° 05' N. 025° 45' W., 066°, 15 knots.  
(BROKE 1302Z/6.)

Am over enemy submarine in 47° 12' N. 10° 32' W. Sub on surface, course 360°, speed 1 knot.

(A.O.C. 19 Group 1523/6) See also D.D.I.C. 0935A/7.)

By D/F at 1753Z U-boat was probably anywhere within 60 miles of 61° N. 8° W.

(D.D.I.C. 2200A/6.)

Russian report doubtful sighting submarine at 2225C/6 in 068° 12' N. 039° 39' E. Also by D/F 2 S/Ms in 076° 35' N. 064° 20' E. and 074° 54' N. 055° 10' E. at 2141C/6 and 2124C/6 respectively.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2234A/6 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F. BROKE.)

U-Boats attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 63° 15' N. 24° 28' W. Periscope only sighted. When first sighted was on course 300°, speed 15 knots.  
{A/C 15 Group 2035Z/6}  
{A/C 19 Group 2037Z/6}

Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits.

(A/C 15 Group 2042Z/6.)

Casualties and Defects.

KINGSTON ANDALUSITE. Cancel my 1611/5. <sup>147-262</sup> KINGSTON ANDALUSITE still defective.  
(Cdr. "A" Patrol 0136A/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)



War Diary.

6.9.1942  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

S.C.97. Following from Rescue ship PERTH. 72  
CAPIRA. Survivors United States Line ship CAPIRA and  
BRONXVILLE. Norwegian BRONXVILLE torpedoed. Nationality,  
(torpedoed details. 2 Cot Cases. Arrive Boom 9.00  
31/8.) G.M.T. 6th.  
(Portpatrick Radio 0245/6 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Operation E.V. P.Q.18 24 hours astern of  
schedule. Movements are to be adjusted  
accordingly.  
(C. in C. H.F. 0035A/6.)  
S.3's 0853/2 arrived. (UNIQUE, P.45.)  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 0910A/6.)  
Intend to sail Iceland portion P.Q.18 consisting of  
ATHELTEMPLAR (Local Commodore) TIBILISI (Local Vice Commodore)  
EXFORD, STALINGRAD, ANDRE MARTI, SUKHONA, OLIVER ELLSWORTH,  
RICHARD BASSETT, and M.M.S.212, 203 and 90 to R/V in 270°  
Skagi 15 miles. A.M.1941/3 parasones one and two. EL AIMIRANTE  
will not sail, so WACOSTA should be left in convoy. Presume  
OREMAR and GATEWAY CITY will be retained in convoy in lieu of  
the two stragglers.  
(A.C.I.C. 1116A/6 to ESKDALE for Commodore P.Q.18.)  
ESKDALE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY, KING SOL, HUGH WALPOLE, PAYNTER,  
ARAB, FARNDALE, DUNTON 062° 52' 021° 45' to 063° 03' 022° 04',  
thence Reykjanæs Passage, 6.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1330A/6.)  
Nothing further reported concerning Kara Sea raider since  
attack on DICKSON. (?Soviet) S/M (?K) 21 now patrolling North  
of 76° and East of 65°. No U-Boats sighted since 28/8. 12  
floating mines reported 20 miles North of Teriberski on 2/9.  
Murmashy aerodrome bombed (?2/9) and Murmansk town on 4/9.  
Moderate damage reported. Russian batteries dominating  
Mothopski Gulf dive bombed by (?24) Ju.87s 2/9. No change  
reported in general situation.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1401A/6 to Admty.)  
Your 1758/5. At 0050C/19 Russian S/M was in 070° 42' N.  
021° 07' E., then proceeded on course 114° at depth of 70  
metres arriving 070° 27' N. 021° 39' E. at 2156C/19. Regret  
have been unable to obtain details of previous routes but am  
endeavouring to do so.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1402A/6.)  
A.C.I.C. 1116/6 and my 1332/6. Confirmed that GATEWAY  
CITY should be retained in convoy if necessary.  
(D.T.D. 1952A/6 to A.C.I.C.)

TJALDUR. Your 1622A/2 arrived.  
(N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 0739/6 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

North Russia. Understand intention to include auxiliary aircraft carriers in P.Q. Convoys. Presume therefore that no further C.A.M. ships will come to North Russia.

2. If this correct should C.A.M. ship maintenance party and reserve Hurricanes now at Archangel return to U.K.

(Ad. Miles 1202C/6 to Admty.)

T.A.21 and  
A.T.22.

A.M. 1732/29 and 1537/4.

(1) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail

T.A.21 escorted by CURAÇOA and CASTLETON.

(2) N.O.I.C. Londonderry is requested to sail

WELLS, SARDONYX, SABRE, and SALADIN to R/V in Mid North Channel with T.A.21 as required by N.O.I.C. Greenock.

(3) On parting company with T.A.21 escort is to proceed R/V with A.T.22 in position O. 056° 35' N. 012° 01' W. at 0600Z/10 and escort to Clyde.

(4) If weather conditions make it obvious that close escort for T.A.21 cannot be maintained CURAÇOA and destroyers are to be sailed earlier to carry out an A/S sweep alongside outward route of T.A.21 and if it is still probable that close escort cannot be provided for A.T.22 CURAÇOA and destroyers are not to proceed position "O" but are to carry out an A/S sweep on 10/9 alongside inward route of A.T.22.

(5) Inward route of A.T.22 from position O. through R. 056° 12' N. 008° 01' W., thence Clyde.

(6) After escorting A.T.22 to North Channel destroyers are to proceed to Londonderry and CURAÇOA is to continue to Clyde.

(7) No risk of weather damage will be taken. CURAÇOA will use discretion as to reducing speed of convoy or detaching destroyers should weather deteriorate.

(C. in C. W.A. 2031Z/6.)



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

JACK CARNES My 1226/2. 29 survivors JACK CARNES landed  
survivors. Terceira 5/9. Search for 2 further lifeboats  
proceeding. (A.1.)  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1006/6 to S.O.(I)  
Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

Amend my 1006/6 as follows:-

Chief officer and 27 men reached Terceira p.m./5th. Master  
and 26 men lost sight of night of 31st. (A.1.)  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1144C/6 to S.O.I. Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

P.37, P.212. My 1840/5. Leave patrol pass position G at  
0130/7 and proceeding on surface direct to arrive  
Gibraltar 1330/7.

2. Swordfish A/C will carry out A.S.V. sweep for U-Boats within  
25 miles of Almina Pt. from 2030/6 until 0700/7. You are not  
to approach within 10 miles of this area before 0700/7.

3. P.212 pass Europa Point at 1600/6 on surface course 81° speed  
12 knots.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1136A/6 to P.37.)

P.212,  
CLYDE.

P.212 leaving Gibraltar p.m./6/9 passing J. 036°  
33' 002° 18' W. at 0800A/7 and K. 038° 56' 002°  
53' E. at 1200A/9 thence to patrol off West coast  
Sardinia E. of 007° E. between 039° 00' and 041°  
20'.

(2) (? CLYDE) is to shift normal wireless watch to Gibraltar  
broadcast at 0800A/8.

(3) Spanish submarines exercising in Mazaron area from 8th to  
11th.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1140A/6 to 8th S.F.)

My 1136/4 departure 1600, P.212.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1720A/6 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., V.A. Malta,  
Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10.)

Situation  
Report.

Area Y. Situation 1959A/6.

SPIREA (E) 30° 10' 22° 30', 68° 9½.

(2) ST. THOMAS, MOUNT EVERCLIFFE estimated 35° 21'  
24° 50', 87° 11 safe conduct to Gibraltar.

(3) Swedish AKKA and YARRAWONGAF 36° 13' 28° 23'  
90° 12 safe conduct to Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1304A/6 to N.A. Station.)

U/B.

At 1725A/5 Sunderland sight U-Boat in position  
36° 31' N. 03° 00' W. course 260°, 8 knots, dived  
on being sighted. (2) Air search continues.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1442A/6 to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med.,  
V.A. Malta.)

French  
Shipping.

Gibraltar 1525 armed trawler LA TOULONNAISE,  
IMERETHIE II, full, eastbound.  
(S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1817A/6 to Admty.)

/Suspicious ...



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.Suspicious  
object, U/B.

Following has been received. Am investigating suspicious object in 031° 46' N. 032° 12' E. 090° 10. Submarine has dived in position 031° 46' N. 032° 12' E.  
(A/C using call sign QZ7S, 2338C/6.)

South Atlantic.Routeing of  
Shipping to  
U.S.A.

Your 2330A/1. Presume it is still intended that all ships should call for onward routeing instructions at Ponta Arenas in accordance with Connav 2001/29.  
(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 0830Z/6 to Admty., (R) C. in S.A., S.O.(I) Capetown, Connav.)  
Your 0830/6. Yes.  
(D.T.D., 2108A/6 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, (R) C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Capetown, Connav.)

Dakar R/C.

Your 2240/2. Air R/C Dakar on 5/9 shows 3 Galissoniere class cruisers. New arrival probably French Cruiser GLOIRE.  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 0939Z/6 to Admty., (R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

Dispositions. AURORA with W.S.22, 019° 35' 021° 30' 175°, 13 at 1958Z/6. *See p.154*

→ PINDOS off Bathurst to join W.S.22 at 1500Z/7.  
LONDONDERRY with S.L.121, 014° 01' 019° 30' to 015° 01' 019° 59' thence 000°. 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. *See next page.*

ENCHANTRESS with O.S.38, 009° 10' 015° 50' to Freetown 9.  
(R.A.W.A., 1011Z/6 to Ships in Area P. of S.A. Station N. of 8° N., Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, C. in C. S.A.)

O.S.38.

Your 1011/6. O.S.38 convoy appears to have been diverted from original route. Request new route be passed to me. My 1805/29/8 refers.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1216B/6 to R.A.W.Africa.)

→ PINDOS.

1043Z/4

Departure 1815/6 Greek destroyers PINDOS in accordance with your 1043<sup>2</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst, 1840Z/6 to R.A.W.A., (R) (? AURORA), QUIBERON.)

/S.L. 121 ...



War Diary.6.9.1942  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.- Contd.S.L. 121,  
escorts.

Following is repetition of my 1517/3/9 (begins).  
Departures 3/9 LONDONDERRY, LANGUARD, HASTINGS,  
BIDEFORD, SWALE with S.L. 121.  
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1113Z/6 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.,  
C. in C. W.A., S.O.W.P.) *See previous page (Disputing)*

Shipping  
diversion.

Your 1137/5. My 1241/5 was designed to allow  
some freedom in choice of routes on the lines you  
suggest. Adherence to the 300 miles coastal  
zone south of 020° S. is preferred for the time  
being.  
(D.T.D., 1230A/6 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Movement  
Summary  
2000Z/6.

Area Q.  
TEWERA 032° 30' S. 017° 00' E. to Capetown 8½  
knots.  
MOONSHINE, SUNBURST 033° 40' S. 028° 00' E. to  
Durban 7 knots.  
BULAN 034° 55' S. 024° 22' E. to Simonstown 8½ knots.  
SOUTHERN PRIDE escorting LADY DENISON PENDER 033° 20' S.  
012° 45' E. to St. Helena 10 knots.  
AMARANTHUS 034° 18' S. 026° 40' E. to Simonstown 12½ knots.  
Area S.  
PASTEUR 025° 45' S. 041° 15' W.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1346B/6 to S.A. Stn. Sqdn., (R) Admty.)

Reporting  
by ships  
for plot  
purposes.

Request reply to my 1841/31/7 about weather  
reports.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1445B/6 to Admty., (R) R.A.W.A.)

SAINT  
GOBAIN.

Have you any news of SAINT GOBAIN (Swedish)  
due Durban 18/8 from Capetown?  
(D.T.D., 1612A/6 to S.O.I. Capetown.)  
Reply: 1205/8.)

KEREN,  
KARANJA.

Your 1409/5.  
KEREN and KARANJA are to be sailed for Clyde  
independently at best speed.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1630A/6 to R.A.W.A. (R) F.O.C.N.A.,  
C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

MILFORD,  
Brazilian  
A/S escort.

I have now been personally requested by M. of M.  
that MILFORD when ready may be permitted to take  
2 Brazilian minesweepers acting as A/S escorts  
as far as Rio Grande do Sul and bring a convoy  
back to Rio de Janeiro showing them how  
protection can best be given to merchant shipping. Ambassador  
and I consider this would be politically advantageous.  
Estimated time of sailing about 14/9. Adm. Ingram, Comtask 23,  
is aware and concurs. Request early approval to Britnavat Rio  
de Janeiro.  
(R.A.W.A., 1717Z/6 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty.)  
Concur. (D.O.D.(F), 1311A/7.) Approved. (C. in C. S.A.,  
1103B/8.)

/CORFU ...



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

CORFU. Your 1901/25 para. 9 and 1219/28 para. 2. 2. To facilitate arrangements for her refit in U.K. request you will signal your intentions regarding CORFU. (D.O.D.(F), 1828A/6 to C. in C. S.A.) Reply: 1306/8.

AURORA. My P.C. & S. 018° 44' N. 021° 23' W. 175° 14 knots. (AURORA, 1958Z/6 to R.A.W.A., (R) Admty., PINDOS.)

*See p. 157*Mediterranean.

P.44. P.44 leaves 035° 22' 014° 12' about 2230B/6 thence through 035° 18' 015° 01' to arrive 038° (? 22') 019° 42' about dawn/10. Subs. encountered during night of 6th/7th not to be attacked. (Capt. (S) 10, 1034B/6 to P.46, UTMOST, (R) 10th S.F., C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1st S.F., S.O. Subs. Alexandria, 201 Naval Co-op. Group.) My 1034/6th cancel last two positions. P.44 will proceed through 033° 01' 015° 29' to area M 031° 10' 015° 01' 000° 110, 80. (Capt. (S) 10, 1614B/6 to P.46, UTMOST, (R) 10th S/M.F., S.O.(S) Alexandria, No. 201 Co-op. Group.) Sailed P.44. (V.A. Malta, 1654B/6 to Admty., C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.)

Flag of R.A. Power. Flag of Rear Adm. A.J. Power C.B., C.V.O., is to be transferred to CENTURION at sunset today Sunday and will remain flying in that ship pending the Rear Admiral's arrival. (C. in C. Med., 1223C/6.)

4 M/Vs, 11 D/Rs. At 1301B/6 11 destroyer 4 M/Vs approx. 60 miles south of Maria di Leuca course 140°, 12 knots. (Capt. (S) 10, 1318B/6 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med., S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

ST. BRIEUC (French) 1730 sailed for Cette. (Barcelona, 1334/6.)

Corvette for Jugo-Slavs. Following is a repetition of my 1226C/2/9/42 (received corrupt) (begins). Jugo-Slav Naval Commander Saksida, trying to get Jugo-Slav Naval recruits from South Africa to augment his present small Naval forces here, is very anxious that when he has enough ratings they should go to U.K. for courses with eventual hope of being able to commission a corvette. He has enough officers for this now. Is there any hope of a corvette

/being ...



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Corvette for  
Jugo-Slavs.  
(Contd.)

being allocated to them? If so, I recommend it. Ref. A.M. 1042/3/10/41 and 2158/13/1/1942. I do not think they are likely to raise sufficient officers and men to man a "Hunt" class destroyer nor at present can they man their own submarine. (Ends.)  
(C. in C. Med., 1335/6 to Admty.)

C.S. 15.

Your 1812/5 and 1816/5 (N.T. in W.D.) Request you will postpone movement 24 hours to enable DIDO to provide A/S cover for your force and L.W. Convoy. This cannot be done on 8th due to position of L.E. and L.W. convoys.  
(C. in C. Med., 1420C/6 to C.S.15, (R) DIDO, No. 201 Naval Co-op Group, R.A.(D) Med.)

R.N.A.S.  
attack on  
beached M/V.

At 2327/4. 1 M/V 4,000 to 5,000 tons and 1 destroyer alongside. M/V beached in 18 feet water. 3½ miles south of Locri was attacked by 2 Albacores, 1 carrying bombs and flares, other torpedo. 1 torpedo dropped. Light flak from shore and destroyer. 1 explosion seen and column of smoke to 60 feet.  
(A.H.Q. Malta, 1430/6.)

EURYALUS.

Arrival EURYALUS. ? *Thrascher - see p. 136 (intermediate report)*  
(? N.O.I.C. Aden, 1504Z/6.)

Malta  
C.S.R.

I.655. Night 5/6.  
1 alert 2050 hours for 2 raiders, 1 turned back 40 miles N. of Malta the other a Ju.88 crossed coast and dropped bombs on Malta causing no damage.

6th. 1050 hours despatched torpedo bomber strike 12 Beauforts 16 Beaufighters to attack enemy convoy 4 M/Vs, 11 D/Rs and fighter escort sighted by P.R.U. Spitfire this morning.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1700Z/6.)

Orders  
to S/Ms.*In the caption of  
warning S.M. p. 145  
2nd part*

Capt. (S) 10's 1318/6th.  
Proceed forthwith diving by day to following positions. P.34, 035° 48' 021° 37'.  
P.43, 035° 15' 021° 00'. UNA, 035° 05' 021° 51'.  
TRAVELLER 033° 33' 021° 42'. THRASHER only to be in position 032° 31' 023° 34' by dawn Sept. 8th.  
(Capt. (S) 1, 1850C/6 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, No. 201 Co-op. Group.)

3 M/Vs.  
10 D/Rs.

3 merchant ships 10 destroyers 038° 46' 20° 13' 170° 10 knots at 1740B/6. Aircraft may attack again North of Navarin tonight.  
(Capt. (S) 10, 2047B/6 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

/Further ...



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War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Further orders to S/Ms. *Interruption of enemy approach* Further aircraft reports showed convoy in Capt. (S) 10's 1318/6th making for Cape Dukats. P.34 P.43 and UNA move to intercept from positions ordered in my 1850/6th as follows. P.34, 318° 40 miles. P.43, 024° 32 miles. UNA, 250° 18 miles. Be in new positions by dawn 7th Sept. TRAVELLER only ignore my 1850/6th and be in position 032° 45' 020° 35' by 0001C/8th.  
(Capt. (S) 1, 2115C/6 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, No. 201 Naval Co-op. Group.)

P.42. Your 1832/6 (N.T. in W.D.) Repeat following groups received corrupt: groups 24 25 and 26. \*Ship which is now sufficiently damaged. Railway siding referred to in orders is on west bank of river in longitude 015° 53'.  
(Capt. S.10, 2323B/6 to P.42, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1.)  
\* *See p.108*

Dummy P/S.s. Unless cancelled by you 2 dummy bi-focal periscopes will be jettisoned in southern approaches to Messina some time after 2101B/7.  
(Capt. (S) 10, 2335B/6 to C. in C. Med., (R) P.42, Capt. (S) 1.)

U/B. Following has been read. S/M submerged 31° 46' N. 32° 12' E.  
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 2340/6.)



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War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Movements  
Addu Atoll.Departure 0130Z/6. SHOREHAM escorting ASIS.  
SHANTUNG.  
(N.O.I.C.Addu Atoll 0133Z/6.).  
Departure 0232Z/6 hospital ship VITA.  
(N.O.I.C.Addu Atoll 0233Z/6).Ships for  
N.A.2.My 1013/29 and C. in C.E.F. 1847/1. Propose to  
take up MELCHIOR TREUB instead of ISIPINGO for  
base ship. For scheme N.A.2 propose to substitute  
WUSUEH for PERAK.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0505Z/6).E.F.  
docking  
require-  
ments.Your 1828/21/8 is last report received giving  
docking situation at Simonstown.  
2. Eastern (?Fleet) requirements which cannot be  
met at Indian Yards are:- 1st October, FOXHOUND,  
NIZAM to refit and dock, Estimated time 1 month.  
Early October DAUNTLESS to refit and dock estimated  
time 3 weeks. Mid October BIRMINGHAM for docking.  
3. Can above be undertaken at Simonstown?  
4. Capt. Supt. Simonstown's 1218/1. (Presume 1213/1 intended),  
GAMBIA will probably dock elsewhere. My 0728/1 re NIZAM is  
cancelled. *N.T. - W.D.*  
(C. in C.E.F. 0523Z/6 to C. in C.S.A.).

B.P.54.

Sail 0530Z/6. Ships.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 0539Z/6).DAVY  
CROCKETT.P.S.T.O. India 1027/5. and S.N.O.P.G. requesting  
diversion DAVY CROCKETT to Karachi.  
2. (?Request) confirmation that diversion should be  
made in view of B.A.D. Washington's 1557/3/6.  
to Admiralty and S.N.O. Persian Gulf only.  
(C. in C.E.F. 0721Z/6 to Admiralty).Your 0721/6. Vital parts referred to in B.A.D. 1557/3/6  
were forwarded by other means. See B.A.D. 2045/9/6.  
2. No objection here to proposed diversion. Presume U.S.  
representatives in India concur.

(D.T.D. 1850A/6 to C. in C. E.F.).

Shore based  
A/Cs for A/S  
work in G. of  
Aden.From A.O.C. in C. Your T.O.O. 1916/3/9 to C. in C.  
Med. Your T.O.O. 1101C/5/9 to me. My A.641 18/7  
gives outline resources Aden area. No.8 Recco/  
Bomber Sqdn. Aden is being strengthened and  
additional immediate reserves provided. no A/C this  
unit equipped ASV but will send Aden in next 2 or 3 days,  
(Possibly arriving Sept.8) 3 A.S.V. Hudsons for night work and  
will keep these Aden as long as situation Med. Area permits. No  
depth charges available Aden but 250 of 250 lbs being shipped.  
265 of 250 lb. A.S. bombs available Aden. Will Air Min. please  
inform Admiralty.  
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 0954Z/6 to C. in C.E.F.(R) C. in C. Med. Air Min.  
H.Q. Aden, A.H.Q. India).

/Movements.....



6.9.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Movements. Asdic 153. Eastern Fleet week disposition summary 7389. Following changes on number 8 and 7. (D) NEWCASTLE leaves Bombay 7/9 to refit in U.S.A. via

Cape.

ENTERPRISE to escort convoy off East Africa.  
HAWKINS to Kilindini.  
(C. in C.E.F. 12012/6).

Routeing.

My 2008/5th.

It is intended to give each ship a short series of reference positions. Request you will indicate suitable areas in which to place them.  
(D.T.D. 1223A/6 to C. in C.E.F.).

HISTORIAN.

HISTORIAN sailed Durban 4/9 for Bombay via Aden where due 18/9. Destination is Suez. Ship should be prevented from going to Bombay.  
(D.T. D. 1735A/6 to N.O.I.C. Aden).



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- B.Y.M.S. Sailed Boston 1859/5 B.Y.M.S. 1 and (?) B.Y.M.S. 29. (N.S.H.Q. 0025Z/6 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C. B.A.D. F.O.N.F.)
- KINGSLEY. My 1801/3. FORT PITT failed to contact KINGSLEY and could not make contact by W/T then proceeded on voyage. No signal received from KINGSLEY since original SOS. Mexico Warship searched area with negative results. U.S. Patrol planes searching entire area today and Sunday. (N.C.S.O. San Francisco 0144Z/6 to Admty.)
- ARCOLA Arrived 6/9.  
TAIGETE (S.B.N.O. Curacao 0955QR/6 to Admty.)  
(Italian)
- O.N.S.J. O.N.S.J. 128 4 ships (names) departed 1000Z/6 for  
128. 53.56 N 25.00 W speed 7.5 escorted by C.T.24.6.5.  
in DUANE plus LEARY.  
(Ottawa 1050/6 to C.T.24.1.16. C.T.F.24.)  
\* WILLIAM J. DUANE.
- Convoy Your 1327/5. Intend to act on para 3. "Mincemeat"  
"Mincemeat" should sail p.m./7 escorted by PATHFINDER and  
QUENTIN.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1142Q/6 to Admty.)
- KENMAR. My 0949/3. Arrived 3rd.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1223M/6 to Admty. S.B.N.O. W.A.  
B.A.D. Connav. N.S.H.Q.)
- ASCANIA. Delayed by defects. Will be sailed in H.X.207  
further signal will be made.  
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1247Z/6 to Admty. N.S.H.Q.)
- H.X.206. Your acknowledgement of my 0500/29 and stragglers  
route not received.  
(D.T.D. 1206A/6 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)
- O.N.126. C.T.24.1.17 despatched 1750Z/5 U.S.S. COLE  
3-12-42 126 estimated your vicinity has been ordered to join  
you. After COLE has joined and at your discretion  
detach one destroyer preferably PIORUN to St. Johns for fuelling  
and to rejoin. Will endeavour to arrange additional reliefs later.  
(C.T.24 1327/6 to C.T.24.1.17.)  
Refer to C.T.U.24.1.17 despatch 1750Z/5 and my 1327Z/6. Suggest  
possibilities of CHAMBLY and ROSTHERN joining O.N.126 when  
ST. LAURENT has to join S.C.99. This would permit HARVESTER to  
detach for fuel whilst CHAMBLY assumes duty of escort Commander.  
Advise.  
(C.T.24 1445Z/6 to F.O.N.F.)



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

S.B.26. Not sailing on schedule as no ships from Sydney (C.B.) Please advise when NORTHBROOK will be ready to sail and if any other ships at Cornerbrook. (N.C.S.O. Sydney N.S. 1414Z/6 to N.C.S.O. Cornerbrook.)

Portuguese Cod Fishing Vessel. Your 2203A/31/8. Following from C.O.A.C. begins. ALVAO MARTIN HOMEN sailed. 80 tons fuel and 2 tons lubricating oil supplied. Owing to large cargo this is maximum desired. 1541Z/5. (N.S.H.Q. 1445Z/6 to Admty.)

Shipping, bunkers via Horn. Your 1849/2 and S.O.(I.) Callao's 1600/31 Callao report ships routed via Horn regardless of type of cargo can take full bunkers oil Talara and limited quantities Antofagasta, Valparaiso, but none available Callao. Poor grade coal available Lota or Coronel Chile. (S.O.(I.) Kingston 1614Q/6 to Admty.)

U.B. estimates and S/M notices. S/M estimate 6th. (Cominch 1620/6, 1021/6, 1621/6, 1619/6, 1622/6 1623/6 to Admty.)

Slow convoy. Following slow convoy will proceed Key West at 2000 G.M.T./6 S of A 6 knots due Jacksonville 9/9. Route etc. (B.R.O. Washington 1746Z/6 to C.S.A. Jacksonville)

Tankers at Aruba and Curacao. Further information is desired as to the safe capacity of Aruba and Curacao, and method of handling a large group of tankers arriving for simultaneous loading.  
2. Aruba and Curacao should forward detailed reports describing steps taken to load and turn round the tankers which arrived on 28/8 in H.A.4.  
3. Details.  
4. S.B.N.O. W.A. is requested to forward these reports by air mail with his remarks.  
(D.T.D. 1806A/6 to S.B.N.O. W.A. S.B.N.O. Curacao. B.R.O. Aruba)

Sub attack and sighting summary. Plane attacks sub 20.10 N 83.14 W 1745Z/5 possibly damaged. Surface craft sights sub on surface 09.19 N 57.51 W 2248Z/5. Sub reported 12.47 N 63.55 W 0650Z/6. Plane sights sub on surface 43.26 N 70.02 W 1428Z/6. Patrol craft sights sub 27.28 N 80.14 W 0715Z/6. (Cominch 1859/6 to Admty.)

ABBEKERK (sunk 25/8) Attack by S/M. 1. ABBEKERK (Du.) 2. United Netherlands Nav. Co. 3. 052° 00' N 032° 00' W 2345 ship's time 24/8.  
4. 052° 00' N 032° 00' W course unknown.

/5. 052°...



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.ABBEKERK  
(sunk 25/8)  
Contd.

5. 052° 00' N 032° 00' W 0005 ship's time 25/8.  
 6. On surface. 7. Ship sunk. 8. 2 killed.  
 9. S/M remained (?1000) yards off is described only as being large.  
 10. Torpedo. 11 In perforated steel box sank with ship. 12. My 1918/6 listing 29 survivors landed Halifax 5/9 follows.  
 (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1917Z/6 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

U. 162.  
 destroyed 3/9  
~~at~~  
~~0000Z/6.~~

T.L. congratulate VIMY, PATHFINDER and QUENTIN on destruction of a German U.B on 3/9. U. 162.  
 (Admty. 2025A/6 to VIMY, PATHFINDER, QUENTIN.)

O.N. 126.

See p. 164

C.T.U. 24.1.17 1750/5. By our estimation O.N. 126 even at 6.5 knots cannot reach position O until 13th. Do you concur?  
 (F.O.N.F. 2045Z/6 to C.T.24.)

S/M  
Squadron  
50.

Cominch's 061845 to Cinclant and for information of Comnaveu, Commander, Amphibious Forces, Atlantic Fleet; and Commander, S/Ms, Atlantic Fleet, informs as follows:  
 Cancel movement S/M Squadron 50 to U.K. Intend diverting to duty Amphibious Forces, Atlantic Fleet, in Chesapeake area. Further instructions later.  
 (Comnaveu 2055/6 to Admty.)

BURDOCK.

My E.T.A. Port of Spain 1700Z/7. Ships in company SNOWDROP, U.S. ships (?BARRY HAMILTON), and EXAMINER and tanker ABBEYDALE.  
 (BURDOCK 2215Z/6 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

S/M  
Notice.

This is S.O.P.A. Portland 1915/6 to Cominch for action. U.S. S/M 4 will operate in Casco Bay area M - one bounded by latitudes 043° 30' and 043° 38' N and by longitudes 069° 30' and 070° 00' W escorted by surface craft Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 7th through 9th between 8 and 17 hours Q daily. This sent to you for action by Cominch.  
 (Cominch 2350/6 to All Commands in Atlantic Area interested in S/M position report.)



War Diary.6.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Situation. Digest Serial No. 227 5/9.  
Considerable enemy activity continues Faisi Buin Tonolei harbour area. Reports indicate minimum force this area 5/9 included 1 Sendai class cruiser, 2 other possible light cruisers, 6 destroyers, 2 gunboats or patrol craft, at least 7 merchant ships (including two 10,000 ton vessels) 1 seaplane tender or small A/C carrier 3 unidentified vessels 4 flying boats, several floatplanes.
2. Air R/C 5/9 reported 1 500 ton tanker off Keita. Only 1 small schooner sighted Buka passage area, 2 medium vessels Salamaua harbour, 20 barges Buna Bay and enemy camp on beach 4 miles S.E. Buna.
  3. 30 A/C probably twin-engined bombers reported N.W. Buka at 0400Z/4.
  4. 17 Bostons and 13 Aircobras bombed and strafed Buna aerodrome morning 5/9 causing fires and silencing enemy positions. Nil serviceable A/C observed.
  6. 1 cruiser 2 destroyers possibly 1 other vessel sighted by Air R/C 0045Z/5 in 9° 2' S 151° 30' E course S. This force sighted several times during afternoon and finally off entrance Milne Bay at 0814Z/5 on W course. Air R/C Milne Bay 0925Z/5 reported nil sightings. No air attack due bad visibility.
  7. 6 Kittyhawks bombed and strafed North shore Milne Bay 4/9. (G.H.Q. S.W.P. 0815Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

Shipping  
losses  
in  
Australian  
waters.

In view of extensive Japanese claims broadcast from time to time, are we right in assuming that all loss or damage to shipping in Australian waters is promptly notified to Admty. (D.T.D. 1732A/6 to A.C.N.B.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1334A/6, 1359A/6.)



War Diary.

7.9.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy  
P.Q.18.

The Iceland (C) portion of Convoy P.Q.18 with ATHELTEMPLAR and M.M./S 212, 203 and 90 sailed this morning to join the remainder of the convoy which has been delayed by weather and is 36 hours astern of schedule.

The submarine covering force for convoy P.Q.18, UNIQUE, P.45, P.221 left today for zones K.61, 62 and 63 respectively.

Seven U.S. Fortresses attacked shipyards at Rotterdam today; they claim to have destroyed or damaged from 24 to 34 enemy aircraft.

Mediterranean.

At 0926 today in 36° 17' N., 21° 3' E. P.34 obtained one hit on the rear 9,000 ship of the convoy which was sighted at 1301B yesterday 60 miles south of Sta. Maria de Leuca.

3 Wellington 8s. were sent to attack the convoy which was attacked at 1330/6 by Beauforts 30 miles south of Sta. Maria di Leuca. At 2230 today they attacked one or two escorted ships in 12° Cape Aamer 50 miles, obtaining very near misses on the larger ship.

British and U.S. Liberators today bombed a southbound convoy southwest of Crete and report a hit on one medium ship and near misses on others.

America & West Indies.

Attack on  
Q.S. 33

Convoy Q.S.33 (Quebec to Sydney C.B.) was attacked at 2100Z today in 48° 50' N., 63° 45' W. (Gulf of St. Lawrence) and 3 ships were torpedoed and sunk, viz. MOUNT PINDUS, OAKTON and MOUNT TAYGETUS. SS. AEAS in the same convoy was sunk at 0310 today in the mouth of the St. Lawrence.



War Diary.

7.9.1942.  
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia.

New Guinea

Two enemy cruisers sighted off Normanby Island (D'Entrecasteaux Is.) this afternoon were attacked at 0705Z today by 3 Hudsons, 6 Beauforts, 2 Beaufighters and 6 Kittyhawks, but were not hit except by gunfire.

The Allied positions in Milne Bay, Papua were reported being again shelled by enemy warships at midnight tonight.

Twenty-eight heavy bombers escorted by 6 Zeros attacked the aerodrome at Port Moresby at 0228Z today from 27,000 ft. Slight damage was caused. A/A shot down one bomber.

Considerable enemy activity continues in the Bougainville area; the enemy are reported to be establishing a base ashore at Buin.



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.VIOLET  
AUBRETIA

VIOLET and AUBRETIA are each to be fitted with 4 additional Oerlikons on Mark IV mountings during present refit.

F.O.I.C. London is requested to report if this work can be completed without delaying AUBRETIA who is required for service in W.A. Command 12/10.

Commodore Sheerness is to report whether completion date of VIOLET will be affected.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1322A/7.)

FOXGLOVE  
COURCY.

Commodore Londonderry's 1655/24/8.

Request you will report on time required to make FOXGLOVE ready for steaming to Londonderry on one boiler and to make her habitable as an A/A Guard ship and Base ship at Merville.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1651A/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

1. A.M. 1651/7 and your letter 901/1 (1) dated 24/7 FOXGLOVE will probably be required as A/A and Base ship Merville.
2. Request you report on suitability of COURCY as land fighting training ship.
3. COURCY is at present lying unmanned at Plymouth.

(D.O.D. (H.) 1837A/7 to EXCELLENT.)

MARGARET  
JOHNSON.  
VINGAREN.

Swedish ships MARGARET JOHNSON and VINGAREN sailed from Faroes Islands for Gothenburg at 1900/7.

Ships should not be molested if encountered on route given in S I S part three, section two.

(F.O.S. 2146A/7 to S/Ms.)

BLENHEIM  
SAKARA.

Your 0019/5. BLENHEIM and SAKARA are both working to full capacity at present. SAKARA is a small ship with accommodation for only 5 officers and 100 ratings and is just equal to the boiler

cleaning work she was sent to do. I can provide no other facilities of any kind. If BLENHEIM is removed this will leave all maintenance and refitting work for 42 trawlers and 21 other small craft to be carried out in Hamkrs Yard. Even were the necessary berths available this would be completely beyond their capacity and judging by past experience the result would be a rapid accumulation of defects which would very seriously prejudice the efficiency of local naval defence and escort forces. P.Q. trawlers would also be affected. The number of vessels in the Iceland Command has increased from 43 to 63 since last winter and in addition to these some Fleet and Western Approaches Destroyers require attention periodically also the repair (?work) to be done in A.F.D. XVII will be entirely dependent on the presence of an adequate repair ship. Apart from the material side BLENHEIM victuals the Royal Marine Engineers at Hvitanes, M.F.A. and R.F.As and bakes two thousand pounds of bread daily in addition to ships company and R.M.E. requirements. She also provides refrigerated space for all naval requirements at the present time as the Icelandic refrigerators at Reykjavik have now refused to accept any more naval provisions for some months. I cannot therefore regard her removal as a practical proposition at the present time or even in the future unless a repair quay and workshops were to be provided at Hvitanes.

(A.C.I.C. 2317/7 to Admty.)

\* 200 172



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

RUBIS.

(1) Cancel my 1131/6. <sup>/H.T. in V.D.</sup> Intend to sail RUBIS <sup>from Dundee</sup> escorted by LOCH MONTEITH 1400A/10 for Lerwick, E.T.A. 1800A/11.  
(Capt. S.9. 1015A/7 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

QUALITY.

*See next page*

Trials being satisfactory leave Methil at 0700/8 and proceed by searched channel to Scapa. (2) While at Methil keep steam at short notice and assume 3rd degree of A/A readiness.  
(C. in C. Rosyth 1027A/7 to QUALITY.)

OTUS.

F.O.S. 1207/30/8. R/V WHITE BEAR in position 250 Trevoise Head 10 miles at 0600A/10 for onward passage Holy Loch.

(2) Total bombing restrictions arranged in area 51 North of 050° from 0001A/10.

(3) Groups 1 and 2 lights exhibited every 15 minutes from dusk 9th to 0200A/10 group 3 and Trevoise Head 0100A/10 to daylight 10th.  
(Capt. S.3. 1201A/7 to OTUS. (R) F.O.S. C. in C. Plymouth. N.O.I.C. Falmouth.)

Your 1301A/7. My P.C.S. at 2100 048° 16' 012° 12' 010° 8 knots. No A/C seen. Weather report.  
(OTUS 2107A/7 to F.O.S.)

P.217.

When ready P.217 is to be sailed at an A/S working up patrol in Zone K.104 bounded by latitudes 061° 20' and 060° 50' meridian ~~061°~~ 45' E and Norwegian Coast.

(F.O.S. 1259A/7 to Capt. S.3. Admty. C. in C. H.F. Capt. S.9. A.C.O.S. C. in C. Rosyth. H.Q.C.C. S.O. Subs Lerwick.)

CUMBERLAND  
SHEFFIELD  
ECLIPSE

Intend to sail CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE passing Clyde Boom 0930A/8 via Minches thence direct to Hvalfiord speed of advance 18½ knots codeword "Faith".

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1444A/7 to Admty. (R) Group 15 H.Q.C.C. C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F. S.O. 18th C.S. R.A.D. H.F. A.C.O.S. N.O.I.C. Belfast. A.C.I.C. CUMBERLAND. SHEFFIELD. ECLIPSE.)

RAMILLIES.

My 1529/3. RAMILLIES eastbound will be in position 180° Lizard Head 6 miles at 0800A/8.  
(F.O.S. 1444A/7, 1833A/7 to P.31 (R) C. in C. Plymouth.)

Crane  
Lighter  
No. 3.

A.M. 1835A/30/8. Weather permitting intend sailing H.M. Trawler JULIET S.O. and CORIOLANUS escorting RESTIVE with Crane Lighter No.3 in tow p.m./9 for Gibraltar. Route and arrangements.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1725A/7 to F.O.C.N.A. Admty. (R) N.O.I.C. Falmouth. F.O. West Africa. C. in C. W.A. H.Q.F.C. H.Q.C.C.)

/QUALITY...



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

QUALITY.

Your 1027A/7. E.T.A. Scapa 1500/8.  
(QUALITY 1840/7 to C. in C. Rosyth.)  
*See previous page.*

JUNON.

(1) Intend to sail JUNON escorted by M.L. 468 for Lunna Voe at 1100A/8, routed  
(A) 092° Bard Head 2 miles.  
(B) 090° Grifskerry 3 miles, thence west of Out Skerries.  
E.T.A. 1600A/8.  
2. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange fighter protection. S of A 10 knots.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1031A/7.)A.F.D.  
XVIIMy 2101/3. "Wheel" sailed.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1157A/7.) *See next page.*LONDON  
JAMAICAHvalfiord arrival your 1731A/5.  
(A.C.I.C. 1200A/7 to A.C.O.S.)

P.552.

Your 1021/6 and 1452/30 P.552 is to sail <sup>from</sup> Gibraltar on 21/9.  
(F.O.S. 1258A/7 to Capt. S.7.)

L.23.

You may pass L.23 escort by BARBARA ROBB due to leave Port D at 1900A for Tobermory.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1649A/7 to FAME.)STALKER.  
FENCER.When STALKER and FENCER are ready for sea request you will sail them in convoy for the Clyde.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1716A/7 to B.A.D.)

DRAUGETTE.

Cancel my 1846/5. <sup>/N.T. & W.D.</sup> DRAUGETTE is to remain at Lowestoft pending further decision by Norwegian Naval Authorities.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1818A/7 to N.O.I.C. Lowestoft.)

DIOMEDE.

Date for completion is under review due to transfer of labour to work of higher priority.  
(A.S. Rosyth 1915/7 to Admty.)

Destroyers.

Your 1514/7 <sup>/N.T. & W.D.</sup> to A.C.I.C. and C.S.18 only.  
→ Approved to sail WALPOLE for Scapa for docking.  
(2) Regret neither FARNDALE nor ESKDALE may be retained.  
(3) BRAMHAM is to sail from Seidisfiord for Hvalfiord when AVENGER sails.  
→ (4) WALPOLE is to be relieved in cruiser force by a destroyer from battlefleet screen.  
(5) Endeavour will be made to send a relief destroyer for battlefleet screen.  
(C. in C. H.F. 2218A/7 to V.A.2. (R) A.C.I.C. C.S.18 R.A.D. H.F. C. in C. W.A. Admty. A.C.O.S.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

- Channel Islands Patrols. My 2034A/6. "Stencil" returned to Harbour owing to engine defects. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0228/7.)  
M.Ls 491, 118, 155 and 159 are to patrol on a line between  $50^{\circ} 06' N$   $03^{\circ} 22' W$  and  $49^{\circ} 58' N$   $03^{\circ} 42' W$  from 1930/7 till P.W.214 has rounded Start Point at about 2130/7. They are then to patrol 10 miles to S.E. of convoy, approx. speed  $4\frac{1}{2}$  knots, till daylight when they are to return to Dartmouth. Code word "Cloak VI".
2. Should the convoy be late in rounding Start Point M.Ls will be informed.
  3. Own forces. \*A.F.D.XVII escorted by P.C.74 and 6 M.Ls will be in approx.  $180^{\circ}$  Lizard Head at 2000/7 steering to the westward.
  4. Object. To intercept and destroy E-Boats attempting to attack convoy or floating dock.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1241/7 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
3 M.T.Bs are to sail at dark tonight and proceed to patrol between Roches Douvres and Sept Iles, returning so as to be within 20 miles of Dartmouth at daylight. They are not to proceed to eastward of a line between Berry Head and Roches Douvres.
  2. Enemy forces as in my 1843A/6.
  3. Own forces. 4 M.Ls (S.O. 491) covering P.W.214. \*M.T.B.344 operating between Portland and Alderney. \*A.F.D.XVII escorted by P.C.74 and 6 M.Ls off Lizard at 2000/7 proceeding to westward.
  4. Object to attack with torpedoes any suitable target met with.
  5. Code word "Warrant".  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1441A/7 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
*\* See previous page*
- Russian S/MS. My 1402/6. Russian submarines in these coastal waters observe following rules. Dive more than 60 metres deep through enemy minefields or remain on the surface and traverse them at high waters in darkness. Keep as much as possible to mid channel in fiords. Favourite route through Q.Z.R. 67 is that given in my 1402/6. favourite patrol position vicinity  $070^{\circ} 24' N$   $022^{\circ} 08' E$ . Good but less favoured patrol position vicinity  $070^{\circ} 08' N$   $021^{\circ} 08' E$  and  $070^{\circ} 02' N$   $020^{\circ} 13' E$ . Enemy moored mines suspected radius 2.5 miles position  $070^{\circ} 20' N$   $021^{\circ} 08' E$ . Suspected enemy using moored mines in these waters set to depth of 30 to 40 metres with antennae near surface and also below mine. Experience indicates danger to submarines on surface much greater than when diving deep. Only normal currents have been experienced. No known bases for patrol craft exist between Tromso and Hammerfest. No detailed information available regarding inshore water south west of Loppen Sea.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1443A/7 to Admty. (R) F.O.S.)
- Channel Islands Patrols. Cancel my 1441A/7 and substitute 3 M.T.Bs to proceed at 2030 to attack enemy tanker reported at 1230 and again at 1720 today stopped in position 2 miles S.W. of St. Helier. M.T.Bs to keep 10 miles west of Guernsey and proceed on silent engines when within 8 miles of Coast of Jersey. If enemy not located M.T.Bs to patrol route to Roches Douvres to Sept Iles thence returning Dartmouth by daylight.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1925A/7 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

/Your...



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Channel Islands Patrols. Contd. Your 1055A/7. 4th M.G.B. Flotilla is not to operate east of 2° W M.G.Bs 312 and 316 and M.T.Bs 55, 49, and 50 will carry out sweep off Cherbourg tonight. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1928A/7 to F.O.I.C. Portland) M.T.Bs 55, 49 and 50 M.G.Bs 312 and 316 patrolling to southward, returning Needles 0600/8. (C. in C. Portsmouth 2200A/7.)

Patrols. Patrols tonight. 1. SHEARWATER. 2. LA MELPOMENE. 3. FERNIE. 4. EGLINTON. 5. MENDIP. 6. BLENCATHRA. (C. in C. Nore 0940A/7.)

1 M.T.B. operating S of Portland 2030/7 0300/8. 3 M.T.Bs patrolling S of Anvil Point. 2 trawlers and 1 Chasseur patrolling near E A 5 Buoy. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1527/7.)

"Branford" Intend sailing M.T.B.344 from Portland at 2030 today for operation "Branford" (vide C.C.O's letter No. 10111 of 29/8/1942) Speed on passage 30 knots. E.T.R. approx. 0300. Lettered position and communication as in operation "Dryad" para 8 to K A 14. Request fighter protection and bombing restrictions. Code word "Advent". Also fighter escort if M.T.B.344 has not returned by first light. (N.O.I.C. Portland 1049A/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth.) My 1049A/7. Sailed 2049. (F.O.I.C. Portland 2110A/7.)

"Outward" Operation "Outward" completed at 2000 hours. (Oldstairs, Dover 2010A/7 to V.A. Dover.)

Exercises.

Exercise "Cole III". It is intended to carry out an exercise, short title "Cole III" with L.C.B.(D) and L.C.B.(M) if available on 16/9.

2. Two half-coveys of barges from Salcombe will be used.

3. If desired practice in driving on to barges at Salcombe before the exercise can be arranged. (C. in C. Plymouth 1215A/7 to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

Bomber Command Operations. On day 6/9, 10 A/C attacked a ship inside the break-water at Boulogne, but no direct hits are claimed. Ijmuiden and Bremerhaven were attacked by one A/C each. On night 6/7, 174 A/C attacked Duisburg. (H.Q.B.C. 1300A/7.)

Bombing restrictions. Request surface bombing restrictions from 2030/7 until daylight/8 in area controlled by Start Point, S.E. point of Jersey, Roches Douvres and Sept Iles. (C. in C. Plymouth 1507A/7 and 1941A/7 to H.Q.C.C.)

/Submerged...



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.. e.m. 7.Bombing  
restrictions.  
Contd.

Submerged bombing restrictions are instituted as follows. From 2000/8 to 0300/10 10 miles either side of a line joining 49° 36' N 52° 2' W and 180° Start Point 20 miles. From 1800/8 to 0001/10 20 miles either side of a line joining 49° 30' N 09° 44' W and 49° 50' N 07° 30' W.  
(H.Q.C.C. 1755A/7 to R.A.F. Gibraltar.)

SOLGLIMT  
Proposed  
attack.

P.R.Us at 1230 and 1720 show that Whale Oiler SOLGLIMT has been 2 miles S.W. of St. Helier since 1230. Request she be bombed in daylight today.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1831A/7 to Admty.)

Mining.M.S.N.3  
Part 1.

My 0906A/6. Following is revised programme for M.S.N.3. Part One.

(a) PLOVER is to take SCOTT and ARDROSSAN under his orders. Sail at 2030/7 and proceed as requisite so as to commence laying beacon in manner previously arranged at 0700/8. ARDROSSAN is to act as rescue ship as ordered by PLOVER.

(b) On completion they are to R/V with 15th M.S.F. in Broad Island at 2000/11 to transfer Surveyors 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 0800/12.

(e) When necessary return to Port Z A fuel and when ready continue with operation.

(f) Raise steam and proceed as requisite to comply.

(g) W/T Watch is to be kept as in my 2340/29/8.

(R.A.M. 0904/7 to M.S.15. SCOTT. PLOVER. ? ARDROSSAN (R) C. in C. H.F. A.C.O.S. TRELAWNEY. C. in C. W.A. H.Q. No.14 Group. N.O.I.C. Stornoway. Admty. C. in C. Rosyth. H.Q.C.C.)

My 0904/7. 15th M.S.F. will be operated in the vicinity position 059.40 N 005.50 W from 0800/12 until p.m./16. Request fighter protection. As presence of aircraft would draw undue attention to area it is not desired that any fighters should be airborne unless a Help Message is made.

(R.A.M. 0906/7 to C. in C. W.A. (R) A.C.O.S. C. in C. H.F. M.S.15. SCOTT. PLOVER. H.Q.No.14 Group. Admty. A.O.C. in C. C.C. C. in C. Rosyth.)

Sailed PLOVER. SCOTT and ARDROSSAN in accordance with R.A.M. 0904/7.

(N.O.I.C. Kyles of Lochalsh 2040/7.)

Off  
Lowestoft.

A 50 per cent Oropesa search is required of the area between 3½ miles and 7 miles to the eastward of the searched channels and extending from 54 B Buoy and to 55 A Buoy. Request proposals.  
(C. in C. Nore. 1018A/7 to M.S.9.)

Your 1018A/7. Intend sailing 0530/8. Depart Cork 0615. Search to northward from 0900 to 1315 and to southward from 1400 to 1900. Arrive Cork 2100.

(M.S.9. 1427A/7 to C. in C. Nore.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Q.L.8. My 1836/25/8. Operation Q.L.8. postponed.  
 Q.L.2A. Weather permitting carry out operation Q.L.2A tonight with available M.Ls.  
 Position centre 052° 02' 30" N 004° 02' 24" E.  
 Direction 090° - 270°.  
 (C. in C. Nore 1042A/7 to BEEHIVE.)

Sweep in Intend to sail at 0600/8 TREVO TERCEIRO, CONCERTOR, PATTI and SCARRON sweeping route 'N' to Dartmouth, Lyme Bay. E.T.A. 1500/8. Code word "Ounce V". C. in C. Plymouth is requested to arrange air protection. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1805A/7 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Humber. At 1315/7 one magnetic mine exploded by sweepers. Details. (F.O. Humber 1805/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Vessel. By D/F at 0257Z unknown enemy vessel, probably small surface unit, was estimated to be between Zeebrugge and Schouwen. (D.D.I.C. 0451A/7.)

SOLGLINT. My 1843A/6 and 1441A/7 (See Operations) P.R.Us at 1230 and 1720 show Whale Oiler SOLGLINT 2 miles S.W. of St. Helier since 1230 today. Ship high in water. (C. in C. Plymouth 1915A/7 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Craft off St. Anns Head. Following from F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, begins. At 0115/7 approx. whilst A/P vessel ANCRE D'ESPERANCE was following up my instructions to intercept and challenge an unidentified ship earlier reported off St. Anns Head, Temporary Skipper and 2 ratings on watch observed what appeared to them to be a fast-moving small craft without lights heading west. ANCRE D'ESPERANCE, then heading east, used Aldis Lamp and challenged after turning to westward, without result. No enemy report was made. Further search aided by Beaufighter failed to locate any vessel or origin of search lights reported as being visible at sea south of Milford Haven between 0010 and 0020. T.O.O. 1835/7. Ends. (C. in C. W.A. 2137A/7 to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. A/C which attacked periscope at 1523/6 has reported amended position of sighting as 49° 34' N 11° 12' W Course 315°.  
 This may have been enemy U/B which may cross your route near 13° W.

(D.D.I.C. 0935A/7 to RAMILLIES.)

Am over enemy S/M in 46° 54' N 8° 46' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 060°, estimated speed 15 knots.

(A.O.C. 19 Group 1515/7.)



176A

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE

2200A/7th September

IN

From: Fishguard

Date 14.9.42

Recd. 1229

P/L BY T/P

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C. in C. Western Approaches,  
Comm. L.I.F.

C.A.F.O. 834/41

- (A) Fishguard
- (B) 1907Z/7/9/42
- (C) 40-48 N 18-16 W
- (D) Six
- (E) 2120Z/7/9/42.

2200A/7

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (E)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim, Admiralty House
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (H)
- D.T.D. (C)

- O.I.C. (4)
- D. of P. (3)
- D.A/S.V. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- M. (2)
- U.S.N. (3)
- Admiral Usborne



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

Royal Sovereign Buoy. Now that convoys are passing Beachy Head in dark hours and are likely to have to use Q.Z.S.370 for some time to come it is proposed to replace the Royal Sovereign Buoy with a lighted buoy. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1055A/7 to Admt.)

Your 1055A/7. No objection. Trinity House are being informed. (D. of N., 1700A/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Tyne re-opened at night. My 1523/2/4 and 1611/18/4 are cancelled. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1252A/7 to R.E.F.)

Yarmouth. "A" buoy missing from station. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1614A/7.)

Casualties and Defects.

→ ALGERINE. ALGERINE has developed a defect in M/S winch. Estimate 5 days to make good. (M.S.9, 1155A/7 to C. in C. Nore.)

MENESTHEUS. Your 1358A/5. Do you require assistance of trained investigators? (D.N.I., 1454A/7 to R.A.M.)

→ ALGERINE. M/S 9's 1155/7. Intend to take ALGERINE in hand at 0700 tomorrow to make good defect. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1601A/7.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18. Your signal to aircraft. Confirmed that as stated in my 1116/6 TBILISI, EXFORD, STALINGRAD, ANDRE MARTI, SUKHONA, OLIVER ELSWORTH, and RICHARD BASSET will join convoy. Also ATHELTEMPLAR, M.M.S.s 212, 203, and 90 will join as ordered by Admiralty. COPELAND is coaling and expected to sail with remainder. EL ALMIRANTE will not sail, and WACOSTA should be retained in convoy. Admiralty direct that OREMAR and GATEWAY CITY should be retained in convoy unless NATHANIEL GREEN and VIRGINIA DARE can join before viz. position (T) (? Berrgtangar) Light 10 miles. Request convoy number be allocated on joining. (A.C.I.C., 0112A/7 to ESKDALE for Cdre. P.Q.18.)

E V O. MONTROSE and ECHO are to remain with convoy until R.A. (D) H.F. joins, when they are proceeding Akureyri 065° 40' N. 18° 04' W.

2. WALPOLE is to be detached to Hvalfjord when convoy passes North Cape. (V.A.2, 0149A/7 to MONTROSE.)

/Following ...



7.9.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Following from Group Captain.  
(Contd.) 23 Hampdens operationally serviceable Vaenga. One serviceable at Kirovsk and expect it to be operational as soon as weather permits flying it to Vaenga.

Individual numbers of other A/C crates landed North Russia being sought but not yet available.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0904A/7 to 18 Group.)  
My 0112A/7. Sailed to join.  
(A.C.I.C., 0945A/7 to ESKDALE.)  
My 1355A/6. Arrived (Capt. D.17.)  
(A.C.I.C., 1028A/7 to R.A.(D)H.F.)  
From Cdre. P.Q.18. E.T.A. R/V 270° Skagi 10 miles, 1130.  
(A.C.I.C., 1040A/7 to MALCOLM.)  
S/Ms leave Lerwick 7/9 as follows.

P.221, 1300A. P.45, 1600A. UNIQUE, 1900A. All pass through 071° 01' N. 010° 01' E., thence patrol in zone K.63, K.62, K.61 respectively.  
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 1043A/7.)  
SHARPSHOOTER with P.614 and P.615 in company proceeding passing gate at 0600A tomorrow Tuesday to R/V P.Q.18 at 0800A/9 in approx. position 068° 40' N. 018° 00' W. Convoy will be steering 045° eight knots. \* *See entry*.

2. MALCOLM pass to Commodore.  
(R.A.(D) H.F., 1214A/7 to SHARPSHOOTER, P.614, P.615, (R) C. in C. H.F., MALCOLM, A.C.I.C., Capt. (D) 17, Capt. (D) 3, Admty., F.O.S., R.N.O. Seidisfjord.)  
E.V. Captain (D) 17 with Force A proceed at 2000A/8 to Lowe Sound routed west of Jan Mayen and through position QQ.  
2. On arrival complete with fuel and act in accordance with E.V. para. 18, 24 hours late.  
(R.A.D.H.F., 1222A/7 to Capt. D.17.)  
My 0035/6th. P.Q.18 is now 36 hours astern of schedule.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1745A/7 to A.I.G.47, S.B.N.O. Archangel, S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
P.Q.18 has been delayed about 36 hours by weather.  
(F.O.S., 2147A/7 to S/Ms operating North of latitude 51° N.)  
AMAZON sailed to rejoin you.  
(A.C.I.C., 2100A/7 to MALCOLM.)  
Reykjavik. Sailed 7th Sept. ATHELTEMPLAR, TBILISI (Russian) EXFORD (U.S.), STALINGRAD (Russian), ANDRE MARTI (Russian), SUKHONA (Russian), OLIVER ELSWORTH (U.S.), RICHARD BASSET (Russian) for North Russia, E.T.A. 22nd Sept.  
(N.C.S.O. Iceland, 1904A/7.)

MALPLAQUET. My 1245/4. MALPLAQUET returned Kirkwall owing to weather.  
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 0200/7.)

DUCHESS OF BEDFORD. E.T.A. Bar Light Vessel with DUCHESS OF BEDOFRD and SHIKARI 0130/9, speed 17 knots.  
(SKATE, 0429Z/7 to A.C.I.C.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

S.L. 120. Unless unavoidable do not alter course to starboard.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1037A/7 to Escorts S.L.120.)

U/B attacks Preliminary report of operations, S.C.97. BURNHAM  
on S.C.97. S.O. of Escort 0830Z/31/8 in 57.15 N. 33.40 W.  
Two ships torpedoed and sunk. Escort in D.E.8  
with one extra ahead carried out modified anti-  
choke. Asdic contact starboard side attacked several times by  
two ships. Oil seen but nothing conclusive. S.O. thinks  
U-Boat attacked from ahead, dived under convoy for one hour  
emerging on starboard quarter.  
1640Z/31/8 BROADWAY on extended screen ahead sighted 2 U-Boats  
BURNHAM joined chase. U-Boat dived. Search produced no  
result. BROADWAY rejoining up port side sighted U-Boat dived.  
No asdic contact. 10 charges dropped no oil track. No  
result 0200Z/1. MORDEN, astern, sighted U-Boat, attempted  
to ram, dropped 10 charges on top. No results seen. During  
forenoon 1/9 several U-Boats reported by A/C too far to justify  
chasing. One sighted by BROADWAY but forced to dive A/C before  
BROADWAY and BURNHAM closed.  
No contact, no result from search.  
0800Z/2 BURNHAM asdic contact ahead. Attack with 10 charges  
during which visibility dropped to 2 cables. R.D.F. defective.  
BURNHAM thought herself too close to convoy to continue hunt.  
No further attacks.  
(Capt. D. Liverpool, 1457/7.)

Ships from Kirkwall. In future merchant ships from Kirkwall to West Coast may be sailed independently except large tankers which should either join a passing E.N. convoy or be provided with special escort as far as Loch Ewe.  
(D.T.D., 1517A/7 to A.C.O.S.)

T.A. 21. In view of weather conditions intend to sail CURACOA and CASTLETON passing Clyde Boom 0800A/8 September to R/V with remainder of escort from Londonderry in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1330A/8 thence sweeping alongside route towards position Q. Escort will leave T.A.21 as necessary to comply with para. 4 of C. in C. W.A. 2031Z/6 estimated S. of A. from Oversay 12 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1546A/7 to Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.O.I.C. Londonderry, (R) Air Min., H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C., A.O.C. 15 Group C.C., C. in C. H.F., N.O.I.C. Belfast, R.A.(M), Capt. (D) Greenock, CURACOA, CASTLETON, WELLS, SARDONYX, SABRE, SALADIN, T.A.21, A.T.22.)  
T.A.21 intend to sail passing Clyde Boom 2230Z/8th routed as in A.M. 1905Z/6th. S. of A. 25 knots. Codeword "Gosling".  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1814A/7 to Admty., (R) C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F., N.O.I.C. Belfast, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, B.A.D. Washington, O.P. C.E.S.F., S.B.N.O.W.A., H.Q.C.C., 15th Group.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.P.S.8,  
S.P. 8.P.S.8 and S.P.8 cancelled.  
(N.C.S.O. Portsmouth, 1608/7.)

CHESTERFIELD, Admty. 1801A/5.  
STARWORT, 1. STARWORT, ACONIT are to arrive Oban a.m./11  
ACONIT and escort collier TINTERN ABBEY and SNELAND 1  
escort duties speed 9 knots by following route (1) 055° 30' N.  
with tankers 008° 59' W. (m) 053° 41' N. 014° 25' W.  
&c. (n) 051° 30' N. 016° 30' W. (o) 051° 01' N.  
016° 50' W. to R/V in position (p) 044° 59' N.  
016° 50' W. at 0700Z/16th with tankers THORSHAVEN,  
ANNA KNUDSEN and PETER 2 from Gibraltar escorted as arranged by  
F.O.C.N.A.  
2. CHESTERFIELD from Londonderry is to overtake convoy in  
position (n) at 0700Z/14th.  
3. On meeting escorts are to exchange and CHESTERFIELD, STARWORT,  
ACONIT are to escort tankers by reverse route to U.K.  
4. CHESTERFIELD and STARWORT are to proceed to Londonderry on  
passing. ACONIT is to escort convoy to Clyde.  
5. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to signal names to Gibraltar escort.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1616A/7 to N.O.I.C. Greenock, N.O.I.C. Oban,  
N.O.I.C. Londonderry, F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty., N.C.S.O. Oban,  
Capt. (D) Greenock, CHESTERFIELD, STARWORT, ACONIT.)

North  
Russia  
Convoys.  
Trawler  
Escorts.Propose the 12 trawlers allocated A.C.I.C. in  
March last for duty with North Russian convoys,  
should be organized in 3 groups based at London-  
derry, Liverpool and Greenock respectively, and  
attached to the W.A. Group detailed P.Q. and  
Q.P. convoys.

2. Advantages are:-

- (a) Trawlers would have the benefit of group training.
- (b) Ships would visit U.K. ports with their groups for repairs and maintenance which is likely to be essential during winter conditions.

3. Request your remarks.

(C. in C. W.A., 1806A/7 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C.)



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

VETCH My P.C. and S. 039° 28' N. 015° 20' W. 334° 6.  
LADY HOGARTH LADY HOGARTH not in company. Last seen 0340A/7  
DURHAM. Request air search.  
(VETCH 0800A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
LADY HOGARTH's 1130A/7 (request for tug - broken  
down unable effect repairs - N.T. in W.D.) My position 1300A,  
037° N. 008° 15' W.  
(ALOUETTE 1210A/7 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LADY HOGARTH.)  
Steer 335°. Proceed with all despatch. Orders following.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1319A/7 to GERANIUM (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.)  
My 1319 not to VETCH. Proceed with all dispatch to join  
VETCH escorting DURHAM.  
(2) DURHAM was in 039° 28' 015°, 20' 334° 6 knots at 0800A/7,  
routed through Q. 41.30 16.30. R. 4628 16.30. F. 50.01 11.58.  
3. Escort to Prudent Limit of endurance, then return Gibraltar.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1342A/7 to GERANIUM (R) C. in C. W.A., Admty.,  
C. in C. Plymouth, CURACOA.)  
Your 1319 understood. Have ordered trawlers to follow to  
assist search if necessary and R/V 38.30 15.10 at 0800 if LADY  
HOGARTH not found. My P.C. and S. 37.20 14.06 325° 13.  
Weather report.  
(GERANIUM 1350A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
LADY HOGARTH reports broken down in 038° 54' N. 015° 12' W.  
unable to effect repair.  
(2) ST NECTAN being detached to tow toward Gib.  
(3) SALVONIA being sailed to take tow from ST. NECTAN, STELLA  
CARINA being instructed to R/V SALVONIA 037° N. 010° W. and  
act as escort.  
(5) GERANIUM proceeding to act as additional escort DURHAM to  
prudent length of endurance. Request escort be sailed from U.K.  
to relieve GERANIUM.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1418A/7 to Admty. (R) Combrax Chatham C. in C.  
W.A., VETCH, GERANIUM, ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA.)  
My 1418/7. For SALVONIA read DECISION.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1459A/7 to Admty.)  
ST. NECTAN proceed with all despatch to assistance of  
LADY HOGARTH broken down in 038° 54' N. 015° 12' W. and tow  
towards Gibraltar passing through position Q, 038° 00' N.  
013° 01' W. R, 037° 01' N. 010° 01' W. LADY HOGARTH, VERBENA,  
ST. NECTAN join.  
(2) STELLA CARINA proceeding to R/V SALVONIA in R, 037° 01' N.  
010° 01' W. at 1200A/8. STELLA CARINA escorting SALVONIA to  
LADY HOGARTH, SALVONIA is (then?) taking over towing from ST.  
NECTAN, when ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA are to escort SALVONIA,  
LADY HOGARTH to Gibraltar.  
(3) LADY HOGARTH report when STELLA CARINA, SALVONIA joining.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1420A/7 to ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA, (R)  
Admty., LADY HOGARTH, SALVONIA.)  
My 1420/7. For SALVONIA read DECISION.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1501A/7.)  
Your 1342A/7 understood. Instructed ST. NECTAN to request  
instructions in view of my 1350A/7th. My P.C. and S. 37.39 (?)  
14.(?36) 336° 13½.  
(GERANIUM 1515A/7 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A., Admty.  
(group missing?) VETCH.)  
My 1418/7th. H.M. Tug DECISION sailed at 1600.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1658A/7 to Admty. (R) GERANIUM, C. in C. W.A.  
C. in C. Plymouth, ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA, LADY HOGARTH,  
VETCH.)

/Your 1418/7 ...



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

VETCH. Your 1418/7. No relief escort available.  
 LADY HOGARTH. 2. Request you will order GERANIUM to continue  
 DURHAM. with DURHAM to U.K.  
 (contd) (D.O.D.(F) 1942A/7 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. W.A.,  
 GERANIUM.)  
 Cancel para 3 of my 1342/7. Escort DURHAM to U.K.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 2228A/7 to GERANIUM (R) VETCH, Admty.,  
 C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth.)

EGRET S/M sighted on surface bearing 336° distance  
 U/B. 7 miles, course and speed of enemy 030° high  
*to track with* speed (?my P. C. and S.) 039° 30' N. 017° 55' W.  
*LARGS.* 002° 7 knots.  
 (EGRET 0800Z/7 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar.)  
 My 0800. S/Ms course and speed 000° 18 knots, my R.C. and  
 S. 039° 58' N. 018° 00' W. 359° 18 knots.  
 (EGRET 0944Z/7 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar.)  
 Sub submerged, Range is 11,000 bearing 014°. My P.C. and  
 S. 040° 02' N. 017° 57' W. 025° 18 knots.  
 (EGRET 1025Z/7 to Admty.)  
 C.A.F.O. 834/1941. (A) EGRET and LARGS. (B) 1042Z/7. Lost  
 contact 1109Z/7. (C) 040° 08' N. 017° 56' W. (D) EGRET 12,  
 LARGS 6. (E) 1630Z/7 to rejoin at dusk.  
 (EGRET 1645Z/7 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

LOCH OSKAIG. Sailed 0907 LOCH OSKAIG for Y.3.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 0941A/7 to Admty. (R) ALOUETTE.)

P.219. P.219 sailing p.m./7th for patrol in area  
 South of 35° W. between 03° 03' W. and 03° 30' W.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1140A/7 to 8 S/M F.)  
 My 1136/4. Sailed P.219.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1712A/7 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty., V.A. Malta,  
 F.O.S., Capt. S.1, Capt. S. 10.)

U/B at Santander. S/M still alongside quay with dredger hopper  
*CENTURIONZ* moored alongside to guard her. On Saturday  
*REGINALDO* night 5th she is stated to have attempted to  
*GIULIANI.* escape but hopper prevented her. More strict  
 precautionary measures now being taken. Unable as yet to  
 ascertain name and official No. and details of damage sustained  
 owing to great secrecy kept. Hope to obtain same when S/M  
 is docked.  
 (Santander 1145/7 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar, Madrid.)

S.L.120. Catalina U.A.1 B A/S escort from about 1830  
 to 2230.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1159A/7 to Escorts S.L.120 (R)  
 Admty., C. in C. W.A., WESTCOTT.)

/Orders ...



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

Orders to P.212. Schooners are believed to load in small harbours between Cape Pecora and Paglia Point. At your discretion spend a proportion of your patrol in this neighbourhood, which may be fruitful (F.O.C.N.A. 1210A/7 to P.212.)

PENROSE  
HOLLINGSIDE  
(torpedoed)

Following is repetition of R.O. Seville's 1530/5. (begins) META reported while in unescorted convoy from (?from) Lisbon PENROSE and HOLLINGSIDE torpedoed 045 (Corrupt group) Cape Sines bearings 112° 3 miles. Submarine was inshore and within territorial waters. META reported to LOCH OSKAIG at R/V Cape St. Vincent. (ends)  
(N.A. Madrid 1256/7 to B.N.A. Lisbon (R) Admty., and S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

U-Boats  
attacked.

Following has been received from A.O.C.19 Group. An over enemy S/M in 42° 13' N. 13° 34' W. Enemy was on course 050°, estimated speed 6 knots. (Plymouth W/T 1308/7 to F.O.S.)

Have attacked enemy. Result unknown.  
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1315/7.)

Dispositions.

Situation 2001A/7.

(1) O.S.39 PELICAN, FOLKESTONE, WELLINGTON, SENNEN 44.43 22.52 through 44.35 22.50 thence 173° 7½.

X(2) VERITY 39.40 37.37 through 38.30 30.00 thence to Ponta Delgada (12)

(3) LEYLAND escorting MIRROR 37.30 19.18 278° 9½.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1324A/7 to A.I.G. 64.)

(1) BARDELL, BARBRAKE, 1 merchant ship 24.21 23.49 161°, 7.

X(2) VERITY 39.40 37.37 through 38.30 30.00 thence to Ponta Delgada, 12.

(3) S.L.121 LONDONDERRY, LANDGUARD, HASTINGS, BIDEFORD, SWALE 17.32 20.01 000° 7½. ~~to P.185~~  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1412A/7 to A.I.G.65.)

LEINSTER.

My 0118/1. LEINSTER should return to Clyde.  
(D. of S.T. 1504A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

JACK CARNES  
survivors.

Portuguese Destroyer TEJO and naval A/C searching for survivors of American Tanker JACK CHARLES (? CARNES) off Azores.  
(N.A. Lisbon 1536A/7 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar  
(R) Admty.)

/CAMPOMANES ...



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

CAMPOMANES (suspicious) Your 1714A/5. CAMPOMANES was diverted by distress signal 1/9 from Spanish Tanker - CASTILLO ALMENARA and proceeded off her to take latter in tow. Attempted to do so 2/9 in 036° 03' N. 016° 18' W. 4/9 CAMPOMANES ordered to proceed alone Bilbao leaving other Spanish vessels to carry tow. (N.A. Madrid 1555/7 to Gibraltar (R) D.N.I.)

O.21. My 1508/27. D.S.O.21 now sailing p.m./8th, route through X, new position Y. 034° 59' N. 007° 45' W., thence through T U V passing V at 0100/13, shifting wireless watch at that time.  
2. Admty. pass to B.D.Z. C. in C. S.A. pass to COLOMBIA. (F.O.C.N.A. 1606A/7 to R.A. W.A. (R) Admty., F.O.C. Subs, C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F., B.D.Z., COLOMBIA D.S., Capt.(S) 4.)

Firing report 5/9. Firing heard off Cape Sines p.m./5th (A.O) (N.A. Lisbon 1608A/7 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty.)

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas.

Area	From	Until
G.01	0140/9	2130/9
G.02	1330/9	0930/10
G.03	0130/10	1200/10

All times Zone 1.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1608A/7 to Admty., H.Q.C.C. (R) F.O.S)

KAULDI. Spanish vessel 59 arrived Bilbao 5th. (Consul Bilbao 1715/7 to Admty.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1255 Survey Vessel ESTAFETTE, ships ROUENNAIS, light deck cargo barrels and 1 lorry, SCHIAFFINO, light deck cargo cork, GABON, laden deck cargo lorries, westbound. (S.O.I Gib. 1758A/7 to Admty., R.A.W.A., S.O.I. Kingston.)

Interception of Mails. Your 2052/31 (N.T.in W.D.) Funchal has been instructed to repeat his messages to you and H.M. Ambassador Lisbon and Lisbon has been requested to repeat to you his views in each case vide M.E.W. telegram of 3rd and 4/9 repeated to you as Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12 Arfars.  
2. If Lisbon advises acquiescence in a proposal from Funchal to divert a ship or to remove mails at sea you are at liberty to take action.  
3. As political situation at the time always needs consideration, procedure in para 2 is essential but it is hoped that above action will facilitate interceptions when they are politically acceptable.  
(D.E.W.D. 1819A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

SPIREA.

Position 2000, 031° 57' N. 018° 34' W.  
 (A) through 032° 38' N. 016° 39' W. thence  
 070° 11 knots. Weather report.  
 (SPIREA 2100A/7 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

South Atlantic.

C.F.5.

Sailed GRIFFIN, DECOY escorting convoy C.F.5  
 to Capetown by route R.5 S. of A. 13 knots,  
 E.T.A. 1000Z/10.

(N.O.I.C. Durban 0449Z/7 to Admty. etc.,  
 N.C.S.O. Durban 0513Z/7 to Admty.)

Convoy C.F.5 sailed 7/9 for Capetown. E.T.A. 1000Z/10.

Personnel on board - (A) RANGITIKI (B) CIRCASSIA.

(D.S.T.O. Durban 1221C/7 to S.T.O. Capetown.)

Dispositions. COWSLIP with convoy O.S.38, 07.38 14.10 140° 8½.  
 ARRAN 06.55 13.40 to Freetown, 9. at 1957Z/7.  
 AVONVALE 04.45 14.40 188° 9. VANSITTART, \*WIVERN  
 04.10 14.02 to Freetown 22. PICT off Marshall to Takoradi 5½.  
 RUMBA with T.S.17, 04.10 02.25 254° 7. ST. WISTAN 00.15 S.  
 05.30 E. to Point Noire 8½. BRILLIANT 03.30 S. 07.10 E. to  
 Pointe Noire 12. VELOX 04.30 S. 10.40 E. to Matadi 11.  
 FERNMOOR 05.50 S. 03.20 E. to 07.01 S. 04.59 E. thence 164° 9½.  
 ASTURIAS, CARNARVON CASTLE 03.45 S. 10.02 to (06?).25 S.  
 10.38 thence 302° 14. Friendly Naval Unit patrol 05° S. to  
 West of 14.30. *\* see next page*

(R.A.W.A. 1037Z/7 to A.I.G. 150.)

LONDONDERRY with S.L.121, 16.55 20.01 360° 7½. AURORA  
 with W.S.22, 13.10 20.30 to Freetown through 8.59 18.01 14.  
 WOODRUFF, D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES 12.10 17.35 to Freetown 10.  
 ARMERIA 9.58 24.30 098° 9½ at 2005Z/7.

(R.A.W.A. 1107Z/7 to Ships in Area "P" of S.A. Station N.  
 of 8° N., Admty., C. in C. S.A. N.O.I.C. Bathurst.)

RAJPUTANA.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1212/24/7 (not to F.O.C.R.I.N.) and  
 Admiralty reply 0001/25/7. Accused Ratings ex  
 RAJPUTANA have arrived Cape and ship is in

company. Ref. Government of India Act 1935 ?105.

(2) Has R.I.N. been placed at disposal of Admiralty and if so  
 is Court Martial to be convened at Cape? RAJPUTANA is in hand  
 for boiler cleaning and defects completing on 1/9. ? 11/9.

(C. in C. S.A. 1124B/7 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.R.I.N.)

W.D. Note.- N.T. of formers, but F.O.C.N.A. 1750/22/7 and  
 Admty. 1120/23/7 refer. Reply: Admty. 1353A/8.

/LÉOPARD ...



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.LEOPARD  
COMMANDANT  
DUBOC.

Your 2030/7/8. It is considered that damage to F.S. LEOPARD should be repaired before ship leaves Indian Ocean. Time required 5 weeks of which 2nd to 4th week inclusive will be in dry dock. I propose sailing COMMANDANT DUBOC for Mediterranean about 10/9. Your 1915A refers. (C. in C. S.A. 1131B/7 to F.N.F.L. London (R) Admty., C. in C. Med. etc.)

O.S.39  
fuel.

Your 1703A/6. Confirm BRITISH VALOUR will have sufficient fuel remaining. Request you will inform Escorts of O.S.39 that fuel is available at Bathurst in reserve. (R.A.W.A. 1147Z/7 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty., F.O.C.N.A., Escorts S.L.121.)

BORDE  
EMPIRE MEAD.

Request information movements BORDE and EMPIRE MEAD. (D.O.D.(F) 1309A/7 to R.A.W.A.)  
For reply, see 2051Z/7. *next page - (movements)*

MILFORD,  
Brazilian  
A/S escort.

R.A. West Africa's 1717/6. Admty. concur that MILFORD should carry out this proposal. (D.O.D.(F) 1311A/7 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

W.S.21 P.

Ref. Admty. 1450/22/7 para 4. EMPRESS OF JAPAN, DUCHESS OF ATHOLL, ORONSAY, WINDSOR CASTLE and DUCHESS OF YORK should return direct from South Africa to U.K. (D.S.T. 1505A/7 to P.S.T.O. Capetown.)

FORMIDABLE.

E.T.A. 0956Z/8. WIVERN only in company. (FORMIDABLE 1515Z/7 to R.A.W.A.)

St. Helena,  
Ascension.

Cancel previous orders. Merchant ships calling at St. Helena or Ascension may remain at anchor unless otherwise ordered by C. in C. S.A. or R.A.W.A. (C. in C. S.A. 1522/7 to St. Helena, Ascension (R) R.A.W.A. Admty.)

Reporting  
Raiders and  
Enemy Supply  
Ships by A/C.

Your 1455Z/13/8. R.A. West Africa and S.O.(I) Montevideo are including this in their present discussions with C.T.F.23. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1905Z/7 to B.A.D. (R) Admty. etc.)

/Weather ...



War Diary.7.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

Weather reports. Your 1841B/31/7. Regret this cannot be approved.  
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1930A/7 to C. in C. S.A. (R)  
R.A.W.A.)

Movements. Departure 7/9 COWSLIP, CROCUS, M.L.277, 302, 287,  
274, with S.T. (? 22 or 23). *See p. 185.*  
(S.O.I. Freetown 1943Z/7 to Admty., N.O.I.C.  
Takoradi, N.O.I.C. Lagos.)

Arrival 7/9 KEREN.  
(S.O.I. Freetown 2001Z/7 to Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

Arrivals 7/9 ENCHANTRESS, WALNEY, HARTLAND, ABERDEEN with  
O.S.38. Departures KARANJA. Ref. Admiralty's 1309A/7 BORDE  
arrived 28/8 in company with EMPIRE MEAD. *See Maritime page*  
(S.O.I. Freetown 2051Z/7 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.  
W.A., S.O.W.P.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of enemy (2 destroyers 1 unknown)  
33.10 N. 21.20 E., 220°, 10 knots.  
(A/C M.E. Command QZ7 Duty "Y" No.2, 0025C/7 to  
201 Group H.Q. M.E. Command.)

Cositrep No. 510. 6. Air. Night 5/6. Tobruk harbour bombed.  
Fires started. Heraklion harbour and aerodrome,  
Crete, attacked. Bursts on docks warehouses and  
power station. 3 bombers lost. 6/9. Blenheim  
on convoy escort in Gulf of Aden bombed submarine  
off Mukalia. No hit claimed.  
(C. in C. M.E., 1055/7.)

TRAVELLER. Cancel previous instructions. Endeavour to be  
in position (A) 032° 41' 023° 41' by dawn 8/9 or  
(B) 033° 16' 022° 22' by 0001/8 or (C) 032° 56'  
020° 06' by dawn 8/9. Above positions are in order of importance  
(A) or (B) being of prime importance.  
(Capt. S.1, 0950C/7 to TRAVELLER, (R) Subs. on Patrol, Capt. (S)  
10, 201 Co-op. Group, C. in C. Med.)

Orders to S/Ms. On completion of attacks submarines should if  
possible follow up convoys to finish off damaged  
ships. This should be a standard practice, A/S  
measures permitting.  
(Capt. S.1, 0956C/7 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt.  
S.10, 201 Co-op. Group.)  
S/Ms are not to be attacked unless identified as enemy in areas  
K, B and T.  
(Capt. S.1, 1015C/7 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med.,  
Capt. S.10.)

Attacks by S/Ms. I feel present time is appropriate to announce in  
general terms a short summary of Submarine  
successes on Axis supply lines. The R.A.F.  
announce their's day by day. Following  
communiqué is being handed out today Monday 7/9. It is officially  
announced that our submarines during the past few weeks have  
taken a very heavy toll of shipping on Axis supply lines in  
Eastern Mediterranean. These losses are in addition to  
successes of R.A.F. and Naval aircraft on similar targets.  
Ships definitely sunk include 5 large and 2 (medium?) sized  
merchant ships while during the same period 2 large, 2 medium  
and one small ship were damaged by our submarines.  
(C. in C. Med., 1015C/7 to Admty.)

Hospital Ship, Malta. Your 1318/5/5. It is under consideration to send  
a hospital ship to Malta. Request you will  
inform me if Italian Government has replied to  
note of 28/4 informing them of our intention to  
send a hospital ship to Malta and demanding  
assurances of safe conduct.  
(C. in C. Med., 1117C/7 to Admty.)

*Rpts: 2358/15*  
*Page 47.*

/Black ...



War Diary.

7.9.1942.

Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Black Sea. (1) Forces from Taman Peninsula have been evacuated to Novorossisk.  
 (2) 5/9, enemy occupied villages to W. and N.W. Novorossisk and is now 10 km. from town.  
 (3) 4/9, R/V of enemy ports showed concentration of transports and landing craft and at Feodosarda 3 submarines, 3 destroyers, several E-Boats. E-Boats also at Maysta and Nikolaev. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1301C/7 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

Enemy Units. Following has been received. 1 destroyer, P.C. and S. of enemy 36.05 N. 21.29 E., 170°, 25 knots. (A/C call FS8D, 1432B/7.)

Following has been read. 201 N.C. Group from aircraft of M.E. Command. P.C. and S. of enemy, 7 destroyers, 3 large vessels exceeding 10,000 tons, 2 small vessels not exceeding 2000 tons 35.08 N. 6° 10' E. 160°, 8 knots. 2 aircraft. (Gib. W/T, 1439/7.)

Following has been read. 9 destroyers, 3 merchant vessels, 2 aeroplanes, P.C. and S. of enemy 35.30 N. 21.40 E. 170° 10 knots. (Rinella W/T, 1457/7.)

3 M/Vs. 9 destroyers 035° 30' 021° 40' 170° 10 knots at 1450B/7. (Capt. S.10, 1514B/7, as amended 1619B/7 to S/Ms on patrol, (R) Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med., S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

Malta Air I.659, 7/9. C.S.R.  
 Report. 6th. Alert 1205 hours, 10 Spitfires up for 4 raiders which returned before reaching Malta. Night 6/7. No enemy activity.  
 7th. 0548 and 0930 hours sections of Spitfires made 2 offensive R/Cs South Sicily. 1010 hours, 4 Spitfires up for raids which did not approach close to Malta.  
 6th. Of aircraft on torpedo strike 2 Beaufighters missing on way to target probably owing to engine trouble, remaining 11 Beaufighters and 9 Beauforts made successful attack 1330 hours 30 miles South of Maria di Leuca on southbound convoy of 11 D/Rs and 2 M/V 6/7000 and 7/8000 from Taranto and SS. ANKARA and M/V 7/8000 from Brindisi. Convoy escorted by at least 6 Mc.200s and Mc.202s and 6 JU.88s. 5 Beaufighters provided fighter cover while 6 Beaufighters as Flak diversion dropped bombs from 1000 feet scoring near misses. Beauforts then attacked dropping 8 Duplex non contact torpedoes setting (? 20) feet height 75 feet range 850 yards scoring 1 hit on M/V and column of smoke, confirmed later by photos. Another possible hit scored. M/Vs and D/Rs raked with cannon and machine-gunfire. Beaufighters destroyed 1 Ju.88 probably destroyed 1 Mc.200 and damaged 1 Ju.88 1 Mc.200, 1 flying boat. Beauforts destroyed 1 Mc.200 and damaged 1 Ju.88 and 2 Mc.200s. 2 Beauforts missing. Not found by search 1.  
 7th. 5 Beauforts damaged mainly by enemy fighters. One of crew killed three wounded. 4 Spitfires airborne over Malta and 16 Spitfires made offensive sweep South Sicilian coast to cover returning Beauforts. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1700/7.)

/THRASHER ...



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

THRASHER.

By dawn 8/9 be in position 085° 7 miles from position ordered in my 1850/6 fully stopped. (Capt. S.1, 1745C/7 to THRASHER. (R) S/Ms on Patrol, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, No. 201 N.C. Group.)

P.43, P.34,  
UNA.

If nothing has been sighted by dark proceed patrol area K in sectors from position A. 035° 42' 023° 28' as follows: UNA 170° to 215°. P.43, 215° to 235°. P.34, 235° to 270°.

Except when in pursuit of enemy S/Ms should keep to their sector, P.34 and UNA not to approach within 5 miles of position (A) and P.43 within 10 miles of position (A). Attention drawn to my 1015/7th.

(Capt. S.1, 1840C/7 to P.43, P.34, UNA, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, 201 N.C. Group.)

Enemy  
Convoy.

My 1619/7. A/C from Malta hope to attack about midnight tonight.

(Capt. S.10, 2001B/7 to S/Ms on Patrol, C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O. S/Ms Alexandria.)

P.C. and S. of enemy (1 merchant vessels 2 destroyers 2 unknown) 33.50 N. 21.40 E. 220° 8 knots.

(A/C of M.E. Command Q.27 Duty "Y", 2321C/7 to 201 Group Hq. M.E. Command.)

P.C. and S. of enemy (1 merchant vessel 4 destroyers) 33.30 N. 21.50 E. 125° 10 knots.

(A/C 'C' Flight No. 3 (AACU Malta Command) duty "Z" No.1, 2350/7 to Air H.Q. Malta.)

Force Y.

Your 1024/1. Force Y was sighted by single Italian aircraft at about 1230 and 1430 on D.2.

The same evening 9 unidentified torpedo bombers approached to within 3 miles but made off to the northward. These may have been Malta-based Beauforts.

2. A Cant floatplane shadowed at dawn on D.3, and an occasional single bomber flew past without attacking.

All enemy activity had ceased in the vicinity of Force Y by noon on D.3.

(D.O.D.(F), 2345A/7 to V.A. Malta, (R) F.O.C.N.A.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

BRITISH I.D. Form S.A. dated 4/9/1940, para. 10. 2  
 GENIUS R.F.A. attacks on BRITISH GENIUS same day, first attack  
 (attacked 3/9, indicated by (A) second by (B). (1) BRITISH  
 escaped.) GENIUS. (2) British Tanker Co. (3) (A) 0340Z/3/9,  
 13° 34' N. 50° 05' E. (B) 1445Z/3, 13° 00' N.  
 48° 04' E. (4) (A) 100 yards 2 points on port  
 quarter. Apparently stationary. (H) Not sighted. (5) (A)  
 Astern, 0345Z/3, 250°. (B) Never seen. (6) (A) and (B)  
 submerged throughout. (7) (A) Torpedo missed. Ship and S/M  
 escaped. (B) S/M not seen. Large explosion half a mile to  
 starboard of ship. Ship escaped. (8) Nil. (9) Only periscope  
 seen. (10) Torpedo. (11) Ship not sunk.  
 (Comm. Aden, 0605Z/7 to C. in C. E.F., Admty., (R) S.O.I. Med.)

ROBERTS. ROBERTS on passage to Simonstown E.T.A. Durban  
 0800C/15, S. of A. 9 knots. Expected dock on  
 arrival.  
 2. Wireless watch on group (? I or V) shifting to broadcast SL  
 at 1200Z/9.  
 (C. in C. E.F., 0856Z/7 to Cdre. Durban, (R) C. in C. S.A.,  
 ROBERTS, Admty.)

NEWCASTLE for Your 1707/2 para. 3. NEWCASTLE sailed 0330Z/7  
 Capetown. Passing through (A) 06° 00' N. 69° 00'.  
 (B) 16° 00' S. 64° 00'. S. of A. 18 knots.  
 E.T.A. Grand Port Mauritius 0630D/13/9.  
 (Cdre. R.I.N., 0914Z/7 to C. in C. E.F., (R)  
 C. in C. S.A., C.S.4, V.A.E.F., Admty.)

B.P. 54. Consisting of Transports EL MADINA, EL HIND,  
 VARELA, EGRA sail for Basra. E.T.A. 0330Z/13th.  
 Details. All ships required in Bombay on  
 completion of discharging.  
 (P.S.T.O. India, 0939Z/7 to D.S.T.O. P.G.)

Air Report. Daily Intelligence Summary 0.176 to 1800 hours  
 7/9. 4 Blenheims bombed Akyab 6/9. 2 direct  
 hits Jail started fire. 2 direct hits W/T  
 station outbuildings.  
 (A.H.Q. India, 1555Z/7.)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

WAKEFIELD. 1 Canso A.162 DR on patrol 0745 off 0100/7 on patrol, for burning transport WAKEFIELD and tugs. (A.O.C.E.A.C.Halifax 0910Z/7).

Convoy "Mincemeat." Your 1006/7 to B.R.O. Trinidad only and my 1142/6. "Mincemeat" postponed until 9/9 to include NORLYS should she arrive in time. (B.R.O. Trinidad 0932Q/7 to Admty).

C.O.A.C. 2031/5. In anticipation that AWATEA can be completed in time arrangements for embarkation on 26/9 are proceeding. (N.S.H.Q. 1507Z/7 to B.A.D.(R) Admty,D. of S.T. C.O.A.C.).

O.N.126. U/Bs. C.T.U. 24.117 signal 1900Z/6. To avoid U/Boats drawing on to convoy recommend straggler CARRIER be ordered to keep 50 miles to port of stragglers route. (D.T.D. 0938Z/7 to Connav).

AEAS. (Sunk). SS.AEAS sunk in 049° 10' N. 066° 50' W. at 0210/7th. Probably result of S/M attack. (C.O.A.C.Halifax 1215Z/7 to Admty, N.S.H.Q. (R) N.O.I.C.Montreal N.O.I.C.Quebec, N.O.I.C.Gaspe, N.O.I.C.Sydney.C.B).

QUEEN ELIZABETH, Norfolk arrived 0130/6 H.M.S.QUEEN ELIZABETH. (N.S.H.Q. 1341Z/7 to Admty).

QUEEN MARY. A.T.22 N.K.change route from now.(P) 42.10 N. 46.01 W. (Q) 54.01. 42.59. (R) 57. 02. 34.58. thence to (N) omitting (L) and (M) Ref. A.M. 1222A/7 time at R/V amended to 0815Z/10. (Connav,Washington ? 1531C/7 to QUEEN MARY (R) Admty etc).

M.A.R.I. & T.O.O. Your 1519Z/4.(Amendment to M.A.R.I.) Consider time of origin unnecessary since it will most always approx. 24 hours previous to time indicated in text. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet (C.& R.) 1614/7 to Admty). Reply:- D.T.D. 1737/10

U/B Positions. S/M Estimate 7/9 and U.S.S/M Notice. (Cominch 1632/7 to Admty.)

Ciudad Trujillo reporting. Your 1134P/20. As Naval reporting at Ciudad Trujillo is carried out by British Consul and as there are 3 U.S.Officers appointed to San Domingo for routeing and reporting of ships there appears to be little justification for retention of Lt.Cdr. Parry especially in view of small volume of shipping. Request your view. (Hd. of M.Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1658A/7 to S.B.N.O.W.A.).

/A.T.24....



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

- A.T.24. Suggest A.T.24 sailing 27/9, to avoid clashing with A.T.23 arrival in U.K. Admiralty and D. of S.T. agree.  
(Troopers 1715/7 to Milstaf, Washington).
- DUC D'AUMALE. Extract from Fairmiss  
French ship DUC D'AUMALE.  
(Willemstad 1717/7 to M.W.T.).
- Convoy N.K.400. Dispersed 0800 G.M.T./7.  
(Galveston, 1717Z/7, 1630Z/9).
- O.N.126. Make every endeavour to fuel your unit from appropriate ships in the convoy.  
(C.T.24, 1935Z/7, to C.T. 24.1.17. (R) F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. etc).
- U/Bs. Submarine sighted by aircraft 046° 55' N. 063° 50' W. at 1840Z/7.  
(C.O.A.C. 1944Z/7 to Admty).  
A/C sighted S/M 044° 10' N. 064° 10' W. at 1735Z.  
(C.O.A.C. 1947Z/7 to Admty).
- Sub Attack and Sighting Summary. Para.A. AMATLAN sunk 23° 27' N. 97° 30' W. 06° September. Surface craft attacks sub 25° 27' N. 80° 01' W. 0200Z/07. Course E.  
Para.B. Air and surface craft attack sub, 11° 55' N 70° 30' W. 1430Z/06.  
Para.C. Sub reported 10° 42' N. 67° 1800Z/06  
20° 51' S. 40° 38' W. 07 September. Navy plane sights sub. 44° 10' N. 64° 10' W. 1735Z/07.  
Para.D. Aircraft attacks oil slick 34° 35' N. 75° 51' W. 1430Z/22. August.  
(C. in C.U.S.Fleet 2149/7 to Admty for O.I.C.).
- Convoys My 1705/24/4 and my 1530/3/6 Add B.W. - Sydney  
B.W.W.B. (CB) - Wabana special ore convoy, and W.B.-  
H.F.F.N. Sydney (CB) special ore convoy.  
These are being organised as a separate convoy apart from C.L. - L.C. Also add N.F -  
Halifax - St John (N.B.). and F.H. St. John (N.B.) - Halifax.  
After 12/9 delete B.X and X.B.  
(N.S.H.Q. 2217Z/7 to Admty etc).
- U.S. Serial 38. Changes in my 2045/31. Locations.  
Dispositions. Atlantic. NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, en route  
New York with convoy T.A.20. ARKANSAS, BROOKLYN,  
at New York. WICHITA at New London. TUSCALOOSA  
due New York 10/9. OMAHA at Recife. MILWAUKEE with convoy  
North Recife.. CLEVELAND at Philadelphia. Pacific. TENNESSEE in  
overhaul until 15/8. COPAHEE en route Pearl. DETROIT escorting  
convoy at Samoa. CHESTER left San Francisco 2/9 for Suva.

/LONG ISLAND....



7.9.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

U.S. LONG ISLAND en route San Diego. RALEIGH en route  
 Dispositions. Suva. SOUTH, DAKOTA, JUNEAU at Tongatabu.  
 Contd. HELENA at Espiritu Santo. CHICAGO at Sydney.  
 NORTH CAROLINA, HORNET, WASP, MINNEAPOLIS,  
 NORTHAMPTON, PENSACOLA, SAN FRANCISCO, SALT LAKE  
 CITY, PORTLAND, SAN DIEGO, \*PHOENIX, BOISE in South Pacific area.  
 \*AUSTRALIA, HOBART at Brisbane, \*ADELAIDE, TROMP, at Fremantle. (Admty  
 pass to Comnavau.)  
 (C. in C.U.S.Fleet 2229/7 to Admty). *x 2-1942*  
*\* 2-195*

Q.S.33. Three ships in Q.S.33 torpedoed in 48.50 N. 63.45.W  
 3 ships at 2100Z/7th.  
 torpedoed. (C.O.A.C. 2330Z/7 to Admty, C. in C.U.S.Fleet, N.S.H.  
 (R) F.O.N.F.).  
 For names, See: 1553Z/8.

U/B Connav Serial 6 and 7.  
 Campaign. SIR HUON Pan. 30/8. 010.52 N. 054.00.W.  
 (Connav. No.T.O.O.Rec'd. 0052/8.).

Australia & New Zealand.

U.S.16. Sailing telegram. Combined to position (N) thence  
 U.S.17. U.S.16 for Colombo, U.S.17 for Durban. ( Cdre,  
 W.Australia, 0615Z/7,\*to Admty etc). See Lion  
 Copy.  
 \*(0737Z/7, amended 0144/8).

Situation. Digest Serial No.228 6/9. Reports indicate  
 enemy force operating Buin Faisi, Tonolei harbour  
 area 6/9 included 3 light cruisers (1 "Sendai"  
 class, probably 1 "Natori" class possibly 1 "Katori" class). 26  
 destroyers, gunboats, or patrol craft, 5 merchant ships, 1 seaplane  
 tender. Considerable daily movement by vessels this area.  
 Also reports of enemy landing parties visiting Buin area.  
 2. 2 small supply ships, 1 schooner Buka passage morning 6/9.  
 2 supply ships departed N.W. direction during afternoon.  
 3. Photographic R/C Rabaul harbour 6/9 reveals 1 "Atago" class  
 heavy cruiser, 1 "Tenryu" class light cruiser, 3 large destroyers,  
 1 possible seaplane tender, 1 minelayer, 1 "Zingel" Class submarine  
 depot ship, 1 "Ro" Class submarine 3 10,000 ton transports  
 possibly military landing craft carriers, 6 7,000 ton transports,  
 3, 2/5000 ton cargo vessels, 1 8,000 ton tanker, 4 150 foot patrol  
 craft 12 135 foot lighters, 111 landing craft, 17 other small craft  
 possibly other small submarines, 11 flying boats, 7 floatplanes.

/Considerable.....



194A

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET      M E S S A G E      0615Z/7th Sept.      IN

From Cdre. Western Australia.      Date 8.9.42.

Recd 0930.

Naval Cypher (C) by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty, A.C.N.E., C. in C. Eastern Fleet,  
C. in C. South Atlantic, F.O. Ceylon, N.C.S.O. Durban.

C.B. 04024 (41) paragraph 88.

1.            U.S. 16 and U.S. 17 combined to position (n)  
thence U.S. 16 for Colombo U.S. 17 for Durban.

2.            0700Z 7th September.

3.            0300Z 11th September at rendezvous 029 degs  
00' South 095 degs 02' East E.T.A. U.S. 16 at Colombo  
0230Z 21st E.T.A. U.S. 17 at Durban 0500Z 23rd.

4.            11.7 knots to (n) thence U.S. 16 12 knots  
U.S. 17 12 knots.

5.            (m) 028 degs 33' South 091 degs 42' East  
              (n) 025 degs 10' South 079 degs 23' East  
thence U.S. 16 through  
              (o) 009 degs 18' South 077 degs 15' East  
              (p) Equator 077 degs 50' East  
              (q) 006 degs 00' North 079 degs 20' East  
U.S. 17 by Great Circle pass approximately through  
              (u) 029 degs 00' South 065 degs 00' East  
              (v) 031 degs 00' South 050 degs 00' East to  
              (w) 030 degs 40' South 032 degs 55' East

6. <sup>imp 1942</sup> H.M.A. Ships ADELAIDE, MANOORA, KANIMBLA,  
Netherlands Cruiser TROMP ~~to position (n) thence in~~ (amended 0144/8)  
accordance with C. in C. E.F.'s 0614 1st. (M.B.C.C.F.A. and N.C.S.O. Durban)

7.            4 1 2 2 1 to position (n) thence U.S. 16 3 1 1 1  
U.S. 17 3 1 1 1

8.            (a) 031 degs 29' South 110 degs 15' East  
              (b) 030 degs 40' South 101 degs 39' East  
              (c) 029 degs 45' South 091 degs 47' East  
              (d) 028 degs 04' South 083 degs 05' East  
thence U.S. 16  
              (e)(e) 021 degs 50' South 077 degs 55' East  
              (f)(f) 013 degs 04' South 076 degs 47'

(g)(g) 003 degs....



(g)(g) 003 degs 32' South 075 degs 40' East  
 (h)(h) 001 degs 29' North 075 degs 01'  
 (j)(j) 006 degs 29' North 078 degs 38' East  
 thence U.S. 17  
 (e) 027 degs 45' South 075 degs 11' East  
 (f) 030 degs (? 03') South 066 degs 09' East  
 (g) 030 degs 45' South 056 degs 50' East  
 (h) 031 degs 33' South 047 degs 57' East  
 (j) 030 degs 55' South 031 degs 41' East

9. Standard routes ?

13A. Commodore Hare Royal Navy H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE  
Colombo.

B. Lieban Master WESTERNLAND Durban after  
separation WESTERNLAND is Cdre. ship of U.S. 17 and  
Russell Master Vice Cdre. of Convoy U.S. 16.

14. S.P. 02272 (19) (20) and Ind 4. negative ARONDA  
ARONDA has oneship number 691.

15. U.S. 16 and U.S. 17 combined and separating  
U.S.D. 3.

(x) (xi) (xii) in 3 columns.

13½ WESTERNLAND (Standard) cargo commercial passengers  
internees 43 ordinary 130 D/F medium frequency, Durban.

15½ ARONDA 55 P cargo commercial military mail one medium  
frequency R/T Colombo.

15 FELIX ROUSSEL 30 (?S) cargo commercial medium frequency  
R/T Durban.

15½ DEVONSHIRE 20 P mail 398 D/F medium frequency Colombo.

13½ ELMA 30 P cargo commercial and naval passengers 27 mail  
63 ordinary 35 confidential M/F Durban.

13½ RAJULA 40 P cargo commercial naval and military M/F D/F  
Colombo cruising order U.S. 16 ARONDA, DEVONSHIRE, RAJULA,  
cruising order U.S. 17 FELIX ROUSSEL, WESTERNLAND, EKMA.  
0615Z/7.

Advance copy sent Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F) & D.T.D.

1st S.L. (2)	D.O.D. (F)(2)	D.T.D. (M)
Dep. 1st S.L.	Fd. of M. (13)	I.P. (2)
V.C.N.S.	D.D.I.C. (2)	W.D.
A.C.N.S. (F)(2)	D. of P. (2)	Duty Capt. (2)
A.C.N.S. (T)	D. of S.T.	Ad. Blake
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.T.D. (3)	N.L.O. Australia Hse.
		D.N.L.O. (4).



1948

# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 0737Z/7th September

IN

FROM: Commodore Western Australia. DATE: 7.9.42  
RECD: 1730

Naval Cypher (C) by W/T CORRECTION

ADDRESSED: C. in C. Eastern Fleet, Deputy C. in C.  
Eastern Fleet, F.O.I.C. Ceylon, A.C.N.B.  
Admiralty. Repeated H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE,  
H.M.S. MAURITIUS, C.S.4.

## IMPORTANT

Convoy U 3 16 and U 3 17 departed Fremantle 0700Z  
7th escorted by H.M.A.S. ADELAIDE, Dutch Cruiser PROMP.  
H.M.A.S. KANIMBLA, H.M.A.S. MANOORA A/S escort, H.M.A.S.  
VOYAGER until 0001Z 8th. E.T.A. both rendezvous as in  
my 7513 Z 5th.

2. Constant watch on Bolconnon W/T until R/V  
with escort H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE. Watch will be set on  
group N U at 0001Z 8th and on 3835 Kc/s when 100 miles  
from R/V.

0737Z/7

Advance copy Ops., C.I., Trade.

- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- A.C.S. (F) (2)
- Hd. of M. (13)
- D.L.I.C. (2)
- D. of P. (2)
- D. of S.T.
- D.T.S. (3)
- D.T.S. (M)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- Duty Capt. (2)
- Admiral Blake.
- U.S.N. (3)
- N.L.O. Australia House
- D.S.S. (2)



War Diary.7.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Situation. Considerable dispersal aircraft observed  
Contd. Vunakanau, also increased A.A. defences. 21  
fighters, 5 heavy bombers Lakunai, also 5  
fighters airborne.

4. Enemy strength Mubo now estimated 900 in addition 1000 native  
carriers.

5. Continued enemy pressure from Kokoda area. Our forces now  
withdrawn to Efogi (approx. 7 miles S.W. The Gap Owen Stanley  
Range).

7. Enemy shipping observed Trobriands Milne Bay area 6/9 as  
follows:-

A. 1 light cruiser, 2 destroyers off entrance Milne Bay at 2125Z/5,  
course 360°.

B. 2 destroyers, 2 patrol craft, 1 other vessel vicinity Kitava  
Island (Trobriands) morning 6/9 course, 350°

C. 1 light cruiser. ("Tenryu" class) 1 destroyer vicinity  
Trobriands Island 5035Z/6 course 180°. Force B. attacked by 3  
B.17s without results.

8. Cruiser reported shelling Allied wharf and shipping Milne Bay  
1217Z/6.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 0848Z/7 to Admty, etc).

Attacks  
on U/Bs.

Your 1916/9/7. (a) No.1. (b) 0924Z/23/8. (c) ARUNTA. (d) 033° 52' S. 151° 25' E.  
(e) H. (a) No.2. (b) 1323Z/30/7. (c) KALGOORLIE.  
(d) 026° 19' S. 153° 45' E. (e) F.  
(A.C.N.B. 1252Z/7 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.).

Movements.

Departures Darwin 1902Z/6. KALGOORLIE on escort  
duty. Brisbane 0245Z/7 AUSTRALIA, U.S. PHOENIX,  
U.S. BAGLEY, and U.S. SELFRIDGE. Sydney (N.S.W.)  
0552Z/7 WHYALLA and WALLAROO on escort duty to Melbourne. Arrival  
Brisbane 0300Z/7 U.S. HENLEY and U.S. HELM. Geraldton 0410Z/7 U.S.  
HERON. Fremantle 1159Z/7. TOOWOOMBA.  
(N.B. Melbourne 2147Z/7 to Admty etc).

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Positions approximate.  
(D.D.I.C. 1351A/7, 1410A/7).



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War Diary.8.9.1942  
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

The right through voyage in convoy from U.K. to New York started with O.N.125. *(Arrived New York 12/9)*

RAMILLIES (3rd B.S. Eastern Fleet) arrived at Plymouth this forenoon to refit.

Operation  
E.V.

SHARPSHOOTER with P.614 and P.615 who are to form part of the escort of Convoy P.Q.18 sailed from Seidisfiord at 0201 today, to R/V with the convoy.

ESKDALE (S.O. close escort of P.Q.18.) and FARNDALE sailed from Reykjavik at 1633A today. Captain D.17 with Force A. sailed from Iceland at 2001A today. R.A.D. H.F. with Force B. and the carrier force sailed at 2025 today to R/V with P.Q.18 in approx. 69° 40' N. 15° 1' W. at 2000A tomorrow.

P.Q.18 sighted a hostile aircraft at 1900A today. STURGEON who sailed for patrol in K.153 reported at 2105A today that she was unable to dive and was returning to Lerwick with defects; she had been trying without success to report the situation since 1500/6. The remaining S/Ms on north west Norway patrol were redispensed to cover K.153.

Light craft of the Dover Command co-operating with aircraft engaged an escorted enemy convoy of unknown composition near Berck Buoy at 0230 today. No results were seen. M.T.B.25 was slightly damaged in the action.

Attacks on  
SOLGLIMT.

A large tanker, later identified as whale oil factory ship SOLGLIMT was photographed by P.R.U. at 1230 yesterday 2 miles S.W. of St. Helier, Jersey; she was still in the same position at 1720. C. in C. Plymouth asked that she might be bombed in daylight but this does not appear to have been done. Two Beaufighters were sent to attack at dusk, but the attack was unsuccessful. During last night M.T.Bs were sent from Plymouth to attack and Portsmouth sent M.T.Bs and M.G.Bs. The latter forces at 0230 today sighted a large escorted merchant ship steering for Cherbourg from the westward. The M.G.Bs attacked with gunfire and hit the enemy hard; they were themselves simultaneously engaged by the shore batteries; only one M.T.B., No.55 managed to fire a torpedo, at a range of 1100 yards, and it is believed obtained a hit. Our light craft had no casualties; M.G.B.312 was slightly damaged. The ship was attacked at Cherbourg at 1845 by 6 Bostons escorted by fighters, but no hits were reported.

/Six ...



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War Diary.

8.9.1942  
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - anti-

Six Bostons with fighter escort bombed the oil factory ship OLE WEGGER at Le Havre at 1300 today; bombs burst on the quay alongside, but no direct hits are claimed.

43 aircraft took off last night to lay mines off La Pallice, Lorient, St. Nazaire and the Frisian Islands.

Motor fishing vessel PRIDE OF HUMBER was blown up and completely destroyed (cause unknown) this afternoon in 53° 36' 54" N. 0° 11' E (off Boston, Lincs).

Enemy mine layers operated last night off Cromer. The 9th M.S.F. was sent to search the area but no mines were found, though mines have been found in a new area 12 miles East of Lowestoft.

The 13th M.S.F. sweeping in Lyme Bay today found R. mines.

South Atlantic.

It is reported that on 23/8 U.S. ALABAMAN in 1° 40' S. 30° 17' W. sighted a stationary suspicious vessel and later passed 4 floating objects considered to be mines.

Mediterranean.

Last night, aircraft from Malta and Egypt attacked the southbound convoy north of Derna which had previously been bombed by Liberators; one merchant vessel is believed to have been hit and 3 hits are reported on one destroyer. A Hudson attacking at dawn obtained 4 hits with 100 lb. bombs on a merchant ship which was last seen with a list and a destroyer standing by.

/About ...



8.9.1942  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - contd.

About 15 enemy aircraft were over the Nile Delta last night.

Tobruk Harbour was bombed last night and fires were started near the Naval fuel tanks and bursts were seen on the docks.

Captain Hubback assumed command today of the reorganised coastal forces (see 31/8) with title Captain Coastal Force, Eastern Mediterranean.

East Indies.

German SS DRESDEN is believed to have left Indo China today for Europe, where she is expected early in November.

America and West Indies.

U.S.S. WAKEFIELD (see 5/9) was beached in Halifax harbour this evening.

Australia.

The aerodrome at Milne Bay, Papua, was attacked at 0346Z today by 9 heavy bombers escorted by 5 Zeros and some damage was caused.



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

134th M.L.F. A.M. 2042A/14/8. (13th M.L. Flotilla for ocean passage to Gibraltar), State of 134th M.L. Flotilla is as follows.  
2. Earliest date of assembly at Milford Haven. 15/9. (R.A.C.F. 1051A/8 to Admty).

Organisation of 12 trawlers allocated for North Russian Convoys Your 1806/7th. Tentatively concur with this employment. Apart from other considerations there is little rest or relaxation for personnel of small craft in Iceland harbours in winter months, when steam has to be almost constantly on engines. In view of arduous nature of P.Q. service some rest seems essential.  
(A.C.I.C. 1139A/8 to C. in C.W.A.(R) Admty, C. in C.H.F.).

Your 1806/7. Concur.  
(C. in C.H.F. 1219A/8 to A. C.W.A.).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA. F.O.I.C. Glasgow's 1554/6. and Capt. D. Greenock's 1856/7.  
QUEEN OF BERMUDA will be required to leave U.K. with W.S.23 sailing about 26/9.  
2. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange necessary work up practices.  
3. It is anticipated ship will return to U.K. about February 1943 for necessary boiler repairs to be taken in hand before proceeding to join Eastern Fleet.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1444A/8. to F.O.I.C. Greenock & Glasgow).

Poole. Re use to be made by Americans. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1838A/8) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

CUMBERLAND  
(F):-

Ex-German Fishing Vessel V.20. See p. 209.  
Admiralty's 0127/8. Intend to sail V.20 to join East going group at Goodwin knoll 0500/11 for passage to Southend and onward routing to Brightlingsea. Vessels speed being 5 knots suggest she be taken in tow in which case E.T.A. B2. Buoy 1000/11 E.T.A. Southend noon.  
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1030A/8 to N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea).

M.G.Bs. 312. 326. My 1452/3. (N.T. in W.D.) M.G.B. 312 and 326 were engaged in an operation during night 7/8 and regret they will not be able to sail before 9/9. at earliest.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1102A/8 to V.A. Dover).



199A

MOST SECRET **M E S S A G E** **MOST SECRET** IN

From C.in C. Portsmouth ~~1838A/8~~ September.

Date 9.9.42.

Naval Cypher A.1 by W/T

Time 0155.

Addressed Admiralty, repeated D.C.T., Chief C.O. R.A.L.B.,  
C.in C. Expeditionary Force.

902. Ref A.H. 0336B 7th August. 2 parties of American Officers have now visited Poole at intervals of 3 weeks. It does not appear the U.S.A. authorities have made any definite decision as to extent which they wish to use Poole.

(2) Under present plans for "suspense and assault stations" Poole has been allocated - 24 L C T, 12 L C I. 96 L C M, 48 L C P, 200 L C B.

(3) Accommodation for 2300 is required for crews, maintenance and administrative personnel of above craft, and it is intended to provide this as follows (vide Portsmouth 0256/3 of 20th August 1942)

- (A) Construction of a camp at Lake Common for 1300
- (B) Requisition of property near Shaftesbury Home 600
- (C) Requisition of property at Wareham 300
- (D) Existing accomodation round island and lake camp 100

(4) An early decision is requested as to what proportion of craft mentioned in paragraph 2 will be American manned as this affects allocation of accommodation. For example if Americans take every thing except barges, Shaftesbury Homes Area and round island will be retained by British for accommodation of barges crew.

(5) American Officers appeared satisfied with arrangements being made and it is therefore intended to press on with provision of accommodation in para (3) above as it will be equally suitable for American or British.

1838A/8

Advance copy sent Ops. O.D. O.I.C.  
Re American authorities have requested that training bases be allocated for their use.

- |                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2nd S.L.                              | D.of P.(0)              |
| 4th S.L.                              | D.N.E.(C.O.)            |
| A.C.H.S.(H)                           | C.C.O.(4) & for D.C.T.& |
| Civil Lord                            | R.A.L.B.                |
| Secretary                             | I.P. (3)                |
| P.A.S.(S)                             | W.D.                    |
| P.A.S.(O)                             | C.E.in C. Bath          |
| A.S.(CL)                              | Hd. of S.W.R. Bath      |
| D.of P.(2)                            |                         |
| D.O.D.(H) (2)                         |                         |
| D.C. (2)                              |                         |
| D.of L.D.                             |                         |
| D.T.S.D.                              |                         |
| D.M.S.                                |                         |
| W.G.F.                                |                         |
| Hd. of M.(10) (M010257/42) & for W.O. |                         |
| U.S.N. (3)                            | & Air Ministry          |



200

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.Force B.  
and  
AVENGER.  
(P.Q.18)When Force B and AVENGER sail at 2030A today  
Tuesday proceed to Hvalfjord proceeding South  
of Iceland.2. On arrival act as ordered by V.A.2. BRAMHAM  
acknowledge.(R.A.(D) H.F. 1008A/8 to BRAMHAM (R) V.A.2.  
TRELAWNEY, C.S.18, A.C.I.C.Admty).*Show it be on p.208. q.v.*Escort of  
FURIOUS.Request you will sail 3 destroyers to R/V with  
FURIOUS off Ailsacraig at 1800A/9 and escort to  
Scapa.FURIOUS E. T.A. Scapa (?13)00/10th S. of A.18  
knots.

(C. in C.H.F. 1135A/8 to R.A.(D) H.F.).

KANARIS with BLEAN proceed passing Switha at 1730 tonight  
Tuesday to R/V with FURIOUS off Ailsacraig at 1800/9 and escort  
her to Scapa.2. PUCKERIDGE is to complete exercises by 1815 then join in  
Pentland Firth and provide additional escort.3. In view of probable low visibility in the Minches ships are  
initially to proceed at best speed that visibility and weather  
permits.

4. Acknowledge.

(R.A.(D) H.F. 1140A/8 to KANARIS, BLEAN, PUCKERIDGE. (R)

C. in C.Home Fleet, N.O.I.C.Greenock, A.C.O.S., C. in C.W.A.  
H.M.S.FURIOUS. R.A.(A) Home Fleet, Admty.).Unable to embark Squadron 807 during last 2 days owing to  
weather. I hope to do so tomorrow. If weather still impossible  
propose to sail in accordance with your 1142A/8, Squadron 807  
flying to R.N.A.S. Twatt as soon as weather permits.

(FURIOUS 2107A/8 to C. in C.H.F.).

114th  
M.M./S.F.A.M. 1906/4th. intend to sail 114th Motor M/S F.,  
(Motor M/S 88 S.O., 63, 58, 140 C.O. 89, 5, 46), in  
convoy 215 on 9th September, for Swansea.  
(C. in C.Portsmouth 1144A/8 to C. in C. Plymouth  
N.O.I.C.Cardiff N.O.I.C.Swansea).

Destroyer.

My 0943/7th (Hush Distribution). Request destroyer  
detailed may arrive Plymouth by 0800 Thursday 10th  
and not Falmouth as previously arranged.(C. in C. Plymouth 1329A/8 to C. in C. Portsmouth  
(R) Admty. Capt (D) Plymouth).

RAMILLIES.

Arrived 1135/8. RAMILLIES, \*BEVERLEY, \*CHESTERFIELD,  
\*PENN, \*PANTHER,

(C. in C. Plymouth 1351A/8). \*see next page

\*see p.209

/BERWICK.....



201

8.9.1942.

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

- BERWICK. Intend to sail BERWICK at 0730/9 to Scapa escorted by <sup>\*</sup>BEVERLEY and <sup>\*</sup>CHESTERFIELD to vicinity of The Smalls, Destroyers then proceed independently to Londonderry.
2. 3. of A. 22 knots E.T.A. Scapa 1700/10th. Boom on completion of exercise. Destroyers on parting company 20 knots.
3. BERWICK will carry out full power trials after parting company.
4. Codeword for BERWICK "Occasion" for Destroyers after parting company "Occasion One"
- (C. in C. Plymouth 1435A/8 to Admty, A.C.O.S. N.O.I.C. Londonderry, (R) C. in C.W.A. C. in C.H.F. Capt (S) 3, C.S.1, C.S. 18, N.O.I.C. Falmouth, N.O.I.C. Cardiff, Milford Haven, Liverpool, Belfast, Greenock BERWICK, BEVERLEY, CHESHERFIELD.) *\* See previous page*
- FRANKLIN. My 0740A/6. Codeword "Tinsmith" returned to Humber. Anticipate she will sail again at 0800/10. (F.O. Humber 1522A/8 to C. in C. Nore).
- ADVENTURE. <sup>A 205.</sup> My 1106/8. Intend detaching ADVENTURE to Scapa practice area so as to arrive at position A.A. 0700/15. (R.A.M. 1528A/8 to A.C.O.S.).
- BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON. Kola Inlet departures BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1601A/8).
- WALPOLE. *See next page* Hvalfjord departure WALPOLE at 1430Z/8th for Scapa in accordance with C. in C.H.F.'s 2218/7 para. one. (A.C.I.C. 1607A/8 to A.C.O.S.).
- S/Ms. *(P.Q. 158 exempt P. 31)* Positions of submarines at 0800A/9 and movements for following 24 hours.  
 (A). TRIBUNE, TIGRIS P. 54, STURGEON, and UREDD in Zones K.150, K.151, K.152, K. 153 and K.154.  
 (B). P. 221, 65° 25' N. 04° 10' E.  
 (C). P. 45, 65° N. 04° E.  
 (D). UNIQUE 64° 35' N. 03° 25' E. submarines in (B) (C) and (D) are probably on surface proceeding through 71° N. 10° E.  
 (E) P. 3. 180° Start Point 20 miles dived by day through 180° Portland Bill 16 miles to R/V in 140°. Portland Bill 6 miles at 0700/10.  
 (F.O. (S) 1611A/8). *\* See p. 208.*
- BROKE. *See next page.* Arrived Scapa 1655. (A.C.O.S. 1718/8).
- ECHO. My 0149A/7th on parting company with convoy ECHO is to proceed direct to Hvalfjord to join C.S. 18. (V.A. 2. 1746A/8 to H.M.S. ECHO (?R) H.M.S. MONTROSE, H.M.S. MALCOLM, C.S. 18, A.C.I.C.).

/BRAMHAM.....



8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

BRAMHAM. (Corrupt Group) leave Seidisfjord proceed Akureyri report E.T.A. to me. (V.A. 1747A/8 to BRAMHAM). *See p. 208 (P.Q. 18)*

WALPOLE My 2218/7th. Request you will sail BROKE for  
BROKE. Akureyri leaving Scapa 1600A/9.  
*See previous page* 2. Routed through 062° 20' N. 005° 25' W. thence North of Faeroes Iceland Barrier to Akureyri.  
3. BROKE will form part battle Fleet screen.  
4. WALPOLE will replace BROKE in your Command during E.V. (P.Q. 14) (C. in C.H.F. 1951A/8 to A.C.O.S. (R) V.A.2. H.F. A.C.I.C., C.S.18. R.A. (D) H.F. SCYLLA and TYNE, C. in C.W.A. Admty, C. in C.Nore, WALPOLE, BROKE.).

Operations.

Attack on ship off Cherbourg. (SOLGLINT.) *See p. 196.* My 1928/7. At 0147/8. M.T.Bs 50, 55 and 49 and M.G.Bs 312, 326 stopped in position four miles North of Cherbourg and cut out main engines. At 0230/8 enemy consisting of one large Merchant vessel with escorts was sighted distant 1½ miles on a course for Cherbourg breakwater, from westward. Course was set to intercept on his beam. M.G.Bs led, remainder in single line ahead. Enemy was interrupted about one mile from Cherbourg. M.G.Bs and shore batteries opened fire simultaneously, the enemy using some very effective rocket flares and star shell which illuminated attacking force very efficiently. A sustained gun action then took place in which the M.G.Bs were seen to be hitting the enemy hard. Meanwhile M.T.Bs manoeuvred for position. M.T.B 55 at a range of 1,100 yards fired two torpedoes, one minute later a thump totally different to gun fire was heard and felt but owing to the amount of fire works in the vicinity it was quite impossible to observe results. M.T.B 50 only fired one torpedo owing to a fault in one of the tubes. M.T.B 49 although she returned to the attack three times saw nothing except three R-Boats and a small trawler. Although M.G.Bs attacked from 450 yards, enemy fire was very erratic and high to begin with. M.G.B. 312 was hit in the petrol tank by a small shell. No casualties in any boats. Enemy challenged with Pendant 1 on a blue box lamp several times and also used a three star cartridge with two red and one green. Navigational coastal lights were working at full brilliancy and searchlights were much in evidence. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1100A/8).

Attack on convoy off Berck Buoy. Last night 7th/8th. Sept. In anticipation of an enemy shipping movement eastwards to Boulogne M.T.Bs 219 (S.O) 221 - 48 and 25 with M.G.Bs 329 (S.O) and 322 were despatched to wait at Bassurelle Bank from 2330. A lighted Dan buoy was laid to mark the gap between Q.Z.X. 771 and 786. Albacore aircraft of 841 Squadron partly under control of Swingate C.H.L. carried out R/C westwards towards Havre. The first aircraft reported one escorted enemy vessel on easterly course north of Dieppe at 2240 and M.T.B Force was ordered to the Berck buoy. The second aircraft again located the enemy vessel approaching Berck buoy and at 0230 which M.T.Bs reported as their intended time of attack the aircraft dropped a line of flame floats across enemy's course in accordance

/with.....



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.Attack on  
convoy off  
Berck Buoy.  
Contd.with plan. Aircraft could see no more in the  
gun fire which then developed.  
M.T.Bs 25 and 48 each fired two torpedoes. M.T.B  
221 fired one and also dropped a depth charge  
ahead of an escort vessel but with unobserved  
results. No definite torpedo hits are claimed.M.G.Bs engaged escort from astern scoring many hits on two vessels  
and silencing the fire of one. Opposition was fairly heavy but  
inaccurate M.T.B.219 (S.O) could not sight a torpedo target and it  
seems doubtful whether more than a coasting vessel was present.  
Only M.T.B 25 suffered a little damage and had two slight  
casualties. Individual craft had difficulty in locating Gap  
between Q.Z.X. 771 and 786 on their return and last one did not  
reach harbour until 0800.  
(V.A.Dover 1113A/8).North Russia,  
Information  
for S/MS.

(1) Following obtained from experience of Russian  
S/M in area between Soroy and Arnoy.

(2) Channel believed to exist through N.E. corner of  
minefield given in Notice to Mariners 905. Recommended  
route is to proceed at about 230 feet on course  
114° from 070° 42' 021° 07' finally arriving in 070° 27' 021° 39' .  
Alternative is to pass over the minefield at high water.

(3) Enemy suspected of using moored mines set to 90 to 130 feet with  
antennae near the surface and below mine. Experience indicates  
danger to S/MS on surface much greater when diving deeply.

(4) Enemy moored mines suspected within a radius of 2½ miles from  
070° 20' 021° 08'.

(5) Favourite patrol position:- (A) 070° 24' 022° 08'. (B) good but  
less favoured 070° 08' 021° 08' and (C) 070° 02' 020° 13'. S/M  
sank minelayer on South Easterly course in 070° 32' 021° 45'.  
Submarines advised to keep as much as possible to mid-channel in  
Fiord.

(6) Only normal currents experienced. No known bases for patrol  
craft exist between Tromso and Hammerfest.  
(F.O.(S) 1418A/8 to S/MS operating North of latitude 51° North.).

Operation  
"Outward"Completed 2000 hours.  
(A.B.O. Oldstairs 2010A/8).Exercises  
in Loch  
Cairnbawn.Certain exercises of a most secret nature are  
projected to take place in Loch Cairnbawn,  
Sutherland, from 22/9 for a period of approx.  
six weeks. Measures required to safeguard security.  
No naval personnel will be available for patrols  
or sentries.  
(Hd of N.L. 2249A/8 to F.O.I.C.Glasgow).



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.A/Cs for  
Vaenga.

Your 1936A/5. 30 Mission were informed by Air Ministry by emergency signals time when first and last Hampden aircraft took off. 2. In these signals 30 Mission were instructed to inform all concerned. (D.O.D.(H) 1017A/8 to S.B.N.O.North Russia(R) Air Ministry).

Bomber  
Command  
report.

Day 7/9. 8 Whitleys of 90 T.U.completed an A/S patrol. One aircraft sighted a U-Boat, which submerged and 4 D. Cs were dropped 8 to 15 seconds after stern disappeared. R/G saw large explosion 50 yards ahead of swirl. Aircraft circled but only brown scum observed. Single mosquitoes of 2 Group attacked Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Bremerhaven and Texel Aerodrome between 0510 and 0530 hrs. Bursts generally unobserved except across a railway at Emden. There were no operations on night 5/6 Sept. Night 7/8 Sept. 26 aircraft of 1 Group, 11 aircraft of 3 Group and 6 aircraft of 5 Group took off to lay mines. Of these aircraft, 34 successfully reached their allotted positions, 3 reports are outstanding. (H.Q.B.C. 1330A/8).

Enemy Air Activity.STRATHNAVER's  
report.

STRATHNAVER reports aircraft sighted 0625 G.M.T./6 on port bow. 0630 G.M.T. sighted two planes astern heading straight for ship, leader and second planes on its port quarter. As planes approached, opened fire and planes swerved to right and continued on into the sun. Estimated height about 4,000 feet. Aircraft appeared to be of four engine bomber type colour black and white but marking not visible. By 0840 no subsequent appearance of aircraft and amplifying message sent. Fortress escort planes arrived at 1040. (N.C.S.O.Glasgow. 1145/8).

P.Q.18.  
Sights A/C.

AS/S air escort report that hostile A/C was sighted by P.Q.18 at 1900A/8. (A.C.I.C. 2346A/8 to C. in C.H.F. R.A.(D) H.F.(R) Admty, Capt.(D) 3, V.A.2., Capt.(D) 17.).

Mining.Minefield  
off Lowestoft.

Cancel previous programme. Enemy minelayers have been operating between 56 Buoy and 57 E.Buoy. Proceed at 0530 and search this area of Q.Z.S. 311 in "G" formation. If mines are found clear Searched Channel and if time permits widen clearance as far as possible. Anchor off Sheringham for night. Report progress. F.O.I.C.Yarmouth is requested to arrange for search of Inner Channel to be carried out during day. (C. in C.Nore 0234A/8 to M.S.9.(R) F.O.I.C.Harwich, Humber, Yarmouth Admty.).

E.T.A No.56 Buoy.1330. First Tapt will be swept close to Northward of line joining buoy.

(M/S 9 1025A/8 to C. in C.Nore).

/Request.....



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8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - 2. 7. 5.Minefield  
off Lowestoft.  
Contd.Request following Q.Z.X. message may be issued.  
An area dangerous due to mines is enclosed by  
lines joining the following positions:-

A. 52° 34' 00" N. 02° 07' 00" E.

B. 52° 33' 12" N. 02° 10' 24" E.

C. 52° 29' 30" N. 02° 08' 00" E.

D. 52° 30' 24" N. 02° 04' 36" E.

(C. in C.Nore 1246A/8 to Admty).

Second lap completed. No mines encountered. Third lap  
will be to southward line of buoy.

(M/S 9. 1718A/8 to C. in C.Nore).

Third lap completed without encountering mines. About 5  
cables to southwards of line of Buoys cleared. If area requires  
extending propose sailing 0730/9th commencing 1st lap at 0830  
to southwards. 2nd lap to northwards.

(M/S 9 1935/8 to C. in C.Nore).

Weigh at 0600 and proceed to Harwich via Q.Z.S. On passing  
carry out a search of the area between 3½ miles and 6 miles to the  
Eastward of Searched Channel between 55 A Buoy and 54 B buoy.  
Fighter protection arranged. Codeword "Screw." Report expected  
time of arrival Harwich. F.O.I.C.Yarmouth is requested to  
arrange for trawlers to clear Q.Z.X. 810 as soon as convenient.

(C. in C.Nore 2134A/8 to M/S 9).

Sweep in  
Lyme Bay.My 1805A/7. "Ounce V" sailed 0618.  
(F.O.I.C.Portland 0714/8).Operation  
S.N.65.A.

Intend to carry out operation S.N.65 A. as follows:

(a) Surface minefield from North to South.

(d) 1st M.L.S.Screened by BRIGHTON, LANCASTER,  
CHARLESTOWN, NEWARK.(e) A/S air escort is requested when outside North Minches initial  
R/V 090°. Butt of Lewis 15 miles at 1700/13.

(f) From 061° 25.0' N. 007° 00.0' W. to 060° 49.6' N. 006° 37.6' W.

(g) 1030/13.

(j) Through position:

(A). 059° 45' N. 005° 30' W. (B) 060° 30' N. 005° 30' W.

(C) 061° 27' N. 006° 12' W. (D) 180° Sumbolight. 1½ miles.

(E). 061° 27.5' N. 007° 04' W.

(k) 12½ knots.

(l) 0935/14.

(n) through position:

F. 060° 45' N. 007° 07' W. G. 060° 23' N. 006° 47' W.

A. 059° 45' N. 005° 30' W. (o) and

(p) Port Z.A. 0815/15. ADVENTURE to Scapa for L.A. and H.A. firing  
returning to port Z.A. on completion.(w) 37 miles at 13 knots. ADVENTURE will lay for first 9.2 miles  
only.(R.A.(M). 1106A/8). *2. 10. 11.*My 1106/8 (F) Is the position of field and (L) the time the lay  
starts?

(R.A.(M) 1108/8 to N.O.I.C.Faroës).



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Barrow Deep. Details of one ground mine detonated on 1113/8. (Capt.M/S Sheerness 1540/8).

Lyme Bay. Clearance of north edge of QZX.787 extended to 1-2 miles. Two mines detonated in sweeps in positions 50° 23' 30" N. 03° 08' 12" W. 50° 24' 12" N. 03° 11' 48" W. and one mine cut and exploded on surface by rifle fire in position 50° 24' N. 03° 12' 12" W. Mines definitely "R" type. (M.S.13. 2002A/8 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Enemy Intelligence.

OLE WEGGER. P.R.U.sortie at 1745/7 shows Whale oil factory ship OLE WEGGER in Havre. This is considered to be a first class target. (A.C.N.S.(H) 0200A/8 to A.O.C. in C.C.C., A.O.C.in C.B.C.).

U-Boats.

U/Bs. Am over enemy submarine in 47° 20' N. 8° W. sighted. Enemy was on surface when first sighted, was on course 090°, estimated speed 10 knots. (A.O.C. 19th Group 0315/8).

Am over enemy submarine in 46° 49' N. 8° 49' W. Submarine on surface and observed to submerge, course 070°, speed 10 knots. (A/C 19th Group 0925/8)

Am over enemy submarine in 63° 32' N. 23° 42' W. Was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on a course 175°.

(A.O.C.15th Group 1332A/8).

Enemy S/M in 46° 53' N. 8.55' W. periscope only sighted, when first sighted was on a course 080 speed 6 knots.

(A.O.C.19. 1705/8).

Navigational.

Drifting Target. A high speed target and tow spar is adrift North Westwards of Sunk and is a danger to navigation. (F.O.I.C.Harwich, 2138A/8 to Admty,(R) C. in C.Nore Capt.M/S Harwich, M.S. and P.Ipswich, N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, N.O.I.C.Brightlingsea). (C. in C.Nore, 2231A/8 to S.E.E.C.C.D).

Technical.

Smoke Cover for Convoys. Your 1001/30/8. Rate of emission each smoke ship night 29/30. 12 lbs per minute. One set used per ship. Use of smoke to provide effective cover from surface attack was demonstrated by trial and is considered practicable and valuable for use by Trade convoys. (C.T.U. 24.1.3. 1711Z/8 to C. in C.W.A.).



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War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

- AMAZON.** Have been ordered to return to Hvalfjord with defect. My estimated position 1600A/8th 065° 30' N. 024° 36' W. S. of A. 27 knots. E.T.A. 2000A 8th (AMAZON 1257A/8 to A.C.I.C.).  
AMAZON 1257A/8. Arrived AMAZON. (A.C.I.C. 2220A/8).
- MENESTHEUS.** Your 1454A/7. Yes please, Most desirable as a means to detection. (R.A.(M) 1300A/8 to Admty).
- H.M.T. DAVID OGILVIE.** Refloated and beached Brickwork Bay. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1314/8).
- STAFFA SS.LANRICK, collision;** STAFFA was in collision with SS.LANRICK, on 5/9/42. Damage to LANRICK not believed to be extensive. No damage to H.M.Ship. (N.O.I.C. Leith & Granton 1500/8).
- CHRISSEY.** Motor fishing vessel CHRISSEY left Inverness routed I/S for Peterhead at 1230/1/9. She has not arrived, and all enquiries in Moray Firth, Ports have failed to locate her. (N.C.S.O. Invergordon 1502/8).  
Further search reveals M.F.V. CHRISSEY in Peterhead harbour am investigating. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1643/8).
- NELSON.** My 1928/31/8. A bad leak has developed in NELSON necessitating dockyard repairs. Propose this work be undertaken during forthcoming period at Rosyth delay in completion being accepted. (C. in C.H.F. 1809A/8 to Admty).
- INDOMITABLE.** E.R.No.7316. Forward starboard 4" turrets. It is understood from Messrs. Cammell Lairds that, provided an extension of the present date of completion of fourteen days is granted, the damaged structure in connection with these turrets and the replacement of turrets by new mountings can be completed in all respects in this time. Request telegraphic confirmation from Messrs. Cammell Lairds of this extended period. Work should not be put in hand pending Admiralty approval. (Dir.of Dockyards 2005A/8 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).
- CLARISSA. RADCLIFFE.** My 1545Z/9th. (1545/8 intended (N.T. in W.D.)), CLARISSA RADCLIFFE now in serious trouble stokehold flooded one pump out of commission speed of 3 ships 3 knots. RADCLIFFE will have to stop in next few hours to pump out AGASSIZ standing by 7 days fuel remaining. P.C.S main convoy S.C.98. 1900Z 55.34 24.54 (?150 or 164) all night 7.25 3 (3 ships) now 20 miles astern; weather report. (C.T.U 24.1.13. 2101Z/8 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty, C. in C.W.A.N.S.H.Q.F.6.N.F.C.O.A.C.C.TG 24.7.)



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War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects - Contd.

STURGEON. Returning Lerwick. Unable to dive defective after hydroplane. Estimated P.C. and S. 2200/8th 064° (corrupt group) North 002° 13' East 200° 8. Request hourly D/F for ?advance to ?Lerwick from 001/(?10th). Have attempted unsuccessfully to report situation since 1500/6th. Weather report.  
(STURGEON 2105A/8 to F.O.(S) (R) A.C.O.S. Capt.S.9.S.O.S/Ms Lerwick).  
P.45 P,221 and UNIQUE may meet STURGEON returning from patrol. STURGEON is unable to dive.  
(F.O.(S) 2336A/8 to S/Ms operating North of latitude 51° N.(R) C. in C.H.F. Admty, A.C.O.S.).

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy P.Q.18. Operation E.V. Sailed R.A.D.F. H.F.1214/7 at 0201/8th. (A.C.I.C.0945A/8 to Admty, C. in C.H.F. MALCOLM, Capt.(D) 17th D.F. Capt.(D) 3rd D.F. F.O.S. R.A, D.F.H.F.).  
E.V. Intend sailing with Force B and carrier force at 2030A today Tuesday to R/V with P.Q.18 in appropriate (?approx.) 69.40 N. 15.01 W. at 2000A/9.  
(2) If not met by dark intend turning to course and speed of convoy until daylight. *See p.200*  
(3) MALCOLM inform Commodore.  
(R.A.D.H.F. 1010/8 to MALCOLM (R) A.C.I.C., C. in C.H.F. OAKLEY, F.O.2.H.F. Admty, F.O.18 C. S.).  
Reykjavik departure ESKDALE, FARNDALE, at 1633A/8th in accordance with R.A.(D) H.F.1130/31/8. E.T.A.1100A/10th. (A.C.I.C. 1742A/to A.C.O.S.(R) Admty, C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Home Fleet).  
Intend Battle Fleet screened by JAMAICA, BULLDOG, KEPPEL, VENOMOUS, CAMPBELL, and MACKAY should arrive Akureyri at 0900A/10th. BULLDOG and VENOMOUS will return to Hvalfjord to rejoin C.S.18. ECHO will join Cruiser force. BRAMHAM proceed Akureyri. *See p.201*  
Subsequently intend leaving Akureyri p.m./11 for 071° 30' N. 000° 40' W. S. of A.17 knots arriving Akureyri a.m./14. A similar sortie will be made to cover Q.P.14.  
(V.A.(2) 1745A/8 and 0109A/9 to C. in C.H.F. (R) C.S.18 R.A.(D) H.F. A. C.I. C.).  
R.A.(D) Home Fleet 's 1222A/7th. Sailed at 2001A/8th. (A.C.I.C. 2340A/8 to R.A.(D) H.F. (R) C. in C.H.F. Admty, F.O.18th C.S. MALCOLM, Capt.(D) 3rd F.O.2nd H.F. OAKLEY.).  
STURGEON has left Patrol with defects. My 1859/24th. TIGRIS is forthwith to Patrol Zone K.151 and K.152 concentrating principally in Zone K.151. P.54 is forthwith to Patrol Zone K.153 Allocation of withdrawal position 807 unaltered. *See p.201*  
(F.O.S. 2359A/8 to S/Ms operating North of Latitude 51° N. (R) Admty, C. in C.H.F.).

/CUMBERLAND....



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

CUMBERLAND Sailed in accordance with my 1444A/7th.  
SHEFFIELD Codeword "Faith" E.T.A. destination 1030A/10th.  
ECLIPSE. (N.O.I.C.Greenock 0946A/8 to C. in C.W.A. Admty,  
*Should be under A.C.O.S. C. in C.H.F. R.A.(D) H.F. C.S.18, N.O.I.C.*  
*Movements - p.199* Belfast, A.C.I.C., H.Q.C.C., H.Q.15th Group).

A.T.22. A.T.22 my 2031/6. para.3.  
Owing to change of route A.T.22 will not arrive position (O) till 0815Z/10th.  
(C. in C.W.A. 0957A/8 to CURACOA, (R) Admty, N.O.I.C.Londonderry, N.O.I.C.Greenock).

O.N.Convoys, Pass to N.C.S.Os.  
right through For information. The right through voyage in voyages. convoy to New York has been started with O.N. 125.  
(D.T.D. 1139A/8 to C. in C.W.A.).

O.N. and Commencing with O.N.131 these sailing telegrams  
O.N.S. convoy will be originated by C. in C.W.A.  
sailing (C. in C.W. A. 1506Z/8 to Connav (R) Admty, N.S.H.Q.  
telegrams. C.T.24, A.C.I.C. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F.).  
O.S. sailing telegrams. Commencing with O.S.41  
the convoy sailing telegram will be sent in the

following form.

Part One. Name of convoy (A) time of R/V off Oversay (C) escorts. rescue ship (if any) (D) Number of ships (E) Name and ship of Commodore and Vice-Commodore (F) Outcon issued (G) first two letters of W/T call sign (H) latest Q.G. message held (Clause B is not applicable to O.S. convoys and is omitted).

Part two. Ship, and nationality (if other than British) - M.F/ D.F. and/or R/T - destination. Designation C.A.M and N.D. will be placed against appropriate ships. The T.O.O. of part two will be indicated in part one.

(C. in C.W.A. 1601A/8 to R.A.W.Af (R) Admty, C. in C.S.A. V.A.C.N.A. S.O.(I) Capetown).

Secret Code O.G. Sailing Telegrams. Commencing with O.G.90 the convoy sailing telegram will be sent in the following form - (as 1601A/8 (A)-(G), for Q.G. in (H) read Q.K. and for O.S. read O.G.

(C. in C.W.A. 1603A/8 to V.A.C.N.A.).

SS.SHETLAND, Will be ready to leave Clyde on 14/9 for Gibraltar:-  
VERA RADCLIFFE. 2. Speed of slowest ship 7½ knots.  
MIRIAM & 3. Escort will be provided by \*PENN, and \*PANTHER.  
EILDON. 4. Admiralty will provide route. *see p.200*  
5. C. in C.Plymouth is requested to sail PENN, and PANTHER to the Clyde as requisite for this duty.  
6. \*PENN and PANTHER should be retained at Plymouth until required for this duty and give all leave possible.  
7. F.O.I.C.Greenock is requested to sail convoy and arrange conference.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1518A/8 to C. in C. Plymouth C. in C.W.A., F.O.I.C. Greenock, (R) F.O.C.N.A. PENN, PANTHER.).

/U.S. troops.



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

U.S. Troops.  
Clyde to  
Belfast.

2,000 U.S. troops ex convoy A.T.22 will be transported from Clyde to Belfast in cross-channel steamers the night of 11th/12th September.  
2. Request you will arrange sailing accordingly.  
(D.O.D.(H) 1831A/8 to F.O.I.C.Greenock, (R)  
C. in C.W.A. F.O.I.C.Belfast).

T.A.21.

T.A.21 sailed. Code word "Gosling." E.T.A. New York 1500Z/14.  
(N.O.I.C.Greenock, 2354A/8 to A.I.G.307, Negative C.T.G.24.7. (R) C. in C.Atlantic Fleet, B.A.D. Washington, C. in C.H.F. H.Q.C.C. N.O.I.C.Belfast, Group 15, Commander Eastern Sea Frontier, S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic).



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence. 1. Cancel A.M. 1036A/1 para 1. Ship has arrived.  
 2. HAMLA overdue at Freetown since 24.8.42 from Rio de Janeiro. DELFHAVEN overdue at Capetown since 27.8.42. from Trinidad.  
 May be victims of Raider "H" or Raider "J".  
 3. No further information of Raider "E" or Japanese raiders. (D.D.I.C. 1507A/8 to A.I.G. 13 etc.)

North Atlantic.

GERANIUM. Your 2228A/7. Last numbers Q Series on board are QZ H 736. QZ Y 344. QZ S 372. QZ X 799. QZ L 50. My P.C.S. 39.55 15.36 A 336° 13 (?knots) Weather report. Have 4 other ranks A T Company Royal Engineers on board. (GERANIUM 0230A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

U/Bs. Possible U-Boats sighted at long range on surface in 036° 15' N 007° 25' W but search unsuccessful. (Capt. D.19 0633A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ST. NECTAN Request latest position LADY HOGARTH and estimated drift. Trying 0655 038° 44' N 015° 30' W carrying out square search.  
 LADY HOGARTH. (ST. NECTAN 0803A/8 to F.O.C.N.A. LADY HOGARTH.)  
*See next page.* Am proceeding tonight to 036° 42' N 015° 51' W being most distant point considered LADY HOGARTH could reach by 0500/9 assuming under jury rig making Madeira. Should reach position charted 0500/9 will then turn and steer 014° at 8 knots searching.  
 (ST. NECTAN 2045A/8 to F.O.C.N.A. LADY HOGARTH.)  
 Effected temporary repairs 1500. P.C.S. 038° 24' N 014° 48' W 107° 9 at 2100. Request tug stands by.  
 (LADY HOGARTH 2115A/8 to F.O.C.N.A. ST. NECTAN. STELLA CARINA)

French shipping. Passings 7/9. Westbound 1250 ROUEABAIS, laden deck cargo barrels, SCHIAFFINO light deck cargo cork, GABOL laden deck cargo lorries. (V.A.C.N.A. 1007A/8 to Admty.)  
 Departure Viana 1502A/7 LE TRAIT, French, for Lisbon. (Oporto 1018A/8 to Fairmiss)

LESSEE. Will complete loading tonight 8th.  
 (German) (Consul Bilbao 1210/8 to Admty.)

ARCTIC RANGER. At 2000A/8 alter to pass through new position (P) 34.01 15.04 thence new R/V (Q) omitting (N) and (O).  
 2. Adjust speed so as to pass through position (Q) at 0900A/11 then proceed on reciprocal course convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 1312A/8 to ARCTIC RANGER. (R) Admty. R.A.W.A. C. in C. W.A. Escort O.S.39.)

/Situation...



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- Situation 2002A/8. (1) D.S. 0.21 sailed 1800/8 on surface through 34.59 07.45 thence 226° 11½.  
 (2) \*GERANIUM, VETCH, BUSTLER towing one merchant ship (A) 42.35 16.33 000° 5.7. *\* see previous page.*  
 (3) ST. NECTAN assumed towing LADY HOGARTH 38.40 14.32 through 38.01 13.01 thence 112° 5 knots to meet STELLA CARINA and tug DECISION. *see previous page.*  
 (4) STELLA CARINA and DECISION 37.29 11.30 through 38.01 13.01 thence 297° 10. ✓  
 (5) LAFOREY, 1 merchant ship 37.11 11.54 through 38.02 15.03 and 40.01 (?16).59 thence 000° 15.  
 (6) ARCTIC RANGER 1 merchant ship 35.06 10.58 through 34.01 15.04 thence 253° 9. *see previous page.*  
 (7) SPIREA (e) 33.28 13.52 070° 11.  
 (8) LOCH OSKAIG off Cape St. Marys then coastwise to Huelva Bight 10.  
 (9) French MONTEVEREST estimated 36.02 14.48 088° 11. Safe conduct to Gibraltar.  
 (10) AKKA and YARRAWONGA estimated 36.10 16.19 090° 12. Safe conduct to Gibraltar.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1412A/8 to A.I.G. 63.)

CENTURIONE Embassy has received notes from M.F.A. stating Italian S/M at Santander is GIULIANI, damaged with dead and wounded. Time allowed to repair will be announced as soon as possible.  
 REGINALDO Italian S/M at Santander is GIULIANI, damaged with dead and wounded. Time allowed to repair will be announced as soon as possible.  
 GIULIANI, Spanish D.N.I.(?) informed Assistant N.A. today  
 Santander. detailed report of damage not yet received. Only information by telegram which stated "Heavy damage". Stringent precautions have been taken to prevent any attempt at escaping. In view of last occasion these precautions guarantee any escape from Santander.  
 (N.A. Madrid 1529/8 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

CLAN My 1930/2 (re survivors picked up by PEDRO NUNES.)  
 MACWHIRTER Portuguese PEDRO NUNES leaves Funchal 9th and  
 survivors. arrives Lisbon 11th.  
 (N.A. Lisbon 1602/8 to S.O.I. Gib. (R) Admty.)

U/B. Transit A/C reports S/M on surface at 0818Z/8 in 046° 38' N 007° 49' W course 80° speed 15 knots. Did not submerge.  
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1659A/8 to Admty. etc.)

JACK My 1140/6. Chief Officer and 27 men arrived Ponta  
 CARNES Delgada today in Portuguese Destroyer TEJO. Chief  
 survivors. Officer report other life boat not yet accounted for contains Master, 25 men also 2 British naval ratings embarked Belfast 19/8.  
 (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1703/8 to S.O.I. Gibraltar.  
 (R) Admty.)

Axis A.M. 1225B/18/6/42. Any of the following ships  
 shipping. may have left Japanese or Far East ports during August and may reach longitude of Cape Finisterre any time after 14/9.

/REGENSBURG...



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Axis shipping. Contd. REGENSBURG. DRESDEN. TANNENFELS. HAVELLAND. MOSEL. RAMSES. RHAKOTIS. KULMERLAND. RAMB II. PERSEE. (D.D.I.C. 1832A/8 "A" Message, Cominch, H.Q.C.C.)

JULIET. CORIOLANUS. RESTIVE. *RESTIVE. Colne Lighter No 3.*  
Your 1725/7. */p. 171* (Sailing */Stormy Ocean Lighter No 3.* JULIET and CORIOLANUS escorted by RESTIVE.) Onward route from position F to G 39.25 13.28, H, 37.01 09.59, J, 36.01 06.01 thence 60 Gib. (F.O.C.N.A. 1858A/8 to C. in C. Plymouth. (R) Admty. etc.)

PRUDENT CHARON. Intend to sail PRUDENT and CHARON at 2100/9 escorted by PETUNIA for Freetown routed through (G) 35.52 05.57 (H) 33.20 09.30 (J) 28.01 13.30 (K) 22.02 19.01 (L) 19.02 19.01 S of A 11 knots. (2) R.A.W.A. is requested to signal onward route from position (L) Communication PETUNIA keeping watch in accordance with S I/42. Tugs in accordance with Sec. A F Table 2 (4) Line 3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1904A/8 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

Convoy. Your 1616/7. Intend sailing THORSHAVET, ANNA KNUDSEN, PETER II at 2100A/11 escorted by JONQUIL, S.O. of escort SPIREA, COLTSFOOT routed through S. 35.58 06.01. R. 37.01 11.20. Q. 40.01 16.50. P. 44.59 16.50. 9 knots.  
2. TINTERN ABBEY and SNELAND I are to proceed to Gibraltar passing through positions (Q) (R) and (S).  
3. Speed will be adjusted to reach R/V position P. 44.59 16.50 at 0700Z/16.  
4. C. in C. W.A. pass to STARWORT, ACONITZ, CHESTERFIELD.  
5. N.O.I.C. Greenock pass to Oban, C.C.O. and Capt. (D) Greenock. (F.O.C.N.A. 1930A/8 to C. in C. W.A. (R) STARWORT. ACONITZ. CHESTERFIELD. Capt. D. Greenock. Admty. N.O.I.C. Londonderry.. N.O.I.C. Oban. N.O.I.C. Greenock. N.C.S.O. Oban.)

South Atlantic.

Vichy Convoy. Vichy convoy sighted by aircraft 3° 38' N 11° 29' W course 094° 10 knots at 1035/7. VILLE DE HAVRE, LIPARI, FORT DE DOUAUMONT. VENDOME escorted by A.72. (S.O.I. Freetown 0932Z/8 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

O.21. Your 1606A/7. Onward route as in my 1903Z/29. (R.A.W.A. 0946Z/8 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

/MILFORD...



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.- Contd.

MILFORD. Your 1717Z/6/9. Approved.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1103B/8 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro.  
(R) Admty. R.A.W.A.)

ST. GOBAIN. Your 1612/6. ST. GOBAIN arrived Durban 18/8  
and is still there.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1205B/8 to Admty.)

Suspicious ship 23/8. U.S. ALABAMAN 23/8 in 01° 40' S 30° 17' W course  
130° sighted stationary vessel about 2 miles ahead.  
ALABAMAN altered course to 190° and in moonlight  
passed within 60 feet of 4 floating objects which  
it considered to be conical shaped mines.  
2. Suspicious vessel kept stern on preventing clear silhouette  
but appeared to have deck houses from stem to stern. Vessel  
appeared to remain in same position after sighting.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1256B/8 to R.A.W.A. B.A.D.)

CORFU. Your 1828/6. Intention is for CORFU to escort  
RANGITIKI and CIRCASSIA to U.K. calling Freetown  
sailing from Capetown about 18/9.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1306B/8 to Admty.)

RAJPUTANA. Your 1124B/7. RAJPUTANA has not been placed at  
disposal of Admty and you are not empowered to  
convene court-martial. Ratings should be sent to  
India at first opportunity not in RAJPUTANA.  
(Head of N.L. 1353A/8 to C. in C. S.A. (R)  
F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Movements summary. 2000Z/8 area Q.  
COMMANDANT DUBOC escorting Neth. Sub. O.24. 034°  
36' S 025° 27' E to East London, 9.  
SOUTHERN PRIDE with LADY DENISON PENDER 030° 05'  
S 004° 00' E to St. Helena, 10.  
DECOY, GRIFFIN escorting CIRCASSIA, RANGITIKI, (C.R.S.)  
035° 22' S 025° 10' E to Capetown 13.  
(C. in C. S.A. 1506B/8 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty.)

Shipping routes. In order to maintain dispersal for ships bound  
Freetown along southern approach route intend to  
amend position given in your 1241/5 to 2° S 10° W.  
(R.A.W.A. 1621Z/8 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A.)  
Reply. Admty. 1755/9.

KEREN 1. Sailed KEREN and KARANJA at 1600/8/9 and  
KARANJA 1600Z/7/9 respectively for U.K.  
2. Route. A. 08.30 N 13.39 W. B. 09.59 N  
20.01 W. C. 16.01 N 27.58 W. D. 27.59 N 30.30 W.  
E. 39.01 N 29.48 W. F. 46.58 N 27.01 W. G. 51.45 N 20.02 W.  
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to supply onward route from (G).  
4. KEREN S of A 14 knots, KARANJA 14.5 knots.  
(R.A.W.A. 1625Z/8 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

/SIRIUS...



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.SIRIUS  
PHOEBEArrived Port Elizabeth.  
(N.L.O. Port Elizabeth 1651B/8 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)CARNARVON  
CASTLE.Will patrol H.34 C and D East of 026° W from p.m. 10/9.  
(R.A.W.A. 1653/8 to Admty. etc.)

Rockets.

U.S. ROBIN DUNCASTER 26/8 sighted 2 white rockets in 21° 25' S 17° 39' W.  
(S.O.I. Capetown 1656B/8 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.)Saldanha  
Bay  
Minefield.

A.M. 2308/7/8 states you are to lay controlled minefield at Saldanha Bay after replenishing necessary stores at Durban.

2. Proposed minefield to be immediately to seaward of section of a double AT boom between

Marteat Island and Eland Point.

3. C.O. GUARDIAN at present here for purpose of laying indicator nets at Saldanha Bay wish your early confirmation or otherwise by signal of proposed approx. positions baffles to seaward of controlled minefield. (details)

(C. in C. S.A. 1815B/8 to MANCHESTER CITY. (R) D.C. in C. E.F. Admty.)

U/B.

British Overseas Aircraft Co. plane reports passing S/M on surface in 014° 19' N 018° 10' W course 130° at 1856. S/M submerged later.  
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 2000Z/8 to R.A.W.A. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)



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War Diary.8.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 3 destroyers and 2 merchant vessels 33.45 N. 21.48 E. 130° 10 knots.  
(A/C "C" Flight (Malta Command) Number 3 A.A.C.U Duty S.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of enemy 4 destroyers 1 medium merchant vessel (10,000 tons or less 33.50 N. 22.04 E. (Air H.Q. Malta Command 0045B/8 to 201 Group.)

P.C. and S. of 2 merchant vessels and 4 destroyers 34.03 N. 22.00 E. 260° 20 knots.  
(A/C call sign QZ7 duty L. 0120C/8 to 201 Group H.Q.)

P.C. and S. of 4 unknown ships 33.27 N. 22.07 E. 320° 10 knots.  
(A/C (Call sign QZ7) Duty E. 0130B/8 to 201 Group H.Q.)

P.C. and S. of 5 unknown ships 33.19 N. 22.05 E. 320° 10.  
(A/C call sign QZ7 duty F. 0200B/8 to 201 Group H.Q.)

P.C. and S. of enemy 1 merchant vessel 3 destroyers 1 unknown 33.30 N. 21.58 E. 165° 10 knots.  
(A/C call sign QZ7 Duty E. 0332/8 to 201 Group.)

Following has been read: P.C. and S. of 1 destroyer 1 medium vessel not exceeding 10,000 tons, 32.53 N. 23.39 E. (GBXZ ? 0658/8 to any Brit. Man of War.)

Malta Sit. Rep. Military situation report W/E 5/9.

1. Enemy activity confined 48 fighter sorties by day and 6 bomber sorties by night. Recently there has been large decrease in numbers of bombers and fighters in Sicily, particularly German.

2. Own air offensive continues. 150 Spitfire sorties over Sicily also 4 Beaufighters by night. Malta based air attacks on convoys to Libya continue resulting in 1 tanker blown up, 1 tanker stationary, 2 M/Vs hit by torpedoes, 1 D/R hit by bombs, near misses 1 M/V, 1 D/R.  
(Govr. Malta No T.O.O. Recd 0745/8.)

CELENO ALBARO. My 0940C/4. Tankers CELENO and ALBARO left Istanbul for Constanza 7th to load petroleum products: probable destination Trieste via Piraeus.  
(S.O.I. Istanbul 0852C/8 to S.O.(I) Med. (R) S.1 Beirut, S.10, Malta, D. of N.I.)

A.K. Convoys. Propose using letters A.K. for convoys Aden towards Kilindini.  
(Cdre. Aden 0905Z/8 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. F.O.R.S.C.A., C. in C. Med.)

Cositrep No.511. 5. Air. 6/9. Malta aircraft torpedoed M/V about 7000 tons in southbound convoy off Gulf of Taranto. Column of smoke seen rising after attack. Also shot down 2 escorting aircraft, probably destroyed 1, damaged 6. 2 Beauforts lost.



War Diary.8.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Cositrep  
No.511  
(contd.)

6. Night 6/7. Wellingtons bombed Tobruk Harbour and Daba landing ground. Fires started in harbour and 1 aircraft destroyed on ground Daba.

7. 7/9. British and American Liberators bombed southbound convoy S.W. of Crete claiming a hit on one medium ship near misses on others.  
(C. in C. M.E. 1020 G.M.T./8.)

Enemy  
Destroyer.

Following has been read: Am over enemy destroyer in position 33.20 N. 22.50 E. circling.  
(A/C using call sign 7XGX 1020C/8.)

THRASHER.  
TRAVELLER.

From 1400C/8 you have freedom of action in area T. Except when in pursuit of enemy TRAVELLER keep west and THRASHER east longitude 023° 07'. If A/S activity is too great you may proceed to following position TRAVELLER 032° 54' 023° 22' keeping S.E. until 0900C/9. THRASHER 032° 50' 023° 31' keeping S.E. until 1000C/9.  
(Capt. S.1 1325C/8 (as amended 1501C/8, 1630C/8) to S/Ms named.)  
See also 2030C/8. *last page*  
*? 2020C entered.*

C.C.F.  
E. Med.

My 1951/31. Capt. Hubback assumed command as Capt..Coastal Force Eastern Mediterranean 8/9.  
(C. in C. Med. 1428C/8 to Admty. (R) R.A.D. Med.)

Enemy  
Barges.

Following has been read: 6 barges position 31.30 N. 26.50 E. course 270.  
(A/C using call sign IUQG 1700C/8.)

Malta Air  
Report.

I.661 8/9. C.S.R. Malta.. 7th 1225 hrs. 4 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta. 1604 hrs, 4 Spitfires made offensive R/C S.E. Sicily. Night 7/8 2303 hrs. 1 Raider approached, serious R.D.F. interference, 1 Beaufighter chased raider which dropped bombs in sea 5 miles N.E. of Island and fled 0055 hrs, another Beaufighter up but no raiders reached Malta. 8th 0550 hrs, 4 Spitfires made offensive R/C S.E. Sicily. 0810 hrs 4 Me.109s approached at great height, 9 Spitfires up, 1 Spitfire shot down in sea by Me.109s with height advantage, Pilot rescued by R.A.F. rescue launch, A.A. fired pointer rounds. 0850 hrs, 4 Spitfires up but Raiders turned back before reaching Malta.  
Night 7/8. 3 Wellington 8s despatched to attack southbound convoy hit by Beauforts (my 1659 6/9) found 2230 hours 1 large M/V possible smaller M/V 3 D/Rs 012° Cape Amer 50 miles course 125° 11 knots, bombs dropped from 4,000 feet on large M/V scoring near misses from 5 to 10 yards from M/V.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1758/8.)

/Enemy Units ...



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War Diary.8.9.1942  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy R/C A/C report at 1905C today 1 large Merchant  
Units. Ship and 4 destroyers P.C. and S. 033° 16' 021°  
17' - 039° - 13½ knots.  
(Capt. S.1 1942C/8 to S/Ms on patrol (R) C. in  
C. Med. Capt.(S) 10, No.201 N.C. Group.)

At 2001C/8 aircraft reported 1 small merchant ship, 1  
destroyer, P.C. and S. 032° 16' 023° 46' 000° 7 knots (?)  
Flares may be dropped to indicate position of target.

(Capt. S.1 2020C/8 to THRASHER, TRAVELLER (R) C. in C.  
Med. (S) 10, Subs on patrol, No.201 N.C. group)

Situation Levant. Sailing vessel sunk by gunfire from  
Report U-boat in approx 035° 28' N. 035° 40' E. at  
No.264. 1128/6. Palestine schooner SALINA sunk by  
gunfire by U-boat in (?035°) 31' N. 035° 42' E.  
at 1115/7. My 1359/5 para 6 (1559/5 para  
6. re Palestinian ship ARNON) ship total loss. (ii) Red Sea.  
Aircraft attacked U-boat 014° 08' N. (?042°) 46' E. at 0545/6  
without result.  
(C. in C. Med. 1946C/8 to Admty.)

P.34. At 0926/7 in 036° 17' 021° 03' obtained one hit  
M/V hit. on rear 9,000 ship of convoy. Port main motor  
out of action. Am returning Malta through 036°  
16' 018° 56' and 035° 22' 015° 05' to arrive  
0959B/13.

(P.34 2105B/8 to Capt. (S) 1, (R) Capt.(S) 10,  
C. in C. Med. Subs on patrol.)

My 2020C/8th. Operation takes place about 0130. A/C  
attacking approx. 0305.  
(Capt. S.1 2153C/8.)



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8.9.1942  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Port F.

In present circumstances do you consider it necessary to proceed with construction of aerodromes at Port F?  
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0923/8 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., D. C. in C. E.F.)

P.552.

C. in C. E.F.'s 1346/15/7 and my 1743/17/7. P.552 is allocated as A/S Training S/M at Bombay and will be sailed from U.K. via Gibraltar and Cape when ready.  
(D.A/S.W. 1210A/8 to C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Use of Dhows in Persian Gulf.

Your 1013/29/8 (Details of operation known as scheme NA with Cdr. Nott R.I.N. as S.O. and using ISIPINGO) It appears to me that the Dhow scheme is likely to involve employment of resources out of proportion to result likely to be achieved and will absorb too much of available personnel. For example, the W/T communications of S.N.O.P.G. require reinforcing most urgently and your supply of personnel is our only hope.

2. For the above reason I am in favour of confining the scheme in the first instance to the Gulf of Sman,\*and suspicious Bays in the Makran coast. \*(? Oman)  
(C. in C. E.F. 1403Z/8 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) Admty., S.N.O.P.G.)

RESOURCE.

Your 1535Z/8 and my 0131Z (Recd corrupt, no trace in W.R.) yesterday. Position at 1800C/8 03° 39' S. 41° 44' E. (?) Amended E.T.A. (A) <sup>15/8-A.465</sup> 0600C/9.  
(RESOURCE 1741Z/8 to C. in C. E.F. (R) CHITRAL.)

Liaison with Pacific Fleet.

Your 1504/29 and 0805/2 have been passed to B.A.D. Washington who has been requested to approach American Authority accordingly and to inform you and Admiralty of any arrangements he can make.  
(V.C.N.S. 2220A/8 to C. in C. E.F. (R) B.A.D.)



**MOST SECRET**

M E S S A G E 1203CMT/8th September...  
 MOST SECRET IN

From A.H.Q. India.

Date 8.9.42.  
Recd. 1838A

CYPHER.

Addressed C. in C. Eastern Fleet, 222 Group, 225 Group,  
 207 Group, 221 Group, A.H.Q. Bengal,  
 H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East. Repeated Air Ministry  
 Whitehall.

MS2123. A. 245 8/9 Most Secret.

Para. 1B. Your signal T000815Z 8/8. Following are  
 proposals for organisation administration and operational  
 control of all G.R. Squadrons in Indian Ocean assuming  
 total in 1942 of 12 flying boat and 2 (or 4) land based  
 GR squadrons. Foregoing assumes your agreement with  
 our A.347 29/8.

Para. 2(Z) Organisation. Location of flying boat  
 squadrons as in this HQ signal A.347 29/8 recapitulated as  
 follows. 207 Group 1 squadron Durban. 2 Squadrons  
 Kilindini, 2 squadrons ocean base. 225 Group 1 squadron  
 Jiwani (or Karachi). One squadron Madras. 226 Group 4  
 squadrons Ceylon 221 Group 1 squadron Calcutta. Location  
 of G R landplanes (Hudson) 221 Group 1 Squadron  
 Cuttack. 222 Group 1 Squadron Ceylon. No. G.R. Liberator  
 or Wellington Squadrons yet available. Their location and  
 control will be decided when they arrive.

Para. 3. Limits of group areas. 207 Group East African  
 coast to 60 degrees East but Northern limit to be  
 decided by H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. having regard to area to be  
 covered by short range aircraft in Gulf of Aden and  
 Persian Gulf. 222 Group South of 10 degrees North and  
 East of 60 degrees East to enemy occupied coast line.  
 225 Group Indian Ocean North of 10 degrees North from  
 60 degrees East to coast of India. 221 and 225 groups  
 together cover Bay of Bengal from East coast of India  
 to enemy occupied coast North of 10 degrees North.

Para. 4. Administration. Squadrons at Durban Kilindini  
 and Ocean Bases as arranged by H.Q. M.E. Squadron in  
 Ceylon 222 Group. Squadrons at Jiwani (or Karachi) and  
 Madras 225 Group. Squadron at Calcutta and Cuttack  
 221 Group.

Para. 5. Operational Control. (A) Local operational  
 control for day to day requirements will be exercised by  
 local Group Commanders to meet requirements of C. in C.  
 E.F. Flag Officer or Naval C. in C. concerned.  
 Existing patrols for 207 and 222 Groups are as detailed in  
 222 Group signal A 17 of 22/6. Patrols to be carried out  
 by 225 Group and 221 Group in Bay of Bengal North of  
 10 degrees North will be detailed by A.H.Q. India.

/(B) .....



(B) Special requirements for large scale operations or for strategic planning involving redistribution of long range G.R. aircraft or conservation of aircraft for specific reasons will be the responsibility of 222 Group in accordance with requirements of C. in C. Eastern Fleet, all G.R. aircraft being placed under the operational control of 222 Group. The date and time at which C. in C. Eastern Fleet requests operational control to come under 222 Group will be notified by A.O.C. 222 Group to all concerned. Since Squadrons at Madras Cuttack and Calcutta are normally considered part of air defences of India it is requested they should not be placed under operational control of 222 Group without prior reference to Air H.Q. India.

(C) It may be necessary on occasion at the request of C. in C. N.F. to provide special detachment of Catalinas (I) to operate in area where raider or submarine activity is prevalent.

(II) Co-operate in pre-arranged naval operations  
 (III) Supplement active invasion patrols. To meet this requirement 207 221 and 225 Groups are to signal to 222 Group at 1800 hours every Saturday number of Catalinas in each unit with not less than 100 hours to next major overhaul. 222 Group will be responsible for passing weekly state to C. in C. E.F.

Para. 6. Separate instructions being issued on W/T communications.

Para. 7. The foregoing proposals are in accordance with orders issued by 222 Group and conform in general to the directive forwarded to General Wavell with your letter dated 30 July 1942. Request your comments.

Para. 8. Not considered necessary send officers to Kilindini for conference on this matter.

1203/8 GMT.

Recd. from Air Ministry 0440/9/9.

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

1st Lord.	Hd. of M.(2)	Air Min. circulation.
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		D.D.E.14.
		War Registry Admiralty(2)



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

PENNMAR. Intercept 2338 G.M.T. SSS from PENNMAR 44.31 N. 60.09 W.  
(Camperdown Radio, 0024Z/8 to Admty.)

RIPLEY. Consider bridge dynamo should be stripped down and thoroughly overhauled on arrival at Halifax. My P.C. and S. at 0100Z/8 22.33 N. 65.17 W. 014° 19 knots. Weather report.  
(RIPLEY, 0100Z/8 to C.O.A.C., Capt. D. Halifax.)

AEAS. ARTEAS (? AEAS) Master reports S/M not seen but ship definitely hit by torpedo followed in 15 minutes by boiler explosion. C.Bs thrown overboard by Captain. 29 survivors 2 lost, following in my 0446/8. Captain requests Michalines Co. Ltd., London, be informed. (N.O.I.C. Gaspe, 0445Z/8 to C.O.A.C., (R) N.S.H.Q., N.Os. 1/c Quebec, Sydney, C.B.)

Attacks on Q.S.33, 7/9. ARROWHEAD on port wing, line abreast, MOUNT PINDUS, BENCAS, MOUNT TAYGETUS, OAKTON with TRURO on starboard wing Q.O.83 ahead and Q.O.65 astern.  
(2) S/M was not sighted. 3 ships torpedoed within about 2 minutes. MOUNT PINDUS hit starboard side, sank in 15 minutes. MOUNT TAYGETUS and OAKTON hit port side, sank in 7 minutes and 2 minutes respectively.  
(3) C.Bs. went down in all ships.  
(4) No casualties OAKTON, Master requests R.A. Carter, Gulf and Lake Navigation Company, Montreal, be informed.  
(5) MOUNT TAYGETUS, 23 survivors, 5 lost, names follow in my 0502/8th.  
(6) MOUNT PINDUS, 31 survivors, 2 lost, names follow in my 0502/8th.  
(7) Intend representative of survivors take morning train 9/9.  
(8) Greek masters request Rethymnis and Kulukundis, Oakley Court, Windsor, England and (? Rethymnis) Kulukundis, c/o Blidberg Rothchild, 80 Broad Street, New York, be informed.  
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe, 0501Z/8 to C.O.A.C., (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)  
My 2330/7. Following received from N.O.I.C. Gaspe (begins) "Q003 (? Q.S.33 intended) arrived with 78 survivors and estimates 7 lost from 3 ships. 3 minor injuries in hospital. (O) MOUNT PINDUS (Greek) sank in 10 minutes, TAYGETOS (MOUNT TAYGETUS intended) (Greek) in 3 minutes and OAKTON (British) in 2 minutes (? all) 3 attacks within about 3 minutes. 0904Z/8". (Ends.)  
(C.O.A.C., 1553Z/8 to Admty., etc.)  
Q.S.33 attacked and SS. MOUNT PINDUS, MOUNT TAYGETUS and OAKTON torpedoed at 2121/7 in 48.50 N. 63.46 W. Details as 0501/8.  
(N.S.H.Q., 2332Z/8 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

/SIR HUON ...



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

SIR HUON (torpedoed 30/8.) My 0940/6 (0940/3 intended?). Panamanian SIR HUON torpedoed 0730 G.M.T. 30/8 in 010° 50' N. 050° 04' W. Other lifeboat landed at Surinam by Panamanian TAMBOUR. (S.O.I. Kingston, 0856Q/8 to Admty., etc.)

AMATLAN (sunk 6/9) Mexican Tanker AMATLAN sunk 60 miles north Tampico 0800 G.M.T./6. U.S. Authorities informed. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 0858Q/8 to Admty., B.A.D., etc.)

Convoy "Mincemeat". Your 1327/5 para. 2 unlikely. NORLYS will now arrive before a.m. 10/9. Intend to sail "Mincemeat" 9/9. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 0952Q/8 to Admty., (R) Connav, etc.)

Urgently desired to load in time available maximum amount possible not exceeding 300 tons bitumen emulsion in drums on any "Mincemeat" vessel but sailing of convoy must not be delayed on this account. (D.T.D., 1816A/8 to B.R.O. Trinidad.) Your 1816/8. Unable to ship bitumen in "Mincemeat" without delaying convoy. (B.R.O. Trinidad, 1743Q/8 to Admty.)

SALISBURY. Have been delayed by gale. Expect to arrive a.m. 9/9 my P.C. and S. 052° 48' N. 048° 18' W. 210° 15. Weather report. (SALISBURY, 1000<sup>OP</sup>/8 to F.O.N.F., (R) C.O.A.C., etc.)

Movements Summary.

1800 G.M.T. 8/9.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
* VERITY	38½° N. 30° W.	102°	13
A.T. 22	54° N. 43° W.	056°	28
T.A. 20	51½° N. 28½° W.	234°	13

(D.O.D.(F), 1015Z/8 to Opnav, (R) Connaveu.)

\* See next page

Gibraltar Convoy, Azores.

A.M. 1740/4. Request Gibraltar convoy be routed close to Azores where one of the oilers, to be nominated later, is to be detached to replenish stocks at Ponta Delgada. 2. VIMY should not enter Ponta Delgada. (D.O.D.(F), 1220A/8 to Connav, (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., B.R.O. Trinidad, F.O.C.N.A., B.A.D.)

/WAKEFIELD ...



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

WAKEFIELD, U.S.S. WAKEFIELD escorted by U.S.S. <sup>GEORGE W.</sup> CAMPBELL, RADFORD, MURPHY, H.M.S. WELLARD and H.M.C.S. QUINTE arrived Halifax 0600Z/8. WAKEFIELD still on fire. Expected to beach to bring fire under control p.m./8th.  
(C.O.A.C., 1235Z/8 to C.E.S.F., (R) N.S.H.Q., Cominch, N.O.I.C. Montreal, Admty.)  
(S.O.I. Halifax 1409Z/8 and 1957Z/8 to Admty., etc.)  
WAKEFIELD, U.S. naval transport, ex liner MANHATTAN, caught fire p.m. 3/9. Details in Navy Dept. announcement, 9/9. (The Times, 10/9.)  
My 1233Z/8 (1235/8 intended). WAKEFIELD beached 2100Z/8 in Macnab's Cove. Fire under control except for insulation in No. 4 hold.  
(C.O.A.C., 2358Z/8 to C.E.S.F.)

L.N. 7, DONALD STEWART in L.N.7 torpedoed at 0600Z/3 in  
N.L. 6. 50.28 N. 58.32 W. Convoys L.N.7 and N.L.6 crossing. WEYBURN on port beam of convoy N.L.6 sighted U-Boat about 5 cables on her starboard bow second before M/V was torpedoed. U-Boat was attacking port quarter of M.S. 7.  
(2) WEYBURN altered to ram and U-Boat altered course away, WEYBURN unable to overtake U-Boat so opened fire with 4-inch causing U-Boat to submerge. 2 depth charges dropped but no Asdic or Hydrophone contact obtained.  
(3) No indications of any damage inflicted.  
(4) Entire action lasted 4 minutes.  
(C.O.A.C., 1321Z/8 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) Admty., N.S.H.Q.)

VERITY. Your 1748/2 (VERITY at Ponta Delgada.) Fuel will be supplied.  
(M. Branch, 1339A/8 to C.O.A.C.) *See previous page (Thurs. 10/8)*

B.Y.M.S. Request you will signal your intentions for movement of B.Y.M.S. already in commission other than Nos. 1 & 29 stating when those allocated to U.K. may be expected to arrive.  
(D.O.D.(F), 1522A/8 to B.A.D.)

ST. LAURENT My 1513Z/4. Further defects in ST. LAURENT defects. make it impossible for ship to sail with Task Unit 24.1.11. Propose CHAMBLY (?) continues with S.C.99 as S.O. to replace ST. LAURENT for round trip. ROSTHERN (?) escorting at 0930Z/10 to join Task Unit 24.1.17 subsequently proceeding to Argentia as in my 1237/8. *11.7.42*  
(C.C.N.F., 1530Z/8 to C.T. 24.)

U/B. Following has been read. "S S S de R R 5 B sub. sighted 40 miles N.E. of Mount Louis".  
(Ellis Bay Radio (VCZ), 1615Z/8.)

/ U/Bs ...



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

U/Bs and S/Ms. S/M Estimate 8/9 and U.S. S/M Notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1631/8, 1632/8, 1633/8, 1634/8, 1635/8.)

U.S. M.A.D. Equipment in A/S attacked. Ref. 2nd para. M.A.P. 8594 (1759/1, re U.S. M.A.D. equipment required by Admty.) (1) A.B. - 18 aircraft M.A.D. fitted attacked a S/M on the surface about 24/8. S/M crash dived and was held by M.A.D. until U.S. Des. NOA came on the scene. She was led to S/M position by the aircraft and finally attacked using her own sound gear. Both asdic and M.A.D. contacts then faded, oil in fair quantities came up. Position was watched for 24 hours without further result. Classified a probable. (2) Various other contacts with this equipment have been made. Wreck Charts are being distributed as quickly as possible. (3) U.S. consider instrument so valuable that all army medium and heavy bombers and all Navy P.B.M.3s and other flying boats engaged primarily on A/S work are to be fitted. (4) Experiments are going forward to use Hedgehog type projectiles as bombs possibly with rockets used to cancel effect of aircraft's forward motion. We will keep you informed of developments. (B.A.D., 1645Z/8 to Admty.)

U/B. S/M true bearing report in vicinity of 050° 10' N. 064° (? 12') W. at (?16)45/8 by A/C. (C.O.A.C., 1739Z/8 to Admty.)

Liaison, Eastern & Pacific Fleets. A. Following signals have been received from C. in C. E.F.:- "T.O.O. 1504Z/19. From C. in C. E.F. Addressed Admty., (R) R.A.A., A.C.N.B. 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, the duration of such visits being limited to a week or ten days. (3) At the moment the Pacific Fleet has battle experience which the Eastern Fleet lacks and I should in consequence welcome a visit by Aus. Air Naval 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 retention of a permanent liaison officer is necessary in order to ensure the presence of someone fully informed of our organisation 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."

/T.O.O.



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. *conts.*

Liaison, Eastern & Pacific Fleets. (Contd.) "T.O.O. 0805Z/2. From C. in C. E.F. Addressed Admty., (R) V.A. E.F. My 1504/29. In addition to proposed visit and in order to expedite creation of full liaison I would like to take the opportunity while Force A is so much reduced to send Cdr. Clark, U.S. Navy, by air to Washington to represent my views on liaison and obtain certain information on recent battle experience of U.S. Fleet. Request concurrence of U.S. Naval authorities may be sought". (Ends.)  
B. Request you will approach the American authorities accordingly and inform C. in C. E.F. and Admty. of any arrangements you can make.  
(V.C.N.S., 1801A/8 to B.A.D.)

Galveston Convoys, Titles. B.R.O. Galveston is requested to furnish details of titles of convoys sailing from and to Galveston.  
2. B.R.O. Galveston's 1717Z/7 refers to arrival of N.K.401, but it is understood letters N.K. indicate New York - Key West Convoy.  
3. B.R.O. Key West is requested to give particulars of convoy mentioned in para. 2.  
(D.T.D., 1855A/8 to B.R.Os. Galveston, Key West.)  
Reply: 1829/9.

Sub attack and sighting summary. Para. A. Cancel attack on unidentified ship 22.40 N. 78.32 W. 0100Z/3 reported my 2118/3.  
Para. C. PENNMAR sights sub. 44.(?31) N. 60° W. 2330Z/7 and again 44.16 N. 62.03 W. 1110Z/8.  
Subs. sighted 46.55 N. 63.50 W. 1840Z/7.  
49.42 N. 65.01 W. about 1544Z/8.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2001Z/8 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

STAR OF EGYPT. Egyptian STAR OF EGYPT overdue Trinidad from Freetown.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica, 2011Q/8 to Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D., Connav.)  
At Bombay. See Admty. 1209/10.

Crude Oil Shipments, Delays. Heavy and continued shipments of crude oil are being carried from Venezuela to the Aruba and Curacao refineries. During the past 4 months an average of 140,000 tons has been transported mainly from Puerto la Cruz. For the remainder of the year it is hoped to lift a monthly average of 80,000 tons from Puerto la Cruz, the balance being made up from other sources.  
2. BRITISH INDUSTRY and SAINTONGE have been held loaded in Puerto la Cruz since 28/8, and delays to future tankers in this area seem inevitable.  
3. This crude produces Admty. furnace oil and 100 Octane which latter is in short supply everywhere.  
4. Both for sake of the cargo and need to make maximum use of tankers the present situation causes grave concern. At least



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Crude Oil Shipments, Delays. (Contd.) 8 voyages must be arranged monthly as tankers come into position. Please consult with Connav as to practicability of including Puerto la Cruz in the T.A.G. - G.A.T. itinerary for the present, or any other method of keeping this important traffic moving.

5. Please refer Masta 3465 dispatched today which mentions possibility that changing loading points for crude may ease the task of protection.

(D.T.D., 2036A/8 to B.A.D., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.)

Reply: B.A.D. 2359/9.

PUCHERO aground.

Connav Serial 8.  
PUCHERO Panama fast on reef 19.18 N. 87.27 W. today. Salvage tug en route.  
(Connav, 2054/8 to Connaveu.)

A.T. 23.

U.S. escorts for A.T.23 will be required to return to U.S. as soon as possible after arrival in U.K. If you wish to take advantage of returning escorts to run a T.A.23, U.S. Authorities request you will have ships loaded and ready to sail on arrival of A.T.23 in U.K.

(B.A.D., 2105Z/8 to Admty., D.S.T., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Troopship Collision.

PERTSHIRE and VAN DER LIJN in collision in 019° 11' S. 147° 12' E. at approx. 1200Z/4. Both vessels proceeded Townsville. Estimated time for temporary repairs before proceeding Brisbane or Sydney (N.S.W.) VAN DER LIJN 7 days, PERTSHIRE 14 days. Troops for Port Moresby in VAN DER LIJN disembark Townsville.  
(A.C.N.B., 0451Z/8 to Admty.)

Situation.

Digest Serial No. 229, 7/9.  
Considerable enemy activity continues Faisi Buin Tonolei Harbour area. 3 probably heavy cruisers including one described Nachi class arrived during night 6/7 departing S.E. direction before dawn. Also indications one Sendai class cruiser and 10 destroyers possibly departed with this force. Air R/C this area at 0410Z/7 reported 1 cruiser, 6 destroyers, 4 gunboats, 3 merchant vessels, 1 large unidentified vessel (possibly seaplane tender).



War Diary.8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

- Situation. (2) Enemy reported establishing base ashore at  
(Contd.) Buin where vessels observed unloading heavy gear  
ashore at 0300Z/7.  
(3) Air R/C reports nil sightings Kieta 6/9.  
(4) Enemy reported occupied Efogi midnight 6/9.  
(5) Our forward troops Milne Bay area reported vicinity Killerton  
Point 6/9. British supply ship ANSHUN sunk at Wharf Milne Bay  
by naval gunfire from 2 enemy cruisers night 6/9. Air search  
this area morning 7/9 reported nil sightings.  
(6) 2 enemy cruisers sighted off Normandy (? Normanby) Island  
afternoon 7/9 attacked by 3 Hudsons, 6 Beauforts, 2 Beaufighters,  
6 Kittyhawks at 0705A/7. Nil hits by bombs or torpedoes, decks  
strafed.  
(7) Allied positions Milne Bay reported being again shelled by  
enemy naval vessels midnight 7/9.  
(8) 26 heavy bombers escorted by 6 Zeros attacked aerodrome  
Port Moresby 0228Z/7 from 27,000 feet. 3 hits Seven Mile  
runway others dispersal area causing slight damage. Nil  
interception. 1 bomber shot down by A/A.  
(9) Mubo area bombed by 1 Fortress from 16,000 feet 6/9.  
(10) 7 Aircobras and 9 Bostons bombed and strafed enemy positions  
Myola and Efogi area 7/9 causing fires.  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0715Z/8 to Admty., etc.)

ANSHUN. Sunk by shell-fire at Milne Bay 1217Z/6. Vessel  
lying on side alongside pontoon jetty.  
(A.C.N.B., 1028Z/8 to Admty., C. in C. E.F.,  
B.A.D., N.Z.N.B., C.O.I.S. Kilindini.)  
British supply ship, 3188 tons, sunk by 2 enemy  
cruisers.  
(D.O.R., 1115.)

MALAITA G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific area 1004Z/30.  
(torpedoed MALAITA hit by one torpedo starboard side  
29/8.) abreast bridge. Bulkhead between 2 and 3 holds  
starboard damaged. Main and auxiliary motors  
intact. Vessel now on even keel and anchored  
Port Moresby harbour. Tug ST. GILES proceeding Port Moresby  
with salvage gear.  
(A.C.N.B., 1029Z/8 to Admty., B.A.D., C. in C. E.F., N.Z.N.B.,  
C.O.I.S. Kilindini.)

U.S. 17, Hired Transports WESTERNLAND, FELIX ROUSSEL, EKMA  
U.S. 16. departed Fremantle 7th in convoy U.S. 17 due  
Durban 23rd.  
Hired Transports ARONDA, DEVONSHIRE, RAJULA,  
departed Fremantle 7th in convoy U.S. 16 due  
Colombo 21st.  
(A.C.N.B., 1131Z/8 to Admty., etc.)

/NIEUW ...



War Diary.

8.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM.

Your 0912/29/8.

Propose that NIEUW AMSTERDAM after disembarkation at Suez about 25/9 should proceed to New Zealand via Colombo and Fremantle to embark the 5500 New Zealand personnel for Middle East.

2. Vessel will be unescorted. Request confirmation that this is acceptable.

(D.S.T., 1541A/8 to N.Z.N.B., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Positions approximate.

(D.D.I.C., 1424A/8, 1442A/8.)



9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

V.A.2 in ANSON with DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA and 4 destroyers left Hvalfjord at 1445 today, to provide cover for P.Q.18.

4 Whirlwinds attacked 4 ships of about 1200 tons off Cape de la Hague at 1430 today and obtained direct hit on one and near misses on another which was seen to be listing. Supporting Spitfires arriving later saw only 2 ships floating.

An inward bound merchant ship sighted and attacked by a Whitley at 2038 today in 43° 10' N. 9° 28' W. is thought to be a blockade runner with a valuable cargo. A medium sized cargo vessel was sighted by a civil aircraft at 1435A in 42° 50' N. 9° 50' W. steering 20° at 12 knots.

North Atlantic.

F.O.C.N.A. has slight evidence that German U-Boats may have passed into Mediterranean from Atlantic since 29/8, and asks for any confirmation.

East Indies.

A suspected submarine was reported at 2234 G.M.T. today by SS. BRITISH HOPE in 8° 2' N. 82° 0' E. (off the east coast of Ceylon.)

Operations  
against  
Madagascar.

In order to deny bases and facilities to the enemy, operations are to be undertaken against certain points in Madagascar. Three convoys sailed separately from Kilindini and one from Diego Suarez and made R/V at noon today 90 miles south of Mayotte with C.S.4 as S.O. Force M in BIRMINGHAM with ILLUSTRIOUS, HEEMSKERCK and destroyers.

/Air ...



9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies - Contd.

Air attack  
on ships  
at Akyab.

Ships sighted by air R/C off the Arakan coast yesterday were attacked this morning in Akyab harbour by 10 Blenheims and 6 Hudsons; a 1500 ton motorvessel, believed to be an ammunition ship was hit and is believed to have been sunk, and a 500 ton escort vessel possibly damaged. Hits were made on the jetty where ammunition was stocked.

Convoys  
P.A.1,  
P.B.1.

Two convoys have sailed from the Persian Gulf, P.A.1 with ships for Aden and beyond, and P.B.1 with ships for Indian ports.

America and West Indies.

As the Canadian Govt. has decided to close the St. Lawrence to overseas shipping, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa today requested that destinations of future sailings from U.K. for St. Lawrence ports be changed to Sydney, Halifax, or St. John N.B., and that where possible destinations of such ships already on passage be changed.

It is anticipated that S.Q. and Q.S. convoys will be discontinued in about 2 weeks.

L.N., N.L., and S.B., B.S. convoys will be maintained until close of navigation.

Local traffic in Gulf of St. Lawrence will be afforded such air and surface protection as may be available.

A submarine was reported at 0421 today in 52° 19' N. 138° 59' W. (about 500 miles west of Vancouver Island.)

Convoy "Mincemeat (tankers) escorted by PATHFINDER, QUENTIN and SNOWDROP, left Trinidad today and is due at Freetown at 0900Z on 23/9.



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.North  
Atlantic  
dispositions.A.M.1138/A/7. Area Iceland (C) add CUMBERLAND,  
SHEFFIELD. Area Clyde delete CUMBERLAND,  
SHEFFIELD 1 destroyer.  
(D.O.D. (H), 1129Z/9 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet).Movements.

BERWICK

My 1435/8. Sailed.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0741A/9).  
My 0741/9. BEVERLEY and CHESTERFIELD E.T.A.  
0830/10.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1145A/9).P.311,  
H.50.To sail P.311 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER at  
1200A/13 for Plymouth. E.T.A. 0900A/15.  
2. Thence JAN VAN GELDER to escort H.50 to  
Rothesay as ordered by C. in C. Plymouth.  
(Capt. S.3., 0943A/9).114th M.M.S  
Flotilla.My 1144/8. Sailed Needles.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0945A/9).

FURIOUS.

Sail <sup>N.T. in N.D.</sup> FURIOUS for exercise, thence in accordance  
with her 1639A/7. E.T.A. Hoxa Gate 1400A/10.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0945A/9 to C. in C. H.F., etc)PRINCE CHARLES, C.C.O.'s. 1925A/6 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1329A/8  
PRINCE LEOPOLD. and 1322A/8. Intend to sail PRINCE CHARLES and  
PRINCE LEOPOLD from Needles at 2000 today for  
Greenock for onward routeing to Inverary. <sup>N.T. in N.D.</sup>  
2. BLEASDALE is to escort to off Lizard at 0630  
/10 thence to Plymouth. E.T.A. 0800/10. <sup>0.100</sup>  
3. Routed as in C. in C. Plymouth's 1001A/8 and thence standard  
route. Speed 15 knots to Lizard thence 18 knots, E.T.A. 0630/11.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1129A/9).BLANKNEY,  
MIDDLETON.BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON arrived Archangel.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1645A/9).

DELHI.

When ready for sea request you will sail DELHI  
for Belfast for service under the orders of  
C. in C. W.A.,  
(D.O.D. (H), 1748A/9 to C. in C. Rosyth).Crane Lighter  
No.3.My 1725/7. Sailed.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2001A/9).



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Channel  
Islands  
Patrol.

2 M.T.Bs. are to sail at dark tonight and proceed to patrol between Roche Douvres and Sept.Iles.  
2. They are to return so as to be within 20 miles of Dartmouth at first light.  
3. Object to attack enemy ships with torpedoes.  
4. Code word "Obstacle".  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1331/9 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).  
Cancel my 1331A/9.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1907A/9).

Patrol S.3.

Available M.Ls. are to carry out patrol S.3 from 1930/9 until 2200/9. They are then to patrol 7½ miles to the southwestward on the same line of bearing returning to Dartmouth at first light.

2. Object. To intercept and attack E-boats minelaying or attacking P.W.215.

3. Codeword "Nation 6".

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1335/9 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Your 1335/9. Intend to sail M.Ls. 491 (S.O.), 155, 159, 118 at 1800/9.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1521/9 to C. in C. Plymouth).

**P.31.** My 1335/5. Approx. position of P.31 proceeding up channel, will be 50° 00' N., 03° 15' W., at 2000/9. M.T.Bs. are to keep well to the Westward of that position.

2. Amend M.Ls. patrol to read 10 miles to the south eastward. Patrol to start at western end.

Two L.S.I. and 1 destroyer will be in 50° 08' N., 03° 10' W., course 254° speed 15 knots at 0100/10.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1541A/9 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Off  
St. Albans  
Head.

→ (1) Intend M.G.Bs. 52 (S.O.) and 51 to patrol on latitude 50° 20' N., between 1° 35' and 2° 10' W. from 2130/9 till 0600/10.

(2) Object. Anti E-boat patrol.

(3) Codeword "Artful".

(4) E.T.D. 2045/9. E.T.R. 0700/10.

(5).Request air protection.

(F.O.I.C. Portland 1415/9 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Patrols.

1. 2 A/S trawlers and 1 Chasseur on patrol off E.A.5 buoy.

→ 4. M.G.Bs. 51 and 52 patrolling 15 miles South of Anvil Point.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1454A/9).

M.Ls. 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2030. E.T.R. 0600/10.

M.Ls. 104 (S.O.) 213 and 108 exercising near U buoy. E.T.D. 2045

E.T.R. 2359. The following anti E-boat patrols from 2045.

M.G.Bs. 41, S.2., and S.3. near D buoy. ADAM and YASHIMA at No. 10 buoy. M.L. 293 and R.M.L. 500 near C one buoy.

(V.A. Dover, 1813A/9).



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.U.S.A.  
Aircraft.

Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at A.M. 9/9.  
 Fighters (P.38) U.K. 133, Iceland 20, B.W.1. 1,  
 B.W.8 Nil. Goose 2, Presque Isle Nil.  
 Transports (C.57 and 53) U.K. 111, Iceland 1,  
 B.W.1. Nil, B.W.8. Nil, Goose 1, Presque Isle 3.  
 Bombers (B.17 and B.24) U.K. 149, Iceland Nil,  
 B.W.1 2, B.W.8 Nil, Goose 1, Presque Isle 2.  
 No further movements expected today.  
 (Air Ministry, 1530/9 to 44 Group).

Bombing  
 operations.  
 OLE WEGGER,  
 SOLGLINT.

M

On day 8/9 at Havre 6 Bostons attacked a Whale-  
 oil factory ship (OLE WEGGER) in the Bassin de  
 Marce, from 9,500 ft. Bursts were reported on the  
 N. Quay E. and W. of the target vessel, and on  
 the S. Quay. 2 A/C took photos. No hits are  
 shown. Also at Cherbourg 6 Bostons attacked a

Whale-oil ship (SOLGLINT) in the Bassin Napoleon III. Bombs  
 dropped from 10,000 feet were observed to undershoot. Bursts  
 were also seen on buildings near the Petrol Basin. 1 A/C took  
 photos confirming this.

On night 8/9, 189 A/C attacked Frankfurt.  
 (H.Q.B.C., 1605A/9).

Off Cape  
 Finisterre.

An engaging enemy ships type unknown in 43° 10' N.  
 9° 28' W.  
 (A/C 19 Group 2038/9).

Enemy Air Activity.

Iceland.

Enemy A/C reported 8/9. One 4 engine A/C in  
 vicinity Reykjavik 1046 to 1124.

One in Reykjavik-Hvalfjord area 1420 to 1450.

One F.W. sighted off Hofn 064° 14' N., 015° 12' W., course West,  
 at 1555.

(A.C.I.C., 0004A/9)

An enemy long-range R/C aircraft sent weather report for  
 approx. 67° 55' N., 19° 30' W., at 1046.

(D.D.I.C., 1514A/9 to A.I.G., 47).

One unidentified hostile A/C course S.W. sighted 1245 and  
 1310/9 over Djupivojur (064° 39' N., 014° 41' W).

One unidentified 2 engined A/C circling at 10,000 feet  
 over Vattaines (064° 56' N., 013° 41' W. at 1320/9.

(A.C.I.C., 2301A/9 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F.)

ELLESMERE  
 attacked on  
 1/9.

Trawler ELLESMERE reports when five miles S.S.E.  
 of Ball Rock (C. Kerry) at 2200A/1/9 being  
 attacked by one E/A. Several bombs dropped. No  
 damage. No casualties.  
 (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1005A/9).



9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Sweep in  
 Lyme Bay.

"Ounce V" sailed 0614, sweeping N. E.T.A. Portland 1500/9 SEDDON, NIGHT HAWK, BILSDEAN, CONCENTATOR.

2. F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them to Dartmouth sweeping same route at 0600/10. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0656/9 to F.O.I.C. Portland)

Following from PANGBOURNE begins. One mine cut in 088° Start Point 4½ miles 1929A/8. Ends.

Following received from M.S. 13 begins. Two mines detonated in sweeps in 50° 23' 30" N., 03° 08' 12" W., 50° 24' 12" N., 03° 11' 48" W., and one mine cut and exploded by rifle-fire in 50° 24' N., 03° 12' 12" W. Mines definitely R type. 2000A/8 ends.

(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1508/9).

Your 0656/9 "Ounce V" arrived.

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1646A/9 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Clearance Northern Edge Q.Z.X. 787 extended from 1.2 miles to 2.3 miles. One mine detonated in sweep in 50° 23' 24" N., 03° 12' 24" W., and one mine cut and sunk by gunfire in position 50° 23' 12" N., 03° 12' 00" W.

(M.S.13, 1715/9 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Thames  
 Estuary.

Suspected mine reported on edge of Maplin Sands in approx. 51° 34' 20" N. 1° 0' 0" E. Barge wreckage in vicinity. Report states circular object about 8ft. long 2 ft. diameter, cap off top, standing at 45° 2 ft. above L.W.O.S. Mine should be visible at low water tomorrow. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1131A/9).

PRIDE OF  
 HUMBER  
 mined.

Motor fishing vessel PRIDE OF HUMBER blown up at approx. 1410/8, 53° 36' 54" N., 0° 01' E. No trace of ship or survivors. (F.O. Humber, 1145/9 and 2144/9).

Yarmouth.

At 1102/2 one magnetic mine exploded by Sweepers. Details. (Capt. M/S Yarmouth Recd. 1310/9).

M.M.S. 9,  
 47 and 80  
 for overseas.

My 1906A/4. <sup>117. 1173</sup> Add part 108th M.S. Flotilla, M.M.S.9, M.M.S. 47, M.M.S.80. (D.M.S., 1832A/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Eastern  
 Channel  
 Minefields.

A meeting will be held in Admiralty at 1500/14 to discuss (1) Arrangements for photographing the shallow enemy minefields in the Eastern English Channel and Straits of Dover. (2) Possibility of clearing and maintaining clear these areas.

(3) Offensive operations against enemy surface vessels including minelayers in this area.

Authorities addressed are requested to send representatives. Fighter Command and Coastal Command are requested to arrange for representatives of No. 11 Group and No. 16 Group to attend also if they consider this desirable.

(A.C.N.S. (H.), 2016A/9 to C. in C. Portsmouth, V.A. Dover, H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C.)

/North...



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

North Channel Sweep. Sailed Cdr. M/S in SIR LANCELOT with SIR GALAHAD and CERESIO from Ardrossan to take over sweep in vicinity of Chicken Rock in accordance with my 1154A/2.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2204A/9 to FOXTROT)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-boats. E-boats reported 16 miles south of St. Catherines steering north at 2255.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2315A/9 to BLEASDALE).

U-boats.

U-boats reported. Russian A/C reported U-boat in 069° 35' N., 040° E., course 100° at 0420Z/9. Photographs taken.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0759A/9 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
Enemy submarine previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 140° estimated speed 5 knots.  
(A/C UN9G 1230/9).  
Am over enemy S/M in 45° 30' N., 9° 30' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 130° estimated speed 4 knots.  
(A.O.C., 19 Group, 1905/9).

U-boat attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 46° 15' N., 8° 37' W. S/M on surface and observed to dive on a course of 290° speed 8 knots.  
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1500/9).  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 5 hits. (?46°)8' N., 8° 43' W., corrected 610 ?for 5930 at base.  
(A/C 19 Group 1529/9).

Casualties & Defects.

STURGEON. My 1611/8. Para. A. Delete STURGEON. Add new Para. (J) STURGEON very approx. position 64° N., 2° E., proceeding unescorted on the surface to Lerwick 8 knots.  
(F.O.S., 0021A/9 to Admty).  
STURGEON 2105/8. Request Muckle Flugga radio beacon may make 2 transmissions every hour from 0001/10 until further orders.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 0953A/9 to A.C.O.S.)  
Your 0953/9. Arranged.  
(N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 1208/9 to S.O. S/M Lerwick).  
Your 1111A/9. First attempt at 1500/6 position 069° 44' 010° 40'. Subsequently at 2300/6 position 069° 14' 008° 17', and at 2159/7 position 067° 12' 003° 52'. Signal was broadcast when direct communication could not be established. My P.C.S. 062° 01' N., 000° 18' E., 200° 6.  
(STURGEON, 1959A/9 to F.O.S.)



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

L.C.T. 358. My 1449/8. <sup>N.T. W.D.</sup> No further trace of L.C.T. 358. BASSET still searching. Negative report received from BASSET 0830/9 Butt of Lewis. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1059A/9).

INDOMITABLE. Your 2005A/8. Confirmed by Cammell Laird that damaged structure in wake starboard four-inch turrets can be made good and turrets replaced as originally fitted providing an extension of 14 days from arranged date of completion is granted and that gun and gear are available fitting when required by firm. It is understood that modifications to after accommodation are also under consideration. Immediate decision is also requested on this major alteration in order that work may be carried out concurrently with damage repairs. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1248A/9 to Admty).

The structural repairs and work of fitting 2 in number 4.5" Twin H.A.L.A. Mountings starboard side forward are to be taken in hand forthwith. All work to be completed by 14/1/43. (D. of D., 2110A/9 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

DELAWARE,  
EMPIRE  
BASCOBEL. Reykjavik departure tug ADHERENT at 1505/9 to assist DELAWARE and EMPIRE BASCOBEL in 063° 07' N. 022° 30' W. (A.C.I.C., 1621A/9).

TOWARD Rescue ship TOWARD will be completed and ready for service with P.Q. convoy 16/9. Request instructions. (B.N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1623A/9).

DAVID  
OGILVIE.  
L.C.T. 390. Intend sailing DAVID OGILVIE to Aberdeen for repairs at 0900 tomorrow under own steam. Escorts Salvage vessel THISTLE and H.M.T. STONEFLY. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 1710/9). My 1130/4. DAVID OGILVIE refloated, proceed Aberdeen 10/9 for docking and repairs. L.C.T. 390 refloated. Extensive repairs required which cannot be undertaken at Aberdeen. She will be brought in tow ABEILLE IV 11/9 for examination and await further instructions. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1727/9 to Admty).

LYMINGE KINGSTON BERYL 1225A/9 passed for information begins O.S.M. 40 LYMINGE for Oban reports hull break where main discharge connects ships side fractured. Requests permission to proceed to Clyde for repairs and N.C.S.O. Gourock advised T.O.O. 1225A/9 Ends. (C. in C. W.A., 1903A/9 to Admty).



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects - Contd.MANCHESTER.  
(sunk 22/8).

A.M. 0123A/24. It would be much appreciated if a Constructor Officer perhaps from Combined Control School could be made available to be member of Board of Enquiry on loss of MANCHESTER. Board is being convened at 1030/16 at C. in C. Administrative Offices, H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2244A/9 to Admty).

Shipping & Convoys

P.Q.18  
Q.P.14  
(Operation  
E.V.)

R.A.D. H.F., 1010/8. Sailed 2025/8.

(A.C.I.C., 0330A/9).

Sailed your 1747/8 at 0850/9.

(A.C.I.C., 1211A/9 to V.A.2)

Your 1745/8. Concur.

(C. in C. H.F., 1251A/9 to V.A.2).

Following new fuelling position is established.

Position (TT) 077° 40' N., 010° 01' E. Reference E.V. para. 21 and R.A.D. H.F., 1222/7. This position is to be used instead of QQ.

2. On passage to Lowe Sound Force P and Force A are to keep North of latitude 077° 35' when east of longitude 006° E.

(C. in C. H.F., 1745A/9).

Following is a repetition of BRAMHAM's 1330/9 to F.O. 2nd B.C.S. C. in C. H.F., A.C.I.C., MILNE. E.T.A. Akureyri 1900.

May be delayed by fog. Have on board one deserter from MILNE.

(A.C.I.C., 1842A/9 to F.O. 2 B.C.S., C. in C. H.F., MILNE).

Following from Group Capt. Hopps. My 0904/7. Now ascertained (?only) 26 aircraft in North Russia. Aircraft indicated and location as follows (1) As Vaenga Bay serviceable 144 Squadron A.H.V.O.M.G. T.F.N.U.455 Squadron T.F.V.K.M.P. R.S. J.G.N.B.D.

(2) Crash landing but (?repairable) E. of 144.

(3) Shot down aircraft written off, but 3 of crew safe P. of 144.

(4) Crash in Forester aircraft written off L of 455.

(5) Request information concerning remains of 6 aircraft 144 Squadron J C Q K 455 Squadron C H.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1935A/9 to A.O.C. 18 Group).

Sailed BROKE in accordance with C. in C. H.F., 1951/8.

E.T.A. 1400/11.

(A.C.O.S., 1942/9).

S.S.QUEEN  
ELIZABETH.

To avoid Northbound traffic steer from Q to new position W. 49° 40' 20' 15', then direct to S. omitting R.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1550A/9 to QUEEN ELIZABETH).

Convoy T.A.21 sailed from U.K. 8/9.

(D.S.T., 2102A/9 to B.A.D. Washington).

SHETLAND,  
VERA RADCLIFFE  
MIRIAM,  
PACIFIC,  
EILDON.

A.M. 1518/8 Para. 1. Add SS. PACIFIC. SS. EILDON will not sail.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1818A/8).



War Diary.

9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- QUEEN MARY. Your 2031Z/6, para. (4). In view of weather intend sweeping with destroyers eastward down route of A.T.22 at 15 knots passing through position 'O' at 0415Z/10.  
(CURAÇOA. 1931A/9 to C. in C. W.A.)
- D.S.32 My 1252/30. Ship detailed is LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE. Speed 13½ knots. She will return as S.D.32.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 2039A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
- T.A.22 Convoy T.A.22 consisting of QUEEN MARY will leave Clyde on 13/9.  
F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to signal E.T.A. to Connav and C.E.S.F.  
C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide escort of CURAÇOA and 6 destroyers until dark 14th.  
H.Q.F.C. is requested to provide maximum fighter protection.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 2051A/9).
- T.A.20 Convoy T.A.20 comprising U.S. vessel SIBONEY sailed from U.K. 5/9 for New York with 25 U.S. technicians and 150 U.S. Merchant Navy on board.  
(D.S.T., 2100A/9 to B.A.D. Washington).
- LEINSTER. LEINSTER is due Clyde about 13/9. She will disembark at The Tail of the Bank.  
(D.S.T., 2101A/9).



War Diary.

9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LADY HOGARTH. Position at 0700 038° 12' N., 013° 06' W., course 117° S. of A 9 knots in company DECISION. (LADY HOGARTH, 0730A/9 to F.O.C.N.A., ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA). STELLA CARINA return to Gibraltar forthwith. ST. NECTAN escort LADY HOGARTH and DECISION. STELLA CARINA acknowledge. (F.O.C.N.A., 1101A/9 to ST. NECTAN, STELLA CARINA (R) Admty, LADY HOGARTH). LADY HOGARTH reports having effected temporary repairs and was in position 38.12, 13.01 117° 9, tug DECISION in company, at 0700/9 proceeding to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1126A/9 to Admty). Cancel my 1101/9. STELLA CARINA remain with LADY HOGARTH ST. NECTAN return to Gibraltar forthwith. ST. NECTAN acknowledge, reporting P.C. and S. (F.O.C.N.A., 1645A/9 to STELLA CARINA, ST. NECTAN, (R) Admty, LADY HOGARTH, DECISION). Your 1645A/9 received. P.C. and S. 1800A/9, 037° 24' N., 012° 29' W., 102° 10 knots. (ST. NECTAN, 1800A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Patrols "S" class S/MS Your 2035/1 (2033/1/9 intended) para. 2A. Assume S class comes under same category as U class In view of my 1040/9, not to Capt. (S) 3, decision is required as to whether submarines should carry out this blooding patrol after arrival Malta or whether they should return to Gibraltar after blooding patrol to complete (?allocation of) stores and spare crew. (ii) C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. (S) 1. (F.O.C.N.A., 1110A/9 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty etc). Reply: C. in C. Med., 1101/11.

LE TRAIT (French). Arrival 8th 1630. (Lisbon, 1157/9 to M.W.T.)

H.D.M.Ls. Your 1618/2. No engineer officer or base staff is normally provided for Harbour Defence M.L. Flotillas. Limited maintenance required should be within capacity of local port facilities. 2. Stores, spare gear, etc. for H.D. M.L. Flotillas had been or is being shipped to Gibraltar. 3. Separate signal will be sent regarding motor M/S Flotillas. (D.D.Q.D. (C) 1157A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Damaged U/B at Santander. S/M still a Prisoner of War alongside quay. (Santander 1200/9 to Admty (R) Gibraltar Madrid). (CENTURIONE REGINALDO GIULIANI.)

/My...



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - CONT:-Damaged U/B  
at Santander.  
Contd.(CENTURIONE  
REGINALDO  
GIULIANI.)

My 1059/22/7. Italian U-boat entered Santander early on 3/9 damaged. Following attacks on 2/9 believed to have been on this U-boat:-

(A) Sunderland on A/S patrol obtained radar contact at 12 miles, sighted at 5 miles, attacked with four 250 lb. S.A.P. bombs spaced 25 feet

from 400 feet obtaining one near miss.

(B) Similar Sunderland attacked with machine guns and dropped two bombs from 500 feet. U-boat's gun silenced and several casualties observed.

(C) Whitley attacked with 4 torpex charges from 70 feet set 25 feet spaced 25 feet. U-boat had just dived, no visible damage.

(D) Wellington attacked with 6 amatol charges, two exploded alongside conning tower. A/C machine gunned U-boat and dropped 2 A/S bombs. 10 of crew dived into sea. U-boat list to port and screw above water more gunning claimed 4 casualties. U-boat remained on surface. Large oil patch.

2. On 3/9 Whitley sighted fully surfaced U-boat at 6 miles in 46° 42' N., 11° 08' W. Attacked from 15 feet with 6 torpex charges with nose spoilers and tails, spaced 25 feet. Two fell close and one hit saddle tank, U-boat lost all way. Submerged level 4 minutes later. No oil, no wreckage.

(D.A/S.W., 1110Z/9 to Cominch (R) B.A.D. etc).

(Minister of) Marine informs me as follows.

(i) S/M REGINALDO GIULIANI arrived 3/9 damaged and landed 5 badly wounded men including C.O. Damage serious chiefly to (?tanks) and pressure hull but with small effect to diesels. When on surface speed only slightly reduced and only one leak. Diving however out of question.

(ii) Requested permission to execute repairs and was berthed alongside. Asked if he wished assessment of damage merely to cover leaks when surfaced or damage which prevented diving he chose latter. Repairs former would have meant allowance of 5 days. Latter meant many (weeks?)

(iii) 5/9, when experts only just arrived S/M tried to proceed to sea but was prevented by (?repairing) force. This had led to extreme irritation on part of Spaniards as they regard attempt as childish, insulting, and unnecessary as S/M could have left at once if she had not asked time for repairs. As it is she must carry out repairs she requested to satisfaction of Spanish Naval Officers and until then can not be allowed to leave. If she exceeds time limit set she will be interned.

(iv) Full particulars of damage was received this forenoon (I have not seen it) and repairs making her seaworthy when submerged are estimated at 70 days from expiry of first 24 hours after arrival. This has been passed to M.F.A. for communication to this Embassy.

(v) Position. Every precaution taken to prevent escape. Armed guards are stationed on board to watch all lines with orders to fire if any attempt is made to cast off.

(vi) No unit of Spanish Navy has been stationed at Santander as might provoke serious incident.

(vii) S/M goes to dry dock almost immediately for repairs requested.

(viii) While I am not fully satisfied with this arrangement Spanish Navy are determined to see S/M does not escape until repairs are completed as indicated above.\*

(ix) Meantime I have taken necessary steps to observe and

\* S/m left 8/11/42. see Madrid 1943/9/11.



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War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - conts.

Damaged U/B at Santander Contd.  
(CENTURIONE REGINALDO GIULIANI.)

report all his movements etc. The one thing I can not guarantee is immediate communication. This depends on telegraph and telephone Santander to Madrid which experience has shown is delayed at crucial moments.  
(N.A. Madrid. 2027/9 to Admty).

Damaged Italian U-Boat still at Santander alongside quay.  
(D.D.I.C. 2343A/9 to C. in C. Plymouth H.Q.C.C. F.O.(S)).

TALISMAN. Intend sailing TALISMAN making good 140 miles a day p.m./10th for Malta passing  $038^{\circ} 10' 008^{\circ} 59'$  at 0800A/15 thence as ordered by V.A. Malta

2. Last message concerns route of Capt. (S) 10's 12(718)/7/8
3. TALISMAN carries spare gear, Capt.(S) 1 and Capt.(S) 10 and mail for Malta.
4. C. in C. Med pass to Capt.(S) 1.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1208A/9 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty etc).

U/B. Following received from A/C call UM9G.  
Am over enemy S/M in  $38^{\circ} N. 1^{\circ} E.$   
(Gibraltar Radio 1225/9 to Admty).  
For information enemy submarine sighted in  $038^{\circ} 10' N. 001^{\circ} 50' E.$  at 1225A/9. course  $140^{\circ} 6$  knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1540A/9 to 8th S.F.).  
At 1225 Hudson sighted U-Boat possible Italian in  $38.10 N. 01.50 E.$  course  $160^{\circ}$  speed 5 knots, dived on sighting.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1932A/9 to Admty, (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta).

German U/Boats. Slight evidence suggests that German U-Boats may have passed into Mediterranean from Atlantic since 29/8. Request any confirmation.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302A/9 to Admty).

Cargo Vessel. Civilian A/C reported sighting medium sized cargo vessel at 1435A in  $42^{\circ} 50' N. 09^{\circ} 50' W.$  Course  $020^{\circ} 12$  knots.  
(D.D.I.C. 1630A/9 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C. Plymouth H.Q.C.C. F.O.S.).

U/B. Following has been read by Gib.W/T. Am over enemy S/M in JAGM 3821. (undecypherable). Enemy S/M previously reported was Periscope only sighted 0320 (A/C using Call sign TR1Q 2120/9).

PRUDENT CHARON. My 1904/8. (Sailing PRUDENT and CHARON for Freetown). Ships delayed by defects. Further signal will be made.  
*See next page.*  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2302A/9 to R.A.W.A.).

Enemy Vessel Attacked. At. 2038/9 Whitley attacked enemy vessel in  $43^{\circ} 10' N. 09^{\circ} 28' W.$   
(D.D.I.C. 2330A/9 to F.O.C.N.A. F.O.S., H.Q.C.C. C. in C. Plymouth).



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War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATION.South Atlantic.

- CATTERICK  
C.M. 31X. Sailed CATTERICK to Kilindini escorting C.M. 31  
X routed as in N.C.S.O. Durban 0619Z/9 (N.T. in W.R.)  
(2) S. of A.  $9\frac{1}{2}$  knots. E.T.A. p.m. 17/9.  
(3) Shift to W/T organization V at 1415Z/9.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0527Z/9 to Admty etc).
- AUBRETIA. Your 1322A/7. No delay anticipated due to fitting  
4 additional Oerlikons. Drawings have been received  
As both boilers are now detubed request early  
delivery of new tubes be arranged forthwith. My  
1149/8 to A.S. Chatham repeated to Admty, Bath, refers.  
(N.O.I.C. Port of London 1014/9 to Admty (R) C. in C. Nore, R.A.W.A.  
etc).
- SUMATRA. My 1901/25/8 para. 9 and my 1306/8. Owing to low  
endurance reported by Capt. of SUMATRA it is  
necessary for that ship to fuel at Pointe Noire.  
SUMATRA is therefore being sailed independently for Freetown via  
Pointe Noire leaving Capetown p.m./11 or a.m./12.  
2. Arrangements for CORFU and SHROPSHIRE are as given in my 1306/8/  
9 and my 1219/28/8. para. 2. respectively.  
(C. in C.S.A. 1213B/9 to Admty).
- PRUDENT  
CHARON. F.O.C.N.A. 1904/8. (PRUDENT & CHARON escorted by  
PETUNIA). Onward route from position L through M.  
*See Review*  
*page*  
015° 01' N. 019° 30' W. N., 011° 03' N 017° 35' W.,  
thence Freetown.  
(R.A.W.A. 1313Z/9 to PETUNIA).
- U/B Report,  
5/9. Victoria (Brazil) reports S/M sighted at 0500 G.M.T.  
5/9 off Piama South of French lighthouse.  
Information supplied by Captain of Port who  
received report indirectly from fisherman and is not  
satisfied as to its reliability.  
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1325Z/9 to Admty (R) B.A.D.  
S.O.(I) Jamaica).
- BARBOURNE. Sailed BARBOURNE to Kilindini routed as in my 0643/  
11/8.  
(2) Wireless Watch on 500 K/Cs in single operating  
period shifting to read BAMS routines.  
(5) S. of A.  $7\frac{1}{2}$  knots, E.T.A. p.m./21/9.  
(Cdre 1/c Durban 1418/9 to Admty etc).
- Shipping  
Routes. Your 1156/2. (Chop dates for northbound shipping)  
Presume you will initiate action as regards station  
limits.  
(C. in C.S.A. 1604B/9th to C. in C.E.F. (R) Admty).
- Shipping  
Routes. Your 1621/8. This cuts out the corner of an area  
which it is desired to avoid. My 1435/9 refers.  
(D.T.D. 1755A/9 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C.S.A.).

/FORMIDABLE....



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

→ FORMIDABLE.

Sailed FORMIDABLE 1700Z/9 route.

(l) 010° 01' N. 017° 30' W. (m) 016° 59' 021 29'.  
 (n) 024° (702') 026° 03' (o) 032° 58' 026° 01'.  
 (p) (7046°). 59' (7017°) 30'. (q) 053° 20' 014° 01'  
 (r) 055° 25' 008° 30'. thence Clyde S. of A. 20 knots

Arrive R/V in position (p) at 0700Z/15, shifting to North Atlantic area W/T organization at 1800Z/11 and broadcast BN at 1800Z/14. (R.A.W.A. 1829Z/9 to Admty, C. in C.W.A. (R) N.C.I.C. Greenock, B.A.D. F.O.C.N.A. C. in C.U.S. Atlantic Fleet, FORMIDABLE H.Q.C.C.).

South African My 1141/1 Word Dormant is used as Department of Naval Forces. Defence Legal Advisors consider R.N.V.R./S.A. cannot "Cease to exist," except by legislative action by Union Parliament. R.N.V.R./S.A. can apparently be made dormant by Union Govt. War

Regulation. Unless such a war measure regulation is confirmed by statute within six months of end of war R.N.V.R./S.A. will then revert to status quo.

Ref. para. 18. It is to be noted that Director S.A.N.F. will remain under Direction of Deputy Chief of General Staff, Union Defence Forces.

(C. in C.S.A. 2102B/9 to Admty).

Movements.

Arrivals 9/9. AURORA, CARTHAGE, PARTRIDGE, QUIBERON, ANTELOPE and Greek Destroyer PINDOS with W.S. 22. Departure FORMIDABLE, WIVERN, VANSITTART. (S.O.(I) Freetown 2131Z/9 to Admty etc).



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. P.C.S. of 2 small unknown vessels (approx. 200 tons) 33.11 N 23.06 E 200° 11 knots.  
(A/C F of 451 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. Malta Command 0212/9 to 201 Group.)

P.C.S of 1 M/V and 2 unknown vessels is 33.08 N 22.53 E 140° 3 knots, bearing 320°?  
(A/C of 451 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. Malta. 0304/9 to 201 Group.)  
Position of M/V and 1 unknown vessel is 33.08 N 22.48 E.  
(A/C E of 451 Sqdn. R.A.A.F. Malta. 0313/9 to 201 N.C. Group)

P.34 *see next page* P.34 2105/8 (Port main motor out of action, returning Malta.) acknowledge. Ref. my 1837/7  
P.43 *see p. 246* P.43 patrol in Sector 215° to 270°. *see p. 246*  
(Capt. S.1. 0412C/9 to P.43 P.34. (R) UNA. Capt. S.10. C. in C. Med. 201 N.C. Group.)

U/B UNA. *see p. 246* A submarine was sighted in your area yesterday afternoon.  
(Capt. S.1. 1007C/9 to UNA. (R) P.43. Capt. S.10. C. in C. Med.)

Navigation Alexandretta. QBC 480. Gulf of Alexandretta. 5 red spherical buoys with yellow and black flag marking new telephone cable have been laid across Gulf of Alexandretta in a N.W. direction from Arsus. Nearest buoy to Arsus is 4 miles N of that place. T.O.O. 1012/9.  
(Alexandria 1017/9 to Admty.)

Cositrep No. 512. 6. Night 7/8 Sep. Aircraft from Malta and Egypt attacked southbound convoy north of Derna which had previously been bombed by Liberators. Effective smoke screen hampered attacks but one M/V between 5000 and 8000 tons believed hit. Column of smoke seen rising above smoke screen. 3 hits claimed on one destroyer. Fire seen in area after aircraft had left. A Hudson attacking at dawn scored four hits with 100 lb bombs on a M/V causing smoke to issue. Vessel last seen with list to port and destroyer standing by. Tobruk harbour bombed. Fire started near Naval fuel tanks and bursts on docks. 3 Wellingtons missing. (C. in C. M.E. 1025/9.)

Bi-weekly Opsum No. 54. Night 5/6. 9 R.A.F. Liberators 19 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk starting 6 good fires on docks near main jetties. 2 fires near petrol installations N.W. of harbour, 1 fire near power station.  
6/9. A Blenheim from Aden escorting convoy in Gulf of Aden bombed large submarine about 50 miles S.E. Mukalla. No damage observed.  
Night 6/7. 23 Wellingtons bombed harbour installations Tobruk starting fires near petrol installations N.W. of harbour and on north shore. In evening striking force of total 40 R.A.F. Liberators American B.24s was despatched to attack southbound enemy convoy 3 medium merchant ships 10 escort vessels previously

/reported...



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean--c.r.t.s:--

Bi-weekly reported West of Crete by Maryland. 3 Liberators  
Opsum 12 B.24s found convoy about 120 miles S.W. Cape  
No. 54. Stavros and claim 1 hit on merchant vessel,  
Contd. several near misses on other 2.  
Strong force of enemy aircraft was patrolling over  
convoy and several indecisive engagements took  
place. Remaining Liberators and B.24s were unable to locate.  
Of these 5 B.24s bombed Suda Bay causing violent explosion  
several fires.  
2 A.S.V. Liberators 6 A.S.V. Wellingtons 13 bomber 6 Torpedo  
Wellingtons were despatched to attack during following night.  
Liberators located 1 merchant ship 2 destroyers 30 miles N.W.  
Appollonia and 2 merchant ships 3 destroyers about 80 miles north  
Appollonia respectively. Results of bombing unobserved. A.S.V.  
Wellingtons located 1 M/V between 5000 and 8000 tons 1 unidentified  
ship 3 destroyers about 40 miles north Appollonia and homed  
striking force on to convoy. Ships were protected by effective  
smoke screen and only 7 bomber 2 torpedo Wellingtons sighted  
vessel for sufficient period to deliver attack.  
6 bomber Wellingtons attack M/V causing 2 explosions followed by  
column of smoke rising above smoke screen. Vessel believed hit.  
1 bomber Wellington claims 3 hits on 1 destroyer. Results of  
torpedo attacks unobserved owing to smoke screen. Shortly after  
leaving area 1 Wellington saw red glow which later increased into  
fair sized fire visible 30 miles. 5 Hudsons were despatched to  
make dawn attack on convoy.  
1 Hudson located M/V with a destroyer about 55 miles east of  
Derna and scored 4 hits with 100 lb bombs on vessel from mast-  
head height causing smoke to pour from stern. Ship last seen  
listing to port with destroyer closing in to assist. Remaining  
4 Hudsons did not locate. A R/C Maryland subsequently sighted a  
destroyer circling about 40 miles north of Derna. No signs of  
oil or wreckage were seen.  
Night 7/8. 14 Wellingtons bombed harbour installations Tobruk  
starting a fire near naval fuel tanks. Other bombs burst on  
docks near main jetties. About 15 enemy aircraft operated over  
Delta during night. Bombs were dropped at Shallufa, Heliopolis  
and Faiyoum but no damage or casualties reported. 14 Beau-  
fighters up, 2 Ju.88s 1 unidentified aircraft shot down.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1031Z/9, 1059Z/9, 1121Z/9, 1146Z/9, 1208Z/9,  
1232Z/9.)

P.42. Both addressees R/V with sweepers end of searched  
P.34. *See previous page* channel 1001B/13 maintain S.S.T. communications  
from first contact. Proceed through following  
positions P.42. 037° 11' 015° 54' leaving area Z  
10th 035° 22' 015° 12' 035° 22' 014° 12' 035° 32' 014° 12'.  
P.34. 035° 12' 015° 01' 035° 12' 014° 09'.  
(Capt. S.10. 1041B/9 to P.42. P.34. (R) 10 S.F. C. in C. Med.  
etc.)

Enemy At 1005C/9 A/C reported (?P.C.S.) of one  
destroyer. destroyer apparently towing another destroyer  
035° 28' 022° 45' 324° unknown.  
(Capt. S.1. 1115C/9 to UNA. P.43. (R) C. in C.  
Med. Capt. S.10. 3/MS on patrol.) *See next page*



War Diary.

9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Enemy  
destroyer.  
Contd.

At 1415C/9 aircraft report 2 destroyers anchored approx.  $035^{\circ} 12' 023^{\circ} 32'$ . They may be the two mentioned in my 1115/9.  
(Capt. S.1. 1607C/9 to UNA. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. P.43. S/Ms on patrol.)

Enemy  
Units.

At 1045C/9 aircraft reported P.C.S of 3 small merchant ships 2 unknown ships  $033^{\circ} 01' (? 61^{\circ} 07' 083^{\circ} 5$ . Your discretion to stop.

(Capt. S.1. \*1136C/9 to TRAVELLER. (R) Subs on Patrol. C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.) \* *see 1/10/42*

Aircraft report at 1030C/9 1 merchant ship, 1 destroyer P.C.S.  $033^{\circ} 54' 023^{\circ} 35' 000^{\circ} 7\frac{1}{2}$  knots.

(Capt. S.1. 1143C/9 to UNA. P.43. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. Subs on patrol.)

One tanker and one escort  $039^{\circ} 27' 020^{\circ} 08'$  southbound 8 knots at 0905B/9.

(Capt. S.10. 1240B/9 to S/Ms on patrol. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. S.O.S. Alexandria.)

Aircraft report at 1200C/9 1 small vessel towed by tug close north of Ras Al Hilil, westbound, speed 6 knots.

(Capt. S.1. 1615C/9 to TRAVELLER. (R) Subs on patrol. C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.)

1 medium size merchant ship, 1 destroyer P.C.S at 1745 today  $033^{\circ} 02' 021^{\circ} 20' 083^{\circ} 10$ .

(Capt. S.1. 1840C/9 to TRAVELLER. THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. 201 Group. Subs on patrol.)

P.C.S. 1 destroyer, 2200 tons merchant ship  $039^{\circ} 01' 017^{\circ} 14' 180^{\circ} 6$  knots. Probably coasting S.W.

(P.42 1929B/9 to C. in C. Med. (R) N.O.I.C. Malta. Capt. S.10)

THRASHER  
TRAVELLER

If nothing is sighted by 1400C today proceed to following position to intercept convoy reported in my 1136/9. *see above*

THRASHER  $033^{\circ} 10' 022^{\circ} 37'$ .

TRAVELLER  $033^{\circ} 09' 022^{\circ} 30'$ .

A/C may drop flares to illuminate target from 0030C to 0100C.

A/C will be attacking at 0130/10.

(Capt. S.1. 1255C/9, 1945C/9 to TRAVELLER. THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. No. 201 Group.)

Malta Oil  
Storage.

How much bulk storage will be available for aviation petrol on (a) Sept. 30th. (b) Oct. 15th. (c) Oct. 30th.

2. Can you unload bulk aviation petrol and if so report limitations in draught and length of oiler. (A.C.N.S. (F.) 1540A/9 to V.A. Malta. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A.)

PAPANICOLIS.

Leave patrol as necessary passing through

(1)  $035^{\circ} 38' 028^{\circ} 28'$  at 1200C/11.

(2)  $034^{\circ} 15' 032^{\circ} 58'$  at 1600C/14. thence direct

to arrive at outer end searched channel at 0545C/16. Estimate your daily advance 75 miles. Report is unable to comply with above times.

(Capt. S.1. 1545C/9 to PAPANICOLIS. (R) C. in C. Med. Fleet. No. 201 N.C. Group. Capt. S.10 S.F. S/Ms on patrol. Capt. S. CORINTHIA.)

/Malta...



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air Report. I.666. C.S.R. 9/9. 8th. 0927 hours, sections of Spitfires made offensive R/C West of Malta. 1655 hours, 4 Spitfires up for raiders which did not approach close to Malta.

Night 8/9. 1830 and 2030 hours, 2 Beaufighters up but no raiders reached Malta. 2159 hours, 3 raiders approached at great height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 1 Beaufighter up but raiders dropped bombs in sea 20 miles North of Island and fled home.

9th 0456 hours, 4 Spitfires made offensive R/C south Sicily. 0725 hours, 4 Spitfires up but raiders turned back before reaching Malta. 0730 hours, 6 Spitfires on offensive R/C south Sicily intercepted 1 MC.202 and 6 ME.109s. Macchi 202 and 1 ME.109 destroyed. 1 Spitfire missing. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1806/9.)

UNA P.43. *See p. 243* Cancel my 1840/7 and 0412/9. P.43 proceeding as necessary to be within 20 miles of Suda Bay by noon 10/9. UNA has freedom of action area K. Antikithera Channel still best focal point. (Capt. S.l. 1940C/9 to UNA. P.43. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. 201 N.C. Group.)

Black Sea. (1) 8/9, fighting taking place on N.W. outskirts of Novorossisk. Enemy occupied town on north side of the harbour. (2) Railway station about 10 km. S.E. of Sukhum bombed last night, some damage but line in operation today. (N.L.O. Black Sea 1941C/9 to Admty. Adm. Miles.)

GLENROY. Your 1819/10/8. Now estimated temporary repair GLENROY will be completed 10/10. Request intended repair port. (C.I.C. Port Said 1955C/9 to Admty.)

PAPANICOLIS. *See previous page* A small Caique is expected to leave Samos shortly for Piraeus with an important allied prisoner. If you are in vicinity endeavour to intercept, but your patrol is not to be extended. (Capt. S.l. 2305C/9 to PAPANICOLIS. (R) C. in C. Med.)



War Diary.9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

A/A Defences. Your O/49309 of 5/9. Your para 4 (a). Revised scales of A.A. defence based on new scale of attack as follows: Seychelles Hy. A.A. 8. Lt. A.A. 8. Mauritius Hy. A.A. 24. Lt. A.A. 16.

Your para 4 (b) Personnel and guns will be supplied from India. Priority to be decided mutually between C. in C. India, C. in C. E.F. and G.O.C. in C. E. Africa.

Your para 4 (c) No change in above scales of A.A. defence at present contemplated.  
(W.O. 1005/9 to G.O.C. in C. E. Africa. (R) C. in C. India.)

Ceylon Harbour Defences. Your 1605A/31/8. In order to maintain security of harbours during transition period intend to retain old boom in position until new boom is complete and new gate vessel moorings have been laid. Operation of laying new boom can be commenced as soon as JAY has lifted present CM field and plans and material for new boom are available.

Your 1943A/2/9. Intend sending JAY to Trincomalee as soon as work at Colombo is complete. Request confirmation that JAY is capable of carrying out work at Trincomalee without assistance of CM field depot ship observing that CM base will not be completed in time.

3. Ref. para 4. of A.M. originally quoted. Number of buoys required for completion of Stage A as follows:- For capital ships 3, for cruisers 8, for depot ships 4, for destroyers 4.
4. Capital ship buoy is at present laid in position 177° 4680 feet from Plantain Point Beacon and will be moved to western position of No.7 Berth in due course.
5. Propose C.1 and C.2 Berths would be better sited with regard to Monsoons if laid from position 305° Plantain Point Beacon 1075 feet in direction 229°.
6. S.1 and S.2 Berths will not be protected by a boom by 31/12 1942.
7. Arrangements are already in hand for Western baffle A to be laid in order to give swinging room at NA 2 Berth. It is confirmed that two sets of A/T spar protection are at present available.  
(F.O. Ceylon 1022Z/9 to Admty.)

PIPINA. PIPINA has been taken up as Fleet Collier in place of MARIT MAERSK and is due Seychelles from Bombay 15/9 loaded with 3300 tons of Indian coal.

(2) Intention is that PIPINA should discharge sufficient to bring your shore stock up to 6 months supply and then proceed to Kilindini after picking up Collier outfit landed at Seychelles ex MARIT MAERSK.

(3) Report estimated quantity you want ex PIPINA.  
(C. in C. E.F. 1121Z/9 to N.O.I.C. Seychelles. (R) Admty.  
F.O.I.C. East Africa.)

RAHMANI and AKBAR A.M. 2320/18/7. RAHMANI and AKBAR with 400 and 200 passengers respectively mainly ships crew ready to sail for Aden and Suez (26th or 15th ?) September, S of A 10 knots.

(ii) Can this be considered as a special case and JUMNA used as escort.  
(Cdre. R.I.N. 1143Z/9 to C. in C. E.F. (R) F.O.C.R.I.N. F.O. Ceylon. Admty.)

/M.T.Bs...



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A few ships with long endurance sailed U.K. to ports on E.I. Station and Red Sea, will not be in possession of information in QB, QC, QBD and QCA Message. Reminder of these special ships, Admiralty will inform C. in C. E.F. date ships estimated crossing from S.A. Station to E.I. Station. Report any anticipated difficulty in directing ships by safe route to ports of destination. (Admty. 2131/9 to C. in C. E.F.)



9.9.1942.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

M.T.Bs. Your 2307/2. As suitable crane is not available at Colombo (C. in C. E.I. 1301/6/5 not to F.O.C.R.I.N. refers) 18th Motor Torpedo Boat Flotilla should be consigned Bombay. M.T.Bs will then be required to proceed to Colombo under own power. (F.O. Ceylon 1202Z/9 to B.A.D. (R) Admty. F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Air Report. A.924 9/9. Daily intelligence summary No. 178 to 1800 hours 9/9. 8/9. 3 Blenheims attacked Akyab. Bombs on target. Small fire started. No activity aerodrome. R/C Arakan Coast machine gunned larger of 2 M/Vs 2500 and 500 tons approx. 80 miles south of Akyab, course 010°. Ships returned fire. (A.H.Q. India 1255/9.)

WUSUEA. My 0915/26/8 which is being passed to you and F.O.C.R.I.N. 0505/6. The need for WUSUEA at Addu is most urgent in view of the unhealthy conditions ashore and the ever present possibility of an epidemic. (C. in C. E.F. 1336Z/9 to Admty.)

P.A.1.	P.A.1 and P.B.1 paras 9. 10. 11 and 12.			
P.B.1.	NEURALIA	Ballast 10	Port	Karachi
	NEVASA	Ballast 20	Port	Karachi
	JALAPADMA	Ballast 30	Port	Bombay
	SEPIA	Admty. fuel.	Port	Seychelles
	MALABAR (U.S.A)	Oil fuel 50.	Port	Capetown
	ELGONQUIN	Furnace oil 10.	Star-board.	Durban
	MIRALDA	Diesel and fuel 30.	Star-board	Aden.
	DESTRO	General 40	Star-board	Aden
	ELSEGUNDO	Diesel 50	Star-board	Aden.

(N.C.S.O. Hormuz 1615Z/9 to Admty. S.O.I. Persian Gulf.)

W.S.21. Sailed PETARD 1630Z/9 to rejoin W.S.21 as (?S.N.O.) reports convoy is without A/S escort. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez 1700Z/9 to C. in C. E.F. (R) HAWKINS.)

Suspected U/B. Following received. SSSS 8° 02' N 82° 00' E BRITISH HOPE, slow object on surface, suspect sub, cloud base nil, visibility excellent. (Colombo W/T 2234 G.M.T./9.)



9.9.1942  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

U/B. A/C sighted S/M 048° 22' N. 058° 43' W.  
 no time stated.  
 (C.O.A.C. 0144Z/9 to Admty.)  
 My 0144/9. U.S. Army now reports S/M sighted by coast  
 watcher at 2230Z/28.  
 (C.O.A.C. 1026Z/9.)

Navigation. Boston Light Massachusetts was temporarily  
 discontinued at sunset 8/9. Fog signal  
 remains in operation.  
 (American Embassy 0300/9 to Admty.)

Movements 1800 G.M.T./9.  
 Summary. Ship Position Course. Speed.  
 S/M P.555 40° N. 70½° W. 147° 6  
 T.A.20 48½° N. 35½° W. 233° 13  
 (D.O.D.(F) 0945Z/9 to Opnav (R) Comnav.)

St. Lucia A/T baffle completed St. Lucia, Port Castries.  
 defences. Position 313° W. Wharf Beacon 1620 feet  
 extending in direction 185° for one cable.  
 Request obstruction unlighted marked by black  
 spherical buoys in above positions be promulgated  
 in Q J Bs.  
 (B.S.N.O. Trinidad 1002Q/9 to S.B.N.O.W.A.)

TAIGETE R.A.W.A's 1155/20/8. TAIGETE has been examined  
 (Italian) here and following repairs appear essential  
 before loading diesel oil. U.S. authorities  
 unwilling to allow vessel into Santa Anna  
 harbour. Work carried out in Caracas Bay will be more  
 expensive and slower. Request instructions and loading orders.  
 (N.C.S.O. Curacoa, 1043QR/9 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. Connav.)

Damaged U/B Details of attacks on 2/9 and 3/9.  
 at Santander. (D/A/S/W 1110Z/9 to Cominch)  
 (CENTURIONE See North Atlantic.  
 REGINALDO  
 GIULIANI.)

Shipping, Request confirmation ships for H.X. and S.C.  
 Coal and can top up coal and oil bunkers at New York.  
 Oil bunkers. Coal exhausted at Trinidad scarce and very  
 expensive at Cristobal. Most ships will  
 proceed to New York in T.A.G - G.N. and  
 Z.G - G.N. Convoys. Should those requiring  
 large quantities coal still be sent Hampton  
 Roads for Bunkers?  
 (S.O.I. Jamaica 1234Q/9 to N.S.H.Q. (R)  
 Admty. etc.)



War Diary.

9.9.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/B. S/M sighted by Coast watcher 047° 40' N.  
053° 03' W. at 1240Z/9.  
(C.O.A.C. 1311Z/9 to Admty.)  
1 S/M 48.49 S. 62.50. 1255Z/9.  
(Halifax 1320Z/9 to C. in C. W.A., E.C. Londonderry,  
T.G. 24.7, Admty.)

A/A Your 1527Z/3. In accordance with standing  
Ammunition orders signalled reports give total expenditure  
Expenditure. during the operation and there is no organisation  
to record expenditure over particular periods.  
2. Action has been taken to obtain outstanding  
reports and to obtain separate report from all ships in close  
escort to convoy. An omnibus report has been received from  
the covering force.  
3. Particulars will be passed to you as soon as possible.  
(Hd. of M.A.S. 1333A/9 to B.A.D.)

Q.S.33. Arrived Q.S.33 less Greek AEAS, OAKTON Greek  
MOUNT PINDUS, Greek MOUNT TAYGETUS (Nor) BENCAS,  
J. SPILLSBURY, PENPENATANG, CONNISCLIFF HALL,  
plus SARNOLITE.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney (C.B) 1342Z/9 to N.S.H.Q.  
Admty., (R) N.C.S.O. Quebec.)  
Connav serial 9. 3 ships convoy Q.S.33 serial 8 were  
MOUNT PINDUS, MOUNT TAYGETUS, OAKTON, all sunk. MOUNT AETNA  
arrived Bermuda was challenged not attacked.  
(Connav 2102/9 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. etc. as amended  
2106/10) *p 255*

Carrier Have seen Webber W. 878 dated 1/9 from Air  
Aircraft Ministry to Rafdel, stating that a joint  
Tactics. Admiralty-Air Ministry Committee has been set  
up to discuss aerial torpedo tactics.  
2. Para 2 states that Admty will probably  
signal B.A.D. on same lines.  
3. Information is requested whether you have seen U.S.F. 74.  
"Current Doctrine for Carrier Aircraft". This contains all  
normal torpedo attacks used by U.S.N. and is being rewritten  
now in the light of experience gained in battle and with  
experience in handling T.B.F.1 aircraft.  
4. We are asking for a copy as soon as it is produced.  
(B.A.D. 1427Z/9 to Admty.)

Independent Connav's 2045/8 addressed to Cdr. E., Gulf,  
Ships, W, N.W., Panama, Caribbean and Hawaii Sea  
Special Frontiers; Cdr. S. Pacific Forces and Cdr.  
Movement S.W. Pacific Forces, informs as follows:  
Forecast. In order to provide all possible protection  
to independently sailed merchant vessels not  
included in military movement, U.S. routing  
officers in continental U.S. shall make special movement  
forecasts weekly by secret despatch. Addressees of these  
messages shall be Cominch (C) and (R) Sea Frontier Commanders  
whose waters vessel will traverse, and Admty. if to British  
Area strategic control. In the Pacific send to C. in C.  
Pacific Fleet and Cdr. S. Pacific and Cdr. S.W. Pacific,  
if ships bound these areas.

/Special ...



War Diary.9.9.1942  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Independent Ships, Special Movement Forecast (contd.) Special Movements fall within following classes:  
 (1) 100 or more service personnel.  
 (2) 3000 or more tons war materials.  
 (3) Specially valuable stores, high officials or ten or more aircraft.  
 (4) Ships of particular importance because of their special type or extreme size. Example:  
 (A) Special Movement Forecast Class (3) New York EAST LYNNE for Auckland via Panama Canal, 24 aircraft 100 trucks, 1320 tons explosives.  
 (B) Class (2) New York for Capetown via Trinidad NIAC (Nor) 175 trucks 20 tanks 1800 tons explosives.  
 (Commaveu, no T.O.O. Recd. 1435/9 to Admty.)

BURY O.N.123. For Cdre. Magee. Request particulars of circumstances why rescue ship BURY was detached from O.N.123 and ordered to proceed St. Johns, N.F.  
 (S.C.N.O. Halifax 1450Z/9 to B.R.O., New York (R) Admty. etc.) Reply: 2147/11.

SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA. (torpedoed 14/8.) Your 1209/25 (presumably 1205/25, re attack on VIMEIRA) Italian ARCOLA arrived Curacao with 26 survivors SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA torpedoed 14/8 in 10° 30' 33° 30'. Reports 2 other boats with 40 survivors including 16 from VIMEIRA making for Cape Verde Islands.  
 (S.O.I. Jamaica 1454Q/9 to S.O.I. Freetown (R) Admty. etc.)

Convoy "Mincemeat" Sailed PATHFINDER, QUENTIN, SNOWDROP escorting convoy "Mincemeat", E.T.A. Freetown 0900Z/23.  
 (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1502Q/9 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

MONTGOMERY. My 1930/3 (re allocation of Job number for MONTGOMERY) Refit Port Charleston. Request E.T.A.  
 (B.A.M.R. 1506Z/9 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty. etc.)

Lumber Shipments.. Your 1740/28/8 (re owing to abnormal size of convoy small ships carrying lumber to be excluded) M.W.T. Montreal advises that at present lumber is of more urgent priority in U.K. than grain.  
 (N.S.H.Q. 1508Z/9 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C. etc.)

U/B. Periscope sighted by A/C 048° 49' N. 062° 52' W. at 1502Z/9th.  
 (C.O.A.C. 1522Z/9 to Admty., C. in C. W.A. Escort Control, Londonderry, Task Group 24.7.)

/Lifeboat ...



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

- Lifeboat Report 25/8.** Following amplifies my 2005/8 (N.T. in W.D.) "Master Netherlands Flat SS MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE reports sighting object which may have been lifeboat with sail, 25/8, 1830 local time, in 07.14 N. 36.18 W. Object sent up 3 red flares. May have been enemy S/M on surface. Having 340 passengers on board Master elected to steer away from object at full speed. Report was made by radio immediately to Washington but no acknowledgment was received". (Connav 1630/9 to Admty.)
- U/B.** S/M sighted by coast watcher at 1450 near Pouch Cove 047° 40' N. 052° 45' W. partly submerged coming South. (C.O.A.C. 1650Z/9 to C. in C. W.A., E.C. Londonderry, T.G.24.7, Admty.)
- U/Bs and S/MS.** Estimate 9/9 and U.S. submarine notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1650/9, 1641/9, 1652/9, 1653/9, 1654/9 to Admty.)
- PASTEUR.** This is U.S. Naval Attache Rio 1533/8 passed to you for action from Connav (begins) C. in C. U.S. Fleet repeated C.E.S.F. Admty. Pernambuco pass C.T.F. 23, both advised. PASTEUR sailed for Halifax 1145Z/8. Route. Knots 22. Due to pass position (J) 0115Z/9 due to arrive Halifax 2300Z/18. (Connav 1721/9, 1805/9 to Admty., N.S.H.Q. etc.)
- Fuelling of Escorts.** In many instances fuel limitations prevent maximum tactical use of midocean escorts. On some occasions it has been necessary for escorts to leave convoy prior being relieved due fuel shortage. This situation will become more aggravated in season of unfavourable weather. In each east and west-bound convoy recommend tanker be designated and appropriately equipped for refuelling escorts as circumstances require and permit. (C.T.F. 24 1745Z/9 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (C.&R) (R) C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Atlantic (U.S)) Reply: C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2106/11.
- U/B.** S/M sighted (?by) A/C at 1415 (corrupt group) 9 in 048° 45' N. 063° 20' W. (S.O. Spare Force 9 1751Z/9 to Admty. for info.)
- Attack on U/B.** S/M being attacked by Naval vessel vicinity of Bell Island 047° 37' N. 052° 55' W. at 1720Z/9. (C.O.A.C. 1755Z/9 to Admty.)



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WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- P.553 Revised date of readiness to sail of P.553 in accordance with Admty. (?1037)/18. For 13/9 read 26/9. My 2206/18 refers.  
(B.A.M.R. 1800Z/9 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C.O.A.C. etc.)
- PIORUN. My position at 1800Z/9 049° 25' 044° 13'.  
Weather.  
(PIORUN 1810Z/9 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A.)  
E.T.A. St. Johns Nfld. 1100Z/10 to refuel.  
(PIORUN 2014Z/9 to F.O.N.F. (R) C.T.24 etc.)
- Galveston Convoy Titles. Your 1855/8 Galveston - Key West convoys are designated H K: Key West - Galveston convoys are designated K H: In addition convoys from Galveston to Pilot Town Mississippi are designated G.M. and M.G. in reverse direction. Convoys referred to in my 1717/7 started N.K.400 from New York but designation of section from Key West is not known as no sailing telegrams were received.  
(B.R.O. Galveston 1829Z/9 to Admty. (R) B.R.O. Key West.)  
Your 1855/8 (Request particulars of convoy N.K.401)  
Convoy N.K.500 from New York arrived off Key West on 3rd and on change of escort proceeded to Galveston without stopping, becoming K.H.400 due 7th.  
(B.R.O. Key West 1921Z/9 to Admty.)
- Gibraltar Convoy. My 1220/8. The following ships should be sailed in Gibraltar convoy. R.F.A. ABBEYDALE, CLIONA, BRITISH GOVERNOR and BRAJARA, the latter vessel to be detached for Ponta Delgada. If NORLYS not sailed in "Mincemeat", request she be included in Gibraltar convoy in addition to above 4 vessels. N.O.I.C. Trinidad 0952/8 refers.  
(D.T.D. 1830A/9 to Connav, B.R.O. Trinidad, (R) F.O.C.N.A., S.B.N.O.W.A.) Reply: Trinidad 1736/12.
- U/Bs. Schooner reports sighting 2 S/Ms 048° 52' N. 067° 40' W. at 1600Z/9.  
(C.O.A.C. 1933Z/9 to C. in C. W.A., E.C. Londonderry, T.G.24.7 Admty.)
- G.K.701 K.P.401. G.K.701 arrived off Key West at 1400 G.M.T/9/9 becoming K.P.401 due Pilot Town 12th. The following 2 U.S. ships bound Tampa joined K.P.401. ALPHA speed 10 cargo Molasses; STEELMOTOR speed 8 cargo General. Both U.S. managed and have (19) (20).  
(B.R.O. Key West 1934Z/9 to B.R.O. New Orleans (R) Admty., etc.)

/Attacks ...



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

Attacks on U/Bs. This is Cinpac 0251/01 to Cominch, action, B.A.D., and Admty. Info (begins) Cominch 2124/20/7 and Admty. 1916B/9/7. Submarine attack reports received during August.

(A) 90. (B) 15/7. (C) U.S.S. MCFARLAND. (D) 22.32.7 S. 166 - 24.4 E. (E) B. (F) Probably Japanese. (A) 91. (B) 6/6. (C) U.S.S. GROUPE. (D) 29.18 S. 170.08 W. (E) G. (F) Probably Japanese. (A) 92. (B) 29/7. (C) U.S.S. BALLARD. (D) 16.31.7 S. 179 - 09.6 E. (E) H. (F) Probably Japanese. Above references not clear. Do you desire Cinpac continue these reports? (Cominch 1944/9 to Admty.)

U/B. A/C observed S/M submerged in 049° 11' N. 053° 00' W. at 1912Z/9th. (C.O.A.C. 1950Z/9 to C. in C. W.A., E.C. Londonderry, T.G.24.7 Admty.)

KACHIRSTROI U/B. SSSS. SS KACHIRSTROI 0421 G.M.T. sighted S/M in 52.19 N. 138.59 W., 18 hours. (Esquimalt No T.O.O. 9.9.42 Recd. 1952)

Convoy P.K.101 08 1200Z/8 1200Z/9 coastal NIKE: Y M S 38; S C 519; S C 529, S.C. 638, 4 columns 1 1 1 1; Macri, Coastal Nil. Lieut. Cmdr. R.E. Christy U.S.N. in CHILOIL nil (19) (20) N R G N. (B.R.O. New Orleans 2015Z/9 to Admty.)

Coastal Convoy Signals. Propose for your consideration following method passing information to Admty. and N.S.H.Q. of vessels in Coastal Convoys in CUPF(as received) Atlantic and Caribbean. In order to reduce duplication communications and to provide Admiralty and N.S.H.Q. with accurate information on ship movements (?which) are not reported in Merco despatched, Cominch C. and R. will forward to N.S.H.Q. and Admty. a daily summary covering all informations to 1900 G.C.T. as follows:

(A) Convoy designations, time of departure, E.T.A. next ports or dispersal points.

(B) List of ships with final destination. When convoy arrives or disperses an arrival message consisting:-

(C) Convoy designations followed by any addition or deletions, i.e. stragglers sunk etc.

(Cominch C.& R. 2031/9 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)  
Concur: D.T.D. 1613Z/10.

KENKORA II. Your 2125/8 (N.T. in W.D.) KENKORA II E.T.A. Charleston 16/9 for refit. (B.A.M.R. 2122Z/9 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. as amended 1434Z/10.)

/Sub attack ...



War Diary.

9.9.1942  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Sub.attack & Sighting Summary. *Sub. 250*  
Para A. Ships torpedoed 2100/7, my 2001/8, are MOUNT PINDUS, MOUNT TAYGETUS and OAKTON all sunk. MOUNT AETNA attack was only challenge.  
Para B. AMATLAN 3 torpedo hits. SS RICHMOND HILL stopped by sub on surface 08.18 N. 54.50 W.  
0445Z/16/8. Sub reported course N. about 32.18 N. 64.15 W.  
0445Z/8/9. Naval (low level?) attacks sub 47.37 N. 52.55 W.  
1720Z/9. Para C U.S.S. EAGLE number 19 attacks sound contact.  
24.22 N. 82.09 W. 1842Z/14/8. B. 18A sights sub on surface  
22.38 N. 78.20 W. 1240Z/20/8. P.C.466 attack sound contact  
19.15 N. 75.09 W. 1806Z/29/8. S.C.503 attacks sound contact  
22.26 N. 77.39 W. 2115Z/28/8. Condor Plane sights sub 13.28 S.  
38.35 W. 1835Z/8, course 200. Coast watchers sight sub 48.22 N.  
58.43 W. 2230Z/8. Sub reported 48.49 N. 62.50 W. 1255Z/9.  
SS JUNO sights sub 10.53 N. 61.19 W. 1030Z/9. Police at St. Vincent sight sub on surface 13.23 N. 61.10 W. 0210Z/9 course N.  
Coast watchers sight sub 47.40 N. 53.03 W. 1240Z/9 and at 1450Z/9 partly submerged sub course S. 47.40 N. 52.45 W.  
British Patrol vessel sights sub on surface 10.54 N. 61.35 W.  
1445Z/9 Course E. speed 10. Eastern Air Lines Plane sights sub on surface 15.30 N. 65° W. 1500Z/9. Course 10. Plane sights periscope 48.49 N. 62.52 W. 1502Z/9. Plane sights sub 49.11 N. 53° W. 1912Z/9.  
(Cominch 2214Z/9 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Ocean Convoy Escorts.

My 2140Z/9, not to Admiralty. Mid-ocean escorts of the following are to be strengthened by 3 corvettes each.  
Convoys. Force to provide Corvettes.  
H.X.207 2 Western local escort force and 1 mid-ocean.  
S.C.100 2 Gulf escort force and 1 mid-ocean.  
H.X.208 2 Western local escort force and 1 mid-ocean.  
H.X.211 3 Gulf escort force.  
S.C.105 3 Western local escort force.  
H.X.(?212) 2 Western local escort force.

(2) Reliefs for the 3 mid-ocean corvettes will be provided by C.O.A.C. on arrival of corvettes from Pacific coast. Reliefs for remaining corvettes are to be provided by C.O.A.C. from Bangors and local forces in accordance with App. II to N.S. 1018 1-2, being sent by hand of Capt. Creery.  
(3) F.O. N.F. is to transfer 2 Bangors from Newfoundland force to Western local escort force to arrive Halifax by 17/9. (N.S.H.Q. 2220Z/9 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty., F.O.N.F.)

St.Lawrence Closed.

Canadian Govt. having decided to close St. Lawrence to overseas shipping it is requested (a) that destinations of future sailings from U.K. for only St Lawrence ports be changed to

Sydney, Halifax or St. John N.B. (b) That where possible destinations of such ships already on passage be similarly changed.

(2) It is anticipated that S.Q/Q.S. convoys will be discontinued in about two weeks.

(3) L.N. - N.L. and S.B. - B.S. convoys will be maintained until close of navigation.

/(4) ...



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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

St. Lawrence  
Closed  
(contd.)

(4) Local traffic in Gulf of St. Lawrence will be afforded such air and surface protection as may be available. B.A.D. pass P/L copy to Naval Member Canadian Joint Staff Washington. (N.S.H.Q. 2223Z/9 to Admty., (R) Connav, C.T.24. B.A.D., N.M.C.S. Washington, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)

Crude Oil  
Shipments  
Delays.

Your 2036/8. Instructions have already been given to sail these two Tankers as soon as practicable affording such escort and air protection as possible.

(2) Comcaribseafron has been requested to comment on future tankers loading at Puerto Le Cruz making junction with T.G. Convoys.

(3) For economical use of local escorts and to minimise delay is it possible to group these loadings to any extent. (B.A.D. 2359Z/9 to Admty.)



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Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Shipping Losses. Your 1732A/6 (re extensive Japanese claims.) All shipping casualties reported by signal as soon as essential facts established. None outstanding at present. (A.C.N.B., 0622Z/9 to Admty.)

Situation. Digest Serial No. 230, 8/9. Air R/C at 0042Z/8 reported 4 light cruisers, 4 destroyers, 13 merchant ships, including 7 6000 to 10,000 tons, in Tonolei Harbour. 1 destroyer, 1 merchant ship off Treasury Island, proceeding towards Faisi. 5 4-engine flying boats Faisi.

(2) R/C A/C reported 1 6,000 ton cargo vessel, 7 landing barges, 10 small craft Kavieng area, 7/9, also further progress on aerodrome including new strip off runway and 12 blastways in dispersal area.

(3) Same R/C reported approx. 30 vessels in Rabaul Harbour and further clearings and possible building construction vicinity aerodrome Namatanai (New Ireland).

(4) 2 light cruisers and 2 destroyers sighted morning 8/9 in area approx. 75 miles N.E. Trobriand Is. proceeding N.N.E. course. Vessels appeared operating in 2 groups consisting 1 light cruiser (Tenryu) class, 1 destroyer each. These units attacked by 3 Hudsons 3 G.17s without effect.

(5) Allied forward patrols north coast Milne Bay now east of Killerton Point.

(6) 9 heavy bombers escorted by 5 Zeros attacked Milne Bay aerodrome at 0356Z/8. 1 direct hit on runway, several fuel drums destroyed, several trucks damage, casualties 6 killed 3 wounded.

(7) Allied forward patrol in contact with enemy in Efogi area where enemy pressure continues.

(8) 8 Aircobras bombed and strafed enemy positions this area 8/9 silencing enemy heavy mortars and machine gun fire.

(9) 7 heavy bombers 23 fighters observed Lae aerodrome 8/9. Several small craft Salagpua harbour.

(10) Allied patrol activity continued Mubo, where enemy reported in considerable strength.

(11) 25 barges reported anchored off shore Waytutu Point (Buna area) by air R/C morning 8/9. These barges later attacked by 1 Fortress scoring 1 direct hit and causing fires.

(12) No shipping observed R/C Dilli 8/9. 2 large aircraft reported on aerodrome.

B.A.D. pass to Opnav.  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P., 0815Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

Movements. C. in C. E.F 1240Z/4. Following are anticipated arrivals Fremantle. BENGAL 15/9. MARYBOROUGH 18/9, WALLAROO 20/9, CESSNOCK 3/10. Report anticipated departures to addressees. (A.C.N.B., 1206Z/9 to Cdre. W. Australia.)

/Hospital ...



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Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand. - conts. -

Movements.  
(Contd.)

Hospital Ship MANUNDA departed Fall River 8th due Port Moresby 9th. U.S. Transports SWARTENHONDT, BOSPHORUS and R.A.F. Auxiliary KURUMBA arrived Port Moresby 8th. (A.C.N.B., 1627Z/9 to Admty., Connav, Washington.) Arrivals. Port Moresby 1219Z/8 BENDIGO and CASTLEMAINE. 2202Z/8, WARREGO and ARMIDALE. Brisbane 0001Z/9 GOULBURN. Newcastle (?05)40Z/9 MORESBY. Departures Sydney N.S.W. 2345Z/8 U.S. Ship (?AL)CYONE for Los Angeles. (A.C.N.B., 1705Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

M/S Trawlers.

Your 1503/12/6. Allocation of 5 trawlers on Admiralty account to New Zealand approved. 2. It is presumed that these vessels will be manned by N.Z. Officers and men. (D.M.S., 1649A/9 to N.Z.N.B.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1407A/9, 1435A/9.)



War Diary.10.9.1942  
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

During this afternoon reports of sighting enemy main units came in from the submarines on patrol off the Lofoten Islands. TRIBUNE in 68° 20' N. 14° 0' E. reported a cruiser at 1050A and TIGRIS at 1410 in ~~69° 13' N. 15° E.~~ <sup>26' E.</sup> 11 miles reported one battleship, one cruiser (later 2 cruisers) and 6 destroyers distance 3 miles steering 10°. Later, TRIBUNE reported a battleship and 2 cruisers and that TIRPITZ was positively identified. TIGRIS reported that she attacked TIRPITZ, HIPPER, KOLN and 6 destroyers at 1415A in 69° 13' N. 15° 36' E. and fired 5 torpedoes without hitting any of the main units. At 1513 P.54 in 69° 34' N. 16° 5' E. sighted 3 heavy units steering, apparently, into Andfiord.

At 2346Z F.O.S. sent orders redispersing the S/M on patrol off the Lofoten Islands.

An aircraft attacked a U-boat this evening in 63° 45' N. 23° 25' W. and reported hits. C.S.18 sent ECHO and ECLIPSE to search for the enemy S/M.

At 1513 today P.Q.18 was in 70° 59' N. 12° 8' W. steering 046° at 7 knots. Wind E.N.E. force 3, sea calm, visibility very poor, almost nil. S.B.N.O. Archangel has proposed that the route for convoys P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 be altered owing to suspected minelaying by enemy destroyers in the Cape Kanin area.

STURGEON (see 8/9) arrived at Lerwick at 1401A today.

Photographic R/C shows that the Altmark class tanker left La Pallice between 7/9 and 9/9, Gironde ports were last covered on 8/9 when incomplete R/C showed that SS ERMLAND was not in the berth occupied by her on 7/9.

Twenty eight aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night off Gironde, Texel and in north German areas.

Ten mines were found today in the area 12 miles east of Lowestoft which was discovered on 18/9.

Fresh routes have been established between Portland Bill and Start Point.



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Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

A Catalina at 1825 today sighted a ship steering south westward, probably a German blockade breaker, which attacked her in about 42° N. 15° W. CHARYBDIS was sent from Gibraltar and VERITY also searched unsuccessfully to the limit of prudent endurance at 0200A/12. It is thought that the enemy ship shot down the Catalina which failed to return.

Mediterranean.

Our torpedo bombers last night hit a merchant ship 50 miles north of Derna and set it on fire after a violent explosion. A vessel which was very low in the water and believed to be sinking was sighted 20 miles off Derna today with destroyers protecting it.

East Indies.

Operation  
"Streamline"  
"Esma"  
(See P-245)

Kossi Bé  
Island

Our forces landed at three points on the west coast of Madagascar early this morning (see 9/9). Units of the 7 S.A. Bde. at the same time advanced southwards from Diego Suarez. Capture of Nosé Bé. MANXMAN with Royal Marines and 2 platoons of Pretoria Highlanders on board entered Hellville Harbour at 0300. There were some enemy casualties from preliminary bombardment by MANXMAN and CARADOC. The town surrendered at 1200 hours. Assault on Majunga. The 29th Indept. Infantry Bde. supported by two cruisers, destroyers and an aircraft carrier landed at two points north and south of the town. There was no bombardment by the ships. The northern landing was unopposed; the southern landing met slight opposition. Diversion at Morondavo (20° 17' S. 44° 17' E.) A Commando from NAPIER landed about 0700 and the town capitulated without resistance. There were no naval casualties other than slight damage to one of ILLUSTRIOUS's Martlets and one Swordfish crashed on landing. Several harbour craft were captured.

/Cable ...



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10.9.1942  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies - contd.

Cable and Wireless report that the cable station at Cocos is being increasingly inspected by Japanese aircraft.

America and West Indies.

Attacks  
on O.N.127.

Convoy O.N.127 was attacked in mid Atlantic by day and night today in 51° 30' N. 27° 27' W. At 1435Z 3 ships were torpedoed, viz: SS ELIZABETH VAN BELGIE (presumed sunk) Norwegian tanker SVEVE (presumed sunk) and British tanker F.J. WOLFE (12,191 tons) which is reported to have remained with the convoy.

The convoy was attacked again at 1920Z in 51° 23' N. 28° 13' W. and British tanker EMPIRE OIL was torpedoed twice but may be salvable and a tug was sent from Iceland on 12/9. A third attack was made on the convoy at 2225Z in 51° 15' N. 25° 55' W. and Norwegian tanker MARIT II was torpedoed and Norwegian tanker FJORDAAS is believed to have been torpedoed at 2315Z. The escorts made several counter attacks on the 6 or 7 attacking enemy submarines, but no proofs of success were seen. (FJORDAAS was damaged by torpedo but arrived at the Clyde on 15/9.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Air/Sea  
Rescue  
Vessels.

Admiralty's O131A/8. In view of consequent reduction of air sea rescue craft, it is intended to station 2 R.M.Ls from Newhaven at Littlehampton for air sea rescue duties. N.A.Bs KITTIHAWKE, CLARICE and ADELINe will be operated as air sea rescue vessels from Shoreham.  
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 0955A/10 to C. in C.Portsmouth)

French  
Tunny  
Boats.

My 1541/3. Ministry of Food have undertaken to purchase all fish brought in by tunny vessels. 2. Security Service will arrange for examination of crews at Falmouth, and Fighting French will probably send personnel to assist in examination and recruit for their forces.  
4. It is hoped that a good number of boats can be allowed to fish from Cornish ports.  
(A.C.N.S.(H.), 1631A/10 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

M.Ls at  
Stornoway.

Your 1617/30. Reduction in number of M.Ls at Stornoway for operation "Knocker" can be accepted to enable you to provide M.Ls to act as crash boats for attending on aircraft carriers on the Clyde.  
(DD.O.D.C., 1817A/10 to C. in C. W.A.)

HARRIER.

Your 1805/<sup>1805/24</sup>4. Please draft HARRIER to M/S One. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2003B/10 to Admty.)

Movements.EMPIRE  
BASCOBEL.

My 2136/8. EMPIRE BASCOBEL returned Reykjavik. (A.C.I.C., 1018A/10 to N.O.I.C. Thurso.)

P. 31.

S.5's 1037A/4.  
P.31 and CH.10 arrived Needles 1043.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1052A/10.)

FRANKLIN.

Sailed at 1035A/10 to continue programme in my 1202/4 and 1938/28/8.  
(F.O. Humber, 1100/10.)

ESKDALE,  
FARNDALE.

Scapa arrival 1058 ESKDALE and FARNDALE.  
(A.C.O.S., 1104A/10 to A.C.I.C.)

134th  
H.D.M.L.  
Flotilla.

H.D.M.L. 1235 is being substituted for H.D.M.L. 1091. *See p.270.*  
(R.A.C.F., 1117A/10.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

FORMIDABLE, BICESTER, ZETLAND. FORMIDABLE is proceeding by following route:  
 O. 32° 58' N. 26° 01' W. P. 46° 59' N. 17° 30' W.  
 Q. 53° 20' N. 14° 01' W. R. 55° 20' N. 08° 30' W.  
 thence to Clyde.  
 2. Speed of advance 20 knots.  
 3. BICESTER S.O., ZETLAND from Londonderry are to meet FORMIDABLE in position (P) at 0700Z/15 and are to be detached to Londonderry on passing.  
 (C. in C. W.A., 1129A/10.)

103rd M.M.S. A.M. 1906A/4. Intend to sail 103rd M.M.S. Flotilla. Flotilla 113 (S.O.), 68, 70, 71, and 114 in convoy P.W.216 on 11/9 for Milford Haven.  
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1246/10.)

FURIOUS. Scapa arrival FURIOUS with BLEAN, PUCKERIDGE, and KANARIS.  
 (A.C.O.S., 1405/10.)  
 Intend the following programme. Details.  
 Further intend boiler-cleaning should start a.m. 12th complete a.m. 20/9. During period ship be at 4 hours notice for 20 knots.  
 (FURIOUS, 2227A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

PENN, Intend to sail PENN and PANTHER in company to PANTHER. Clyde at 1800/12. S. of A. 25 knots.  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1421A/10.)

OTUS, P.217, Intend sailing OTUS and P.217 escorted by WHITE TUNA, SEALION. BEAR at 1600A/13 for Scapa via searched channel and Little Minches, E.T.A. 0800A/15.  
 2. WHITE BEAR is to act as necessary requisite to call at Port D to disembark personnel and stores, E.T.A. Port D 1700A/14.  
 3. On arrival at Scapa WHITE BEAR, OTUS, and P.217 are to report to A.C.O.S. for orders with reference to following movements.  
 (A) P.217 for onward passage to Lerwick with escort as ordered by A.C.O.S. thence to patrol as ordered in F.O.(S) 1259A/7.  
 (B) OTUS for onward passage to Blyth escorted by M.L.300 as ordered by Capt. (S) 9.  
 (C) WHITE BEAR to escort TUNA and SEALION to Holy Loch vide F.O.S. 1202/30 by reverse route of paras. 1 and 2 of this signal calling at Port D to embark personnel and stores.  
 (Capt. S.3, 1433A/10.)

RUBIS. <sup>See P.147</sup> My 1015/7. Sailed.  
 LOCH MONTEITH. (Capt. S.9, 1435A/10.)

WINDERMERE. Your 1148A/10. Following is copy of F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1526A/5 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea. Intend sailing WINDERMERE 0700A/6 for Loch Ewe for onward routing in next convenient U.R. convoy to Reykjavik.

<sup>See over</sup>  
/E.T.A. ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.WINDERMERE.  
(Contd.)E.T.A. Loch Ewe 0700A/7.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1455A/10 to Admt.)  
Your 2207/7 not understood as WINDERMERE sailed  
in U.R.40 on 7/9 in accordance with your 1526/5.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1530A/9 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

BERWICK.

Scapa arrival BERWICK.  
(A.C.O.S., 1817/10.)P. 311,  
TROOPER,  
THUNDERBOLT.Following is programme for undermentioned S/Ms.  
(A) P.311. Arrive Devonport 15/9 to be  
strengthened for and fit containers and R.D.F.  
Leave Devonport 17/10 for Port D.  
(B) TROOPER arrive\*Scotts 26/9 to be strengthened  
for and fit containers and R.D.F. Leave 17/10 for Port D.  
(C) THUNDERBOLT to leave Devonport 10/10 for Holy Loch having  
fitted containers and R.D.F. Work up and leave Holy Loch 26/10  
for Port D. \* *Spencer*  
(F.O.S., 1851A/10.)Operations.Interception  
of Minelayer.Suspect one minelayer and 5 small craft position  
160° Nab Tower 38 at 2350. O E C S 140 13.  
Intercept and attack.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0004A/10 to GLAISDALE.)

Patrols.

My 1415A/9. Returned 0640/10.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 0705A/10.)  
Patrols tonight. No. 1 WIDGEON, 2 HAMBLEDON,  
3 EGLINTON, 4 CATTISTOCK, 5 MEYNELL, 6 BLENCATHRA.  
(C. in C. Nore, 0952A/10 and 1225A/10.)  
2 A/S Trawlers and 1 Chasseur patrolling in vicinity of  
E.A.5 buoy.  
ALBRIGHTON, GLAISDALE patrolling to southward of Portland Bill,  
E.T.D. Needles 2030/10, E.T.A. Portland 0600/11.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1540/10.)TIRPITZ  
attacked.  
HIPPER,  
KÖLNOne cruiser?, bearing?, course 050° my position  
68° 20' N. 14° 0' E.  
(TRIBUNE, 1050A/10.)  
1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 6 destroyers, bearing  
090°, distance 3 miles course 010°. My position  
*See 3/10 p.65* 023°, 69° N. 15° E., 11.  
(TIGRIS, 1410A/10.)  
1 battleship, 2 cruisers bearing 100° distance 11 miles  
(part missed). My position 68° N. 14° E., 270 (part missed).  
(? TRIBUNE, 1558/10 to F.O.S.)

/After ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

TIRPITZ After dark tonight TIGRIS and TRIBUNE are to  
 attacked. report by immediate signal which of the  
 HIPPER, following ships were sighted, TIRPITZ, HIPPER,  
 KÖLN. SCHEER or KÖLN. TIGRIS report number of  
 (Contd.) torpedoes fired.  
 (F.O.S., 1709A/10.)  
*See 1/10 - p. 65*  
 At 1513 my position 069° 34', 016° 05', sighted  
 three unidentified heavy units bearing 180°, 9 miles, steer  
 East then possibly S.E. into Andfiord.  
 (P.54, 1857A/10 to Admty.)  
 Correct my 1410A to read one battleship, 2 cruisers.  
 Attacked TIRPITZ, HIPPER, KÖLN escorted by about 6 large  
 destroyers. P.C.S. of enemy 069° 13' N. 015° 36' E., 010°,  
 28 at 1415A. Fired 5 torpedoes. No hits on main unit.  
 (TIGRIS, 1949A/10 to F.O.S.)  
 TIRPITZ positively identified. Two other major units  
 unidentified.  
 (TRIBUNE, 2120A/10 to F.O.S.)

Offensive Weather permitting one unit M.G.Bs (S) and avail-  
 Patrol. able M.T.Bs are to carry out an offensive patrol  
 in vicinity of R.B.15 tonight. Units to be in  
 position at 2300. Results of R/C will be  
 signalled if it cannot be passed before force sails. If  
 conditions permit 16 Group will attack off Vlieland using  
 flame floats to indicate convoy's position. Force should take  
 advantage of confusion caused by air attack, but is not to  
 defer attack if suitable opportunity occurs. 12 Group will be  
 asked to keep down enemy R/C.  
 (C. in C. Nore, 1228A/10 to MANTIS.)  
 Your 1228/10. M.T.Bs. 234 (S.O.) (Type 252) 230, M.G.Bs  
 88, 82, 84 Engelschmans Gat. M.T.Bs 34 (S.O.), 29 (Type 252)  
 70, R.B.15. E.T.D. 55A Buoy 1845A.  
 (MANTIS, 1524A/10 to C. in C. Nore.)

Operation Operation "Inspiration". Attention is called  
 "Inspiration". to Q.Z.X. 246, 259, and 336 keeping not less than  
 10 miles from these areas.  
*(Round-up of  
 French Tunny  
 Vessels.)*  
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1622A/10 to CLEVELAND,  
 BLEASDALE, ULLSWATER, VICTRIX.)

Allied Air Activity.

M/V off The inward bound merchant ship sighted by a  
 Finisterre. Whitley at 2038 in 43° 10' N. 09° 28' W. is  
 thought to be a blockade runner with a valuable  
 cargo and a first class target.  
 (D.O.D. (H.), 0149A/10 to H.Q.C.C., H.Q.B.C.)  
 One medium merchant vessel in 42.05 N., longitude indecypherable,  
 course 235°, speed 10 knots.  
 (A/C UA1F, 1835/10.)  
 One medium vessel previously reported has sighted A/C and  
 opened fire.  
 (A/C UA1F, 1900/10.)

/Overdue ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Overdue A/C. Keep a good look out for Liberator A/C number 12373 call sign UN9W overdue on passage from U.S.A. to Prestwick. Last bearing 311° St. Evalat, 0539A/10.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1133A/10 to Ships.)

"Orator". Operation "Orator". Weather prevented first sortie. Catalina patrol number 3 leaving Invergordon before 0600A/11 due on patrol at 1300A/11. Second sortie will leave Invergordon at 0900A/11. Subsequent sorties will be decided later.  
(H.Q.C.C., 2245A/10 to Admty., (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. My 0018/28, 0017/30, and 2111/31. Following from Jan Mayen. When aircraft approached Berenberg we heard two explosions and sound of motors suddenly throttled. Several patrols have been sent out but without result. Aircraft must therefore have crashed at North (?) side of mountain and that part it is impossible to approach without boat.  
(A.C.I.C., 1401A/10 to Admty.)

Iceland and MINNIE attacked. Hostile A/C circled at 1015 and 1020/10 at 200 feet over Vattaines (064° 56' N. 013° 42' W.) Machine gunfire reported at 1046. No casualties. At 1100/10 Guma aircraft machine-gunned houses at Breiddalsvik (064° 47' N. 014° 02' W.) and Icelandic Trawler MINNIE. It then flew south and loud explosions were heard near Djaperojur (064° 38' N. 014° 17' W.)  
(A.C.I.C., 1549A/10 to Admty., C. in C. H.F.)

Mining.

Yarmouth. 'O' sweeper swept moored mine 0923. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0958A/10.)  
'O' sweeper swept moored mine at 0926/10.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 0959A/10.)  
'O' sweeper swept two moored mines at 1025/10.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1117A/10.)  
'O' sweeper swept 3 moored mines at 1307A/10. Cut one R mine at 1307A/10.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1533A/10.)  
'O' sweeper detonated one moored mine at 1448.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1653A/10.)  
'O' sweeper detonated one mine, cut one mine at 1615.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1805A/10.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - conts. -

Yarmouth. Q.Z.X.810. Following area has been cleared today.  
(Contd.) (A) 052° 34'00" N. 002° 08'00" E.  
(B) 052° 33'12" N. 002° 10'20" E.  
(C) 052° 29'30" N. 002° 08'10" E.  
(D) 052° 30'00" N. 002° 05'40" E.

8 mines detonated, 2 cut and sunk, total 10.

(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 2029A/10.)

Intend continuing clearance of Q.Z.S. 810 with EPINE, STAR OF ORKNEY, COTSMUIR sweepers CARDIFF CASTLE, SILVER CREST dan layers starting point 52° 30' N. 02° 05'40" E. course 030°, 4 miles, sweeping adjacent laps to westward on completion, continuing search to eastward of starting point 52° 29' 30" N. 02° 08'10" E. course 030°, 4 miles and sweeping adjacent laps to eastward.

(Capt. M/S Gt. Yarmouth, 2058A/10.)

S.N. 65A. R.A.M's 1106/8. Concur.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1055A/10)

Q.L. 2A. Weather permitting carry out Operation Q.L.2A tonight. Supporting force from 8th M.G.B. Flotilla to be in 52° 8' N. 3° 20' E. as early as visibility permits, subsequently proceeding to R.B. 12.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1110A/10 to BEEHIVE.)

Thames Estuary. N.C.S.O. Thames 1131A/9 and my 1845/9. Mine located in approx. 51° 33'52" N. 1° 00'10" E. It was not possible to render mine safe today due to mine being underwater. Further attempt will be made at low water a.m. tomorrow. ALOUETTE 2 will sail at 0400/11 with whaler in tow.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1210/10.)

Bristol Channel. At 1212A/10 one mine exploded by Sweeper. Details.  
(Capt. M/S Bristol Channel 1500/10.)

F.D. 42. F.O.S. 1046/6.  
Request you will sail RUBIS 2100A/11 for operation F.D.42 routed as follows:-  
(a) 089° Out Skerries 5 miles. (b) 069° 59' N. 011° 45' E. thence patrol vicinity (c) 070° 01' N. 014° 02' E.  
2. Submarine should proceed on surface at C.O's discretion to position (b) thence dived by day.  
3. Total bombing restrictions will be arranged.  
(Capt. S.9, 1525A/10 to S.O. S/M Lerwick.) \* Sweep p. 263.

M.S.N.3 Part 1. My 0904/7. Laying of beacon again delayed owing to weather and sailing of 15th M.S.F. postponed for the present.  
(R.A.M., 1620/10.)

/Sweep ...



10.9.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.Sweep in  
North  
Channel.

Strong S.W. wind reaching gale force in early hours of the morning may be expected in North Channel tonight. Use your own discretion as regards taking shelter.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1834A/10 to FOXTROT.)

Lyme Bay  
Sweep.

Intend sailing "Ounce V" 0600/11 sweeping route "N" to Portland. E.T.A. 1600, \*TREVO III, NIGHT HAWK, CONCENTRATOR.  
2. F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them to Dartmouth sweeping same route at 0600/12.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1838A/10.) \*TREVO TERLEIRO  
A.F. 3-2.

Western  
Channel  
Sweep.

My 1231A/10. SELKIRK's otter sank in 170° Start Point light 3.55 miles, float recovered. Swept over position with 5 ships. Results negative.

2. One mine, German type R. cut in 082° Start Point light 6.05 miles and sunk by gunfire.  
3. ALBURY parted sweep in 089° Start Point light 5.725 miles. Float recovered but otter sank without being sighted. As this position was close to expected mine position, re-swept lap in opposite direction with negative results.  
4. Area swept to date as for yesterday in view of small increase.  
(PANGBOURNE, 1954A/10.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Tanker.

A.M. 1628Z/30. Photographic R/C shows Altmark class tanker left La Pallice between 7 and 9/9. Gironde ports were last covered on 8/9 when incomplete R/C showed merchant ship ERMLAND was not in berth occupied by her on 7/9.  
(D.D.I.C., 1042A/10.)

S.Ps at  
Brest.

My Air/Int. 273, 9/9.  
SPERRBRECHER SP. AA, reported to have departed Rade de Brest, is seen at torpedo boat station.  
Positions of SPERRBRECHERS at Brest on 7/9/42

(S/570) as follows:

SP. AD - Port Militaire. SP. AH - Dry Dock No. 3.  
SP. AA - Torpedo Boat Station. SP. AI - Rade de Brest.  
(R.A.F. Medmenham, 1730A/10.)



War Diary.

10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Am over enemy submarine in 44° 13' N. 11° 32' W. Sub on surface, speed 10 knots. (A.O.C. 19 Group, 1411/10.)

U-Boat attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 63° 45' N. 23° 25' W. Enemy on surface and observed to submerge, (Iceland W/T, 1520Z/10.) Have attacked enemy submarine with depth charges. Estimate 4 hits. (A.O.C. 15 Group, 1527/10.) Have attacked enemy submarine with depth charges, estimate 4 hits. (A/C HL6F, 1629/10.) Following from H.Q.C.C. 15 Group. Submarine sighted and attacked 063° 45' N. 023° 25' W. (A.C.I.C., 1637A/10 to Ships.) Am sending ECHO and ECLIPSE to search for U-Boat ? reported hit by A/C in 63° 45' N. 23° 25' W. (C.S.18, 1756A/10 and 2015A/10 to A.C.I.C.) My 1805Z/10. If no sighting or contact obtained by 0800Z/11 return to Hvalfjord. (A.C.I.C., 2345A/10 to ECHO, (R) ECLIPSE.)

Navigational.

Proposed R.D.F. at Hvalsbakur. Your 1922B/11/4. A considered opinion to the contrary has been received from SCOTT. in view of importance of improving navigational facilities off S.E. coast of Iceland (C), request you will re-examine feasibility of erecting R.D.F.Reflector on Hvalsbakur. Chance of survival in Atlantic Gales must be taken into consideration. 2. Alternatively, request you will consider whether R.D.F.Beacon similar to those used by Coastal Command could be established and maintained in one of lighthouses on South East corner of Iceland (C). Maximum height of beacon's aerials is desirable. 3. Object to R.D.F. Beacon would be to give ships making land well south of Hvalsbakur an R.D.F. fix before reaching dangerous waters. Suitable power supply, communication and accommodation would be required. (Head of M., 1326A/10 to A.C.I.C.)

Casualties and Defects.

L.C.T. 390. Your 1727/9. Intend sailing L.C.T. 390 today at 1030 in tow of ABEILLE IV as this vessel is required for salvage work tomorrow. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0900/10.)

DAVID OGILVIE. My 1710/9. Sailed. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0915/10.) Your 0915/10. Arrived. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1225/10 to N.O.I.C. Peterhead.)



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War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.M.G.Bs 312,  
316, 317,  
326.R.A.C.F. 444/57 of 6/9 and C.C.O. 1812A/9.  
M.G.Bs 312, 316, 317, and 326 are to be taken  
in hand forthwith for major engine overhaul and  
are to be operationally fit by 30/9.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1034A/10 to HORNET.)

MENESTHEUS.

Your 1300A/8. Mr. P.A. Edwards, Security  
Service Investigator, will arrive 1515/11 at  
Kyle of Loch Alsh from London.  
(D.N.I., 1115A/10 to R.A.M.)H.D.M.L.  
1091.*See p. 262*A.M. 2042A/14/8. H.D.M.L. 1091 has developed  
serious hull defects.  
(R.A.C.F., 1117A/10.)

CHELSEA.

*Proposed escort  
for R81 - see P. 266*A.M. 1549A/26. *N.T. & W.D.*  
CHELSEA delayed by defects.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1128A/10 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

→ ELDOY.

My 2136/8, 1018/10, and 1621/9. After arrival  
of DELAWARE repairs to Forecast Q will be required  
before she is again ready for towing. It is  
therefore proposed that ELDOY be sailed in tow of EMPIRE  
BASCABEL to U.K. when weather permits. If approved request  
destination of ELDOY be confirmed as Scapa vide your 1913A/19.  
(A.C.I.C., 1246A/10 to Admty.)

STURGEON.

Arrived STURGEON.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1401A/10.)

→ DELAWARE.

ADHERENT towing DELAWARE arrived.  
(A.C.I.C., 2250A/10.)Shipping and Convoys.

QUEEN MARY.

Following received from QUEEN MARY begins:  
Revised E.T.A. R/V 2000 G.M.T./10. 2000Z/9.  
Ends.(C. in C. W.A., 0221A/10 to CURAÇOA.)  
A.T.22's 2000Z/9. Intend to sweep eastward on A.T.22 route at  
15 knots from 056° 41' N. 012° 59' W. at 1140Z/10.  
(CURAÇOA, 0602A/10.)P.Q. 18,  
Q.P. 14.Following is a repetition of MONTROSE's 2215A/9  
to A.C.I.C. Begins.  
E.T.A. Akureyri 0830Z/10. Ends.  
(A.C.I.C., 0515A/10 to V.A.2.)

/Inconclusive ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - 7: -

P.Q. 18, Inconclusive D/F bearings at 0248/10 G.M.T.  
 Q.P. 14. suggest a U-Boat in the vicinity of Force P which  
 (Contd.) may have reported it.  
 (D.D.I.C., 0627A/10.)  
 Following is a repetition of MONTROSE's 0512/10.

Begins. My 2215A/9. Amend E.T.A. 0700A. Ends.  
 (A.C.I.C., 0710A/10 to V.A.2.)  
 Following is a repetition of MONTROSE's 0642/10. Begins.  
 Cancel my 0512 and my 0540/10. My 2215/9. Amend E.T.A. 0700A.  
 Ends.  
 (A.C.I.C., 0943A/10 to V.A. 2.)  
 Akureyri departure Force A at 2120/8.  
 (A.C.I.C., 1030A/10 to C. in C. H.F., (R) R.A.D.H.F., V.A.2.)  
 On completion of repairs AMAZON is to join R.A.(D).  
 (C. in C. H.F., 1044A/10 to AMAZON.)  
 Your 0004/9. This information is required as soon as  
 known.  
 (C. in C. H.F., 1047A/10 to A.C.I.C.)  
 My 1142/28, para. (A). Request immediate report for  
 9th Sept. Negative reports required.  
 (C. in C. H.F., 1051A/10 to A.C.I.C.)  
 Your 1051A/10. 0919/9th position 68° 35' N. 18° 09' W.  
 course 68°, 8 knots. Wind N.W. force 5, sea rough, visibility  
 2 to 4 miles, sea fog.  
 1430/9th position 68° 38' N. 18° 04' W., course 43°, 7 knots.  
 Escort reported her position at 1000/10 as 58° 24' N. 18° 11' W.  
 wind N.W. force 6, sea moderate, visibility 2 miles, showers.  
 Final sortie did not sight convoy. A/C informed by R.A.(D)  
 H.F. convoy bore 345° 48 miles from position 68° 58' N. 15°  
 00' W. at 1750/9. Wind S.W. force 6, sea rough, visibility  
 showers and fog.  
 (A.C.I.C., 1341A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 Your 1142/28, para. A.

P.Q.18 at 1035/10 position 069° 46' N. 14° 50' W., course 044°,  
 speed 8 knots. Wind E.N.E. force 3, sea light, showers and  
 patches of fog.  
 (A.C.I.C., 1547A/10 to C. in C. H.F., (R) V.A. 2.)  
 Hvalfjord arrivals. CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE,  
 ECHO.  
 (A.C.I.C., 1645A/10 to V.A.2, (R) C. in C. H.F., C.S.18,  
 R.A.D.H.F.)  
 Following movements are to take place after dark tonight.  
 All submarines are to proceed on surface at C.O's discretion.

(A) TRIBUNE through 070° 01', 012° 05' to patrol zone K.66.  
 (B) TIGRIS through 069° 55', 014° 50' to patrol zone K.67.  
 (C) P.54 through 070° 30', 016° 32' to patrol zone K.64.  
 (D) UREDD through 070° 30', 017° 50' to patrol zone K.65.  
 (F.O.S., 1711A/10.) *See called - see P.273*

1. P.614 and P.615 have sufficient fuel to transfer from  
 P.Q.18 to Q.P.14 in vicinity of latitude 073° 30' N. proceeding  
 with Q.P.14 as far as longitude 005° E. and then returning to  
 Lerwick.

2. I am in favour of above since P.614 and P.615 will be avail-  
 able for further operations or A/S training at earlier date and  
 in addition will avoid risks of mining or an attack at Polyarno.  
 (F.O.S., 1802A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

/ECHO ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd. -

P.Q. 18, ECHO left convoy at 2230/9 in 069° 14' N. 015°  
 Q.P. 14. 40' W., course 45°, 6½ knots. R.A.(D) H.F.,  
 (Contd.) Force B, and Carrier Force in company. One F.W.  
 A/C sighted during forenoon 9th.  
 (C.S.18, 1832A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

→ Your 1044/10 to AMAZON. Important Admiralty stores were loaded in AMAZON at Greenock for North Russia.

(C. in C. W.A., 1859A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

In view of "Gearbox's" 11(?20)/4th (? consider) CUMBERLAND and SHEFFIELD should initially arrive Barentsburg before noon on successive day. They have aboard 135 and 110 tons of stores respectively and estimate disembarkation will take up to 12 hours each. Request therefore consideration be given to SUFFOLK accompanying. This will give me additional reserve of fuel for destroyers if necessary. Moreover if high speed is required SHEFFIELD's endurance will necessitate her early withdrawal. Paraphrased version has been passed to LONDON and cruisers concerned.

(C.S.18, 2019A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

Estimated position of P.Q.18 at 2000A/10 071° 39' N. 009° 10' W.

(C. in C. H.F., 2101A/10 to H.F. Ops.)

Your 1213A/26. Propose following amendment to (corrupt group) route for both convoys (? due to) suspected minelaying by enemy destroyers.

H. 314° Cape Kanin Light 22 miles.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2124A/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia, (R) Admty., C. in C. H.F., R.A.D.H.F.)

Your 1552/10. P.R.U. will make R/C Altafiord and approach to seaward, thence Torsvaag and Arnov. Aircraft to be over ?Altafiord first photograph light. What Catalina patrols are being flown. Am receiving all enemy reports from S.B.N.O. North Russia.

(S.O. R.A.F. North Russia, 2126A/10 to 18 Group.)

Your 1132/28. P.Q.18 at 1513/10 in position 070° 59' N. 012° 08' W., course 046°, 7 knots. Wind E.N.E. force 3, sea calm, visibility very poor almost nil.

Four icebergs sighted 066° 10' N. 025° 35' W.

(A.C.I.C., 2210A/10 to C. in C. H.F., (R) V.A.2, R.A.D.H.F., MALCOLM.)

Intend passing Hvalfjord Boom 0300A/11. E.T.A. Akureyri 2100A/11. S. of A. (18) ? Knots. Have left store of mail and R.D.F. officers for Archangel in BLENHEIM.

→ (AMAZON, 2305A/10 to A.C.I.C.)

Request you pass following to Polyarno. Begins. For Group Captain Hopps, Polyarno, Vaenga, Gryaznaya, Lakhta. From 18 Group. AC. 193, 10/9 F/210 Patrol CC Datum 1300A/11, E.T.A. Lakhta 0400A/12. G.210 patrol CC Datum 1600A/11, E.T.A. Lakhta 0400A/12. N/210 patrol DD Datum 1900A/11, E.T.A. Lakhta 1000A/12. Request beacons and forecast till 1200A/12 and every 12 hours until further orders.

(28 Group, 2311A/10 to Admty.)

Your 1341/10 and your 1547/10.

Are positions reported based on aircraft's own reckoning or obtained by V/S from convoy escort. Latter is required.

(C. in C. H.F., 2319A/10 to A.C.I.C.)

/Unless ...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18, Unless you have been otherwise ordered by R.A.(D)  
Q.P. 14. H.F., convoy P.Q. 18 alter course now to pass  
(Contd.) through new position UU 073° 10' N. 000° 15' W.  
Thence through position P. S.O. of Escort pass  
to Commodore.

(C. in C. H.F., 2325A/10 to Escort P.Q. 18.)

E.V. para. 24. Q.P. 14 should (? not) pass latitude 072°  
40' N. before 0900A/16th. Two further signals will be made.

(C. in C. H.F., 2326A/10 to S.B.N.O. North Russia, S.B.N.O.  
Archangel, ████████.)

Cancel my 1711/10. TRIBUNE proceed zone K.66. TIGRIS  
P.54, UREDD remain K.152, K.153, K.154 respectively.

(F.O.S., 2346A/10.)

Pass to Polyarno. Begins. For Group Captain Hopps and  
Vaenga. From 18 Group. A.C. 194, 10/9. My A.C. 179, 7/9.  
P.R. of Narvik will be attempted 11/9 from U.K. Request you  
attempt P.R. Alten Fiord. Acknowledge. Ends.

(18 Group, 2355A/10 to Admty.)

My 2210/10. Amend position of convoy to read 010° 58' W.

(A.C.I.C., 2359A/10 to C. in C. H.F.)

SHETLAND, Your 1518A/8. Am informed by Principal S.T.O.  
MIRIAM, S.P. that MIRIAM will not be ready sail until  
VERA p.m. 17th.  
RADCLIFFE, (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1050A/10.)  
EILDON, A.M. 1518A/8 para. 1. Amend date of sailing to  
PACIFIC. read p.m. 16th Sept.  
2. SS. PACIFIC will not sail with convoy.  
(D.O.D. H., 1226A/10.)

S.L. 120. Your 2340/8. Ref. A.M. 1840/7. In view of  
sighting by Focke Wulfe request approval to retain  
LARGS with S.L. 120 for the present.  
(EGRET, 1436A/10 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Your 1436A/10. LARGS is to be detached at  
dawn/11 unless enemy is in contact at the time.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1623A/10 to EGRET.)

Lyme Bay Shipping Routes. The following routes between Portland Bill and  
Start Point are established and should normally  
be used by all shipping. All other routes in  
Lyme Bay are cancelled and D.C. 133 is being  
amended accordingly.

Route N for all shipping proceeding at less than 12 knots west-  
bound from western end of Q.Z.S. 293 through position  
R. 50° 17'00" N. 03° 00'00" W. S. 50° 17'00" N. 03° 30'00" W.  
seaward end of Q.Z.S. 174 which position is marked by Dart buoy  
T. 192° Start Point 6 miles eastbound. U. 180° Start Point  
4 miles. V. 50° 17'00" N. 03° 30'18" W. (Dart buoy).  
W. 50° 17'00" N. 03° 00'00" W. Y. Q.Z.S. 293.

Route for all shipping proceeding at 12 knots or over from  
position K. 180° Portland Bill 3½ miles through positions L.  
180° Portland Bill 10 miles. M. 50° 10'00" N. 03° W.  
N. 180° Start Point 10 miles.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1701A/10.)



War Diary.

10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

S.C. 98.

N.O.I.C. Belfast is requested to sail trawler  
PIROUETTE to R/V S.C.98 in 056° 05' N. 008° 10'  
W. at 1700A/11 and escort Loch Ewe portion.  
C.T.U. 24.1.13 to amend R/V as necessary.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1733A/10.)  
Situation report at 2000. My 1357A/10. Amend  
position and speed S.C.98 (E) 056° N. 013° 01',  
7 $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
(C. in C. W.A., 1747A/10.)



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10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Japanese  
Tactics.

Following additional information available as a result of recent actions against Japanese Naval forces:-

(a) Japanese torpedo aircraft employ varying tactics. Some approach at very low level and others come in in high speed glide dive and drop torpedoes from heights up to 500 feet. In general they all press attacks well home and need to be countered by fighters outside screen; LEXINGTON reported torpedoes dropped at 700 yards range.

Americans favour all round screen at 2,000 yards.

(b) Japanese aircraft appear to catch fire readily and a high proportion of incendiary bullets is recommended.

(c) A U.S. torpedo striking force was totally lost due to having no fighter escort. Americans confirm our experience that torpedo striking forces cannot compete with Japanese fighter opposition unless they themselves have fighter support.

(d) There is an imperative need to eliminate spreading of fumes from high octane petrol. LEXINGTON, after having been damaged, blew up as result of ignition of such fumes and was a total loss. Admty 1209/17/7 refers.

(D.D.T.S.D. (T)\*1858 /10 to Cs. in C.)

\*Approved by Dep. 1st S.L.)

North Atlantic.

Crew of  
damaged  
German U/B  
(transferred  
to Spain)  
Cartagena.

M. of M. informs me there was no truth in suspicion of British Embassy that members of crew of German Submarine at Cartagena had visited Madrid or were living in German Merchant ships in harbour. Crew who number 45 were all under guard inside dockyard and were allowed into Cartagena town only 15 at the same time for 3 hours. It was not possible for any exchange to take place. Only

one of ship's company had visited Mainland - C.O. who was allowed to come at the same time of transfer of flag to see his Ambassador and received orders as regards procedure of transfer. Navy was anxious whether questions of disposal of men should be settled soon as to keep guard over people who were not exactly prisoners was duty not relished. He said "We are not policemen", he showed his orders to C. in C. Cartagena and latter's report.

S/M is referred to as G.7. According to Minister this is German type number which Spain now uses as provisional name for convenience.

(N.A. Madrid, 1010/10 to Admty).

On instructions from H.M. Charge d'Affaires I mentioned to M. of M. advisability of Spanish Govt. prohibiting all submarine belligerent Nationals from entering Spanish Territorial waters under penalty of internment as done in June 1917. Vide F.O. telegram 883 20/7. He said he would welcome co-ordination heartily and support it strongly if it were put forward to M.F.A.

(N.A. Madrid, 1111/10 to D.N.I.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.French  
Shipping.

Passings 9/9. Westbound 0725 TOURS, full, deck cargo tanks or boilers. OUED FES full deck cargo motor lorries, STRASBOURGEOIS light.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1023A/10 to Admty).

German  
U-boats.

Your 1302A/9 (U-boats passing into Mediterranean since 29/8). Request details on receipt of which appreciation will be signalled.  
(D.D.I.C., 1057A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Escort of  
Tankers.

Following is a repetition of my 1550A/9 (begins) Request authorities sailing tankers for Gibraltar may be instructed to inform Masters of tankers to expect escort in about 20° W. Cases have recently occurred of tankers leaving their route to avoid being seen by other independently routed ships and thus Gibraltar escorts have failed to meet.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1152A/10 to F.O.I.C. Trinidad (R) Admty etc).

Axis  
Shipping,  
Vigo.

My 1700/26/8. I saw German ships at Vigo and discussed matter with Consul. Also saw Port Captain. Report by Staff Officer.  
I am satisfied proximity of tankers to naval base at Rios and guard on board rendering assistance by them out of question but the BESSEL is too far out for safety. Though port Captain would almost certainly hear it immediately afterwards he could not prevent submarines going alongside her much less communications between her and submarines out by the islands. Today I took matter up with Minister of Marine who undertook to move BESSEL inshore under Rios. I will follow this up till it is done. No indication of any three vessels preparing to leave. 36 Germans were recently reported as arriving to augment crews (already much reduced) but 10 have left by rail. Subject to your concurrence I am deferring action under your 1830/13/3 till I see if B really does shift berth. When I observed as joke to Minister that Germans should be glad to have guard on board as they probably expect a cutting out expedition he replied Germans had several times expressed fear of that very thing. Italian LUCIA C higher up Bay is so close in she's almost aground. (Ends).  
(N.A. Madrid, 1202/10 to Admty). \* See next page.

M.M.S.  
Flotillas.

Motor Mine-sweepers have reverted to their previous formation and flotillas are now as follows: 108 Flotilla Motor Mine-sweepers 133, 33, 135, 184, 20, 13, 134, 21. 110 Flotilla. Motor Mine-sweeper 81, 171, 92, 118, 116.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1231/10 to Admty etc).

/st....



War Diary.

10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

ST. NECTAN, My 1303/10 not to Admty. ST. NECTAN proceed with  
SCOTTISH. all despatch to R/V with SCOTTISH off Lisbon.  
2. SCOTTISH has been instructed to R/V in  
position 235° Forte Bugio Light 5 miles at 2200/10  
and escort ARDEOLA and ALPERA to Gibraltar coastwise to Cape  
St. Mary thence direct to Gibraltar.  
3. ST. NECTAN acknowledge reporting P.C. and S. SCOTTISH is  
then to arrange R/V.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1318A/10 to ST. NECTAN, SCOTTISH (R) Admty).

P.211 Intend sailing P.211 making good 140 miles a day  
for Malta p.m./12 to pass 038° 01' 009° 01' E.,  
at 0800A/17 thence as ordered by you.  
(ii) P.211 carrying spare gear and stores for  
Capt. (S) 10. (iii) Last message concerning route Capt. (S) 10's  
1221/7/8.  
(iv) Intend transferring account to TALBOT p.m./12/9.  
(v) C. in C. Med., pass to Capt. (S) 1.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1436A/10 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty F.O.S., C. in C.  
Med., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10).

BESSEL My 1652/19/5 and B.N.A. Madrid 1222/25/5 (placing  
(German). of guard on German ship BESSEL) Report received  
*See previous page* from R.O. Vigo dated 28/8 indicates that Spanish  
Authorities have taken no steps toward placing  
guard on board BESSEL.  
2. Can you confirm that orders mentioned in para. 3 of your  
1222/25/5 were in fact implemented?  
3. Copy of R.O. Vigo's report has been forwarded to D. of N.I.  
under cover of my R.S.791/32/3 of 9/9/42.  
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1556A/10 to N.A. Madrid (R) Admty).

NIGERIA Your 1732/4, para. 2 (E) report as soon as  
possible whether A.F.C.T., A.F.C.C., Augmenting  
Table and H.A.C.S. Table are still in ship.  
Early arrangements should be made to despatch all  
available salvageable material from these four items to U.K.  
addressed S.N.S.O. Portsmouth, for E.E.M. Immediate report  
requested as to what is available for sending to U.K. and  
general condition. On receipt of gear A.S. Portsmouth should  
inform Admiralty in order that inspection may be made by Admty.  
Officers.  
(D. of D. Bath, 1616A/10 to C.S. Gibraltar (R) NIGERIA, A.S.  
Portsmouth).

Damaged U/B Submarine dry docked at high water 10/9. Spanish  
at Santander. M/L. NEPTUNO watching proceedings.  
(CENTURIONE (Santander 1645/10 to Admty).  
REGINALDO  
GIULIANI.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.GAETA  
(Italian)  
wireless.

Ref. R.O. Seville's A One report number 1652/3 M. of M. informs me wireless of GAETA was dismantled some time ago and that Naval armed launch is kept at Huelva to ensure GAETA does not report movements of British ships. Seville please comment and confirm presence of motor launch.  
(N.A. Madrid, 1719/10 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar, (R) Admty (D.N.I.) R.O. Seville).

TALISMAN

My 1208/9 Departure 1710 TALISMAN.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1734A/10 to V.A. Malta).  
Passed St. Vincent 1722 Course and Speed 350 11½.  
(ST. NECTAN 1755A/10 to SCOTTISH, (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

THORSHAVN,  
ANNA KNUDSEN,  
PETTER II.

Your 2026/9. <sup>Intend to sail</sup> Intend to sail THORSHAVN, ANNA KNUDSEN, PETTER II at 2100/12 escorted by JONQUIL (S.O.) SPIREA (?COLTSFOOT) routed through S. 35° 58', 06° 01'; R. 37° 01', 11° 20'. Q. 40° 01' 16° 50'. B. 44° 31', 16° 50'. S. of A. 9 knot  
2. Speed will be adjusted to reach R/V positions

(B) at 0700Z/17.

3. TINTERN, ABBEY, SNELAND I, LYMINGE, are to proceed to Gibraltar from (B) through (Q) (R) and (S).
4. Cancel my 1930/8 not to C. in C. Plymouth.
5. C. in C. W.A. pass to STARWORT, ACONIT. C. in C. Plymouth pass to CHESTERFIELD. N.O.I.C. Greenock pass to Oban C.C.O. and Capt. (D) Greenock.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1758A/10 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty N.O.I.C. Greenock, Capt. (D) Greenock, C. in C. Plymouth, N.O.I.C., Londonderry N.C.S.O. Oban, N.O.I.C. Oban CHESTERFIELD, STARWORT, ACONIT.)

U/B O.S.39

By D/F on 11068 k/cs at 1523Z/10 U-boat in vicinity of O.S.39.  
(D.D.I.C., 1844A/10 to Escorts O.S.39. O.S.39 J.  
(R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.F.)

Suspicious  
M/V

Catalina reports medium size merchant ship in 042° N., 015° W., steering 235° 10 knots.  
(2) Have ordered A/C to endeavour to stop and identify and to attack if reply is not entirely satisfactory. (3) Am sailing CHARYBDIS.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1918A/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A.)

Ship attacked Catalina in approx. 042° N., 015° W., at 1825 probably German blockade breaker endeavouring proceed south westward. If you have sufficient endurance endeavour to intercept (2) Ship was steering 235° at about 10 knots. (3) CHARYBDIS being sailed from Gib. (4) Acknowledge forthwith.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1956A/10 to VERITY (R) Admty C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, CHARYBDIS, S.E.C. O.G.89).



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic--contd--Suspicious  
M/V Contd.

My 1908A/10 not to VERITY, sailed CHARYBDIS.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2122A/10 to Admty (R) VERITY,  
C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth).  
No further communication from Catalina, this may  
be due to electric storms.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 2253A/10 to CHARYBDIS, (R) Admty,  
C. in C. Plymouth).

South Atlantic.

CHALLENGER

Movement summary 2000Z/10. Area Q. CHALLENGER  
(?leaves Port Elizabeth) p.m./10 (?for) Mauritius.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1125B/10 to S.A. Stn. (R) Admty).

BARBRAKE

A.M. 1330B/8/8 R.A.W.A.F's 1307Z/30/8 and your  
1208B/2/9. Retention of BARBRAKE for two months  
as requested by R.A.W.A. approved.  
(D.B.D., 1456A/10 to C. in C. S.A.)

Y.M.S.

Your 1347/31/8. No Y.M.S. have yet sailed from  
U.S.A. Allocation of Y.M.S. Minesweepers is at  
present under consideration between U.S.A. and  
British. Subject to decision of number finally  
allocated to us, it is hoped that 5 will be available for Durban  
in 1943.  
2. Request confirmation that S.A.N.F. Officers and ratings  
can be sent to U.S.A. to fetch these vessels, subsequently  
serving in them operationally.  
(D.M.S., 1816A/10 to C. in C. S.A. (R) C.G.S. Pretoria D.S.A.N.F.)

Mediterranean.Aviation  
Fuel Storage,  
Malta.

Your 1540/9 (1) Total bulk storage tons (A)  
7450 (B) 7900 (C) 7900.  
(2) Yes. Draught 30 feet. Length 600 feet.  
(V.A. Malta, 0110B/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med.,  
F.O.C.N.A., )



10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - conts:-

Aviation My 0100/10\*para. 2 Unloading can only be done  
Fuel Storage, provided tanker pumps are working. As precautions  
Malta. Contd. request at least two portable pumps suitable for  
sucking and raising petrol against a fair head  
be sent in ship.

(V.A. Malta, 1205B/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med.,  
F.O.C.N.A.)

\* (Presumably 0110/10 intended. (N.T. in W.D.) reply to A.M.  
1540/9 re bulk storage for aviation fuel).

Your 0110/10. How much of this tankage is (a) Underground.  
(b) Protected.

(D.O.D. (F) 1248A/10 to V.A. Malta).

Your 1248/10. A. 2500 B. 3500, above ground and unprotected  
at shell tank M.X. 900 protected at Luqa. 1000 in lighter at M.X.

2A. Above may be increased by 500 during October in which case  
(B) could be reduced correspondingly.

(V.A. Malta, 2310B/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

Enemy Units, A.S.V. A/C reports 1 medium sized vessel, 1  
TRAVELLER, unknown vessel P.C. and S. at 0115C/10. 033°  
THRASHER. 02' 020° 34' 064° 10. If nothing has been  
sighted in your present position endeavour to  
intercept west of longitude 021° 50'.

(Capt. S.1. 0140C/10 to TRAVELLER, THRASHER (R)

C. in C. Med., S/Ms on Patrol Capt. (S) 10, No. 201 N.C.Group).

If nothing has been sighted TRAVELLER proceed to area

K.K. THRASHER had freedom of action in area T.T.

(Capt. S.1., 1325C/10 to THRASHER, TRAVELLER, (R) C. in C.  
Med., S/Ms on Patrol, Capt. (S) 10, 201 N.C. Group).

Enemy Unit, R/C A/C report at 0706C this morning 1 small  
UNA. *See next page* motor vessel P.C. and S. 034° 24' 023° 35' 354° 14  
*page* (Capt. S.1., 0718C/10 to UNA (R) C. in C. Med.,  
Subs. on Patrol Capt. (S) 10).

R/C A/C reports 1 M/V, 2 destroyers, P.C. and S.  
at 1235C/10 034° 05' 022° 19' 330° 11 knots.

(Capt. S.1., 1320C/10 to UNA (R) C. in C. Med.,  
S/Ms on patrol, Capt. (S) 10).

Cositrep No. 513. Air night 8/9. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Fire  
started on possible ship near jetties, other fires  
in main jetty area and near naval fuel tanks.  
2. Wellingtons missing. Single Wellington  
bombed a small ship 35 miles N.E. of Derna.  
Results obscured by low cloud which prevented  
other Wellingtons from attacking.  
(C. in C. ME., 1025/10).

TAKU *See next page*  
*(Movements)* TAKU pass 032° 40' 030° 27' at 2200C/10 thence  
through 032° 35' 024° 26' to operate in area T.  
(Capt. S.1., 1140C/10 to S/M on patrol (R)  
C. in C. Med., No. 201 N.C. Group Capt. (S) 10).



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Supplies in  
S/MS

Your 1040/9 (Summary of what can be carried by S/MS) Situation is well realised but must be accepted during eastward passage of PARTHIAN and REGENT owing to battery situation in Eastern Mediterranean.  
(C. in C. Med., 1338C/10 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) V.A.M. Admty etc).

Enemy Units

2 Merchant ships 039° 50' 018° 50' 110° 7 knots at 1330B/10.  
(Capt. S.10 1627B/10 to S/MS on Patrol C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O. S/MS Alexandria).

Movements

9th Port Said arrival EXMOOR, BOSTON, CLEOPATRA, ARETHUSA, PAKENHAM, PALADIN, DELPHINIUM, G.S. PAUL COUNDOURIOTIS, GLOXINIA, SOUTHERN SEA, HYACINTH, PRIMULA, KELVIN.  
Departure PAKENHAM, PALADIN, JAVELIN, ARETHUSA, CLEOPATRA, ORION, EXMOOR, \*TAKU, JERVIS, KELVIN, (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 1647C/10 to Admty, C. in C. Med., F.O.C.R.S. Force R.A. Alexandria).

Malta Air  
Report.

*See Movement of H.M. Ships - 4-12-1942*  
*\* See Movement page p. 2.*  
I. 668 10/9 C.S.R. 9th 1200 hrs. 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol S.W. Sicily. 1113 hrs. 15 plus enemy fighters approached. 18 Spitfires up including 2 to cover minesweepers could not intercept owing to serious R.D.F. interference and inadequate R.D.F. warning. Raiders turned back just before reaching coast. 1434 hrs. and 1530 hrs. section of Spitfires made 2 R/C patrols South Sicily.  
Night 9/10. Alert 2030 hrs. 3 raiders approached, serious R.D.F. interference. 1 Beaufighter up but raiders dropped bombs in sea 5 miles West of Island and fled home.  
10th 0436 hrs. 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol S.E. Sicily. 0535 hrs. 4 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta. 0615 hrs. 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol S. Sicily. Another 4 Spitfires up to cover their return. No enemy aircraft seen.  
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1810/10).

UNA

*See Movement page*

If nothing has been sighted by 0200C/11 leave patrol and return to Malta through 35° 40' 19° 02' thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 10,  
(Capt. S.1., 2020C/10 to UNA (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 10, Group 201, S/MS on patrol).



War Diary.

10.9. 1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Operations in Madagascar.

Operation "Stream." C.O.S.(W) 278. Ref. C.O.S.(W) 276 of 8/9. (Hush, T.O.O. 1230/8/9). "Stream" has started. (Air Min. 0320Z/10 to Britman, Washington).

Majunga Aerodrome Captured. "Stream" Aerodrome captured. Most of town in our hands. No mines found. Some slight opposition ashore. Sweeping inner harbour commenced. (S.O. Force M. 0429Z/10 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty).

Surprise Effected. Local information indicated at 0730C that Tananarive still unaware of "Stream." (S.O. Force M. 0527Z/10 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty).

French Surrender Operation "Line." My 0422 (0429 intended). Ships moving into harbour. Commander Martin surrendered. Forward body operation "Line" completing landing. Bridges to depth 70 miles observed intact. (S.O. Force M. 0711Z/10 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty).

Katsepe Fort captured. Troops landing on beaches to northward of town have made contact with those landing in town. Troops for "Line" have been ordered to land. Katsepe Fort captured. (C. in C.E.F. 0747Z/10 to Admty).

Nosi Be Landing Operation "Esme". Landing in Nosi Be completed. 5 casualties. 4 serviceable tugs or power boats captured. (C. in C.E.F. 0923Z/10 to Admty).

Morondava Diversion (NAPIER). Diversionary landing Morondava (020° 17' S. 044° 17' E.) successful. No opposition, key position occupied. (C. in C.E.F. 0925Z/10 to Admty (R) E.Africa Command). My 0925. Unlikely residents reported landing. Bogus report passed to Tananarive. (C. in C.E.F. 1028Z/10 to Admty (R) E.Africa Command).

Tananarive Broadcast. Following is precis of Tananarive broadcast at 1200C hours, local time. Governor General made declaration that British forces had attacked Madagascar in great strength and that this was naked aggression. De Gaullists staged visit Majunga which failed. British attacked 0400 hours., battle still raging 0700 hours, communications between Majunga and Tananarive cut. Majunga probably taken. Warships landed troops Morondava which has been occupied. French R/C aircraft sighted 18 ships off Majunga. (G.O.C. in C. E.Africa 1030 G.M.T./10 to W.O.).



War Diary.10.9. 1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - W.T. -Operations in Madagascar. - W.T. -

Tananarive 072393. 50583 cipher 10/9.  
Broadcast 1st Following intercepted in clear from C. in C.  
Contd. Tananarive to Vichy at 0925 hrs. local time (Beginn  
Majunga attacked at 0400 hours, this morning.  
Troops were ready following Gaullist alert.  
Communications by line and W/T with Majunga cease 0700 hrs,  
presumed lost. Our air R/C counted at 0600 hrs. 18 ships  
opposite air port. Ambanja attacked about 0700 hrs. One  
warship landed troops Morondava at 0605 hrs.  
2nd. Annet sent similar message adding Madagascar (?could or  
would) resist aggression again and entirely faithful Vichy.  
Comment; Assume alert given at both Majunga Morondava.  
(E.A.Command 1400/10 to G.O.C. in C.E.A.(R) C. in C.E.F.  
H.Q.Islands Area. W.O).

Situation, "Stream" surrendered. Casualties light. Leading  
Publicity. armoured car of line left beach at 1100C. "Esme"  
(a) No news. "Esme" (b) operation successful, 5  
casualties. (?Consequent) landing (?satisfactory).  
Still uncertain whether Tananarive knows of

"Stream" landing. Particularly do not want public announcement  
until gaff is blown or bridges captured.

(S.O. Force M. 1121Z/10 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty).

Your 1121/10.

- (a) When did "Stream" surrender?
- (b) To what extent was surprise achieved?
- (c) What is attitude of civil population?
- (d) What is state of aerodrome?
- (e) Early news of bridges subsequent to your 0711/10 most  
desirable.

(C. in C.E.F. 1319Z/10 to S.O. Force M.(R) Admty, E.Africa  
Command).

In next communique please fill in blank to give picture of  
what occurred. Details too meagre at present to give adequate  
account to public.

(C. in C.E.F. 1401Z/10 to S.O. Force M.(R) Admty, E.Africa  
Command).

S.O. Force R.A.4th Cruiser Squadron is known as S.O. Force M  
M. during the present operation to capture Majunga.  
(C. in C.E.F. 1541Z/10 to Eastern Theatre).

VASNA. VASNA Hospital Ship due Majunga 10/9.  
(C. in C.E.F. 1543Z/10 to Admty.(R) S.O.(I)  
Kilindini. S.O.(I) Colombo, S.O.(I) Bombay).

/Force M...



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd. -Operations in Madagascar. -Contd.Force M.  
Report.

Operation "Stream" carried out according to plan and surprise achieved.

1. First landing at Red Beach (W.D. Note:- Position see 0016/11) unopposed, estimated time 08C/10th (as received) but after daylight somewhat delayed due difficult terrain and failed to find right path. Aerodrome taken landing grounds coast road clear 0605.
2. Landing on Green Beach (W.D. Note:- Position see 0016/11) at 0518, slight opposition by small number Senegalese resulted in all to about 20 to 30 own casualties, about 30 enemy casualties, number of prisoners unknown. Later town reported quiet. Barracks captured 0633 and Commandant and Chef de Liaison Region of Majunga arranged surrender.
3. Dundee Bank and W/T Stations both in our hands 0722. Green Battalions made contact Red Beach Battalion 0817.
4. One company landed Katsepe Point 0510 detecting no opposition and were unable to find any gun positions.
5. Orders to cease disembarking Group Brigade vehicles given at 0636.
6. First armoured cars of Battalion E. (corrupt group) forward body left Red Beach 1100 and were reported by T.A.C/R. 50 miles along Tananarive Road at 1330.
7. Section Commandos landed at Montego Bay Beach. No news yet.
8. Aerodrome serviceable 10/9. 6 Albatrosses and 6 Fulmars from Mayotte and 16 S.A.A.F. from Diego Suarez being flown a.m./11th.
9. 5 Tugs and 11 Lighters captured, also one small sugar boat and 200 tons sugar captured in harbour or at sea intact.
10. No form of Naval casualties or damage. No enemy (sighted) from any ship. No mines located.
11. Inner harbour swept and entered at 0900. Destroyers ordered to oil.
12. BRITTANY started laying indicator nets 1600 after survey in direction 270° from Ile Verte commencing at 2.77 miles from it.
13. Hospital ship VASNA arrived Euryalus banked 1300 and anchored 1600.
14. Air co-operation from ILLUSTRIOUS according to plan. 1 Martlet slightly damaged by bullets. 1 Swordfish crashed on landing.
15. Diversion operations "Esme" and "Tamper" successful vide signals from MANXMAN and NAPIER.
16. As far as was known at 0700/10 no official W/T Message of Broadcast of capture of Majunga had reached Tananarive.
17. Air R/C indicate all bridges intact for 80 miles along Majunga to Tananarive.
18. Personal opinion is only (Corrupt Group) speed and efficiency of details in getting ashore prevented heavy casualties for I understand French on Green Beach fought very well.
19. From Capt. Platt. Para. 18 is due to efficiency with which every one was brought right to spot at right time. All soldiers taking part "Stream" more than grateful to Royal Navy.
- (S.O. Force M. 1700Z/10 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty).

Operation  
"Tamper."

Landing delayed till daylight owing to heavy surf. Despite this town capitulated apparently (?without) landing being reported. All points in our possession. Commandos have proceeded inland. Have

5. prisoners on board including residents. Intend remaining until

/a.m. ....



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10.9.1942.  
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - conts.Operations in Madagascar - conts.

Operation "Tamper." Contd. a.m./D.4. No casualties. (Cdre.D. 1727C/10 to S.O. Force "M" (R) C. in C. E.F.).

Army Reports. Please pass following to Army Intelligence Majunga from O.C. Troops Morandtieva. Begins:- Intelligence Centre Majunga. Messages Department through to (?M) Tananarive. Received reply showing some (?confusion) and little confidence in possibility of resistance. No troops or arms in Morandtieva area. Administrator, Chef de Region Lallemand, prisoner. Ends. (Cdre D. 1815C/10 to S.O. Force M.(R) C. in C.E.F.).  
My 1815/10. Following received (begins) Tamatave believed strong. British attack expected there. Tananarive, northern defences (?well) prepared, trenches and probably guns. Southern defences (?do not) exist. Antsirane without protection. Road completely open from south and bridges in good repair. (Cdre (D) ?1642Z/10 to S.O. Force "M" (R) C. in C. E.F.).

Publicity. S.O. Force M asks publicity be withheld until information available concerning ?bridges. (C. in C.E. F. 1943Z/10 to Admty.(R) S.O. Force M E.Africa Command).

Operation "Esme." At 0300/10 MANXMAN with naval boarding parties, Royal Marines from CARADOC and troops gathered alongside entered Hellville Harbour, moored head and stern and at once bombarded areas known or believed to contain machine guns commanding pier head. 172 rounds of 4" high explosive were fired at 500 yards range. The pier head was then swept for two minutes with all short range weapons and military mortars. There were some enemy casualties. During these bombardments boarding parties captured tugs and power boats.  
2. A diversionary bombardment was then begun under cover of which Pretoria Highlanders, pulled by Royal Marines in cutters, landed on pier head and captured Hellville Base suffering a casualty. There were machine guns on pier but their crews had either run or were dazed by bombardment.  
3. Some R.M. and naval boarding parties had been landed at 0200 at Dzamandkar on west coast Nosî Bé. They disorganized sugar factory at that place and its tugs at Anse de Cratere, but later when proceeding to Hellville in commandeered transport they were ambushed at a road block by two heavy machine guns and were lucky to get off with 3 wounded. These were the only British casualties.  
4. Chef de District surrendered on board MANXMAN at 1200 and agrees to carry on. Situation now nearly normal, but O.C. troops considered, and I agree, that owing to diversity of vulnerable points in Nosî Bé maximum (group omitted) more platoons should be sent when Marines are withdrawn in MANXMAN 2 or 3 days hence.  
5. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez please pass to (2 corrupt gps). (MANXMAN 1940C/10 to S.O. Force M.(R) N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez. CARADOC.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.Operations in Madagascar - contd.

Operation "Esme." contd. Islands area report "Esme" (A) Force delayed 1200 hours at 655403 due to 3 burnt bridges 2 now repaired. Air report that company landed to prevent destruction of Amba (?z) Oana bridge moving up to bridge. 0805 hrs. bridge still intact. 0600 hrs. column at 696427 advancing slowly due to dilapidated bridges. Sitreps now being received by Islands Area from S.O. Force M.  
(G.O.C. in C.E. Africa T.O.O. 1955 G.M.T./10 to W.O. (R) C. in C.E.F.).

Madagascar Government. Re handing over to Fighting French, etc.  
(.W.O. 1150/10 2302/10, 2304/10 to H.Q. Diego Suarez)

Public Announcement. Following from W.O. to G.O.C. in C. East Africa repeated Fortress H.Q. Diego Suarez No. (M.O. 5) 64502 dated 10th (Begins).  
My 63890/8/9. Release publicity. (Ends).  
Following from W.O. to G.O.C. in C. Africa (R) H.Q. Diego Suarez Cypher No. 65403 (M.O. 5). dated 10/9 is repeated to you (begins)  
In continuation our 64502 regret could not carry out full procedure laid down our 63890 of 8/9 U.S. State Dept. without our authority issued official statement that "U.S. approved Britain's further attacks in Madagascar" Tannarive Vichy and Trans-Ocean have all broadcast views of operations. As gaff blown no further object in maintaining silence and declaration of H.M.G. was released 1900 hrs G.M. T. accompanied by brief communique stating operations began this morning and are proceeding satisfactorily. Prime Minister approved this procedure and sends you message that he is glad all is going well. 2020/10. (Ends)  
(Admty 2020/10, 2340A/10 to C. in C.E.F.R. S.O. Force M. for BUTTERMERE).



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.- General.

MAURITIUS

Sailed.  
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 0815Z/10 to Admty etc).

LIEBENFELS

Your 2020/14/7 not to F.O.R.S. and Canal Area. Will be ready to steam away to final repair port in approx. 8 weeks. Request I may be informed about seizing her in prize before expiration of repair.  
(Massawa C.C.O., 0819Z/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med., F.O.R.S. and Canal Area).

Scheme N.A.

Your request for verification of my 0505Z/6 (begins) Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F., F.L.O. Delhi from F.O.C.R.I.N. My 1013/29 and C. in C. E.F.'s 1847/1.

Propose to take (?) up MELCHIOR TREUB instead of ISIPINGO for base ship for scheme N.A.

2. Propose to substitute WUSUEH for PERAK (Ends).

3. Scheme N.A. My 1013/29/8 and para. 1 of C. in C. E.F.'s 1835/1 refer.

(F.O.C.R.I.N., 1140Z/10 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F., D.C. in C. E.F., F.L.O. Delhi).

BIRMINGHAM.

Expect to give BIRMINGHAM a quick docking at Simonstown in October. My 0523/6/9 to C. in C. S.A. refers. Information is requested where BIRMINGHAM next refit will take place observing that boiler defects are estimated to require 6 weeks and R.D.F. alterations 3 to 4 months to complete.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1211Z/10 to Admty. (R) C.S.4 C. in C. S.A.)

Cocos.

Cable and Wireless report that cable station at Cocos is being increasingly inspected by Japanese aircraft.

(Head of M. 1302A/10 to C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C. Ceylon, F.O.C.R.I.N., A.C.N.B.)

Trade  
Protection  
Persian Gulf.S.N.O.P.G.'s 0845/9/8 C. in C. E.F.'s 1808/10/8 1831/15/8 and 1232/27/8. Request reply by signal when N.O.I.C. Hormuz and Staff are being sent. ALAUNIA is now stationed temporarily at Hormuz but permanent N.O.I.C. and staff are essential for success of convoy scheme now starting.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1353/10 to Admty (R) S.N.O.P.G.)

Air Report.

Intelligence summary No. 179 to 1800 hours 10/9. Part 1 for 9/9. Ships sighted by R/C aircraft off Arakan Coast on 8/9 were attacked by striking force of 10 Blenheims. 6 Hudson a.m. 9/9 in Akyab

Harbour. Motor vessel approx. 1,500 tons believed ammunition ship and escort vessel 500 tons. Former received hits and is believed sunk. Escort possibly damaged. Hits on jetty where ammunition seen stacked. Strong fighter opposition encountered also light and heavy A.A. from ships and shore. Enemy fighters



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - ~~Leant~~:-

Air Report. type "O" or Army 97 retractable undercarriage  
Contd. 1 probably destroyed 1 damaged. 3 Blenheims  
1 Hudson missing.  
(A.H.Q., India, 1416 G.M.T./10 to Air Min).

- 0.24 Cancel my 1428Z/18/8. In order to effect exchange of outfits with Eastern Theatre you will sail O. 24 as convenient to meet depot ship COLOMBIA.
2. On completion of exchange of (?torpedoes) request you will sail O.24 for Mauritius (Grand Port) where she is required to test efficiency of C.M. loop system as directed by N.O.I.C.
3. Onward passage from Mauritius to Colombo (?fuelling) ordered by C. in C. E.F.
4. 300 tons diesel oil is available at Grand Port but no lubricating oil.
5. As N.O.I.C. Mauritius does not hold O table request you will ensure O.24 will carry Naval Cypher 3 and current edition of M table.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1549Z/10 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty etc).

Zigzagging In open waters in Indian Ocean merchant ships of Indian Ocean. a speed of not less than 10 knots are to zigzag by day and on moonlight nights, except in heavy weather or fog, when proceeding independently or after dispersal from convoy in area northward and westward of a line drawn from coast of Mozambique along 33° E., to 35° S. thence to 35° S., 45° E. thence to 14° S., 80° E. thence to 00° S., 90° E. thence along 90° E., to coast of Bengal.

2. Gulf of Aden is included in this area, but ships are not to zigzag in Persian Gulf westward of 57° E., though orders to do so may be issued at any time.

3. C.A.M.S.I. 156/42, in course of distribution will be amended. Admiralty message "IW" was not sent by W/T.  
(D.T.D., 1717Z/10 to B.A.M.S.)

LARCHBANK A.M. 1628/23/41. Important ship Fremantle 27/9 from Aden.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1756Z/10 to A.C.N.B.)

EREBUS Proposed to allocate EREBUS to Durban for service as turret drill ship and for gunnery training with proviso that ship should be kept at 2 weeks notice for operational requirements.

2. No firing ship for gunnery school classes can be provided permanently for Durban except at expense of Eastern Fleet.

3. It is considered that an old cruiser and a destroyer should be made available from time to time from station resources as circumstances allow.

4. Request your remarks.  
(D.G.D., Approved by A.C.N.S. (F) 1810A/10 to C. in C. E.F.)



War Diary.

10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Bases and  
Depot ships  
with Eastern  
Fleet.

Your 2215/4. <sup>112</sup> There are 2 essentials for Bases  
and Depot ships with Eastern Fleet at present  
time (a) good wireless (b) good accommodation  
(2) HECLA and ADAMANT only fulfil these require-  
ments. RESOURCE does not provide necessary  
standard wireless equipment, and WAYLAND will have  
no spare accommodation.

(3) If HECLA is withdrawn it will be imperative to retain  
ADAMANT at Fleet Base for these purposes.

(4) ADAMANT will however be required as Sub. Depot ship as  
soon as a flotilla of any size is constituted. LUCIA and  
WUCHANG are not satisfactory in this climate but can be accepted  
while only 1 or 2 British subs. are operating.

(5) Hoped therefore that if HECLA must be withdrawn she or an-  
other Depot Ship will be made available again as soon as  
possible.

(C. in C. E.F., 1909Z/10 to Admty).



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

U/B. A/C reported A.S.V. contact 048° 50' N 062° 40' W 300° at 0030Z/10.  
(C.O.A.C. 0303Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

Air Report. A.854, 10/9. Operations 9/9.  
3 Hudsons 113 Sqdn. temporarily based at Chatham New Brunswick on patrol (?) 1130 off 0215 carried out A/S sweeps in Gulf St. Lawrence East of Gaspe Peninsula. Hudson S/113 sighted and attacked U-Boat at 1252 position 48.49 N 62.50 W. Results indicate probable (?) damage. Hudson J/113 sighted U-Boat periscope at 1502 in approx. same position. No attack made.  
(H.Q. E.A.C. Halifax 1120/10.)

Convoy "Mincemeat" 1. Sailing telegram.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 0924Q/10, 0926Q/10 to Admty.)

Movements summary. 1800 G.M.T. 10/9.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
S/M.P.555.	38° N 69° W.	146°	6
KARANJA.	16° N 28° W.	349°	14
T.A.20.	45½° N 40½° W.	234°	11

(D.O.D.(F.) 0937Z/10 to Opnav. (R) Comnav.)

KENKORA II Kingston Jamaica departure KENKORA for Charleston via Crooked Is. Passage, E.T.A. 1900Z/16.  
(N.O.I.C. Kingston 0942Q/10 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

TAIGETE ARCOLA (Italian) My 1043/9 there is no objection to work being carried out at Caracas Bay and agree desirable if possible to avoid ships entering St. Anna Harbour. Request approx. sailing date.  
(N.C.S.O. Curacao 1143QR/10 to Admty. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A. Connv.)

STAR OF EGYPT. Your 2011Q/8. STAR OF EGYPT at Bombay since 3/5.  
(D.T.D. 1209A/10 to S.O.(I.) Jamaica.)

VENI. Your 2207Z/7. Ref. Admty. 1531/5. Your 2134Z/31. VENI (Nor.) not a casualty, arrived Falmouth 27/8.  
(D.T.D. 1229A/10 to N.S.H.Q.)

DONALD STEWART (sunk 3/9) (1) SS. DONALD STEWART (2) Canadian SS. Line Montreal (3) 0600/3 050° 32' N 058° 46' W (4) (5) (6) (9) not seen (7) ship sank in 12 minutes. (10) Torpedo. (11) Merchant vessels issue of C.B. and S.P. also mail for Goose Bay sank with ship.  
(N.C.S.O. Quebec 1350Z/10 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

/Coastal...



MOST SECRET

# MOST SECRET

M I S S A G E

1414Z/10 Sept.

IN

250<sup>A</sup>

From. B.A.M.R. Washington.

Date. 16.9.42.

Time. 1734.

NAVAL CYPHER (C) BY T/P

Addressed. Admiralty, Rept. C. in C. Eastern Fleet.,  
C. in C. South Atlantic.

684. Your 1652 3rd. Navy Departments agree  
to accept ships for refit tentatively. Yard and actual  
date cannot be given until January for H.M.S. RESOLUTION,  
Job Number S.174, and May for H.M.S. REVENGE, Job Number S.175.

1414Z/10

ROYAL SOVEREIGN, RESOLUTION, and REVENGE  
for refit.

Advance copy sent D.C., D.O.D. (F)

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Contr.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- NA.1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim.
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D.O.D. (F) (2) (O.D.1137/42)
- D.C. (2)
- Hd. of M.
- A.S. (C)
- D. of D.
- D.N.C.
- E. in C.
- I.P. (2)
- D. A/S W.
- D.T.S.D.
- U.S.N. (3)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- W.D.
- D. of P. (2)
- Adm. Blake.
- D. of S.
- Dep. Contr.
- D. of D.
- D.N.C.
- E. in C.
- D. A/S W.
- Hd. of M.F.
- Hd. of P.
- Hd. of S.W.R.

BATH



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Coastal  
Convoys,  
Signals. Your 2031/9 (Re method passing information to Admty. and N.S.H.Q. of vessels in Coastal convoys in C.V.P.F. Atlantic and Caribbean.) which has been passed to S.O.I. Jamaica. This will be satisfactory for N.S.H.Q. but suggest S.O.I. Jamaica be also included in address. Would appreciate opportunity to report on working of system after short trial. (N.S.H.Q. 1433/10 to Cominch C and R. (R) Admty. S.O.I. Jamaica.)

O.N.127  
attacked. Convoy attacked, 2 ships torpedoed. Position 051° 28' N 027° 32' W.  
(T.U. 24.1.14. 1442Z/10 to A.I.G. 303.)  
My 1442Z/10 to (A.I.G.303) Following is report in accordance with F O I 17.  
(A) 1435Z/10. Position 051° 30' N 027° 27' W.  
(B) 1. (D) Number unrecognisable, ELIZABETH VAN BELGIE. St. Johns N.F. 44 survivors of 50 ship's company, in CELANDINE. Number 22, (?F.J.WOLFE) hit but maintaining speed of convoy. Number 32, SVEVE, believed all of crew rescued in SHERBROOKE.  
(E) Recommend number 22 leave for St. Johns N.F. as soon as escort available. (H) Weather report.  
(T.U. 24.1.14. 1749Z/10 to C.T.F. 24. (R) Connav. etc.)  
Convoy attacked position 051° 23' N 028° 13' W at 1920Z.  
One merchant ship torpedoed.  
(T.U. 24.1.14. 1927Z/10 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.24.7.)  
My 1927Z/10 to A.I.G. 302. 1 merchant ship EMPIRE OIL torpedoed twice, left floating position 051° 23' N 028° 13' W but possibly in sinking condition. All crew but 2 rescued.  
(T.U. 24.1.14. 2250Z/10 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.24.7.)  
Convoy attacked one ship torpedoed at 2225Z/10 position 051° 15' N 028° 55' W.  
(T.U.24.1.14. 2255Z/10 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.)  
Ref. my 2250Z/10. Tanker EMPIRE (OIL) may be salvageable if tug sent immediately.  
(T.U. 24.1.14 2335Z/10 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.9. 24.7.)

Mid Ocean  
Escorts. N.S.H.Q. 2220Z/9. Following Corvettes allocated from Mid Ocean Force. H.X.207 LOUISBURG. S.C.100 NASTURTIUM. H.X.208 ALBERNI.  
(F.O.N.F. 1502Z/10 to N.S.H.Q. (R)C.O.A.C. Admty.)

S.C.102  
Route. S.C.102 - Recommend:  
R. 48.20 51.12 S. 52.25 43.45. T. 55.40  
32.50. U. 57.02 22.01 V. 56.35 08.30.  
Chop 1100Z/30.  
(D.T.D. 1504Z/10 to Connav.) Affirmative  
(Connav No T.O.O./11.)

U/B. Coast watchers report sighting S/M vicinity 049° 35' N 055° 45' W proceeding S.W. at 1200Z/10.  
(C.O.A.C. 1505Z/10 to ? C. in C. W.A. ? C.T.F.24.7. Admty.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.SEATRIN  
TEXAS  
EXHIBITOR  
SANTA CRUZ.A.M. 1240/5. SEATRIN TEXAS arrived Suez 8/9.  
EXHIBITOR and SANTA CRUZ 9/9.  
(D.O.D.(F.) 1540A/10 to B.A.D.)Coastal  
convoy,  
signals.Your 2031/9 concur this is a most helpful  
innovation.  
(D.T.D. 1613Z/10 to Connav.)Symbol  
N XAdditional diversion symbol allocated N X meaning  
to bring convoy closer to air cover.  
(Connav 1616/10 to All U.S. and Canadian escort  
units at sea. All British Mid-Ocean Escort Units  
at sea.)U/Bs and  
S/Ms.S/M estimate and U.S. S/M Notice.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1634/10.)Barbados,  
CORNWALLIS  
torpedoed.4 explosions presumed torpedoes in anti-torpedo  
net between 1635 and 1650Q/11th. (sic). CORNWALLIS  
hit by torpedo 1705.  
(Harbour Master Barbados 1715/10 to Admty.)M.A.R.I.  
and  
T.O.O.Your 1614/7. Admty. is reluctant to omit T.O.O.  
for following reasons.  
(a) Desirability of conforming to normal British  
procedure of always inserting T.O.O. on all  
messages. British Merchant ships have been long  
accustomed to this procedure.  
(b) Proposed messages will in some cases be handled by British  
W/T Stations and a T.O.O. facilitates handling of messages by  
these Stations.  
2. In view of the small increase in total length of transmission  
necessitated by insertion of T.O.O. Admty. would be glad if you  
would give matter further consideration.  
(D.T.D. 1737Z/10 to Connav.)SAN  
ERNESTO.Have you any news of SAN ERNESTO sailed Curacao  
25/8 in T.A.W.15 for Guantanamo and Cristobal?  
(D.T.D. 1743A/10 to S.O.I. Jamaica (R) B.R.O.  
Cristobal.) Reply 1116/11, 1530/11.

K.W.21.

Convoy K.W.21 will proceed to Key West 1100 G.M.T.  
10th due Havana 2400 G.M.T. Escorted by S.C.636  
(Lieut. Garnaus, U.S.N.) S.C.512 and P.Y.332  
S of A 7 knots. Details.  
(Key West, Florida 1809Z/10 to Admty.)

PIORUN.

Sail at 1030Z/11 to rejoin C.T.U.24.1.17. speed  
18 knots. It is estimated O.N.126 will be in 049°  
17' N 043° 10' W at 1200Z/11 course 248° speed  
6 knots. Read all signals addressed to 24.1.17.  
(C.C.N.F. 1848Z/10 to PIORUN.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

A/C torpedo attack. Your 1427/9. A joint Admiralty/Air Ministry Committee has been set up to consider all problems of aircraft torpedo attack. Information on U.S. aircraft torpedo methods and their operational success is at present very limited. Request you make every effort to increase flow of such information from U.S. Navy and War Dept. Current USF74 appears based on peace time experience only, request you will forward a copy of the revised edition as soon as it becomes available.  
(D.A.C.D. Approved A.C.N.S. (W.) 1852A/10 to B.A.D.)

P.K.101  
K.G.601 The following ships will join P.K.101 at 1200 G.M.T. 11/9 off Key West, the whole becoming K.G.601, S of A 8 knots due Guantanamo 15th route. EXIT escorted by S.C.524, S.C.534, S.C.668, S.C.669, P.C.469. (details)  
(Key West 1934Z/10 to Admty.)

Convoy B.W.1. Sailed. Route and details.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney 2007Z/10.)

BROADWAY defects. BROADWAY cannot sail with her group owing to defects. Further signal will be made.  
(C. in C. W.A. 2025Z/10 to F.O.N.F. C.T.G.24.7.  
(R) Admty. etc.)

M.Ls. 30th Motor Launch Flotilla escorted by THIRLMERE departed Narsarssuak for St. Johns at 0700Z/10. S of A 12 knots. Request Cominch pass to all Canadian addressees. Route.  
(S.O.P.A. Greenland 2030/10 to C.T.F.24. (R) Admty. etc.)

Sub. attack and sighting summary. C.A.F.A.C. N.O.B. Guantanamo. N.O.B. Trinidad. A. 2 unidentified ships torpedoed 51° 28' N 27° 32' W about 1420Z/10. Challenge 0600Z/8 cancelled. B. SUMMERSIDE and Q.083 attack sub. 49° N 63° W 1908Z/9. C. ST. LOMAN attacks sound contact 39° 32' N 73° 55' W 2237Z/9. SS. GRIMSBY sights sub. on surface 46° 28' N 56° 36' W 0300Z/9. Fisherman sights sub. 03° 18' S 38° 55' W 1900Z/9. Eastern Airlines plane sights sub. 11° 50' N 62° 40' W 0940Z/10. Course 300°. D. Plane Radar contact 48° 50' N 62° 40' W 0030Z/10.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2117/10 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

Convoy O.N.127 sighted by U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made a first sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 2119Z/10. 7645 k/cs. ENIGMA 952.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2320/10 to ST. CROIX. (R) Admty. C.T.24.)



War Diary.10.9.1942.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.Sundry  
ships.

Present situation regarding those ships mentioned in my O311/2 which have not yet sailed and other mentioned in A.C.N.B. Melbourne's 1206/9 and O401/8 August.

- (A) H.M.A.S. WOOLONGONG ready. Will sail as soon as repairs to VERA completed probably 12/9.
- (B) BOMBAY arrived unserviceable. Now fitting new Asdic pillar. Ready to sail 13/9 for Colombo meet U.S. ship TRINITY at sea on 14th.
- (C) H.M.A.S. TOOWOOMBA arrived with Asdic unserviceable and damaged tank which will probably necessitate slipping. Departure date indefinite.
- (D) H.M.A.S. BURNIE on patrol is due for boiler cleaning. To sail with first tanker available after 17/9.
- (E) H.M.S. BENGAL is due Albany p.m./14 to relieve H.M.S. CAIRNS on patrol.
- (F) H.M.A.S. CAIRNS due Fremantle about 16/9. Due for boiler cleaning and engine repairs. Unlikely to sail from Freetown(?) before 23/9.
- (G) H.M.A.S. MARYBOROUGH has not yet left Adelaide.
- (H) No signal addressed Cdre. W.A. refers to WALLAROO as for overseas. A.C.N.B. 1138/27 only to Cdre. W.A. states that WALLAROO and DUBBO are allocated to Fremantle.
- (J) H.M.A.S. IPSWICH arrived Fremantle today overdue for boiler cleaning and with anti-submarine and engine defects. She and remaining vessels will be sailing as soon as possible.
2. Considering that the 3 serviceable craft essential for A/S protection of this area must be provided from the foregoing vessels it will be appreciated that no acceleration has so far been possible. Every effort will continue to be made and it is hoped that the situation will improve with the finer weather shortly to be expected.
- (Cdre. Western Australia 1314Z/10 to A.C.N.B.)

Situation.

Serial No. 231 9/9. Digest.

Photographic R/C Buka 9/9 reveals further development aerodrome where at least 20 different bays now available. Heavy bomber observed taking off and indications other aircraft camouflaged. Small steamer reported departing Buka Passage afternoon 9/9.

2. Nil enemy sightings Trobriands Milne Bay area 9/9.
  3. R/C Lopangare reported 1 - 1,000 ton M/V and other small craft at wharf.
  4. Unconfirmed report 6/9 states Japanese troops disembarked Dilli from 2 vessels. Further report graded C.3 states 1 destroyer 1 transport embarking troops on 9/9 for Eastern Timor. Same source reports considerable activity Dilli Aerodrome.
  8. Kittyhawks strafed enemy positions Goodenough Island 9/9.
- B.A.D. pass to Opnav.  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P. 2338Z/10 to Admty. etc.)



War Diary.

10.9.1942.  
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated approx. positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1353A/10, 1409A/10.)



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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| HOME COMMANDS<br>(Classification<br>by subjects)    | - Policy<br>- Defence of United Kingdom<br>- Movements<br>- Operations<br>- Allied Air Activity<br>- Enemy Air Activity<br>- Mining<br>- Enemy Intelligence<br>- U-Boats<br>- Navigational<br>- Technical<br>- Casualties and Defects<br>- Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS<br>(Classification<br>by stations) | - North Atlantic<br>- South Atlantic<br>- Mediterranean<br>- East Indies<br>- America and West Indies<br>- Australia and New Zealand<br>- U-Boat Campaign   |

Additional subject headings are sometimes employed temporarily, e.g. when an important operation is in progress.

2. The following volumes should be used to supplement the War Diary: the dates given in brackets are those on which the series held by War Diary commences:-

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (23 February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1 September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1 September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot (1 March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21 June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1 July 1941, No.222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

The enemy aerodromes at Luostari and Banak were attacked last night by Russian bombers who claim to have dropped over 50,000 lbs of H.E. and to have destroyed on the ground and in the air, 11 or more enemy aircraft.

Air R/C of Altafiord (69° 57' N 23° 7' E) at 0430A today showed 6 ships present, amongst them HIPPER, SCHEER, KOLN and 2 destroyers with booms round them. TIRPITZ was not present, and it is possible that the force sighted yesterday by submarines included HIPPER and not SCHEER.

TIGRIS, P.54 and UREDD were ordered at 0837A today to move to patrol zones off North West Norway. Later TRIBUNE was also sent from the Lofoten area. P.614 and P.615 are to transfer from P.Q.18 to Q.P.14 and will return to Lerwick.

V.A.2 in ANSON with DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, KEPPEL, MACKAY, MONTROSE, CAMPBELL and BRAMHAM left Akureyri at 1700/11.

JUNON left Lunna Voe this evening to patrol off the Norwegian coast near 66° 40' N 11° 56' E.

At 0916 today aircraft reported an unidentified motor vessel about 2000 tons in 63° 22' N 12° 50' W steering 200° at 8 knots.

Coastal forces were sent to operate against enemy shipping in the Borkum area last night. Early this morning an eastbound convoy was attacked in 53° 24' N. 5° 14' E. off the Texel. One ship was torpedoed and was not seen again after a very heavy explosion, and an R boat was set on fire and an armed trawler was damaged. There were a few casualties but no serious damage was caused to any of our vessels.

M.Ls engaged on minelaying off the Dutch coast last night and their supporting M.G.Bs were attacked by enemy trawlers and engaged by shore batteries. M.G.B.81 was slightly damaged and the M.Ls had one or two casualties.

Aircraft reported an enemy tanker (apparently the SPICHEREN, ex-Norwegian KROSSFONN captured in 1940) in 43° 45' N. 8° 15' W, course 300° speed 10 knots at 1545A; at 1805 the enemy altered course to 70°. An aircraft of Coastal Command attacked at 1818 but obtained no hits. CHARYBDIS searching for the supposed blockade runner which shot down a Catalina yesterday in about 42° N 15° W was ordered to endeavour to intercept; no aircraft were available at Gibraltar today, but shadowing aircraft were sent from Plymouth and it was arranged that a striking force of Wellingtons should attack at dawn tomorrow.



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - Contd.

A large number of E boats operated in the early hours of this morning east of Cromer. They were not sighted by our patrols. The 9th M.S.F. are sweeping the area.

Further mines were detonated today in the Dartmouth area.

South Atlantic.

R.A. West Africa today reported that TUSCAN STAR, 11,449 tons, was sunk at 2150 G.M.T. 6/9 in 01.34 N 11.39 W by a large U/B believed German.

Mediterranean.

The enemy occupied Novorossisk yesterday. The Russians still hold the eastern shore of Novorossisk harbour.

Greek S/M PAPANICOLIS reported today that as instructed she had successfully\*intercepted a small Caique which left Samos for Piraeus with an important Allied prisoner on board.

*Flight 11/5 - 2 min  
12/9 - p. 375.*

East Indies.

Force "Tamper", diversionary landing from NAPIER at Morondava, was recalled p.m. today.

ILLUSTRIOUS, GAMBIA and destroyers left Majunga for Diego Suarez this evening.

In reply to an inquiry from F.O.C.R.I.N., C. in C. Eastern Fleet says that as local air protection for ships using the port will be required, the construction of the aerodrome at Port F, (Salaya anchorage) should proceed.



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11.9.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.

The first Sydney (C.B.) to Wabana special ore convoy (B.W.1.) sailed today.

Attacks  
on O.N.127  
(Continued)

At noon today LIBERTY GLOW was missing but may be a straggler. Four or 5 U-Boats were near the convoy which was in 51° 15' N 28° 55' W. At 1735 C.T.U.24.1.14 reported that the convoy had been attacked and one ship torpedoed; a submarine had been sighted on the surface 7 miles off, and he was chasing, his position being 49° 32' N 32° 18' W. At 1804Z C.T.U. 24.1.14 reported a suspicious vessel in sight steering 15° at 10 knots. There was no further report of attack until 2359Z when the convoy was in 48° 51' N 33° 0' W and 2 or 3 ships were reported to have been torpedoed.

*Q. 5. 33  
attacked.*

H.M.C.S. CHARLOTTETOWN (Corvette) was torpedoed and is presumed sunk at 1110Z today in about \*49° 10' N 66° 50' W. *by U. 517. (C.S. 443)*  
CLAYOQUOT attacked the U/B and an exceptionally heavy explosion was heard after the second attack.  
*\*49° 12' N 66° 45' W. See A 326.*

D.E.M.S.

An agreed scheme for providing D.E.M.S. personnel in British monster liners on a 50-50 basis is reported today from New York.

Barbados  
attack.

4 explosions, presumed by torpedo attack, occurred in the anti-torpedo net at Barbados between 1635 and 1650Q/11, and SS. CORNWALLIS was hit by torpedo at 1705 but remains afloat in shallow water.



11.9.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. A.M. 1135A/10. Area Plymouth delete RAMILLIES. 2 destroyers. (D.O.D.(H.) 1040Z/11 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet)

HUNDA KINTYRE. Arrangements made in A.M. 1821A/10 for HUNDA and KINTYRE should be cancelled and those made by you for these two ships in your 1750A/10 carried out. Ships should be sailed to Humber as soon as possible. (D.M.S. 1305A/11 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)

JURA. JURA is to be completed for tropical service and the fitting of one additional Oerlikon ~~as~~ was carried out in the 4th and 8th Trawler Groups.  
 2. Only such items as can be completed by 28/9 should be undertaken.  
 3. Confirmed that type 91 set will not be fitted. (D.M.S. 1731A/11 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)

French Tunny Boats. Your 1631A/10 passed to Penzance. Vessels will be ordered to Penzance in first instance not Falmouth vide para 8 of my number 01487/1 dated 8/9/42. (C. in C. Plymouth 1811A/11 to Admty.)

Movements.

BARCLIFF. Sailed BARCLIFF in accordance with my 1025A/10. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0925A/11.)

DELAWARE. Is towage of DELAWARE complete and tug available for immediate towage in Mid-Atlantic. (D.T.D. 1000A/11 to A.C.I.C.)  
 Your 1000/11. DELAWARE returned Reykjavik. Tug is available. (A.C.I.C. 1222/11.)

TUNA. SEALION. Intend\* sailing TUNA and SEALION escorted by M/L 300 at 1830A/14 to R/V. LOCH MONTEITH at 0630A/15 at 23 Buoy. Thence MONTEITH, TUNA, and SEALION proceed to Scapa, E.T.A. 0600A/16.  
 2. On arrival at Scapa TUNA and SEALION are to report to A.C.O.S for orders for passage Holy Loch escorted by WHITE BEAR. Capt (S) 3rd 1433/10 refers. (Capt.S.6 1140A/11.) \* from Blyth.



War Diary.

11.9.1942  
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

LAFOREY. My 1501A/8. (1) LAFOREY is to leave LEINSTER on reaching latitude 52° 30' N. and proceed to Southampton.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1245A/11 to LAFOREY.)  
C. in C. W.A. 1245A/11. E.T.A. Needles Approach 0600A/13.  
(LAFOREY 1540A/11.)

ARAB. My P.C.S. 059° 24' N. 015° 59' W., 098°, 7½.  
(ARAB 1402Z/11.)

FORMIDABLE BLYSKAWICA. My 1129A/10. 1. BLYSKAWICA is to proceed Londonderry in time to fuel and sail with BICESTER and ZETLAND as additional escort, and is to proceed to Clyde with FORMIDABLE.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1446A/11.)

HALCYON. SALAMANDER. BRITOMART. HAZARD. TOBRUK. HALCYON, SALAMANDER, BRITOMART and ~~HAZARD~~ sailed to (corrupt group) Gorlo. TOBRUK arrived Archangel.  
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1830C/11.) *\* accompanied by remnants of 4-7.5 ships.*

KAPP I. F.O.I.C. Aberdeen's 1225/8 reports Norwegian M.F.V. KAPP I as having sailed from Buckie 26 July. Request present whereabouts.  
(D.S.V.P. 2129A/11 to A.C.O.S.)

For Gibraltar. A.M. 1906/4/9. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to sail the following to Gibraltar in company on 19/9 or as soon after that date as weather conditions permit. 4th and 8th Trawler Groups, 103rd and 114th M.M.S. Flotillas and M.M.S. Numbers 9, 47 and 80, LINNET, SS HOUSTON CITY.  
2. Speed of advance 8½ knots.  
3. 4th and 8th Trawler groups will form the escort and name of S.O. should be included in the sailing signal.  
4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide route south of Ireland.  
5. Fighter Protection will be required.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 2254A/11.)

Operations.

Enemy Main Units. P.54's 1857/10. Early R/C from Andfiord to Altafiord is important.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 0110A/11 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Pass to Polyarno begins for Grp. Capt. Hopps and Vaenga. Three major units sighted at 1510A/10 in approx. 69° 22' N. 16° 10' E., course easterly, altering possibly South easterly. P R Altafiord and location of these units is of highest priority.  
(18 Group 0110A/11 to Admty.)

/Visual ...



War Diary.11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Enemy Main Units (contd.) Visual R/C (?Alta) Fiord 0430A/11 shows 6 ships present.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0858A/11.)  
TIRPITZ, HIPPER, KÖLN, and 6 destroyers were unsuccessfully attacked in  $069^{\circ} 13'$ ,  $015^{\circ} 36'$ , course  $010^{\circ}$ , at 1415/10. Enemy have probably re-entered leads in vicinity  $070^{\circ}$  N.

(F.O.S. 1037A/11 to S/Ms.)

My 0858/11. One photograph shows HIPPER, SCHEER, KÖLN and two destroyers in Altafiord  $69^{\circ} 57'$ ,  $23^{\circ} 07'$ , with booms round them. Presence of TIRPITZ uncertain pending developing of further photographs.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1047A/11) (D.D.I.C. 1228A/11)

My 1047/11. Further photographs do not reveal TIRPITZ. Further sortie being made including head of Laksefiord 70 22 26 daylight hours, Bille Fiord inside Porsanger Fiord  $70^{\circ} 20'$ , ( $?15^{\circ}$ )  $06'$ , and Lanendson Fiord  $70^{\circ} 05'$ ,  $22^{\circ} 40'$ .

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1246A/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Photographic R/C of Altafiord  $069^{\circ} 57'$ ,  $023^{\circ} 07'$ , shows HIPPER, SCHEER, KÖLN, and two destroyers. TIRPITZ has not been sighted. It seems therefore possible that force sighted by S/M yesterday included HIPPER and not TIRPITZ.

(F.O.S. 1734A/11 to S/Ms.)

A.M. 1228A/11. TIRPITZ not present in Altafiord. 1 destroyer in Soroy Sund ( $70^{\circ} 30'$  N.  $23^{\circ}$  E.) at 1327A/11.

(D.D.I.C. 1840A/11.)

My 1246A/11. Sortie at 1730 showed nothing in Langfiord. No visual at Altafiord. Other fiords not seen.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1943A/11 to Admty.)

Sortie A.R.C. one photographed 0715/11 shows Altafiord at (?Oskarn) Canal B U G T (?69) (?57) N.  $23^{\circ} 08'$  E. one Hipper Class cruiser, one pocket battleship, one Koln class cruiser, five destroyers, 3 M-Class Minesweepers. Three of destroyers are alongside probable tanker. (?Many) ships emitting smoke. Large boom-protected berth near Mollennes unoccupied. Other anchorages in Altafiord not photographed owing to cloud.

(R.A.F. Vaenga Bay 2205A/11.)

Report your position at 1600A/10 and if any enemy main units were sighted.

(F.O.S. 2232A/11 to UREDD.)

Enemy Convoy attacked. Lowestoft arrival M.G.B.91 from Patrols. (MANTIS 0929A/11.)  
One M/V torpedoed. One Lowestoft arrival M.G.Bs 82, 84 from patrol. (MANTIS 1206A/11.)  
R-Boat and One Armed Trawler damaged. Lowestoft arrival M.T.Bs 34, 70, 29 from patrol. (MANTIS 1259A/11.)  
Preliminary report of C/F units operating in the Texel area on night 10/11. M.T.Bs 234 and 230, M.T.Bs 34, 29 and 70, with M.G.Bs 91, 82, 84 were sailed at 1800/10 to operate against enemy shipping in the Texel, Vlieland area. Reconnaissance A/C reported two westbound convoys off Borkum at 1708/10 and it was hoped to attack with available A/C just before C/F units. Unfortunately strike A/C failed to locate the convoys and it is assumed they entered the Ems. At 0405/11 M.T.B.234 sighted an eastbound convoy believed to consist of one M/V about 2000 tons,\* two escort vessels, and

\* German records show no westbound ship present.



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11.9.1942  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Enemy Convoy one or more R-boats in 53° 24' N. 05° 14' E. M.G.Bs were ordered to carry out diversionary attack while M.T.Bs carried out an attack from seaward. M.T.B.234 fired two torpedoes and observed one hit. The target was not seen again after a very heavy explosion. This hit was confirmed by M.T.B.230 and M.G.Bs. Immediately afterwards M.T.B.230 sighted a ship probably an escort, and fired one torpedo. A hit is claimed but full confirmation is lacking.

Meantime the M.G.Bs co-operation had been excellent. An R-boat was engaged at 100 yards range by all three M.G.Bs and her fire silenced. An armed trawler in the van was attacked, bridge smashed, and guns silenced. On disengaging at 0420, what may have been an R-boat on fire was sighted. M.T.Bs and M.G.Bs regained contact and on setting course for Lowestoft M.T.Bs. 34, 29 and 70 were met. No further action was considered possible as it was getting light. Casualties. M.G.B.91 one rating killed, one wounded, several superficial wounds. M.T.B. 230 one rating seriously wounded. No serious damage reported to any boat.

(C. in C. Nore 1920A/11.)

Patrols. Available M.Ls and M.T.B. 203 are to sail at dark today and proceed to patrol S4, leaving at daylight/12 and returning to Dartmouth.

2. GLAISDALE and ALBRIGHTON will be patrolling on 50° 13' N. between 2° and 3° W.

3. Object to intercept minelayers and to cover P.W. 216.

4. Code word "Range 6".

(C. in C. Plymouth 1355A/11 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

M.Ls 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and north east Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2020, E.T.R. 0600/12. M.L.138 and R.M.L. 511 near C one buoy from 2045. M.G.Bs 41, S2, S3, 46, 10 and P6 from Ramsgate near V buoy from 2030.

(V.A. Dover 1829A/11.)

Departure at 1920 GUILLEMOT to carry out Patrol 1 tonight, joining F.S.5 at H.3 buoy at 1600/12.

(F.O. Humber 2033A/11.)

*\*Not identified.*

"Inspiration" Operation "Inspiration" para 9 of orders.  
(French Operations are to be continued on Z + 2 days  
Tunny tomorrow. 2. Para 2. Only one torpedo boat  
Boats.) now believed at present in N.W. French ports.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1622/11 to CLEVELAND.)

Sunderlands report total 25 Tunny men scattered between 048° and 050° N. and 011° and 012° W, and further 25 scattered between 048° and 049° N. and 010° and 011° W. No concentrations of Tunny seen. If A/C can take off they will be instructed to join you in 048° 30' N. 010° 30' W. at 0700A/12.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2001A/11 to CLEVELAND.)

/Coastal ...



War Diary.11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - contd.

Coastal Force operations. Preliminary report of C/F Units operating south of 52° 10' N. on night 10/11 is as follows:- M.Ls 106, 105, and 110 on operation Q L 2 A were disturbed by two trawlers as they were about to run in to lay mines. Trawlers opened fire and M.L.106 laid six mines the remainder being jettisoned at "safe", some having been damaged by gunfire. M.G.Bs 77, 75, 76 and 81, who were in support close N.E'ward, came to their assistance but, although they sighted the M.Ls, no contact with the trawlers was made. M.G.Bs were subsequently engaged by shore batteries M.G.B.81 sustaining slight damage. M.G.Bs remained close off shore until 0600 when they proceeded to Brown Ridge and finally were ordered to support the 16th M.G.B. Flotilla in position W.J.5550, but did not locate the enemy, unit being ordered to return at 0721.

(2) M.G.Bs 58, 65 and 61 in vicinity 52° 08' N. 03° 00' E. sighted nothing, but 5 airmen, crew of 2 Stirling A/C were recovered from a dinghy in 52° 04' N. 02° 25' E. at 0630.

(3) Casualties:- M.L.105, one rating, M.L.110, one rating, both wounded, the latter slight.

(C. in C. Nore 1834A/11.)

JUNON Patrol. JUNON left Lunna Voe passing through 020° Out Skerries 7 miles at 2100A/11 thence through 063° 10' N. 001° 36' E. and 066° 30' N. 007° E. thence patrolling in vicinity 066° 40' N. 011° 56' E.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1931A/11.)

No.1 Patrol. My 1040/30/5 and 1100/17/8. It is evident that Number One Patrol cannot be adequately covered by one Corvette. Until more Destroyers become available number one Patrol will be divided as follows:-

Patrol One (A) 57 F Buoy to 01° 36' E.  
Patrol One (B) 56 Buoy to 01° 36' E.

2. Patrol One (A) is to be carried out by the Corvette with the F.S. Convoy who is to part company with the Convoy as requisite to arrive on patrol at 2100. On completion of patrol she is to return to Harwich. On nights when there is no F.S. Convoy a Corvette is to be specially detailed.

3. Patrol One (B) is to be carried out by the Corvette with the F.N. Convoy. She is to part company with the F.N. Convoy as requisite to arrive on patrol at 2100. On completion of patrol at daylight she is to proceed to meet the F.S. Convoy. When there is no F.N. convoy a Corvette is to be specially detailed.

4. These arrangements are to come into force on 13/9.

(C. in C. Nore 2258A/11.)



War Diary.11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.

4 R-Boats My 1014/11. Second of two Albacore A/C des-  
bombed. patched to investigate but without result an  
irregular plot about fifteen miles south of  
Beachy Head was diverted to track E thirty Z.  
Four enemy vessels reported as R-boats were sighted at 0137  
near Berck Buoy and a stick of eleven one hundred pound bombs  
was dropped from 500 feet without results being observed. No  
flak but at time of attack one star shell was fired from  
unidentified ship west of target.  
(V.A. Dover 1016A/11) (Manston 0330/11.)

Bombing My 1525/10. Request total bombing restrictions  
restrictions. for 30 miles on either side of a line:  
(1) from Out Skerries to position (a) 063° 05' N.  
002° 20' E. from 2200A/11 to 2300A/12.  
(2) from (a) to (b) 066° 20' N. 006° 30' E. from 1400A/12 to  
0600A/14. (3) from (b) to (c) 069° 38' N. 011° 10' E. from  
1800A/13 to 0400A/15.  
(Capt. S.9 1045A/11 to H.Q.C.C.)

Attack on Enemy tanker sighted by A/C at 1545A in 043°  
Tanker off 45' N. 008° 15' W., course 300°, 10 knots.  
Corunna. 3 Whitleys attacking.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1647A/11 to CHARYBDIS.)  
A/C reports enemy tanker 43° 46' N. 8° 15' W.  
Co 300°, speed 10 knots at 1612A.  
(Adty 1647A/11 to Ships.)  
1 Merchant Vessel bearing 270° distant 10 miles, course  
070°. My position 43° 47' N. 7° 54' E.  
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1805/11.)  
Am engaging enemy ship.  
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1818/11.)  
My 1647. Enemy altered to 070° at 1805. Position  
043° 47' N. 008° 12' W. Attacked by one aircraft, no hits.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1905A/11 to CHARYBDIS.)  
My 1905/11. Enemy course of 070° probably only  
temporary. Consider tanker is making to the Westward. Have  
sent another A/C to try and locate.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 2227A/11 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A., CHARYBDIS)

Enemy Air Activity.

M.G.Bs M.G.Bs 46, 10 and 6 returning from patrol today  
attacked. were attacked at 0620 off Folkestone with cannon  
fire by one E/A approaching at very low level  
from inshore while two other E/A stood off to  
seaward.  
M.G.B.46 engaged with all weapons without observed result and  
enemy, thought to be Me.109, made off. M.G.B.10 sustained  
one minor casualty and superficial hull damage.  
(V.A. Dover 1339A/11.)



War Diary11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

East Coast Search. Proceed as soon as possible with available Fleet minesweepers and search Q.Z.S.311 between 56 buoy and 57F buoy and then to northward of this line. A large number of E-boats have been operating in this area but are believed to have been to northward of the Channel. Anchor off Sheringham for night.  
(C. in C. Nore 0336A/11 to M.S.9.)  
Intend sailing 0630/12 sweeping 1 more lap on each side of channel commencing to southward at 0730. Then continue sweeping to northward shortening the lap by about 2½ miles at west end, and anchor off Sheringham about 2000.  
(M.S.9 2003A/11 to C. in C. Nore.)

Thames Estuary. My 1210/10. Owing to fog operation delayed 24 hours.  
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 0647A/11.)

Western Channel Sweeps. Presence anti-sweeping device in Q Z X 809 established. Returning to harbour with 2 presumed static type cutters recovered.  
E.T.A. 1400.  
(PANGBOURNE 1307/11.)

Your 1838A/10. "Ounce V" arrived 1535A/11.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1552A/11 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)  
Clearance of north end Q.Z.X.787 extended to a line joining positions 50° 18' 12" N. 03° 04' 48" and 50° 22' 36" N. 03° 16' 24" W. Two mines detonated in sweeps in positions 50° 20' 00" N. 03° 07' 42" W. and 50° 20' 00" N. 03° 09' 12" W. One of yesterday's laps reswept to cover an unswept area.  
(M.S.13 1710A/11 to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
M.S.13 reports 2 mines detonated in sweeps in positions 50° 20' 00" N. 03° 07' 42" W. and 50° 20' 00" N. 03° 09' 12" W.  
2. PANGBOURNE reports mine detonated in sweep in position 50° 14' 15" N. 03° 28' 12" W.  
3. Brixham Trawler 0121 reports mine exploded in trawl in position 12 miles S.E. Berry Head.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2238A/11 to Admty.)

Yarmouth. "O" Sweepers swept detonated mine in position 053° 2.2. miles from No.4 Buoy.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1340A/11.)  
Reference Q.Z.X.810. Following area has been cleared today. (A) 052° 34' 48" N. 002° 07' 30" E. (D) 052° 30' 12" N. 002° 05' 20" E. Sweepers unable to close gap between Q.Z.S. 311 and Q.Z.X. 810 owing to being delayed by fog.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2001A/11 and 2255A/11.)

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats. Suspected E-boat activity position T.  
(Harwich 0114/11.)  
E.Boats, probably in 2 groups, operated from 0106 till about 0300/11 between Nos.56 and 57 F.Buoys in and to northward of the swept channels. They were probably engaged in minelaying but it is possible that some boats also carried

/torpedoes ...



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11.9.1942  
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence - conts.

E-Boats (contd.)                      torpedoes ready to attack F.N. 210 which had however passed 57 F buoy before 0100. Nothing was sighted by WIDGEON or HAMBLEDON on Nos. 1 and 2 patrols respectively. Presence of boats was detected by plots from \*TRIMINGHAM on bearings between 020° and 052°. MEYNELL on patrol 5 received echoes on Type 285 at 2259 and 2339 but searches with star-shell revealed nothing. At 0320 E-Boats were plotted 3½ miles south of North Leman buoy retiring eastward and M.G.Bs of 7th Flotilla moved to intercept. Search of the suspected area by Fleet Minesweepers of 9th Flotilla is being carried out. It seems likely that 14 or 15 enemy vessels were operating.  
(C. in C. Nore 1836A/11.) \*L/C

Off Iceland.                      A/C reported at 0916/11 one Motor vessel about 2000 tons in 63° 22' N. 12° 50' W, course 200°, speed 8 knots. Can you identify.  
(A.C.O.S. 2306A/11 to A.C.I.C.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat attacked.                      On day 10/9 1 Whitley sighted a surfaced U-Boat which dived as the pilot attacked. Part of the conning tower was still visible when 4 D/Cs were released. As the explosions subsided the bows of the U-Boat were seen to rise steeply out of the water and then sink.  
(H.Q.B.C. 1630A/11.)

U-Boat reported.                      U/B sighted by A/C approx. 60° 25' N. 3° 30' E., course N.W. at 1600A/11, probably proceeding to Atlantic.  
(D.D.I.C. 2034A/11.)

Casualties and Defects.

DAVID OGILVIE.                      My 1727/9. DAVID OGILVIE has been dry-docked and will require until 1200/12/9 to make reasonably watertight.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1130/11.)

M.G.B. 335 lost.                      Regret to report loss of M.G.B. 335 in action with enemy. The following C.Bs., S.Ps., and Charts were on board and not destroyed.  
Particulars.  
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1240A/11.)

/PETITE ...



War Diary.11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

- PETITE ANNICK. Sailed Pilot Cutter PRUDENCE (M.C.P.D.) with PETITE ANNICK in tow for Greenock anchoring as convenient. No W/T or R/T. Request tug to meet and take tow at Toward Pier. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1256A/11.)
- FARNDALE. Proceed passing Switha at 1610 today to Hull by standard route for repairs and boiler cleaning by Humber Graving Dock Company. (R.A.D. 1411A/11 to FARNDALE.)
- Leith Docks FINTRAY. H.M. ~~Trawler~~<sup>Drifter</sup> FINTRAY collided with staging at entrance of Leith Docks, on 10/9. No damage to H.M. ship, damage to staging believed to be extensive. (N.O.I.C. Leith 1805/11.)
- EMPIRE OIL. (Convoy O.N.127.) Rescue Tug with trawler Escort is to be prepared for sailing tomorrow with a view to salvaging EMPIRE OIL torpedoed and abandoned and possibly still afloat in 51° 23', 28° 15' at 2250/10. Any additional ratings that can be accommodated should be sent. If necessary trawler from U.R.40 may be used. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1815A/11 to A.C.I.C.) *See 12/9 - p.366*
- TOR II torpedoed on 7/9. Faroese Steam Trawler TOR II 338 tons, bound Fleetwood for fishing grounds, torpedoed 70 miles south of Vestmannaeyjar at 2000Z/7. Three uninjured survivors arrived Vestmannaeyjar at 0300Z/9. 18 other members of crew are missing. (A.C.I.C. 1838A/11 to Admty.)
- CLARISSA RADCLIFFE. Position 056° 09' N. 011° 03' W. CLARISSA RADCLIFFE burnt out bearings which cannot be repaired. Propose taking her in tow at daylight and steering 092°, est. speed 3 knots. Request tug be despatched. (AGASSIZ 2139Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.)
- Shipping and Convoys.
- P.Q.18. From Jan Mayen aircraft heard over Island at 1205 South to North. Foggy. defect not complete. (AMAZON 0245A/11 to A.C.I.C.)
- Q.P.14. Russian D/F reports enemy surface craft probably destroyer in 071° 53' N. 024° 25' E. at 0238A/11. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0330A/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C.H.F.)

/Your ...



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War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. - w.a.f. -

P.Q.18 Your 2124/10. Approved. Inform M.S.1.  
 Q.P.14 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0832A/11 to S.B.N.O.  
 (contd.) Archangel.)  
 Proceed forthwith on surface at C.O's discretion  
 as follows.  
 } (a) TIGRIS to zone K.66. (b) P.54 to zone K.64.  
 (c) UREDD to zone K.65, routed as in my 1711/10.  
 (F.O.S. 0837A/11 to S/Ms.)  
 My 2305A/10 and 0245A/11. Sailing delayed indefinitely.  
 Dynamos will not (?start).  
 → (AMAZON 0927A/11 to A.C.I.C.)  
 Your 1802/10. Concur.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1018A/11 to F.O.S.)  
 Hvalfjord arrivals BULLDOG, VENOMOUS.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1022A/11 to V.A.2.)  
 Intend sailing SAN ZOTICO p.m. 12th northabout to  
 Seidisfiord to top up MURENA and return Hvalfjord on completion.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1024A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 My 0927A/11. Defect rectified. Intend pass Hvalfjord  
 boom 1200A/11, E.T.A. Akureyri 0800A/12. S. of A. 18 knots.  
 → (AMAZON 1027A/11 to A.C.I.C.)  
 Your 2326/10. Propose cruiser force should not now sail  
 until a.m. 14th.  
 (C.S.18 1030A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 Your 1745A/8. Request E.T.D. with view to provision of  
 A/S air escort if required.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1106A/11 to V.A.2.)  
 Your 2049/10. On 8/9 photographic R/C took place about  
 1440Z. Results should have been good. Plot showed unidenti-  
 fied plane south of Hvalfjord about 1800Z/10th, but conditions  
 were unlikely to produce good photography.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1112A/11 to V.A.2.)  
 → Sailed. AMAZON's 1027/11.  
 (A.C.I.C. 1240A/11 to V.A.2.)  
 → Estimated position S/Ms at 1200/12. UNIQUE in K.61, P. ~~no~~  
 45 in K.62, P. ~~no~~ 221 in K.63, P.54 in K.64, UREDD in K.65,  
 TRIBUNE in K.66, TIGRIS in K.67. *See next page.*  
 (F.O.S. 1312A/11.)  
 Your 1142/28th. P.Q.18 at 0705/11 in 072° 20' N. 006°  
 40' W., speed 6 knots, course 45°, wind N.E. force 2, sea  
 rough, (? visibility nil) ¼ mile fog from one (? thousand)  
 feet to see (? level)  
 (A.C.I.C. 1327A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 Your 2019/10. Use your discretion as regards the times  
 of arrival of ships carrying out Gearbox 2.  
 2. Recommend one destroyer should accompany each cruiser.  
 3. SUFFOLK is being placed under your orders.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1447/11 to C.S.18.)  
 Amendment number 5 S.P.08212 E.V. Para 9 Cruiser Force.  
 Add SUFFOLK. Para 17. Cancel reference to P.614 and 615.  
 Para 20. Add P.614 and 615 are transferred from P.Q.18 to  
 Q.P.14 with force Q, surface escort being detailed by R.A.(D).  
 H.F. S/Ms will continue with Q.P.14 as far as longitude 005°  
 E. where they are to be detached to proceed independently to  
 Lerwick as routed by F.O.(S) Mail for North Russia now in S/Ms  
 should be transferred to a ship of P.Q.18 close escort if  
 possible.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1459A/11.)

/One ...



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11.9.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. - contd. -

P.Q.18 One enemy destroyer was in Soroy Sund at 1327A/11.  
Q.P.14 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1508A/11 to Admty.,  
(contd) C. in C. H.F.)

Following is a repetition of A.C.I.C.'s 1531 to V.A.2. Begins. My 1106/11. Regret no aircraft available for air escort.

(A.C.I.C. 1550A/11 to Admty.)

Catalina F/210 due on patrol Catalina C.C. number 3 1300A/11 to 1900A/11 returning owing weather. Patrol will not be covered before 1600A/11. Catalina for patrol D.D. number 4 takes off 1715A.

(H.Q.C.C. 1620A/11 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Position of submarines at 0800A/12 and movements for following 24 hours. (A) UNIQUE, P.45, P.221, P.54, UREDD and TIGRIS in zones K.61, K.62, K.63, K.64, K.65 and K.67 respectively. (B) TRIBUNE 72° 15' N. 18° 20' E. probably on surface for zone K.66. (C) JUNON 62° 14' N. 01° 02' E. probably on surface through 63° 10' N. 01° 36' E. and 66° 30' N. 07° 05' E. (D) RUBIS 61° 37' N. 00° 30' E. probably on surface through 69° 59' N. 11° 45' E. *See previous page*

(F.O.S. 1654A/11 and 1109A/12 to Admty.)

Following is a repetition of BROKE's 1250/11 to A.C.I.C. Delayed by weather. Position uncertain.

(A.C.I.C. 1657A/11 to V.A.2.)

Your 2319/10. All positions reported so far have been based on aircraft reckoning. Weather has made it impracticable for position to have been obtained by V/A.

(A.C.I.C. 1721A/11 to C. in C. H.F.)

S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1943/11. R/C of Porsanger Fjord Laxe and Alta Fjords will be made p.m. 12th. Can R/C of Narvik be made from U.K. as essential to economise Sorties from here because one Spitfire damaged in air raid.

(R.A.F. North Russia 2023A/11 to H.Q.C.C.)

Your 1030/11. Concur.

(C. in C. H.F. 2301A/11 to C.S.18 (R) R.A.D. H.F., SCYLLA, V.A.2.)

Akureyri departures V.A.2 in ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, KEPPEL, MACKAY, MONTROSE, CAMPBELL, BRAMHAM (sailed)? at 1700/11.

(A.C.I.C. 2325A/11 to C. in C. H.F. (R) MALCOLM, C.S.18, R.A.D. H.F.)

QUEEN MARY. Arrived A.T.22 escorted by CURAÇOA and CASTLETON.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0904A/11)

(D.S.T.O. Greenock 1230/11.)

T.A.22. A.M.2051/9. (1) Escort (A) from Clyde. CURAÇOA, CASTLETON. (B) From Londonderry to R/V as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock. SKATE, SARDONYX, SALADIN, WELLS.

(2) No risk of weather damage is to be taken. CURAÇOA is to use discretion as to reducing speed of convoy or detaching destroyers should weather deteriorate.

(3) If weather conditions make it obvious that close escort cannot be maintained CURAÇOA and destroyers are to be sailed earlier to carry out A.S/M sweep along route.



War Diary.11.9.1942  
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - conts.QUEEN MARY  
(contd.)

- (4) At dark 14th (A) CURACOA proceed Clyde.
- (B) CASTLETON, WELLS proceed Port Z.A.
- (C) Remainder proceed Londonderry.
- (5) Request you sail ships accordingly.
- (C. in C. W.A. 1341Z/11.)

MAID OF  
ORLEANS.  
PRINCESS MAUD.  
LADY OF MANN.

Intend sailing MAID OF ORLEANS, PRINCESS MAUD, LADY OF MANN loaded troop transports through Boom at 2359A/11 for Belfast via normal route. Speed 20 knots. E.T.A. Belfast Boom 0500A/12. Request cover.  
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 1435A/11 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

S.C.97.

S.C.97 average speed 7.2 knots. BRONXVILLE and CAPIRA torpedoed and sunk on 31/8. All other ships now reported. Thick fog for first three days, thence fine weather until 3/9 when gale began and lasted until end of passage. AQUARIUS straggled and joined H.X.204.  
(D.T.D. 1645A/11 to Connav.)

EILDON.

A.M. 1518/8 and 1818/8. SS EILDON at present loading at Preston will now sail with the convoy.  
(D.O.D.H.) 2154A/11 to C. in C. W.A.)



CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE

1735Z/11th September

310A

OUT

To B.A.M.S. All areas.  
A.I.G. 11. /  
S.B.N.O. North Russia.

Date 11.9.42.

British B.A.M.S. Lettered Message "I Y"  
Mersigs (19)

From Admiralty.

Amend British B.A.M.S. Lettered message "IX"  
paragraph 1. In two places for "35 degs South"  
read "31 degs South".

1735Z/11  
for D.T.D. (360)

A.C.N.S. (T)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
Capt. Pin.  
Ops. (5)  
O.D. (5)  
O.I.C. (2)  
D of S. 2A.  
D.T.D. (4)  
D.T.D. (H)  
D.T.D. (C)  
D. of S.T. (2)  
I.P. (3)  
D.A/S.W.  
W.D.  
U.S.N. (3)  
D.S.D. (2)  
D. of N.

mm

/ F.O.C.N.A.  
V.A. Malta.  
Capt. i/c Bermuda.  
S.O. (I) Colombo.  
" Bombay.  
" Freetown.  
Naval Board Melbourne.  
" " Wellington.  
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.  
C. in C. Mediterranean.  
" Eastern Fleet.  
" South Atlantic.  
S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic.  
S.O. (I) Jamaica.  
" Capetown.  
F.O.I.C.W. Africa.  
N.O.I.C. Falklands.  
" Freetown,  
" Aden  
F.O.I.C. Alexandria  
A.C.I.C.



War Diary.

11.9.1942.

Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

Search for My 1956/10. No further news from Catalina which  
blockade in any case is due back not later than 1200.  
runner and 2. Unless you have good reason to assume other-  
tanker. wise you should act on assumption that ship is  
(See also undamaged proceeding westward at about 12 knots.  
Home Commands) (F.O.C.N.A., 0922A/11 to CHARYBDIS, (R) VERITY,  
Escorts O.G.89, Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C.  
Plymouth.) \* See next page (Continuation)

My 1956/10th and 0922/11th. Search to limit of prudent  
endurance then proceed to Gibraltar.  
2. Report when you abandon search giving weather report and  
P.C.S.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0926A/11 to VERITY, (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.,  
CHARYBDIS, C. in C. Plymouth, Escorts O.G. 89.)

My position 38° 33' N. 12° 57' W. Portuguese SS. GAZA  
in vicinity course 270° 11 knots. Is her voyage approved?  
(CHARYBDIS, 1400A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

A.M. 1647A/11. Owing to weather at bases aircraft from  
U.K. are unable to shadow after 1830/11.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 1819A/11 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) C. in C. Plymouth,  
H.Q.C.C., CHARYBDIS.)

My 1647/11 and C. in C. Plymouth 1647/11.

Aircraft reported enemy tanker 43° 47' N. 08° 06' W. course  
070° at 1805.

(D.O.D.(H), 1857A/11 to F.O.C.N.A., CHARYBDIS, (R) C. in  
C. Plymouth.)

A.M. 1819. Endeavour to intercept. Probable maximum  
speed of enemy 18 knots. No A/C available here tonight Friday.  
Catalina will take off as early as practicable tomorrow.  
Further signal will be made.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1904A/11 to CHARYBDIS, (R) Admty., C. in C.  
W.A., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Resume for 11/9. 1 Catalina on SV airborne 1211/10 did  
not return and is thought to have been shot down by enemy  
surface raider or blockade runner in approx. 42.05 N. 13.30 W.  
This A/C reported being under fire at 2040/10/9 and no further  
signal was received.

(A.H.Q. Gib., 1800Z/11 to Air Min.)

My 0922. Catalina presumed lost.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1926A/11 to CHARYBDIS, (R) VERITY, C. in C.  
W.A., Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Admty. 1857. Is there any reason to suppose that tanker  
has been damaged.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2046A/11 to C. in C. Plymouth, (R) Admty.,  
CHARYBDIS.)

Your 2046/11th. None.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 2221A/11 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty.,  
CHARYBDIS.)

A.M. 1819A/11.

Weather has improved and the following arrangements are now  
intended:- One Leigh light Wellington taking off at 2015 and  
another one at 2359 to shadow. A striking force of Wellingtons  
to attack at dawn 12th.

(D.O.D.(H), 2130A/11 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) C. in C. Plymouth,  
H.Q.C.C., CHARYBDIS.)

My 1904/11th. Catalinas will not now be sent.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2244A/11 to CHARYBDIS, (R) Admty., C. in C.  
W.A., C. in C. Plymouth.)

/French ...



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

- French ships. Gibraltar 1830/10. Armed trawler VICTORIA, SS. MEDIE TWO, IPANEMA both laden GROIX light trawler MONT CASSEL eastbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1003A/11.)
- P. 211. P.211 sail 1700A/12th through 035° 46' 002° 39' W. at 0500A/13th and 036° 58' 001° 12' E. at 2230A/14th, thence 080°. (F.O.C.N.A., 1138A/11 to 8th S/M. F.)
- ? U/B. Am investigating oil patch in 42° 55' N. 10° 48' W. was homing on object which disappeared. Course 270°. (A/C UM9P, 1206/11.)
- U/B. Am over enemy S/M in 36° 46' N. 8° 15' W. Enemy S/M previously reported periscope only sighted, when first sighted was on course 180° estimated speed 5 knots have attacked enemy with depth charges. (A/C TV5M, 1220/11.)
- Situation 1959A/11. Area X. 1 ARCTIC RANGER approx. 32.46 19.42 72° 9.  
2. VERITY searching independently for enemy merchant ship in vicinity 20° W. North of 39° N.  
3. O.G.89, BLACK SWAN, FOWEY, MYOSOTIS, CARNATION, MALLOW, COREOPSIS, 38.15 16.19 through 38.00 16.01 thence 112°, 8.  
4. S.L. 121 (E) LONDONDERRY, LANDGUARD, HASTINGS, BIDEFORD, SWALE, 29.08 19.58 10° 8. BRITISH VALOUR escorted parting at approx. 1800, 251° 10 to R/V with O.S.39 at 1200/12.  
8. CHARYBDIS approx. 37.40 16.28 282° 25, searching independently for enemy merchant ships. *See previous page.*  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1226A/11.)  
1. Fleet Unit 20.32 23.42 through 24.02 26.03 thence 000°  
20. 2. LEYLAND escorting cable ship MIRROR working in vicinity of Horta.  
3. O.S.39, PELICAN, FOLKESTONE, WELLINGTON, SENNEN 30.29 21.51 through 28.01 22.30 thence 171°, 9½.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1320A/11.)  
Area Z. (1) D.S. 0.21 (? 105°/025°) 40' 016° 02' 205° 11½ on surface.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1414A/11.)
- GALDAMES. Your 1207/10/9.  
Spanish GALDAMES. ?My 1007/8 should read bound Casablanca via Tangier. Collecting Navicert there.  
(V.A.C.N.A., 1243A/11 to Admty.)

/ A/C ...



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

A/C Report. Following has been read, addressed A/C call sign Y70. Left convoy (or ship) 360° Vincent 16 miles 1140. E.T.A. 1340 hours. (A/C call sign TV5M, 1310/11.)

M.Ls. 25th M.L. Flotilla now preparing for foreign service and consisting of M.Ls 238, 273, 280, 283, 295, 336, 338 and 444 is re-allocated to Gibraltar.

2. After arrival of 25th M.L. Flotilla at Gibraltar, 29th M.L. Flotilla may be re-allocated to West Africa.

3. Pending further instructions, stores and spares for 25th Flotilla should be sent to Gibraltar and stores and spares for 29th M.L. Flotilla should remain at Gibraltar.

(D.D.O.D. (C), 1312A/11 to R.A.C.F., F.O.C.N.A.)

U-Boats Your 1057A/10. Evidence slight and too passing into involved for explanation by signal. Confirmation Mediterranean. required to investigate Mediterranean B - Barred signals. Were group 'H' or 'K' repeats noticed on Atlantic frequencies between 30/8 and 8/9? (V.A.C.N.A., 1312A/11 to Admty. for D.N.I.) Reply: Admty. 2025/13.

P. 37, Intend sailing P.37 making good 105 miles a day  
TALISMAN. Malta p.m. 13th, to pass 038° 05' 008° 59' E. at 0130A/20 thence as ordered by you.

(2) Last message concerning route Capt. (S) 10's

1221/7/8 (N.T. in W.R.)

(3) P. 37 carrying spare gear and stores for Capt. S.10 and mails.

(4) My 1208/9 TALISMAN can provide 6,000 gallons diesel oil and 1000 gallons lubricating oil and still have sufficient for onward passage.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1438A/11 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty., etc.)

BESSEL Your 1556A/10. I saw Consul Vigo last week.  
(German) Copies of my 1700/26/8 and my 1202/10 to D.N.I. will reach you (?Friday.) There is no guard in BESSEL but she is to be moved under Rios Naval Base with tankers.  
(N.A. Madrid, 1652/11 to S.O.I. Gib., (R) Admty.)



11.9.1942.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- Saldanha Bay. Joint message from Admty. and M.W.T. in reply to C. in C. S.A. 1157/4. (D.T.D., 0018A/11 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.
- S.L. 122. My 1217Z/8. Sailing of S.L. 122 postponed to 14/9. (R.A.W.A., 0933A/11 to Admty.)
- TUSCAN STAR. Torpedoed, sunk, 2100/6 in 001° 39' N. 011° 34' W. One boat of survivors picked up. 2 boats still adrift. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0947Z/11 to Admty., (?S.B.N.O. W.A.), (R) C. in C. S.A., S.O. Montevideo.)  
*See also 2020Z/11, different position. p. 315.*
- Convoy O.S.S. 38. Following are dispersing positions and times. (CROCUS, 1405Z/11 to Admty., C. in C. S.A., (R) AVON VALE.)
- PINDOS. PINDOS has arrived Freetown for second time, has been used for escort duties whilst awaiting further routing. (PINDOS, 1517Z/11 to C. in C. Royal Hellenic Navy, NILE.)
- U/B. Report from reliable source states telegraphic information received here 0100 local time today 11th that S/M was observed by fishermen in neighbourhood of Santo Aleixo Island off Barra do Serinhaem on Pernambuco coast, approx. 008° 35' S. 035° W.; and that aeroplanes (unspecified) are investigating. I have communicated this information to B.R.O. and U.S. Naval Observer here. (R.O. Pernambuco, 1701Z/11 to S.O.I. Montevideo.)
- Saldanha Bay. Your 2022/23/8. Saldanha Bay is considered most suitable port for A.N.D. depot. It is probable that 4 lighters can be transferred from Mossel Bay or other Union port to meet requirements at (E). Request very early information if scheme is to be proceeded with so that requirements can be embodied in main development programme for Saldanha Bay referred to in my 1157/4/9 to Admiralty only. (ii) Concurrence of Union Govt. is being obtained. (C. in C. S.A., 1719/11 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F., D. C. in C. E.F.)

/S.A.N.F. ...



# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 0018A/11th September

OUT

To O. in O. South Atlantic 518.

Date 11.9.42.

NAVAL CYPHER (XD) PLUG

RECIRCULATION

From Admiralty.

Your 1157/4.

1. Following is a joint message from Admiralty and Ministry of War Transport.

2. We note that work referred to in para. 1 can be completed in 8 months and presume that it is being proceeded with as authorised in our 2323 of 4th July please confirm.

3. Provision of waterboat and oil barge referred to in para. 2 can be arranged delivery 8 months as requested.

4. As regards the immediate position little use is apparently being made of Saldanha Bay at present. Ministry of War Transport not willing to immobilise valuable tankers for oil and water and colliers until assured that full use will be made of them. This particularly applies to oilers having in mind the existing excellent oil facilities at Capetown and elsewhere in South Africa.

5. Request information

- (a) Whether oil coal and water craft are required immediately at Saldanha Bay
- (b) If so estimated offtake in tons per month
- (c) If the answer to (a) is in affirmative whether it is proposed to establish Naval routeing service at Saldanha Bay and so avoid calling at other South African Ports for routeing only.

0018A/11.

for D.T.D. (981).

1st Lord  
 1st S.L.(2)  
 3rd S.L.  
 Vice Controller  
 4th S.L.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S.(F)(2)  
 A.C.N.S.(T)  
 Sec.  
 Fin. Sec.  
 Civil Lord  
 N.A.1st S.L.  
 P.A.S.(PR)  
 P.A.S.(S)  
 N.A.to A.C.N.S.(T)  
 D.O.D.(F)(2)  
 A.S.(O)

D.D.I.C.(2)  
 D. of P.(2)  
 Duty Capt.(2)  
 D.T.D.(3)  
 D.T.D.(M)  
 D.T.D.(C)  
 I.P.(2)  
 W.D.  
 D. of P.(Q)  
 D.N.I.(4)  
 D. of L.D.(3)  
 D.A/S.W.  
 D.M.S.  
 D.B.D.  
 D. of S.T.  
 D. of S.  
 C.E. in C.

D.S.V.P.  
 D. of D.  
 Head of M.(10)  
 D.T.S.D.  
 D. of N.  
 D.A.M.  
 Head of W.G.F.  
 Head of M.F.(L)  
 Head of P.(Liaison)  
 Deputy Controller  
 Asst. Under Sec.  
 D.A/S.W.  
 D. of S.  
 C.E. in C.  
 D. of D.  
 Head of M.F.  
 Head of P.  
 Head of S.W.R.  
 C.S.L.

Bath



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

S.A.N.F. My 1141/1. Applications have been received or may be expected from following categories of South Africans to transfer to S.A.N.F. (Details) 6. No official approach has yet been made to Union Government.  
(C. in C. S.A., 1846B/11 to Admty.)

TUSCAN STAR Ref. N.C.S.I. 269. (A) TUSCAN STAR. (B) 6/9, (sunk 6/9) 2150 G.M.T., 01° 34' N. 11° 39' W. (C) and (D) Master attempted jettison but bag fouled wreckage, *See p. 314.* believed to have sunk with ship. (E) 2800 fathoms. (F) Ship was seen to sink. (G) Master and Chief Engineer, proceeding singly. Sunk by (?2) torpedoes from large S/M believed German. One boat load of survivors landed from OTRANTO. 2 boats still missing. 2nd Wireless Operator taken prisoner.  
(R.A.W.A., 2030Z/11 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Joint War  
Communique  
- 11/9.

On the night of 9/10 Sept. our torpedo-carrying aircraft operation north of Derna scored a direct hit on an enemy merchant ship. A violent explosion followed, and when last seen the vessel was on fire. Yesterday a R/C aircraft off Derna sighted a vessel which was very low in the water and believed to be sinking.  
(Mideast, 0900Z/11.)

*ARNO  
8024*

Black Sea.

(1) 9/9. Fighting continues in N.W. outskirts of Novorossisk and eastern part of town, on north side of harbour. Black Sea Fleet employed bringing troops and supplies to Novorossisk.  
(2) Enemy concentration landing craft continues in Crimean Ports. In Yalta bombardment direct hit on 2 M/Vs claimed.  
(3) 10/9. Sukhum bombed, no damage to military targets.  
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 0957C/11 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

P. 43.

Leave patrol p.m. today, pass through Anti-kithera Channel and 035° 20' 019° 01' thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 10.  
(Capt. S.1, 1002C/11 to P.43, (R) C. in C. Med., etc.)

/ NIEUW ...



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM.

1. Your 1514/8/8. Is one of these officers appointed in charge of Haifa station?
2. Ref. para. 2, yes.  
(C. in C. Med., 1029C/11 to Admty.)  
(1) NIEUW AMSTERDAM to disembark officers at Suez. (1541 intended.)  
(2) Vessel will be unescorted. Is this acceptable.

UNA.

UNA proceed through 035° 15' 015° 01' 035° 22' 014° 12' to arrive end searched channel 0959B/15. If unable to comply make E.T.A. which must be before 1700B when west of 018° 30'.  
(Capt. S.10, 1032B/11 to 10 S/M Flot. (R)  
C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1.)

Cositrep  
514.

7. Air. Night 9-10/9. Tobruk harbour bombed. Explosions and fires and fuel installations and on docks.

8. A Wellington torpedoed stationary M/V 50 miles off Derna causing explosion and smoke.

Following day R/C reported a stationary ship low in water with destroyers circling 20 miles off Derna.  
(C. in C. M.E., 1045 G.M.T./11.)

Patrols "S"  
class S/Ms.

Your 1110/9. Prefer S class blooding patrols to be carried out from Malta. (2) Your 1040/9 (N.T. in W.D.) para. 3. S class should carry out their own outfit of torpedoes.  
(C. in C. Med., 1101C/11 to F.O.C.N.A., (R)  
Admty., F.O.(S), Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 8,  
Capt. (S) 10.)

Enemy  
Units.

1 large merchant ship, 2 medium merchant ships, 1 auxiliary, 038° 30' 020° 46' 150°, 10 knots at 0805B/11.  
(Capt. S.10, 1123B/11 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R)  
C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

A/S  
sweep.

Aircraft from Malta will carry out anti U-Boats sweep within 60 miles of 033° 01' - 018° 59' during night of 11th/12th.  
(Capt. S.10, 1223B/11 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R)  
Capt. (S) 1, C. in C. Med., S.O. (S) Alexandria.)

Malta Air  
Report.

I. 670, 11/9/1942. C.S.R. Malta 10th. 0800 hours 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 0803 hours 5 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta.

/Night ....



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - 10/11.Malta Air  
Report.  
(Contd.)

Night 10/11. 1810 hours, 1 Beaufighter up. No enemy aircraft seen. 2205 hours, 4 raiders approached at great height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 2 Beaufighters up made no interception. Raiders turned back after dropping bombs in sea 15 miles west of island.

11th. 0825 hours, 1 plus enemy aircraft approached on R/C partial R.D.F. interference, 4 Spitfires up but raiders turned back when 12 miles north of island.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1605/11.)

P. 35.

P. 35 will leave  $035^{\circ} 22' 015^{\circ} 05'$  about 0101B/12 through  $036^{\circ} 15' 017^{\circ} 05'$  to arrive  $036^{\circ} 40' 020^{\circ} 32'$  about dawn 15th.  
(?Capt. S.10, 1640B/11 to S/Ms on Patrol, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

Operations in Madagascar.

Publicity. French broadcasts suggest they are fully alive to situation. Please consider this in relationship to publicity. Your 1922/10 refers. (C. in C. E.F., 0011Z/11 to S.O. Force M (R) Admty E.A. Command). All clear publicity. (S.O. Force M., 0647Z/11 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty).

Red and Green Beaches. S.O. Force M. 1700Z/10. Red beach is West of Ampajoni village. Green beach is south side of Majunga town. Mud beach is 33 (as received) up right bank of Betsiboka River close to Mouth of Andranola Gap A creek. (C. in C. E.F., 0016Z/11 to Admty).

MANXMAN Op. "Esme". What (a) damage (b) casualties to civilians resulted from your bombardment? (C. in C. E.F., 0558Z/11 to MANXMAN (R) Admty. S.O. Force M., E.A. (? Command).) Your 0558Z/11 and Chart 2871. Points bombarded with H.E. were Ankotsokotsee and Fievre which are dense jungle with a few houses and native huts. No one on (?pier) except machine gun crews (?full stop). 2 houses and some huts on (?above) points damaged. Twon (?untouched) except for 2 or 3 (?H.E.) in preliminary (?bombardments). Enemy casualties 7 (?killed), 8 wounded, all natives. (2) C. in C. E.F. pass to East Africa Command. (MANXMAN, 0835Z/11 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty etc).

Force M Report. My telegraph 0647/11, necessity for delay. 2. (Corrupt group). Attitude of civil population friendly but somewhat indifferent. No effective (?fighting) French element found in Majunga so far 3. "Line". 22nd East Africa forward body arrived at Bemailaka 1707C/13 (sic) and reached Kamoro bridge found intact at (?07)30C/11. ?4. R/C just received reports Betsboka centre span broken demolished or lowered. 5. Launching of "Line" will be delayed for following reasons (a) Great shortage of landing craft. (b) No deep (?water) quays and (c) bad (corrupt group). (?All) (?local) tugs and lighters captured undamaged and in use. (S.O. Force M., 0707Z/11 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty).

FORTUNE. FORTUNE left, E.T.A. Kilindini 0400Z/13 with urgent despatches. (S.O. Force M., 0901Z/11 to C. in C. E.F.)

/Sitrep...



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - conts:-Operations in Madagascar - Contd.Sitrep  
(Army).

First part of Madagascar operation carried out according to plan and surprise achieved.

Initial landing North of Majunga unopposed but advance slow due to difficulty of terrain.

Aerodrome captured and coast road cleared by 0605C hours. Second landing south of Majunga slightly opposed resulting in slight casualties to both sides. 0633C hrs. barracks captured resulting in surrender of town by commandant and Cef-de-Region of Majunga. 0722C hrs. post office bank and W/T station intact in own hands.

0817C hrs. both landing parties made contact with each other. One company landed Katsepe point 0510C hrs. unopposed. First South African armoured cars part of E.A. Bde. forward body reported by Tac. R. 50 miles along Tananarive Road 1330C hrs. Aerodrome serviceable 10/9.

5 tugs 11 lighters, 1 small sugarboat and 200 tons sugar captured intact.

No naval casualties or damage. No bombardment necessary from any ship. Fleet air co-operation according to plan. Air report that all bridges intact for 80 miles on road Tananarive-Majunga. Only overwhelming speed and efficiency of landing prevented heavy casualties as some French Forces fought very well.

Two. Diversion operations by Ambanja force and Vohemar column slightly delayed due to destroyed bridges but advance continues. Operations at Nosi Be successful. After naval and air bombardment S.A. troops and Royal Marines landed and captured Hellville without casualty. Royal Marine and naval dets. which landed on West Coast of Nosi Be suffered slight casualties. After surrender of Island Chef-de-District agreed to carry on. Troops continue in occupation. Our forces landed at Morondava without opposition and captured French administrator. Success was undoubtedly due to efficiency with which R.N. brought landing parties to right place at right time. (G.O.C. in C. E.A., 0930 G.M.T./11 to 12 Div. (R) W.O.)

Op. "Line".

What news of "Line"?

(C. in C. E.F., 0945Z/11 to S.O. Force M., (R) Admty. East African Command).

Vichy  
Resistance.  
Appeal to  
Japan.

Madagascar broadcast 1200. Governor General proclaimed no armistice. He has sent request for Japanese help especially submarines and if possible aircraft. He announced receipt of telegram from Vichy Secretary of Colonies requiring all French men to hold out in face of such outrageous attack. (C. in C. E.F., 1132Z/11 to S.O. Force M., (R) Admty G.O.C. East Africa).

W.D. Note - Cancelled by 0640Z/13.

/In...



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies-~~CONF~~:

Operations in Madagascar-~~CONF~~:

Vichy  
Resistance.  
Appeal to  
Japan.  
Contd.

In message today 11/9 to Vichy Annet "swears on his honour" that despite wireless allegations to contrary there is in Madagascar neither an armistice commission nor any elements foreign control and there never has been. That there has never been request for aid from Japanese submarines and no flights over his territory by Japanese planes. Annet further states that foreigners in Madagascar notably American Consul General are able to testify to this. Have American broadcasts used armistice commission despite deletion from directive vide your 62774 (I.P.1) of 3/9? If not there seems some possibility that one of our ciphers had been compromised.  
(G.O.C. in C. E.A., 1230 G.M.T./11 to W.O.)

Force M  
Report.

One Squadron S.A. Armoured cars, one company E.A. Artied infantry reached Betsiboka 0900C/11, found bridge damaged. Infantry crossed and secured bridge head. At 1830C/11 first armoured cars crossed and remainder of wheeled vehicles expected to be across early tomorrow morning. No news as yet as to how crossing has been made.  
(2) One Potez in action over troops on way to Betsiboka 0800/11. No damage.  
(3) Leading battalion group will not leave "Stream" before evening 12th see our 0707/11 para. 5.  
(4) All aircraft arrived Majunga and aerodrome fitted refuelled and rearmed dawn 12th.  
(5) 29th Brigade commence reembarking.  
(6) Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE arrives. ILLUSTRIOUS, GAMBIA and escort sailed for Diego Suarez.  
(7) "Tamper" has been recalled.  
(8) Your 0009/11 much appreciated by all of us.  
(9) Press report flown Diego Suarez en route Kilindini.  
(S.O. Force M., 1700Z/11 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty).

Proclamation  
by G.O.C.

Following from W.O. to H.Q. Diego Suarez is repeated to you. Text of Proclamation No. 1. (Head of M., 2330A/11 amended 1445/12 to C. in C. E.F., S.O. Force M. for Buttermere) See Lion Copy.



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - conts; -General.

- Flying Boats. A.273. Your A.267. 1/9. Part 1 not understood. Assuming flying boats located as suggested in this headquarters A.347 29/8, and allowing only 900 miles radius of action for Catalina entire area of Arabian Sea can be covered with exception of very narrow strip either side of 10° N. Even this strip can be easily covered if aircraft from Karachi or Jiwani use (Mesira?) as advanced refuelling base. (A.H.Q., India, 0432Z/1 to H.Q., R.A.F. M.E. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc).
- U/B Gulf of Aden. For M.O.5 Sitrep 2/9 to 8/9. 12 (L) Division. Owing presence enemy submarine Gulf of Aden (See my 48966 of 3/9) seawards blackout instituted at Mogadiscio. (G.O.C. in C. E.A., 0700/11 to W.O.)
- Port F aerodrome. Your 0023Z/8/9. As local air protection for ships using the port will be required the construction of the aerodrome at Port F should proceed. (C. in C. E.F., 0710Z/11 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) Admty, A.H.Q. India, Comnas, F.L.O. Delhi).
- Pilgrim Ships. Your 0925/7 re Pilgrim Ships (not to Admty or C. in C. Med). Local A/S escort in approaches to Bombay and Aden will be provided for these ships, but ocean escort is not considered practicable. As Pilgrim ships cannot properly be darkened they will not be able to join convoy. Their sailing date must therefore be subject to some adjustment to fit in with availability of local A/S escort (C. in C. E.F., 0854Z/11 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) C. in C. Med., Admty).
- Repatriation Ships. Japanese Repatriation ship ASAMA MARU and Italian CONTE VERDE sail from Japan shortly on second repatriation voyage. (2) Programme for both ships as follows: Leaving Singapore 18/9 arriving Lourenco Marques 1/10 routed through Sunda Strait and South of Mauritius and Madagascar. (3) Ships will be marked as in my 1456/19/8 (846 C). (4) Japanese Repatriation Ships TATUTA MARU and KAM KURA MARU will leave Lourenco Marques shortly for Japan. (C. in C. E.F., 0921Z/11 to E.I. Stn. Admty).



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.Aircraft  
Maintenance  
policy.

C. in C. Med., 1301/1/9. (N.T. in W.D.) The organisation of repair facilities and distribution of aircraft, stores and equipment for Eastern Theatre is controlled by Comnas E.T. shortly to be R.A.N. A.S. Indian Ocean. As its object is solely to maintain the Eastern Fleet Carriers, wherever they may be based, the organisation, which includes a R.N.A.R.Y. at Coimbatore, India and Stations in Ceylon and certain Islands, must possess a degree of flexibility amounting almost to mobility. This must be controlled by R.A.N.A.S. who will always be in close touch with the carriers and my H.Q.

(2) There is a good Liaison between Nairobi and Coimbatore, and the R.A.F. at Eastleigh and Trinchinpoly respectively, whilst similar contact exists between Wingfield and the S.A.A.F.

(3) Transport difficulties will render the extensive use of repair base in Egypt for Eastern Fleet Aircraft, etc. Impracticable.

(4) In the circumstances I am not prepared to hand over the distribution of work and co-ordination of equipment and stores to an organisation in Cairo though I shall be happy to arrange periodical visits of a Staff Officer or exchange of information with a view to the two area organisations being of mutual assistance to one another.

(C. in C. E.F., 1104Z/11 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med.,  
C. in C. S.A.)

U/Bs Gulf of  
Aden.

Japanese U-boats estimate. 1 certain possibly 2 more Gulf of Aden. 1 unsuccessfully attacked by aircraft 014° 14' N., 049° 45' E., at 0245Z/6 1 by D/F 005° S., 081° E., 8/9. 1 by D/F moving S.S.W. from Rangoon, last plotting 007° N., 092° E. 9/9 1 doubtful 008° 02' N., (?082°) E.

(C. in C. E.F., 1154Z/11 to S. and A. E.I. Stn.  
(R) Admty).

Raiders

Raider situation No. 6. (i) No further information of German or Japanese raiders. (ii) A blockade runner name unknown departed Japan prior to 5 /9.

(C. in C. E.F., 1156Z/11 to S. and A. E.I. Stn).

Air Report.

A.931 11/9. Intelligence summary No. 180, to 1800 hours 11/9.

10/9. Hudson R/C Arakan coast bombed and machine gunned armed enemy vessel approx. 300 tons course 180° 35 miles S.W. Sandoway. Bombs wide hits machine gun fire. Return fire from ship.

(Air H.Q. India, 1601/11).

/Diego...



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Diego  
Garcia.

Your 0156Z/10 (N.T. in W.R.) Concur in use of Diego Garcia subject to Admty restriction that ships drawing more than 24 feet are not to use this harbour.

2. F.O. Ceylon is requested to report whether LAUNCESTON and MADRAS experienced any difficulty at Diego Garcia.

3. If this report is satisfactory all A/S M/S vessels should call at Diego Garcia and not at Addu. My 0949/29/7 refers. (C. in C. E.F., 1755Z/11 to A.C.N.B. (R) F.O. Ceylon, Com. W. Australia).

*Report re LAUNCESTON and MADRAS. (FD. Ceylon, 1117Z/24)*



**MOST SECRET**MESSAGE

OUT

MOST SECRET

2330A/11th September

To C. in C. Eastern Fleet. 222.  
S.O. Force "M" for Buttermere.

Date 11/9/42

Naval Cypher (D. O.T.P.)

From Admiralty.

Madagascar Operations, proclamation.IMMEDIATE

Following from War Office to H.Q. Diego Suarez repeated G.O.C. in C. East Africa is repeated to you. Begins -

64657 cipher (M.O.11) dated 11 September.

Following is text Proclamation No.1. Begins.

Whereas the necessity of securing the Island of Madagascar and its dependencies from occupation by the forces of the Axis and of preventing the use of those territories by the Axis as a base of operations against the United Nations has necessitated the occupation of the Island by H.B.M. forces, I, (name of G.O.C., British Forces in Madagascar) therefore, hereby proclaim -

(1) Military jurisdiction is hereby established in Madagascar and its dependencies for as long as military necessity shall demand. I have, therefore, from the hour and date of this notice assumed full administrative responsibility for the administration of all territories in the occupation of the forces under my command and exclusive military jurisdiction over all persons and property therein.

(2) I will take all steps to establish and maintain public order and safety in such territories and in so doing will as far as military exigencies permit respect all existing laws, customs, rights and properties in the said territories. All requisitioning of service or of property (other than munitions of war) which may be necessitated by military exigencies will be the subject of reasonable compensation.

(3) All existing law courts, municipalities, councils, commissioners, civil officials and other judicial or administrative authorities are hereby required until otherwise ordered to continue the punctual discharge of their duties subject only to my proclamations and orders and to such general or special directions as may from time to time be given by any officer authorised by me in that behalf.

(4) Military courts will be established to try the offences specified in my following proclamation. All acts

or /



2.

or attempts not so specified and which may involve criminal proceedings under the law ordinarily in force in these territories shall be dealt with by the ordinary criminal courts.

(5) Civil judicial proceeding shall remain subject to the jurisdiction and procedure of the civil courts; the sittings of such courts shall, however, be suspended until I shall authorise them to resume their functions.

(6) I hereby call upon the inhabitants of the territories to preserve order and tranquility and to go about their normal avocations in goodwill and without fear.

(7) Nothing in this Proclamation or in the jurisdiction hereby provisionally established for the period of the present military emergency in any way affects or diminishes sovereignty of France in Madagascar and its dependencies. The French Flag will continue to be flown at all appropriate points in the territories.

Ends.

French text to you repeated Buttermere only and Proclamation No.2 War Crimes to all addressees follow.

2330A/11.  
for Head of M.  
(86)

1st Lord  
1st S.L.(2)  
Deputy 1st S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D. of P.(2)  
D.C.(2)  
Head of M.  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D. of P.(Q)  
Admiral Blako  
W.D.  
I.P.(2)

GMM



**MOST SECRET**MOST SECRET M E S S A G E 1445/12th Sept. OUT

To Fortress H.Q. Diego Suarez Date 12.9.42.  
 Repeated G.O.C. in C. East Africa  
 C. in C. Eastern Fleet. )  
 Dep. C. in C. Eastern Fleet )through Admiralty.  
 S.O. Force M. for BUTTERMERE)

Cipher

From The War Office.

IMMEDIATE.

64921 Cipher (M.O.11) dated 12th September.

1. Reference 64637\* (M.O.11) of 11 Sep. In preamble for "H.B.M. Forces" read "The Forces of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland, the British Dominions beyond the seas, Emperor of India"

2. Reference 64638 (M.O.11) of 11 Sep Article I subsection 7 for "Officials of His Britannic Majesty's Government" read "Officials of any of His Majesty's Governments"

Article 2, subsection 14 for "His Britannic Majesty's Forces" read "The British Forces".

Article 6, omit "Britannic"

1445/12.

\*2330/11

Received from War Office at 0050/13.

1st Lord	<u>War Office Distribution:-</u>
1st S.L. (2)	S. of S. P.U.S.
D.F.M.I.	C.I.G.S. P.U.S. (F)
V.C.H.E.	V.C.I.G.S. D.F. (a)
A.C.N. (F) (2)	D.M.O. F.5.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.P. (2) Dominions Office
D. of P (2)	D.D.M.O. (O) (H) (Mr. Kimber)
Duty Capt. (2)	M.O. 1.5.11.
Hd. of I.	D.M.I.
D.D.I.C. (2)	D.D.M.I. (I)
D. of P. (Q)	M.I. 3.
Admiral Blake	Col. Jacob
W.D.	Major Morton 10 Downing St.
I.P. (2)	First Sea Lord
	Col. Spraggett Admiralty
	Hd. of War Registry Admiralty
	A.M.C.S. Air Ministry
	Foreign Sec.
	Foreign Office (Mr. Speaight)

jf



War Diary.

11.9.42.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Dutch  
Shipping  
Signals.

Your 1812/7. This type of information is supplied weekly to Netherlands N.L.O. London by Admiralty. To avoid additional signalling suggest Netherlands N.L.O. New York be referred to Connav who is in a position to supply required information.  
(D.T.D. 01131A/11 to N.S.H.Q.).

S.C. 102.  
Route.

Your 1504Z/10 affirmative.  
(Connav No.T.O.O./11 to Admty Recd.0159/11).

EMPIRE OIL  
torpedoed  
O.N.127

*See p. 327*

C.T.U.24.1.14 1749Z/10 and 2250Z/10. Request C.T.U. 24.1.14 may be instructed to obtain from surviving officers of EMPIRE OIL further details of damage and possibility that ship is still afloat.  
(A.C.N.S.(T) 0958A/11 to Connav (R) C. in C.W.A.)

Your 2250Z/10th and 2255Z/10th and 2334Z/10th. Obtain and report further details of damage from surviving officers of EMPIRE OIL and possible ships remaining afloat.

(Connav 1144/11 to C.T.No.24.1.14 (R) C. in C.W.A. C.T.24, Admty).

Connav's 1144Z/11. EMPIRE OIL's engine room completely wrecked by torpedo and other torpedo hits forward. Think will remain till further orders if weather remains good. If scale of yesterday's attacks continue suggest reinforcements and early relief will be necessary.

(T.U.24.1.14, 1620Z/11, to C.T.F.24 (R) Connav, Admty etc).

W.D.Note. For further attacks on O.N.127 see 1640/11 et seq.

EMPIRE OIL torpedoed at 1913Z/10th reported all confidential documents destroyed but (?Washington) now doubtful about convoy route papers. Suggest large diversion from route as ship may still be afloat.

(T.U.24.1.14. 1642Z/11 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty, C. in C.W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F., C.C.A.C., C.T.G.24.7).

Task Unit 24.1.14's 1620/11th. Intend to sail Task Unit 24.18.2. to relieve Task Unit 24.1.14 at 2200/12. Further signals will be made.

(C.C.N.F. 2030Z/11 to C.T.24.(R) C. in C.U.S.Fleet, C. in C.W.A. Admty, C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q., C.T.G.24.7. T.U.24.1.14).

My 2255Z/10. Following is report in accordance with F.O.I. 17. (A) 22(725)Z/10th. Position 051° 15' N. 028° 55' W. (B) 4 or 5 submarines in vicinity. (C) 1 submarine sighted on surface. (D) 2 merchant ships missing, possible stragglers, FJORDAAS and LIBERTYGLOW.

(E) 1 merchant ship MARRIT torpedoed and stragglings at 5 miles.

(H) Weather report.

(T.U.24.1.14. 1210Z/11 to C.T.F.24.(R) Connav etc).

Movements  
summary.

1800 G.M.T./11.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
S/M P.555.	36° N. 67½° W.	146°	6
PATHFINDER.	10½° N. 54½° W. 083°		9.
QUENTIN.			
SNOWDROP.			
with "Mincemeat"			

/T.A.20....



11.9.1942.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - ~~cont.~~

Movements Summary Contd.	Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
	T.A.20.	44° N. 44½° W.	243°	11.
	T.A.21.	43½° N. 38° W.	251°	25.
	KARANJA.	22° N. 29½° W.	349°	14½.
	KEREN.	16½° N. 28° W.	349°	14.

(D.O.D. (F) 1017Z/11 to Opnav, (R) Comnav.)

SCHENK.

At 1100Z/12 proceed direct to arrive at point H. 057.18 N. 33.05 W. at 0800Z/14th. Join escort of S.C.99. report to C.T.U. 24.6.5 for duty as additional escort SCL.99.  
(C.T.G. 24.6. 1054/11 to U.S.Dest. SCHENK (R) C.T.U. 24.6.5. C.T.U. 24.1.11, C. in C.W.A. C.T.F. 24).

Attacks on U/Bs.

Cominch's 1824/10 addressed to Comnav and Admty and for information B.A.D. informs as follows:- This refers to Admiralty's 1059B/22/7. On August 21st the U.S.S. CHEVALIER, depth charged a submarine off Guantanamo, oil discoloured the water and strong smell of diesel oil persisted for 9 hours. On August 29 U.S.S. GAMBLE made six depth charge attacks on Japanese submarine near Rakahuaga Island. Debris heavy deck planking continuing large quantities of air and oil bubbles. On August 29 U.S.S. PC-466 made three attacks off Guantanamo. Large bubble followed by breaching of submarine and oil slick. On August 31st Naval Aircraft and U.S.S. REID gunned, depth charged, and sank submarine off Andeanof Islands. Five prisoners. On September 2 Brazilian aircraft attacked submarine off Rio Janeiro. Large pool of oil with oil still rising two hours after bombing. Forty-three attacks reported for the week ending Sept. 6 at 2400Z. (Comnav 1031/11 to Admty).  
(W.D. Note. Incidents already reported to which this message adds nothing fresh have been deleted).

\* 28/8. I. 123 ~~...~~ 30/8 - p. 920 + 4/9 p. 115.  
x R.O. 61. ~~...~~ 31/8 - p. 958 + 4/9 p. 115.

SAN ERNESTO. Your 1743/10. SAN ERNESTO at Guantanamo enquiring expected sailing date.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1116Q/11 to Admty).  
Convoy Q.Z.2 arrived including SAN ERNESTO, Admty 1743/10 refers.  
(B.R.O. Cristobal 1530R/11 to Admty etc).

STAR OF EGYPT.

Cancel my 2011/8, sent in error.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1121Q/11 to Admty etc).

HAMLA.

Your 2044/10 (N.T. in W.D.). No further news of HAMLA. My 1507A/8 para. 2 to Cominch refers.  
(D.T.D. 1125Z/11 to Connv).



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War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.MONTGOMERY.  
refit.

C. in C.W.A. 1128/10 and N.S.H.Q.'s 1448/9.  
and B.A.M.R.'s 1506/9. Regret that it will be  
necessary to retain MONTGOMERY until approx.  
30/9.  
(C.C.A.C. 1132Z/11 to B.A.R.M.Washington (R)  
Admty, N.S.H.Q.).

U/B.

Local wireless station reports following  
intercepted, S/M sighted 1304Z today Friday  
018° 55' N. 075° 05' W.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1213Q/11 to Admty etc).

Very  
lights.

Coast (? Watchman) Black River Jamaica reported  
at 2030 and 2145Q/10. 3 Very lights 8 miles to  
S.W. each time as follows, Red, White, Green.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston 1224Q/11 to Admty etc).

U/B. Ship.  
torpedoed.

S/M sighted on surface by shore watcher in  
approx. 049° 10' N. 066° 50' W. at 1100 G.M.T.  
Explosions heard 1 ship torpedoed.  
(C.O.A.C. 1255Z/11 1556Z/11 to C. in C.W.A.E.C.  
Londonderry T.G. 24.7. Admty).

Convoy  
B.W.1.

B.W.1. My 2007Z/10 and my 2009Z/10 . Delete  
pendant 21 DRAKEPOOL and substitute Fighting  
French 8 PLM 27. ballast, Wabana.  
(N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B. 1319Z/11 to C.C.N.F., C.T.24

U/B.

S/M sighted by shore watcher in approx. 050° 25'  
N. 057° 52' W. at 1205Z/11th.  
(C.O.A.C. 1415Z/11 to C. in C.W.A., E.C.  
Londonderry T.G. 24.7. Admty).

1/c /  
RIVER  
STEAMERS.

Your 1128/10th and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1733/5 (re  
CHELSEA delayed by defects, not acceptable to  
delay RIVER STEAMERS). Anticipate sailing  
RIVER STEAMERS escorted by VANOC and VETERAN  
16/9 Sept. to U.K. via St. Johns (N.F) and Iceland.  
(C.O.A.C. 1453Z/11 to C. in C.W.A. (R) A.C.I.C.  
etc).

CHARLOTTETOWN  
torpedoed by  
U.S. 517. (6.2.44)\* GENISTA at Durban  
damaged - [1-12 (12' )

Following received from N.C.S.O. <sup>Rimouski</sup> ~~REMOUSKI~~  
\*GENISTA, CLAYOQUOT. CHARLOTTETOWN torpedoed off  
Cape Ch (Word incomplete) at 1110Z, survivors on  
board, fuel very low, proceed Gaspe.  
(N.O.I.C. Quebec 1531Z/11 to C. in C.W.A. E.C.  
Londonderry T.G. 24.7. Admty).

Following is a recyphered version of CLAYOQUOT 1540Z/11.  
(begins) Addressed N.Q.H.Q.C.O.A.C. (R) N.O.I.C. Gaspe, N.O.I.C.  
Quebec. CHARLOTTETOWN sank in 3 minutes. Good A/S contact received  
attacked 4 times. 6 missing. Serious hospital cases aboard.  
Position of attack 049° 12' N; 066° 48' W. Weather conditions heavy  
fog. visibility nil (Ends). (C.O.A.C. 1950Z/11 to C.T.24. (R) Connav,  
Admty, C. in C.W.A. C.T.G. 24.7.).

/D.E.MS.....



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

D.E.M.S. personnel. Your 1843/5. (re D.E.M.S. personnel on British Monster Liners).  
1. Arrangements discussed with U.S. Army as arming these ships concerned them and not Port Director.  
2. (A) Agreed part American part British scheme of manning.  
(B) Agreed general principles of 50-50 basis, but U.S. press for total permanent personnel on biggest ships of 140 to enable all important gun members maintain constant 3 watches. U.S. prepared supply 100 men if we cannot provide more than 40.  
(C) U.S. Navy at present not providing this personnel, U.S. Army Units very high standard and could man all British equipment with instruction from P.O's and N.C.O's.  
(D) Agreed proposals put forward to be given fair trial and adjustments made as experience is gained.  
3. Full agreement on discipline position. Master in complete command delegating authority at his discretion to British Defence Officer.  
(D.E.M.S. New York 1550Z/11 to Admty, D.T.D.).

U/B Positions. S/M situation 11/9. and U.S.S/M notice. (Cominch 1631/11, 1632/11, 1633/11, 1634/11, 1635/11).

Attacks on O.N.127. My 1210Z/11. Convoy was attacked day and night yesterday by 6 or 7 submarines. Several counter attacks by escorts but no proof of kill. *p-324.* FJORDAAS now believed torpedoed 2315Z. (T.U.24.1.14 1640Z/11 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.24.7).

Convoy attacked one ship torpedoed. S/M sighted on surface 340° distance 7 miles. My position 049° 32' N. 032° 18' W. Am chasing.

(C.T.U. 24.1.14. 1735Z/11 to C.T.F.24.(R) Connav etc).

My 1735Z/11th. S/M has dived bearing 330° Drakes Island 5 miles. Single merchant ship in sight bound East.

(C.T.F. 24.1.14 1755Z/11 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.24.7).

Suspicious vessel in sight, Black and White camouflage, steering 015° speed about 10 knots.

(C.T.F. 24.1.14 1804Z/11 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.24.7).

Attacks on convoy O.N.127/10/9. approx position 51° 30' N.28° 00' W. resulted in SVEVE (Nor) and ELIZABETH VAN BELGIE (Belgian) both torpedoed sunk. F.J.WOLFE British torpedoed but proceeding with convoy. EMPIRE OIL British torpedoed abandoned possible salvage. MARRIT II torpedoed proceeding as straggler.

(Connav 2114/11 to Connaveu (R) N.S.H.Q. etc).

Convoy attacked, 2 possibly 3 ships torpedoed. My position 048° 51' N. 033° 00' W.

(T.U.24.1.14. 2359Z/11 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.24.7).



War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

ARCOLA Italian tankers ARCOLA and TAIGETE now at Curacao  
TAIGETE. for fuel thence to return Las Palmas under  
safe conduct connection with repatriation of  
civilians from East Africa. Understand TAIGETE  
needs repairs. Urgent reason exists for loading and sailing these  
vessels soon as possible and in any event not later than 23/9  
Take necessary steps. Advise.  
(C. in C.U.S.Fleet 1701/11 to C.C.S. F.(R) C.A.F.A.C. B.A.D.Admtly  
Opanav).

Barbados 4 explosions presumed torpedoes in anti-torpedo  
torpedo net between 1635 and 1650Q/11. CORNWALLIS hit by  
attack torpedo 1705.  
CORNWALLIS. (Harbour Master, Barbados 1715/11 to Admtly (R)  
S.B.N.O.W.A. etc).  
S/M sighted off Carlisle Bay Barbados at  
2135 G.M.T.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston 1801Q/11 to Admtly, C.C.S.F., Opanav, B.A.D.).  
Your 1715/11. 2 Hudson aircraft have been sent.  
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad 1832Q/11 to Harbour Master, Barbados(R)  
Admtly, S.B.N.O.W.A. S.O.(I) Jamaica Comcarib N.O.B.Trinidad)  
My 1715/11. CORNWALLIS British hit 1 torpedo abreast number  
3 hatch boiler room also flooded, will endeavour to tow into  
shallow water. Vessel settled slowly no casualties. 6 torpedoes  
fired in all, 5 sections of net damaged. Can net officer be sent  
from Trinidad to assist to replace with spare parts?  
(Harbour Master, Barbados 1903/11 to Admtly (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.etc)

U/B. Periscope sighted by shore watcher 047° 32' N.  
053° 03' W. at 1645Z/11.  
(C.O.A.C. 1740Z/11 to C. in C.W.A. E.C.Londonderry  
T.G.24.7).

PENTLAND Your 1131/11/9/42 (N.T. in W.D.)  
FIRTH. Temporary repairs were carried out at St.Johns  
N.F. as stated in my 1251/26/5/42 and my 1357/26/6/  
42, and approved by your 1158/4/6/42. B.A.M.R.  
was informed by letter of work necessary to carry out permanent  
repairs. Ship was instructed to unload spare tubes at Halifax  
before proceeding U.S.A.  
(F.O.N.F. 1800Z/11 to Admtly).

30th M.L. Personal for 1st S.L.  
Flotilla. Chief of Staff to B.A.D informed me that 30th  
Motor Launch Flotilla now on passage Narddarssuak  
to St.Johns Nfld could be made available for  
temporary employment in Canadian coastal zone. 2 Would be grateful  
therefore if this flotilla could be allocated to F.O.N.F. for a  
period of 6 weeks.  
(N.S.H.Q.1935Z/11 to Admtly (R) B.A.D., F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.).

U/B A/C sighted S/M in 050° 05' N. 064° 40' W. at  
(C.O.A.C.2006Z/11 to C. in C.W.A. Admtly, C.T.G.  
24.7.)

/Faelling...



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War Diary.11.9.1942.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Fuelling of Escorts Westomp. This is C. in C. Atlantic Fleet's 1628/10, "Action Connav, C.T.24, From C. in C. Atlantic Fleet. Concur in purpose of C.T.24. 1745/9, although recognising difficulties and disadvantages entailed. As an immediate palliative consider that present Westomp should be moved as far Eastward as possible in connection with adjustments incidental of establishment of New York area as Ocean Trade Convoy terminus." B.A.D. Washington informed. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2106/11 to Admty, N.S.H.Q. B.A.D., C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F., C. in C.W.A.).

Cinclant 1629/10 (circulated under T.O.O. 2106/11) and C.T.F.24, 1745Z/9. Request your comment on moving Westomp to Eastward. B.A.D. informed. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2108Z/11 to Admty. N.S.H.Q.).

Replies; Admty 1819/12. N.S.H.Q. 1615/13.

Sub attack and sighting summary Para.A. Unidentified torpedoed 49.32 N. 32.18 W. about 1730Z/11. CHARLOTTE TOWN torpedoed presumed sunk about 49.10 N. 66.50 W. 1110Z/11. S.S. AUSTRALIA STAR sights sub on surface 23.50 N. 47.54 W. 1045Z/3. 340. Sub sighted on surface 51.15 N. 28.55 W. 2225Z/10. 49.37 N. 32.22 W. about 1735Z/11. Para.B. Treminnard U-88 Type. HAVSTEN 1 torpedo hit 12 to 15 rounds P.B.Y. 5 A. attack Sub on surface 59.11 N. 23.53 W. 1909Z/9 August.

Para.C. Army place attacks Sub 14.10. N.68.30 W. 1628Z/10. Sept. course 180 U.S.S. ALLEGHENY sights Periscope 40.27 N. 73.50 W. 0950Z/11. Shore Watchers sights sub one on surface 49.10 N. 66.50 W. 1100Z/11, one 50.25 N. 57.52 W. 1205Z/11, one Periscope 47.32 N. 63.03 W. 1645Z/11 Y.M.S. 19 attacks sound contact 40.26 N. 73.51 W. 1815Z/11.

(C. in C.U.S. Fleet 2136/11 to Admty for O.I.C.).

\* by U.517 - see p. 326

BURY O.N.123. Your 1450/9. (requesting reason for detachment of BURY from O.N.123). Following from Commodore Magee BURY was sent to territorial waters on orders received from C. in C.W.A. through BROKE (S.O. of E) at 1405/22. (B.R.O. New York 2147Z/11 to C.O.A.C.(R) N.S.H.Q. Admty)

SEVERN. Expected that SEVERN will be ready to sail from Philadelphia for New London Connecticut on Tuesday 22/9 and from New London for U.K. about 9/10 Request destination be communicated. (B.A.R.M. 2152Z/11 to Admty).

U.S. Unit Grand Cayman. A.U.S.A. Naval Unit was established in Grand Cayman in July object provision air cover for convoys and to act as refuelling station for patrol aircraft. Question of defence discussed Miami 26/8 by me and Officers 7th Naval District. It was agreed U.S.A. Navy will provide defence U.S.A. personnel equipment installations on Island and will assist as practicable in general defence Island. Coast watching organization to be established by Commissioner,

/also....



SECRET.

M E S S A G E

2030/11 September.

329 A

FROM. COMNAV.

IN.  
DATE. 22.9.42.  
RECD. 2120.

BRITISH - U.S. CYPHER (X) BY BOMBER MAIL.

ADDRESSED. Admiralty, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

N.S.H.Q. pass code version of this dispatch to Admiralty via Bomber Mail. Begins:

Convoys sailing from Guantanamo until 1900/9 August.

GAT 1 sailed August 1401Z/31 arrived Trinidad September 1900/7. FELIX TAUSSIG, COURAGEOUS, OLAMBALA, AYURUOCA, MANDU all for Rio, KATRINA LUCKENBACH, VANCOUVER CITY, EMPIRE FAITH, CAPE SABLE, KRONPRINSEN all for Bombay, PHOPINA for Georgetown, EMPIRE KEATS for Freetown, SALTERSGATE and OLDENBURG for Alexandria, KING FREDERICK and IMPERIAL VALLEY for Persian Gulf, PANFLORIDA for Caripito, BALBEK for Para, MAPIA for Suez, ACHILLES and VULCANUS for Barbados, GYPSUM KING, PRINS MAURITS and HJELMAREN for Trinidad, LIVINGSTON ROE for Curacao, MISSISSIPPI and LUVA for Aruba.

BRITA THORDEN for Trinidad arrived Aruba. 8 joined GAT 1 from Curacao 1630/3, DRUPA, CLIONA, ORVILLE HARDEN, ZWARTE ZEE, CISTULA for Trinidad, BRAJARA for Gibraltar, BELINDA for Santos, BRITANSEA for Caripito.

GAT 2 1200Z/3. arrival 1600/10 JOHN LYKES, ANTINOUS, CRAIGGLASS, HOPE RIDGE, LLANSHE, RUGELEY, EMPIRE SOUTHEY, EMPIRE TENNYSON, REYNOLDS, GALLANT FOX EUREKA, PRINS WILLEM VAN ORANGE, MARIE BACKE, PANAMA all for Trinidad, HERMES, BETA, ROBERT H. COLLEYS, BRITISH GOVERNOR all for Curacao, SHELON for Cristobal, CITIES SERVICE FUEL, STANVAC CAPETOWN and CLIO for Caripito, ESSO BOLIVAR and PETER HURLL for Aruba, five joined from Curacao 1100/7 IROQUOIS, NORLYS and EL LIBERATOR for Trinidad, VACUUM for Santos, OTINA for Rio. JOHN A. HOLLOWAY straggler. GAT 3. 1115Z/6 expected time of arrival 2300/12.

U.S.A.T. ROANOKE, COLADGE, MAE, SANDWICH, GYPSUM EMPRESS, CHRISTINE MARIE, VANCOLITE, VEST ANGEN, EL ESTERO, M.CUBA all for Trinidad, AMERICAN PACKER and BENJAMIN COMTEE for Red Sea, CAPE ST. GEORGE and GORGISTAN for Persian Gulf, MARYMAR and MORAVI for Paramaribo, WM. HAWKINS, AEGEUS and PONCE for Africa, BARON CAWDOR and RICHMOND HILL for Bombay, FIRETHORN for Suez, GULFTIDE, VIRGINIA, BRITISH HUSSAR, BRITISH RENOWN, BEACONOIL and ALAR all for Aruba, COMEDIAN for Curacao, GLITRE for Puerto La Cruz and Curacao W.E. PRATT for Guiria, ESSO BALTIMORE and CITIES SERVICE FUEL for Caripito. BRITISH GOVERNOR, EMPIRE CHIVALRY and BRITA THORDEN joined from Curacao 1600/9.

GZ 1 2300Z/31 arrived 1625Z/3. THEODORE FOSTER, FRANCIS LEE and DONA ANICETA for Persian Gulf, EMPIRE TRADER for New Zealand, DARONIA for Suez, HOEGH HOOD and SOLFONN for Capetown, MICHURIN for Vladivostok.

GZ 2 2100/7 expected time of arrival 1200/11. CANADIAN STAR and JOSEPH STANTON for New Zealand, CURACA for Chile, STEPHEN A. AUSTIN, WM. PACA and JOHN HENRY for Persian Gulf, COMELIEBANK for Sydney, EMPIRE SAPPHIRE, SAN ERNESTO, ELISHA WALKER and HVPRINS for Capetown.

- 1 -



GK 700 2000/1 arrival 1800/5 THOMAS P. BEAL for Mobile, ROBERT GRAY for Savannah, ROBERT E. HOPKINS for Galveston, PADEREWSKI for New York, FERNHILL for Baltimore, ANNA ODLAND for U.K., LIYLEMORE and TIBERIUS for New Orleans, GATUN for Port Everglades, MERID for Panama City, VAGRANT, PORTLAND and BACOL detached for North Cuban ports.

GK 701 1600/6 arrival 1500/9. HAMLIN P. MC.ORMICK and BACCHUS for Mobile, HIBUERAS and DIRECTOR for Thos. PAINE detached for Anuilla Cuba, L.V. STANFORD for Baton Rouge, COLISTER for Tampa.

GK 702 1200/9 expected time of arrival 1900/12. LAWRENCE for Mobile, LANGLEE CRAG for Galveston, NORFOLK for New York.

GN 1 1200Z/5 expected time of arrival 2100/12. PRES. BUCHANAN, ROBIN ADAIR, HENRY GROVE, KALDFORN, SAMUEL ADAMS, OLNEY, CHESTER SWAIN, WM. PENN, GOLDSHELL, KRISTIANTJORD, ROD EL PARAG, IVARIN, EVITA, GAROBT all for New York, ELBRIDGE GERRY, BERING, KEGUMS, GLENPOOL, all for Baltimore, NATHAN HALE, BETHORE, OCEAN VANGUARD and PESHAWAR for Norfolk, GULFKING for Boston, SUSANA for Phila, ATHINIA LIVANOS and GROMARTY for St. John, N.B., WAYFARER, PORT HUON, BIRGITTE, KAIKOURA and BERNHARD for U.K. M.J.A., VINGA and ORWELL for Halifax.

GN 2 1300/8 expected time of arrival 1200/15. ALGENIB, STAR OF ALEXANDRIA and JOSIAH MACY for New York, SOEKABEOMI for U.K.

GN Special 1630/1 arrival 0800/6. PORT FREEMANTLE, U.K., TATRA Guantanamo 1 August 1100/28 arrival San Juan 2200/31. W.B. TRAVIS, SAMPSON SHARON all San Juan.

GTMO 2 1100/3 arrival San Juan 0700/4. MARJORY, FOSS, MCDONOUGH, HELEN, GERTRUDE KELLOGG, METON all five San Juan. GULFSTATE, MAYAGUEZ. CHAS. J. KAMPMANN, Georgetown. ANIKOLINA MATKOVIC, San Pedro de Macoris.

GTMO 3 1900/6 Port au Prince 2000/7 RANADA, BRAND, DALEMOOR.

GTMO 4 1900/8 expected time of arrival Key West 2330/11. PORTLAND, COMOLCUBA, CITY OF HOUSTON, TAW.

Slow GTMO 1200/28 arrival 1200/3. VIS, KOTOR, U P GOULANDRIS, SVEMIDREBOGH all four Norfolk. INTEREPIDE, BOREAS, ARENA, OSAGE all New York. LAKE ORMAF, SURVIL, GULF BELLE in tow for Mobile CUBORE, Baltimore. POTOMAMAC, Panama City. DALWARNIC, Key West WEARPOOL, U.K. WANUS, PORT EVERGLADES --- ends.

2030/11.

Advance Copy Sent Ops., O.D.  
& Trade.

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.I./S. W.  
W.D.  
U.S.N. (3)



War Diary.

11.9.1942.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U.S. Unit also British to undertake civil and shipping  
Grand Cayman. security work in closest co-operation with U.S.A.  
Contd. Naval Intelligence. Sept. 8/9th visited Grand  
Cayman with Col. Stratton. Security Service  
initiated and coast watch organized to be  
carried out by forming 1 platoon embodied Cayman Home Guard.  
Governor Kept fully informed.  
(O.C. Troops, Jamaica. No. T.O.O./11 to W.O).

Australia & New Zealand.

MONOWAI. Departures Wellington MONOWAI (escorted by?) U.S.  
BENHAM. Destroyer BENHAM due Sydney N.S.W. 2000Z/14.  
(S.O.(I) Wellington 0600M/11 to Admty).

Situation. Serial No. 232. 10/9. Reports indicate enemy force  
operating Faisi Buin Tonolei Harbour area 10/9  
included 1 heavy cruiser 3 other large warships,  
1 light cruiser 1 possible 11,000 ton aircraft carrier, 1 seaplane  
tender, 7 destroyers, 4 gunboats, 3 supply ships or transports,  
other small craft.  
(2) 3 light cruisers including, 1 possible "Yubari" Class reported  
Kieta area 8/9.  
(3). 20 Japanese reported proceeding ashore from ships daily  
southern entrance Kieta Harbour to make patrols and observations in  
area.  
(4) 1 large destroyer reported Buka Passage, afternoon 10th.  
(5). 20 large aircraft reported proceeding over Buka on N.W.  
course 0409Z/10.  
(6). Enemy forward patrols active Muoo-Guadagal area 9/9.  
(7). Heavy casualties reported both sides in fighting south of  
Efogi. Situation forward area confused. Allied forces reported  
holding after retiring to south of Nauru (8 miles from Efogi).  
Considerable building activity observed Efogi and further S.E.  
(8) Mopping up small isolated enemy groups Milne Bay area continued  
Several enemy aircraft reported this area 10/9 although no  
attack developed.  
(9). Enemy 4 engined flying boat observed vicinity Wetar Island  
course N.W. morning 10/9.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 1005Z/11).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine Reported.

Approx. position.  
(D.D.I.C. 1435A/11, 1436A/11).



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War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Convoy P.Q.18 was estimated to be in 74° 20' N. 2° 10' E. at 1201A today and was probably reported by a F.W. A/C at 1320. At 1201A also V.A.2 (in ANSON, with DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, BROKE, CAMPBELL, KEPPEL, MACKAY, MONTROSE) reported that his force was being shadowed by 2 A/C. C. in C.H.F. has requested that, to conserve our P.R.U. A/C in North Russia, they should be confined for the present to the R/C of Altafiord only. Our S/ms covering Convoy P.Q.18 will begin at 0800 tomorrow to move into new Patrol Zones; and at 0847 today C. in C.H.F. requested S.B.N.O. North Russia to sail Convoy Q.P.14 to pass latitude 72° 40' N at about 0900A/16.

An "Altmark" type tanker was attacked by Wellington aircraft from Plymouth at 0645A in 43° 38' N. 5° 0' W.

→ CHARYBDIS was ordered by F.O.C.N.A. to return to Gibraltar at 1042A.

(Note:- The tanker referred to above appears to be an "Altmark" type tanker which made 3 attempts to leave Biscay since 10/9. The tanker attacked yesterday (q.v.) is apparently a different vessel.)

Operation  
"F.D.42."

RUBIS sailed at 0040A today, to lay mines in northern waters and then to patrol.

North Atlantic.

→ CHARYBDIS, searching for the probable German blockade runner sighted on 10/9 by a Catalina, was directed at 1044A, if endurance permitted, to search the vicinity of 43° N, 15° W for possible survivors of the Catalina, and unless otherwise ordered by Admiralty to return to Gibraltar. At 2200A she reported her P.C. and S as 42.33 N, 14.38 W., 145° 19 knots.

South Atlantic.

Task Force 23 has been assigned the title of South Atlantic Force, Atlantic Fleet, with short title "Solantfor." Its task force designation is unchanged and no change in existing command relations is involved.

/The.....



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12.9.1942.  
Saturday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic. - Contd.*and Italian prisoners  
of war*

The Cunard Liner LACONIA (19,695 tons) with a large number of troops was torpedoed at 2000 today in 5° 5' S. 11° 38' W. (page 440).

SS. LIMA was torpedoed at 2230Z today in approx 2° 35' N. 11° 22' W.

Mediterranean.

Tobruk was bombed again last night and mines laid in Matruh.

U-Boats are thought to be store carrying to Tripoli during the moonless periods, and may be particularly vulnerable to gunfire if torpedo attack fails. P.44 has been informed accordingly.

East Indies.

U/Bs.

A Blenheim from Aden bombed a submarine 140 miles E. of Mukalla, Gulf of Aden. Air bubbles were reported in the area by another aircraft. SS. CONGELLA reported sighting a periscope at 1517 G.M.T. in 27.23 S. 43.39 E. (South of Madagascar).

Persian Gulf.

In regard to the assembly of inward bound shipping for Persian Gulf, C. in C.E.F. considers that Masira would prove untenable during the S.W. Monsoon and cannot be made into a satisfactory convoy assembly port. He asks F.O.C.R.I.N. for his views on the Admiralty suggestion to use the Gulf of Kutch for this purpose.

F.O.C.R.I.N. is taking up 20 dhows and fishing boats for the Persian Gulf, and will maintain patrols (a) Okha-Makran Coast; (b) Okha-Khor Jarama; (c) Muscat- Khor Jarama.

Madagascar.

Convoy H with DAUNTLESS and screen sailed for operation "Jane."

Majunga aerodrome was reported fit for use this morning.

The landing party put ashore by NAPIER at Morondava on 10/9, which met no resistance and took prisoner the Regional Administrator, has now been recalled.



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.America & West Indies.Attacks on  
O.N.127  
(Contd.)

At 0400Z C.T.U.24.1.14 reported another ship torpedoed in 48° 29' N. 33° 52' W.  
D.T.D. at 0905Z recommended to Connav a direct route for this convoy to close air cover. F.O.N.F. reported that continuous air cover by R.C.A.F. will be available from first light tomorrow.

The following ships are reported as sunk in attacks on 11/9 and 12/9:

HEKTORIA, British (torpedoed 2300Z/11) Possibly still afloat, see 13/9.

EMPIRE MOONBEAM, British.

HINDANGER, Norwegian.

The following are missing:

LAURITS SVENSON, Norwegian, HERANGER, Norwegian.

This makes a total of 10 ships torpedoed and 2 missing. (Note. L.SVENSON reached Halifax 16/9)  
DAGHILD, Norwegian, was torpedoed but remained in convoy.

CELANDINE and ARVIDA made 2 promising attacks on a U/B.

At 1735Z C.T.U. 24.1.14 reported that day attacks up to the present had been made by 1 or 2 submarines coming from ahead. He had 4 escorts 3,000 yards ahead of the convoy today, and this disposition appears to be effective.

Convoy G.N.1 (apparently Guantanamo to New York) arrived at New York today.

Admiralty concur in the American proposal that it is desirable to move Westomp as far east as the capabilities of Western Local Escort Forces will allow.

At 2345 G.M.T. U.S. tanker PATRICK J.HURLEY reported she was being shelled in 22.53 N. 47.12 W., about 860' N.E. of Barbados. It is not known whether the attack is by a U-Boat or a raider.

Australia.

Large concentrations of transports and landing craft at Rabaul suggest the imminence of an operation, probably in New Guinea.



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

ROUSAY A.L.M/M/S 0557/42 of 31/8 and my 1905A/4.  
STRONSAY ROUSAY, STRONSAY and RUSKHOLM are to be completed  
RUSKHOLM for Tropical service. ROUSAY and RUSKHOLM are to  
be fitted with one additional Oerlikon Gun  
mounted aft. Only such items as can be completed  
date already given should be undertaken.  
(D.M.S. 1325A/12 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

CANDYTUFT. (It is proposed to change name of corvette  
CANDYTUFT taken over by U.S. Navy?  
(Head of M. 1910A/12 to B.A.D.) *p 287*

Movements.

MINERVE Scapa departure MINERVE for Dundee escorted by  
LOCH MONTEITH. E.T.A. 0630/13.  
(A.C.O.S. 1016/12.)

KAPP I Your 2129/11. KAPP I sailed from Stromness at  
1510/10 on R.A.F. service to Scrabster. Vessel  
is at present at Scrabster.  
(A.C.O.S. 1115/12 to Admty.)

WAYLAND. WAYLAND will be ready to sail for Clyde on 20/9.  
It is proposed subject to concurrence of C. in C.  
Plymouth to make passage down channel by day with  
strong air and surface escort. It is considered in view of very  
great value of this ship at least two A/A destroyers should escort  
WAYLAND till north of The Smalls. One A/A destroyer can be  
provided by C. in C. Portsmouth.  
Request confirmation whether one A/A destroyer can be sent  
Portsmouth for this escort. Large repair trials will be carried  
out Douglas Isle of Man.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1129A/12 to Admty.)

FORMIDABLE Admty. 1740A/8.  
(1) FORMIDABLE is to sail shortly Clyde to Rosyth  
as soon as possible after arrival.  
(2) 3 destroyers of 21st E.G. to be detailed by Cdre. Londonderry  
are to R/V FORMIDABLE as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock and escort  
to Rosyth, then return to Londonderry.  
(3) Anticipate earliest date of sailing from Clyde p.m. 18th.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1438A/11.)  
Unless orders to the contrary are received from F.O.C.N.A.  
alter course forthwith to avoid reported U-Boats and proceed  
through new positions: S. 34° N 31° W. T. 38° N 31½° W.  
U. 48° N 20½° W. Speed should be adjusted so as to R/V with  
escort in position U at 1200Z/15.  
(D.O.D.(F.) 1535A/12 to FORMIDABLE.)

PENN My 1421/10. Sailed.  
PANTHER (C. in C. Plymouth 1801/12 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

M.T.Bs. At next suitable opportunity the 4th M.T.B. Flotilla is to be sailed for BEEHIVE and 3 M.T.Bs of 22nd. and 21st. Flotillas now at BEEHIVE are to be sailed for Lowestoft.  
(C. in C. Nore. 1922A/12.)

TOWARD Your 1623/9. Rescue ship TOWARD on completion is to remain at Clyde until further orders. Ship will be required for next P.Q. convoy.  
(D.T.D. 2131A/12.)

Operations.

M.G.B. operations in Straits of Dover. Last night 11/12. R.D.F. plotted 4 to 6 vessels presumed M class minesweepers leaving Boulogne, northeastwards at 2015 speed 14 knots. This was anticipated and a force of M.G.Bs 41 (S.O.) 46, S2 and S3, which but for defects should also have contained M.G.Bs 10 and 6, was waiting at V buoy with R mines embarked. On information from the plot this force proceeded to lay mines near Dunkerque A W buoy but owing to miscalculation by S.O. mines were laid too early and had probably sunk by the time enemy vessels were plotted through them although several of the M.G.Bs lying off claim to have seen and felt an explosion at appropriate time. Star shell from shore was fired at M.G.Bs when retiring and also at M.Ls 104, 108, 213 and 128 at 0030 soon after laying mines some 4 miles northwestward of Dunkerque. M.Ls were proceeding at low speed and engines should not have been audible on enemy coast although weather conditions were very favourable for this. It seems therefore that M.Ls may have been plotted by enemy R.D.F. This has not been previously suspected.  
(V.A. Dover 1044A/12.)

Patrols. Weather permitting establish an M.L. patrol on a line 330° distant from 30 to 50 miles from Fuglo from 0800 until 1600 tomorrow.  
(A.C.O.S. 1108/12 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)  
C. in C. Nore 2258/11. Patrols will be carried out according to following programme. Details.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1140A/12 and 0941A/14.)  
Tonight 12/13.

(1) M.T.Bs 55, 49, 50 patrol in the vicinity 050° N 000° 00', passing E A 5 at 2000 and 0600. Object interception of Minelayers reinforcing AM QZ X 771. *See next page*

(11) M.G.Bs 52, 55, 57 carry out sweep between Cap Barfleur and Cap de la Hague leaving Needles 2030 returning Portland 0600. *See next page*

(111) M.T.B. 344 will leave Needles at 2000/12 and proceed execution of previous orders, returning through position R R to Needles not before 0530. *See next page*

(4) GLAISDALE standing by at Yarmouth. (I.O.W.)

(5) Two Chasers on patrol near E A 5.

(6) LAFOREY arrives Needles 0600/13 from Westward speed 20 knots, and has been informed of movement.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1630A/12.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Patrols 2 Chasseurs patrolling vicinity E A 5.  
Contd. M.T.B. 344 Needles southward and return 2000A/12 -  
0530A/13. *See previous page*  
M.T.Bs 55, 49, 50 E A 5 southward and return  
2000A/12 - 0600A/13. *See previous page*  
M.G.Bs 52, 55, 57 Needles southward and Portland 2030A/12 -  
0600A/13. *See previous page*  
Coastal craft exercising between Portland and St. Albans Head  
between 2030 and 0200.  
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1631A/12.)  
If weather is unsuitable for E-Boats at 0100 order destroyers  
to return to (?Humber) and SHEARWATER to rejoin her convoy.  
(C. in C. Nore 2244A/12 to Capt. D.21.)

KYLE My letter ref. A/L A.S.42912 77/11 53/55 dated 1/9  
CLARE. 1942. and N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1147/11.  
Consider it most desirable to intercept KYLE CLARE  
and bring her into a British port for search.  
If Admty. concur it may be possible for C. in C. Plymouth to  
arrange interception concurrent with operations proposed in his  
0943/7. Alternatively CHESTERFIELD could be placed at disposal  
of C. in C. Plymouth subject to her being available for duty laid  
down in my 2026/9 para 3.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1810A/12 to Admty.)

"Inspiration" 9 Tunny men reported a.m./12 vicinity of position  
X X. Further 6 in area C  
(2) Operation "Inspiration" is to be continued on  
Z + 3 day tomorrow. Hudsons will endeavour to join you at  
daylight 13th. Beaufighters will take off if enemy A/C are  
reported.  
(3) Discontinue sweep at dark tomorrow and return. Report after  
dark 13th your intended P.C.S. at 0600A/14.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1957A/12 to CLEVELAND (R) BLEASDALE, ULLSWATER,  
VICTRIX.)

Allied Air Activity.

Attack on ALTMYR attacked. Position 43° 38' N 5° 00' W. 8.  
Tanker. (A.O.C. 19 Group 0645/12.)  
Cancel my 2227A/11. ALTMARK type tanker attacked  
by Wellington aircraft at 0645A/12 in 43° 38' N  
5° W.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 0813A/12 to CHARYBDIS.)  
My 0813A/12. Consider tanker is definitely returning France.  
Presume CHARYBDIS will now go after first Quarry.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1003/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
Following received from Lands End Radio 1448 G.M.T.  
In 43° 56' N and 09° 13' W there is a raft occupied by airmen.  
Any ship in this neighbourhood is to keep a sharp look out and  
make every endeavour to rescue the men.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1600A/12.)

"Knocker" My 2327A/11. Postponed 24 hours owing to weather.  
(A.I.C. 1230/12.)  
Operation "Knocker". No movements today.  
(T.A.C. Prestwick 1350A/12.)



War Diary.

12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity - Contd.

U.S.A. Aircraft.	Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m./12.		
	Fighters (P.38)	U.K.	132
		Iceland	31
		B.W.1.	nil
		B.W.8.	nil
		Goose	nil
		Gander	6
		Presque Isle	nil
	Transports (C.47 & 53)	U.K.	111
		Iceland	nil
		B.W.1.	nil
		B.W.8.	nil
		Goose	nil
		Gander	nil
		Presque Isle	52
	Bombers (B.17. B.24 & B.26.)	U.K.	188
		Iceland	1
		B.W.1.	nil
		B.W.8.	nil
		Goose	nil
		Gander	25
		Presque Isle	1

One B.24 six P.38s and one B.26 are warned in to Prestwick today from Reykjavik and 3 B.17s from Newfoundland.  
(Air Ministry 1530/12 to 44 Group.)

Mining.

Op:  
F.D.42.  
(M/L in N. 100/12.)

RUBIS sailed for patrol.  
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 0040A/12.)  
F.S. RUBIS left Lerwick at 0030A/12 through 089° Out Skerries 5 miles and 069° 50' N 011° 45' E, thence patrol in vicinity 070° 01' N 014° 02' E. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0035A/12 to WOLFE.)

Lyme Bay Sweep. Your 1838A/10. Sailed less <sup>TREVO</sup> ~~III~~ who has defect.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0702A/12 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.) Intend sailing "Ounce V" 0600/13 sweeping route "N" to Portland. NIGHT HAWK, BILDEAN and SEDDON. <sup>TREVO</sup> ~~III~~  
(2) F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them and TREVO ~~III~~ back to Dartmouth at 0600/14 sweeping the same route.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1834/12.)

East Coast Sweeps 2 laps completed without results. At least 1 mile each side of centre line cleared.  
(M/S 9 1136A/12.)  
Completed 4 laps to northward of channel. No mines encountered. About 2.5 miles clear.  
Expect to anchor off Sheringham 1915.  
(M.S.9 1750A/12.)  
Intend sailing 0630/13 to continue clearance to northwards from 0830 to 1700 then returning by Admty. message Q.Z.S. 287 to Number 8 Buoy and by Cockle Gateway to Yarmouth Roads for fresh

/provisions...



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - contd.

East Coast Sweeps Contd. provisions. Intend shortening lap at eastern end by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles.  
(M.S.9. 1803A/12.)  
Carry out tomorrow 40 per cent search of area extending three miles northward of that now cleared. If no mines are found return to Harwich by most convenient channel reporting intentions.  
(C. in C. Nore 2150A/12 to M.S.9.)

Dover. Q.Z.X. 780 three mines detonated 11/9.  
(V.A. Dover 1140A/12.)

Western Channel \* Z 42 reports mine exploded in trawl 5 miles S.E. of Dartmouth 1300/12. Mine not sighted. No damage to ship. \* Not identified - ? F/V.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1954/12.)  
Q.Z.X. 809 Southern limit of area swept to date line joining  $50^{\circ} 17' 24''$  N  $03^{\circ} 24' 42''$  W. and  $50^{\circ} 11' 18''$  N  $03^{\circ} 31' 36''$  W. Negative results today. Intend sailing at 0930 tomorrow, ELGIN, LYDD, ALBURY, SALTASH, KINGS GREY in company to continue clearance.  
(PANGBOURNE 2127A/12 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Off Iceland. Your 2306/11. Unable to identify.  
(A.C.I.C. 0225A/12 to A.C.O.S. (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
Merchant ship reported by our A/C in  $063^{\circ} 22' N$   $012^{\circ} 50' W$  course  $200^{\circ}$  at 0918A/11:-  
"About two thousand tons, short stem, spoon cruiser stern, two masts, derrick stowed flush with deck, coal burning funnel amidships, speed 8 knots."  
A/C patrolling have been advised.  
(A.C.O.S. 1030A/12 to Admt. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats attacked. Following from DAUPHIN. One submarine 30 miles  $270^{\circ}$  from Oversay.  
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1005A/12.)  
My 1005. Carried out 4 attacks MORDEN strong S/M

H E. My dynamo broken down by dec(k?) explosion. MORDEN endeavouring to return contact.  
(DAUPHIN 1100Z/12 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Your 1005/12. Request amplifying report immediately.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1142A/12 to DAUPHIN.)  
Your 1100Z/12. It is considered unlikely that this is a U-Boat. DAUPHIN and MORDEN should replenish D.Cs at Londonderry and rejoin C/V.  
(C. in C. W.A. 1214Z/12 to DAUPHIN.)  
Your 1214/12 to DAUPHIN. I have ordered DAUPHIN back to Londonderry with defective dynamo. Intend retaining MORDEN who has 67 depth charges remaining. Commodore reports SS. JAN WINTHROP and SS. VELNA both from Clyde not present.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.12 1450Z/12 to C. in C. W.A.)  
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate nought hits.  
(A.O.C. 15 Group 1416/12.)

/U-Boats...



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War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

U-Boats Am over enemy S/M in 57° 0' N 19° 14' W. S/M was reported. sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on a course 190°.  
(A/C HL6R 1255/12.)

Following from Cmdre. O.N. 129. Cmdre. reports that he saw object resembling periscope on starboard bow of his ship range 7 cables at 0935Z/12 in 055° 39' N 007° 18' W. T.U. 24.1.12 with convoy now except H.M.C.S. BRANDON delayed in Londonderry.  
(BURNHAM 1320Z/12.)

Aircraft sighted periscope 059° 47' N 006° 21' W course 270° at 1700 today.

(A.C.O.S. 1806A/12 to Ships.)

Am over enemy S/M in 60° 05' N 7° 55' W. Periscope only sighted. When first sighted was on a course 270°.

(Liverpool W/T 1829/12.)

Correct my 1710 to read:-

Am over enemy S/M in 59° 5' N 6° 55' W. Periscope only sighted. When first sighted was on a course 270°.

(Liverpool W/T 1855/12.)

Casualties and Defects.

CLARISSA AGASSIZ 2139/11. Request you will sail tug  
RADCLIFFE NIMBLE to assistance CLARISSA RADCLIFFE.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0336Z/12 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)  
Your 2139/11 approved. Tug is being sent from

Stornoway to meet you. When met escort to P.L.E.

(C. in C. W.A. 0350Z/12 to AGASSIZ.)

Proceed forthwith to assist CLARISSA RADCLIFFE in 56° 09' N 11° 03' W who is proceeding on course 092° at 3 knots. From daylight 12/9, AGASSIZ is standing by.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0435A/12 to NIMBLE.)

Your 0435/12. Sailed NIMBLE.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0541A/12 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Connected to tow in 56° 10' N 09° 30' W course 092° speed 9 knots, headed for Liverpool. Is this in order. Sea slight.

(NIMBLE 2005A/12 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

G.C.64. Intercept. G.C.64 torpedoed. Ends.  
(Valentia Radio 0429/12.)

FAOILEANN. My 1801A/7. NAB. FAOILEANN unable to proceed beyond Girvan owing to engine defects. Will be towed to Ardrossan for repairs.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1021A/12.)

H.D.M.L. 1162. Priority requirement is slipping and under-water repair for H.D.M.L. 1162 with damaged dome and badly bent strut. Efforts at Pembroke unsuccessful. Intend sailing her to Holyhead via Fishguard a.m./13

E.T.A. Holyhead 1800/14.

(2) If repairs are completed without undue delay at Holyhead sailing of 134th H.D.M.L. Flotilla could be delayed to include her for passage provided there is no operational objection.  
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1117A/12 to Admty.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

FARNDALE. Arrival at 1135 FARNDALE for repairs and boiler cleaning at Immingham.  
(F.O. Humber 1240A/12.)

PETITE ANNICK Arrived Pilot Cutter PRUDENCE with PETITE ANNICK in tow.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1243A/12.)

M.T.B. 344. Following from HORNET 1103/11 begins:-  
Thornycroft wish to fit modified propellers to M.T.B. 344. Propose sailing to Northam 14/9 for this purpose and to make good minor hull defects. Ends. Request necessary instructions.  
(R.A.C.F. 1249A/12 to Admty.)

EMPIRE OIL. My 1815/11. Request you will sail tug and escort as soon as ready.  
(D.T.D. 1552A/12 to A.C.I.C.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Your 1142/28. Sorties number 2 position at  
Q.P.14. 1645/11 by A/C reckoning 072° 57' N 004° 20' W considered accurate, speed 8 knots, course 45°. (?weather report) not yet (?received). Sortie number 3 negative report ran into fog, snow and sleet.  
(A.C.I.C. 0114A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Expect air escort by P.B.7 from 0830A/12.  
(A.C.I.C. 0140A/12 to V.A.2.)  
Your 1132/28. My 0114A/12. Sortie No.2 weather report wind N.E. 8 knots, sea slight, visibility 5 to 10 miles hazy with fog patches.  
Sortie No. 4 position at 1900 (?from) S.O. of Escort 072° 50' N 003° 00' W. Position at 2103 by A/C reckoning 072° 50' N 002° 40' W, course 90° speed 6 knots. Wind N.E. 5 knots, sea calm, visibility 2 miles.  
(A.C.I.C. 0415A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Catalina due patrol E E 1315/12 delayed weather.  
E.T.D. indefinite.  
(H.Q.C.C. 0820A/12 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
My 2326/10. Sail Q.P.14 to pass latitude 072° 40' N at about 0900A/16.  
(C. in C. H.F. 0847/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
Akureyri arrival BROKE, AMAZON. See p. 342.  
(A.C.I.C. 1108A/12 to V.A.2.)  
At 1600/12 submarines are to commence a move to occupy undermentioned zones at 0800/13. TIGRIS to K.74. TRIBUNE to K.73. UREDD to K.72. P.54 to K.71. P.221 to K.70. P.45 to K.69. UNIQUE to K.68.  
(F.O.S. 1117A/12.)  
Pass to Polyarno. Begins - For C.L.O. and S.B.N.O. North Russia (R) 30 Mission Gryaznaya and Lakhta. S/210 replaces L/210 on E E patrol on 1915A/12 off patrol 2215A/12. E.T.A. Lakhta 0715A/13. F/210 on patrol E E 2145A/12 off 0045/13, E.T.A. Lakhta 0945A/13.  
(18 Group 1146A/12 to Admty.)

/Estimated...



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Estimated position of P.Q.18 at 1201A/12. 074°  
 Q.P.14. 20' N 002° 10' E. Estimated S of A 7½ knots.  
 Contd. (C. in C. H.F. 1147A/12.)  
 2 aircraft shadowing. My P.C.S. 69° 05' N 10°  
 45' W course 55° 16 knots.  
 (V.A.2. 1201A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 Catalina airborne Sullom Voe 1130A/12 due patrol Cat. E E  
 1930/12 - 2230/12.  
 (H.Q.C.C. 1202A/12 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
 Orator Cat. Due to bad weather impossible complete  
 programme. Situation at 1700/12. Five Catalinas in North  
 Russia. Two Catalinas in transit will cover patrol Cat. E E  
 from 1930 to 2230 and 2200 to 0100/13. One Catalina to make  
 direct transit later. Further patrols to be arranged by C.L.O.  
 North Russia. Four Catalinas held in reserve at Sullom. Sen.  
 R.A.F. Officers 2126/10 refers.  
 (H.Q.C.C. 1219A/12 to Admty. C. in C. H.F.)  
 To conserve P.R.U. aircraft request for the present those  
 based in North Russia be confined to R/C of forces in Altafiord.  
 Interval between sorties being arranged to ensure timely placing  
 of cross-over patrol in the event of movement.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1244A/12 to Admty.)  
 Pass to Polyarno. Begins - For C.L.O. and S.B.N.O. Polyarno  
 Lakhta and Gryaznaya (R) 30 Mission. S/210 airborne 1130/12,  
 E.T.A. Lakhta 0730A/13.  
 (18 Group 1255A/12 to Admty.)  
 Inform escorts of Q.P.14 that they are included in A.I.G.  
 47 (H.F. Operational).  
 2. Attention is called to amendments one to five to Operation  
 E V.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1406A/12 to M.S.1.)  
 The position of convoy P.Q.18 was probably reported by a  
 F.W. aircraft at 1320.  
 (D.D.I.C. 1459A/12 to A.I.G. 47.)  
 Pass to Polyarno. Begins for C.L.O. S.B.N.O. North Russia  
 and Vaenga. (R) 30 Mission from 18 Group.  
 My AC.203 12/9. Amend F/210 to read E.T.D. 1530A/12 on patrol  
 E E 2300A/12 off patrol 0200A/13 E.T.A. Lakhta 1100A/13. L/210  
 E.T.D. 1800A/12 on patrol E E 0130A/13 off patrol 0430A/13  
 E.T.A. Lakhta 1400A/13. Ends.  
 (18 Group 1510A/12 to Admty.)  
 My 1700/10. Raids G P E 2s and military bombers on Luostari  
 and P E 3s on Banak Sept. 10/11, over 50,000 pounds H.E. being  
 dropped, also anti-personnel bombs, incendiaries and 6000  
 leaflets. Six or more enemy A/C destroyed on ground and five M.E.  
 109s claimed shot down. Russians admit losing two P Es and one  
 Lagg, also two P.E 3s and one D B 3 destroyed on Vaenga  
 Aerodrome on 9/9. 300 Marine Infantrymen landed south side  
 Motovski Gulf night 10/11. Over 160 enemy casualties reported,  
 several guns and mortars destroyed, and nine prisoners taken.  
 Russian losses less than 40 killed and wounded. Enemy dive  
 bombers arrived late and continued for two hours attacking area  
 from which raiding party had been successfully withdrawn.  
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1541A/12 to Admty.)  
 Pass to Polyarno. Begins for C.L.O. S.B.N.O. Lakhta and  
 Gryaznaya from 18 Group. F/210 airborne 1526A/12. T.O.O.  
 1526A/12. Ends.  
 (18 Group 1545/12 to Admty.)



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War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - ~~-----~~ TS

P.Q.18. AMAZON and BROKE ordered to remain at Akureyri  
 Q.P.14. by V.A.2.  
 Contd. (A.C.I.C. 1610A/12 to C. in C. H.F.) ~~See P. 340~~  
 Request P.R.U. aircraft in North Russia be confined to R/C of Altafiord for the present to conserve aircraft.

2. Request you will arrange interval between sorties to ensure timely placing of cross-over patrol in the event of movement.  
 (D.O.D. (H) 1625A/12 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)  
 Pass Polyarno for G/C Hopps. Begins. AC/209 12/9 S5 11/9.  
 Not scrambled. T.O.O. 1704 ends.  
 (18 Group 1706A/12 to Admty.)  
 Amendment number six to Operation E V. Appendix three - routes. Amend position (H) to read 314° Cape Kanin Light 22 miles.  
 (C. in C. H.F. 1717A/12.)  
 Cancel EVY dated 4/9. Amended EVY issued. Cancel my 1201A/2. Intend cruiser force leave Hvalfiord a.m./14 routed as before, arrival position RR at 0200/17. If still in vicinity Force P is to R/V there but this will not be relied on. Anticipate CUMBERLAND will rejoin noon 18th, SHEFFIELD and ECLIPSE 24 hours later.  
 (C.S.18 1805A/12.)  
 Admty. please pass to C.L.O. North Russia. Ref. recent signals regarding P.R.U. tasks. It is the wish of C. in C. H.F. that your P.R.U. effort shall be conserved for essential tasks. To achieve this I will attempt Narvik P.R.U. and if possible extension to Altafiord each day. You should only do P.R.U. sorties Altafiord and Narvik when weather conditions at this end make success unlikely. Weather forecast will be signalled from 18 Group by 2000 hours daily.  
 (H.Q.C.C. 1939A/12 to C.L.O. North Russia.)  
 Ref. 1625A/12. Request this signal may be cancelled V since it is liable to lead to confusion. I am co-ordinating P.R.U. sorties and consider it essential that this is done from one source only. I have instructed C.L.O. North Russia the conformity with C. in C. H.F.'s views which are fully appreciated. My T.O.O. 1939A/12 repeated to you refers.  
 (A.O.C. in C. C.C. 1955A/12 to Admty.)  
 Pass to Polyarno. Begins. For C.L.O. S.B.N.O. and Vaenga from 18 Group. Prospects of P R N E Narvik from U.K. 13/9 not good. U.K. bases for next 24 hours fit.  
 (18 Group 2000A/12 to Admty.)  
 My 1709A/12 and Admty. 1635A/12. Narvik sortie from North Russia cancelled.  
 (Senior R.A.F. Officer 2002A/12 to H.Q.C.C.)  
 Your 1142/28. Position at 1204/12 by aircraft reckoned 074° 15' N 001° 56' E. Wind N.W. force 3, sea moderate, visibility 1800 yards. S.O. escorts reported at 1200/12 position 074° 06' N by dead reckoning, no fix for 2 days. Composition complete. No longitude was received by aircraft from S.O. escorts.  
 (A.C.I.C. 2044A/12 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Ships...



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.Ships for  
Sydney C.B.  
or St.  
Lawrence  
or Halifax.Subsequent to the sailing of O.N.130 any ships  
with destinations Sydney C.B. or Halifax for  
orders or St. Lawrence ports are to be referred  
to Admty. (Extension 363 or 370)  
(D.T.D. 0218A/12.)Sailing  
signals.My 1730/8/7. Sailing Signals of Independently  
Routed ships. Para A. Second clause, delete  
"and N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F." insert "and add  
F.O.N.F."  
(D.T.D. 1156A/12.)QUEEN  
MARY.Intend to sail CURACOA and CASTLETON passing Clyde  
Boom 1500A/13 to R/V with escort from Londonderry  
in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 2030A/13, thence  
sweeping along route till dark 14th, subsequently  
complying with C. in C. W.A. 1341Z/11 para 4 and 0936A/12.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1214A/12.)  
T.A.22. Intend sailing passing Clyde Boom 0200A/14 routed  
as in A.M. 1525A/11. E.T.A. New York 1500Z/19. Code word  
"Conifer".  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1608A/12.)MAID OF  
ORLEANS.MAID OF ORLEANS will be used to transport U.S.  
troops from Belfast to Toward, crossing night of  
14/15.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1824A/12 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)



War Diary.12.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Search for  
Blockade  
Runner.Your 0926A/11 search abandoned at 0200A/12.  
My P.C. and S. (?41°) 53' 22° 47' 180° 17 knots  
to 40 N. then (?estimated speed) 13 knots.

Weather.

(VERITY 0200A/12 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) CHARYBDIS,  
Admty. C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Unless otherwise ordered by Admty. return to Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1042A/12 to CHARYBDIS (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.  
C. in C. Plymouth.)My 1042/12. If endurance permits and you have not already  
visited locality make brief (group omitted ? search) in vicinity  
of 043° N. 015° W. for possible survivors of Catalina.(F.O.C.N.A. 1044A/12 to CHARYBDIS (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.,  
C. in C. Plymouth.)For information. At 1825/10 medium sized merchant ship  
probably German blockade breaker attacked Catalina in approx.  
43° N. 15° W. Catalina overdue.

2. Ship reported as steering 235° 10 knots.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1142A/12 to FORMIDABLE (R) Admty.)

Situation report Area X. of N.A. Station. 2002.

(8) VERITY 39° 16' 20° 01' 107° 13.

(9) CHARYBDIS returning to Gibraltar from vicinity of 43° 00'  
15° 00'.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1428A/12.)

P.C. and S. 042° 33' N. 014° 38' W. 145° 19. E.T.A. 0615/14.

(CHARYBDIS 2200A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

PETUNIA.  
PRUDENT.  
CHARON.Sailed PETUNIA escorting H.M. tugs PRUDENT, CHARON  
at 0800/12 routed as in my 1904/8.(F.O.C.N.A. 1004A/12 to R.A.W. Africa (R) Admty.,  
N.O.I.C. Bathurst, C. in C. S.A.)

LESSEE.

German 53 left harbour 2200 (corrupt group) 11th.  
(Bilbao 1035/12 to Admty. (R) M.E.W., B.N.A.  
Madrid, S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)

P.37.

P.37 passes Europa Point at 1700A/13. proceeding  
to Malta through

M. 035° 45' 002° 52' W.

N. 036° 54' 001° 25' E.

O. 038° 05' 008° 59' E.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1140A/12 to 8th S.M. Flot.)

P.219.

P.219 is to leave patrol passing G. 035° 35' 003°  
30' W. at 0001A/15 thence direct to arrive  
Gibraltar 0900A/15.2. Longitude 005° W. is not to be crossed before  
0700A/15.3. Bombing restrictions arranged accordingly.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1206A/12 to 8th S.F.)



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War Diary.12.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

- KAOLACK. Barcelona's 1926/11 (W.R.Note.- Confirmation of ref. has been requested) to me (R) S.O.(I) Gibraltar and Admty. If you instruct KAOLACK not actually to enter Malaga please inform me and I will pass to M. of M. (Madrid 1210/12 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)
- Vichy Destroyers, collision. American report Casablanca 11/9. 2 S/Ms, French Destroyer TEMPETE and French Destroyer SIMOUN under repair there after collision during night exercise 8/9. 2 dead and 5 injured in collision. (R.A. Tangier 1400/12 to Admty., (for D.N.I) S.O.(I) Gibraltar.)
- P.211. My 1436/10 departure 1713 P.211. (F.O.C.N.A. 1754A/12 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty., F.O.(S) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1, Capt.(S) 10.)
- GABON. Following received from Tangier (Begins) Americans report GABON arrived Casablanca 9/9 unloading nothing there scheduled to leave for Dakar with next convoy. Any further developments will be reported. T.O.O. 1330/12 (ends). (S.O.I. Gibraltar 1826A/12 to Admty.)
- MIRROR Cable Operation. My 1256/3. MIRROR reports operation (A) completed at 1500/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 1841A/12 to Admty.)
- TALISMAN. My position 1600 036° 41' N. 000° 04' E. D R from sight 0612A. Weather. (TALISMAN 1953/12 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt.S.8.)
- SCOTTISH. Your 1644A/12 (N.T. in W.R.) Not met. My position 111°, 37° N. 7° W. 27' course 314° speed 11.5. Have come coastwise from Cadiz at 1800. Visibility over 10 miles. (SCOTTISH 2015A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)  
 Your 1955A/12 just received. Position 067° 37° N. 7° W. 10' course 151° speed 12 knots. Remaining on Gibraltar Broadcast for present. (SCOTTISH 2335A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- THORSHAVN. ANNA KNUDSEN. PETTER. My 1758/10th sailed tankers THORSHAVN, ANNA KNUDSEN, PETTER II escorted by JONQUIL, SPIREA, COLTSFOOT. 2. C. in C. Plymouth pass to CHESTERFIELD. (F.O.C.N.A. 2030A/12 to C. in C. W.A. (R) CHESTERFIELD, ACONITY, STARWORT, N.O.I.C. Londonderry, Admty. N.O.I.C. Oban, N.O.I.C. Greenock, N.C.S.O. Oban, Capt.(D) Greenock, C. in C. Plymouth.)

/WTSHART ...



War Diary.12.9.1942  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.WISHART.  
O.G.39.

My 2030/12 not to convoy O.G.89. WISHART sailed as additional escort to \*tankers parting company as necessary to join convoy O.G.89 before dark 13th.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2052A/12 to Admty., Ships escorting Convoy O.G.89.) \* *See previous page.*South Atlantic.

BRILLIANT.

E.T.A. Lagos 0500Z/?13, weather.

(BRILLIANT 0500Z/12 to R.N.O. Lagos (R) R.A.W.A.F.)

*See next page  
(U/B campaign)*

SUMATRA.

Capetown departure 0900B/12 Netherlands cruiser SUMATRA for Pointe Noire and Freetown S.O.A.

14.7 knots E.T.A. Pointe Noire 0900B/18 route.

A. 027° 00' S. 014° 00' E.

B. 016° 00' S. 010° 00' E. Pointe Noire

C. 003° 00' 154° 011° 00' W.

shift to W/T organization for area P at 2000B/15.

(C. in C. S.A. 0952B/12 to Admty., R.A.W.A.,

B.N.L.O. W. Africa, D. C. in C. E.F.)

Movements.

Departure TAMARISK E.T.A. Takoradi 0930Z/13.

(N.O.I.C. Lagos 1012Z/12 to Admty. (R) N.O.I.C.

Takoradi, R.A.W.A.F.)

Simonstown arrival 12/9 F.S. COMMANDANT DUBOC escorting Dutch Submarine K.14.

(C. in C. S.A. 1620B/12 to Admty., N.O.I.C. East London

(?D. C. in C. E.F.) Columbia.)

OXFORDSHIRE sailed 11th. E.T.A. 22nd.

(S.T.O. Freetown 1645Z/12 to Admty., for D. of S.T. (R)

R.A. West Africa.)

MEAD.

Your 2025/2. MEAD has been delayed by necessary diversion of labour to HECLA and many ships passing through Simonstown. Endeavour being made to obtain temporary additional labour through Union Controller of Man Power. Further signal will be made.

(Cmdre. Sup. Simonstown 1045B/12 to Admty. (R)

C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.F.)

/U/B ...



War Diary.

12.9.1942  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

U/B Campaign. Following is repetition of my 0515Z/10/9 (begins) Recent U-boat activity Freetown area.  
(1) Following A/C sighting reports 0703/3 Pan American A/C 6° 8' N. 1° 52' E. R.A.F. Liberator same U-boat 6° 7' N. 2° 9' E. course 90° 1700/4 transit Wellington 13° 30' N. 17° 10' W. course 270 1300/7 Transit Wellington 4° 40' N. 2° 45' W. and a second U-boat 4° 40' N. 2° 35' W. seen from 700 feet to dive. 1856/8 B.O.A.C. 14° 19' N. 18° 10' W. Subsequent R.A.F. search made in all cases without result. (2) 0400/5 after torpedoing of MYRMIDON (my 1115/5 refers)\*BRILLIANT attacked contact for 2 hours until lost. No visible result. \* *in previous page*  
(3) 0045/8 SS BRITTANIC reports sighting object probably U-boat in 7° 1' N. 13° 34' W. Blue morse lamp signalling subsequently seen (ends)  
(R.A. West Africa 1221Z/12 to Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

T.F.23. Assigned title of South Atlantic Force.  
(B.A.D. 2247Z/12)  
See America and W. Indies.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN escort arrangements. C. in C. E.F. 1014/31/8 not to B.A.D. or S.B.N.O. W.A. Proposed that escort arrangements for ROYAL SOVEREIGN from Freetown to U.S.A. should be similar to those for QUEEN ELIZABETH.  
2. DUNCAN, DECOY, GRIFFIN and ANTHONY may be employed for first half of passage from Freetown to M.O.M.P. proceeding thence to U.K.  
3. B.A.D. requested to arrange with Cominch for escort to Philadelphia from M.O.M.P. on about 5/10.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2319A/12 to C. in C. S.A., B.A.D. (R) R.A.W.A., C. in C. E.F., R.A.D. E.F., S.B.N.O. W.A.)

Mediterranean

Op "Waylay". Operation "Waylay" day 1 (?Convoy proceeding) 10th September.  
(C. in C. Med. 1042C/12 to TAKU (R) Capt.(S) 1.)

P.43. P.43 proceeding through 035° 22' 014° 12' to R/V with Sweeper 1059B/17 end of searched channel.  
(Capt. S.10 1046B/12 as amended 1129B/15 to 10 S.F. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)



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Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

P.44.

*see next page*

Patrol between Misurata and Khara during forenoon 13th from 0730.  
(Capt. S. 10, 1053B/12 to P.44 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

Bi-Weekly  
Opsum No.55.

Night 8/9th Sept. 46 Wellingtons 5 Halifaxes bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, fires started near Naval fuel tanks and main jetties. Fire started on water near jetties possibly on a ship. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Sullum results unobserved, 2 Wellingtons missing. 3 A.S.V. Wellingtons 3 Bombers 3 Torpedo Wellingtons despatched to locate and attack enemy shipping North of Derna. A.S.V. Wellingtons located total 2 Merchant Ships 5 unidentified vessels in area and homed striking force. Owing to bad visibility and low cloud down to 8000 feet only 1 Bomber Wellington saw a small ship through gap in cloud and bombed with unobserved results.

? 9/9 6 Bisleys 4 Beaufighters with top cover 4 Beaufighters made an offensive sweep for F.Boats West of Matruh. 4 Beaufighters attacked 6 Eastbound F-Boats escorted by fighters about 45 miles East of Sidi Barrani, results unobserved, top cover Beaufighters shot down 1 Me.109. 9 American B.24s despatched to make dusk attack on merchant vessel in Tobruk Harbour, no hits claimed, several bombs burst off docks but cloud and haze obscured damage.

Night 9/10. 5 R.A.F. Liberators, 26 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, large fire with explosions started at Naval fuel tanks, 4 small fires. 2 explosions on docks near main jetties, another fire between El Gubbi and Satellite aerodromes. 1 A.S.V. Wellington 3 Torpedo Wellingtons offensive R/C for enemy shipping N.W. of Tobruk. 1 Wellington released 2 torpedoes at a M/V estimated 2000 tons alongside illuminated Hospital Ship about 50 miles E.N.E. Derna. Ships were either stationary or moving very slowly. 1 Torpedo hit M/V causing 2 explosions with flames up to 100 feet and black smoke. Following morning Maryland reported 3 Merchant Vessels estimated 7000 tons stationary 20 miles N.E. Derna 1 ship low in water with 2 destroyers circling.

Night 10/11. 8 Halifaxes 19 Wellingtons bombed shipping and Harbour installations Tobruk. 2 large fires started on West side of Harbour, small fires on docks near main jetties. 3 fires N.W. of town. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk (?bombed) Sollum. Result unobserved.  
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1116Z/12.)

Enemy Units,  
THRASHER.

At 1130C/12th aircraft reported P.C. and S. of 1 tanker, 1 destroyer and about 5 small craft 035° 10' 023° 25' 190° 8. Aircraft attacking between 0001 and 0130/13. Flares will be dropped to illuminate target 0230 to 0300.  
(Capt. S.1 1210C/12 to THRASHER (R) C. in C. Med. No.201 Group, S/Ms on Patrol.)

Cancel my 1210/12th.  
(Capt. S.1 1910C/12 to THRASHER.)

/PROTEUS ...



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Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

PROTEUS.

PROTEUS leaves 000° Ras Beirut 5 at 1930G/13 on passage Malta routed through (1) 033° 42' 032° 42' at 1900C/14.  
 (2) 034° 07' 024° 46' at 2000C/17.  
 (3) 035° 01' 018° 59' at 0001C/20, thence as ordered by Capt. (S) 10.  
 (Capt. S.1 1230C/12 to Submarines on Patrol (R) C. in C. Med. 201 Group, Capt. (S) 10, PROTEUS.)

Enemy  
Units.

A/C reports at 1045B/12th 1 merchant ship, 1 destroyer 037° 18' 021° 03' 170° 10 knots.  
 (Capt. S. 10 1549B/2 to Subs on Patrol (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1 S.O. Subs Alexandria.)

P.35  
defect.

Circulated water cross connection port side fractured in T - (?46) brazing to supply from emergency pumps. Returning to base by reverse of route in Capt. (S) 10's 1640B/11th. E.T.A. Calimore Point 1600B/13 proceeding on surface by day.  
 (P.35, 2236B/12 to Capt. (S) 10, (R) C. in C. Med. V.A. Malta, Capt.(S) I, Subs on Patrol.)

M/V  
 P.44.5  
*Mission Page*

One unescorted merchant ship 032° 44' 014° 12' 118° 6½ knots at 2330B/12th.  
 (Capt. S. 10, 2342B/12 to P.44 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Operations in Madagascar.

Madagascar broadcast by Gov. General. Ref. C. in C. E.F. 1132Z/11/9 to Adnty. and G.O.C. in C. 1602Z of 11/9 to you. Take no action until further communication from us or C. in C. E.F. as strong possibility of misunderstanding. (G.O.C. in C. E. Africa, 0715/12 G.M.T. to W.O.)

Vichy Broadcast. Tananarive broadcast 0700 hours that French R/C aircraft reported having observed British troops at sea off Tulear. (E.A. Command, 0745/12 G.M.T. to G.O.C. in C. E.A., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Army Sitrep. Operations Madagascar 11/9.  
1, 2 and 3 Military.  
4. Morondava recalled.  
(G.O.C. in C. E.A., 0747 G.M.T./12.)

Vichy Attitude. Following from Grafftey Smith for S. of S. for War and S. of S. for F.A.  
(Begins):- E.A. Command 50633 11/9 (1230/11). Annet's dementi attributes allegations to "dissident", that is Fighting French, Broadcast.  
2. Annet included denial of request for aid from Japanese submarines in earlier declaration which was broadcast from Tananarive at 0900 G.M.T./10. Fighting French prisoners captured in abortive landing near Majunga before operations were presumably not in possession P.W.E. directives.  
(H.Q. Island Area (Diego Suarez), 1125/12 to G.O.C. in C. E.A.)  
War Office 64519 (M.O.11) (2302/10.)  
Following from Grafftey Smith for S. of A. for War and S. of S. for F.A.  
(Begins). If Annet can be persuaded to instruct civil officials to carry on their functions he may get up to 80% collaboration. If he has opportunity to instruct them not to work with us majority will down tools.  
2. Extreme shortage of British staff available imposes necessity of securing greatest possible measure of collaboration.  
3. I urgently recommend proclamation should not be issued before pressure can be exerted on Annet on lines of para. 3 of my 52373 of 7/9, preferably after armistice is concluded, to order civil officials to remain at their posts. Earlier publication may provoke instructions from him in contrary sense gravely embarrassing our task. (Ends.)  
(H.Q. Island Area, T.O.D. 1200/12 to G.O.C. in C. E.A.)

Movements. Majunga departure 12/9 1419 CROMER, CROMARTY, ROMNEY. LURCHER in company.  
(S.O. Force M, 1136/12 to Adnty., C. in C. E.F., etc.)

/Allied ...



12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.:-

Operations in Madagascar - Contd.

Allied  
Publicity.

As part of concerted campaign use following material in lightning releases on successive days until "Jane".

- (a) In spite of availability of 15" and 6" guns at Majunga no artillery fire of any sort was opened by us, whilst no French gun was fired at us.  
(b) We did not want cause French casualties which were very light at Majunga.  
(c) We never wanted and still do not want cause any French casualties in our operations in Madagascar which are a military necessity to us in view of importance of Mozambique Channel.  
(d) Contention responsibility for casualties which have occurred lies with Annet and such other senior French officials who prefer to sacrifice French lives.  
(G.O.C. in C. E.A., 1310/12 to Island Area, O.C. Troops Mauritius.)

Alleged  
Vichy  
Appeal  
to Japan.

My 1132Z/11th. This broadcast was only intercepted by Kilindini and not at Nairobi. Have you any confirmation from island sources?  
(C. in C. E.F., 1318Z/12 to S.O. Force M, (R) G.O.C. E.A., Admty.)

Force M  
Report.  
Operation  
"Jane".

1. 3 good tugs from Nosi Be arrived to assist in disembarkation.
2. Intend sailing with screen for Diego Suarez tomorrow. Convoy H with DAUNTLESS and screen sailed for "Jane".
3. Assault in "Jane" being amended, signal follows.
4. Unloading of 22nd East Africa making better progress.
5. Leading elements 22nd East Africa Brigade crossed Betsiboka bridge morning 12/9 and took 47 prisoners.
6. Aircraft over Ivato encountered light A/A fire.  
(S.O. Force M, 2003Z/12 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Limits:-General.

Dhow Scheme, Your 1403/8th. Intend to take up following  
Persian Gulf. craft for scheme: 15 sailing dhows, 3 auxiliary  
dhows, 2 auxiliary fishing boats.  
(2) Patrols will be as follows. A. Okha -  
Mekran coast. B. Okha - Khor Jarama. C. Muscat - Khor Jarama.  
(3) It is proposed to limit scheme to above number at present  
without prejudice to an increase later should it appear necessary?  
Comdre. R.I.N. pass to Cdr. Rott.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0601Z/12 to Comdre. R.I.N., (R) Admty., S.N.O.P.G.)

Air Sqdns., Your 245 T.O.O. 1214/8/9 and Air Ministry A2. 470  
location T.O.O. 1808Z/8/9. Organisation. For reasons  
and control. given in my 1248Z/21/8, I am unable to agree to  
the location of a Catalina Squadron at Calcutta  
at the expense of an additional Squadron in N.W.

India. The allocation of Catalina Squadrons given in A.M.  
2114/2 and my 1248Z/21/8 recapitulated as follows therefore  
stands. Durban, one; Ceylon, four; Kilindini, two; Madras,  
one; Mauritius, one; Diego Suarez, one; N.W. India, two.

2. I concur in Hudson G/R landplane Squadrons being based at  
Cuttack and in Ceylon.

3. Request I may be informed of proposed location of G/R  
Liberator and Wellington Squadrons.

4. Limits of group areas. Since it may be necessary to operate  
flying boats from Rodriguihd (? Rodriguez) propose that Eastern  
limit of 207 Group area should be 65° E. instead of 60° E.

5. As put forward in my 0815/8/8, to F.L.O. India, co-ordination  
of patrols in the Bay of Bengal and vicinity of Ceylon is  
essential for efficiency and economy of forces. I do not agree  
therefore that the northern limit of 222 Group in the Bay of  
Bengal should be 10° N. See also para. 7.

6. Administration. Since local operational control for day to  
day requirements will be exercised by local Group Commanders the  
administrative arrangements must be governed by this operational  
requirement. It is considered that one group cannot reasonably  
control the Squadrons in the northern part of Arabian Sea as well  
as the Madras Squadron in Bay of Bengal.

7. I consider it necessary for the Madras Squadron to be under  
operational control of and administered by 222 Group.

8. Propose that the Catalina Squadron in N.W. India (Jowani or  
Karachi) should be administered by 227 Group which is responsible  
for that part of Indian Ocean. The western limit of this group  
area to be the eastern limit of Middle East Command.

9. Operational control. Concur that the local operational control  
should be exercised by local Group Commanders to meet requirements  
of C. in C. E.F., F.O. or S.N.O. concerned.

10. Any long range patrols carried out in Bay of Bengal must be  
co-ordinated and for the reasons given in my 1815/8/8 suggest that  
A.O.C. Ceylon should be charged with this responsibility.

11. The placing of all long range aircraft under the operational  
control of 222 Group for large scale operations and strategic  
planning in accordance with requirements of C. in C. E.F. is in  
accordance with Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S. (India) 70 and is  
concurrent in.

(C. in C. E.F., 0849Z/12 to A.H.Q. India, (R) Admty., etc.)

/A.H.Q. ...



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd. -Air Sqdns.,  
location  
and control.  
(Contd.)

A.H.Q. India 245 8/9 and my 0849C/12/9.  
Request I may be informed:  
(a) Northern limit of 207 Group area.  
(b) Group areas covering the Gulf of Aden and Persian Gulf.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1435Z/12 to H.Q. R.A.F. M.E.,  
(R) A.H.Q. India, Admty., 222 Group, 207 Group, Air Ministry.) *Reply: HQ RAF ME, 1644/24/9.*

RAHMANI,  
AKBAR.

Com. R.I.N's 1143/9 (re - RAHMANI and AKBAR ready to sail for Suez and Aden, request JUMNA may be used as escort.) ?(Request you will) reply JUMNA will not be available. Next B.A. Convoy about 26/9.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0856Z/12 to Admty.)

DRESDEN  
(German)

C.A.F.O./422/40, ship No. 156 is believed to have sailed Indo-China 8/9, due Europe early November.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0903Z/12 to E.F.)

M.L.  
Flotillas.

In view of the small number of Fairmiles and H.P. motor launches in India it has been decided that, for administrative reasons, they will be formed into combined motor launch flotillas. It is proposed to allocate H.P. motor launch flotilla numbers and that numbers 121 and 122 as given in your 1603/8/4 will be allotted to the 2 flotillas assigned at Bombay.  
(2) If this is approved boat number will be signalled and it is requested 5 further flotilla numbers be allotted by you.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0929Z/12 to Admty.)

Persian Gulf  
Shipping.

A.M. 0046/18/8.  
Assembly of inward bound shipping for Persian Gulf.

(1) From evidence available it is certain that Masira would prove untenable during S.W. Monsoon and that for various other reasons it cannot be made into a satisfactory convoy assembly port.  
(2) I would therefore be glad of your views on Admty's suggestion to use Gulf of Kutch for this purpose.  
(3) It would appear that if practicable an anchorage in close proximity to port F would have many advantages by reason of the facilities you have provided and are providing for that port.  
(4) Requirements in first instance would be (A) external communications. If Port F is sufficiently close the communications envisaged in Plan R will suffice ultimately but meantime temporary arrangements may have to be made. (B) Shore Signal Station. (C) Accommodation and boats for N.C.S.O. and Staff. (D) Water supply and water boats. (E) Examination service and vessel.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0947Z/12 to F.O.C.R.I.N., (R) Admty., S.N.O. P.G., F.O. Ceylon.)



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

RESOURCE. RESOURCE urgently needs docking. Last docked March 1939. She also requires to replenish repair materials which can best be done at Durban and also some adjustments in complement. When could she be accepted for docking at Durban without dislocation to programme in my 0905/22/8.  
(C. in C. E.F., 0955Z/12 to C. in C. S.A., (R) F.O.E.A., etc.)

U/B. Suspected S/M reported at 1101Z/12 in 014° 53' N. 051° 08' E.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1449Z/12 to E.I. Stn.)

G.H.Q. 072580 GZ/47385 cipher 11/9. G.H.Q. Persia - Persia Iraq opens Baghdad 1200 hours G.M.T./15/9. - Iraq. Cables dispatched after 2359 hours 14 Sept. will be addressed to Baghdad. Until 25/9 only urgent matter should be sent.  
(C. in C. Persia and Iraq, 1505 G.M.T./12 to W.O., C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Suspected B.A.M.S. 3C. B.A.M.S. 7B. Ref. Admty. message U-Boat. A.F. 027° 23' S. 043° 39' E.  
(Adm. Mombasa, 1637Z/12.)  
Following has been read. S S S S CONGELLA periscope sighted 1500 hours lat. 27.23 S. long. 43.39 E.  
T.O.R. 1517 G.M.T./12.  
(Colombo W/T, no T.O.O./12.)  
S/M periscope sighted at 1500Z/12 in 027° 23' S. 043° 39' E.  
(C. in C. E.F., 1639Z/12 to E.I. Stn.)

P. 552. My 1210/8. P.552 will be attached to 4th S/M Flotilla, accounts being transferred to ADAMANT in first place.

2. Local arrangements for administration, pay, victuals and any necessary instructions should be made after P.552 has arrived on station.  
(D.A/S.W., 1741A/12 to C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N.)

A.K. Ref. 0905/8 from Commodore Aden (re propose using Convoys. letters A.K. for convoys Aden towards Kilindini) concur in use of letters A.K.  
(D.T.D., 1746A/12 to C. in C. E.F.)



War Diary.

12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

- U/B Following received from Valentia Radio. Intercept. S/M sighted 18.55 N., 75.00 W., at 1304 G.C.T./11 1741/11 (Ends). (C. in C. Plymouth, 0027/12 to Admty).
- PASTEUR. Your 0646/30/8 re PASTEUR. To assist Army Movements control in embarkation arrangements request you will state number of officers, sergeants and other ranks comprising guard destined for U.K. (N.S.H.Q., 0059Z/12 to D.S.T.O. Durban (R) D. of S.T.)
- U/B A.D.C. report sub 050° 50' N., 058° 57' W., at 2100Z/11 proceeding S.W. (C.O.A.C., 0130Z/12 to Admty).
- CHARLOTTETOWN, \*CLAYOQUOT landed 57 survivors from CHARLOTTETOWN. (torpedoed 10/9). *by U.S. 17.*
2. Regret to report Capt. Bonner, 5 members of crew, went down with ship and one since died.
  3. 16 hospital cases are not serious.
  4. All officers and men definitely accounted for.
  5. Ship hit by 2 torpedoes sank in 4 minutes
- 049° 12' N., 066° 48' W., at 1104/10. *? // - page 326*
6. Delay in CLAYOQUOT original report due to her W/T being out of action following her second attack which resulted in exceptionally heavy explosion and may indicate successful attack.
  7. Full report follows p.m. 12/9. (N.O.I.C. Gaspe, 0142C/12 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Admty etc).
- \* See p. 359.*
- Grain or Timber Ships. Your 2223Z/9. M.W.T. London are requesting Huband Montreal to make necessary diversions as usual for liners and ships allocated to load grain in order to comply with your para. 1 (a) and (b).
2. Ref. your para. 2 and 4 M. of W.T. request that owing to critical state of timber stocks in U.K. special arrangements be made for ships ex O.N.126 to 130 inclusive which have already been allocated to load timber at St. Lawrence ports to proceed in and out. Estimated number of such ships about 20.
  3. Would you agree to a small number of timber ships from convoys subsequent to O.N.130, say 1 ship ex fast O.N.S. and 3 ex slow O.N.S. loading St. Lawrence ports up to close of navigation?
  4. Presume Huband Montreal is aware of contents you 2223Z/9. (A.C.N.S. (T), 0222A/12 to N.S.H.Q.) Reply: N.S.H.Q., 0145/13.
- O.N.127 Ship in convoy torpedoed in 048° 29' N., 033° 52' again attacked. W. (T.U. 24.1.14, 0440Z/12 to C.T.F. 24.) O.N.127. Recommend direct route to close air cover. (A.C.N.S (T) 0905Z/12 to Connav).



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - cont.

O.N.127 My 0905/12. Request information earliest time again air cover available.  
 attacked. (A.C.N.S. (T), 1022A/12 to N.S.H.Q.)  
 Contd. Your 1022/12. to N.S.H.Q. which is being passed to C.T.F.24. Continuous air cover by R.C.A.F. from first light tomorrow Sunday.  
 (F.O.N.F., 1313Z/12 to Admty (R) C.O.A.C., C.T.F., 24., N.S.H.Q., Connav).  
 U/B in your vicinity by D/F has made a first sighting report of a convoy at 1111Z/14. 11068 k/cs per sec.  
 (Cominch, 1321/12 to ST. CROIX (R) C.T.24).  
 O.N. 127. Intend to sail Task Unit No. 24.18.2 less MONCTON at 2200Z/12 to relieve Task Unit No. 24.1.14. Destroyers to join before dark 13/9 and Corvettes at firstlight 14/9. MONCTON will be sailed as soon as ready.  
 (F.O.N.F., 1323Z/12 to C.T.F., 24 (R) Connav, Admty etc).  
 → My 1323/12 MONCTON will now sail with T.U. 24.18.2.  
 (F.O.N.F., 1810Z/12 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav, Admty etc).  
 Report in accordance with F.O.I.17 is as follows:-  
 (A) 1727Z/11 at 049° 31' N., 032° 20' W. 0124Z/12 at 048° 41' N., 033° 22' W. 0424Z/12 at (?48) 29' N., 33° 52' W. (B) 4 or 5.  
 (C) S/M sighted on surface during night attack.  
 (D) Following ships torpedoed and sunk. HEKTORIA 86 survivors, 1 drowned. EMPIRE MOONBEAM, 55 survivors, whole crew saved. HINDANGER, 39 survivors, 1 killed.  
 Following ships missing: (?ANTE)URITIS SVENSON, HARANGER. Following ship torpedoed but still in convoy, DANGHILD.  
 (F) 2 promising attacks on submarine by CELANDINE and ARVIDA, no definite knowledge resulted.  
 (G) (?CELANDINE) away but rejoining.  
 (H) Weather report.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1501Z/12 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav, Admty etc)  
 2 submarines sighted, 1 ahead, 1 astern convoy. 1 good contact attacked near convoy.  
 (C.T.U., 24.1.14, 1515Z/12 to C.T. 24 (R) Connav Admty etc).  
 → Task Unit 24.18.2 sail St. Johns (N.B.) 2200Z/12 to join O.N.127. Task Unit 24.18.3 sail St. John (N.B.) p.m./12 to join O.N.126.  
 (C.O.A.C., 1520Z/12 to Admty).  
 U-boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit 1248Z/12th. 7645 k/cs (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1538Z/12 to ST. CROIX, (R) C.T.24).  
 S/M sighted 1557Z/12 bearing 010° distance 9 miles. My position 047° 57' N., 036° 05' W.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.14., 1701Z/12 to C.T.F. 24. (R) Connav, Admty etc).  
 Your 0132/12. At 1400Z, my P.C. and S. 047.56, 035.42 270° 8.2 knots. Weather report.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1708Z/12 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).  
 Day attacks up to present have been made by one or two submarines coming from ahead. Have 4 escorts 3000 yards ahead of convoy today. This disposition appears to be effective.  
 (C.T.U. 24.1.18 (?14 intended) 1735Z/12 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...



War Diary.

12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/B  
Positions.

S/M estimate at 0800Q/12.  
(Comnaveu, 0946/12 to Admty).

DUC D'AUMALE  
French.

Arrival 12th.  
(Ciudad Trujillo, 1120/12 to M.W.T.)

U/B

Civilian plane reported S/M on surface at 1510Z  
today Kingston (Jamaica) ? 180° 90 miles course  
approx. 020° U.S. air stations informed.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1228Q/12 to Admty etc).

My 1228/12. R.N. Aircraft dropped 2 depth charges at 1530Q  
on bubble and oil streak 30 miles Plumb Point 160° result unknown.  
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 1639Q/12).

Division  
Symbol.

Your 1616/10 symbol received as NEGAT ZED. Admty.  
had already promulgated NEGAT XRAY on receipt of  
your agreement to my 1409/6.  
(D.T.D., 1243Z/12 to Connav).  
Your 1243Z/12 Regret coding error. Correcting to  
NEGAT XRAY as agreed.  
(Cominch C. and R., 1920Z/12 to Admty).

H.X.204

Average speed 9.1 knots. Fog on leaving, clearing  
later. AQUARIUS joined from S.C.97. Uneventful  
passage fair winds.  
(D.T.D., 1424Z/12 to Connav N.S.H.Q.)

ARABISTAN

Overdue Trinidad British ARABISTAN.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1501Q/12 to S.B.N.O.W.A.,  
B.A.D., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, F.O.C. Trinidad).

BROADWAY,  
SKEENA.

Admty. 1522/10 and C. in C. W.A. 2025/10. F.O.N.F.  
requests BROADWAY returns with Task Unit 24.1.13  
escorting O.N.131 leaving U.K. 16/9.  
2. If this is possible request SKEENA now in  
Task Unit 24.1.13 be taken in hand for fitting

R.D.F. type 271 and H/F 81 subsequently being sailed to St. Johns  
N.F. independently at best speed.

3. Request immediate reply if para. 1 is feasible and time  
required in U.K. to complete SKEENA.  
(N.S.H.Q., 1541Z/12 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty etc).

SAN ERNESTO

Your 1743/10 SAN ERNESTO arrived Colon 11th.  
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1614Q/12 to Admty (R) B.R.O.  
Colon).

U/B positions.

S/M estimate 12/9 and U.S. S/M notice.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1633/12, 1634/12, 1635/12,  
1636/12, 1637/12).



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12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

Navigation, Q.J.B. 77. ?St. Thomas Virgin Island. Searched  
St. Thomas. Channel. (1) one buoy in following positions  
marked eastern side of channel 350 yards wide  
to St. Thomas Harbour. (C) 18 mined 12.3 north  
64.55.6 West (B) 18.14.5 N. 64 55.5 W.  
(A) 18 190.4 N., 64 55.6 W.

(2) Searched channel leaving to West Gregerie Channel is 350  
yards wide and lie to westwards of line drawn in 043° direction  
from 018° 16' N., 065° 01' W., through Porpoise Rock and  
Gregerie Bank Lightbuoy.  
(N.O.I.C. Bermuda, 1642P/12).

S/M attack My 1715/11 CORNWALLIS, British, No. 2 Hold  
on Barbados. stokehold, engine room, and tunnel flooded, other  
compartments slight leakage. Discharging cargo  
by hand. Master BETANCURIA Norwegian willing to  
go alongside and take off maximum of 3,000 tons  
cargo if Notraship, New York agree. CORNWALLIS now lying afloat  
in shallow water.  
(Harbour Master, Barbados, 1657/12 to Admty (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. etc)

Gibraltar Your 1830/9. NORLYS (Pan) main steam generator  
convoy. burnt out estimated time for repairs 5 days  
BRITISH GOVERNOR (Br.) due tomorrow. R.F.A. ABBEY-  
DALE ready 15/9. CLIONA (Br). BRAJARA (Nor).  
ready to sail.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad, 1736Q/12 to Admty (R) C. in C.  
U.S. Fleet etc).

Westomp. Your 2108/11. Concur that it is desirable to  
move Westomp as far east as capabilities of  
Western Local Escort forces will allow. Presume  
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa will comment on this\*. Urgent  
consideration is also being given to question of  
fuelling escorts at sea.  
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1819A/12 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet,  
(R) N.S.H.Q. etc). \*See 1615/13.

SANTA Following is repetition Port Director New York's  
ISABEL. Special Movement Forecast 1332/11:-  
"Special Movement Class 1 SS. SANTA ISABEL carrying  
121 troops speed 16 knots routed independently  
New York to Liverpool. Expected departure New  
York 1100Z/12".  
(D.T.D., 1936A/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

U/B Submarine in 49.57 N., 63.30 W.  
(C.O.A.C., 1940Z/12 to Admty C. in C. W.A.)

/Sub....



War Diary.12.9.1942.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Sub. attack and sighting summary. Para. A. 3 unidentified torpedo, 2 48.51 N., 33 W., about 2359Z/11, 1 about 48.29 N., 33.52 W. 0440Z/12.  
SS. CORNWALLIS 1 torpedo hit 13.05 N., 59.37 W. about 2040Z/11, 4 torpedoes exploded in harbour net.

PBY 5A attacks sub on surface 17.40 N., 74.50 W., 0230Z/28. Submarine damaged.  
2 S/MS sighted about 40.30 N., 36 W., 1515Z/12.  
Sub. sighted 48.06 N., 36.05 W., 1557Z/12.  
Para. B. FJORDAAS reported missing believed torpedoed about 51.10 N., 29 W., 2315Z/10.  
R.A.F. plane attacks submarine 63.45 N., 23.25 W., 1523Z/10 4 hits claimed.  
SS. ROCHA sights S/M on surface about 34.11 N., 65.42 W., 1415Z/1/8. Pan American Airlines sights submarine on surface 38.20 N. 20.25 W., 1206Z/28/8 course 265.  
Sub. sighted 13.20 N., 60 W., 0900Z/11.  
CLAYOQUOT attacks submarine contact 49.12 N., 66.48 W., 1104Z/11. Submarine reported 13.05 N., 59.37 W., 2135Z/11. (U.S. 517-imp. 3263)  
PCSC 501 attacks sound contact 16.04 N., 81.39 W., 1625Z/18/6.  
\*PYC 40 attacks submarine contact area 41.45 N., 69.05 W. 2100Z/1/8 and 0110Z/2/8. \*CAPTOR. (uncont.) (4 hits) 2.13.1945.  
CHEVALIER attacks echo and propellor sound contact 19.50 N., 75.13 W., 1245Z/21/8.  
SS. GULFLAND and two patrol craft attacked periscope and wake 29.32 N., 93.18 W.  
Aircraft and two DD attack periscope 49.11 N., 51.04 W., 1840Z/26  
Plane attacks submarine 50.05 N., 64.40 W., 1856Z/11.  
Submarine sighted 18.55 N., 75. W 1304Z/11.  
A Shore watcher sights sub. about 50.25 N., 57.52 W. 1205Z/11.  
Submarine reported 50.50 N., 58.57 W., 2100Z/11 course 225.  
Panair plane sights submarine 19.30 N., 69.20 W. 1745Z/19 course 90. Panair plane sights submarine on surface 16.28 N., 76.48 W. 1510Z/12.  
PD. Air and surface craft attack magnetic contact 40.18 N., 73.50 W., 2040Z and submerged submarine 40.23 N., 73.46 W., 2003Z/11.  
Sound contact 1815Z/11 my 2136/11 doubtful.  
(Cominch, 2051Z/12 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.)

G.N.1 Convoy G.N.1. arrived New York 12/9.  
(B.R.O. New York, 2114Z/12 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q., S.B.N.O.W.A., S.O.(I) Jamaica).

K.P.101 Convoy K.P.101 arrived.  
(B.R.O. New Orleans 2130Z/12 to Admty).

South Atlantic Task Force 23 has been assigned title South Atlantic Force Atlantic Fleet short title Solantfor. Task Force designation is unchanged and no change in existing command relations is involved.  
(B.A.D., 2247Z/12 to Admty).



War Diary.

12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

U/B Shore watcher reports submarine in Trepassey Bay at 2100Z/12.  
(C.O.A.C., 2330Z/12 to Admty).

PATRICK J. Following has been read. C.F.S.7 de ZMWA (not  
HURLEY. known) Here S O S from WHSY (PATRICK J. HURLEY)  
shelled. Shelled psn. 22.53 N., 47.12 W, at 2345 G.M.T./12.  
(Gibraltar W/T, No T.O.O./13).

Australia & New Zealand.

Sydney My 1030/17/. Berthing plans for Fleet. Details.  
(A.C.N.B., 0200Z/12 to Admty. B.A.D) See Lion Copy

Situation. Digest Serial No.233, 11/9. Air R/C Buin Faisi  
Tonolei Harbour area 2300Z/10 reported nil  
shipping sightings. 5 enemy boatplanes attempted  
interception.

2. 1 Supply ship, 1 destroyer reported proceeding west from Buin 0500Z/11 but nil shipping this area 0700Z/11. Natives report enemy establishing Base ashore Buin where new houses being built and 15 Motor transports observed.
3. 2 heavy Cruisers reported eastward of Buka Passage proceeding south at high speed 2232Z/10 and 2 heavy Cruisers, 1 probable Aircraft Carrier, reported proceeding south same area at 2130Z/10 2 Dyall merchant vessels reported arrived Buka Passage from N.W. at 2319Z/10 unloading cargo.
4. Air R/C Buka area 2220Z/10, reported 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer 4° 40' S., 154° 23' E. course 85° Also 2 Cargo vessels N.W. Coast Bougainville Island just south of Buka passage.
5. Air R/C Rabaul area morning 11/9. reported approx. 30 vessels Rabaul Harbour including 2 light cruisers, 3 probable Seaplane tenders, 5 destroyers, 3 medium transports, 7 medium cargo vessels 3 Gunboats, 1 large submarine, more than 60 landing barges, 7 Floatplanes, 6 Flying boats, 2 cargo vessels vicinity Rabaul. 24 heavy bombers, 6 fighters Lakunai aerodrome.
6. 6 Marauders and 15 Bostons attacked Buna aerodrome 11/9 scoring hits on Runway Dispersal Bays A.A. positions and causing fires. At least 3 aircraft destroyed, other burnt out aircraft observed on ground and camouflaged aircraft in blast Bays. Also indications additional landing strip.
7. Enemy strength Buna Efogi area estimated locally at 2 regiments, 1 forward 1 in reserve. Allied forces holding line Nauro area.
8. 1 Boston attacked enemy positions Efogi area 11/9 scoring hit on ammunition dump.



# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE IN

0200Z/12/September.

From A.C.N.B.

Date 13.9.42.

NAVAL CYPHER XD by Cable

Time 0804.

Addressed Admiralty, B.A.D. Washington, repeated C.S.W.P.F.,  
C.in C. Eastern Fleet and Deputy C.in C. Eastern  
Fleet.

*Sydney Harbour Berthing.*

802. My 1030/17 March berths alongside are available now but include 25 per cent of overseas commercial wharves. Reference Admiralty 0213Z/21 March not to B.A.D. Washington two first class moorings have been received from U.S. and will be laid by local resources in positions east and west of Clarke Island. Complete plan will then be available, capital ship and/or Carrier berths being two at buoys, three moored, six above bridge (in Walsh and White Bays) and two at Woolloomooloo.

2. Further consideration indicates that to reduce interference with commercial berthing and improve dispersion ships can be berthed as follows.

<u>Class of ship</u>	<u>Alongside existing wharves</u>	<u>Moored in the stream</u>	<u>Moored at Dolphin. Berths to be constructed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Battleship	4	2	3	9
Aircraft Carrier	2	nil	2	4
Cruisers	2	3	5	10
Submarines	10	nil	nil	10
Depot & Repair ships	3	nil	nil	3
Fleet Minesweepers	various berths as convenient total 16			16
destroyers	will be dealt with separately total 24			24

3. Capital ship and/or Carrier berths at existing wharves include Walsh Bay two Woolloomooloo three. Refitting berth at new dock one. (Completes late 1943)

4. All berths except two at Walsh Bay are below bridge.

5. New DOLPHIN berths will each consist of four groups of DOLPHINS to following specification.

<u>Number of berth</u>	<u>Length in feet minimum</u>	<u>Length in feet maximum</u>	<u>Depth in feet at L.W. OS.</u>
1 to 5 inclusive	620	890	41
6 to 10 inclusive	450	635	27

6. DOLPHIN berths are to be located as follows. Chart no. 1069 number one Fort Denison North western side. Number two. Shell Cove Eastern side number three. Robertson Point western side. southward of No. two. Number four. Robertson Point Eastern side. Number five. Bradley Head Western side. Number six. Neilsen Park Southward of Shark Point. Number seven. Rose Bay Eastward of Woolahra Point. Number eight. Clarke Island Western side. Number nine. Little Sirius Cove Eastern side. Number ten. Neutral Bay South West side.



- 7. Estimated time for completing DOLPHIN berths six months and all necessary material is available locally. Reduction in commercial wharfage would then be 14 per cent.
- 8. Specification in para five above includes provision for largest United States Vessels.
- 9. Owing to shortage of suitable tugs in Australia at least two additional tugs suitable for berthing considered essential
- 10. Request remarks as to whether new DOLPHIN berths should be provided and whether assistance in the provision of tugs can be given.

0200Z/12.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep 1st S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Controller
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F) (2)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- Civil Lord
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.O.D.(H) (2)
- D.C.(2)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.A./S.W.
- Hd. of M.(2) for action
- D. of L.D.(3)
- D.T.S.D.
- Hydrog (2)
- D. of N.
- Staff Charts
- D. of D.
- D. of S.
- N.A. to A.C.N.S.(T)
- D.N.C.
- V.C.F.
- C.C.R.T.
- D. of P.(Q)
- Ad. Blake
- Ad. Bellairs
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Dept Cont
- D. of D.
- D.N.C.
- D.A./S.W.
- Hd. of S.W.R.
- C.E. in C.

} Bath



War Diary.

12.9.1942.  
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation  
Contd.

9. 2 enemy destroyers sighted by Air R/C Trobriands area noon 11/9 proceeding south, later attacked off Normanby Island by 5 Fortresses and 6 Hudsons. Direct hit one 500 pound bomb on stern of leading Destroyer which was later reported down by stern burning and stationary. This unit last sighted 0725Z/11 off Normanby Island with other Destroyer standing by, rafts and personnel in water.  
10. Enemy Cruiser also sighted Air R/C 8° 35' S., 153° E. afternoon 11/9, course 180°  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0847Z/12 to Admty etc).

NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM.

Your 1541/8. Confirm acceptance. Request (?first) date arrival New Zealand be signalled when known in order escort arrangements to Middle East may be made.  
(N.Z.N.B., 0957M/12 to Admty).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Positions approximate.  
(D.D.I.C., 1500A, 1502A/12).



War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy P.Q. 18 was continually reported by A/C and S/M shadowers today. At 1001A today Capt. D.8. (with R.A.D. H.F.'s Force B. SCYLLA, FAULKNER, FURY, IMPULSIVE, INTREPID, MARNE, MARTIN, METEOR, MILNE). in 75° 52' N., 7° 55' E. reported that the Russian STALINGRAD and the American OLIVER ELLSWORTH had been torpedoed; and at 1530 R.A.D. H.F. reported 10 more ships of the convoy lost as the result of an attack by 37 torpedo bomber A/C. The convoy was unsuccessfully attacked at dusk by an unknown number of torpedo bombers. Frequent R/C of Altafiord during today showed HIPPER, SCHEER, KÖLN and 2 destroyers still there; but TIRPITZ has not yet been located.

Convoy Q.P.14 consisting of 18 merchant ships (of which one returned with steering trouble) including 2 rescue ships left Archangel at 1600 today.

V.A. 2 reported being sighted by aircraft today, after which he altered course from North easterly and proceeded west and north of Jan Mayen.

A Hudson aircraft attacked a U-boat today about 170 miles N.N.W. of Muckle Flugga; oil and debris were seen.

R.A.M. left Port Z.A. at 1030A with the 1st M.L. Squadron to carry out Operation S.N.65 A; but was recalled at 2228A at the suggestion of C. in C. H.F. in view of the present U-boat dispositions.

Three moored mines were detonated in Lyme Bay today.

North Atlantic.

U-boats

There is no evidence in Admty. of a movement of German U-boats through the Straits of Gibraltar into Mediterranean except the apparent withdrawal from Lisbon area of the 1 or 2 U-boats which operated there on 3/9, and an abnormal amount of W/T activity from an area south of Azores and west of Madeira on 11/9 and 12/9.



War Diary.13 9.1942.  
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports that in air attack on Crimea ports the Russian mainland aircraft sank 5 minesweepers and a depot ship.

East Indies.

Mauritius

The behaviour of controlled mines and guard loops at Grand Port, Mauritius, is not yet entirely satisfactory, and until the boom defences are laid the harbour cannot be regarded as a safe anchorage.

Madagascar.

G.O.C. in C. E. Africa has landed at Majunga and communications for him are to be sent via EREBUS, who remains as S.N.O. afloat, Majunga. Disembarkation of the force at Majunga was greatly assisted by the arrival of 4 captured tugs from Nosi Be. At the latter place all is quiet and French co-operation increasing. Trade is re-opening and the sugar factory working.

Commodore (D) in NAPIER reports no opposition whatever to Operation "Tamper" (diversionary landing at Morondava), which has now been recalled.

America & West Indies.

Attacks on  
O.N.127  
(continued).

At 1248Z, C.T.U. 24.1.14 reported that 4 torpedoed ships in O.N.127 should proceed to St. Johns N.F. tonight for temporary repairs, and on the arrival of T.U. 24.18.2 (which is relieving 24.1.14) he proposes to detach these ships with AMHERST and SHERBROOKE as escorts. He thinks HEKTORIA (torpedoed 2300Z/11) in 48.53 N., 32.54 W., is possibly still afloat, but when last seen was listing heavily (Ship was reported sunk on 14/9).

Heavy  
sinkings in  
West Indies  
T.A.G.5  
attacked.

U-boats are active to the eastward and westward of Trinidad. OCEAN VANGUARD was sunk at 0040Z today in 10° 43' N., 60° 11' W., NIMBA at 0500Z in about 040° N., 60° 15' W; STANVAC MELBOURNE at 0805Z yesterday in 10° 30' N., 60° 20' W (or 30") and WOENSDRECHT in 10° 27' N., 60° 17' W. yesterday. (WOENSDRECHT was hit in Trinidad in the morning, considerably damaged.) (R.S.R.)

/West...



War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies -contd.-

Heavy  
sinkings in  
West Indies  
T.A.G.5  
Attacked.  
continued.

West of Grenada SURINAME, EMPIRE LUGARD and  
VILJA in Convoy T.A.G.5 were torpedoed and the  
two former sunk in approx. 12° 15' N., 63° 42' W.  
about 0600Z today: VILJA proceeded to Trinidad  
under her own power.

Australia & New Zealand.

Nine Fortresses attacked an enemy light cruiser  
and a destroyer at 0245Z today in 5° 58' S.  
152° 7' E. (New Britain area) but failed to hit  
them. Four transports were reported to be about  
25 miles north of this position at the time of  
attack.



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War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Eagle  
Ships for  
Methil.

Request you will nominate two Eagle Ships from your command for protection of Methil Convoy anchorage. BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN now at Methil would probably be transferred your command on arrival there of above two Eagles and her proposed allocation should be stated in your reply.  
(D.L.D.1510A/13 to C. in C.Nore).

STEGEHOLM.

Swedish Vessel STEGEHOLM eastbound speed 15 knots expects to arrive Faeroes a.m./15th for Gothenburg. Ship is not to be molested if met on recognized route.  
(F.O.S. 1546A/13 to S/Ms).

M.T.B.48.

A.M. 1411/27/6. M.T.B 48 is able to operate favourably with boats of the 5th or 6th M.T.B Flotillas. Request her retention at Dover until another boat is re-allocated to replace M.T.B 43. lost in action.  
(V.A.Dover 1652A/13 to Admty).

R.M.L.  
allocations.

The following "B" type M.Ls building for Air Sea Rescue and to be known as R.M.Ls are allocated as follows:  
R.M.Ls.537, 540, 544 and 546 forming the 66th R.M.L Flotilla to Larne.  
R.M.Ls 520, 538, 547, and 552 forming the 67th R.M.L Flotilla to Peterhead.  
R.M.Ls 548, 549, 550 and 553 forming the 68th R.M.L Flotilla to Blyth.  
R.M.Ls 545, and 551 to complete the 64th R.M.L.Flottilla at Milford Haven.  
2. R.A.C.F. is requested to arrange for R.M.Ls to be sailed to their operating ports after equipping.  
(D.D.O.D.(C) 1903A/13).

Technical  
information  
for Russia.

Admiralty's 2004C/10/8. Present policy of non-disclosure of R.D.F. information (see Admty's 1904 2nd April) is making liaison with Russians increasingly more difficult.  
2. It is no longer possible for my officers to reply evasively when asked questions as Russians technically on this subject are no fools. They have seen:  
A. Ships fitted with aerials for latest types W.A.R., G.S., G.A. G.C., and W.C. sets.  
B. Catalinas with A.S.V. and have been given full information on CD/CHL G.L. and M.R.U.sets.  
3. Salt tells me incidentally that:  
C. Russian standard maintenance of A.A.Artillery sites better than ours.  
D. Russian A.A. Predictor better than ours.

/4. When...



War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy - Contd.:

Technical information for Russians. Contd.

4. When told we cannot discuss these other sets their natural inference is that we do not trust them and they resent this.

5. I understand it is highly probable that a direct request for supply of some of your latest naval sets may shortly be made.

6. In meantime in order to help Russians increase efficiency of A.A. defences Archangel I have approved data from R.D.F. plots in our A.A. ships being given by telephone to Russians. I would like also to suggest that we might supply them with some S.L.C. sets particularly for use there and at Murmansk as the preservation of these supply ports is obviously most important.

7. Request therefore early decision on Admiralty's 2004A/10/8 and that this may include naval sets as well as ground sets. (30 Mission, Moscow T.O.C. Nil Recd. 0010/13).

Movements.

ADHERENT. Reykjavik departure ADHERENT escorted by KIRKELLA at 2340/12 in accordance with A.M. 1815/11. p. 307 (A.C.I.C. 0020A/13). *See also p. 370.*

A.B.D. XVII Onward route.  
A. 269° Cape Wrath 18 miles.  
B. 60° 22' N. 10° 58' W.  
C. 63° 01', 21° 25', thence to Reykjavik. (C. in C.W.A. 0721A/13).

SVOLVAER. <sup>N.T. N.D.</sup> My 2006/12. Sailed SVOLVAER. (N.O.I.C. Oban 0729A/13).

AGASSIZ. Leave convoy and proceed to Londonderry. (C. in C.W.A. 0913A/13 to AGASSIZ). Arrived AGASSIZ. (Cdre. Londonderry 1100A/13).

STURGEON. F.O.S. 2319/12.  
OTUS. 1. Intend to sail STURGEON escorted by PRESTON  
P. 217. NORTHEND 1900A/14 for Scapa routed (A) 087° Sumburgh Head 5 miles. (B) 092° Fair Isle 4 miles, thence Switha Gate. E.T.A. there 0800A/15.  
2. A.C.O.S. is requested to arrange fighter protection for passage to Scapa. Speed of Advance 10 knots. Help Message on 385 K/Cs.  
3. On arrival at Scapa A.C.O.S. is requested to sail LOCH MONTEITH. STURGEON and OTUS in accordance with \*F.O.S. 2319/12 and \*Capt. (S) 3rd 1433/10. *\* N.T. N.D.*  
(S.O.S/M Lerwick 0951A/13).  
Sailed P. 217, OTUS, escorted by WHITE BEAR in accordance with Capt(S) 3's 1433/10. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1606A/13).

/ESKDALE...



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War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

ESKDALE. Proceed passing Switha at 1600A today to Portsmouth via Minches.. Route.  
2.Adjust your speed to arrive Portsmouth 1600A/15.  
(R.A.D.1215A/13 to ESKDALE).

P.311. Sailed P.311 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER in accordance with Capt.(S) 3's 0943A/9.  
(N.O.I.C.Greenock 1314A/13).

CHASSEURS 42 and 43. C. in C.W.A. 1719A/13. <sup>INTEND</sup> VIKING BANK detailed for this duty.  
EMPIRE (F.O.I.C.Milford Haven 1835/13).  
WARLOCK. A.M. 1743A/20/8. Weather permitting intend sailing tug EMPIRE WARLOCK towing CHASSEURS 43 and 42 on 14/9.  
Code word of Group "Burner."  
(F.O.I.C.Milford Haven 1929A/13)

ORIBI. Sailed ORIBI for Scapa. E.T.A. 1530A/14.  
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 1948A/13).

HOLCOMBE. On completion of satisfactory trials on 17/9 request you will sail HOLCOMBE for Scapa to work up.  
(D.O.D.(H) 2204A/13 to F.O.I.C.Greenock).

Operations.

Patrols. C. in C.Nore's 2244A/12. Patrol cancelled owing to weather. Destroyers return independently to Rough. SHEARWATER rejoin her convoy.  
(Capt.S.21 0101A/13).

Patrol tonight. 1. A. SHELDRAKE, 1 B.SHEARWATER, 2. ATHERSTONE 3 and A/A escort for F.N.212. QUORN, 4 HAMBLEDON, 5 COTTESMORE, 6. MEYNELL.  
(C. in C.Nore 1004A/13).

M.Ls. 491, 155 and 159 are to patrol S3 from 2000 today, leaving patrol at daylight 14th and returning to Dartmouth.  
Codeword "Cloak 7".

2. Object to intercept and destroy E-Boats minelaying or threatening P.W.217.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1501A/13 and 1747A/13 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Your 1301/13. Intend sailing "Cloak 7" at 1830/13.  
(N.O.I.C.Dartmouth 1549/13th to C. in C. Plymouth).

Interception C. in C.W.A. 1810/12. KYLECLARE should be intercepted and taken to Liverpool for search.  
Routed south of inland by Q.Z.L.18.

C. in C.Plymouth is requested to arrange for CHESTERFIELD to place armed guard on board KYLECLARE if met, failing which C. in C.W.A. is requested to arrange for KYLECLARE to be intercepted near her probable land fall, but outside territorial waters.

/CHESTERFIELD's.



War Diary.

13.9.1943.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception of KYLE CLARE. Contd. CHESTERFIELD's commitment laid down in C. in C.W.A. 2026/9 para.3 should not be interfered with. (D.O.D.(H) 1324A/13).

Your 1810A/12. CHESTERFIELD sails 0900/14 routed through positions.

W. 270° Longships 4. X. 050° 06' N. 010° 50' W. P.049° 10' N. 012° 20' W. to R/V positions (a) vide C. in C.W.A. 2026A/9. CHESTERFIELD will endeavour to intercept KYLE CLARE in the vicinity of position (p) and send into Milford Haven under armed guard provided by R.N.Barracks Plymouth but will abandon search in time to reach R/V (a) as ordered.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1427A/13 to C. in C.W.A.);

My 1427A/13 last para. For Milford Haven read Liverpool. Armed guard have instructions to prohibit use of W/T and to enforce darkening ship.

(C. in C.Plymouth 2327A/13 to C. in C.W.A.).

Admty's 1324/13.

Request you sail P.C.74 to intercept KYLE CLARE routed as in N.C.S.O.Lisbon 1147/11. P.C.74 should intercept KYLE CLARE before dark on 15/9 and escort her to Liverpool under armed guard. CHESTERFIELD, ULLSWATER, and VICTRIX are co-operating in search but will proceed in execution of previous orders after KYLE CLARE has been intercepted. C. in C.Plymouth is requested to signal any further orders to P.C.74.

(C. in C.W.A. 2350A/13 to N.O.I.C.Milford Haven, C. in C. Plymouth). \* See below (op: "Inspiration")

Faroes  
M.L.Patrol.

My 1108/12. Weather permitting M.Ls are to remain on patrol until daylight 14th adjusting positions to intercept S/M reported in my 1324A/13. S/M submerged on being sighted. (A.C.O.S. 1337/13 to N.O.I.C.Faroes).

Operation  
"Inspiration"

Your 1957/12. Estimated P.C.S. at 0600/14, 49° 00' N. 10° 37. 2' W., course 65°, 5 knots. ULLSWATER in tow of CLEVELAND with fouled propeller. (CLEVELAND 2345A/13 to C. in C. Plymouth). See p.371

Mining.

East Coast  
Sweep.

Your 2150A/12. Intend to sail 0630/13, search in H.Formation double Oropesa from West to East, between 0830 and 0945.

If no mines found leave by A.M.QZS.311 arriving 4 Buoy at 1245. Then by A.M.QZS.344 and inshore route, arriving Sunk 1700. (9th M.S. 0014A/13 to C. in C.Nore).

S.N.65A.

R.A.M.L. sailed in SOUTHERN PRINCE with ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, BRIGHTON, CHARLESTOWN, LANCASTER, NEWARK. (N.O.I.C.Port Z.A. 1030A/13).

In view of present U-Boat dispositions I strongly recommend that S.N.65.A laying should be postponed and 1st M/L Squadron

/Should....



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.S.N.65A.  
Contd.

should return to base.  
(C. in C.H.F.2011A/13 to Admty).  
Act in accordance with C. in C.H.F.2011A/13.  
(D.C. 2228A/13 to R.A.M).

M.S.N.3.  
Part 1.

Expect to complete Dan fixing 1700 today, meeting  
you Broad Bay 0200A/14.  
PLOVER will proceed Loch Ewe for fuel when Force  
"A" sails, rejoining as soon as possible.  
(SCOTT 1355A/13 to M.S.15).

R.A.(M) 0904/7th and 1620/10th. Intend leave Port Z.A.  
1230/14.R/V in Broad Bay 1930/14, and commence sweeping 0800/15,  
probably continuing until p.m./19th.  
(15th M/S 2004/13 to Admty).

Lyme Bay  
Sweep.

Your 1834A/12. Arrived.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1537A/13 to N.O.I.C.Dartmouth).

Western  
Channel  
Sweep.

Intend sailing with 5 ships and two trawlers at  
0930 tomorrow to continue clearance of Northern  
end of Q.Z.X.787, and intend 4th M.S.F. to remain  
in harbour to carry out necessary storing and  
maintenance repairs.  
(13th M.S. 1755A/13 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Following received today from M.S.13 begins:-

Clearance of north end of QZX 787 extended to a line joining  
positions: 50° 15' 42" N. 03° 06' 48" W; 50° 20' 48" N. 03° 17' 50" W.  
One mine detonated in sweep in position 50° 20' 42" N. 03° 16' 30" W.  
Ends.

From PANGBOURNE begins:-

Southern limit of area swept to date a line joining positions:-  
50° 16' 36" N. 03° 24' 18" W. and 50° 10' 45" N. 03° 31' 12" W.

Two mines cut today in positions.

50° 14' 20" N. 03° 27' 24" W and 50° 14' 06" N. 03° 27' 45" W.

One exploded and the other sunk by gunfire. One ship parted sweep  
near these positions, one ship recovered conical float with static  
cutters. Ends.

(N.O.I.C.Dartmouth 2304A/13 to Admty).

Enemy Intelligence.Tanker  
and  
?ERMLAND.

My 1042/10. "Altmark" Class tanker was sighted at  
1805A/11 in 43° 47' N. 8° 12' W, when she altered  
course from 300° to 070°. This tanker was  
subsequently sighted at 0645A/12 in 43° 38' N 5°  
00' W. and is believed to have again returned to a  
Biscay port.

2. At. 1805A/10.Sept. a medium sized merchant ship in position 43°  
N.15° W., steering 235°, 10 knots, fired at a Catalina which is  
since missing. Vessel was probably outward-bound blockade-breaker  
ERMLAND.

(D.D.I.C. 1909A/13).



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War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. Am over enemy S/M in 44° 51' N. 9° 36' W. When first sighted S/M was on surface and observed to submerge on a course 077°, speed 10 knots. (A/C 19th Group 1410A/13).

By D/F at 1324Z/13. U-Boat within 60' of 55° 40' N. 31° W.  
By D/F at 1347Z/13. U-Boat within 60' of 55° 20'. 33° W. (D.D.I.C. 1534A/13).

At 1529Z/13 U/Boat transmitted probable sighting report. (D.D.I.C. 1718A/13 to Escorts O.N.128 and H.X. 206).  
Periscope sighted by ship in approx 054° 17' N. 057° 50' W. at 0800/13. (C.O.A.C. 1817Z/13 to Admty.).

Following U-Boats have been sighted on 18th Group A/C:-

- (a) 062° 20' N. 002° 40' W., course unknown, at 1935/12.
- (b) 063° 18' N. 004° 03' W., course 270°, at 1225/13.
- (c) 062° 13' N. 002° 10' W., course 230°, at 1302/13.
- (d) 061° 43' N. 002° 20' W., course 230°, at 1636/13.

(C. in C.Rosyth 1829A/13 to R.A.M)

U/Boat attacked. Am over Enemy S/M in 61° 43' N. 2° 20' W. S/M sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (Fleet Flag 1636/13 to Admty).  
Have attacked with depth-charges. When first sighted S/M was on a course 230°. Speed unknown. (Fleet Flag 1650/13 to Admty)

Navigational.

18 B Buoy and 57 Buoy. 18 B buoy is extinguished and 57 buoy irregular flash every 17 seconds. (WALLACE 2105A/13).  
57 Buoy light extinguished. (VANITY 2216A/13).

Casualties & Defects.

EMPIRE OIL (Convoy O.N.127). Reykjavik departure ADHERENT escorted by KIRKELLA at 2340/12 in accordance with A.M.1815/11. *p.307.* (A.C.I.C. 0020/13). *See p.366.*

CLARISSA RADCLIFFE. Your 2005A/12. Proceed with tow to Liverpool. (F.O.I.C.Greenock 0145A/13 to NIMBLE).  
E.T.A.Bar Light Vessel 1200A/14. Request harbour tugs and pilot. (NIMBLE 1820A/13).

SODALITY. SS.SODALITY broken down near 62 Buoy. Has been ordered to return to Humber when defect is made good. Tug ATTENTIF standing by. Request escort may meet her. (VERSATILE 1625A/13).

BRANDON. Encountered BRANDON stopped with defective bottom-end main engine. Have resumed overtaking

/course...



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War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

BRANDON.  
Contd. course in company but his maximum safe speed now 13 knots. P.C.S. 055° 30' N. 009° 40' W. 264°, 13 (DAUPHIN 1730Z/13 to C.T.U.24.1.12).

BUSTLER. <sup>1/17.2.42</sup> My 1901A/13. Tug BUSTLER has developed defects. Estimated time for repairs three days. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2051A/13 to Admty).

ULLSWATER. ULLSWATER in tow of CLEVELAND with fouled propellor (CLEVELAND 2345A/13). *See p. 368.*

Shipping & Convoys.

DUCHESS OF BEDFORD.  
MONARCH OF BERMUDA. My 0119/1. Request confirmation that DUCHESS OF BEDFORD and MONARCH OF BERMUDA will be completed and ready to embark personnel on 20/9. (D.S.T. 0014A/13).

VICEROY OF INDIA. My 0119/1. Request confirmation that VICEROY OF INDIA will be completed and ready to embark personnel on 20/9. (D.S.T. 0015A/13);

P.Q.18.Q.P.14. In view of H.Q.C.C. 1939A/12 cancel my 1625A/12. STALINGRAD (D.O.D.(H) 0107A/13 to S.B.N.O. North Russia,(R) C. in C.H.F. H.Q.C.C.).  
and OLIVER D/F of U-Boat transmissions at 2230Z/12 and ELLSWORTH 2315Z/12 suggest that P.Q.18 or associated Forces torpedoes. may have been reported and is possibly being shadowed.

(D.D.I.C. 0218A/13 to A.I.G.47).

Patrol "Flora 6" is being flown 0630 till 1230, "Flora 5" 0730 till 1200, Flora 1, 2,3, and 4 0830 till 1600, Flora 6,7,8, 1130 till 1930, Flora 3,4,5, 1430 till 2030. Anti-sub patrol between 061° 40' N 003° E. and 063° N. 044° E. is being flown 0930 till 1100.

(C. in C.Rosyth 0627A/13 to C. in C.H.F.).

A.M. 0218A/13. Further transmission at 0535Z/13 suggest that shadowing continues.

(D.D.I.C. 0759A/13 to A.I.G.47).

Failing adequate information from P.R.U. cross-over patrol should be maintained from 1600A today.

(C. in C.H.F. 0950A/13 to Admty).

Pass to Polgarno begins - For C.L.O S.B.N.O. North Russia, repeated 30 Mission. P.R. Narvik will not be flown today from U.K. My A.C.211/12/9 flight postponed Vaenga estimate unfit. No arrival signals received for 210 Squadron 0952A/13. Ends.  
(18th Group 0955A/13 to Admty).

/at...



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War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - ~~contd.~~

P.Q.18, Q.P.14, At 0855A STALINGRAD and OLIVER ELLSWORTH torpedoed. STALINGRAD Convoy being reported by many aircraft and S/M and shadows. My P.C.S. at 1000A, 075° 52' N. 007° OLIVER ELLSWORTH (? 55'), E. 070°, 7½ knots. torpedoes. (Capt.D.8 1001A/13 to C. in C.H.F. R.A.D., H.F.). Contd. Due to 3 aircraft arriving overdue for inspection essential that additional aircraft be flown Gryaznaya direct with utmost despatch.

(R.A.F. North Russia 1007A/13 to 18th Group).  
→ My 1624/12 para. (G). Add at 0001/14 S/Ms move so as to be in Zones K.72 K.73 K.74 K.75, K.76, K.77 and K.78 respectively at 1200/14.

(F.O.S. 1046A/13 and 1526A/13 to Admty).

Appreciation here is that if TIRPITZ is to be employed against P.Q.18, ship will leave Narvik today proceeding outside Lofotens to Altafiord. Am despatching visual R/C on probable route at Once. Aircraft landing Vaenga returning 14th and to do R/C. Altafiord Narvik on way back. Please arrange for R/C Altafiord a.m.14/9 in event failure of our aircraft.

(A.O.C. in C.C.C. 1100A/13 to A.C.H.Q. Polyarno, 18th Group, (R) C. in C.H.F.).

Admiralty 0107A/13. Cannot trace H.Q.C.C.1939A/12.

Meantime consider main task frequent R/C Kten Fiord and lead to North. R/C lead to South and Narvik will be made as soon as weather and aircraft situation permit.

(R.A.F. North Russia 1100A/13 to Admty).

→ At 0001/14 S/Ms are to commence a move to occupy undermentioned zones at 1200/14. TIGRIS to K.78, TRIBUNE to K.77, UREDD to K.76, P.No.54 to K.75, P.No.221 to K.74, P.No.45 to K.73, UNIQUE to K.72.

(F.O.(S) 1114A/13 and 1519A/13).

On arrival off Akureyri V.A.2 is requested detach BRAMHAM to Hawfiord. CELEROL is to be prepared to proceed with BRAMHAM as additional oiling force if required.

2.BROKE will replace BRAMHAM in battle fleet screen.

(C. in C.H.F. 1144A/13 to V.A.2., C.S.18).

R/C of Altafiord at 1130A/13 showed no change since 11/9.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1414A/13 to Admty (R) C. in C.H.F.).

Pass to Polyarno begins for C.L.C. S.B.N.O. North Russia and Vaenga repeated 30 Mission. One P.R.U. Mosquito D A/B 1358 A/STL Vaenga 1910 (1930) A/13. Ends.

(18th Group 1450A/13 to Admty).

Estimated position of P.Q.18 at 0800/14 will be 076° 00' N. 019° 20' E.

(F.O.(S) 1519A/13 to S/Ms).

R/V in 067° 40' N. 019° 55' W. at 0700A/15.

(C.S.18 1531A/13 to AMAZON). *In next page*

→ Positions of S/Ms at 0800A/14 and movements for following 24 hours:-

(A) UNIQUE, P.45. P.221, P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE, and TIGRIS passing through Zones K 71, K 72, K73, K 74, K 75, K 76, and K 77 respectively to be in zones K 72, K 73, K 74, K 75, K 76, K 77, and K 78 respectively at 1200/14.

(B) RUBIS 67° 20' N. 07° 55' E, probably on surface to 69° 59' N. 11° 45' E, thence dived by day to patrol vicinity 70° N, 14° E.

(C) JUNON vicinity 66° 40' N. 11° 56' E.

(F.O.(S) 1606A/13).

A.M. 1228A/11. R/C of Altafiord at 1130A/13 shows no change.

(D.D.I.C. 1617A/13).



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War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.- Contd.

P.Q.18, Q.P.14, 6 HE 115, 5 DC 18, D/F D position 076° N. 011°  
STALINGRAD E. at 1520A. Same time 2 groups JU 88 left Banak.  
and (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1621A/13 to Admty,  
OLIVER ELLSWORTH Escorts P.Q.18, R.A.D.H.F.).  
torpedoed Attacked by 37 torpedo bombers at 1530 in  
Contd. close formation. 10 more ships of convoy lost  
(R.A.D.H.F. 1642A/13 to C. in C.H.F.).  
My 1734/11 para.(1). R/C of Altafiord at  
1130A/13 shows no change.

(F.O.S. 1809A/13 to S/Ms).

F.C.18th C.S.'s 1531A/13 acknowledged. *see previous page*

(AMAZON 1900A/13).

Pass following to Polyarno begins. For C.L.O.S.B.N.O. and Vaenge  
from 18th Group. Prospects for P.R. of Narvik from U.K. 14/9 very  
poor. U.K.bases for next 24 hours fit. Narvik not covered 13/9.  
Your 1935A/9 no information concerning six Hampdens. Aircraft  
despatched between 14/9 and 18/9 inclusive will use recognition  
signals detailed in your G116 10/9. Your 1007/13 not understood  
all aircraft despatched had well over 150 hours before next  
inspection. Cancel our AC215 13/9 ends

(18th Group 2000A/13 to Admty).

Request weather forecast along route of P.Q.18 for next  
48 hours.

(C. in C.H.F. 2006A/13 to Admty).

My 1735/12. Course should have read 144° from position 070°  
42' N. 021° 07' E. to 070° 27' N. 021° 39' E.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2014A/13 to Admty).

My 1652A/13.

- 1.High and low level bombing attacks ineffective.
  - 2.Second attack nine torpedo bombers driven off.
  - 3.About nine minelayers operating ahead of convoy. Course of convoy  
diverted.
  - 4.One Hurricane lost.
  - 5.Several U-Boat attacks. Three U-Boats mauled earlier in daylight.
  - 6.My P.C.S. at 2030A, 076° 22' N. 012° 53' E. 105° eight knots.
- Weather report

(R.A.(D).H.F. 2031A/13 to Admty, C. in C.H.F.).

S.L.120. Your 1811A/12. CORACERO and GLAUCUS detached in  
54° 12' N.13° 39' W.  
(EGRET 0901A/13 to C. in C.W.A.).

Atlantic  
Weather  
Report.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. Admiralty 1905/21/8. Masters of  
British-managed Independently routed Merchant ships  
fitted with H/F are to originate a separate coded  
message giving weather report in form laid down in  
C.A.M.S.I. 87/42 para.2 and 3 as follows:-

- (A) Ship in Atlantic west of 15° W and North of 15° N. on each  
occasion of breaking silence to report their position.
  - (B) Ships in Atlantic south of 15° N and West of 20° E. on each  
alternate occasion of breaking silence to report their position i.e.  
every 6 days.
  - 2.Message should be transmitted immediately after the message  
reporting their position.
- (D.T.D.1307A/13).

/QUEEN MARY.....



War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

QUEEN MARY. My 1214A September 12th Sailed (CURAÇOA and CASTLETON).  
(N.O.I.C.Greenock 1506A/13).  
F.Os i/c Greenock's 1218A/12. Sailed  
SKATE, SALADIN, SARDONYX, WELLS.  
(Cdre, Londonderry 1815A/13).

SHETLAND. On completion of present duty GERANIUM will provide  
VERA additional escort for the convoy referred to in  
RADCLIFFE. A.M.1518/8.  
MIRIAM, EILDON, (D.O.D.(H) 1925A/13 to C. in C.W.A.).  
LYMINGE.



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

THORSHAVN, My 1758A/10. Ships sailed. THORSHAVN Commodore.  
ANNA Stragglers route. (details.)  
KNUDSEN, (V.A.C.N.A. 1046A/13 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty.  
PETTER II. N.C.S.O. Clyde.)

French Gib. 0725/12 Armed Trawler SERGENT GOUARNE,  
shipping armed tug HIPPOPOTAME towing 3 barges and tug  
AFRICA, barges deck cargo on trestle work tower,  
query pile driver, and 3 harbour launches,  
Westbound.  
(S.O.I.) Gib. 1051A/13 to Admty. R.A.W.A. S.O.I.  
Kingston.)

U/B. Transit Wellington sighted U-Boat on surface  
0800Z/13, 045° 43' 007° 05' course 060° dived on  
sighting.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1700A/13 to Admty. etc.)

KYLE It is intended to examine KYLE CLARE. Request  
CLARE. you will report by immediate signal repeated to  
C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A. any information  
about crew or passengers which might be of use,  
or any other suspicious circumstances.  
(M. Branch 1711A/13 to N.C.S.O. Lisbon.)

P.37. My 1438/11, sailed 1620 P.37.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1714A/13 to N.O.I.C. Malta.)

PHILIPP M Proceed with all despatch R/V SS. PHILIPP M  
disabled. reported steering gear broken down making for  
Huelva estimated in 36.43 09.45 at 1800.  
(2) Escort PHILIPP M to Huelva.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1812A/13 to FOWEY (R) Admty.  
CARNATION. BLACK SWAN.)

Your 1812A/13. Have PHILIPP M in company. If convoy not met  
by dark intend escorting PHILIPP M to Huelva. My position 36.04  
N 08.17 W.  
(WISHART 1930A/13 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. FOWEY, BLACK SWAN)  
WISHART's 1930. WISHART escort PHILIPP M to Huelva.  
FOWEY rejoining O.G.89.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2226A/13 to WISHART. FOWEY. (R) Admty. BLACK  
SWAN.)

U-Boats Your 1312A/11. One signal was transmitted on both  
passing Atlantic and Mediterranean frequencies on 1/9.  
into 2. Such transmissions do not necessarily indicate  
Med. that U-Boats have passed or intend to pass through  
Straits of Gibraltar.  
3. There is no evidence in Admty. of any such  
movement except the apparent withdrawal from Lisbon area of the  
1 or 2 U-Boats which operated there on 3/9 and an abnormal amount  
of W/T activity from area south of Azores and west of Madeira on  
11/9 and 12/9. There has been no further confirmation of A.M.  
1150A/2.  
(D.D.I.C. 2025A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

/VERITY...



War Diary.

13.9.1942.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

VERITY defects. E.T.A. 1730A/14. Boiler hours. Have following urgent defects. (VERITY 2200A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

W.S.22. Sailing W.S.22 as in my 2017Z/10 except that BOREAS escorting HIGHLAND PRINCESS to Takoradi when detached at dusk 15/9.  
Shift to area Q W/T organization at 0600Z/21.  
(R.A.W.A. 0700Z/13 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., Solantfor.)  
Departure 13/9 AURORA, ALCANTARA, PARTRIDGE, QUIBERON, DERWENT, ANTELOPE, BOREAS, PINDOS with W.S.22.  
(S.O.I. Freetown 1105Z/13 to Admty. etc.)  
Convoy sailing telegram. W.S.22 (19 ships)  
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 2055Z/13, 2231Z/13.)

Escorts for Troop Movements. D of S.T's 1751A/12 and P.S.T.O. Capetown's 1131B/8. Anticipate great difficulty in providing adequate escorts for these and other troop movements after late September. Request definite date for arrival Matadi may be supplied as soon as possible.  
(R.A.W.A. 1114Z/13 to C. in C. S.A. (R) S.T.O. Freetown. Admty.)

MERCATOR. Your 1838Z/6/8. Approved to take up MERCATOR as submarine accommodation ship at Freetown. Belgian Authorities agree that fitting out may begin immediately, but British colours are not to be worn till notification from Admty. that charter formalities have been completed.  
Propose vessel shall be manned by shipkeepers only. What do you consider necessary?  
(Head of M 1344A/13 to R.A.W.A.)

CYCLAMEN. Sailed CYCLAMEN to East London by route R 9 in compliance with C. in C. S.A. 1751/11 (N.T. in W.R.) S of A 7½ knots, E.T.A. 0500Z/15.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1402Z/13 to Admty. etc.)

BIRMINGHAM  
NIZAM  
DAUNTLESS.

Ci CSA. 1145B/13. See 25/9/42. (docking at Simonstown)



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Operation "Waylay" (Lombardini or Tobruk) 12/9 Port Said departure BELVOIR, CROOME, HURSLEY, COVENTRY, DULVERTON.  
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 0638C/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Arrival 12th BRIGAND, BOSTON, SEAHAM, SIKH, ZULU.  
Departure 12th WHITEHAVEN, JAVELIN, M.T.Bs. 260, 261, 265, 266, 267, 268, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, M.Ls. 349, 352, 353.

(S.O.I.) Alexandria 1128C/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Following has been read. (Emergency Air Attack) help 10-0-Alex NW.

(510M via Malta W/T 1304/13.)

Report state of sea off landing by following codewords at 0130/14 to Capt. D. 22 and C. in C. Med. If assault craft likely to beach successfully and get off again codeword "Mallard".

If likely to beach but not get off codeword "Puffin".

If unlikely to beach codeword "Shag".

(C. in C. Med. 1515C/13 to TAKU (R) Capt. D.22. ZULU.)

EURYALUS. Departure.  
(Massawa 0459Z/13 to Admty.)

Cositrep No. 516. 5. Air. Night 11/12. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Mines laid in Matruh. A Blenheim from Aden bombed submarine 140 miles east of Mukalla in Gulf of Aden. Air bubbles reported in area by another aircraft.  
(C. in C. M.E. 0915 G.M.T./13.)

Enemy Units. Following has been read:- P.C.S. of 1 enemy destroyer 1 large vessel exceeding 10,000 tons 35.46 N 24.00 E 270° 10 knots.  
(Malta 1030/13 to Subs on patrol.)

W.S.23. Convoy W.S.23 about 8 ships, is due to leave U.K. on 26/9 for Middle East and India. Ocean escort will be provided by DURBAN, DESPATCH, and QUEEN OF BERMUDA to Freetown and by DURBAN and DESPATCH to the Cape.  
(D.O.D. (F.) 1541A/13 to C. in C. Med. C. in C. H.F. etc.)

ALBARO CELANO A. Italian Tankers ALBARO CELANO arrived ?loaded from Constanza 1030 G.M.T.  
B. Expected will await orders here before proceeding to Aegean.  
(S.O.I.) Istanbul 1545C/13 to S.O.I. Med. D.N.I.)

THRASHER. Orders in my 1145/12 (N.T. in W.D.) are to be rapidly obeyed, even if in pursuit of enemy.  
*See next page*  
(Capt. S.1. 1607C/13 to THRASHER (R) C. in C. Med.)



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Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Malta Air Report. I.676 13/9. C.S.R. Part 1, 12th. 0935 and 1330 hours, 4 Spitfires on each occasion made R/C patrols south Sicily. 1648 hours 4 Spitfires on shipping R/C south coast Sicily saw nothing. Night 12/13. 1 alert. 1943 hours 3 raiders approached to within 15 miles Malta and returned, a 4th dropped bombs in sea just west of Gozo Island. 2 Beaufighters up failed to intercept due to partial R.D.F. interference and great height of enemy. 13th. 0520 hours, 7 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 0600 hours, 5 Spitfires up for raid which turned back before making Malta. 0718 hours, 4 Spitfires up sighted 2 Me.109s flying north gave chase but unable to catch up. 0710 hours, 5 Spitfires on R/C patrol sighted 2 Me.109s and later 3 MC.202s approx. 35 miles N of Malta. Enemy on both occasions refused combat and fled home. 0905 hours, 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 1045 hours to 1200 hours torrential rain over Malta. (A.H.Q. Malta 1650/13.)

TRAVELLER. If present activity is too great you are to proceed to patrol within 20 miles of Candia keeping south until dawn 14th. (Capt. S.1. 1720C/13 to TRAVELLER. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)  
*See next page.*

Enemy Units THRASHER. R/C A/C report at 1640C/13 1 merchant ship 1 destroyer, P.C.S. 034° 48' 023° 11' 185° 9. A/C attacking between 0001 and 0130/14, illumination of target with flares 0230 to 0300/14. (Capt. S.1. 1730C/13 to THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10. S/Ms on patrol.)  
*See previous page.*

My 1730/13. This A/C report appears unreliable. Illuminating will not now take place. (Capt. S.1. 2325C/13 to THRASHER etc.)

U/Bs Tripoli, P.44. U-Boats are thought to be store carrying to Tripoli during moonless periods. If encountered they may be particularly vulnerable to gunfire if torpedo attack fails. Patrol 065° 245° either side 033° 04' 014° 25' from 0001 until 0601B/15. (Capt. S.10. 1759B/13 to P.44. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1.)

PAPANICOLIS. Estimate G. Sub. PAPANICOLIS in 034° 15' 032° 58' at 1600C/14 proceeding direct to arrive outer end Beirut searched channel 0545C/16. Daily advance 75 miles. (Capt. S.1. 1802C/13 to S.N.O.L.A. (R) C.C.O. Beirut. C. in C. Med. 201 Group. C.S.15. DIDO. N.O.I.C. Cyprus.) Following is repetition of my 2101C/11 (begins) Capt. S.1. (R) Submarines on patrol from PAPANICOLIS. Operation successfully completed night 4/5. Your 2305C/9 acknowledged 2101C/11 (ends). Have been unable to establish wireless contact. (Gr. S/M PAPANICOLIS 2032C/13 to Capt. S.1. (R) C. in C. Med. S/Ms on patrol.)



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

S/M  
positions.

Report your position(s).  
(Capt. S.l. 1935C/13 to (Corrupt) (?RORQUAL or  
\*TRAVELLER or S/Ms on patrol.) (R) C. in C. Med.)

\* *Previous page*

Black  
Sea.

10/9. Enemy occupied Novorossisk. Defenders  
being evacuated by Black Sea fleet.

11/9. Russians still held eastern shore of  
Novorossisk harbour and Markaste pass, 10 kc.m.

N.E. north town where fierce fighting is in progress.  
In air attack on Crimeas ports Russian mainland aircraft sank 5  
minesweepers and 1 depot ship.

(N.L.O. Black Sea 2000C/13 to Admty. Adm. Miles.)

TETCOTT.

Have parted company with convoy in 016° 48' N  
056° 35' E. My course and speed 248° 16 knots.  
(TETCOTT 2101Z/13 to N.O.I.C. Aden.)



War Diary.13.9.1942  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Operations in Madagascar.Vichy  
Broadcast,  
Madagascar  
11/9.Cancel my 1132Z/11.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0640Z/13 to S.O. Force M. (R)  
Admty., G.O.C. E. Africa.)Operation  
"Tamper".Following received from Commodore (D) (Begins)  
"Tamper" (Corrupt Group) (?town) no opposition  
whatsoever. Residents and Mayor taken  
prisoner, also 4 civilian airmen, civil aircraft  
and aircraft stores burnt. Disrupted old fashioned wireless  
apparatus 32 volt set, and cut all telephone and telegraph wires.  
Arms returned to police, no shots fired. Inspected town and  
outlying villages to supervise (Corrupt Group) between 0700 and  
(?0900) (?11th) and found all Natives very friendly and polite.  
T.O.O. 0943/13. (Ends)  
(S.O. Force M. 0952Z/13 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)Army  
Sitrep.Operations Madagascar 12/9.  
1. Bridge river at Ambanja collapsed, all  
vehicles over except two. Anticipated repairs  
bridge completed by 14/9. Ambanja occupied  
1515Z hours, town peaceful and Chef de District (?maintained)  
in office.  
2. Vohemar. Our troops investigating report small French  
detachment Antalaha. Telephone communication to Tananarive  
intact but landing ground still unserviceable. Attitude  
populace non-co-operative.  
3. All quiet in Nosi Be and French co-operation increasing.  
Trade reopening and sugar factory working. Disembarkation  
force at Majunga greatly assisted by recent arrival 4 tugs from  
Nosi Be.  
(G.O.C. in C. E.A. 1130/13.)Force M.  
Situation.(1) Convoy H sailed today as per programme.  
(2) BIRMINGHAM, HEEMSKERCK and NAPIER sailed for  
Diego Suarez today, E.T.A. 0900Z/14.  
(3) G.O.C. in C. East Africa landed Majunga.  
Future communication for him should be sent via EREBUS who  
remains as S.N.O. Afloat Majunga.  
(4) ABOSSO sails 14/9 for Tanga with prisoners of war.  
(5) C. in C. E.F. pass to East Africa Command H.Q. S.  
(S.O. Force M. 1210Z/13 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)Army  
Sitrep.H.Q.121 Force and 29th Independent Bde. sailed  
Majunga p.m./13/9 "Esme" A, Ambanja occupied  
1315 hours 12/9.  
(H.Q. Buttermere 1800/13 G.M.T to W.O.)  
Report of operations, from C.I.G.S. personal for F.Ms.  
Dill and Smits and Cs. in C.  
(W.O. 1930/13 to J.S.M. Washington etc.)  
See Lion Copy.

page 382 A.



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - ports:

General.

Boom and Net Defences. Ref. A.M. 1916/4 para 4.  
1. Intend laying anti-sub: A 3 Trots at 600 feet interval in C E R F passage Seychelles with southerly trots 137° flashing light on shoal N.E. of Victoria Pier 26.75 cables.  
2. A gate is not required.  
3. Owing to weak tide it is considered desirable that nets should touch bottom at high water.  
4. Request suitable net or material for their manufacture be supplied.  
5. Meantime it is intended to use net ex Suda Bay and Kilindini if latter are not required for Diego Suarez.  
6. Remainder of stores are available including these required to convert anti-sub A/B nets into anti-sub A 3 except 4 inch mooring rings of which 54 are required.  
7. Request drawings for Diego Suarez anti-sub: boom and anti-torpedo baffle be supplied as soon as possible.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0553Z/13 to Admty. (R) F.O.E.A. etc.)

ILLUSTRIOUS. My 0905/22/8 para 4. Docking of first 3  
WARSPITE. ships delayed 5 days.  
REVENGE. (C. in C. E.F. 0845Z/13 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. etc.)

Mauritius Behaviour of controlled mines and guard loops  
Loops. at Grand Port Mauritius is not yet entirely satisfactory. Until boom defences are laid, harbour cannot be regarded as a safe anchorage.  
(C. in C. E.F. 0912Z/13 to E.I. Stn. (R) Admty.)

NEWCASTLE. Sailed through position  
R. 022° 29' 056° 59'  
S. 035° 26' 032° 01'  
T. 037° 15' 021° 02' S. of A. 18 knots.  
E.T.A. Capetown 0600 G.M.T/19th.  
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius 1142Z/13 to C. in C. E.F. Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

→ Movements. Arrived 13/9 HAWKINS, departed 13/9 WARSPITE, NEPAL, FORTUNE.  
(F.O.I.C. E.A. & Z. 1200Z/13 to Admty.)

Jap Repatriations. Japanese repatriation ships ASAMA MARU and CONTE VERDE will be leaving Singapore 18/9 and are expected to arrive Lourenco Marques 1/10.  
(2) Route through Sundra Straits thence south of Mauritius and Madagascar.  
(3) TATUTA MARU and KAMA KURA MARU were expected to leave Lourenco Marques on dates between the 2nd and 12/9 for return to Japan, route as in para 2 reversed.  
(4) Ships' markings.  
(R.A. Mombasa 1207 G.M.T/13 to B.A.M.S.)



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Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - conts:-

BIRMINGHAM.

Your 1210/10 (1211/10 intended)  
Owing to length of BIRMINGHAM's absence from U.K. and to class of work involved, it is desirable that the next long refit should be undertaken in this country.

2. As there is at present no prospect of relief she should be kept in service on the station for as long as possible.

3. Can you give an approximate date for her return to U.K.?

(D.O.D.(F) Approved A.C.N.S.(H) 1912A/13 to C. in C. E.F. (R) C.S.4., C. in C. S.A.)

M/S  
Vessels.

Your 1439/19/9. Owing to shortage of A/S vessels available for local patrol M/S vessels are used to reinforce patrols at night. To increase the efficiency of M/S vessels while on A/S patrol it is desired to fit type 140 to 20 of them to be able to transfer these sets as necessary to another 30 without docking them so that any M/S vessel can be used for A/S patrol.

(C. in C. E.F. 2037C/13 to Admty.)



# MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1930/13th Sept. OUF

To British Joint Staff Mission, Washington. Date 13.9.42.  
 C. in C. India  
 C. in C. Middle East  
 C. in C. Persia/Iraq  
 C.G.S. South Africa.

Cipher

From War Office

IMMEDIATE.

65227 Cipher (M.O.1) 13/9

Personal from C.I.G.S. for F.Ms Dill and Smuts  
 and Cs in C.

Madagascar operations. Our forces landed at  
 three points on West coast Madagascar early 10 September.  
 Units of 7 S.A. Bde. at same time advanced Southwards  
 from Diego Suarez.

1. Capture of Nossi Be. H.M.S. MANXMAN with  
 Royal Marines and two platoons Pretoria Highlanders on  
 board entered Hellville Harbour at 0300C/10. Det. Pretoria  
 Highlanders landed on pier head under cover of bombardment  
 and captured base. R.M. landed 0200 hours on West coast  
 island made contact with our forces in town which  
 surrendered 1200 hours. (Op. "Eerie")
2. Assault on Majunga. 29 Indept Inf. Bde. (Op. "Stream")  
 supported by two cruisers destroyers and aircraft carrier  
 landed two points North and South of town. Ships did  
 not bombard. Northern landing unopposed and aerodrome  
 captured by 0605 hours. Southern landing at 0518 hours  
 met slight opposition from detachment Senegalese slight  
 casualties to both sides. Barracks captured 0633 hours  
 and town surrendered. Post Office, Bank and W/T Station  
 in our hands intact 0722 hours. Both landing parties  
 made contact 0817 hours. Leading armoured cars 22(E.A.)  
 Bde left beach 1100 hours and reported 50 miles along  
 Tananarive road 1330 hours.
3. Diversion at Morondava. (Op. "Temper")  
 Commando landed about  
 0700 hours. Town capitulated without resistance. Troops  
 proceeded inland towards Mahaho on road to Ambositra.
4. Advance from Diego Suarez. One column South  
 African troops occupied Ambanja on 12/9. Second column  
 occupied Vohemar on N.E. coast 11/9. Advance badly delayed  
 by burnt and dilapidated bridges. Some resistance North  
 of Ambanja. No casualties either side so far reported.

5. Advance.....



5. Advance Majunga - Tananarive. Leading elements 22 (E.A.) Bde. comprising S.A. Armoured Cars Coy E.A. Lorried Inf. and Arty., reached Betsiboka suspension bridge 150 miles from Majunga. 0900 hours 11/9. Found cables cut and centre span lowered into water. Inf. crossed and formed bridgehead. First armoured cars crossed 1830 hours. 47 prisoners taken in engagement with troops covering bridge. Our casualties four wounded. Advance continues.

6. G.O.C. in C. East Africa expresses grateful appreciation all ranks of efficiency with which Royal Navy brought landing parties to right place at right time. Only overwhelming speed and efficiency of landing prevented heavy casualties.

1930/13.

Received from War Office at 1430/14

1st Lord	<u>War Office Distribution:-</u>
1st S.L. (2)	C.I.G.S.
D.F.S.L.	V.C.I.G.S.
V.C.N.S.	D.E.O.
A.C.N.S. (T)	D.D.M.O. (0)
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	M.O. 1, 2, 5, 12.
A.C.N.S. (W)	Col. Jacob. Cabinet Offices
N.A. 1st S.L.	C.N.S.
D.O.D. (F) (2)	C.A.S.
D. of P. (2)	
D.N.I. (4)	
D.D.I.C. (2)	
D. of P. (0)	
Duty Capt. (2)	
D.S.D.	
Admiral Blake	
C.C.O. (2)	
D.P.D.	
N.I.D. 20.	
HD. of M. (2)	
I.P. (2)	
W.D.	
Capt. Wharton.	



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Grain or  
Timber  
Ships. Your 0222/12. Ref. paras. 2 and 3, concur, but  
regret adequate escorts will not be available.  
Ref. para. 4, yes.  
(N.S.H.Q., 0145Z/13 to Admty.)

J.Z. 1. Convoy J.Z. 1 arrived 12/9.  
(B.R.O. Cristobal, 0817R/13 to Admty.)

H.X. 206,  
U/B. U-Boat in sight bearing 120°. My position is  
055° 03' N. 031° 12' W.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.15, 0830Z/13 to C.T.F.24, (R)  
Connav, etc.)  
My 0830Z. U-Boat dived.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.15, 0845Z/13.)  
My 0830<sup>z</sup>/13th contact obtained. WATCHMAN, SNOWFLAKE keeping  
U-Boats down. Convoy evading to northward. Weather report.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.15, 1136Z/13 to A.I.G. 302, A.C.I.C.)  
Your 1050Z/13 (N.T. in W.D.) to C. in C. W.A. only. No  
clear indication but D/F bearings at 1035Z/13 on 13768 k/cs of  
U/B transmitting 44 groups of Naval ENIGMA were consistent with  
a position near convoy H.X. 206.  
(Admty., 1420A/13 to C.T.U. 24.1.15, (R) C. in C. W.A.,  
C.T.G. 24.7, Cominch.)

U/B  
Positions. C.E.S.F's 1218/30 informs as follows:-  
S/M estimate 0800Q/13th (details).  
(Comnaveu, 0951/13 to Admty.)

O.N. 127,  
U/B. S/M sighted on surface bearing 282° 10 miles has  
been ?observed to dive. My position 047° 58' N.  
039° 45' W.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1000Z/13 to C.T.F.24, (R)  
Connav, etc.)

A.T. 23,  
N.A. 16. Cinclant's 2050/12 addressed to C.T.F. 38 for  
action and to Cominch, Comnaveu, Commander Naval  
District 3 and C.T.Fs. 24, 31.2 and 90, informs  
as follows:  
Task Force 38 (less BROOKLYN) to escort Convoy A.T. 23 (about 8  
ships) ready to sail New York 25/9 via Halifax, where joined by  
Convoy N.A.16 (about 5 transports), to U.K. via route designated  
by Cominch (C. and R.) Top off only destroyers at Halifax.  
Return as indicated in Cominch 1356/5 via route prescribed by  
Admty. Cominch has informed C.O.A.C. and Comnaveu has repeated  
message to N.O.B. Londonderry. Admty. inform C. in C. W.A.  
(Comnaveu, 1031/13 to Admty.)

/Movements ...



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.Movements  
Summary.

1800 G.M.T./13.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
S/M P.555	Arriving Bermuda	Blank	Blank
FORMIDABLE	35° N. 31° W.	353°	22
PATHFINDER	11½° N. 47° W.	083°	9
QUENTIN			
SNOWDROP			
with "Mince meat"			
KEREN	27° N. 30½° W.	349°	14
KARANJA	33½° N. 30° W.	004°	14½
T.A. 20	41° N. 55½° W.	270°	11
T.A. 21	39½° N. 62° W.	264°	25

(D.O.D.(F), 1105A/13 to Opanav, (R) Comnav.)

NORLYS,  
Gibraltar  
convoy.

B.R.O. Trinidad's 1736/12. Request whether Gib. convoy is to be delayed to include SS. NORLYS.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1242Q/13 to Admty., (R) Connav (C. & R.), S.B.N.O.W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

O.N. 127,  
Ships  
damaged.

Consider it necessary that 4 torpedoed ships in convoy should proceed St. Johns N.F. for temporary repairs tonight. On arrival destroyer T.U. 24.18.2 propose detach these ships and detail AMHERST and SHERBROOKE as escorts. Remainder of group to stay with convoy until arrival of corvettes. Now think HEKTORIA torpedoed at 2300Z/11 048° 53' N. 032° 54' W. possibly still afloat, but when last seen listing heavily from torpedo hit in main oil bunker.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1248Z/13 to A.I.G. 301.) *Approved. (C.I. 24, 0131/14)*

U/B.

Following has been read: Am over enemy S/M in 57° 05' N. 22° 00' W.  
(15 Group, No T.O.O./13.)

Enemy S/M has submerged on a course 240° speed 8 knots.  
(15 Group, 1340Z/13.)

Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 2 hits.  
(15 Group, 1345Z/13.)

U/B.

San Juan Radio reports PAA plane sighted submarine 1533Z/13 in 016° 12' N. 072° 25' W. course 095°.  
(Kingston, Jamaica, 1409Q/13 to Admty.)

B.A.Ts.

Your 1452Z/11. B.A.T.10 EMINENT is required in U.K. before final allocation in A.M. 2043/9/7.  
Your 1540Z/11. It is not intended to provide

T.124 T. crews from U.K. for B.A.Ts 11, 12 and 13, which are to be Australian manned.

(Capt. i/c Rescue Tugs, 1417A/13 to B.A.M.R.)

/H.F. 1 ...



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
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- H.F. 1. Departure MEADOWSWEET, GODERICH escorting H.F.1. (S.O.I.) Halifax, 1457Z/13 to N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C. in C. U.S. Fleet (C. & R.), C.E.S.F., C. in C. W.A., C.T.24, N.O.I.C. St. John N.B.)
- Grain or Timber Ships. In view of para. (2) of your 0222/12 is suggestion in your 1740/28/8 to be complied with? My 1508/9 also refers. (N.S.H.Q., 1525Z/13 to Admty., (R) C.O.A.C., etc.)
- VILJA torpedoed. Sailed Tug CONFIDENT escorted by U.S.S.C 576 to stand by SS. VILJA torpedoed in 012° 15' N. 063° 52' W. about 0530/13 and returning Trinidad under own power. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1542Q/13 to S.B.N.O.W.A., (R) Admty., S.O.(I) Kingston.)
- Liaison with U.S. Fleet. Ref. A.M. 2220/8. C. in C. U.S. Fleet has informed C. in C. Pacific Fleet by letter that exchange visit by selected staff and technical officers can be arranged directly between him and C. in C. Eastern Fleet. (2) C. in C. U.S. Fleet agrees that Cdr. Clark U.S.N., should visit Washington and has informed Adm. Stark by despatch. Adm. Stark may be expected to issue necessary orders. (B.A.D., 1545Z/15 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty.)
- CEPHEE (French) Dakar 6/9 B.O. Motorship CEPHEE has unexpectedly unloaded cargo for Gulf Guinea Ports and awaits orders. Crew reported pro-German. (B.A.D., 1557Z/13 to Admty.) My 1920B/5/8 and 1829/6/8. CEPHEE (Ex FRANCOIS L.D. of 5,800 G.R.T. reported probably leaving for Japan.) last reported arrived Dakar 11/8. Have you any further information? (D.N.I., 1804A/13 to B.A.D., S.O.I. Freetown.)
- Westomp, Convoy cycle. Your 2108Z/11. From mid-ocean escort point of view most desirable to move M.O.M.P. to the eastward as soon as possible. (ii) Provided convoy cycle is opened out to 8 days, Western Local Escort Force with present 8 groups could escort as far as about 49° W. (iii) Recommend this be put into effect at once and that F.O.N.F. be authorized to move M.O.M.P. further east than 49° W. if experience shows Western Local escorts can complete. (N.S.H.Q., 1615Z/13 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A., C.T.F.24, Cinclant, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.) See Admty. 0004/15.

/ U/B ...



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Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- U/B Positions. S/M estimate 13/9 and U.S. S/M Notice.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1631/13, 1632/13, 1633/13, 1634/13, 1635/13 to Admty.)
- O.N. 126. 17 ships turned over to C.T.U. 24.18.3 at 1130Z/13th in position 046.10 050.00.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.17, 1642Z/13 to Connav, (R) C.T.F. 24, etc.)
- U/B. Intercept 1601 G.M.T. S S S. Periscope sighted 47.25 N. 44.03 W. de MFFI.  
(C.O.A.C., 1720Z/13 to Ships in Area 7A, (R) C.T.F. 24, etc.)
- Tankers. Your 2359/9. It would probably be feasible to put on to this run 4 lake tankers and 2 ocean tankers for service as a group. 2. They would have to be kept moving for the required 80,000 tons to be brought across each month.  
(D.T.D., 1732A/13 to B.A.D., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.)  
Reply: B.A.D. 2331/14.
- O.15. (1) Intend to sail Dutch S/M O.15 on surface escorted by ALBERNI at 1000Z/15th (route). S. of A. 10 knots, E.T.A. St. Johns 1800Z/17th.  
(2) Request total bombing restrictions 30 miles ahead and astern and 15 miles either side of track.  
(3) S/M is painted dark grey with N.15 painted in white letter on C/T. Has net cutter.  
(4) F.O.N.F. is requested to sail O.15 from St. Johns N.F. to (? U.K.)  
(C.O.A.C., 1759Z/13 to F.O.N.F., A.O.C.F., C.T.24, (R) F.O.C. Subs, Cominch, N.S.H.Q., Admty., C. in C. W.A.)
- O.N. 127,  
U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity has made sighting report of convoy or important unit at 1738/13. 12260 k/cs. ENIGMA.  
(Cominch, 1841/13 to ST. CROIX, (R) C.T.F.24.)
- CORNWALLIS (torpedoed at Barbados) Following received from Harbour Master, Barbados. (Begins). CORNWALLIS No. 2 hold stokehold engine room and tunnel flooded other compartments slight leakage. Discharging cargo by hand. Master BETANCURIA (Nor.) willing to go alongside and take off maximum of three thousand tons cargo if Notraship, New York agree. (Ends). B.A.D. requested to pass to Notraship.  
(D.T.D., 1847A/13 to N.S.H.Q., B.A.D.)



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

30 M.L. Flot. Arrived from Greenland 30th M.L. Flotilla and  
 THIRLMERE.  
*See next page* (F.O.N.F., 1850Z/13 to Admty.)

ILE DE RE. ? Arrived.  
 (French) (New Orleans, 1911/13 to M.W.T.)

CANDYTUFT Your 1910/12 (~~HECTORIA~~) ~~is now U.S.S. TENACITY.~~  
 Renamed. CANDYTUFT is now U.S.S. TENACITY.  
 (B.A.D., 1923Z/13 to Admty.)

S/M attack (A) Following torpedoed and sunk. HEKTORIA 49°  
 and sighting 31' N. 32° 20' W. 1727Z/11. HARDANGER 48° 29' N.  
 summary. 33° 52' W. 0424Z/12, EMPIRE MOONBEAM 48° 41' N.  
 33° 22' W. 0124Z/12. CRESSINGTON COURT 07° 58'  
 N. 46° W. 0800Z/19/8. PATRICK J. HURLEY shelled  
 22° 53' N. 47° 12' W. 2345Z/12. 3 unidentified torpedoed 12°  
 15' N. 63° 42' W. 0530Z/13. WOENSDRECHT torpedoed and presumed  
 sunk 10° 27' N. 60° 17' W. 0900Z/12. Sub. sighted about 55° 03'  
 N. 31° 12' W. 0830Z/13. Sub. on surface 47° 48' N. 31° 47' W.  
 1000Z/12.  
 (B) P.B.Y.5A attacks sub. on surface 63° N. 23° 50' W. 1415Z/4/8.  
 (C) Surface craft attack 19° 41' N. 76° 50' W. about 0716Z/18/8.  
 Sub. sighted 49° 57' N. 63° 30' W. 1940Z/12. Shore watcher  
 sights sub. 46° 40' N. 53° 20' W. 2100Z/12. Planes attack sub.  
 17° 25' N. 76° 50' W. 2030Z/12. Aircraft attacks bubble and  
 oil streak about 17° 28' N. 76° 36' W. 1930Z/12. Sub. attacked  
 0630Z and sound contacts 0730Z and 1330Z/13 at 30° 13' N. 81° 18'  
 W. Surface craft sights sub. course E. 40° 23' N. 72° 30' W.  
 0055Z/13. Panair plane sights sub. 16° 12' N. 72° 25' W.  
 1533Z/13, course 95°. P.B.Y. sights sub. 14° 45' N. 62° 04' W.  
 1425Z/13.  
 (D) Sound contact attacked 32° 45' N. 79° 50' W. 0350Z/13.  
 (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2020/13 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

U.S. S/M 4 and surface craft operating within 43° 30'/43°  
 Notice. 11' N. 69° 30'/70° 00' W. between 1200 and 2100Z  
 14/9 to 20/9 inclusive.  
 (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2043/13.)

DUC D'AUMALE. 12/9 Ciudad Trujillo DUC D'AUMALE, Vichy French  
 (Ciudad Trujillo, 2130/12 to Fairmiss.)

S.C.100. C.T.U. 24.1.3 in <sup>JOHN L.</sup> SPENCER plus <sup>GEORGE W.</sup> CAMPBELL, BITTERSWEET,  
 ROSTHERN, TRILLIUM, MAYFLOWER, NASTURTIUM,  
 LUNENBURG, WEYBURN designated escort convoy

S.C.100. This unit scheduled in joining S.C. 100 at 1200Z/16  
 in 048° 12' N. 051° 20' W.  
 (C.T.24, 2215Z/13 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet (C & R.), (R) C.T.U.  
 24.1.13, C.T.U. 24.18.5, Admty., C. in C. W.A., C.T.G.24.7,  
 N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F.)



War Diary.13.9.1942.  
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

30 M.L. N.S.H.Q. 1935/11.  
 Flotilla. 30th M.L. Flotilla is allocated to Trinidad. If Navy Dept. consider the flotilla could be more usefully employed in the Canadian Coastal Zone for a period of 6 weeks, Admty. have no objection to their allocation to F.O.N.F. for that period.  
*See previous page*  
 2. After consultation with Navy Dept., request you will take necessary action.  
 3. Intend to continue shipping stores to Trinidad. (D.O.D.(F), Approved 1st S.L., 2238A/13 to B.A.D.)  
 Reply: B.A.D. 1751/14.

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Serial No. 234, 12/9.  
 Reports indicate enemy force Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area 12/9 included 1 Sendai class cruiser, 7 destroyers, at least 4 merchant ships, including 1 tanker. The light cruiser and 3 destroyers were proceeding from the area in a southerly direction at 0005Z/12.  
 2. 2 small merchant vessels reported unloading Buka passage 11/9 departed southward morning 12/9.  
 3. Buna aerodrome bombed and strafed 12/9 by 7 Fortresses, 12 Aircobras, 5 Marauders, 9 Bostons. Many bombs on runway and dispersal area. 17 aircraft on ground heavily strafed and considered destroyed. All A.A. silenced. Fuel dumps destroyed, large fires started.  
 4. Enemy pressure continues Nauro Ioribaiwa area. Allied forward troops North of Ioribaiwa (123 miles S.S.W. of Efogi). Enemy continue infiltration tactics.  
 5. Photographs indicate destroyer off Normanby Island 11/5 (11/9 intended) was a Ikaze class. R/C aircraft sighted large patch of oil in area 12/9.  
 6. 2 enemy destroyers 1 flying boat sighted area North of Trobriands 12/9 also flying boat observed taking off Goodenough Island.  
 7. Air R/C Toeal (Kai Islands) Zobo (Aroe Islands) and Sermata Islands 12/9 reported nil activity.  
 (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0717Z/13 to Admty., etc.)

NIEUW Your 0957/12. A.M. 1541/8.  
 AMSTERDAM, No objection to provision of escort if available, troops for but in view of high speed and endurance of NIEUW M.E. AMSTERDAM there are very few cruisers capable of such escort, and it is unlikely that C. in C. E.F. can provide one.



13.9.1942.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - conts:-

NIEUW  
AMSTERDAM  
troops for  
M.E.  
(Contd.)

2. Admiralty policy is that NIEUW AMSTERDAM and other fast giant liners are allowed to proceed unescorted carrying numbers limited only by life-saving capacity and relying on their high speed for security. A/S and air protection in vicinity of ports are provided by local authorities where possible. British and American troops have

been safely carried in Atlantic and Indian Oceans under these conditions for some months.

3. Request your concurrence to carriage of these New Zealand troops unescorted to Middle East.

(D.O.D.(F), Approved A.C.N.S.(H), 1911A/13 to N.Z.N.B.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate positions.  
(D.D.I.C., 1440A/13, 1503A/13.)



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Tanker ATHELTEMPLAR was sunk by U/B at dawn. It is estimated that at 0600 today Convoy P.Q.18 was about 100 miles to the northward of Bear Island. The convoy was shadowed continuously today by 4 aircraft and submarines. At 1235 an attack by 22 torpedo bombers was driven off. This was followed by considerable high bombing which caused no damage, and by an attack by 25 torpedo bombers, during which 2 ships were torpedoed, one of which remained with the convoy. There was continuous high and low bombing with many near misses until 1515. Three Hurricanes from AVENGER have been shot down, but all pilots were recovered; at least 24 of the enemy were destroyed. In addition, AVENGER's pilots claim 5 certain, 3 probably and 14 damaged. ONSLOW (Force A - ASHANTI, ESKIMO, OFFA, ONSLAUGHT, ONSLOW, OPPORTUNE, SOMALI, TARTAR, covering P.Q. 18) severely damaged a U-Boat.\* At 1600 today R.A.D.H.F. was in 75° 58' N. 24° 24' E. steering 90° at 8½ knots.

Air R/C of Narvik at 1205A showed no major units present though the area was not completely covered. Photographs of Altafiord were inconclusive. The force under V.A.2 (ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, BROKE, CAMPBELL, KEPPEL, MACKAY, MONTROSE) returned to Akureyri at 1235A.

C.S.18's Cruiser Covering Force sailed at 1318A (NORFOLK (C.S.18.), SUFFOLK, LONDON, CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE, ECHO, BULLDOG, AMAZON.) CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD and ECLIPSE are carrying out a special operation.

Q.P.14 passed Cape Gorodetski at 1500A today. At 2200 today TIGRIS, TRIBUNE, UREDD, P.54, P.221, P.45 and UNIQUE commenced a move to occupy Zones K.82 to 76 respectively by 1200/15. It is estimated that at 0800/15 the position of P.Q.18 will be 75° 55' N. 31° 30' E. and Q.P.14 69° 1' N. 44° 2' E.

\*wreckage was seen from this attack and also from one by IMPULSIVE.

At least 331 aircraft of Bomber Command out of 448 which took off last night attacked Bremen.

Ten mines have been swept to date in the minefield off Hastings.

North Atlantic.

A transit aircraft sighted at 0844 today an unidentified light cruiser in 32° 46' N. 10° 19' W., steering 170° at 10 knots.

\*Assumed known sunk  
J.A.S.W. monthly report  
Oct 1942.

(see 402)

U. 589 - (F.D.S.)  
Pos: 75° 40' N. 20° 32' E.  
(C.S.18's force to the west)



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.

SS. TALISMAN today picked up 18 survivors of U.S. CALIFORNIA which is reported to have reported being shelled by a submarine at 2000 yesterday in 9° 24' N. 33° 22' W.

Mediterranean.

Operation  
"Waylay".  
Raid on  
Tobruk.

A combined operation to destroy shipping and port facilities at Tobruk was attempted last night. The forces taking part were SIKH (Capt. D.22) and ZULU with 350 Royal Marines, escorted by COVENTRY and 5th D.F. as far as 27° E. on 13/9, and coastal forces carrying support troops for a military force proceeding overland through the desert from Kufra. A heavy air attack was carried out on Tobruk from 2130 to 0300 as cover. The military force penetrated the perimeter of Tobruk and by 0120/14 had captured gun positions at the entrance to Mersa Sciause Inlet outside the south end of Tobruk harbour for M.T.Bs to enter and land troops. Only 2 M.T.Bs landed their troops and entry into the harbour was also prevented.

TAKU at Mersa Mreipa Inlet, north of Tobruk town at 0134 reported the weather suitable for assault craft in the inlet.

The first flight of R.M. disembarked from destroyers at 0400 but met heavy opposition and the destroyers approaching to meet the boats for the second flight were seen and fired on by coastal batteries: SIKH was hit aft and disabled, ZULU closed to take her in tow but at 0636 reported that she was hit and must leave: C. in C. Med. at 0745 ordered her to steer for position PP: her P.C. and S. at 0756 were 32° 23' N. 24° 26' E., 070°, 30 knots. SIKH was last seen close to the shore, heavily on fire and being repeatedly hit by the shore batteries but firing all her guns. The first flight of 150 Royal Marines fought for some time north of Tobruk town but were short of ammunition. There is no further news of the military force in the Mersa Sciause area after 0600 when the M.T.Bs left.

ZULU and M.T.Bs, en route to Alexandria were repeatedly attacked by aircraft. COVENTRY and 5th D.F. returned to the westward to support them. At 0930 COVENTRY was in 32.23 N. 28.15 E. steering 000° at 19 knots. ALDENHAM and BELVOIR had been sent in to fuel. COVENTRY intended altering to 270° at 1100.

At 1121 COVENTRY was hit in 32.50 N. 28.15 E. by dive bombers and by 1140 was badly on fire. ZULU and DULVERTON also reported attacks by 10 and 14 dive bombers at this time. At 1213 COVENTRY had

/ to ...



14.9.1942.  
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Operation  
"Waylay".  
Raid on  
Tobruk.  
(Contd.)

to be abandoned. An hour later CROOME and HURSLEY were trying to sink her without much success in 32.50 N. 28.15 E., and DULVERTON asked ZULU if she could sink her with torpedoes. ZULU reported at 1515 that she had torpedoed COVENTRY; the force continued to be attacked by dive bombers. About 1615 ZULU was hit in the engine room and stopped in approx. 32° 37' N. 28° 30' E. and was taken in tow by HURSLEY; air attacks by Ju.88s were heavy and continuous. DULVERTON, BEAUFORT, HURWORTH and EXMOOR left for Alexandria shortly afterwards, short of fuel. ZULU and Hunts in company continued to be bombed and ZULU sank at 2154 in 32° 0' N. 28° 56' E. (85 miles W.N.W. of Alexandria.) 4 M.T.Bs and 2 Fairmile M.Ls were lost in the operations.

Bombardment  
of Daba.

DIDO with JERVIS, JAVELIN, PALADIN, PAKENHAM and KELVIN carried out a bombardment of the Daba area at 0001 today and returned to Port Said without incident. Albacores provided illumination.

Operation at  
Benghazi.

In addition to the heavy air attack on Tobruk last night Benghazi harbour was also bombed as a diversion to a land attack which proved a complete failure.

U/B sunk.

At 1430 today a Sunderland of 202 Squadron sighted a U-Boat in 37° 28' N. (? 48' N.) 4° 35' E. and attacked. At 1530 the U-Boat sank bows first, with the stern projecting vertically out of the water. Thirty-six men were counted in the water.

An American B.24 bombing Suda Bay, Crete, at dusk claims hits on 1 ship followed by smoke, and started a fire in the docks, possibly on another ship.

East Indies.

C. in C. E.F. today ordered shipping in the Bay of Bengal to be routed by coastal route - (a) southbound ships within 15 miles of coast, northbound ships outside 20 miles and inside 25 miles from coast. These shipping lanes are to terminate in the vicinity of Little Basses. All ships bound into the Bay of Bengal are to call at Colombo for permission to proceed.



M 0283/49

Confidential

From: Dept. of National Defence,  
Naval Service.

Dated: 5/2/49.

Subject: Copies of preliminary draft of Popular History  
of Canadian Naval Operations in the Second World  
War. By Joseph Schull.

x x x x x x x x

Letter of 24th May from S.C.N.L.O.(L) inserted.

Referred to D.T.S.D. for information.

(Sd.) A.R.M. Jaffray

for Head of M. Branch  
26.5.49

Department of National Defence  
Naval Service

24th May, 1949

SECRET

NUK. 1440-1

Senior Canadian Naval Liaison Officer, London,  
11, Hill Street,  
London, W.1.

Sir,

With reference to your M.0283/49 dated 5th April, 1949,  
I am to forward herewith, in respect to Admiralty remarks on  
Chapter VI page 3, line 12 etc., the following information  
regarding the loss of H.M.C.S. "RACCOON" which it is felt  
would be of interest.

"It appeared that H.M.C.S. "RACCOON" was west of Cape Chat  
with convoy SQ 33 bound for Quebec on the night of  
2nd-3rd September. RACCOON reported that during the  
night two torpedoes were fired at her; one passing  
twenty-five feet ahead, and the other under her, forward  
of the bridge. Apparently RACCOON continued on to Quebec  
with SQ 33 because on the night of 6-7th September she was  
with convoy QS 33, bound down river from Quebec to Sydney,  
stationed on the port quarter. During the night a Fairmile,  
Q065, heard two explosions when the convoy was off St.  
Anne Des Monts. The Fairmile believed that the charges  
were being dropped by RACCOON. At 0930Z on September 7th,  
it was found that RACCOON was not with the convoy and  
subsequent efforts failed to locate her."

I am, Sir,

Secretary of the Admiralty,  
Admiralty, Whitehall,  
London, S.W.1.

Your obedient servant,  
(Sd.) ? J.W. Tucket  
for (O.C.S. Robertson)  
Captain, R.C.N.



14.9.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

Renewed  
attacks  
on O.N.  
127.  
OTTAWA  
sunk. *by U.S.I.*  
*(6.3.443)*

The Canadian destroyer OTTAWA, escorting Convoy O.N. 127 in Task Unit 24.1.14, was torpedoed and sunk at 0005Z in about 47° 55' N. 43° 27' W. CELANDINE and ARVIDA picked up survivors. ST. CROIX attacked 2 or 3 S/M contacts, with one possible success. An unidentified tanker in the convoy was torpedoed at the same time, making a total of 11 merchant ships torpedoed and 2 missing. Four of the torpedoed ships reached port.

It is reported that SS. JOHN A HOLLOWAY, a straggler from Convoy G.A. 2 was torpedoed and sunk at 1645/6 in 14° 10' N. 71° 30' W.

RACCOON  
*sunk*

The Navy Ministry Ottawa today report the loss of H.M.C.S. RACCOON (armed yacht.) At 0240Z/3 the RACCOON reported a submarine firing a torpedo across her bows in the River St. Lawrence (see 3/9); she has apparently not been heard of since.  
*Sunk on 7.9.42, when with Convoy Q.S. 33 Quebec to Sydney*

SS. HARBOROUGH was torpedoed and sunk at 1230 G.M.T. today 60 miles from Tobago.

SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH arrived at New York this afternoon from the U.K.

Australia and New Zealand.

A Japanese squadron containing 2 battleships, one aircraft carrier, 3 heavy and 3 light cruisers was sighted and attacked by aircraft east of the Solomon Islands today, and a possible hit obtained on a battleship.



14.9.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

CALPE CALPE is to prepare for foreign service and will be withdrawn from Portsmouth Command on completion of refit. A.M. 1857/24/5 refers. (D.O.D. (H.), 1106A/14 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

FISHGUARD FISHGUARD is required to be ready for sea on 25/10. (D.O.D. (H.), 1146A/14 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth).

Movements.

A.F.D.17 Sailed M/S Trawlers TUMBY and TARTAN to R/V A.F.D. 17 between Ewe Buoy and Eilean Trodday. Sweeper will precede A.F.D.17 into Loch Ewe using LL and SA Gear. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0445A/14 to FOXTROT)

VETCH, GERANIUM. Sailed my 2107A/13. <sup>W.T.A. 1112</sup> VETCH E.T.A. <sup>Liverpool</sup> 0700A/15 and GERANIUM E.T.A. 0800A/15. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0939A/14). <sup>To whom?</sup> 3 hours late on my estimated time of arrival Bar. (VETCH, 1900A/14).

ROMAN Intend sailing S/Tug ROMAN from Cromarty by I/S route for Scapa 0730/15. Request fighter protection. E.T.A., 1630/15. (N.C.S.O. Invergordon, 0940/14).

H.50 H.50 will be exercising in area C off Plymouth between 1230/14 and 1640/15. (C. in C. Plymouth 1031/14)(F.O.S. 1226A/14).

FORMIDABLE. <sup>See p. 420 (Thomson's Summary.)</sup> Destroyers R/V with FORMIDABLE in position (u) 048° 00' N., 020° 30' W., at 1200Z/15. Thence through (q) and as previously ordered. (C. in C. W.A., 1158A/14). Estimate you will meet O.S.40 at about 0800A/15 in 046° 43' N., 021° 57' W. (C. in C. W.A., 1846A/14 to FORMIDABLE).

CHASSEURS 42 & 43. EMPIRE WARLOCK. Cancel my 2335/13. EMPIRE WARLOCK and Chasseurs comply with F.O.C.N.A.'s 1712. (C. in C. W.A., 1436A/14 to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven). Admiralty 1743/20/8, C. in C. W.A., 1247/12, F.O.C.N.A. 1712/13. Sailed Chasseurs 43 and 42 in tow of tug EMPIRE WARLOCK. No B.N.L.O. or British Communication ratings borne in Chasseurs. E.T.A. Gibraltar 22/9. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1841A/14).



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

STURGEON My 0951/13. Sailed.  
PRESTON NORTH END (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1846A/14 to A.C.O.S.)

TUNA, My 1140/11. Sailed.  
SEALION. (Capt. S.6., 1855A/14).  
M.L. 300.

SKATE Your 1537A/14. At 1730 P.C.S. 058° 55' N., 011°  
53' W., 230° 6 knots until weather moderates.  
Request onward route.  
(SKATE, 1900A/14 to C. in C. W.A.)  
*See pp 398  
9403. (H.X.206.)*

ADRIAS, A.M. 2002/22/8. Delete all reference to  
FARNDALE. ADRIAS and FARNDALE.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 2046A/14 to R.A.D.)

Operations.

Operation \*ULLSWATER and VICTRIX are to be detached and are  
"Inspiration". to proceed in company to reach position F.  
(KYLE 050° 35' N., 010° 00' W., by 1600A/15 where they  
CLARE). are to endeavour to intercept Eire Steamer  
KYLE CLARE of 700 tons. P.C.74 detailed by  
C. in C. W.A. co-operating.

2. Vessel bound Fastnet Rock from Lisbon, thence  
by territorial waters to Irish Sea, may reach Fastnet Rock Area  
evening 15th and if met is to be boarded and then escorted by  
P.C.74 to Liverpool for examination passing through Q.Z.L.18  
Trawler to proceed Milford Haven.

3. KYLE CLARE is not to be allowed to use W/T and must be  
forced to darken ship if this is not already done.

4. CHESTERFIELD passes 30 miles south of position (F) night  
14/15 bound S.W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 0009A/14 to \*CLEVELAND). \*L.P.400  
Sailed CHESTERFIELD to R/V with STARWORT in position (A)  
47° 55' N., 16° 50' W., at 0700Z/16.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 0905A/14 to STARWORT).

Your 1711A/13. Nothing suspicious of either crew or ship  
known here.

(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1029/14 to Admty).

Your 1600/14. 2 M.Ls. from Scilly Isles proceeding.

Remain with Tunnyman till 2200/14 if necessary. Then proceed  
in execution of previous orders.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1839A/14 to VICTRIX).

Following is a repetition of my 1943A/14 to N.O.I.C.  
Falmouth, N.O.I.C. Penzance (R) to CLEVELAND. 4 M.Ls. are to  
sail from Penzance to reach the following position by 0800/15  
(A) 049° 45' N., 007° 00' W. (B) 050° 05' N., 007° 00' W. 2  
M.Ls. are to patrol within 7 miles North and South of each  
position. (2) Object to intercept Tunnymen and escort them to  
Penzance. (3) Codeword "Warrant 3".

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1945A/14 to CLEVELAND).



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

- "Cloak 7". My 1549/13. Operation completed.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0724/14).
- Operation "Feature". Arrived HARLECH CASTLE, BEAUMARIS CASTLE, WALWYNS CASTLE.  
(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1046A/14).
- Patrols. Intend M.G.Bs. 55 and 57 to patrol on latitude 50° 20' N., between 1° 35' and 2° 10' W. tonight from 2130 till 0630 returning Weymouth on completion.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1154A/14).  
Cancel my 1154A/14. M.G.Bs. not available owing to damage sustained in collision while leaving harbour.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 2137A/14).  
M.T.Bs. 204 and 235 are to sail at 2000 tonight and proceed to patrol between positions 48° 56' 30" N., 03° 38' W. and 48° 57' 30" N., 03° 19' W.  
2. They are to return so as to be within 20 miles of Dartmouth at first light.  
3. Engines should be conserved on passage.  
4. If either boat breaks down both are to return to harbour.  
5. Object to attack enemy shipping.  
6. Codeword "Stencil".  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1719A/14 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).  
"Stencil" sailed.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 2009/14).  
"Stencil" returned with engine trouble.  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 2045/14).  
M.L.s 146 and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys, E.T.A. 0600/15.  
The following Anti E-boat patrols from 2030.  
M.Ls. 293 and 140 near C one buoy. S.G.B. 9 and M.G.Bs. 329 and 322 at D buoy. M.G.Bs. 41 S.2. S.3., 46 and 6 at V buoy.  
(V.A. Dover, 1814A/14).  
Departure M.Ls. 105, 106, 110, 150, 152. M.G.Bs. 77, 76, 75, 81.  
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1836A/14 to Admty).

Allied Air Operations.

- Escort for S.N. 65 A. Admiralty 1116/14. Arrangements for air escort as in my 1035/11, 24 hours late.  
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1231A/14 to R.A.M.)
- "Knocker". My 1143/13. Postponed a further 24 hours.  
(A.C.I.C., 1315A/14).
- Bomber Command operations. On nights 11/12 and 12/13, no operations. On night 13/14, 331 A/C attacked Bremen and single A/C attacked Kiel, Wilhelmshaven, Emden, and Cuxhaven.  
(H.Q.B.C., 1645A/14).



14.9.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

- Sweep in  
Lyme Bay. Your 1834/12 "Ounce V" sailed 0616/14 plus TREVO  
~~III. TERLEIRO~~  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 0624A/14 to N.O.I.C.  
Dartmouth).  
My 1834/12. "Ounce V" arrived plus TREVO ~~III.~~ <sup>TERLEIRO.</sup>  
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1644A/14).
- S.N.65 A. My 2011/13. Estimate U-boats will be cleared  
p.m. today. Recommend R.A.M. proceed with S.N.  
65 A, laying 24 hours later.  
(C. in C. H.F., 0959A/14 to Admty).  
Comply with C. in C. H.F., 0959A/14.  
(D.O.D. (H.), 1116A/14 to R.A.M.)  
C. in C. H.F. 0959/14. Am proceeding with operation S. N.  
65 A, 24 hours late on programme throughout. Request one  
Destroyer to augment screen as BRIGHTON has had to return to  
harbour.  
(R.A.M., 1124A/14 to C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. H.F.)  
Arrived BRIGHTON.  
(TRELAWNEY, 1316/14).  
Sailing PUCKERIDGE to R/V R.A (M) in 090° N. Rona 6 miles  
at 2000A/14.  
(C. in C. H.F., 1414A/14 to R.A.D. H.F.)  
Proceed to pass Switha at 1445 today to R/V R.A.M. in  
SOUTHERN PRINCE at 2000A/14 090° N. Rona 6 miles and provide  
additional escort during operation S.N.65 A.  
2. On completion R.A.M. is requested to detail you to sail for  
Greenock for boiler cleaning preparatory to leaving U.K. on 26/9.  
(R.A.D. H.F., 1423A/14 to PUCKERIDGE).  
Scapa departure 1453. PUCKERIDGE.  
(A.C.O.S., 1921/14).
- PLOVER Arrived PLOVER.  
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1145A/14).
- M.S.N.3  
Part 1. \* ~~Sailing~~ <sup>Port Z.A.</sup> FRASERBURGH, PETERHEAD, WORTHING,  
BEAUMARIS, LLANDUDNO, DUNBAR, LYME REGIS in  
accordance with R.A.Ms 0904/7.  
(TRELAWNEY, 1230/14).  
My 2004/13. Remaining in Broad Bay until the  
weather moderates.  
(15 M.S. 2345A/14 to Admty).  
*\* See Movement of H.M. Ships.*
- Q.L.4 A. (1) Weather permitting carry out operation  
Q.L. 4 A tonight. Covering force 8th M.G.B.  
Flotilla to be in 52° 5' N., 3° E. at 2145,  
proceeding subsequently to form close cover on  
M.Ls. After M.Ls. are clear, M.G.Bs. may take  
advantage of enemy reports to intercept "E"  
Boats. Alternative position if operation is  
cancelled Z.6. (2) One unit M.Ls. 6th Flotilla  
Z.3.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1526A/14 to BEEHIVE).



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HOME COMMANDS.

U-boats.

U-boats reported.

Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface, and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 040° 5 knots.  
(A/C 15 Group 0903Z/14).

Indefinite D/F bearings at 2212A/13 and at 2400A/13 indicate one or two U-boats within 150 miles of 44° N., 25° W. (D.D.I.C., 0915A/14 to FORMIDABLE).

U-boat attacked by aircraft in 57° 34' N., 22° W., at 1331Z/13, course 230° may today be in vicinity of convoy H.X.206. (D.D.I.C., 0959A/14 to C.T. 24.1.15).

Am over enemy S/M in 57° 23' N., 25° 20' W.  
(A/C HL 6 A., 1000Z/14).

Am over enemy S/M in 57° 45' N., 21° 5' W.  
(A/C HL 6 A., 1017/14).

U-boat sighted at 0825A/14 in 57° 45' N., 21° 05' W. probably that referred to in A.M. 0959A/14.

(D.D.I.C., 1037A/14 to C.T. 24.1.15).

My 1341Z/11 cancel para. 4 On completion of present escort duty\*SKATE,\*SALADIN, and\*SARDONYX proceed to search for U-boats reported in vicinity of 058° 10' N., 012° 30' W., at 0230Z/14. Weather permitting aircraft will co-operate in search.

(C. in C. W.A., 1058A/14 to CURACOA). \*S-403

D/F bearings at 0836Z/14 and at 0928Z/14 indicate at least one U-boat between latitudes 55° 00' N., and 56° 30' N. and longitudes 20° and 25° W.

(D.D.I.C., 1214A/14).

Following received from aircraft at 1220. Am investigating suspicious object in 48° 37' N., 8° W.

(Plymouth, W/T, 1237/14).

Am over enemy submarine in 48° 00' N., 8° 8' W. Periscope only sighted. When first seen was on course 220° 4 knots.

(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1245/14).

Enemy previously reported was on surface and observed to submerge. Was on course 030° 5 knots.

(A/C HL 6 A T.O.R., 1300/14).

Am over enemy sub. in 57° 10' N., 25° 20' W. Sub. on surface course 270° speed 5 knots.

(A.O.C. 19 Group T.O.R., 1341Z/14).

Enemy sub observed on surface and then submerge course 090° 8 knots.

(A.O.C. 15 Group. 1359/14).

D/F Bearings at 1318Z indicate U-boat may be in vicinity of Convoy.

(D.D.I.C., 1520A/14 to Escorts O.S.40).

U-boat in vicinity of convoy H.X. 206 transmitted at 1545Z and 1558Z.

(D.D.I.C., 1745A/14 to C.T. 24.1.15).

U-boats attacked.

Am over enemy sub. in 62° 10' N., 00° 15' E. Enemy on surface and observed to submerge, course 280° speed 8 knots.

(A/C AD5R 1305/14).

Have attacked enemy sub. with depth charges.

(A/C AD5 R 1306/14).

/Have...



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HOME COMMANDS.

U-boats.

U-boats  
attacked  
Contd.

Have attacked enemy. Much gunfire. Scored several hits.  
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1310Z/14).  
Am over enemy submarine in 62° 11' N., 0° 40' E. Enemy on surface and observed to submerge.  
(A/C AD5A 1620/14).

Have attacked enemy submarine with depth charges. Enemy when first sighted was on a course 310° speed 6 knots.  
(A/C 18 Group 1630/14).

Am over enemy S/M in 57° 23' N., 24° 3' W. Enemy on surface. When first sighted was on course 260° 13 knots.  
(A/C N1UH 1745Z/14).

Am over enemy S/M in 57° 15' N., 24° 04' W. Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Have attacked with depth charges.  
(A/C 1835Z/14).

Enemy submarine previously reported when sighted was on course 245° speed 15 knots.  
(A.O.C. 15 group 1900Z/14).

Policy of  
Convoy  
Escorts.

Enemy U-boats are now carrying out organized day attacks on convoys. Policy of escorts must be to maintain maximum strength of escort around convoy in order to deter attackers and provide heavy scale of counter-attack. Detaching of escorts to chase off U-boats sighted on horizon should therefore be restricted and the policy of leaving escort to keep down submarines until dark should not be resorted to unless at least 2/3 of available escorts are present with convoy. After attacks, maximum scale of offensive action is to be developed by all escorts present, and picking up of survivors should not be allowed to delay immediate offensive action unless absolutely necessary. Heavy attacks on convoys are likely to develop in near future and with present shortage of escorts it is imperative that utmost skill and co-operation should be developed in escort groups in order that casualties may be inflicted on enemy on such a scale as to destroy their morale and render their effort unprofitable.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1735Z/14).

Navigational.

White sea  
lights.

Please correct S.B.N.O. Archangel's 1045A/9, as follows:- 1st para. for (?3 or 6) read 6 miles sector etc. 2nd para. 53' is confirmed as being correct.  
(H.W.R. 14/9).

Following from S.B.N.O. Archangel Begins. Lights White Sea. Following established. Details (D.O.D. H., 1117A/14 to Escorts of P.Q. and Q.P. Convoys).

Tyne.

18 B buoy light extinguished.  
(Hydrog, 0107A/14).

It does not appear to be realised by Ministry of War Transport, that on a dark night with strong winds and tides it is not possible to navigate Tyne. Pilots under those

/Conditions...



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Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational - cont.Tyne.  
Contd.

conditions refuse to move ships. I concur with this. It is requested that these seamanlike restrictions may be explained to Ministry of War Transport.  
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1125/14 to Admty).

Casualties & Defects.

ULLSWATER.

Sail Tug SEA GIANT with all despatch to assist \*ULLSWATER in tow of \*CLEVELAND 49° 00' N., 10° 37' W at 0600/14. Course 065° 5 knots.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0325/14 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth).  
Tug SEA GIANT sails Falmouth 0515/14 Speed 12½ knots, to assist you.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 0422A/14 to CLEVELAND).  
Your 0325/14. SEA GIANT sailed 0705A/14.  
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 0710A/14). \* See p. 395

TYNWALD

Arrival TYNWALD with A/S defect.  
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 0914A/14).  
My 0914A/14. TYNWALD will remain at Campbeltown until 0845/15.  
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 1454A/14).

AMBER QUEEN

Your 1330/13 September. Essential that repairs to AMBER QUEEN be hastened. Most urgent that vessel arrives Liverpool 17/9. for shipment abroad.  
(D.S.V.P., 1622A/14 to N.O.I.C. Leith).  
My 1519 and your 1622A. Repairs to AMBER QUEEN effected, but cannot guarantee further defects will not develop on account of general state of ignition system.  
(N.O.I.C. Leith, 2001/14 to Admty).  
Your 1622/14. AMBER QUEEN aground in Carron River Grangemouth. Top of H.W. Springs. Tug ordered for a.m. tomorrow Tuesday to ensure vessel being refloated. AMBER QUEEN reports clutch unserviceable.  
(R.N.O. Grangemouth, 2110/14).

ANEMONE

Returning to Londonderry with engine defect.  
My P.C.S. at 2300A, 055° 48' N., 011° 08' W., 96° 10 knots. E.T.A. Londonderry 1500A/15.  
(ANEMONE, 2300A/14).



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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

P.Q.18, It is estimated that at least 5 U-boats have  
Q.P.14 made contact with P.Q.18 during the past 24  
hours.  
(D.D.I.C., 0121A/14).  
(?Your) A.C.? 215 13. P.R.U. MOSQUITO (?not)  
arrived Vaenga Bay. Enquiry being made from other possible  
North Russia crews.  
(R.A.F. North Russia, 0245C/14 to 18 Group).  
Proposed covering position should be moved 60 miles North.  
(18 C.S. 1045A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Visual R/C of Altafiord at 0815A today showed 2 cruisers  
or above with possibility of a 3rd. Photographic reports  
following.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1102A/14 to Admty).  
F.O.S.'s 1259/7. Request you sail P.217 at 0700A/16 on  
the surface at C.O.'s discretion through position A. 091° Out  
Skerries 5 miles. B. 061° 01' N., 000° 07' E. C. 061° 04' N.,  
002° 03' E. Thence dive by day to patrol in Area K. 104.  
2. H.Q.C.C. is requested to arrange total bombing restrictions.  
(a) in area 14 N. of 060° N., and W. of 002° E. from 0700A/16  
until 0700A/17. (b) in area bounded parallel 061° 40' N., and  
060° 30' N., and meridian 002° E. and Norwegian coast from 1900A  
/16 until further notice.  
(Capt. S.9., 1129A/14 to S.O. S/M Lerwick).  
Photographs taken 1045/14 are only distant obliques of Alta-  
fiord. Photographs neither confirm nor disprove pilots  
statement that the larger naval units are probably present.  
One vessel, probably a destroyer, is seen and there are  
indications of 2 or 3 other vessels of indeterminate size.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1226A/14 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
My 2325/11. Returned (ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, etc). *See P 390*  
(A.C.I.C., 1235A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)  
Estimated situation 2059 tonight. NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, LONDON  
CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE, ECHO, BULLDOG, 065° 55' N.  
024° 50' W., to northward.  
(A.C.I.C., 1302A/14 to A.I.G. 54).  
Sailed 18th C.S.'s 1805/12 (Cruiser Force).  
(A.C.I.C., 1318A/14 to C. in C. H.F.)  
One enemy A/C unidentified sighted 4 miles off entrance to  
Seidis fjord course S., at 1100A/14. Sighted again at  
Budareyn (Reydar Fiord) at 1134A/14 flying 4,000 feet, course  
S.W. no cloud, extreme visibility.  
(A.C.I.C., 1334A/14 to Admty C. in C. H.F.)  
Pass to Polyarno begins for C.L.O., S.B.N.O. North Russia,  
(R) 30 Mission. P.R. Narvik, 1205A/14 carried out. No major  
units present. Ends.  
(18 Group, 1506A/14 to Admty).  
My 1606/13 para. (A) add S/Ms move at 2200/14 to be in  
zones K.76, K.77., K.78, K. 79 K. 80 K.81 and K.82 by by 1200/15.  
(F.O.S., 1511A/14 to Admty).  
Estimated position of P.Q.18 at 0800/15 will be 075° 55' N.  
031° 30' E. Estimated position of Q.P.14 at 0800/15 will be  
069° 01' N., 044° 02' E. At 2200/14 S/Ms are to commence a move  
to occupy undermentioned zones at 1200/15. TIGRIS K.82, TRIBUNE  
K.81, UREDD K.80, P.54 K. 79, P.221 K.78, P.45, K.77., UNIQUE  
K. 76.  
(F.O.S., 1541A/14).

*Sailed in QP.14 the following American survivors. Details.  
(SSTO. Archangel 0740A/14 to Admty)*

/1 F.W...



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Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - 14/9/42 -

P.Q.18. 1 F.W. passed over Skalar 066° 20' N 014° 42' W,  
 Q.P.14. course N.W. at 1320/14.  
 Contd. (A.C.I.C. 1620A/14.)  
 Positions of submarines at 0800A/15 and movements  
 for following 24 hours.

UNIQUE, P.45, P.221, P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE and TIGRIS in Zone K.75,  
 K.76, K.77, K.78, K.79, K.80 and K.81 respectively moving so as to  
 be in Zones K.76, K.77, K.78, K.79, K.80, K.81 and K.82  
 respectively at 1200/15.  
 (F.O.S. 1656A/14 to Admty.)  
 Reliable fix and D/F bearings of U-Boat at 1645A/14 in 075°  
 06' N 028° 15' E.  
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1719A/14 to Admty.)  
 Visual R/C of Altafiord at 0815A/14 reported 2 cruisers or  
 above and possibly a third present. Photographs inconclusive.  
 (D.D.I.C. 1719A/14.)  
 Reliable fix and D/F bearings of U-Boat at 1614/14 in 075°  
 55' 023° 10'. Admty. pass to escort P.Q.18.  
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1750A/14 to Admty.)  
 My 2031/13. Dusk attack undefinable number of torpedo-  
 bombers. No result. At least 1 shot down. Today shadowed  
 continuously by 4 aircraft and submarines. At 1235 attacked by  
 22 torpedo-bombers who were driven off. This was followed by  
 considerable high bombing, no damage, and an attack 25 torpedo-  
 bombers during which 2 ships were torpedoed, one of which is still  
 with convoy. Continuous high and low bombing with many near  
 misses until 1515.  
 3 Hurricanes shot down, all pilots recovered, and an unknown  
 number of enemy but at least 7 certain. In addition AVENGER's  
 pilots claim 4 certain, 3 probably, and 13 damaged. ONSLOW  
 severely damaged one U-Boat. (see p. 390) (U. 389 sunk)  
 My P.C.S. at 1600/14 075° 58' 024° 24' E 090° 8½ knots. 5592  
 1872.  
 (R.A.D. H.F. 1759A/14 to Admty. C. in C. H.F.)  
 Preliminary visual R/C of Narvik area a.m./14 states no  
 major units present.  
 (D.D.I.C. 1819A/14.)  
 After being sighted by A/C on 13th on N.E'yly course proceeded  
 west and north of Jan Mayen. Believe no subsequent sighting to  
 present time.

2. At Akureyri fighter and A/S air patrol provided, but the  
 harbour is insecure without a guard loop to the minefield  
 especially for DUKE OF YORK.

3. If located by air consider inadvisable to remain for more  
 than 24 hours and propose then to proceed Hvalfiord making second  
 sortie from there.

4. The possibilities Hruisafiord 065° 15' N 021° 07' W (Chart  
 931) are being investigated.  
 (V.A.2. 1931/14 to C. in C. H.F.)  
 My 1531/13. Shall be 1½ hours late.  
 (C.S.18 2015A/14 to AMAZON.)  
 Pass to Polyarno. Begins. For C.L.O. S.B.N.O. and Vaenga  
 from 18 Group. Bases for the next 24 hours. Sullom not fit.  
 Invergordon fit. Wooyhaven fit. Wind north of 69(?65) degs S.W.  
 50 to 60 M.P.H. Mosquito to carry out P.R. of Narvik, Tromso  
 and Altafiord a.m./15 landing Vaenga. P.R.U. Spitfire will  
 proceed Vaenga weather permitting.  
 (18 Group 2045A/14 to Admty.)



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Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. 3-engined enemy flying-boats sighted bearing  
Q.P.14. 10 miles N.E. from Vopnafjord 65° 45' N 14° 49' W,  
Contd. course S.E. at 1945A/14.  
(A.C.I.C. 2054A/14 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)  
My 2030/13. Dusk attack by undefinable number of  
torpedo bombers. No results. At least one shot down.  
Message faded here. Nothing further received.  
(R.A.D. H.F. No T.O.O. Recd. 2107/14.)  
A.M. 1819A/14. Photographic R/C confirms no major units  
in Bogan Fiord, but remainder of Narvik area incompletely covered.  
(D.D.I.C. 2231A/14.)  
At 2354C/14 probable U-Boat estimate position 073° 33' N  
031° 15' E.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2237A/14 to Admty. Escorts P.Q.18.)

QUEEN T.A.22 sailed 0148/14.  
MARY. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 0150/14.)  
T.A.22 sailed in accordance with my 1608A/12.  
Degaussing coils require attention on arrival.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0156A/14.)  
T.A.22. A. Q. Alter forthwith to U. 059° 01' N 011° 58' W  
thence (N) omitting (M). CURAÇOA to comply as necessary.  
(C. in C. W.A. 0942A/14 to QUEEN MARY.)  
Your 1537A/14 understood. T.A.22 position at 1700A 058° 54'  
N 012° 10' W.  
(CURAÇOA 1806A/14 to C. in C. W.A.)

Stragglers The following revised instructions for the  
Route. routeing and conduct of stragglers are to be  
brought into force forthwith.  
(a) Stragglers route should open out to between  
40 and 60 miles from convoy route as soon as navigational dangers  
allow and should be on one side or other of but should not cross  
the convoy route.  
(b) Unless otherwise ordered by W/T, stragglers should endeavour  
to rejoin convoy as indicated by the Commodores R/V for the two  
days following. If it is evident that neither of the R/Vs can be  
made they should at once proceed to the stragglers route.  
(c) When the diverting authority has reason to believe convoy is  
shadowed he will direct all stragglers by B.A.M.S. Message to  
proceed immediately to the stragglers route. If the original  
stragglers route is unsuitable a new one will be included in the  
message.  
(d) The course steered to reach the stragglers route should be  
at an angle not less than 30° from the course of the convoy.  
(D.T.D. 1352A/14.)

H.X.206. Detach \*SKATE, \*SARDONYX and \*SALADIN to proceed  
forthwith at best speed to reinforce H.X.206  
estimated position at 0800A/15 057° 30' N 019° 14'  
W, routed through K 057° 30' N 018° 15' W speed 9½ knots.  
HURRICANE is to amend R/V as necessary.  
(C. in C.W.A. 1537A/14 to CURAÇOA.)



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Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

D.S. 32. Intend sailing LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE passing Clyde Boom 2030A/16 to R/V CASTLETON and WELLS in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0630A/17, thence as in C. in C. W.A.\*1052A/14. S of A 12 knots. \*N.T.A.W.D.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1554A/14.)  
On return from present operation request you will sail CASTLETON and WELLS to R/V LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0630/17.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1604A/14 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

North Your 1017/12 stating that permission to land  
Russia Archangel section of hospital unit finally refused  
Hospital and that they must return to U.K. in Q.P.14.  
Unit and Party left with Q.P.14 and are now on the way  
requirements. home again.  
(ii) Presume there were special reasons for  
(?taking) (?them) U.K. and not to Kola Inlet.  
(iii) I had requested S.B.N.O. Archangel to send Surgeon Lieutenant Walton to Vaenga as soon as possible for Surgical duties. (?Intention) was also that remainder should return to Vaenga by December vide my 1226/18/8.  
(iv) Present Vaenga staff one medical officer and 12 ratings is inadequate for hospital of 75 beds and consider following minimum must be sent (?Air station) from U.K:- One medical officer (Surgeon Specialist) one dental officer, one S B Chief Petty officer, (corrupt group) S B Petty officer (one O R A) one L S B A, 6 S B A, one Petty officer or Leading cook.  
(v) Medical officer Polyarno can assist at hospital in emergency.  
(vi) Request Admty. may be informed if there is likely to be any difficulty about above additional staff Vaenga so that matter can be taken up in London in first place if necessary.  
A.M. 2008/31 refers.  
(vii) I hope P.Q.18 will not produce casualties who will now suffer the unnecessary hardships referred to in S.B.N.O. Archangel 1743/1/8.  
Admty. pass to C. in C. H.F.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1638A/14 to Ad. Miles.)

## WAYLAND.

C. in C. Portsmouth's 1129/12. One destroyer can be made available by withdrawal from coastal convoy escort. As WAYLAND cannot round Lands End before dark consider she should be brought into Plymouth for the night.  
(C. in C. Plymouth 1929A/14 to Admty.)

SHETLANDS.  
VERA  
RADCLIFFE.  
MIRIAM.  
EILDON.  
LYMINGE.

A.M's 1518/8, 1226/10. Route through position  
A. 55° 35' N 07° 00' W. B. 55° 00' N 13° 00' W.  
C. 53° 00' N 16° 30' W. D. 39° 30' N 16° 30' W.  
E. 36° 45' N 12° 00' W. thence to Gibraltar.  
2. Stragglers route same as convoy route.  
(D.O.D. (H.) 1934A/14.)



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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.→U/B  
TALISMAN.TALISMAN reports U-Boat in 037° 48' 006° 00' E. at  
0645/14 course 250° 14 knots.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 0836A/14 to 8th S/M.F)  
W.D.Note:- Later destroyed by Sunderland, see  
2242/14. *next page - see also below*TALISMAN made a further report on U-Boat in 037° 49' 006° 06'  
E. 250° 16 knots at 0854/14.(2) 4 Hudsons airborne at 1100A/14 sweeping to 002° 00' E.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1038A/14 to 8th S.F.).At 0854/14 TALISMAN sighted U-Boat in 037° N. 006° E. 250° 16.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1522A/14 to Admty, C. in C.Med V.A. Malta).TALISMAN reports U-Boat in 037° 48' N. 006° 00' E. at  
0645/14 course 250° 14 knots. This is additional to my 1542A/14.  
(? 1522/14 intended)  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1848A/14 to Admty, etc).PHILIPP M  
WISHART.Merchant Ship PHILIPP M. arrived Huelva 0800.  
WISHART proceeding to overtake convoy. (06.49).  
(WISHART 0850A/14 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty,  
WILD SWAN).

KAOLACK.

Your 2024A/13. Following is a repetition of  
Barcelona's 2173/26 (as received) 11/9 (begins)  
KAOLACK sailed 1800/11 escorted by \*CANALESUBAS.Captain Spanish ship has orders to escort KAOLACK into Malaga  
harbour. Master KAOLACK (? has) to obey unless otherwise  
ordered by W/T. (Ends). *\*CANALESUBAS*

(N.A. Madrid 1035/14 to Admty),

P.556.

My 1008/22/8. P.556 will not be ready to sail  
until about mid October.(2) Report on defects is being forwarded to F.O.C.  
S/Ms.(F.O.C.N.A. 1406A/14 to C. in C.S.A. R.A.W.A.  
(R) Admty, F.O.(S) S.O. S/Ms Simonstown).→U/B attacked  
by A/C  
believed sunk.  
ALABASTRO.*(Gr: Rowbottom  
& (ms. 6843.)*Following has been read. Am over enemy S/M in  
37° 48' N. 4° 35' E., when first sighted was on  
course 270° S/M has dived.

(A/C using call sign TY7R 1430/14).

Following has been read. Have attacked enemy  
with depth charges, result of attack - hits  
observed, S/M sunk, crew in Sea.

(A/C TY7R 1510/14).

Sunderland reports sinking of U-Boat in 037° 28' N. 004° 34' E at  
1510A/14th. Crew seen in sea.(F.O.C.N.A. 1750A/14 to Admty, C. in C.Med, 10th Escort Grp,  
V.A. Malta 2140A/14 to 8th S.F.).

(W.D.Note. A/C TY7R gave lat. 37° 48' N.).

/At....



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - *Contd.*

U/B attacked by A/C. believed sunk Contd.  
**ALABASTRO.**  
*(L.V. Roubal...)*  
(4) 1507 U-Boat seen to submerge with portion of crew still on deck.  
(5) 1530 U-Boat sank bows first stern sticking vertically out of water. 36 men counted in water.  
(6) U-Boat greenish grey colour similar to U.27 to U.36 class.  
(7) Consider photograph clearly established U-Boat sunk.  
(8) V.A.Malta pass to TALISMAN on arrival.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 2242A/14, to Admty (R) C. in C.Med., V.A.Malta).

U/B Santander, **CENTURIONE**, **REGINALDO GIULIANI.**  
S/M has extensive damage to hull caused by depth charges when submerged 30 metres. Repairs will take some considerable time.  
(Santander 1509/14 to Admty etc).

S/Ms. A.L.M.O.D. 11 75/42 of 11/9 S/Ms selected for para. 4 (c) STURGEON P.54 UNIQUE P.45 P.221.  
(F.O.C.N.A. 1634A/14 to Admty, (R) C. in C.Med. F.O.(S)).

GAETA. Following is a repetition of Huelva's 1800/12 addressed to me (begins) Your 1719/10 to Seville (requesting confirmation of presence of motor launch) Italian ship GAETA wireless set dismantled no information of intention to instal new set. Port Naval Authorities have always had launch and usual ratings.(Ends)  
(Madrid 1818/14, to Gibraltar (R) Admty).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 0820. Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE, Ships MARECHAL LYAUTEY full passengers, BONIFACIO light boilers on deck, AGEN LORRAIN, both laden, Trawler KERPAPE full, westbound.  
(S.O.(I) Gib. 1829A/14 to Admty R.A.W.A. S.O.(I) Kingston).

Gibraltar 1935. Armed trawler W. 43., ESTAFETTE, Ships \*CAPITANE - MARMED full, OUED SEBU<sup>U</sup> deck cargo horses, full, NANCEEN deck cargo barrels, full, eastbound.  
(S.O.(I) Gib. 2211A/14 to Admty)

\* *Not identified. CAPITANE ARMAND*



407

War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.GRIFFIN  
DECOY.

Simonstown departure 0730B/14. GRIFFIN and DECOY for Freetown calling Pointe Noire for fuelling. S. of A. 18 knots, E.T.A. Pointe Noire 1500B/18. (2) Shifting to W/T organization for Area P at

0400B/17th.

- (3) From Pointe Noire routed through position. (E) 003° 00' N. 011° 00' W. to Freetown.
- (4) Request B.N.L.O. W.Af. arrange for accountant representative to take delivery of 176000 francs French W.Af currency from DECOY (C. in C.S.A. 0956B/14 to Admty, R.A.W.A., B.L.O.W.A.).

O.S.40.  
S.L.124.

O.S.40.

Escorts are to continue with convoy to Freetown returning with S.L.124. (C. in C.W.A. 1057A/14 to Escorts of O.S.40, for Commodore, (R) Admty, R.A.W.A., C. in C.S.A.).

Force V  
Search for  
Axis  
Shipping.

Force V consisting of SIRIUS and PHOEBE will sail from Port Elizabeth p.m./15th to carry out operation "Volley" (alternative signification "Vitrif")

(2) Object, The interception and capture of Axis shipping south of the Cape.

(C) A daily air search by 6 Ventura A/C of S.A.A.F. will be carried out to cover an area between the coast and 040° S. between (018°) E. and 026° E. Time of departure of A/C will be signalled daily. As the crews of these newly arrived aircraft gain experience it is intended to extend this search to the southwards, finally to 042° S.

(4) Cruisers are to carry out the following patrols in latitude 040° S. (A) SIRIUS between 018° E. and 022° E. (B) PHOEBE between 022° E. and 026° E.

(5) Patrol data lines are established in longitude 020° E. and 024° E. respectively. These data lines are to be crossed on easterly course at (?11)00Z and on westerly course at 2300Z (? daily), (? S. of A) being adjusted accordingly. When possible cruisers should maintain S. of A. 15 knots. Ships are to zigzag.

(6) Aircraft have been instructed to act as follows on sighting a suspicious vessel (a) make W/T report (b) close and order ship to stop (c) if this order is disregarded aircraft are to attack (?vessel) with machine-gun fire, (d) it is seems unlikely that either cruiser will be able to contact enemy before dark A/C will attack with bombs, (e) contact will however be maintained as long as daylight permits by relief aircraft.

(7) Every endeavour should be made to take enemy ship in prize.

(8) S.O. Force V is to use his discretion if weather conditions make the maintenance of cruiser patrols ineffective and return Simonstown W/T silence is to be broken to (?inform C. in C.?) of fact.

(9) Unless orders to the contrary are received the operation will cease at sunset 21/9 when Force V is to return to Simonstown.

(10) A separate signal is being made containing detailed instructions concerning communications.

(C. in C.S.A. 1304B/14 to SIRIUS, PHOEBE, (R) Admty, Cdre Durban).

/Shipping...



408

War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Shipping  
Reports.  
Argentine.

B.R.Os at ports in Argentine where there is no U.S. Reporting officers have been instructed to report daily movements of shipping to A.S.O.(I) at Buenos Aires who passes this information to U.S. Routing Officers.

This is being done at the request of U.S. Naval Attache to enable movements not by their organization to be reported in Buenos Aires Merco signal.

(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1501Z/14 to Admty (R) B.A.D.).  
Concur (D.T.D.1504A/16).K.14  
K.15.  
SOUTHERN  
GEM.Intend sailing Neth. S/Ms K.14 and K.15 (? escorted by) SOUTHERN GEM for Freetown 16/9. Route.  
A. 034° 30' S. 017° 30' E. B. 031° 30' 010° 00'.  
C. 016° 00' 003° 00' W. D. 003° 00' 014° 00'.  
Thence Freetown. S. of A. 9 knots.  
2. Request R.A.W.A. arrange bombing restrictions in his area.  
(C. in C.S. A. 1707B/14 to Admty etc., as amended 0956B/15).HARMONIDES  
(Torpedoed  
25/8).WELSH TRADER at 0355 G.M.T. 25/8. on 680 metres intercepted S.S.S. from HARMONIDES torpedoed in 000° 40' N. 075° 35' E.  
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1726B/14 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty, S.O.(I) Colombo).

W.S.22.

N.C.S.O. Freetown's 2055/13 shows that W.S.22 sailed from Freetown before receipt of D. of S.T.'s 2321/12.  
2. Request you instruct escort and Commodore in accordance with para.2.(a) of latter signal.  
(D.O.D.(F) 1907A/14 to C. in C.S.A.).CLARE  
F/B. fix.

B.O.A.C. Flying-boat CLARE position 014° 20' N. 017° 34' W. at ? 2007 sent S.O.S. on fire. Search as thoroughly as possible provided sufficient fuel remains to reach your destination. M.L.s 1066 and 1044 are being sent to assist probably arriving position indicated 0600/15th. Sunderland leaving now to co-operate.

(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 2040Z/14 to VANSITTART (R) R.A.W.A. GLENGOWER, F.O.C.N.A.).

WIVERN leaving 2330/14th to search before R/V with PELICAN as in R.A.W.Af's 1901/14th (N.T. in W.R.).

(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 2251Z/14 to VANSITTART (R) R.A.W.A.F.O.C. N.A.).



War Diary.

14.9.1942.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Waylay"

TAKU beach report. "Mallard" Beach unmarked.  
(TAKU. 0134C/14 to Capt.(S) l.C. in C.Med).

Prospects. Your 1139/13.(N.T. in W.D.) Tobruk. 1st shore objective gained. Great hopes. Weather conditions for landing from destroyers good.  
(C. in C.Med 0200C/14 to Admty (for 1st S.L.) Personal).

Force A. Have Force "A" landed?  
(Med.Call Sign T O R 0454/14 to M.J.B. 22nd D.F.).

Force A. SIKH disabled. Force "A" failed to land. SIKH hit aft and disabled. Am endeavouring to withdraw.  
(22nd D.F. 0526/14 to C. in C.Med).  
My 0526 ZULU is closing to take me in tow.  
(Capt. D.22 0604/14 to Alex W/T).

COVENTRY. Steer for position PP.  
(C. in C.Med. 0547C/14 to COVENTRY).

Situation. Report situation yourself and Force "C" as far as known.  
(C. in C.Med 0615/14 to Med Call Sign T.O.R.(R) 3 RYD (undecypherable))

Landing Fails. Force "A" withdrawing, landing failed, Senior Officer Force "C" Tobruk area report situation and give directions for remaining M.T.Bs.  
(C. in C.Med. 0623C/14 to (Undecypherable) (R) 22nd D.F.).

{ZULU hit. Have been hit. *(? by shore batteries)*  
→ SIKH. (ZULU 0636/14, to C. in C.Med).  
Must leave you.  
(ZULU 0655/14 to 22nd D/F).  
Report condition and P.C. and S Steer for position PP. What was state of SIKH when last seen?  
(C. in C.Med. 0745/14 to ZULU (R) COVENTRY).  
My P.C. and S. 032° 23' 024° 26' 070° 30 knots, am proceeding towards P.P.  
( ZULU 0756/14 to C. in C.Med. (R) COVENTRY).  
Have been hit several times. SIKH was taken in tow but a hit aft parted wire at 0635, 30 knots, broad daylight, 2,000 yards from coast. SIKH commenced circle to port and told me to keep clear for 10 minutes. Eventually intensive fire was opened on both ships and D.22 ordered me to leave him. He was last seen circling at 10 knots being repeatedly hit. My first flight are all missing as well 12 other casualties. M.T.B 261 with 3 others was sighted returning.  
(ZULU 0806/14 to C. in C.Med (R) COVENTRY).

/Enemy..



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - conts.Operation "Waylay" - conts.ZULU hit.  
Contd.Enemy aircraft bombing no hits (?ON) shadowing  
(PN) 3232 2500.  
(ZULU 0853/14 to Alex W/T).A/C  
attack.Am being attacked by enemy A/C 045° Tobruk 6,  
CL9M5D.  
(5WTF.(undecypherable) 0830/14 to C. in C.Med).

Forde D.

Increase distance from land.  
(C. in C.Med 0858C/14 to Force D.)Situation  
Report.Situation obscure. SIKH disabled 1 mile off  
Tobruk and being repeatedly hit by gunfire. ZULU  
hit but retiring at 30 knots towards "Hunts."  
Latter being shadowed. Destroyer landing failed.  
Desert force reported success ?at 0120, last heard  
of 0520. Only 2 M.T.Bs ?had arrived at 0340. 4  
M.T.Bs known to be returning at 0800.  
(C. in C.Med 0900C/14 to Admty).

M.T.Bs.

Following has been read (?one M.T.B) 32.34 N. 26.48  
E. 110° 25.  
(A/C using call sign R6GS 0913/14).  
Following has been recd. 2 Motor Torpedo  
boats 32.46 N 46.16 E course 110° 27 knots.  
(A/C using call sign R6GS 0923/14).Troop  
Landing.Following has been read. Your 075?, GNLS  
(GULLPOOL), 2 boats landed troops, my 0172 refers  
to situation. Owing to air attacks am returning  
at slow speed to Alexandria by reverse route.  
(Call Sign 3JZL via Malta W/T 0929/14).

COVENTRY.

My P.C. and S. 032° 23' N. 028° 15' E. 000° 19 knots  
Endurance of "Hunts" 18 hours at present speed.  
ALDENHAM and BELVOIR sent into fuel. Intend  
altering to 270° at 1100.  
(COVENTRY 0930/14 to C. in C.Med).

ZULU

One unknown 015° 15 miles 32.44 N. 25.32.E.  
(ZULU 1004/14 to C. in C.Med).  
Following has been read Addressed Alexandria  
W/T. (?Course and speed of) 2 funnel hospital  
SERAPIS 330° speed 15 knots.  
(ZULU 1019/14).

/Enemy....



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - ~~contd.~~Operation "Waylay" - Contd.

Enemy destroyers. Following has been received. P.C.S. of 9 enemy destroyers 32.18 N 24.10 E. 170° 12 knots. (A/C using call sign R6G5 1020/14.)

M.T.Bs. Following has been received. P.C.S of our forces - 2 (?M.T.Bs) 1 aeroplane 32.15 N 26.41 E 110° 35 knots. (A/C using call sign R6GY 1037/14.)

COVENTRY hit. Enemy aircraft (?bombing) 32.50 N 28.15 E. COVENTRY hit. (Ships escorting convoy No.47 1121/14 to Alex W/T) Following received. Alexandria Base Ship. Heavy attack, 10 dive bombers, all missed. (ZULU 1124/14.) Attacked by 14 dive bombers. COVENTRY hit badly forward on fire. (DULVERTON 1140/14 to Alex. Port Wave.) Following has been read. Help "Cannon". (Malta W/T No. T.O.O. Recd. 1138/14.) Am being shadowed by one enemy aircraft 32.49 N 26.45 E. course 092° height 30,000 feet. (ZULU 1208/14 to Alex. Base Ship.) COVENTRY on fire, abandoned. (DULVERTON 1213/14 to C. in C. Med.) COVENTRY abandoned on fire. CROOME and HURSLEY attempting to sink her without much success. Can you sink her with torpedoes, her position 32.50 N 28.15 E. (DULVERTON 1327/14 to ?ZULU (R) C. in C. Med.) COVENTRY still afloat position 032° 48' N 028° 17' E. Burning well but very stubborn after gunfire and depth charge. HURSLEY in company. (CROOME 1401C/14 to C. in C. Med. (R) DULVERTON.) Noon position 262° YY 73 miles course 095° speed 10 knots. (Call sign 5WTF 1415/14 to Alex. W/T.) Your 1310 (N.T. in W.D.) Force D remaining concentrated and joining ZULU as soon as possible. ZULU is subsequently to sink COVENTRY and whole force return as in my 0905/14. (C. in C. Med. 1420C/14 to DULVERTON. ZULU. (R) Force D. R.A. Alexandria.)

A/C attacks Following has been read. 1 A/C bearing 010° 2 miles  
COVENTRY position 32.49 N 28.16 E.  
ZULU (CROOME via Alex. W/T 1428/14.)  
CROOME Following has been read. Addressed Alex. W/T.  
HURSLEY. Air attack 32.28 N 25.06 E.  
(Call sign 5WTF via Malta W/T 1430/14.)  
Following has been read. Alex. W/T. Enemy air-  
craft bombing.  
(CROOME 1447/14.)  
Dive bombing no hits, am about to torpedo COVENTRY.  
(ZULU 1449/14 to C. in C. Med.)  
My 1449, HURSLEY and CROOME in company.  
(ZULU 1456/14 to C. in C. Med.)

/Attacked...



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Operation "Waylay".

A/C attacks  
 COVENTRY Attacked by 10 more dive bombers, no hits,  
 ZULU HURSLEY, CROOME in company, COVENTRY torpedoed.  
 CROOME (ZULU 1515/14 to C. in C. Med.)  
 HURSLEY. Enemy A/C bombing 32.34 N 28.40 E bearing 120° 24.  
 Contd. (CROOME 1605/14 to Alex. W/T)  
 Bombed in position 32.37 N 28.30 E. ZULU holed  
 and stopped.  
 (HURSLEY 1615/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Following has been read. P.C.S. of enemy (?motor vessel)  
 32.48 N 24.58 E 310° 8 knots.

(A/C using call sign W9NP.)

ZULU hit in engine room and stopped in position 32.34 N  
 28.44 E. Am transferring all available men (? from) ZULU.  
 HURSLEY taking ZULU in tow. Request (? water) and air (?escort),  
 continuous heavy attack by Ju.88s.

(CROOME 1635/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Close ZULU bombed and stopped in 32.37 N 28.30 E if fuel  
 permits.

(C. in C. Med. 1647/14 to DULVERTON.)

{?Have driven off) Ju.88 shadowing.

(CROOME 1656/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Your 1647. All ships too low in fuel..Returning to  
 Alexandria with all despatch.

(DULVERTON 1700/14 to C. in C. Med.)

ZULU holed and stopped in 032° 37' N 028° 30' E. CROOME,  
 HURSLEY in company, remaining Hunts have been ordered to join.  
 Proceed with ALDENHAM and BRIGAND with all despatch to assist  
 ZULU. Codeword "Anger". Request 252 Wing provide fighter  
 protection until dark.

(C. in C. Med. 1703C/14 to BELVOIR (R) ALDENHAM. CROOME,  
 ZULU. DULVERTON. R.A. Alexandria. 201 Group. 252 Wing.  
 BRIGAND.)

Following has been read. Enemy aircraft bombing 32.34 N  
 28.44 E.

(CROOME 1707/14.)

My 1700 and your 1647. HURWORTH has been detached,  
 remainder returning to Alexandria.

(DULVERTON 1723/14 to C. in C. Med.)

My 1703/14 DULVERTON, BEAUFORT, HURWORTH, EXMOOR, returning  
 to Alexandria short of fuel.

(C. in C. Med. 1723C/14 to BELVOIR. (R) ALDENHAM. CROOME.  
 HURSLEY. R.A.Alexandria. 201 Group. 252 Wing.)

Following has been read. Enemy aircraft bombing 32.34 N  
 28.44 E.

(CROOME 1747/14, 1749/14.)

C. in C. 1703. My P.C.S. 032° 30' N 028° 47' E 170° 2 knots.

(CROOME 1849C/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Situation. ZULU in company with Hunts bombed and stopped in  
 32° 30' N 28° 43' E now in tow proceeding  
 Alexandria still being bombed. COVENTRY hit by  
 bombs set badly on fire and had to be sunk by ZULU. No news of  
 SIKH feared sunk off Tobruk. No news desert forces possibly in  
 M.T.Bs, majority of which appear to be returning, but situation  
 obscure. No news yet of damage at Tobruk but P.R.U. 0900/14  
 not encouraging.

(C. in C. Med. 2020C/14 to Admty.)

/ZULU...



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - ~~conts.~~Operation "Waylay" - Contd.

→ ZULU and escorts. Intend DULVERTON, BEAUFORT, EXMOOR to join you at 0530. Report P.C.S. of ZULU at 0400. CROOME, HURSLEY, HURWORTH are to remain with ZULU as long as (?fuel) allows.

2. Own M.T.Bs may be approaching Alexandria from N.W. during the night. Enemy E Boat activity is likely.  
(C. in C. Med. 2043/14 to CROOME. (R) N.O.I.C. Alexandria. 201 Group. Advance 252 Wing. ZULU. DULVERTON. ALDENHAM.)

Force C. Following is a repetition of my 2041/14. (Begins) Force C. (R) CROOME, ALDENHAM, DULVERTON, N.O.I.C. Alexandria. 201 N.C. Group. 252 Wing, from C. in C. Med. P.C.S. ZULU in towere 032° 30' N 028° 47' E 170° 2 knots at 1849/14. Destroyer and A.S.V. aircraft in company. Be careful to keep clear as enemy E Boat activity is expected.

2. Do not approach Alexandria before daylight unless essential in which case report E.T.A. to N.O.I.C. Alexandria in good time. Local patrol being warned 2041/14. (Ends.)  
(C. in C. Med. 2047C/14 to CROOME. ALDENHAM.)

Communique. Suggest following communique may be issued by Admty. and that I may be informed time of release. Army and R.A.F. agree.

On night 13/14 our light naval forces, with a small army force, carried out a seaborne raid on Tobruk, in conjunction with an air attack on a (considerable ?) scale. Our force landed in force (?face) of strong opposition and inflicted casualties and damage on the enemy before withdrawing. The withdrawal was not carried out without losses, which, in view of the strength of the defences, were to be expected.

Another light naval force successfully bombarded enemy lines of communication in (?the) Daba area.

This force has returned to harbour having suffered neither damage nor casualties.

(C. in C. Med. 2114C/14 to Admty.)

Your 2114/14. Communique being issued now.

(D.P.D. 0019A/15 to C. in C. Med.)

→ ZULU sunk. ZULU has sunk in 32° (?20) 28° 56'.  
(CROOME 2154C/14 to C. in C. Med.)  
My 2020/14 regret to report ZULU sunk 032° 00' N 028° 56' E at 2154.  
(C. in C. Med. 2312C/14 to Admty.)

CROOME. CROOME 2154/14. Proceed Alexandria with your forces to arrive 0530/15.  
(C. in C. Med. 2303C/14 to CROOME. ALDENHAM. (R) R.A. Alexandria. 201 N.C. Group. 252 Wing.)

→ ZULU survivors. Am returning to Alexandria HURWORTH, HURSLEY in company, course ?120° to position 031° 44' N 030° 07' 30" E thence 220° to swept channels, S of A 15 knots. E.T.A. 0600. Have following personnel

/from...



14.9.1942.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Waylay".

ZULU  
survivors.  
Contd.

from ZULU in CROOME: 9 officers, 180 ratings and  
60 Marines, including 10 wounded, 4 seriously,  
requiring immediate transfer to hospital. Captain  
of ZULU and others on board HURWORTH.  
(CROOME 2330C/14 to C. in C. Med. (R) R.A.  
Alexandria. DULVERTON. BELVOIR.)

ALDENHAM.

Am returning with BRIGAND and BELVOIR. My P.C.S.  
031° 56' N 029° 16' E 152° 14 knots. E.T.A.  
Alexandria, 0300C/15.  
(ALDENHAM 2329C/14 to C. in C. Med. (R) R.A.  
Alexandria. DULVERTON. CROOME.)

*See next page  
(Documents)*



War Diary.

14.9.1942.

Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.General.

TALISMAN.

*See p. 405*

Adjust speed to arrive 036° 21' 013° 40' about sunset 17/9.

S.A.M. (A) Nil. (B) 0401B/18. (C) U L

(D) 1059B/18. (E) Marsamxett. (F) Nil.

No British S/M operating west of 014° 10'.

(V.A. Malta 1032B/14 to TALISMAN. (R) F.O.C.N.A.

C. in C. Med. Capt. S.l. Capt. S.8. S/Ms on patrol.)

Movements.

Arrival 14/9? BELVOIR, ALDENHAM, ANTWERP, WHITEHAVEN, EXMOOR, DULVERTON, BEAUFORT, SOUTHERN ISLES. M.T.Bs 267, 307, 311, 315, 309, 313, 265 266. Departures 14/9 SEAHAM, WHITEHAVEN, ALDENHAM, BELVOIR.  
(S.O.I.) Alexandria 1047C/14 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

*\* Op: "Wanglang"*

P.35.

P.35 will leave 035° 35' 015° 57' about 2015B/14 direct to arrive 036° 40' 020° 35' about 0201B/18 to operate in Ionian area S.

(Capt. S.10. 1055B/14 to Subs on patrol. (R)

C. in C. Med. Capt. S.l. S.O.S. Alexandria.)

Flag of C.S.15.

Flag of F.O.C. 15 C.S. will be transferred (corrupt group) to EURYALUS p.m. 15th.

(F.O.C. 15 C.S. 1125C/14 to EURYALUS.)

Intend to transfer my flag temporarily to EURYALUS ? (p.m.) 15/9.

(C.S.15 1615C/14 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty.

S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area (Ismailia). R.A.D. Med.)

Movements.

Arrival 13/9\* M.T.B.268, departure 13/9. ALDENHAM, SIKH, ZULU, HURWORTH, BEAUFORT, EXMOOR, HYACINTH, PRIMULA.

(S.O.I.) Alex. 1130C/14 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

*\* Op: "Wanglang"*

U/B positions.

U-Boat disposition No.3. Probably one between Alexandria and Port Said, may be moving westward. Probably one within 50 miles radius of Jaffa, one, possibly two in area Beirut, Famagusta, Iskenderun.  
(C.O.I.S. Beirut 1200/14 to Med. Fleet.)

NEREUS.

Greek S/M NEREUS leaves 000° Ras Beirut 5 at 1930C 15th routed through 034° 15' 031° 46' at 0500C/17 and 036° 36' 028° 24' at 0600C/19 thence operate in area 035° 20' 026° 56' - 315° - 200° - 160.

(Capt. S.l. 1205C/14 as amended 1446C/15 to S/Ms on patrol. (R) C. in C. Med. NEREUS. Capt. S.10. 201 Group.)



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

- UNA. Arrived 14/9.  
(N.O.I.C. Malta 1207B/14 to C. in C. Med. etc.)
- ALBARO A. My 1543C/13 (?1545 intended ref Italian tankers  
CELENO at Constanza) Tankers ready and expected to sail  
(Italian) for (?Piraeus) p.m./14. B.2.  
B. (?Reported) ALBARO has 2,400 tons fuel oil,  
CELENO 4,900 benzine and gas oil. B.3.  
(S.O.I. Istanbul 1220/14 to S.L. S.10.)
- THRASHER. Proceed to area K. Best focal point 5 to 10 miles  
west of Cape Kroo entering area at position 034°  
30' 023° 28'. You will probably be recalled to  
leave patrol p.m./16.  
(Capt. S.l. 1630C/14 to THRASHER. (R) C. in C. Med.  
etc.)
- Malta Air I.680 14/9. C.S.R. Malta.  
Report. 13th. 1645 hours 2 Spitfires on shipping search  
sighting nothing. Night 13/14. 2356 hours 3  
raiders approached island, 2 dropped bombs in sea  
8 miles N.E. of Malta. Third Raider dropped bombs near Takali  
aerodrome causing no material damage. 1 Beaufighter up could not  
intercept owing to serious R.D.F. interference.  
14th. 0435 and 0715 hours sections of Spitfires made R/C patrols  
south Sicily. 0745, 0915 and 1143 hours, total 14 Spitfires up  
for raiders which turned back before reaching Malta.  
(A.H.Q. Malta 1716/14.)
- TRAVELLER. Unless in pursuit of good targets proceed forthwith  
to patrol within 20 miles Suda Bay. Leave this  
area p.m./15 and proceed via Kaso (?Strait) to  
patrol in area 034° 50' 027° 33' - 315° - 40 - 90. After carrying  
out orders in appendix to your sailing orders return to Beirut  
through (i) 035° 35' 028° 24'. (ii) 034° 14' 031° 18' reporting  
as soon as possible in accordance with para 6 to appendix of your  
sailing orders.  
(Capt. S.l. 1720C/14 to TRAVELLER. (R) C. in C. Med. S/Ms on  
patrol. Capt. S.10.)
- PAPANICOLIS. Your 2000/13 and 2032/13 acknowledged. Ref my  
1545/9 on arrival at position 034° 12' 033° 22' at  
2200C/14 alter course and proceed through 031° 48'  
032° 33' at 0330C/17 to arrive Port Said at 0600C/17. You will be  
(?unshipped) after arrival.  
(Capt. S.l. 1806C/14 to PAPANICOLIS. (R) C. in C. Med. S/Ms  
on patrol. No. 201 Group.)  
Your 1805/14. Have not sufficient lubricating oil to carry  
out your 1915/14. Request arrive Beirut as my 1915/14 to re-oil.  
(PAPANICOLIS 2130C/14 to Capt. S.l.)  
Your 2130/14 approve. You are not to enter Beirut sanctuary  
before 0200C/15. You should realize you are not at present  
covered by safety route.  
(Capt. S.l. 2312C/14 to PAPANICOLIS. (R) C. in C. Med.  
201 Group.)

/Enemy...



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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy  
Schooners.

Schooners have been observed plying between Western End of Crete and North Africa. These will certainly contain valuable cargoes. (Capt. S.l. 1943C/14 to S/Ms on patrol. (R) C. in C. Med.)



War Diary.14.9.1942.  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Madagascar  
Vichy  
Broadcast  
to Japan. Further to E. Africa Command's 50759 (T.O.O. 0715/12) 13/9 addressed W.O. only. Buttermere requests you do not make further reference alleged appeal for help from Japanese. (G.O.C. in C. E.A. 0130/G.M.T./14 to W.O. etc.)

Army H.Q. Madagascar. G.O.C. in C. assumed direct command 22 Bde. and Majunga Base Sub Area. G.O.C. in C's H.Q. now at Majunga known as H.Q. Buttermere, code name "Sali". (G.O.C. in C. E.A. 0830/14 G.M.T. to W.O.)

Passengers  
in slow  
M/Vs. G.O.C. in C. East Africa's 0314/10 and other signals from S.T.Os on your station. Your opinion requested whether application of A.M. 2320/18/7 causes greater interference with movements of personnel essential to war effort than is justified by lessened risk of loss of life, particularly as Japanese attacks on trade have not yet developed seriously.  
2. If your reply is affirmative request what amendments, either geographical or numerical, other than those already promulgated by A.M. 1231/10/8 would be required, using present shipping in view of present impossibility of providing extra ships of over 12 knots. (D.O.D.(F.) 1804A/14 to C. in C. E.F.)

Shipping  
Routes,  
Bay of  
Bengal. Pass to N.C.S.Os Shipping in Bay of Bengal. Cancel my 1806/5/7 (?719) C.  
1. Shipping in Bay of Bengal is to be routed by coastal route as follows.  
(a) Southbound ships within 15 miles of coast.  
(b) Northbound ships outside 20 miles and inside 25 miles from coast.  
These shipping lanes to terminate in vicinity of Little Basses.  
2. All ships bound into Bay of Bengal are to call at Colombo for permission to proceed. To avoid delay such ships are to be given route instructions to their final destination. Ships for ~~Colombo~~ are also to call at Vizagapatam except those who have already called at Madras. N.O.I.C. Madras is responsible that ships are sailed to comply as far as possible with provisions of paras 3 & 4.  
3. N.C.S.O. Colombo is responsible for sailing northbound ships at necessary intervals to ensure that making allowance for their respective speeds they will be spaced not less than 50 miles apart when in lane between latitude of Little Basses and Vizagapatam. N.C.S.O. Calcutta is similarly responsible for southbound shipping.  
4. N.O.I.C. Vizagapatam is to arrange time of sailing Calcutta bound ships so as to obtain best protection by darkness and air cover from enemy air action.  
5. Route signals need only contain 2 or 3 positions for ships while in coastal lane.  
6. Paras 2 and 4 above contain revised instructions.  
(C. in C.E.F. 2115Z/14 to E.I. Stn.)

Calcutta  
(amended 1343/14/10)



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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

U/B. S/M sighted by aircraft 047° 50' N. 039° 14' W. at 1605Z/13th.  
(C.O.A.C. 0140Z/14 to G.B.7A.)

O.N.127 OTTAWA torpedoed and sunk. 1 tanker torpedoed.  
\*OTTAWA and CELANDINE picking up survivors of OTTAWA.  
M/V torpedoed. (C.T.U. 24.1.14 0358Z/14 to C.T.24 (R) Connav,  
Admty. etc.)  
\*By U.S. (L.S. 443)  
ARVIDA has 20 from OTTAWA, CELANDINE 53. Am  
putting Doctor on board ARVIDA, they will then proceed St.  
Johns N.F. ST. CROIX will search area further then return to  
St. John N.B.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1010Z/14 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav,  
Admty., etc.)  
My 1248Z/13. (Diversion of 4 torpedoed ships to St.  
Johns, N.F.) 3 torpedoed ships and one bound Botwood did not  
detach last night. Should detach at position (K) and be  
escorted by AMHERST and SHERBROKE.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1145Z/14 to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24,  
Admty. etc.)  
My 0358Z/14th. Following is report in accordance with  
F.O.I.17. (A) 0005Z/14 at 047° 55' N. 042° 27' W. (B) 4.  
(C) Sighted on surface. (D) OTTAWA and tanker, name unknown.  
(F) OTTAWA had 21 survivors from EMPIRE OIL on board, (?so)  
some of these included in those on board CELANDINE and ARVIDA.  
ST. CROIX attacked 2 or 3 S/M contacts with one possible  
success. Have 2 depth charges left. (H) (?Weather report)  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14, 2201Z/14, to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav,  
Admty. etc.)  
E.T.A. 1400Z/15th. A.F.O. 2901/41 (reports from H.M.  
Ships bringing in survivors) (A) ST. CROIX. (B) EMPIRE OIL.  
(D) 1. (E) 9. (F) 15. (H) 2. (H) 27. (P) One of (H)  
Urgent defect port shaft requires re-aligning. Boiler hours.  
CELANDINE and ARVIDA not in company.  
(C.T.U. 24.1.14 2302Z/14 to F.O.N.F.)

U/B. Key West Radio reports S/M sighted 1158 G.M.T/  
14 24° 27' N. 81° 13' W.  
(Kingston Jamaica 0858Q/14 to Admty.)

NORLYS Your 1242/13 and B.R.O. Trinidad's 1736/12.  
Gibraltar It is of utmost importance that NORLYS sails with  
Convoy. every effort must be made to have  
ship ready at latest by 17/9 beyond which date  
no further delay in sailing convoy can be  
accepted. Request immediate report.  
(D.T.D. 1038A/14 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)  
Your 1038/14. Convoy will sail 17/9 and will include  
NORLYS.  
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1652Q/14 to Admty.)

/Movements...



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Movements Summary.	1800 G.M.T/14.	Ship	Position	Course	Speed
		FORMIDABLE	43° N. 26° W.	039°	22
		KEREN	32° N. 30½° W.	004°	14
		KARANJA	39° N. 29½° W.	014°	14½
		Convoy "Mincement"	12° N. 43° W.	093°	9
		T.A.20	Approaching Nantucket Is.	270°	14
		(D.O.D.(F) 1043Z/14 to Opanv (R) Comnavu.)			

WOENSDRECHT (torpedoed 12/9.)  
Trinidad reports Dutch WOENSDRECHT torpedoed 0900 G.M.T/12th in 10.27 N. 60.17 W., part hull left afloat, no casualties.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1128Q/14 to Admty. etc.

CRESSINGTON COURT. (torpedoed 19/8.)  
British CRESSINGTON COURT torpedoed 0800 G.M.T. 19/8 in 007° 58' N. 046° 00' W. Master and 8 men lost, remainder at Trinidad.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1148Q/14 to Admty. etc.)

U/B. Following has been read. Am over enemy submarine in 57.24 N. 25.35 W.  
(A/C H L 6 D 1210/14.)  
Following has been read. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits.  
(A/C H L 6 D 1212/14.)

W.I.M.R.I. Amendment 229.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1214P/14.)  
Amendment 230.  
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1216P/14.)

KASSOS U/B 19/8. Report just received Greek KASSOS stopped by U/B 1510 G.M.T. 19/8 in 11.44 N. 67.20 W., allowed to proceed as on Swiss Government Charter and on condition W/T not used.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1232Q/14 to D.N.I. (R) S.O.I. Gib.)

H.X.207 escort. C.T.U. 24.1.17 in HARVESTER plus PIORUN, ORCHIS, HEATHER, NARCISSUS, RENONCULE, LOUISBURG. PRESCOTT and WOODSTOCK designated escort convoy H.X.207. HARVESTER and (?PIORUN or PRESCOTT) have H/F D/F. This Unit scheduled to join H.X.207 at 1200Z/16 in 047° 16' N. 051° 04' W.  
(C.T.24 1247/14 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, C. and R. (R) Admty. etc.)



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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

- THIRLMERE. Your 1850Z/13. Request THIRLMERE may be returned to Iceland as convenient. (A.C.I.C. 1257A/14 to F.O.N.F. (R), Admty., N.S.H.Q.)
- U/B. Barbados Radio reports S/M sighted 1400 G.M.T. today 6° 10' N. 47° 48' W. (Kingston Jamaica 1259Q/14 to Admty.)
- ANNAPOLIS O.N.127. ANNAPOLIS extremely short of fuel. Have detached her to (? St. Johns N.F.) to fuel. Position at 1400Z, 047° (?57') 045° (corrupt group). Weather report. (C.T.U. 24.18.2, 1335Z/14 to A.I.G. 302.)
- STANVAC MELBOURNE. (torpedoed 12/9.) Panamanian STANVAC MELBOURNE torpedoed sunk 0805 G.M.T./12th, 010° 30' N. 060° 20' W. 1 man missing, remainder at Trinidad. (S.O.(I) Jamaica 1459Q/14 to Admty. etc.)  
*p. 423*
- U/B Positions. Submarine estimate 14/9. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1617/14.)
- B.7. Escort Group. Intend sailing Group B.7 less RIPLEY 1500Z/15 to New York (route) Speed 12 knots. E.T.A. New York 1700Z/17. (C.O.A.C. 1648Z/14 to Com 3, C.E.S.F., Connav etc.)
- U/B Camouflage. Recent experience has shown that some U-Boats are using a camouflage consisting of conning tower painted white and hull sea green. At a distance this has the effect of making the U-Boat appear very similar to a sailing boat. (C.O.A.C. 1657Z/14 to N.O.I.Cs etc.)
- 30 M.L. Flotilla. Your 2238/13. Navy Dept. concur but hope they will be sent to Trinidad as soon as they can be spared. (B.A.D. 1751Z/14 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)
- FENNEL. Anticipated FENNEL will be ready to sail p.m. 20/9. (B.A.R.M. 1812Z/14 to Admty.)
- Westomp. Your 1628/10 and related despatches. Initiate action to move Westomp as far eastward as circumstances permit. Understand opening cycle to 8 days still under consideration by Admty. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1850/14 to Cinclant (R) C.T.F.24, Admty. N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. C. in C. W.A.)

/Rescue ...



War Diary.14.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Rescue Reports. Arising out of rescue by OREGON EXPRESS of survivors from WAIWERA, propose to issue following to all authorities concerned and as C.A.M.S.I. (begins) To guard against ships' time being wasted in needless search for survivors all Masters of unescorted ships having H.F. transmission are to be instructed to report by W/T the picking up of survivors during the night next following the rescue. (Ends.) 2. Request your remarks.  
(D.T.D. 1908Z/14 to Connav.)

Timber Ships, A.M. 0222/12 and your 0145/13. M. of W.T. have St. Lawrence, reconsidered position and now wish only 10 timber escort. ships ex O.N. 126 to 130 to load at St. Lawrence ports, leaving Huband to decide 10 most suitable ships and to instruct such ships accordingly, also to reallocate remainder of timber ships in these convoys. 2. M. of W.T. have also decided to cancel request for small number of timber ships to enter St. Lawrence subsequent to O.N. 130 4. Requested that if possible you will provide escort for these ships on cessation of S.Q. convoys and also for those ships leaving St. Lawrence after cessation of Q.S. convoys.  
(D.T.D. 2007A/14 to N.S.H.Q.)

U/B. S/M sighted 043° 30' N. 068° 20' W. at 1737Z/14th.  
(C.O.A.C. 2025Z/14 to G.B.7A.)

U/B Campaign. Connav serial 13 and 14. HEKTORIA (British) torpedoed sunk 11/9. PATRICK J. HURLEY (U.S.) shelled 22.53 N. 47.12 W. 12/9. WOENSDRECHT (Dutch) torpedoed presumed sunk 10.27 N. 60.17 W. 12/9. 3 unidentified ships in T.A.G.5 torpedoed 12.15 N. 63.42 W. 13/9. *5-11-42*  
(Connav 2043/14 to Connaveu.)

JOHN A. HOLLOWAY (torpedoed 6/9) *see next page* British JOHN A. HOLLOWAY straggled ex G.A.2 torpedoed 1645/6/9, 014° 10' N. 071° 30' W. Master and 12 crew arrived Santa Marta, 1 boat with 11 still missing.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 2057Q/14 to Admty. etc.)

CEPHEE (French) Your 1804/13 (requesting information about CEPHEE reported probably leaving for Japan) Latest information is contained in my 1557/13 (CEPHEE has unexpectedly unloaded cargo for Gulf Guinea ports)  
(B.A.D. 2059Z/14 to Admty.)

Norfolk reopened. Comdt. 5th Naval District announces port of Norfolk was reopened 1400 E.S.T. 14/9.  
(U.S. Navcom 2129/14 to Admty. etc.)

/U/B ...



War Diary.14.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U/B.

Trinidad reports unsuccessful attack on S/M by A/C 2152Z/14 in 011° 14' N. 062° 06' W. U.S. Authorities informed.  
(S.O.I. Jamaica 2131Q/14 to Admty. etc.)

T.A.G. and  
G.A.T.  
Convoys.

My 1614/20/7. It is presumed revised reporting arrangements proposed in your 2316/23/7 resulted in the ports concerned receiving satisfactory advice of forthcoming arrivals. Now that T.A.W./W.A.T. Convoys have been superseded by T.A.G./G.A.T., request report on the following:-

(a) Do Trinidad, Curacao and Aruba receive extracts from sailing telegrams of G.A.T. Convoys in good time before the arrival of the ships?

(b) Does Trinidad inform Curacao and Aruba direct to ships bound for these ports in T.A.G. Convoys?

(D.T.D. 2143A/14 to S.O.I. Jamaica (R) B.R.Os Trinidad, Curacao, Aruba.)

Reply from Curacao 1225/15, from Jamaica 1637/15, from Trinidad 1723/15.

Sub.Attack  
& Sighting  
Summary.

Para A. Following torpedoed and sunk. JOHN A. HOLLOWAY 14.10 N. 71.30 W. 2045Z/06. STANVAC MELBOURNE 10.30 N. 60.20 W. 0805Z/12. NIMBA 10.41 N. 60.24 W. 0500Z/13. OCEAN VANGUARD 10.43 N. 60.11 W. 0040Z/13, 2 torpedo hits.

SURINAME, EMPIRE LUGARD and VILJA, approx. 12.15 N. 63.42 W. about 0600Z/13. H.M.C.S. OTTAWA about 47.58 N. 43.22 W. 0358Z/14. Unidentified torpedoed same time and position.

Para B. THOR II torpedoed and sunk 62 N. 20 W. 2000Z/7. M/V sights periscope 47.25 N. 44.03 W. 1720Z/13. Navy plane sights sub. 24.20 N. 81.10 W. 1130Z/14 course 250°. Ferry Command Plane sights sub 11.22 N. 65.20 W. 1040Z/14. Army Plane sights sub on surface 10.47 N. 63.30 W. 1322Z/14. British aircraft sights sub 11.22 N. 61.31 W. 1400Z/14.

Para C. Plane attacks sub on surface 17.50 N. 63.50 W. 1400Z/24/6. P.C.462 attacks sound contact 12.42 N. 67.04 W. 0155Z/27/8. U.S.S. PLUNKETT attacks sound contact 50.24 N. 29.36 W. 1319Z/30. Fishing boat sights sub 65.45 N. 14.45 W. 0730Z/10/9.

B.18 A attacks sub 09.44 N. 59.01 W. 2043Z/13. Plane sights sub 47.50 N. 39.14 W. 1605Z/13. BLIMP sights sub 40.05 N. 73.50 W. 1400Z/13. Plane Radar contacts 38.20 N. 73.20 W. 0015Z/14 and 38.57 N. 73.30 W. 0230Z/14. Four subs sighted 56.46 N. 25.18 W. 1100Z/14. Sub sighted 47.30 N. 51 W. 1523Z/14 sub sighted 06.10 N. 47.48 W. 1400Z/14. Sub sighted 57.45 N. 21.05 W. 0725Z/14.

Para D. P.C.465 attacks 28.06 N. 79.53 W. 31 July. M/V sights periscope 54.17 N. 57.50 W. 0800Z/13 P.C. attacks sound contact 09.27 N. 79.53 W. 1235Z/14. U.S.C.G. VIGILANT sound contact 27.42 N. 85.19 W. 1730Z/13.  
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2210/14 to Admty., for O.I.C.)

Size of  
S.C.  
Convoys.

Your 1523/13. Yes, but A.M.1740/28/8 should be interpreted as applying to the smallest type of timber ship only. Delays to such ships are relatively unimportant as they will not be returning to Atlantic trade until end of winter months.

(D.T.D. 2236A/14 to N.S.H.Q.(R) C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B.)  
/Tankers ...



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Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U/B. Trinidad reports unsuccessful attack on S/M by A/C 2152Z/14 in 011° 14' N. 062° 06' W. U.S. Authorities informed. (S.O.I. Jamaica 2131Q/14 to Admty. etc.)

T.A.G. and G.A.T. Convoys. My 1614/20/7. It is presumed revised reporting arrangements proposed in your 2316/23/7 resulted in the ports concerned receiving satisfactory advice of forthcoming arrivals. Now that T.A.W./W.A.T. Convoys have been superseded by T.A.G./G.A.T., request report on the following:-  
(a) Do Trinidad, Curacao and Aruba receive extracts from sailing telegrams of G.A.T. Convoys in good time before the arrival of the ships?  
(b) Does Trinidad inform Curacao and Aruba direct to ships bound for these ports in T.A.G. Convoys?  
(D.T.D. 2143A/14 to S.O.I. Jamaica (R) B.R.Os Trinidad, Curacao, Aruba.)  
Reply from Curacao 1225/15, from Jamaica 1637/15, from Trinidad 1723/15.

Sub.Attack & Sighting Summary. *imp 1420* Para A. *See previous page* Following torpedoed and sunk. JOHN A. HOLLOWAY 14.10 N. 71.30 W. 2045Z/06. STANVAC MELBOURNE 10.30 N. 60.20 W. 0805Z/12. NIMBA 10.41 N. 60.24 W. 0500Z/13. OCEAN VANGUARD 10.43 N. 60.11 W. 0040Z/13, 2 torpedo hits. SURINAME, EMPIRE LUGARD and VILJA, approx. 12.15 N. 63.42 W. about 0600Z/13. H.M.C.S. OTTAWA about 47.58 N. 43.22 W. *imp 1419* 0358Z/14. (U.S.) Unidentified torpedoed same time and position. Para B. THOR II torpedoed and sunk 62 N. 20 W. 2000Z/7. M/V sights periscope 47.25 N. 44.03 W. 1720Z/13. Navy plane sights sub. 24.20 N. 81.10 W. 1130Z/14 course 250°. Ferry Command Plane sights sub 11.22 N. 65.20 W. 1040Z/14. Army Plane sights sub on surface 10.47 N. 63.30 W. 1322Z/14. British aircraft sights sub 11.22 N. 61.31 W. 1400Z/14. Para C. Plane attacks sub on surface 17.50 N. 63.50 W. 1400Z/24/6. P.C.462 attacks sound contact 12.42 N. 67.04 W. 0155Z/27/8. U.S.S. PLUNKETT attacks sound contact 50.24 N. 29.36 W. 1319Z/30. Fishing boat sights sub 65.45 N. 14.45 W. 0730Z/10/9. B.18 A attacks sub 09.44 N. 59.01 W. 2043Z/13. Plane sights sub 47.50 N. 39.14 W. 1605Z/13. BLIMP sights sub 40.05 N. 73.50 W. 1400Z/13. Plane Radar contacts 38.20 N. 73.20 W. 0015Z/14 and 38.57 N. 73.30 W. 0230Z/14. Four subs sighted 56.46 N. 25.18 W. 1100Z/14. Sub sighted 47.30 N. 51 W. 1523Z/14 sub sighted 06.10 N. 47.48 W. 1400Z/14. Sub sighted 57.45 N. 21.05 W. 0725Z/14. Para D. P.C.465 attacks 28.06 N. 79.53 W. 31 July. M/V sights periscope 54.17 N. 57.50 W. 0800Z/13 P.C. attacks sound contact 09.27 N. 79.53 W. 1235Z/14. U.S.C.G: VIGILANT sound contact 27.42 N. 85.19 W. 1730Z/13. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2210/14 to Admty., for O.I.C.

Size of S.C. Convoys. Your 1523/13. Yes, but A.M.1740/28/8 should be interpreted as applying to the smallest type of timber ship only. Delays to such ships are relatively unimportant as they will not be returning to Atlantic trade until end of winter months. (D.T.D. 2236A/14 to N.S.H.Q.(R) C.O.A.C. N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B.) /Tankers ...



War Diary.14.9.1942  
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Tankers. Your 1732/13 (Proposal to run 4 lake tankers and 2 ocean tankers as a group). This problem has been fully discussed with U.S. authorities. (2) Owing to scarcity of escorts it is not yet possible to arrange a firm programme. Navy Dept. remarks and suggestions are being sent to C.S.F.F. by letter. (B.A.D. 23312/14 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

T.F.44. Composition of Task Force 44 from 2000Z/12: AUSTRALIA, U.S. Cruiser PHOENIX, HOBART, U.S. Destroyers SELFRIDGE, BAGLEY, HELM, HENLEY. (Naval Board Melbourne 0404Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

Situation. Serial No.235 13/9. Reports 13/9 indicate enemy constructing aerodrome vicinity Buin.

2. Sightings indicate at least 4 Cruisers, 12 Destroyers, 6 large merchant vessels (including 2 tankers) 1 patrol boat, 5 Flying boats, 18 Floatplanes operating Buin Faisi, Tonelei Harbour area, 13/9.
3. One 3,000 ton cargo vessel, one escort vessel reported 3° 35' S. 151° 25' E. air R/C, 0054Z/13, heading Rabaul.
4. Nine Fortresses attacked 1 enemy Light Cruiser, 1 Destroyer 5° 58' S. 152° 07' E. at 0245Z/13 nil hits. 4 Transports reported to be approx. 25 miles N. this position at time of attack.
5. Photographs 13/9 show 22 Fighters, 5 Heavy Bombers on ground, 6 Biplanes airborne Lae. Runway and aerodrome in good condition Salamaua. Runway unserviceable at Buna.
6. 13 Marauders attacked Lae Aerodrome morning 13/9 bombs dropped runway and dispersal area but results not observed owing poor visibility.
7. Four Hudsons attacked 2 small cargo vessels N.W. Tanimba Island 13/9, probably destroying 1 vessel.
8. Enemy S/M sighted air R/C 10° 35' S. 151° 12' E. at 2345Z/9.
9. Group enemy aircraft including 5 Fighters arrived Buka from South 0654Z/13.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P. 0622Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

/Navigation ...



War Diary.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - contd.

Navigation.

Q.M.A.66. Tongatabu. Lahi passage. Entrance to Nukualofa anchorage. Owing to mines, vessels bound for Nukualofa anchorage must approach from N.W. on track recommended on Admty. chart 2363 and H.O. chart 2013. Passage to be made during daylight only and under Naval control. Passage between Tongatabu and Nomuka is dangerous due to uncharted shoal(s). Cancel Q.M.A 48.  
(S.O.(I.) Wellington 1212M/14.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1453A/14, 1457A/14.)



426

War Diary.15.9.1942  
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

SCHEER, HIPPER and KOLN was seen by visual R/C in Altafiord at 0430A today. At noon today R.A.(D) H.F. was in 75° 59' N. 36° 15' E. He reported that 12 ships of P.Q.18 had been sunk and one damaged ship was still with the convoy; 420 survivors have been picked up. It is lovely bombing weather, direction and force of wind 0. Fifteen enemy aircraft have been shot down for certain and probably many more. He had called Whitehall on all possible frequencies since 2100A without result. The submarines on patrol were ordered to move at 2000 today, to take up new position at 0800 tomorrow.

M.G.Bs covering minelaying operation Q.L.4A attacked early this morning 2 small merchant ships off the Hook of Holland and severely damaged them. Four Trawlers which appeared astern of the merchant vessel were also engaged and many hits observed. Our forces sustained no casualties and only superficial damage.

Irish SS KYLECLARE (Lisbon for Dublin) was intercepted by CHESTERFIELD at 2330 and escorted into Liverpool for examination.

202 aircraft were detailed to attack Wilhelmshaven last night; 180 dropped their bombs. It is thought that the attack lacked concentration. One very large explosion in the town is reported, only 2 aircraft failed to return.

Twelve Boston aircraft of Bomber Command attacked the Whale Oil Factory Ship SOLGLIMT at Cherbourg today; photographs appear to confirm that at least one direct hit was obtained, in addition to near misses; the ship was badly damaged, possibly gutted and lying in the mud.

Attacks on U-boats by aircraft, in which some success may have been achieved took place at 1500 170 miles W.N.W. of Cape Wrath and at 2035 120 miles North of Muckle Flugga.

R.A.(M) turned back again (see 13/9) and he reported operation S.N.65A completed at 1256A today.



427

War Diary.15.9.1942  
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

SS RAVENS POINT in the commercial anchorage in Gibraltar was damaged by explosions this morning and sank on an even keel in 30 ft. of water. The method of attack was apparently similar to that of 14/7, but no pieces of infernal machine have yet been recovered.

South Atlantic.

At 0920Z today in 4° 40' S. 11° W. (about 350 miles N.E. of Ascension Is) two submarines five miles apart opened fire on an American ferry plane.

A Sunderland aircraft reported a French cruiser of the Suffren class in 9° 23' N. 16° 50' W. course 140° speed 17 knots at 1405Z today. The aircraft is shadowing.

The eastern boundary between the South Atlantic and East Indies Station is to be moved from the meridian of 36° E. to 35° E.

East Indies.

G.H.Q. of the new Persia Iraq Army Command opened at Bagdad at 1200 G.M.T. today.

C. in C. E.F. asks that early consideration may be given to the provision of defences for Bandar Abbas which is recommended as the convoy assembly port in the Straits of Hormuz, in preference to Elphinstone Inlet. Shipping is already being assembled at Bandar Abbas and some measure of protection is being provided by the Hormuz patrol.

The air effort of Catalinas both in Ceylon and E. Africa is impeded by an acute shortage of spares, and C. in C. E.F. asks that Air Ministry may expedite supply before the position still further deteriorates.



War Diary.15.9.1942  
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa reports that the destroyer situation in the Canadian escort forces is causing some concern. In the Western Local there is a deficit of 6 in 24, and in addition all destroyers are over 20 years old and are certain to have considerable weather damage during the winter.

The question of opening out the cycle of trans-Atlantic convoys to 8 days is under consideration, but unless the U.S. coastal convoys are opened out to correspond delays to shipping will result. (On 18/9 Cominch concurred and will open out Coastal convoys to 8 and 4 days to agree. November 1 is suggested as the date on which the new cycles shall become effective.)

The first Halifax-St. John N.B. Convoy H.F.1 arrived today.

Attack on  
S.Q.36.

Convoy S.Q.36 was attacked by a submarine about 1645Z today in 48° 51' N. 64° 3' W. within sight of the lighthouse at Cap des Rosiers in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, SATURNUS and INGER ELIZABETH were sunk and a third ship is reported to have been damaged.

SS SORHOLT was sunk at 0530 G.M.T. today in 10° 45' N. 60° W. SS KIOTO was reported torpedoed at 1330Z today in 11° 5' N. 60° 46' W. (off Trinidad) and SANTA CECILIA at 2140Z in 38° 27' N. 55° 54' W. The latter report was incorrect: SANTA CECILIA arrived at Liverpool with weather damage only.

Australia and New Zealand.

Cruisers and destroyers, possibly from the force attacked yesterday east of the Solomon Islands were attacked today by aircraft south of Choiseul Island. One cruiser torpedoed and another was damaged by bombs.



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Fighting  
French  
Corvettes.

It has been agreed that an annual exchange of F.F. corvettes between W.A. and S.A. Commands shall take place one at a time after F.F. S.A. corvettes have spent approximately 1 year on the station.

2. This decision will involve the relief of:-

COMMANDANT DETROYAT in February, 1943.

COMMANDANT DROGOU in April, 1943.

COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES in August, 1943.

3. It is understood that COMMANDANT DETROYAT will require refit and fitting of Hedgehog upon her return to U.K.

4. C. in C. W.A. is requested to make the necessary arrangements for exchange with C. in C. S.A. and R.A. West Africa, informing the Free French Authorities.

(D.O.D.(H.), 1920A/15.)

Movements.

Minesweepers. Admiralty 1906A/4. Intend sailing 114th M.S. Flotilla, M.M.S. 9, 47, 80 for Milford Haven a.m./16th. E.T.A. 1800A/16. (N.O.I.C. Swansea, 0955A/15.)

P. 311. P.311, JAN VAN GELDER arrived 0831. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1011/15.)\* *See next page*

OTUS. Scapa arrival 1014 OTUS escorted by WHITE BEAR. (A.C.O.S., 1118/15.)

P. 51, UNBEATEN. Intend to sail P. 51 and UNBEATEN escorted by BUNGAY to Portsmouth on 17/9. (C. in C. Nore, 1156A/15.)

STURGEON, P.217. *See p. 436* Scapa arrival 1208 STURGEON escorted by PRESTON NORTH END from Lerwick. Scapa departure 0813 P.217 escorted by LEICESTER CITY. E.T.A. Lerwick 2000/15. (A.C.O.S., 1209/15.) Your 1209/15. Arrived. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 2206A/15 to A.C.O.S.)

KEREN, KARANJA. *See p. 452* R.A.W.A. 1625/8. Onward route from (g) to (h) 055° 01' N. 012° 01' W. (j) 055° 35' N. 007° 01' W., thence to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A., 1251A/15 to KEREN, KARANJA, (R) Admty., C. in C. W.A.)

/KANARIS ...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

KANARIS, My 2002/22/8 and 2046/14 and R.A.D.H.F's 1423/14.  
PUCKERIDGE. KANARIS and PUCKERIDGE will be required to sail  
(W.S.23.) from Liverpool and not Clyde on 26/9.  
2. On completion of present escort duty R.A.(M)  
is requested to sail PUCKERIDGE for Liverpool for boiler  
cleaning preparatory to leaving U.K.  
3. R.A.D.H.F. is requested to sail KANARIS for Liverpool for  
boiler cleaning on completion of working up.  
(D.O.D.(H.), 1303A/15.)

H. 50. Intend to sail H.50 escorted by \*JAN VAN GELDER  
at 0900/16 to Rothesay.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1837A/15.) \* *See previous page*  
(F.O.S., 2131A/15 to Admty.)

CURAÇOA. Arrived CURACOA.  
(N.O.I.C. Belfast, 2015A/15.)

Operations.

Operation Arrived CLEVELAND, BLEASDALE.  
"Inspiration". (C. in C. Plymouth, 0945/15.)  
KYLE CLARE. KYLE CLARE 48° 34' N. 12° 1' W., course 360°,  
CITY OF 10 knots.  
DUBLIN. (A.O.C. 19 Group, 1150/15.)  
Noon position KYLE CLARE from aircraft reports  
is 048° 30' N. 011° 40' W., steering between  
000° and 035°, speed 9½ knots.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1309A/15 to CHESTERFIELD, WATCHMAN,  
\* ULLSWATER, \* VICTRIX.) \* *See p. 435*  
My 1309. Sunderland leaving now to home on to KYLE  
CLARE. P.C.74 take Trawlers under his orders.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1335A/15 to CHESTERFIELD, P.C.74,  
ULLSWATER, VICTRIX.)  
Have closed CITY OF DUBLIN, Lisbon to Holyhead, in 049°  
10' N. 011° 18' W. Request instructions.  
(CHESTERFIELD, 1531A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
Your 1531A/15. Allow CITY OF DUBLIN to proceed.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1705A/15 to CHESTERFIELD.)  
Amended position KYLE CLARE at 1500 from A/C report 048°  
08' N. 012° 04' W., steering between 000° and 015°, 9 knots.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1725A/15 to P.C. 74, etc.)  
One merchant vessel KYLE CLARE in 48° 20' N. 12° 15' W.,  
course 010°, 5 knots.  
(A/C 19 Group, 1825/15.)  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1907A/15 to P.C. 74, etc.)



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

2 Enemy M/Vs Preliminary report of C/F activity on enemy coast  
and 4 Armed on night 14/15.  
Trawlers M.G.B. 77 and M.G.Bs 76, 75, 81 were ordered to  
damaged act as covering force to operation Q.L. 4A with  
off Hook. liberty of action to eastward after operation had  
been completed.

At 0320/15, while  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N.E. of Hook of Holland  
Whistle Buoy, Hydrophone effects were obtained to the N.W.,  
crossing from port to starboard on a S.E. course.  
M.G.B. force moved towards contact at 0340 and sighted two  
small M/Vs of 500 and 700 tons respectively. These were engaged,  
severe damage being inflicted. Four trawlers then appeared  
astern of the M/Vs which were also engaged, many hits being  
observed. At 0354 M.G.Bs disengaged and returned to harbour.  
No casualties. Superficial damage to M.G.Bs 77, 81, 75.  
(C. in C. Nore, 1248A/15.)

\* See next page.

Patrols. M.Ls. 491, 155, and 159 are to sail at 1930/15  
and take up patrol line similar to but 5 miles  
180° from S.3 patrol, returning to Dartmouth  
after daylight 16th.

(2) Object to intercept and destroy enemy minelayers and to  
cover P.W. 218.

(3) Code word "Nation 6".

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1521A/15 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton  
and North Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 2010, E.T.R. 0605/16.

M.Ls 143 and 142 near C.1 buoy.

(V.A. Dover, 1707A/15.)

Allied Air Activity.

"Knocker". My 2312/14. First A/C airborne at 0900.  
(A.C.I.C., 1010A/15.)

My 1010A/15. Last A/C airborne 1224Z.  
(A.C.I.C., 1330A/15.)

Operation "Knocker". Nil.

(Reykjavik, 2131Z/15.)

Bombing Institute surface vessel bombing restrictions from  
restrictions. 1400 G.M.T./15 until 1400 G.M.T./19 in area

bounded on the north by 50° N. on the east by a  
line joining Lizard Head to Ile Vierge Lighthouse

thence by the French west coast to 47° 15' N., on the west by a  
line joining the following points -

(1) 50° N. 7° W.

(2) 47° 15' N. 5° 10' W., on the south by latitude 47° 15' N.

(H.Q.F.C., 1200A/15.)

Bombing On night 14/15, 180 A/C bombed Wilhelmshaven.  
Operations. (H.Q.B.C., 1240A/15.)

/Air ...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Air Escorts As it is impossible for me to know when flying from Iceland. conditions in Iceland (C) are unsuitable, request you will signal convoy escorts repeated to me, when to expect air escort by aircraft based on Iceland (C) prefixing your signal immediate.

2. Air escort has been provided today simultaneously by you and 15 Group for H.X. 206, thus wasting valuable air coverage. (C. in C. W.A., 1913A/15 to A.C.I.C.)

Mining.

Yarmouth. Spontaneous mine explosion reported S. 30° E. 2½ to 3 miles from 4 Buoy at 1710/14. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1141A/15.)

"O" Sweeper swept moored mine in 084° 4 Buoy 4 miles at 1410 (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1430A/15.)

"O" Sweeper exploded moored mine in position 086° 4 Buoy 4.25 miles at 1434. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1501A/15.)

Unknown operation (ALCA) Following received from ALCA. Operation completed. T.O.O. 2045/14. (A.C.I.C., 1143A/15 to D.T.M., (R) V.A.2.)

Q.L. 4A. *See Minches Page* Q.L. 4A completed. (A) Area is enclosed by lines joining:  
52° 00'42" N. 03° 59'54" E. 52° 00'24" N. 04° 01'00" E. 51° 59'03" N. 03° 59'48" E. 51° 59'24" N. 03° 58'52" E.  
(B) M.Ls 106, 105, 110.  
(C) At 0241A/15.  
(E) 18 A.S.Y. 34. Clocks set to 9 days 8 hours. (BEEHIVE, 1154A/15.)

Operation N.P. 12. (A) 051° 04'48" N. 002° 01'18" E. extend one cable each side of line in direction 339° for 7 cables. (R.A. Dover, 1228A/15 to Admty.)

Dover. Q.Z.X. 780. Two red mines detonated in S.E. part of area 14/9. (V.A. Dover, 1229A/15.)

S.N. 65A. Operation S.N. 65A completed. (R.A.M., 1256A/15.)  
Situation at 2000 tonight.

SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, PUCKERIDGE, CHARLESTOWN, LANCASTER, NEWARK, 059° 45' N. 005° 30' W., bound Minches. ADVENTURE parting company to arrive west of Orkneys 0700/16. (A.C.O.S., 1641/15.)



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Lyme Bay Sweep. Your 1944A/14. "Ounce V" arrived 1450/15.  
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1505A/15 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

RUBIS. (1) Proceed as necessary establishing your position by land fix in the vicinity Kjolvapoint 069° 36' N. 017° 30' E.  
(Op: F.D. 42.)  
(2) On completion (1) proceed to patrol within 10 miles position 300° Kjolvapoint 20, taking care not to compromise your position.  
(3) You will probably be required to scatter your mines in groups on 5 mile front between 3 and 8 miles 340° from Kjolvapoint.  
(F.O.S., 1736A/15 to RUBIS.) 12.4.37

Western Channel sweep. Q.Z.X. 809 southern limit extended to line joining 50° 15' 39" N. 03° 23' 42" W. and 50° 10' 06" N. 03° 30' 48" W. One mine cut in 50° 14' 12" N. 03° 26' 24" W. and sunk by gunfire. Another mine, believed cut in 50° 15' 09" N. 03° 24' 36" W., surfaced when recovering sweeps and was exploded by gunfire. One ship's sweep parted and two conical floats and cutters were cut and sunk.  
(PANGBOURNE, 1839A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy Trawler. One enemy trawler position 52° 02' N. 4° 00' E.  
(M.G.B. 0338/15.)

M/V off Faroes. Master Swedish STEGEHOLM reports that at 0115 today, when in 061° 52' N. 008° 39' W. sighted 5,000 ton ship bearing north distance four miles on westerly course illuminated similarly to Swedish ship.  
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1435A/15.)

U-Boats.

Procedure of Convoy Escorts. C.T.U. 24.1.14, 1735/12.  
Tactics of U-Boat approach from ahead are consistent with the principle of submerged attack vide C.B. 4097.  
2. Para. 657. Number of escorts with convoys is totally inadequate to effectively cover torpedo danger zone frontage of convoy by Asdic and no improvement in echo detection is to be obtained by moving escorts forward from positions shown in A.C.I. advance copy day escort diagram. Reference my memorandum 1796M of 30th July 1942, it is considered that the absence of escorts from flank and quarter of both positions reduces effectiveness of offensive counter measures.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1201Z/15 to C.T.F. 24.)

/A.M.S.I. ...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - ~~anti~~Procedure  
of Convoy  
Escorts.  
(Contd.)

A.M.S.I. 33 para. 1, New amendment.  
The order to fire snowflakes on sighting a U-Boat has been introduced to save vital seconds in obtaining illumination and exposing the enemy. The two white rockets should be fired subsequently in accordance with the existing instructions. (C. in C. W.A., 1541A/15 to N.C.S.Os., C.T.G. 24.7, etc.)

U-Boats  
reported.

R.A.F. Ayr reports that A/C flying from Reykjavik to Prestwick sighted at 0822A/15 S/M in position 390 miles 157° magnetic from Reykjavik, steering 220° magnetic.  
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1245A/15.)

Transit aircraft from Iceland reported U-Boat in 059° 40' N. 013° 30' W., course 200°, at 0822A/15.

(C. in C. W.A., 1458A/15 to Ships Area B.)

Am over enemy S/M in (? latitude) 9° 28' W. Enemy was sighted on surface, course 340°, speed 10 knots.

(A.O.C. 15 Group, 1505/15.)

Aircraft reported U-Boat in 59° 49' N. 09° 28' W. at 1505/15, course 340°, 10 knots.

(D.D.I.C., 1628A/15 to Escorts U.R. 41.)

U-Boats  
attacked.

A/C sighted S/M 062° 50' N. 001° 45' W. at 0840/15, course 270°. Attacked with depth charges. One hit estimated.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1310A/15.)

My 1059/22/7. There have been no attacks by surface craft worthy of mention and no known sinkings. On the other hand our A/C have been very successful in the Bay of Biscay. Out of 8 attacks made during the week, which may have caused some damage, seven were in this area, and one North of the Faroes.

The most interesting attack was undoubtedly that made by a search-light Wellington during the early morning of the 8th. The A/C flying at 1500 feet made a Radar contact at 10 miles. U-Boat was sighted at  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, but periscope only was showing when the attack was made. Six Torpex D/Cs with nose spoilers and tails set 25 ft. spacing 25 ft. were released from 50 ft. 40 ft., ahead of the feather at 22° to U-Boat track. After explosions, C/T broke surface and flames and smoke were seen issuing from it. The aircraft circled the smoke and flames which finally spluttered and went out.

A good day attack was made by a Hudson on the 13th, North of the Faroes. In this case the A/C was at 700 ft. when it sighted the U-Boat. Attack was made from 40 ft. depth setting 25 ft. spacing 36 ft. C/T was just disappearing as centre of stick fell 20 ft. ahead of the swirl. Oil and debris were seen.  
(D.A/S.W., 1339Z/15 to Cominch.)



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.

- ISAFOLD. <sup>(N.T.N.W.D.)</sup> D. of S.T. 2220A/12 my 1206/14. <sup>(N.T.N.W.D.)</sup> Postponed  
*Not identified.* owing to weather.  
(N.O.I.C. Methil, 0538/15.)
- SKATE. Your 1847A/14. Following from SKATE who lost her top mast at 0200A/15th. Begins: cannot (corrupt group) course 290°, speed 5. Ends. My position 058° 40', 013° 32'.  
(SALADIN, 0601A/15 to C. in C. W.A.)
- AMBER QUEEN. My 2110/14. AMBER QUEEN now in Forth and Clyde Canal. Engine repairs proceeding.  
(R.N.O. Grangemouth, 0745/15.)
- AMBER QUEEN left 1500 in tow for Port Dundas. E.T.A. Wednesday p.m.  
(E.N.O. Grangemouth, 1525/15.)
- S.S. IRONCLAD. *See next page* (From Q.P.14). Returned to Archangel with defects.  
(D.T.D., 1548Z/15 to Cominch.)
- ULLSWATER. Your 2105. VICTRIX and ULLSWATER are to proceed to Milford Haven.  
*See p 430* **VICTRIX.**  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2205A/15 to P.C. 74.)
- H.S.L. 170. H.S.L. 170 reported on the rocks below the lookout hut Buckie at 2053/15. Lifeboat and examination vessels standing by. First man ashore by life saving apparatus. 2200/15.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 2221/15.)  
My 2221/15. All crew now landed.  
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 2241/15.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- P.Q. 18, Pass to Polyarno. Begins. For Clo, S.B.N.O.  
Q.P. 14. North Russia and Vaenga (R) 30 Mission. My 2045/14. P.R. Mosquito will attempt Narvik and then return U.K.  
(18 Group, 0140A/15 to Admty.)  
Visual R/C 0430A/15 show HIPPER, SCHEER and KÖLN in Altafiord. Photographs taken, results follow.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0736A/15 to 18 Group.)  
Q.P.14 passed Cape Gorodetski at 1500A/14.  
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0754A/15.)  
Hvalfiord arrival your 1144/13 (BRAMHAM) at 0805/15.  
(A.C.I.C., 1008A/15 to C. in C. H.F.)

/When ...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.P.Q. 18,  
Q.P. 14.  
(Contd.)

When next you find it permissible to break W/T silence report (a) Total number of ships sunk or damaged and whether latter are still with convoy. (b) Total number of enemy aircraft destroyed.

(1st S.L., 1029A/15 to R.A.D.H.F.)

→ Visual R/C 0430A/15 shows HIPPER, SCHEER, and KÖLN in Altafiord.

(D.D.I.C., 1150A/15 to S/Ms.)

Your 1029A. (A) 12 ?sunk, 1 damaged still with convoy. 420 survivors picked up. (B) 15 certain many more probable. Lovely bombing weather. 5792 1700. My position 075° 59' N. 036° 15' E. Reception on H.D. broadcast still 100 per cent reliable. Have called Whitehall on all possible frequencies since 2100A with no results. Am reading G.A. in case required.

(R.A.D.H.F., 1201A/15 to Admty.)

→ Photographs Altafiord 069° 57' N. 023° 07' E. show HIPPER in boom protected alongside. SCHEER no change since 11/9. Four other ships but uncertain whether KÖLN and three destroyers or four destroyers. Three M-class minesweepers. Although pilot confident KÖLN present photographs show either two destroyers or KÖLN and one destroyer have left. Photograph of Langfiord cannot be interpreted.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1304A/15 to Admty.)

24 enemy aircraft left at 1501C flying towards you.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1310A/15 to R.A.D.H.F.)

Expect 1 Catalina as A/S escort arrive 2000A/15.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1511A/15 to Escorts P.Q. 18.)

Your 1931/14. Para. (3) concur. Para. (4) This anchorage is not to be used.

(C. in C. H.F., 1517A/15 to V.A.2.)

Q.P. 14 consisting of 17 ships (including 2 Rescue Ships) sailed from Archangel as follows:-

For U.S.A. - BENJAMIN HARRISON, BELLINGHAM, DEERLODGE, SAMUEL CHASE, WINSTON SALEM, SILVER SWORD, TROUBADOUR.

For U.K. - OCEAN VOICE, OCEAN FREEDOM, HARMATRIS, EMPIRE TIDE, MINOTAUR, WEST NILUS, ALCOA BANNER, TOBRUK, RATHLIN (Rescue Ship), ZAMALEK (Rescue Ship).

2. IRONCLAD also sailed but returned Archangel with steering gear defects. *See previous page.*

(D.T.D., 1548A/15 to Cominch.)

Expect Catalina escort P.Q.18 until further notice. This A/C will provide visual for exchange of escorts 16/9.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1558A/15 to Escorts P.Q.18, Q.P.14.)

At 2000/15 S/Ms are to move so as to take up the following positions at 0800/16.

UNIQUE to position (Q) 072° 25', 032° 10'. Remainder in present sequence direct to position 15 miles apart 135° from position (Q). Patrol Zone to be assumed to be within circle 7½ miles radius from patrol position.

(F.O.S., 1633A/15 to S/Ms.)

Positions of S/Ms at 0800A/16 and movements for following 24 hours.

P.217 leaves Lerwick 0700/16 probably on surface through 091° Out Skerries 5 miles, 61° 01' N. 00° 07' E. and 61° 04' N. 02° 03' E., thence dived by day to patrol in zone K.104.

*See p. 429*



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18, JUNON vicinity 66° 40' N. 11° 56' E.  
 Q.P. 14. RUBIS vicinity 70° N. 14° E. *map 433*  
 (Contd.) UNIQUE, P.45, P.221, P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE and  
 TIGRIS on patrol line 135° from position Q,  
 72° 25' N. 32° 10' E. UNIQUE in position Q.

Remainder respectively 15 miles apart.

(F.O.S., 1654A/15 to Admty.)

Your 0020/15. Signification of groups 56 57 is "200 miles".

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1701A/15 to Admty.)

From: War Registry.

Reference S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1701A/15. A.M. 0020/15 referred to was originated by W.R. and requested check and repeat of position in para. 1(b) of S.B.N.O. North Russia's 1100A/5, para. 1(b) should read:-

"(b) torpedo bombers will attack surface craft within about 200 miles of Loienga".

My 1340. Have reverted to normal notice.

(V.A.2, 1901A/15 to C. in C. H.F.)

Your 1128/14 (N.T. in W.D.) Sail escorted by OPHELIA.

E.T.A. Hvalfiord 0400Z/17th. Tanks seven to 58 contain water ballast. My force is now complete but, as no stock remains at Akureyri, when may further supplies be expected. If another oiler is sent request depth charges now in SAN UBALDO be transferred.

(V.A.2, 2009A/15 to A.C.I.C.)

Visual R/C 1730/15 shows HIPPER and KÖLN and 2 destroyers in Altafiord 69° 57' N. 023° (07') E. One major unit, probably SCHEER, in Langfiord. Pilot (? reports as follows) no 4th major unit in Altafiord or adjacent waters as far as Arnoy. Results of photographs follow.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2111A/15.)

Your 1633/15. Assume (?P).Q. (?18) 072° 25', 032° 10' the new positions lie right across Russian S/M routes as given in my 1033/29th April? As movements in your 1633/15th have already commenced Russians have altered their routes to clear, but are very concerned at this encroachment without previous notice and request any further movements may be kept clear of their routes unless warning is given.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2121A/15 to F.O.S.)

Pass following to Polyarno. Begins. For S.R.A.F.O.

Repeated S.B.N.O. P.Q. and Q.P. cross in approx. 73° 15' N. 47° 30' E. at 1600A/16.

(18 Group, 2325A/15 to Admty.)

## WAYLAND.

Concur with arrangements proposed in C. in C. Portsmouth's 1129/12 and C. in C. Plymouth's 1929/14.

(D.O.D.(H.), 1214A/15.)

Stragglers  
Route.

My 1352/14 should be passed to N.C.S.Os.  
(D.T.D., 1216A/15.)

/S.A. ...



438

15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- S.A. Routes. Amendment to M.A.R.I. No. 75.  
1. Section IV para. 8 sub-paras. (1) and (2) are temporarily suspended.  
2. Add new para. 8a.  
Routeing in the South Atlantic is unrestricted except that (a) all traffic other than West African coastal traffic is to be kept to the West and South of Ascension and St. Helena. These instructions include ships bound to and from Freetown. (b) All shipping plying between South African ports and ports South of Freetown is to be routed coastwise. (D.T.D., 1644A/15 to C. in C. W.A., etc.)
- H.X. 208. (1) When ready WHITEHALL is to proceed to St. Johns N.F. at best speed by Great Circle, fuelling at Londonderry.  
(2) Request she may be sailed from St. Johns N.F. to join B.2 escorting H.X. 208.  
(C. in C. W.A., 1748Z/15 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
- O.N.S. 130. My P.C.S. at 2000Z/15 055° 30' N. 013° 24' W. 264, 8. Expect to overtake O.N.S.130 at daylight 16th.  
(HIGHLANDER, 1808A/15.)
- PRINCESS MAUD, BEN-MY-CHREE. PRINCESS MAUD and BEN-MY-CHREE will be used to transport U.S. troops from Belfast to Toward and Roseneath, crossing night of 17/18.  
2. Request you will sail ships accordingly.  
(D.O.D.(H.), 1856A/15 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)  
Intend sailing SHETLANDS, VERA RADCLIFFE, MIRIAM, EILDON, and LYMINGE escorted by PENN, PANTHER and GERANIUM passing Clyde Boom 1800A/16 routed as in A.M. 1934A/14, S.O.A. 7 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2108A/15.)
- GRANVILLE. Comtask 24.6.5 escorting O.N.S.J. 128 reported Panama Flag GRANVILLE destination Botwood a straggler and advised GRANVILLE return Reykjavik.  
Position at 1900Z/8 58° 39' N. 24° (? 42') W. No further sighting of GRANVILLE (?) extensive air sweeps have failed to locate.  
(Comtask 24.6, 2336/15 to Connnav.)



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence. (1) ARABISTAN overdue at Trinidad since 29.8.42, from Capetown must be considered a possible victim of Raider H or Raider J.  
 (2) No further information of Raider E or Japanese raiders.  
 (3) An Altmark class tanker made her third attempt to leave Biscay since 10/8 but was sighted and attacked on 12/9 and is considered to have returned to a Biscay Port.  
 SPICHERN (Ex Norwegian Tanker KROSSFONN captured in 1940) was attempting to leave Biscay on 11/9 but was sighted and attacked and is believed to have returned to a Biscay Port.  
 (D.D.I.C., 2124A/15 to A.I.G. 113 etc).

North AtlanticFrench  
Shipping.

Passings 12/9. Westbound 2820 (sic) MARECHOL LYAUTEY laden and passengers. BONIFACIO light deck cargo boilers. KERPAPE, AGEU, LORRAIN all laden. Eastbound 1935. CAPITAINE ARMAND, laden, NANCEEN deck cargo barrels, OUED SEBOU 2, deck cargo horses.  
 (V.A.C.N.A., 0959A/15 to Admty).

U/B S.L.121.

At 1208A on 11068 k/cs German S/M Bore 298° A from Gibraltar.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1242A/15 to Escorts of S.L.121 Admty. JONQUIL, SPIREA, COLTSFOOT).

MIRROR.

Following is a repetition My 1248/15 (begins) B.N.A. Lisbon, B.C. Ponta Delgada (R) LEYLAND from F.O.C.N.A. Cable Ship MIRROR escorted by LEYLAND will be working in vicinity of 037° 48' N. 026° 20' W. from p.m. today Tuesday. Report (?request) arrangements be made to supply about 200 tons coal to LEYLAND on 22/9 approx. (Ends).  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1256A/15 to LEYLAND).

RAVENSPOINT,  
explosions,  
Gibraltar.

SS. RAVENSPOINT damaged by explosions between 0750 and 1010 today, 3 under bilge keel port side 2 others clear of ship.  
 (2) Ship in commercial anchorage in position 338° 7 cables from North Mole light. 2 other British in anchorage not attacked.  
 (3) Ship now resting on bottom on even keel in 30 feet. of water flooded foreand aft.  
 (4) No casualties. (5) Anchorage was patrolled throughout the night by 2 M.Ls. and 1 military motor boat.  
 (6) No warning of impending attack received.  
 (7) Method of attack apparently similar to that of 14/7 but no pieces of infernal machine yet recovered.  
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1540A/15 to Admty).



War Diary.

15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

P.247 Intend sailing S/M P.247 p.m./17 for working up patrol in Gulf of Valencia. In view of your 1315/15, request instructions which book she should carry.  
(F.O.C.N.A., 1706A/15 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty etc).

NIGERIA, damaged. Further to my 2132/31/8. Temporary repairs to NIGERIA will complete about 7/10.  
(C.S. Gibraltar, 1952A/15 to Admty V.A.C.N.A., NIGERIA).

Aircraft warning against blockade runners. Recent interceptions of enemy blockade runners and supply ships in the Bay of Biscay have resulted in several of our aircraft being shot down.  
2. Enemy vessels are very well armed and aircraft should be warned to close suspicious ships with care.  
(V.C.N.S., 2136A/15 to F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., etc).

South Atlantic.

Search for CLARE F/B. Your 2040Z and your 2207Z. (re flying boat CLARE on fire) Have searched area in company Sunderland from 0030, nothing sighted. Intend abandoning search and proceeding at 0230.  
(VANSITTART, 0231Z/15, to N.O.I.C. Bathurst (R) R.A.W.A. etc) W.D. Note Loss of CLARE announced,

Times 19.9.1942.

Your 2215/14 (2251/14 intended). Intend leaving area of search at Sunset on 15th and proceeding R/V. Nothing to report. Contents of your 1540/15 not to R.A. West Africa passed to Motor Launches.

(WIVERN, 1842Z/15 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst, Gambia, (R) R.A.W.A.)

LACONIA (torpedoed 12/9). LACONIA with 700 passengers torpedoed 005° 05' S. 011° 38' W. at 2000/12. Continue escort to Takoradi. Then proceed at best speed to search for survivors.  
(R.A.W.A., 0937Z/15 to CORINTHIAN (R) N.O.I.C. Takoradi Admty). See also 1414/15.

LACONIA, 19695 tons, routed independently from middle East to U.K. via Cape. Service personnel on board. Position about 300' N.E. of Ascension Is. CORINTHIAN and EMPIRE HAVEN ordered to search for survivors. (D.O.R., 1122, 16/9).

\* See next page.

/Aircraft...



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

- Aircraft, warning against blockade runners. Your 1304/14. Enemy blockade runners and supply ships are well armed. Recent interceptions in Bay of Biscay have resulted in several of our aircraft being shot down. Your para. 6. Aircraft should be warned to close suspicious ships with care making use of cloud cover. (D.O.D. (F), 1048A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)
- S/MS fire on A/C. At 0920Z/15 in 004° 40' S., 001° W. 2 submarines opened fire on American ferry plane. (R.A.W.A., 1224Z/15 to Ships in Area P., Admty. S.O.L.A.N.T., for N.O.I.C. Ascension).
- RESOURCE Your 0955/12 (~~Escorting~~ Escorting of RESOURCE at Durban) About the middle of November. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1303Z/15 to C. in C. E.F.)  
*p. 354*
- Bauxite Ships. Your 1210/14 (N.T. in W.D.) All ships calling Trinidad to load bauxite should be routed in accordance with M.A.R.I. or subsequent relevant overriding instructions and not in accordance with my 2330/1 (D.T.D., 1343A/15 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, (R) C. in C. S.A., S.O.(I) Capetown).
- Suspicious Cruiser. Transit aircraft report 0844/14/9 one light cruiser white and grey unidentified in 32° 46' N., 10° (?19)' W., course 170° 10 knots. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1406Z/15 to Admty (R) S.O.(I) Gib).
- EMPIRE HAVEN, search for survivors of LACONIA. Following for EMPIRE HAVEN. Your plotted position at 0800/15/9 was in latitude H plus 003° and longitude M plus 004°. If you are near this ~~approx~~ position proceed immediately and search for 1,000 survivors of a large ship in position Z which has latitude G less 004° 55' and longitude F. plus 001° 16'. Air patrol will afford you submarine protection and assistance and warships will be sent as soon as possible. Break W/T silence and report your P.C. and S. (R.A.W.A., 1414/15 to Area 3 A (R) Admty).  
*In Memoirs page.*
- CALIFORNIA survivors. 282 150 from H at 2200 G.M.T./15. Yesterday picked up 18 survivors from American Steamer CALIFORNIA. (SS. TALISMAN via Portishead Radio, No T.O.O./15 to Admty. Adm. Liverpool, Recd. 2340/15).

/Vichy...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Vichy  
cruiser.

Sunderland aircraft reports French cruiser of "Suffren" Class in 9° 23' N., 16° 50' W., course 140° speed 17 knots at 1405Z today. Aircraft shadowing.

(R.A.W.A., 1445Z/15 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

CEPHÉE  
(French).

My 1920/5/8. Ship now at Dakar and has unexpectedly unloaded cargo which had been consigned to Guinea ports. She may sail for Far East at any time.

(D.N.I., 1515A/15 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., F.O.C.N.A., Cominch, B.A.D., C. in C. E.F.)

M.A.R.I.

Amendment No. 75. Routeing in South Atlantic. (D.T.D., 1644A/15 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. S.A., etc).

Ref. A.M 1644/15. M.A.R.I. amendment 75. Request you will detach all Cape ships from S.T. and O.S. convoys to comply.

(D.T.D., 1931A/15 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Interception  
of Axis  
Shipping.

My 1304B/14 Operation "Volley" (or "Vitriol") postponed 24 hours.

(C. in C. S.A., 1659B/15 to S.O. Force V (R) Admty. N.O.I.C., Durban, N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth).

My 1304B/14. Following ships of mine clearance flotilla will take part in operation "Volley".

First division, ROODEPOORT, STELLENBERG and FLORIDA. Second division SOUTHERN BARRIER and TERJE.

2. Patrols will be carried out in 037° 30' S. first division crossing data line 019° 30' E., at 1000B steering E. and 2200B steering W. Second division crossing data line 023° 00' E. at 1000B steering E. and 2200B, steering W.

3. During the period the operations of mine operations flotilla will act under orders of S.O. Force V.

4. Communications orders for the flotilla are contained in separate signals.

5. My 1304B/14 para. 9. In view of postponement of operations, for 21/9 read 22/9.

(C. in C. S.A., 1747B/15 to S.O. Force V (R) Admty etc).

U/B

Your 1447/14 (N.T. in W.D.) (1) U-boat at 0250Z/13 considered to be in position stated in my 1440/13. (2) British Bearings were signalled in my 0512/13 para. 3.

(D.D.I.C., 1814A/15 to R.A.W.A.)

COMMANDANT  
DUBOC.

Ref. your 1131/7. Request F.S. COMMANDANT DUBOC may be used until further orders, in East Indies area, preferably on African side, being based at Durban or Mombasa.

(D.S.O. from F.N.F.L. London, 1900A/15, to Admty, for C. in C. S.A.)



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

W.S.22. Sailed. List and supplies.  
(S.S.T.O. Freetown, 1901Z/15) See Lion Copy.

S/M Base  
Facilities in  
S. Africa. Your 1852/1. F.O.(S)'s requirements in Eastern  
and South Atlantic Stations are being co-ordinated  
at Admty. Request L.Cdr. Hall be informed that  
any requirements he considers advisable for  
submarines in S.A. Station should be submitted to  
you and that you will keep Admty. F.O.(S)  
informed as necessary.  
(Head of M., 2126A/15 to C. in C. S.A., (R)  
F.O.S.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. Following has been read. Addressed 201 N.C.  
Group. P.C. and S. of large M/V and 5 small craft  
is 33.40 N., 22.51 E., 180° 8 knots.  
(A/C B. Squadron, 0035/15).  
P.C. and S. of 1 enemy M/V and 5 small craft 33.16 N.,  
22.52 E., 180° 8 knots.  
(A/C S. of ? Squadron M.E., 0130/15 to 201 Group).  
P.C. and S. of enemy is 33.27 N., 23.11 E. 8 knots.  
(? A/C Duty Q of 201 Group 0155/15 to 201 Gp).  
P.C. and S. of enemy 2 destroyers 3 AP (aeroplane).  
35.42 N., 22.00 E.  
(Aircraft Call W9M, 1500/15 to 201 Group).

Cositrep 7. Night 13 /14 Sep. Strong Force Halifaxes,  
518 Part. 2. Wellingtons and American B.17s bombed harbour  
installations and defences at Tobruk. Good fires  
and violent explosion at Naval fuel storage and  
petrol installations. One fuel tank believed  
blown up. 4 Wellingtons missing. British Liberators and  
American B.24's bombed Benghazi Harbour. Damage unobserved.  
Albacores illuminated Daba Area for bombardment by H.M. Ships.  
(C. in C. ME., 0945 G.M.T./15).

NEREUS My 1205/14. Last sentence should read  
Thence operate in area 035° 20' 026° 56', 315°  
200 - 160.  
(Capt. S.1., 1446C/15 to S/Ms on Patrol (R)  
C. in C. Med., Capt. S.10, No. 201 N.C. Group,  
Greek S/M NEREUS). Amendment made.

/UNA...



**MOST SECRET**

MOST SECRET. M E S S A G E 19012/15th September IV

Date 19012/15th

From: S.S.T.O. Freetown.

Date 17.9.42.  
Recd. 2235

Naval Code X by W/T

Addressed: P.S.T.O. Capetown, N.L.O. Durban repeated C. in C.  
East Indies, P.S.T.O. Egypt, D. of S.T.  
C. in C. South Atlantic, R.A. West Africa.

Convoy W 8 22 sailed 13. First 9 ships Capetown  
remaining 10 Durban.

Name of Ship.	Water Taken.	Fuel taken.	Total fuel on Board.	Estimated maximum draft sailing South Africa.
ALM/ANZORA	1000	1200	1600	27 feet.
CALIFORNIA	630	1200	2667	29½
DOMINION				
MON/ROH	990	N11	2388	33
FRANCONIA	N11	1500	2780	31½
JOHAN VAN				
OLDENBARNEVELT	500	N11	1643	29½
NIEUW HOLLAND	600	N11	1260	25
RUYS	700	323	1911	27
ORDUNA	1000	300	2450	32½
SUFFOLK	N11	N11	1760	30
SIBAJAK	1500	N11	1423	26
BOISSEVAIN	600	N11	1778	26
HIGHLAND				
BRIG/DE	N11	N11	1260	26½
HIGHLAND				
CHIEFTAIN	N11	N11	1300	26
MATAROA	490	N11	2645	29
NEA HELLAS	735	1528	2640	29
RANGITATA	500	N11	1760	28
ANDES	200	N11	3540	31
ORCADES	300	194	1620	28½
C/NARA	N11	N11	788	25½

2. Passengers embarked HIGHLAND BRIGADE Army 101  
RANGITATA 1 Admiralty civilian. SIBAJAK and JOHAN VAN  
OLDENBARNEVELT 4 and 6 respectively. Survivors ex MENDANAU.

3. ORDUNA requires 900 tons permanent ballast  
in South Africa.

4. NIEUW HOLLAND requires fumigating first  
available opportunity.

19012/15.

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

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)  
A.C.N.S.(T)  
N.A. 1st S.L.  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
Hd. of M.(13)  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D. of P.(2)

D. of S.T.  
D.T.D.(3)  
D.T.D.(M)  
D.C.(2)  
I.P.(2)  
W.D.  
Admiral Blake.



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.- Contd.

UNA,  
R. of P. (1) UNA reports during daylight 7th patrolling in vicinity 34.58, 21.30 as ordered, heard heavy depth charge attack P.34 and between 1500 and 1630 sighted 16 aircraft to westward mostly Ju. 88's. Appears that convoy passed out of sight to westwards at this time.  
(2) At 1106/10 in 35.12, 23.29 while closing to investigate destroyers mentioned in Capt. (S) 1 1607/9, fired salvos at Northbound merchantship.  
(3) Target was modern 4,000 ton merchant ship similar to Ramb class escorted by at least one destroyer and aircraft. Weather was N.N.W. gale, sea 45 range 1600, speed under-estimated first torpedo hit one minute 10 seconds after firing, target's engine stopped immediately.  
(4) No counter attack but escort started and stopped in direction of target from 5 minutes after attack for half hour then retired. 40 minutes after firing nothing was in sight and consider enemy definitely sank. Request publicity A.  
(5) UNA withdrew westward owing to enemy report in that direction so destroyers at anchor not sighted. Frequent destroyer night sweeps appeared to be in force in area K. (Capt. S.10, 1642B/15 to Capt. S.1. (R) C. in C. Med, V.A.M.)

Malta Air Report. I. 683. C.S.R.15/9. Part 1. 14/9. 1339 hrs. 9 plus high flying Me. 109s crossed coast. 12 Spitfires up lacked sufficient height for interception. Enemy avoided combat and fled home. 1500 hrs. Sections of Spitfires made R/C patrol South Sicily. 1640 hours 2 anti E. boat patrols south Sicily by total 4 Spitfires. Night 14/15. 0459 (or 0259 corrupt) hours, 4 raiders approached Island at great height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 1 of 2 Beaufighters up chased raider which dropped bombs in sea 7 miles North of Island, and fled. No raiders crossed coast. 15/9. 0415 ( or 0411 corrupt) hrs. 4 Spitfires up for raiders which turned back before reaching Malta. 0628 hrs. 20 plus Me. 109s approached at great height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 9 Spitfires up but enemy had height advantage. 1 Spitfire missing. (A.H.Q., Malta, 1825/15).

P. 44 Patrol in vicinity of 29 miles 155° from position given in my last signal from dawn 16th. (Capt. S.10., 1919/15 to P.44 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1).

ALBARO,  
CELENO. My 2345C/14 (not to D.N.I.) ALBARO, CELENO, entered Aegean 1415 G.M.T./15 (A.1) (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1937C/15 to S.O.(I) Med., D.N.I.)

/Landing...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Landing Craft. Your BM/GP/1341 (Tn.2E) 22/8. Present extensive use of T.L.Cs. and M.L.Cs. for cargo work at Base Ports will necessitate considerable overhaul before they can be employed on operational work. There is immediate need therefore for a minimum of 100 ramped cargo lighters for Mideast Ports to relieve strain on existing landing craft, and delivery should be pressed forward with all speed. Full ultimate requirements are being worked out and will be signalled shortly. Agreed P.S.T.O. (E) and M.W.T.L. (C. in C. M.E., 1950 L.T./15 to W.O.)

U.S.16 Request disposal of U.S.16 after disembarkation Suez. (P.S.T.O.E., 1950/15 to Admty for D.S.T.)

MENDOZA Your 1310/12/9 and 0852/19/6. Presume improvements to MENDOZA's engine room have been satisfactorily completed. Do you still consider her unsuitable for service in Red Sea. (D.S.T., 2109A/15 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

Operation "Waylay". Situation Report No. 265. A Combined Operation to destroy shipping and port facilities at Tobruk was attempted night 13/14 Forces taking part, SIKH, ZULU, with 350 Royal Marines, COVENTRY with 5th D.F. escort to above as far as 27° E., on 13/9 (?72) M.T.Bs. 3 Fairmile M.L. carrying 150 support troops for military force proceeding overland through desert from Kufra.

2. Military force penetrated Tobruk perimeter and by 0120/14 had captured gun positions at entrance Mersa Sciause Inlet outside South end Tobruk harbour for M.T.Bs. to enter and land troops.
3. Heavy air attack on Tobruk 2130 to 0300 as cover. Many fires and explosions.
4. Only 2 M.T.Bs. landed troops, remainder did not enter inlet owing to failure to receive success signal and failure to see entrance lights owing searchlights and heavy opposition. This opposition also prevented entry into Tobruk harbour.
5. TAKU landed (2 groups corrupt) Mersa Mreipa Inlet North of Tobruk town 0130/14 and reported weather suitable for assault craft in inlet.
6. First flight disembarked from destroyers 0400 but met heavy opposition, and destroyers approaching to meet boats for second flight seen and fired on by coastal batteries. Assault craft did not return.
7. SIKH hit 0530 and steering gear and one engine disabled. ZULU took her in tow but further hits parted tow. ZULU ordered to leave 0800 by D.22 to avoid further damage..



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - conts:-

Operation  
"Waylay".  
Contd.

8. SIKH last seen close to shore heavily on fire and being repeatedly hit by batteries but firing all guns.

9. First flight 150 R.Ms. fought for some time North of Tobruk town but short of ammunition From numbers of prisoners claimed by Italian

broadcast believed majority SIKH's crew and remaining SIKH's R.Ms. got ashore. C.O. claimed as prisoner.

10. Military force Mersa Sciause held area from midnight 13/14 till after 0600 when M.T.Bs. left. No further news received.

11. ZULU and M.T.Bs. left for Alexandria after daylight being repeatedly attacked by aircraft while COVENTRY and 5th D.F. returned to Westward to support ZULU, also being heavily attacked by air.

12. 2 M.T.Bs. sunk by fighters near Tobruk, crews rescued, 1 M.T.B. beached Mersa Sciause and destroyed by own forces, 2 Fairmile M.Ls. sunk by air attack proceeding to assist SIKH, crews picked up. 1 further M.T.B. missing.

(W.D. Note - For numbers, see 1908C/16).

13. COVENTRY hit forward at 1140/14 and abandoned (?1213). C.O. 23 Officers and 422 men picked up by destroyers including 47 ratings wounded.

14. Having avoided some 80 attacks ZULU joined Hunts and then torpedoed and sank the Damaged COVENTRY in 32° 48' N., 28° 17' E. After joining part of 5th D.F., last bomb of last attack at 1615 hit ZULU and stopped her. HURSLEY took her in tow but ZULU sank 2154/14 (see my 2312/14 to Admty only), CROOME slight damage by near misses.

15. Beaufighter protection was afforded when within range and broke up one attack by Ju. 87s. Other aircraft were forced to jettison before attacking.

16. DIDO with JERVIS, JAVELIN, PALADIN, PAKENHAM, KELVIN, bombarded Daba area 0001/14 and returned Port Said without incident a.m. 350 rounds fired 50 per cent hits main target 70 per cent salvos in area.

17. Imperative that no public reference be made to military forces which proceeded overland from Kufra through the desert. (C. in C. Med., 2327C/15 to Admty (R) V.A.M. etc).

Various correspondents eye witness stories of Tobruk operation are being sent to Admty prefaced "Unreleasable without Amty. Approval". Request they may be released when next of kin have been informed. B.B.C. 0915 News 15/9 refers very inaccurately.

(C. in C. Med., 2013C/15 to Admty).

Italy and  
Hospital  
Ships.

Your 1117/7. Italian Govt. replied in June that they would order Axis armed forces to refrain from attack upon the area where our Hospital ship was anchored at Malta provided embarkation took place in daylight.

2. At same time they intimated they would exercise their right under 10th Hague Convention to examine ship on passage to Malta and that this would be facilitated if the ship called voluntarily at Syracuse. Nothing was said about return voyage.

\* Casualty figures given by Casualty Section, C.W. Branch:-

SIKH	killed	2	officers,	21	ratings,	P.O.W.,	223.	
ZULU	"	2	"	"	"	"	222.	/3...



15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - conts.

Italy and  
Hospital  
Ships.

3. Difficulty remains that under article 12 of 10th Convention, Italians would have a perfect right to stop the ship on return voyage and move all sick and wounded as prisoners of war. We also dislike idea of putting one of our ships in Italian hands, though ships of the Italian repatriation scheme may be sufficient security of her return.

4. Another possibility is to propose to Italians that a neutral Red Cross Commission should examine ship at Port of departure, travel to Malta, supervise embarkation and return with her. This proposal would be accompanied by a request for absolute assurances for freedom from molestation on both outward and homeward voyages. Italians may well refuse and recent sinking of ARNO reduces chance of Italian acceptance.

5. It would help us to know the degree of urgency to be attached to voyage of a Hospital ship to Malta.  
(M. Branch, 2358B/15 to C. in C. Med).



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

P.B.L. Convoy P.B.1 arrived.  
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 0150Z/15 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F. etc).  
Arrival RATNAGIRI with P.B.1.  
(S.O.(I) Bombay 0216Z/15 to Admty etc).

Boundary with S.A. Station. Your 1757/7/6. After consultation with C. in C. S.A. it is proposed that dividing line between 2 stations should be meridian 035° E. This will accommodate waters adjacent to Durban and Lourenco Marques in the South Atlantic Command.

2. Also agreed that boundaries of intelligence area should be the same as station boundary except that Portuguese East Africa should be remaining in area of S.O.(I) Capetown. A.M. 1757/7/6 para.3 refers.

3. In order to prevent delay instructions will be given to R.O. in Portuguese East Africa that all signals and reports must be addressed to S.O.(I) Kilindini as well to S.O.(I) Capetown.

4. Request approval  
(C. in C.E.F. 0902Z/15 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A.).

E.Africa Port Facilities. My 1422Z/5.(Re intelligence survey of East Africa viz. Port facilities.(N.T. in W.D.)). Is mission of these officers authorized please?  
(C. in C.E.F. 1120Z/15 to Admty).

Charts for Indian Ocean Shipping. Case recently occurred in which SS EASTGATE bound from Mauritius to Persian Gulf was diverted to Colombo.  
Ship had no large scale charts of the area information regarding entry, and attempted to enter by use of a photograph, hoping for assistance from a non existent patrol.

(2) Master stated that (?he) did not consider circumstances justified breaking W/T silence to give notice of his E.T.A. and ask for assistance from N.O.I.C.

(3) Consider that all ships plying in Indian Ocean should be provided with charts and particulars of entry of all major ports and that steps should be taken to convince Master of necessity of breaking W/T silence when faced with problem such as this which may well endanger their service.

(F.O.I.C.Ceylon 1212/15 to Admty (R) C. in C.E.F.).

A.P.2. Sailing telegram 2 ships. Escort SUTLEJ.  
(N.C.S.O. Aden 1320Z/15 to Admty, C. in C.E.F. F.O.C.R.I.N. etc).

Catalinas, spares. (1) There has been an acute shortage of Catalina spares both in Ceylon and East Africa for some consideration time.

(2) This has resulted in an unduly low state of serviceability and the air effort available is quite incommensurate with the number of Catalina on station.

(3) Request Air Ministry be asked to expedite supply of spares before the Catalina position deteriorates still further.

(C. in C.E.F. 1445Z/15 to Admty (R) 207 Group, 222 Group)

/Shortage....



War Diary15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.Shortage of  
B.D.Vs.

The enormous Boom laying programme and maintenance of existing booms will create a serious shortage of Boom Defence Vessels on this station in near future. Admiralty have informed me that none can be sent from U.K. for some months to come. Would it be possible for any to be turned over or lent from Mediterranean Station?  
(C. in C.E.F. 1513Z/15 to C. in C.Med (R) Admty).

E.Africa  
Report.

M.I.3. Intelligence for week ended 13/9. French Somaliland. Further indications unidentified craft and S/MS Gulf Aden 9 and 10/9. Air search negative except for large oil patch seen 11° 33' N 45° 43' E. 0555/9. 3 Europeans reported visit Moucha land nightly using very large dhow. Air R/C 10 /9 revealed 5 dhows about berth there.  
(G.O.C. in C.E.Africa 1515 G.M.T/14).

Hormuz  
Assembly  
Port.

Convoy assembly port in Straits of Hormuz.  
1. Of the two alternative, Bandar Abbas and Elphinstone Inlet, S.N.O. P.G. states that latter impracticable for following reasons:-  
A.Lack of Room.  
B.Navigational difficulties, especially at night.  
C.Excessive heat.  
2. I concur and request that early consideration be given to provision of defences for Bandar Abbas. It would appear that indicator loops reinforced by W/S craft is only feasible solution.  
3. Shipping is already being assembled there and some measure of protection is being provided by Hormuz patrol.  
(C. in C.E.F. 1517Z/15 to Admty (R) S.N.O.P.G.).

Passengers  
in Slow  
M/Vs.

Your 2320/18/7 para.2. It is being presumed this rule does apply to ships included in troop convoys. Many of the troop ships serving on this station are now under 12 knots. CAP ST JACQUES, ELLENGA, SANTHIA, KAROA in forthcoming convoys are examples and there are many other border line cases whose speed is rapidly deteriorating.  
(C. in C.E.F. 1549Z/15 to Admty).  
Reply D. O.D.F. 1850A/17.

Depot Ship  
Persian Gulf.

Understand from M.W.T.R. Bombay, that ADRIA has been taken up and is under conversion for service as Base Depot Ship, Persian Gulf, to meet requirement (1) of P.S.T.O. India's 1159 of 20/8. Confusion has arisen whether this requirement is identical with Base Ship referred to in your 0505 of 6/9 for which MELCHIOR TREUB is proposed. Request confirmation as to position and that requests have been made for two ships consideration may be given to combining the requirements so as to be met by one vessel only.  
(D. of S.T. 2110A/15 to F.O.C.R.I.N.(R) S.N.O.P.G. etc).

/Madagascar.....



War Diary.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Madagascar. Situation report (Army).  
74 native troops MANXMAN landed Maromandia quay  
morning 14/a.  
(H.Q. Buttermere 2200/15 to W.O.).

Base Ship Your 0930/23/8.  
Diego Unless you have suitable ship in mind none can  
Suarez. be provided except at expense of more vital  
requirements of transport, which cannot be  
accepted.

2. Policy is that facilities at bases should be provided to  
greatest extent possible on shore.  
(Head of M. Approved by Vice Controller 2319A/15 to C. in C.E.F.).



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- CELANDINE with ARVIDA in company E.T.A. 1700Z/15. Boiler hours. Urgent sea going defects CELANDINE funnel to be cleaned internally, ARVIDA sanitary pump to be repaired. CELANDINE has 97 survivors with (?5) cot-cases, ARVIDA has 164 survivors with at least 6 cot-cases. Both ships very short of food and will require firing immediately on arrival.  
(CELANDINE 0002Z/15 to F.O.N.F. (R) Capt. D. St. Johns.)
- Convoy Cycle. N.S.H.Q. 1615Z/13. Concur that with only 11 mid-ocean groups available and with change of terminal port to New York it is desirable that cycle of trans-Atlantic convoys should be opened out to 8 days.  
2. If however U.S. coastal convoys remain on 7 and 3½ day cycles, delays to shipping will result; therefore recommended that consideration be given to opening out cycles of entire convoy system to correspond with any change in trans-Atlantic cycle.  
(A.C.N.S. (T.) 0004A/15 to Cominch. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)
- NEW WESTMINSTER. My 2300/3. <sup>H.M.C.S.</sup> H.M.C.S. NEW WESTMINSTER delayed by engine trouble, E.T.A. San Diego a.m. 18/9 escorted by H.M.C.S. TIMMINS. <sup>(from Esquimaux - S. R. L. 18/9)</sup>  
(C.O.P.C. 0107Z/15 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Admty. Opanav. S.B.N.O. W.A. C.O.A.C.)
- SEVERN. Your 2152/11. Destination is Portsmouth.  
(D.O.D. (F) 0111A/15 to B.A.R.M.)
- Moving of Westomp. Comply Cominch 1850/14.  
(Cinclant 0229Z/15 to C.T.F. 24. (R) Cominch. Admty. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C.O.N.C.W.A.)
- Enemy Units. Enemy previously reported is accompanied by 4? vessels, type unknown, destroyers or large type warships.  
(Ship at sea (name unknown) 0408Z/15 to St. Johns N.F.)  
Message 0408Z/15 (Emergency) from Naval General Call Sign AZ. Have you any further information?  
(D.S.O. 1318A/15 to F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.)  
Your 1318/15. Message was from CELANDINE, vide correction received by St. Johns W/T from Whitehall W/T on 8290 K/cs at 0545/15. CELANDINE is in sight and will be entering harbour shortly. Further signal will be made.  
→ (F.O.N.F. 1541Z/15 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C.)
- T.A.22. Convoy T.A.22 sailed from U.K. 13/9.  
2. Details of personnel on board are being communicated by W.O. to Milstaf Washington.  
(D.S.T. 0554A/15 to B.A.D. etc.)



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

U/B. S/M sighted by British KI(?)TO 1030Q/15 in 010°  
53' N 060° 45' W.  
(S.O.(I.) Kingston (Jamaica) 0932Q/15 to Admty.  
B.A.D. Opanav. Com. Caribbean Sea.)

Movements 1800 G.M.T. 15/9.  
summary. Ship. Position. Course. Speed.

	KEREN	38° N 30° W	004°	14
<i>See p. 429</i>	KARANJA	44½° N 28° W	014°	14½
	Convoy			
	"Mincemeat"	12° N 40° W	093°	9
	T.A.22.	58½° N 32° W	236°	25
	(D.O.D(F)0950Z/15 as amended 1755Z/15 to Opanav. (R) Comnaveu.)			

U/B C.E.S.F's 1855/14 informs as follows:  
positions. (S/M estimate 15/9.)  
(Comnaveu 1021/15 to Admty.)

U.S. Following is 2131/14 from C. in C. U.S. Fleet,  
dispositions. addressed for action to Admty and to Comnaveu for  
information:  
Serial 38 - Changes in U.S. Fleet dispositions as  
given in Cominch 072229:

Pacific Area:- LOUISVILLE, INDIANAPOLIS, NASHVILLE, HONOLULU,  
ST. LOUIS, are in Alaskan waters.

RICHMOND, CONCORD are at Balboa.

TRENTON is patrolling S.E. Pacific area.

ENTERPRISE, SAN JUAN, COPAHEE at Pearl Harbour.

SOUTH DAKOTA, SARATOGA, NEW ORLEANS are en route Pearl Harbour.

WASHINGTON, JUNEAU, HELENA, ATLANTA, SAN DIEGO are in South  
Pacific area.

RALEIGH is at Suva.

DETROIT at Samoa.

PHOENIX and AUSTRALIA departed Brisbane 7/9 for patrol. *See p. 458*

ADELAIDE and TROMP on escort duties out of Fremantle.

Atlantic:- NEW YORK at New York.

MASSACHUSETTS - Boston.

WICHITA - Norfolk.

PHILADELPHIA - Norfolk.

MILWAUKEE - Due Recife 18/9.

OMAHA - Trinidad.

(Comnaveu 1024/15 to Admty.)

Attacks Cominch's 1637/14 addressed to Comnaveu and Admty.  
on U/Bs. and for information B.A.D. informs as follows:-  
This refers to Admty. 1059B/22/7. On 21/8 the  
U.S.S. NOA and PC 451 near Key West attacked a  
sound contact. This was first reported use of forward throwing  
rocket type mousetrap and resulted in one detonation.. This was  
supplemented by depth charges. Observed oil and air. On 6/9 a  
submarine was attacked by air and surface craft in Gulf of  
Venezuela.. Oil and debris observed. On 11/9 blimp and surface  
craft attacked on M.A.D. contact off New York and dropped 18  
depth charges. Oil resulting. In week ending 13/9 at 2400Z,  
forty attacks were reported.  
(Comnaveu 1027/15 to Admty.)

/Rafts...



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15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Rafts. U.S. Ship ESSO BOLIVAR passed small raft and large raft at distances of about 100 miles and 75 miles respectively E.S.E. from Bermuda a.m./13. Both rafts empty, no marking, painted light grey. Small mast without flag in centre of large raft.. Small holes visible in both rafts led Master to suggest machine gunned.  
(S.B.N.O. W.A. 1029P/15 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. S.O.I. Jamaica.)

NORSEMAN Cable and Wireless report following message protection. received from Master, Cable Ship NORSEMAN in San Juan Porto Rico, (Begins)  
"Chief of Radio Operations states cannot accept responsibility safety ship with escort available which only one small coastguard cutter without gun and occasional air cover. Considers area very dangerous and area Jamaica - Santiago - Cape Cruz even more so." (ends.)  
2. Following is list of cables awaiting repair in order of priority: Jamaica - Ponce 93 miles from Ponce. Jamaica - Santiago I 49 miles from Santiago Cuba. Santiago - Cape Cruz I 58 miles from Santiago. St. Thomas - St. Cruz 45 miles from St. Thomas. St. Thomas St. Kitts close to St. Thomas. Trinidad - Grenada 20 miles from Grenada.  
3. Request adequate escorts be provided as and when possible in view of the importance of these repairs and the value of the cable ship.  
(D.S.D. 1153A/15 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) B.A.D.)  
Reply: B.A.D. 1335/16.

OCEAN OCEAN VANGUARD sunk by torpedo 0040 G.M.T. 13/9  
VANGUARD 10.43 N 60.11 W Master and 39 men at Trinidad, 6  
(sunk 13/9) killed, 5 missing. S/M believed Italian, Cominch Comcarib informed.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1158Q/15 to Admty. S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D.)

T.A.G./G.A.T. Your 2143A/14. All movements of vessels in G.A.T. Convoys. and T.A.G. convoys also local movements and arrivals of independent vessels received promptly from U.S. Authorities here in good time prior to arrival of vessel.  
(B.S.N.O. Curacao 1225QR/15 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Jamaica. B.R.Os. Trinidad. Aruba.)

Your 2143/14 (A) extracts are passed by L/T to cable port concerned. (B) Request ports concerned reply direct to Admty.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1637Q/15 to Admty. (R) Trinidad. Curacao, Aruba.)

Your 2143/14. (A) With exception of Curacao (corrupt group) no information re composition of, E.T.A. or fuel and water requirements of G.A.T. 584 at present being received by me from ports of departure. Information is however obtainable from U.S. Routeing Officer.

(B) Yes. In addition signal giving E.T.A. of ship at Puerto Deseado La Cruzis repeated Curacao for information.  
(B.R.O. Trinidad 1723Q/15 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Jamaica. B.R.O. Curacao, Aruba.)



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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Security of Cyphers. C.O.S. (W) 286 to J.S.M. 1255/15.  
See Lion and Tiger Copies.

U/Bs. S/M reported by shore watcher 048° 20' N 053° 10' W proceeding E.S.E. at 1115Z/15. R.C.A.F. investigating.  
(C.O.A.C. 1313Z/15 to GB7A.)  
S/M sighted by shore watcher in 053° 25' N 055° 37' W p.m./14.  
(C.O.A.C. 1350Z/15 to GB7A.)

Convoy W.B.1. List of 4 iron ore ships for Sydney.  
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1406Z/15 to Admty.)

PENELOPE. My 1608/5. PENELOPE was slightly delayed and will now be ready to leave Norfolk (Virginia) a.m. 21/9.  
(B.A.R.M. 1422Z/15 to Admty. (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet. etc.)  
Norfolk arrived 2300Z/14 PENELOPE.  
(N.S.H.Q. 1923Z/15 to Admty. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

H.F.1. Convoy H.F.1. arrived.  
(N.O.I.C. St. John N.B. 1424Z/15 to Admty.)

ARCOLA  
TAIGETE  
(Italian) This is restricted. Sailing ARCOLA and TAIGETE a.m. 23/9.  
(Connav 1425/15 to C.A.F.A.E. (R) Admty. R.A.W.A. F.O.C.N.A. C.C.S.F.)

O.15. Sailed O.15 1000Z/15 in accordance with my 1759/13.  
ALBERNI. (2. int) (C.O.A.C. 1509Z/15 to C.C.N.F. C.T.24. etc.)  
C.O.A.C. 1759/13 para 4.  
(1) F.O.N.F. is requested (A) to sail D.S.O.15 to R/V with escort arranged by Capt. S.3. in vicinity of Barra Head. C. in C. W.A. is requested to signal route (B) to inform F.O.S. estimated time D.S.O.15 will cross 026° W, estimated S of A per 24 hours when diving by day and times when D.S.O.15 will shift wireless watch. (C) Instruct D.S.O.15 to report by W/T if unable to cross 026° W within 4 hours of estimated time, (D) instruct D.S.O.15 to dive by day when east of 020° W.  
(2) F.O.S. will arrange bombing restriction east of 026° W.  
(3) D.S.O.15 will join 9th S/M Flotilla.  
(F.O.S. 1734A/15 to F.O.N.F. C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

VILJA My 1542/13. VILJA arrived Trinidad under own power. (torpedoed 13/9.) Tug CONFIDENT searching for derelict SS. WOENSDRECHT in 11° 11' N 61° 44' W.  
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad 1512Q/15 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty. etc.) *See 10.456 (Submarine) sighting summary.*

DUC D'AUMALE Extract from a Fairmiss telegram: 0030 DUC D'AUMALE Vichy French Fort de France 17th.  
(Ciudad Trujillo 1520/15 to M.W.T.)

/ U/B...



**MOST SECRET**

1255Z/15 September.

MOST SECRETM E S S A G E

OUT

To J.S.M. Washington.

Date: 15.9.42.

Des. 1440A

CYPHER

RECIRCULATION

From Air Ministry.

OZ.1276 15.9.42.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S.(W) 286.

In view of the necessity to ensure that no information of a secret nature concerning British plans, information or operations, is inadvertently communicated to the enemy by use of insecure cyphers by U.S.A. authorities, and vice versa it is proposed that:

Orders be issued to the effect that whenever U.S.A. or British Authorities have reason to signal by W/T or by cable which passes through a neutral State, any matter concerning the plans, information or operations of the other party, these signals should be sent only in cyphers which have been agreed by both parties as being secure.

2. The cyphers both parties use, or propose to use, for such purposes, should be made available for examination by qualified representatives of either party for the purposes of obtaining agreement.

3. Head of code and cypher school will be in U.S.A. in next few days and you may wish to consult with him.

1255Z/15

Recd. in W.R. at 1730/15.

1st Lord

1st S.L.(2)

D.F.S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(H)

A.C.N.S.(F)

A.C.N.S.(W)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P.(3)

D.N.I.(4)

D.S.D.

I.P.(3)

W.D.

D.C.(2)

Hd. of M.

D. of P.(Q)

D.D.I.C.(2)

D.S.O.

N.I.D. 10(2)

Ad. Blake

U.S.N.(3)

H.W.R.(2)

Col. Jacob

Foreign Secretary

War Reg. Admiralty

C.6 Tels. War Office

A.M.C.S.

C.C.O.

Circulated by Air Min. to:-



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War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

U/B. A.D.C. reports sighting submarine (?4) miles east of Cap des Rosiers. 048° (?51' or 44') N 064° 05' W at 1350Z/15.  
(C.O.A.C. 1623Z/15 to C. in C. W.A. E.C. Londonderry. T.G.24.7. (R) Admty.)

U/B positions. S/M situation 15/9 and U.S. S/M notice. (Cominch 1625/15, 1627/15, 1627/15, 1628/15, 1629/15.)

U/B attack on Convoy S.Q.36. S/M reported attacking convoy off Cape des Rosiers. (N.O.I.C. Gaspe 1640Z/15 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connav. Admty. etc.)  
Lighthouse keeper at Cape des Rosiers reports 2 motor vessels torpedoed off Cape des Rosiers are still afloat, corvette standing by picking up survivors.  
(C.O.A.C. 1729Z/15 to C. in C. W.A. E.C. Londonderry. T.G. 24.7. Admty.)  
S.Q.36 attacked by (? S/M on surface) in 048° 51' N 064° 03' W at 1649/15. 2 merchant ships reported sunk, one damaged. 58 survivors have been landed. No further information.  
(?N.O.I.C. Gaspe 1859Z/15 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connav. Admty. etc.)  
My 1859/15 SATURNUS, one missing and INGER ELIZABETH 3 missing, sunk at 1645Z/15, convoy proceeding.  
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2142Z/15 to C.T.F. 24. (R) Connav. Admty. etc.)

JOHN A HOLLOWAY (torpedoed 6/9.) My 2057/14. Second boat arrived Santa Marta, all crew now accounted for except Davis, Fireman, believed killed.  
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1711Q/15 to Admty. B.A.D. Connav. S.B.N.O. W.A. F.O.C. Trinidad.)

Shortage of destroyers in Canadian escorts. Destroyer situation in Canadian escort forces is causing us some concern.  
2. In Western local there are 5 R.C.N. and 13 R.N. destroyers of which BURWELL and READING have been refitting in U.K. since May. In order to maintain 2 destroyers with each of the 8 groups, at least 24 destroyers should be allotted. This leaves a deficit of 6. In addition, all destroyers are over 20 years old and are certain to have considerable weather damage during the winter.  
3..Canadian groups in mid-ocean force are now one destroyer short.  
4. Request this problem be given consideration. Would it be possible for the 2 twin-screw corvettes building in Canada for R.N.M.L.O. be lent to and manned by R.C.N. until first Canadian twin-screws complete about May 1943?  
(N.S.H.Q. 1720Z/15 to Admty. Cominch (R) C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. C. in C. W.A. C.T.F.24.) Reply:B.A.D. 2315Z/16.

"West Chop" Intend using phrase "West Chop" to indicate time operational control of convoy changes from C.E.S.F. to C.O.A.C. Halifax and vice versa.  
(C.O.A.C. 1734Z/15 to C.E.S.F. (R) N.S.H.Q. C. in C. U.S. Fleet. Admty. C.T.F.24. C. in C. W.A. F.O.N.F.)  
/AWATEA...



War Diary.15.9.1942.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- AWATEA. My 2031/5 re AWATEA. Weather permitting repairs should be completed p.m. 24/9. (C.O.A.C. 1736Z/15 to B.A.D.)
- A.T.24. My serial 00524 of 20/6 not to Admty. or Com.3. Sailing date (?convoy) A.T.24 ("Donkey") changed to 27/9. B.A.D. informed. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1840/15 to C.E.S.F. (R) Com.3. C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, Admty.)
- U/B Campaign. Connav serial 15. THOR II (Nor.) Icebreaker torpedoed sunk 62 N 20 W 7/9. 3 ships unidentified yesterday in T.A.G.5 are EMPIRE LUGARD (British) and SURINAME (Dutch) torpedoed sunk, and VILJA (Nor.) torpedoed but proceeding Trinidad. KIOTO (British) torpedoed 11.05 N 60.46 W 15/9. (Connav 1916/15 to Commaveu (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)
- ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Ref. Admty. 2319/12. U.S. Authorities regret they can not escort ROYAL SOVEREIGN to U.S.A. (B.A.D. 1925Z/15 to Admty. C. in C. S.A.)
- CHURCHILL C.O. T.A.W.12. Trinidad's 0901/19/8. As result of findings of Board of Inquiry held at New York on 3/9, consider recommendation by C.C.S.F. that Lt. Cdr. Fitzgerald should be relieved from his command of CHURCHILL is not justified. B.A.D. concurs. (S.B.N.O. W.A. 1942P/15 to Admty. (R) B.A.D.)
- KIOTO torpedoed. KIOTO torpedoed a.m. today 15/9 011° 05' N 060° 46' W. (S.O.I. Kingston 1955Q/15 to Admty. (for D.N.I.) S.B.N.O. W.A. B.A.D. Opnav. C.C.S.F.)
- U/B Fishermen sighted S/M in approx. 46.35 N (?63).05 (?W) at 1800Z/15 course N.W. (C.O.A.C. 2015Z/15 to GB7A)
- Sub. attack and sighting summary. A. KIOTO torpedoed 11.05 N 60.46 W ? 13330Z/15. Plane attacks sub. 11.14 N 62.06 W 2152Z/14. Crash boat sights sub. on surface course south 26.20 N 79.41 W 1944Z/14. B. VILJA reported sunk (13/9) my 2210/14 now reported afloat. Convoy (S.Q.36) reported attacked at about 49° N 64° W 1640Z/15. *see p. 454*  
C. Subs sighted 10.54 N 60.45 W 1030Z/15. 48.51 N 64.05W 1350Z/15. About 49 N 64 W 1544Z/15. Shore B watchers sight subs 48.20 N 53.10 W 1115Z/15. 53.25 N 55.37 W p.m./14. \*Lighthouse tender ILEX sights sub. 43.46 N, 69.11 W 1145Z/15. Army plane reports contact 24.06 N 81.48 W 2338Z/14. (Cominch 2029/15 to Admty.) *\* C.G. Tindal. (C.B. 1815)*



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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

H.X.205. Average speed 9 knots. Uneventful voyage. All ships arrived.  
(D.T.D. 2054A/15 to Connav. N.S.H.Q.)

D.W.I. Your 1831A/28 and S.B.N.O. Curacao's 1047Q/1.  
Oil Navy Dept. fully alive to necessity of protection  
Ports. of more loading points. C.A.F.A.C. informed in  
(?full) of your para 7 and has forwarded  
requirements for additional nets and buoys. Admty.  
will be informed from time to time of additional protection  
provided.

(2) Navy Dept. intend to provide net protection for No. 1 and 3  
loading berths at Bullen Bay and to provide close net protection  
to wharves at Caracas Bay in addition to nets laid from Point  
Juba. They also intend replacing improvised net protection at  
Eagle Refinery Wharf Aruba. Nets have already been placed (?round)  
entrances to Santa Anna Curacao and St. Nicholas Bay Aruba.

(3) Other principal loading points at Curacao and Aruba are  
considered to be reasonably secure.

(4) Reports so far received concerning recent attacks at  
Barbados have encouraged Navy Dept. in their belief in efficacy  
of anti-torpedo netting.  
(B.A.D. 2341Z/15 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Review Int. 233 2 ref. your 65188 (M.O.2.) Secret.  
situation 3. Milne Bay area. Night 29/30/8. Definite  
New Guinea indications enemy Naval force in Bay but no action  
No.2. except against R/C plane. 30/8 although going  
very heavy report Allied patrols reached K.B.  
Mission 0440 G.M.T. had not made contact.  
Reasonable deduction enemy re-embarked his  
remaining troops during night.  
Milne Bay itself completely cleared of enemy.  
(Landops Brisbane 0230Z/15.)

Serial No. (1) Air R/C reported 2 cruisers, 3 other possible  
236. 14/9. cruisers, 5 destroyers, 6 merchant ships (2 of  
these unloading into 8 barges) 7 seaplanes, Buin,  
Faisi, Tonolei area morning 14/9. Later reports  
indicate 8 additional destroyers arrived during afternoon.

(2) 2 destroyers escorting 2 merchant ships (1 passenger cargo  
type 12,000 tons) observed by air R/C 5° 44' S 154° 37' E  
course 120° at 0115Z/14.

(3) 1 10,000 ton cargo vessel 1 small escort vessel, reported  
St. Georges Channel proceeding towards Rabaul from south at  
0020Z/14.

(7) 12 Hudsons attacked 2 small vessels Doumlaki Wharf 14/9  
without result. (8) 1 Boston bombed Efogi area 14/9.  
(G.H.Q. S.W.P. 0601Z/15.)

/Disposition...



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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Dispositions. Main naval units S.W. Pacific area 15/9.  
Coral Sea. AUSTRALIA. HOBART. U.S. Cr. PHOENIX.  
 U.S.S. SELFRIDGE. U.S.S. BAGLEY. U.S.S. HELM.  
 U.S.S. HENLEY.  
Port Moresby Area. ARUNTA. STUART.  
Brisbane. BUNGAREE. U.S.S. TULSA. GRIFFIN.  
Departure Brisbane. 14/9 for Sydney (N.S.W.) CESSNOCK.  
Port Stephens. WESTRALIA.  
Sydney (N.S.W.) MONOWAI. F.S. CAP DES PALMES. U.S.S. BENHAM.  
 U.S.S. DOBBIN, repairing, F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT. U.S.S. CHICAGO.  
 U.S.S. MUGFORD. VICTORIA.  
Due Sydney 15/9. U.S. Destroyer CLARK.  
Departure Sydney \*9/9 for Los Angeles. U.S. Ship ALCYONE. \* 8/9. *See 9/9*  
Melbourne, repairing VENDETTA. U.S. Ship GOLDSTAR. *D.258*  
Fremantle. \*ADELAIDE. Neth. Cruiser \*TROMP. U.S.S. HOLLAND. U.S.S.  
 CHILDS. U.S. Ship MIZAR. ISABEL. ERLING BROVIG. \* *Left - See p. 452*  
Departure Fremantle 14/9 for Darwin. VOYAGER.  
Albany. U.S. Ship PELIAS.  
Departure Albany 12/9 for Colombo. U.S. Ship TRINITY.  
Exmouth Gulf. U.S.S. HERON. U.S.S. PRESTON.  
 (A.C.N.B. 1346Z/15.)

NIEUW Your 1911/13. N.Z. War Cabinet do not concur in  
 AMSTERDAM. proposal for N.Z. troops to proceed unescorted to  
 M.E. observing speed of NIEUW AMSTERDAM is only 20  
 knots vide C.B. 3060B (NOR 41) coupled with possible  
 presence of enemy raiders in Indian Ocean. C. in C. E.F. pass to  
 F.O.C. Red Sea Force and P.S.T.O. Port Said.  
 (N.Z.N.B. 1812M/15 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. A.C.N.B. F.O.  
 Ceylon. F.O.C. Red Sea Force. S.T.O. Port Said.)

Censorship Naval Board as authority responsible for framing  
 of rules for Censorship shipping cables Australia is  
 shipping concerned by confusion resulting from variation in  
 cables. interpretation of similar regulations U.K. Australia  
 India, South Africa and U.S.A. Draft of suggested n  
 new interallied rules for shipping cable is being  
 forwarded. Meanwhile comments on following points would materially  
 assist co-ordination present practice.  
 2. On account of variation in discretion of U.K. censors  
 Australian shipping concerns fail to understand why they cannot  
 pass telegrams in form similar to those received from U.K.  
 observing Australian regulation substantially same as in U.K.  
 3. Australian censorship would prefer dates of shipment to be  
 omitted. Name of ship without date is sufficient for commercial  
 interests here.  
 4. Variation in practice in U.K. as to tels. concerning tankers  
 not understood assuming D of S.T.'s 2350/24/2 is still guiding  
 instructions.  
 5. "Neutral ships under British Charter" difficult for censors  
 recognise without delay. Suggest same rules should apply neutral  
 and allied ships.  
 6. South Africa tends allow indications arrival or departure  
 closer than U.K. or Australian censorship.



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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand.

Censorship  
of shipping  
cables.  
Contd.

7. U.S.A. much stricter than U.K. or Australia particularly in forbidding combination any of following in same message or series of messages. (A) ships name. (B) nature cargo. (C) port arrival departure or transit and forbidding dates closer than one week. Remarks on how this has been reconciled with U.K. practice would be appreciated. (A.C.N.B. 2011Z/15 to Admty.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.  
(D.D.I.C. 1402A/15, 1440A/15.)

Submarines Attacked.

In W/E 13/9/42, etc. Commaveu 1027/15.  
See America and West Indies.