

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

C. in C. W.A. intends to establish a temporary Reinforcing Group in mid-Atlantic whose primary object will be the destruction of U-Boats rather than the immediate defence of trade. This force will be known as the 20th Escort Group and will consist of the Sloops STORK, DEPTFORD, ROTHER and SPEY and 3 S-class destroyers. It will join convoy O.N.S.132 in 20⁰⁰ and 23⁰⁰ and the oiler LAURELWOOD will sail with that convoy in readiness to fuel the Group as necessary. Orders for the subsequent movements of the Group will be issued as circumstances may require. The Admty. will retain control of the Group when operating west of Chop O.N.

✓ Corrected, later reclassified
as Frigate.

Convoys P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 crossed at about 2000 today and P.614 and P.615 transferred from the former to the latter.

P.217 left Lerwick this morning, to patrol off Bergen.

Thirteen aircraft were detailed last night to set alight the oil around the damaged SOLGLIMT and to attack the harbour at Cherbourg. No fires were seen.

4 bombs were dropped at 1733A today on Fair Isle, but no serious casualties or damage were caused.

R.A.M. in SOUTHERN PRINCE with AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC arrived at Port ZA this morning after completing minelaying operation S.N.65A.

35 aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines last night from the Frisian Islands to the Elbe and off the Gironde.

South Atlantic.

Operation
"Volley" or
"Vitriol"

Force V, consisting of SIRIUS and PHOEBE sailed from Port Elizabeth at 1711B today to patrol in latitude 40° S between 18° E and 26° E until 21/9 with the object of intercepting and capturing enemy shipping south of the Cape. Aircraft will co-operate and the following ships of the mine clearance flotilla will take part:- ROODEPOORT. STELLENBERG. FLORIDA. SOUTHERN BARRIER. TERJE, patrolling in 37° 30' S.

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SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - Contd.

All Brazilian sailings from Santos have been suspended following the report that a submarine landed a man last night on Santo Amaro Island.

ANTELOPE picked up today 30 survivors of Swedish LIMA, sunk by German*U-Boat in approx. 02.02 N 11.22 W at 2230Z/12. Position given indicates she did not receive or act on R.A. West Africa's diversion signal 1700/5.

* U.506. (D.R. 1337)

SS. TALISMAN, proceeding from New York to Takoradi was chased at 1646 today for an hour and a half in 4° 12' N 13° 8' W by an unknown vessel which in certain respects resembled Raider H, but escaped through her high speed.

A U.S. aircraft reports sinking a U-Boat at 0930Z today in 6° 20' S 13° 10' W.

Aircraft reported today a submarine with 4 life boats alongside full of survivors, presumably from LACONIA (torpedoed on 12/9.)

Mediterranean.

S/Ms.

It is reported that P.42 shelled the bridge over the Amendolia River, west of Spartivento at 2004/7 and on the following evening bombarded the bridge near the railway in the Gulf of Squillace. P.34 was slightly damaged on 8/9 as the result of an unsuccessful attack on a strongly escorted convoy of 3 merchant ships in 36° 17' N 21° 3' E 25 miles S.W. of Navarin. UNA at 1006/10 attacked and it is considered sank a modern 4000 ton escorted merchant ship of the Ramb Class S.W. of Crete.

Heavy bombers attacked Tobruk last night. Allied heavy bombers attacked shipping at Benghazi at midday and report hits on two vessels, one of which was set on fire, and others on 2 converted wrecks used as landing stages. Photographs confirmed a direct hit on one merchant vessel and a near miss on another.

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SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

The Governor General of Madagascar at 1000 today approached the British Commander with a view to arranging an armistice.

America and West Indies.

Further
attacks
on S.Q.36.

Convoy S.Q.36 was again attacked at 0710P this morning. SALISBURY reported 2 ships torpedoed in 49.10 N 67.05 W (in the St. Lawrence River about 60 miles below Father Point) JOHANNIS (sunk) and ESSEX LANCE (down by stern and in tow of VEGREVILLE) PAN YORK was also torpedoed apparently at the same time and position. ESSEX LANCE and PAN YORK both reached port safely.

SS. COMMERCIAL TRADER was torpedoed at 0900 G.M.T. today 50 miles off the east coast of Tobago.

U.S. aircraft made a promising attack on a U-Boat at 1210Z in 11.14 N 60.21 W.

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Mid-Atlantic
Re-inforcing
Group.
STORK.
DEPTFORD.
ROTHERSPEY.
(20th E.G.)

Intend to establish a temporary Reinforcing Group in mid-Atlantic, whose primary object is to be the destruction of U-boats rather than the immediate defence of trade.
(2) Group to consist of STORK S.O., DEPTFORD, ROTHERSPEY, and three "Esses" to be detailed by Commodore Londonderry. Other ships may be ordered to join the group if available.

- (3) Group to constitute 20th Escort Group from time of sailing till return to U.K.
(4) (A) "Esses" to join O.N.S. 132 p.m. 23rd in about 020° W.
(B) Remainder of group to join O.N.S.132 a.m. 24th in about 023° W.
(5) (A) Oiler LAURELWOOD is to sail with O.N.S.132 and is to be transferred under escort of at least 2 ships of 20th group to any threatened convoy as circumstances require.
(B) LAURELWOOD will carry spare depth charges and 1500 tons furnace oil, and will be fitted with rubber hoses for fuelling 20th group. Convoy escorts are not to fuel from LAURELWOOD unless imperative.
(C) All ships of 20th group are to take earliest and every reasonable opportunity of topping up from LAURELWOOD.
(6) (A) When all ships of 20th group have joined O.N.S.132, the group is to act as an independent Reinforcing Group in the vicinity of convoy till otherwise ordered.
(B) While orders for movements of group will be issued as necessary, S.O. is to use his discretion as to the employment of his forces in the light of any local knowledge he may possess, keeping the necessary authorities informed of any radical movements intended.
(C) Sloops and corvettes may use St. Johns N.F. as additional fuelling base, but "Esses" are not to exceed P.L.E. from Londonderry or Hvalfjord.
(D) Orders for return 20th group to base will be given as circumstances require. It is anticipated that ships will be homeward by 8/10 at latest.
(C. in C. W.A. 1438Z/16.)

My 1438Z/16. Consider it essential that I should retain operational control of Reinforcing Group regardless of wide chop. Request necessary arrangements may be made accordingly with Connav.

(C. in C. W.A. 1542A/16.)

My 1438A/16. Similar arrangements to those in ALM/A/SW 1358/42 dated 14th Aug. paras. 2,3 and 4 (which is being forwarded to F.O.I.C. Liverpool) are to be made in LAURELWOOD and 20th E.G.

(C. in C. W.A. 1545A/16.)

2 Trawlers
for Harwich.

There is an acute shortage of A/S Trawlers at Harwich following on withdrawals for other commitments.
2. You are requested to transfer two Dance class Trawlers to Harwich as soon as practicable.

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy-~~conts~~:2 Trawlers
for Harwich
(Contd.)3. If this leaves you with too few escort trawlers, it is suggested that the additional trawlers required should be transferred from local patrols.
(D.A/S.W. 2020A/16 to C. in C. Rosyth.)Movements.STURGEON.
OTUS.
TUNA.
SEALION.Scapa departures ^{*}STURGEON and ^{*}OTUS at 0621.
Scapa arrivals TUNA and SEALION at 0834.
(A.C.O.S. 0842/16.)** Hunt Loch Montevith. See 13/9 p.366.*

KANARIS.

Proceed passing Switha at 1230 today to Liverpool by standard route Minches and North Channel for boiler cleaning preparatory to leaving U.K.
(R.A.D. H.F. 0925A/16 to KANARIS.) *See p.473 (H.S.23)*SKATE.
SARDONYX.
SALADIN.Detach SKATE, SARDONYX, SALADIN to Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A. 1013A/16 to HURRICANE.)EMPIRE
MINOTAUR.
EMPIRE GNOME.
EMPIRE PAT.A.M. 2254/11. Tugs EMPIRE MINOTAUR, EMPIRE GNOME, and EMPIRE PAT are expected to be ready to leave Milford Haven for Capetown on 19/9.
None of the tugs is fitted with W/T and they should remain in company.
3. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to sail tugs with convoy leaving 19/9. A.M. 2254/11 refers and arrange for them to part company as requisite and to fuel at the Azores.
4. Tugs should be routed to Freetown via Azores whence EMPIRE PAT could proceed direct to Capetown and EMPIRE MINOTAUR and EMPIRE GNOME via Lagos and Walvis Bay.
(D.O.D. (H) 1240A/16.)

A.F.D.17.

When towage is ready and weather appears suitable N.O.I.C. Aultbea is requested to sail A.F.D.XVII to Reykjavik routed as in my 0721A/13 and escorted by QUADRILLE, FOXTROT, and INDIAN STAR. Air A/S escort will be arranged by C. in C. W.A. if considered desirable. Codeword "Congress".
(C. in C. W.A. 1245A/16.)For
Gibraltar.A.M. 2254/11 amend as follows. For HOUSTON CITY read ITTERSUM.
(D.O.D. (H) 1249A/16 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)H.50.
JAN VAN GELDER.My 1837/15. Sailed 0900/16.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1305A/16.)

/FISHGUARD ...

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

- FISHGUARD. Commodore Londonderry's 1643/14. Request FISHGUARD may be sailed to Plymouth to de-ammunition.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1329A/16 to C. in C. W.A.)
- 134 M.L.F. A.M. 1835A/30. Weather and circumstances
FLUELLEN. permitting intend sailing 17/9. FLUELLEN,
HORATIO. HORATIO escorting 134th M.L. Flotilla.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1341A/16.)
- WHITEHALL. Sailing WHITEHALL for Londonderry to top up
E.T.A. 0400A/17, thence St. Johns N.F. by Great
Circle Track in accordance with C. in C. W.A.
1748Z/15. E.T.A. 1200A/22.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2104A/16.)
- FORMIDABLE. My P.C.S. 055° 32' N. 008° 26' W. 085°, 19 knots.
(FORMIDABLE 2130A/16.)

Operations.

- Patrols. Patrol tonight. 1A. SHEARWATER, 1B GUILLEMOT,
2 HAMBLEDON, 3 QUORN, 4 COTTESMORE, 5 CATTISTOCK,
6 PYTCHLEY.
(C. in C. Nore 0946A/16 to 1156A/16.)
- Cancel my 0946/16.
(C. in C. Nore 1512A/16.)
- Tonight GLAISDALE, BLENCATHRA, M.T.Bs 55, 50, 53 patrol near
050° 15' N. 000° 20' W. M.Ls 291, 346 patrol near 050° 25' N.
001° 40' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1210A/16 and 1625A/16.)
- My 1210/16. Destroyer and M.T.B. Patrol cancelled.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1820/16.)
- Intend M.L.123, 205 and 303 to patrol lat. 50° 20' N.
between 2° and 2°(?35')W. tonight, leaving Weymouth at 2000 and
returning from patrol to base at dawn. Code word "Service".
Request air protection be arranged. *See next page.*
- (F.O.I.C. Portland 1343/16 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- Available M.T.Bs are to sail 1945 tonight and are to
patrol between 048° 54' N. 003° 51' W. and 048° 50' N. 004° 09' W.
2. Object to attack enemy shipping. 1 large and 3 small ships
may pass patrol line at about 2300 today Eastbound.
3. M.T.Bs are to return so as to be within 20 miles of Dartmouth
by 1st light 17th. Should any boats break down all are to
return to Harbour.
4. Codeword "Warrant".
(C. in C. Plymouth 1357A/16 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
See over.

/Your ...

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Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. *20/15*

Patrols (Contd.) Your 1357/16. Intend M.T.Bs 231 S.O., 235, and 240 to Southward at 1945/16. Codeword "Warrant". (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1731A/16 to C. in C. Plymouth)

My 1731A/16. Sailed. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1948/16 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

3 M.T.Bs leave Dartmouth 1945 for patrol to Southward returning daylight. 3 M.Ls on patrol 15' south of St. Albans Head. Coastal craft exercising Weymouth Bay 1945 - 2300. (C. in C. Plymouth 1615A/16.)

M.Ls 291, 346 patrolling vicinity 50° 25' N. 01° 40' W.

2 M.G.Bs, 2 M.T.Bs exercising in Weymouth Bay 1945 - 2300.

3 A/S Trawlers patrolling vicinity E.A.5. M.Ls 123, 205, 303 from Portland patrolling lat 50° 20' N. between 2° and 2° 35' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1640/16 and 1942/16.)

M.Ls 147 (S.O) and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 2010. E.T.R. 0605/17. M.Ls 137 and 139 near "C" one buoy. (V.A. Dover 1736A/16.)

KYLE CLARE. Report E.T.A. Liverpool. (C. in C. W.A. 1223A/16 to P.C.74.)

"Outward" Operation "Outward" completed at 2000 hours. (A.B.O. Oldstairs, Dover 2005/16 to V.A. Dover.)

Soviet. S/Ms have successfully entered Gulf of Bothnia. Graded A.1. Afternoon 12/9 at least 2 Finnish steamers reported sunk as follows: (A) One North Aland Island. (B) One 11 miles East Gayle and possibly a third vessel. Graded B.2. Swedish vessels were at once ordered to remain in territorial waters and certain convoys are being arranged. Graded A.1. One S/M for certain has been detected by shore instruments and visual reports indicate a second. Graded A.2. (N.A. Stockholm 2046/16 to Admty.)

Exercises.

Exercise "Cole III" My 1215A/7. Exercise "Cole III" is cancelled owing to weather. M/T will be landed at Millbay Salcombe a.m. tomorrow. It is hoped to carry out "Cole IV" early next month. (C. in C. Plymouth 1811/16 to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

One E-Boat and one M/V damaged. Last night one Albacore of 841 Squadron patrolling from 2100 S.W. of Boulogne sighted at 2255, with assistance of Swingate R.A.F. control, three vessels off Le Touquet steering south about 30 knots probably torpedo boats or E-Boats. Aircraft attacked second vessel in the line with 12 100 lb bombs and claim a hit as wake of this vessel was not afterwards seen. A second

/aircraft ...

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One E-Boat
and one M/V
damaged.
(Contd.)

aircraft took off in support at 2312 and sighted two vessels about 500 to 1000 tons off Le Treport steering northwards. Aircraft attacked and claimed at least one bomb hit on rearmost of two ships which were afterwards seen to close together.
(V.A. Dover 0943A/16.)

^M
SOLGLINT
bombed.

On day 15/9, 12 A/C attacked the Whale Oil Factory ship SOLGLINT at Cherbourg and claim hits on and around the ship and on the adjacent quayside. Photographs show the Whaler enveloped in smoke from bomb bursts and appear to confirm at least 1 direct hit.
(H.Q.B.C. 1315A/16.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Off
Brest.

1 A/C Ju.88 in 47° 00' N. 6° 30' W.
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1140/16.)
2 A/C Ju.88 in 48° 28' N. 7° 38' W.
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1646/16.)

Fair Isle
bombed.

N.L.O. Kirkwall reports that at 1733A today hostile A/C dropped 4 bombs on Fair Isle.
(A.C.O.S. 1815/16.)

My 1815/16. Following report from Lerwick re bombing of Fair Isle begins. 4 bombs dropped. 4 A/A personnel suffering from scratches and shock. Mild structural damage to army hut and naval W/T hut. No technical damage except to phones. THISTLE is proceeding to Fair Isle tomorrow from Lerwick with G.P.O. repair party. 1 casualty will be returning by boat to Lerwick. Ends.

(A.C.O.S. 2205A/16.)

Mining.

M.S.N.3.

My 2345/14. ^{H.T. 21.3.} Sailed PLOVER and SCOTT to check position of Beacon after gale. If satisfactory intend to sail with minesweepers in time to commence operation 0800/17.
(M/S 15 0951A/16 to R.A.M.)

My 0951/16. PLOVER and SCOTT returned to Broad Bay owing to heavy sea clear of Butt of Lewis.

(M/S.15 1322A/16 to R.A.M.)

/Thames ...

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. - Contd.Thames
Estuary.One ground mine detonated by Sweepers at
0114/16. Details.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 1405/16.)Sweep in
Lyme Bay.Arrived "Ounce V"
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1534/16 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)
Intend sailing "Ounce V" 0600/17 sweeping route
N. to Portland TREVO ~~III~~ and NIGHTHAWK.
(2) F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them back to Dartmouth
at 0600/18 sweeping the same route. Code word "Ounce V".
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1938/16 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)Sweep in
Q.Z.X.780.My 1140/12 and 1229/15. Mines swept in Q.Z.X.
780 on 11/9.
7. Red 50.48.18 N. 00.55.41 E.
8. Red 50.48.27 N. 00.53.35 E.
9. Red 50.49.18 N. 00.54.48 E. and on 14/9
10. Red 50.49.12 N. 00.53.14 E.
11. Red 50.48.09 N. 00.55.46 E.
(V.A. Dover 1739A/16.)Sweep in
Q.Z.X.787
and Q.Z.X.
809.Clearance Q.Z.X. 787 extended to line joining
positions 50° 18' 36" N. 03° 22' 12" W. and 50°
11' 48" N. 03° 10' 00" W. Negative result.
Q.Z.X. 809. Area swept today Wednesday by 4
M.S.F. enclosed by 50° 10' 06" N. 03° 30' 48" W.
50° 17' 06" N. 03° 21' 48" W. 50° 15' 06" N.
03° 21' 48" W. 50° 11' 06" N. 03° 27' 00" W.
Two mines detonated in positions 50° 14' 54" N.
03° 24' 36" W. and 50° 13' 54" N. 03° 24' 06" W.
Two conical floats.
(M/S 13 1807A/16.)

White Sea.

Following area suspected dangerous due to enemy
mines. Enclosed by lines joining the following
positions:-
067° 11' N. 041° 28' E.
067° 11' N. 041° 38' E.
067° 07' N. 041° 38' E.
067° 07' N. 041° 30' E.
(D.M.S. 2300A/16.)Enemy Intelligence.

Baltic.

Attention is drawn to valuable Enemy Troopship
targets proceeding (a) Oslo to Tallin and (b)
Stettin to Riga.
(N.A. Stockholm 2046/16 to Admty.)

/SCHARNHORST ...

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - contd.

SCHARNHORST. German Warships at Gdynia observed (?this week)
 GNEISENAU. as follows.
 GRAF (a) SCHARNHORST sailed for steam trials and
 ZEPPELIN. training of engine and boiler room personnel.
 (b) GNEISENAU observed with turrets still removed
 and lying on wharf.
 (c) GRAF ZEPPELIN had appearances of being finished. Local
 gossip told of vessel being ready for service by new year.
 Graded B.3.
 (N.A. Stockholm 2222/16.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats Am over enemy submarine in 61° 36' N. 1° 51' E.
 reported. (A/C B.L.N.O. 0030/16.)
 All contacts have been lost and there are no
 further developments with reference to Comtask
 Unit 24.6.5's 1135Z/15. No change of course or speed. Still
 on alert. Originator is C.T.U. 24.6.5 to C.T.G. 24.6.
 (A.C.I.C. 0100/16 to Admty.)
 A.M. 1144A/16. Further D/F bearings at 1513Z/16, 1533Z/16,
 and 1543Z/16 indicate at least two U-boats in vicinity O.N.129.
 No further indication of any U-Boat in vicinity O.N.130.
 (D.D.I.C. 1755A/16 to Escorts O.N.129, O.N.130.)
 Reliable fix and D/F bearings at 2013 G.M.T. of probable
 U-Boat estimated position 075° 04' N. 049° 50' E.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2207A/16.)

Navigational.

Ice. Ice R/C 16/9. Between 067° 22' N. 023° 33' W.
 to 068° 37' N. 024° 08' W. several large icebergs
 average size length 200 feet height 80 feet.
 Edge of 3/10 B.2 in position 068° 37' N. 024° 08' W. direction
 of B.2 appears to run 250/070°. Visibility restricted by low
 broken cloud.
 (A.C.I.C. 2314A/16 to C. in C. H.F., (R) V.A.2., R.A.D. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.

CHELSEA. My 1128A/10. CHELSEA further delayed by
 defects but hope to sail her p.m. 18th.
 (C. in C. W.A. 0911Z/16 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

* PANACHES. No electric power in SS PANACHES. Intend
 STIRLING- sending (?Clyde). SS STIRLINGVILLE stopped for
 VILLE. 6 hours with engine defects at 1200A/18th in
 * not in list. Stragglers Route. Weather report 3955 1513.
 ? PANAGHIS (LONDONDERRY 1145Z/16.)

/VICTORIOUS ...

War Diary.

16.9.1942
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - contd.

- VICTORIOUS. Admiralty 1218/14. ^{11.11.42} Confirmed that fitting Fighter Direction Office in VICTORIOUS similar to FORMIDABLE can be completed during forthcoming period in hand, provided all equipment delivered by date of arrival of ship.
(A.S. Rosyth 1230/16 to Admty.)
- OAK APPLE. Crail Torpedo recovery Drifter OAK APPLE struck outer breakwater Anstruther at 0600/15. OAK APPLE seaworthy but sustained slight damage to stem.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1516/16.)
- VIZALMA. My 1033/15/9. Sailing postponed owing to necessity of repairs to minor defects caused by collision while vessel was leaving harbour.
(N.O.I.C. Tees 1737/16.)
- STROMA. My 1158A/16. STROMA delayed by engine defects. Anticipated time required 24 to 26 hours.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1838A/16.)
- DUNBAR. Arrangements can be made for taking DUNBAR in hand for half yearly docking in the Liverpool area commencing mid October.
(D.M.S. 2005A/16 to R.A.M.)

Shipping and Convoys.

- P.Q.18. P.217 left Lerwick at 0715A/16 unescorted and
Q.P.14. on surface at C.Os discretion routed through positions (A) 091° Out Skerries 5 miles
(B) 061° 01' N. 000° 07' E. (C) 061° 04' N. 002° 03' E. thence diving by day to patrol in area K.104 bounded by latitude 061° 20' and 060° 50' and Meridian 002° 45' E. and Norwegian Coast.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 0721A/16 to S/MS.)
Your 0617/15. My 2014/13 referred to your 1736/12 calling for course and both positions of Russian submarine.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0747A/16 to Admty.)
U-Boat sighted at 0745A in 071° 33' N. 050° 55' E.
Reliability A.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0816Z/16.)
Your 1902B/29/4. Following (passengers) embarked H.M.S. and merchant ships of Q.P.14 for passage to U.K., U.S.A., and Iceland. Details.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0835A/16 to Admty.)
Following from Jan Mayen 0910Z/14 aircraft heard going N.N.W. 1205Z/14 aircraft over Island. course S.E.
(A.C.I.C. 0931A/16 to Admty. (R) C. in C. H.F.)

*Complement of each M/V in Convoy Q.P.14. Details.
(NCSO. Archangel 0830A/16 to Admty)*

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P.Q.18. 18 Group 0029/15. Have received no report of
Q.P.14. P.R.U. Altafiord later than 0430A/15 contained
in your 1304/15.
(C. in C. H.F. 0933A/16 to S.B.N.O. North
Russia (R) 18 Group.)

My 2111/15. Photographs confirm and visual R/C Altafiord
0620A/16 show no change.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1007A/16 to Admty., C. in C. H.F.,
R.A.D. H.F.)
Propose early action be taken to provide guard loops and
H.D.A. for the minefield at Akureyri. Also consider it
desirable to sink the control hut into Hillside.
(V.A.2 1022/16 to C. in C. H.F.)
Request A.C.I.C's sailing signal for P.Q.18. (2) Please
send these promptly in future as they are of great value here.
(Ad. Miles 1029C/16 to Admty.)
A.M. 1548Z/15. Q.P.14 sailed at 1600/13.
(D.T.D. 1109A/16 to Cominch.)
OPHELIA escorting SAN UBALDO 064° 58' N. 024° 25' W. to
Hvalfiord. Situation at 2059/16.
(A.C.I.C. 1307A/16.)
Visual R/C 1730/15 shows HIPPER, KOLN, and 2 Destroyers in
Altafiord 69° 57' N. 23° E. One major unit probably SCHEER in
Lagefiord. Position of latter not known, probably Lyng Fiord.
Result of photographs to follow.
(D.D.I.C. 1415A/16 to A.I.G. 47.)
A.M. 1415A/16. Photographs confirm and visual R/C of
Altafiord at 0620A/16 shows no change. SCHEER's position is
being verified.
(D.D.I.C. 1517A/16.)
Your A.C.237?. SCHEER, HIPPER, KOLN last seen Altafiord
0630A/16. Mosquito arrived but R/C ineffective, also Spitfire
sortie cancelled p.m. 16th weather. Anti surface craft patrols
maintained and will continue till 1200A/18. P.Q.18 escorted
1600/15 and escorts will be doubled p.m. 17th. Surplus
Catalinas will escort Q.P.14.
(R.A.F. North Russia 1649A/16 to 18 Group.)
UNIQUE, P.45, P.221, P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE, TIGRIS, between
72° 25' N. 32° 10' E. and 71° 25' N. 35° 50' E. RUBIS in
zone K.154. JUNON vicinity 66° 40' N. 12° E. P.217 zone K.104.
P.614, P.615, with P.Q.18, shortly transferring to Q.P.14.
(F.O.S. 1714A/16 to Admty.)
Your 2121/15. Much regret this was done. I trust
Russian Authorities appreciate necessity of keeping you informed
of any movements of their surface forces or S/Ms which may
affect our own S/Ms.
(F.O.S. 1946A/16 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
What Soviet Union Escorts are meeting P.Q.18.
(C. in C. H.F. 1956A/16 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)
Your 1029/16. Summary of sailing signals. P.Q.18 con-
sisting of 41 ships sailed from Loch Ewe and Reykjavik as
follows:- From Loch Ewe 2.9.42. VIRGINIA DARE, ST. OLAF,
MEANTICUT, MARY LUCKENBACH, WILLIAM MOULTRIE, PATRICK HENRY,
JOHN PENN, ESEK HOPKINS, NATHANIEL GREEN, CHARLES R. MCCORMACK,
WAGOSTA, HOLLYWOOD, CAMPFIRE, WHITE CLOVER, AFRICANDER, KENTUCKY,
LAFAYETTE, SCHOHARIE, SAHALE, OREGONIAN, EMPIRE BEAUMONT, OCEAN
FAITH, TEMPLE ARCH, EMPIRE TRISTRAM, EMPIRE MORN, DAN-Y-BRYN,
EMPIRE STEVENSON, EMPIRE BAFFIN, GOOLISTAN, EMPIRE SNOW, MACBETH,
KOMILES, PETROVSKY, COPELAND (Rescue ship).
From Reykjavik 7.9.42. EXFORD, OLIVER ELSWORTH, TBILISI,
STALINGRAD, ANDRE MARTI, SUKHONA, ATHELTEMPLAR.
(D.T.D. 2033A/16 to Ad. Miles.)

/Departures ...

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War Diary.16.9.1942
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - ~~cont.~~

P.Q.18. Departures Kola Inlet SOKRUSHITELNI and smoke
Q.P.14. layer GREHAM RASCHI at 2000A/16 to meet P.Q.18.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2225A/16 to C. in C. H.F.
Reptd MALCOLM.)

From Jan Mayen 0700Z/16. A/C heard over island going
southward.

(A.C.I.C. 2250A/16 to Admty. Reptd. C. in C. H.F.)

My 1415/16 and 1517/16. Position of SCHEER confirmed
as Langfiord.

(D.D.I.C. 2310A/16.)

BREM. (D.T.D.) My 1511/14. ^{11.11.14.} Postponed further 24 hours.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1036A/16 to A.C.O.S.)

S.C.98. Average speed 7.5 knots.
Bad weather at start thence fresh to strong
favourable winds. CLARISSA RADCLIFF straggled
with serious engine trouble now arrived.
(D.T.D. 1219A/16 to Connav.)

QUARTZITE. Request information of motor vessel QUARTZITE
which left Troon a.m. 8/9 for Ullapool and
whose arrival has not been reported.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1305A/16.)

Ships for Red Sea. All merchant ships proceeding direct from U.K.
ports to Red Sea ports beyond Aden without an
intermediate call are to be instructed to call
at Aden for onward instructions.
(D.T.D. 1505A/16.)

Zig-zag orders. British B.A.M.S. lettered message IX as amended
by IY. Merchant ships specified are also to
zig-zag when in B.A.M.S. area 3, between longitudes
19° E. and 33° E.
(D.T.D. 1517Z/16 to B.A.M.S.)

White Route. KAPRUTS. To comply with A.M. 1644A/15 a
temporary amendment to the white route is to be
brought into force taking effect with O.S.41.
Move 1st position 7° westwards. Move 2nd
position 3° north and 3° East. Ships are now to be given
Kapruts, i.e. White, Red, and Blue only from numbers 7 to 26
inclusive. The normal route is now the White route.
(D.T.D. 1528A/16.)

/Pink Route ...

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- Pink Route. A.M. 1528A/16 refers. The fifth position of the Pink Route is to be temporarily suspended. Fast Cape ships should be routed from fourth position Pink direct to amended first position White route.
(D.T.D. 1609A/16.)
- Reports of rescuing survivors. To guard against ships' time being wasted in needless search for survivors, all Masters of unescorted ships having H/F are to be instructed to report by W/T the picking up of survivors during the night following the rescue. These messages should give the numbers picked up, the name of the ship to which the survivor belonged and the position in which rescued.
(D.T.D. 1739A/16.)
- Eire Ships. A.M. 1730B/8/7 Section C. To secure uniformity in the sailing signals of independently routed ships owned or chartered by Eire, following instructions are promulgated. Details.
(D.T.D. 1746A/16.)
- Convoy W.S.23. 1. The following ships carrying military personnel and stores for the East will be ready to leave Liverpool for Freetown on 29/9.
Personnel HIGHLAND MONARCH 15 knots. CAPETOWN CASTLE 18 knots. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA 15½ knots. MORETON BAY 14½ knots. M.T. Ships KINA II 15 knots. STAAT MALKKA 16 knots. SILVERSANDAL 14 knots. PORT JACKSON 15 knots.
2. Admiralty will provide route.
3. Speed of advance 12½ knots.
4. Ocean Escort to Freetown. 1. DURBAN and DESPATCH from Liverpool. 2. QUEEN OF BERMUDA from Clyde.
5. Destroyer Escort. A. PUCKERIDGE and KANARIS from Liverpool, to Freetown. B. 2 destroyers to Azores. C. 2 destroyers to return from Prudent limit of Endurance.
7. C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail DURBAN and DESPATCH to Liverpool as requisite for C.Os to attend Convoy Conference.
8. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to detail destroyers as mentioned in para 5(b) and (c).
9. PUCKERIDGE and KANARIS are to be detached to fuel at Ponta Delgada and destroyers mentioned in para 5(b) will remain with convoy until they rejoin, subsequently proceeding to Ponta Delgada for fuel and returning to U.K. as directed by C. in C. Western Approaches.
10. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to sail convoy as requisite and to arrange fuelling at Ponta Delgada.
11. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail QUEEN OF BERMUDA to rendezvous with convoy as directed by C. in C. Western Approaches.
(D.D.O.D. (H) 1836A/16.)

/PRINCESS MAUD ...

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Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

PRINCESS
MAUD.

My 1856/15. PRINCESS MAUD only will be used to transport U.S. troops from Londonderry to Toward and Roseneath, crossing night of 17/18th.
(D.O.D. (H.) 2028A/16 to Commodore, Londonderry.)

D.S.32.

D.S.32 sailed 2030/16.
(D.S.T.O Greenock 2035/16.)

U.R.41.

Following received by A/C from S.N.O. KING SOL. HORSIA and BARCLIFFE not in company because detached a.m. 15th Butt of Lewis T.O.O. 1200/16.
(R.A.F. Invergordon 2110A/16 to Admty.)

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

KAOLACK. N.A. Madrid 1210/12. Request you will ensure that Master of KAOLACK has instructions to proceed from Malaga to Gibraltar.
(M. Branch, 0006A/16 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) N.A. Madrid.)
ST. NECTAN sailed 1400 and M.L. 170 at 1630 to R/V SS. KAOLACK off Malaga p.m./16th and escort ship to Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1748A/16 to Admty., (R) N.A. Madrid.)

WISHART, WISHART and LOOKOUT sweeping 310° from position
LOOKOUT, 270° Cape Trafalgar 10 to coast, thence due
SCOTTISH, South. Speed 15 knots. SCOTTISH and LORD
LORD NUFFIELD, NUFFIELD searching coastal area Cape Trafalgar
search. to Chipiona.
(WISHART, 0837A/16 to F.O.C.N.A.)

P. 555. C.T.F. 25's 0513/6 and S.B.N.O.W.A's 1852/13.
Request I may be informed time that S/M P.555
will pass position B and W/T watch ordered.
2. C. in C. U.S. Fleet pass to C.T.F. 25.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1408A/16 to S.B.N.O.W.A., (R) B.A.D.
Admty., etc.)

Petrol in S/Ms. Para. 2 of my 1040/9th.
PARTHIAN. (1) Conversion external fuel tank in S Class to
carry petrol involving (A) a week's work to
effect. (B) disembarkation of petrol by blowing
only. (C) a week's work to reconvert.
(2) In view of above, the difficulty to remove all traces
petrol, and the fact these submarines are subsequently required
for operational duties, do you wish them to carry petrol to
Malta.
(3) Para. 2 of C. in C. Med's 1101/11. Should PARTHIAN also
carry own outfit torpedo and no aircraft torpedo?
(F.O.C.N.A., 1736A/16 to V.A. Malta, (R) C. in C. Med., Admty.,
Capt. (S) 10.)

South Atlantic.

Convoy W.S. 22. W.S.22 P.C. and S. at 2100Z/15 001° 40' N. 004°
10' W. 100° 13 $\frac{1}{4}$, my P.C. and S. at 0400Z/16
002° 35' N. 006° 50' W. 295° 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. Weather
report.
(ANTELOPE, 0415Z/16 to R.A.W.A.)

/Your ...

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts.

Convoy Your 0548/5.
W.S. 22. War Office inform me that ^{S.S.} SUFFOLK in Capetown section of W.S. 22 has on board 5 Lysanders for Madagascar. Intend therefore to transfer ships to Durban section in case it may be possible to tranship aircraft to RANGITIKI. SUFFOLK will now be only ship in W.S. 22 for Mid-East.
(P.S.T.O. Capetown, 1604B/16 to D.S.T.)

LIMA (? Swedish) Merchant Ship LIMA torpedoed by (torpedoed German U-Boat at 2230Z/12 in approx. 002° 35' 12/9.) ^{by U. 506.} N. 011° 22' W. 1 officer and 2 ratings missing. ~~(L.S. 111)~~ (ANTELOPE, 0420Z/16 to R.A.W.A.)
(S.O.I. 1337) On 16/9 ANTELOPE reported picking up 30 survivors Swedish ship LIMA sunk German U-Boat in approx. 002° 02' N. 011° 22' W. at 2230Z/12. 1 officer and 2 ratings missing. Position given indicating she did not receive or act on R.A.W.A.'s diversion signal 1700/5/9.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1457Z/16 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

COMMANDANT Departure 0601 G.M.T. COMMANDANT DETROYAT with
DETROYAT, D.S. O.24, E.T.A. Durban for COMMANDANT DETROYAT
O.24. daybreak/18th. Ref. C. in C. S.A. 1153/11.
(a) Blank. (b) 11 knots while in company then 13.
(c) E.T.A. 045° E. 0800Z/19th. (d) E.T.A. Grand
Port 0500Z/22.
(N.O.I.C. E. London, 0827Z/16 to Admty., etc.)

Dakar R/C. Aerial R/C Dakar 1410/15/9 shows warships present RICHELIEU, 1 Galissonniere Class Cruiser, JULES VERNE, 6 submarines.
(2) Oiler not now alongside Naval Jetty.
(3) 2 cruisers, 2 Fantasque destroyers, and 1 submarine have left Dakar since 5/9. 1 cruiser sighted 15 miles S.W. Dakar by R/C aircraft.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 1207Z/16 to Admty.)

Saldanha Your 0018/11, para. 2 confirmed.
Bay. 2. Ref. para. 4. It is not intended to immobilise an oil tanker for service at Saldanha Bay but to send one there to fuel any accumulation of merchant ships from time to time, but it is not intended to keep the tanker any longer than is absolutely necessary. It was understood from your 2323/4/7 that colliers could and would be made available in August and until lighters are available it is intended to make use of the colliers for direct bunkering at every possible opportunity. As regards water supply, it was hoped that BENAKAT was to be retained at Capetown and that she would be available to be sent to Saldanha in the same way as an oil tanker if and when required. Ship appears to be of little value for any other purpose.

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16.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

Saldanha Bay. (Contd.) 3. Ref. paras. 5a and b. Position is as explained above and in para. 3 of my 1157/4. It is intended to use Saldanha Bay to fullest extent that facilities will permit as they become available. During forthcoming visit of W.S. 22 to Capetown it will be necessary to do so. CIRCASSIA and RANGITIKI are there now awaiting escort and AQUITANIA will probably be berthed there.

4. Ref. para. 5c. Yes. The necessary staff will be accumulated gradually.

5. Agreed M.W.T.R.
(C. in C. S.A., 1229B/16 as amended 1253B/19 to Admty.)

U/Bs. 0920/15 American aircraft sighted and fired on by two U-Boats in 4° 40' S. 11° W. 1310/15 periscope reported in 8° 57' N. 14° 17' W. by transit Hudson. 1648/15 transit Wellington sighted U-Boat seen to dive in 14° 08' N. 17° 38' N. First report assessed probable, second and third possible.
(R.A.W.A., 1405Z/16 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.)

Shipping Reports, Argentine. Your 1501/14. Concur. Request names of ports concerned.
(D.T.D., 1504A/16 to S.O.I. Montevideo).
Your 1504A/16. All Argentine ports with exception of Rosario, Buenos Aires, and Bahia Blanca which are covered by U.S. Report Organisation.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 2121Z/16 to Admty. for D.N.I.)

Patrols. CARTHAGE will join CARNARVON CASTLE patrolling H.34 C and D east of 26° W. a.m. on 18/9. CARNARVON CASTLE leaves patrol a.m. 25/9 to return to Freetown.
(R.A.W.A., 1537Z/16 to Admty., Cominch, etc.)

U/B. Following has been read by Freetown W/T. Torpedo track sighted 16.20 S. 23.26 W. 1606.
(ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, T.O.R. 1623 de ZBI.)
Confirmed. see 1036/30/9.

Operation "Volley". SIRIUS and PHOEBE sailed.
(N.L.O. Port Elizabeth, 1711B/16 to Admty.,
C. in C. S.A., (R) Cdre. Durban.)

/EMPIRE HAVEN ...

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

EMPIRE HAVEN, EMPIRE HAVEN is in 005° 05' S. 011° 38' W.
 survivors of Request that aircraft may direct her to
 LUCANIA. survivors.
 LACONIA (R.A.W.A., 1730Z/16 to N.O.I.C. Ascension, (R)
 Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

Following for EMPIRE HAVEN. Your 1245/16. Aircraft from
 Ascension Is. will assist you in search.
 (R.A.W.A., 1738/16 to B.A.M.S. in Area 3A, (R) Admty., C. in
 C. S.A.)

Your 1713Z/16. U.S. Authorities report aircraft have been in
 contact with EMPIRE HAVEN since 1600 today, and directed her
 to survivors. Lifeboat with 5 people sighted at 1540 in 004°
 45' S. 012° W. Water was dropped to survivors. Other life-
 boats appear water-logged and badly smashed and few survivors
 have been located. All wreckage now drifting N.W.
 (N.O.I.C. Ascension, 2005Z/16 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A.,
 Admty.)

U/B
 Santos.

Following received from Santos (begins) Captain
 of Port Ellen reports it is believed a submarine
 landed a man last night 15th on Santo Amaro
 Island. Search is now being made. All
 Brazilian sailings from Santos suspended (ends).
 (N.C.S.O. Montevideo, 1856Z/16 to Admty., (R)
 B.A.D., etc.)

WELLINGTON.

I require 3 clear days in harbour to make good
 defects. If by proceeding to Freetown after
 escorting BRITISH VALOUR and DEVON CITY to
 Bathurst this is not possible, request permission
 to remain at Bathurst.
 (WELLINGTON, 1948Z/16 to R.A.W.A., (R) N.O.I.C.
 Bathurst, Gambia, PELICAN.)

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.P.35.
TALISMAN.
UTMOST.

No. 5 starboard bottom end bearing running.
Returning by reverse of outward route, expect me
at end of searched channel at 0955B/18.
(P.35 0036B/16 to Capt. S.10.)

Your 0036/16 acknowledged. TALISMAN due same time. Further
instructions follow.

(Capt. S.10 0326B/16 to P.35. (R) TALISMAN.)

My 0326/16 to P.35. On entering Sanctuary approach R/V about
1 miles S.W. of position 5 in Q B B 273. TALISMAN keep north west
and P.35 south east line 250° from that position and maintain ?
S S T communication from first contact until ordered to surface
about 1101B. UTMOST will leave Western corner of Sanctuary about
2159B/17 thence direct arrive position D on Q B B 225 route about
2001B following day.

Submarines encountered during night 17/18 not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10. 1115B/16 to TALISMAN. P.35. S/MS on patrol. (R)
C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)

Enemy
Units.

Following has been read. P.C.S. of 2 enemy
destroyers, 1 vessel unknown type 33.31 N 22.55 E
course 125° 12 knots.
(A/C using call sign 3HQG via Malta W/T 0133/16.)

Black
Sea.

1. Situation around Novorossisk obscure. Gen.
Sabena in possession of heights surrounding port.
2. Russian naval air arm has received reinforce-
ments of American planes and activity on increased
scale. Raids on aerodromes and troop concentrations in Crimea.
Maijake aerodrome bombed.
3. Winter conditions begun in Caucasus mountains. Snow falling
in passes. Situation here under control.
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1127C/16 to Admty. Adm. Miles.)

Bi-weekly
Opsum
No. 56.

Night 11/12. 21 Wellingtons bombed shipping and
harbour installations Tobruk. Burst on docks
near jetties and fire started on south shore.
1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Sollum
barracks causing violent explosion. 8 Wellingtons
laid 17 mines in Matruh harbour. Cover bombing of harbour
installations by 8 Wellingtons caused 1 explosion 2 small fires
at tank workshops. 1 Beaufighter 10 Hurricanes 5 Fulmars
shipping protection of Delta and in Gulf of Suez. A Blenheim
on anti-submarine patrol in Gulf of Aden bombed submarine 140
miles due east of Mukalla, air bubbles seen rising after attack.
12? Beaufighters escort to naval force proceeding on special
operation west of Delta. 38 Hurricanes 5 Fulmars shipping
protection off Port Said and in Gulf of Suez.
Night 13/14. 14 or 64 Halifaxes, 16 American B.24s 68 Wellingtons
5(?) American B.17s bombed harbour installations and defences at
Tobruk in support of special naval and military operation against
Tobruk. Violent explosion caused near each of petrol
installations north west of harbour and naval fuel tanks followed
by good fires. Burst near estimated position of gun-control
room caused violent explosion. 2 fires started on banks? and
many bursts along water front. Considerable number A.A. guns
silenced. Camp west of Tobruk also attacked bombs bursting among
tents and M.T. causing violent explosion. 1 Wellington unable to
reach Tobruk bombed Sollum. Results unobserved. 4 Wellingtons
missing.

/14/9...

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean--L.A.B.

Bi-weekly Opsum No. 56. Contd. 14/9. Beaufighters on covering patrols over naval force returning from Tobruk intercepted several formations enemy bombers during day, forcing many aircraft to jettison bombs. Also probably destroyed 1 Ju.87 damaging 2 Ju.88 for? Ju.87s. A Baltimore on R/C for enemy shipping probably destroyed a Ju.88 Northern Matruh.

Night 14/15. 3 A.S.V. Wellingtons 4 torpedo Wellingtons despatched to attack enemy shipping north of Derna. A.S.V. Wellingtons located 2 merchant vessels about 4,000 tons 6 small vessels about 65 miles north of Derna on westerly course. Torpedo Wellingtons were homed on to convoy but obtained 1 brief sighting only. Extensive search carried out but convoy not seen again in darkness and aircraft returned.

15/9. Full details our fighter sorties not yet received.. Offensive patrols maintained over battle area. 1 engagement with enemy fighters in morning in which 1 Me.109 probably destroyed. In afternoon Kittyhawk wing engaged about 50 Me.109s and Mc.202s over central sector destroying 1 Me.109 probably destroying 4 Me.109s damaging 2 Me.109s 6 Kittyhawks lost 1 pilot safe. 2 Spitfires intercepted and probably destroyed a Ju.86 which reconnoitred Delta coast at about 40,00 feet. Enemy last seen north of Daba losing height with both engines out of action. 20 Hurricanes 5 Fulmars shipping protection off Delta and in Gulf of Suez.

My Opsum 55, additional. 6 American B.24s bombed shipping in Suda Bay Crete at dusk 10/9. Results obscured by low cloud. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1127Z/16.)

P.211 (1) S.A.M. P.211 adjust speed to arrive position given in my 1032/14 to TALISMAN about 0001B/20
PROTEUS (a) nil (b) 0359B/20 (c) U.L. (d) 1101B/20.
(e) Marsamxett (f) nil.
(2) PROTEUS proceed through 231° 34 miles from position 5 in Q.B.B. 273. S.A.M. as for P.211 but 24 hours later. (V.A. Malta 1137B/16 as amended 0245B/17 to P.211. PROTEUS. (R) C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)

Movements. Arrival 15/9 ALDENHAM, BELVOIR, BRIGAND, HURSLEY, CROOME, HURWORTH, HYACINTH, PRIMULA, M.L.349, M.T.Bs 260, 261, 262, 316. Departure 15/9 BELVOIR, BEAUFORT, EXMOOR, ALDENHAM. (S.O.I. Alexandria 1146C/16 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

Situation Report No. 266. Submarines. P.42 shelled bridge over Amendolia River, west of Spartivento at 2004/7, securing 12 hits. Evening of 8/9 bombarded bridge near railway in Gulf of Squillace. 2. P.34 suffered slight damage after unsuccessful attack on southbound convoy of three merchant ships with strong escort in 36.17 N 21.03 E on 8/9. 3. On 14/9 Sunderland sank U-Boat about 80 miles N.E. of Algiers (see F.O.C.N.A.'s 1750A and 2242A/14.) (C. in C. Med. 1148C/16 to Admty.) *ALABASTRO.

/LANCE...

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

LANCE
damage
details.

Divers have fitted a dam to damaged flooding penstock to No. 2 dock and stopped sufficient leaks to enable dock to be pumped out. LANCE is lying across the dock with bow to starboard and stern to port at an angle of about 6° to middle line of dock. (details of damage)

Vessel completely flooded, water level in the dock having been above forecastle deck, since April. Extent of bomb damage and longitudinal straining of hull owing to her position relative to the dock blocks makes permanent repairs impracticable. Intended to try to float ship by temporary patches on outer bottom and to lift out all guns and mountings, torpedo tubes, fittings etc. Doubtful at present whether arrangements can be made to float the Caisson to enable it to be dry docked to carry out the necessary extensive repairs.

(A.S. Malta 1548B/16 to Admty. (R) V.A.M.) *Reply: Admty 0327/16/10.*

Malta Air Report. I.687 16/9. Part 1. 15th. 0755 hours, 4 Spitfires on R/C patrol south of Sicily intercepted 8 Mc.202s enemy had height advantage, 1 Mc.202 damaged, 1 Spitfire missing and not found by subsequent searches, 1 Spitfire slightly damaged. 0822 hours, 21 plus high flying enemy fighters approached Island and 8 crossed coast, partial R.D.F. interference. 12 Spitfires up lacked sufficient height for interception. 1110 hours, 4 Spitfires made R/C patrols south Sicily. 1408 hours, 15 plus Me.109s approached Island at height. 14 Spitfires up but raiders avoided combat and returned. 1550 hours, 15 plus high flying Me.109s approached Malta of which 6 crossed coast, partial R.D.F. interference. 14 Spitfires intercepted but after inconclusive combats enemy withdrew. 1700 hours. 2 Spitfires made anti E Boat patrol north Malta. Night 15/16. 2130 hours, 4 raiders approached Island at great height, partial R.D.F. interference, 1 raider crossed coast and dropped incendiaries causing no damage, 2 Beaufighters up did not intercept. 16th. 0600 hours, 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 0657 hours, 20 plus Me.109s approached coast great height partial R.D.F. interference. 15 Spitfires up but lacked sufficient height for interception. 0946 hours numerous raiders approached but only 8 plus high flying Me.109s crossed coast, 18 Spitfires up but enemy had height advantage and withdrew.

(A.H.Q. Malta 1625/16.)

ST. BRIEUC. Departure 15th 2000 ST. BRIEUC, French, Sete. (Barcelona 1713/16 to M.W.T.)

Operation "Waylay" My 2327C/15 (Situation report No. 265 M.T.Bs lost at Tobruk.) Para 12. M.T.Bs 308, 310, 312, 314, M.Ls 352, 353 were lost 14th. (C. in C. Med. 1908C/16 to Admty.)

/Enemy...

War Diary.

16.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy P.C.S. of 1 enemy M/V, 1 destroyer 34° 37' N
Units. 23° 27' E. 150° 7 knots.
(A/C call sign R6M Duty K. 2008C/16 to 201 Gp.H.Q.)
1 M/V 34.41 N 23.28 E course (?13°) - 3 knots.

Result of attack unobserved.

(A/C call sign X6R Duty R. 2225/16 to 201 Group H.Q.)

P.C.S. of 3 vessels type unknown (destroyers or larger
warships) 32° 55' N 23° 12' E 035° 8 knots.

(A/C call sign R6M Duty R 2244C/16 to 201 Gp. H.Q.)

S/Ms.

Submarines are not to be attacked within 30 miles
"Robbie's" route during his passage through Area
T and K. "Rufus" leaves for Base tomorrow routed
20 miles N of Alexandria.

(Capt. S.l. 2310C/16 to S/Ms on patrol.)

16.9.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Madagascar
Armistice. Governor-General, Madagascar, broadcasting at 1200, stated he had at 1000 hours approached British Commander to arrange Armistice to prevent further bloodshed. He had asked a meeting. (C. in C. E.F., 1029Z/16 to S.O. Force M., Admty. G.O.C. East Africa).

Official Communique Madagascar. 16/9 On the N.W. coast pressure by our column moving down from Ambanja combined with a further successful landing from the sea in the Maromandia area further South has resulted in the surrender of the remaining French Forces between those two places.

T.O.O., 1255/16.

From Gen. Platt. Am sending aeroplane to bring Annet's 2 plenipotentiaries to Majunga tomorrow morning 17/9.

2. I will hand them "Armistice" terms as in your 60438 (M.O.5) of 25/8 with addition to clause 12 of phrase granting immunity from arrest and process in French court to British Forces.

(H.Q., Buttermere, 1455/16C to E.A. Command, W.O.)

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. (E.A.) 14.

1. Our operations and advance must of course continue during any discussion of armistice terms.
2. You should receive French plenipotentiaries and give them the armistice terms set forth in 60438 of 25/8 and at same time make clear to them para. 7 of 64637 of 11/9., and text of our declaration issued on 10/9 (telegram 60437 (M.O.5) dated 25/8) especially para. 2.
3. If they have other proposals to make you can if you think it necessary transmit them here. Meanwhile our troops will be moving forward and "Jane" proceeding.
4. It would be most desirable to gain our ends without further bloodshed.

(Air Min., 2040Z/16 to G.O.C. in C. E.A.)

D.E.M.S.
School,
Bombay. Your 1130Z/5/8 para. 4. It is desired to proceed with this scheme but no suitable officer fit for service in Bombay is at present available. Can a qualified Gunnery Officer R.I.N. be made available for charge of Training Centre? (D.T.D., 1108A/16 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

U/B One submarine position N D L K 1236 34° 12' N., (longitude indecipherable) (M.I.B.? 1405C/16 to East Indies Navy Call W/T Station).

CANTON F.O.I.C. Southampton's 1245/15. Owing to defects it is anticipated CANTON will not now be ready to leave U.K. until about mid December. (D.O.D. (F), 1537A/16 to C. in C. E.F.)

/Flying...

M E S S A G E I N

T.O.R. 1455Z/16/September

From Governor General Madagascar.

Date 16.9.42.

Recd. 1504

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed Diego Suarez the G.O.C. British Troops Majunga.

IMMEDIATE.

Madagascar - Vichy Request for Armistice.

At the moment when your forces in spite of our resistance during the Diego Suarez days as well as at Majunga are making contact with the out posts of our positions defending the Capital, positions on which all officers and men are determined to make the supreme sacrifice.

To ensure that French achievements may live and in particular our communications and economic equipment deem it my duty to send you this appeal and request before this final battle takes place that you should indicate the means by which we could cease fire by honourable agreement. I therefore request you to meet the Plenipotentiaries whom I wish to send and should give me at the same time an indication of day and time and airfield when the plane with radio transmitter taking them will be allowed to land. Annet 1000 hours, T.O.R. 1254Z/14.

T.O.R. 1455Z/16.

Advance copy sent 1st Lord, 1st S.L., Ops. O.D. O.I.C. M. Press.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1st Lord. | C.C.O. (2) |
| 1st S.L. (2) | D.P.D. |
| Dep. 1st S.L. | N.I.D. 20. |
| V.C.N.S. | M. (26) |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | I.P. (3) |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | W.D. |
| A.C.N.S. (T) | Capt. Wharton. |
| A.C.N.S. (W) | O.D. (5) |
| Naval Sec. | D. of P. (3) |
| Soc. | D.N.I. (5) |
| P.A.S. (S) | O.I.C. (3) |
| P.A.S. (O) | |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | |
| Capt. Pim. | |
| D. of P. (Q) | |
| Ops. (3) | |
| D.S.D. (2) | |
| Admiral Blaker. | |

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Flying Boat Bases. Your A 270 T.O.O. 1414/4/9 and Air Ministry 1808/8/9. Catalina bases in East Africa and Islands in West Indian Ocean. It is appreciated that there are many administrative difficulties in providing bases at the outlying islands. At the same time I consider that this is essential if we are to conserve engine hours and so make best use of our limited numbers of aircraft.

Repair Bases. (2) It is recommended therefore that 207 Group area should be divided into 3, each to have its own major repair base. These 3 repair bases to be at Kisumu, Diego Suarez and Durban.

Operational Bases. (3). In the area served by Kisumu, operational bases are required at Mombasa, Seychelles, (Pamampi?) and Dar es Salaam and in the Diego Suarez area at Diego Suarez and Mauritius and probably at Majunga, and a minor operational base at Rodriguez.

(4) Durban major repair base will serve the operational base at Durban and any bases which are required in S.W. and S. Madagascar. When flying boat bases are developed in S.E. Africa. Durban would serve as the main repair base for this area.

Admty pass to Air Ministry.
(C. in C. E.F., 16312/16 to H.Q. R.A.F., ME. (R) Admty etc).

TROILUS passengers. A.M. 2320/18/7. SS. TROILUS due Kilindini late October will have 151 Lascar Seamen for onward passage to India.

2. Pending your reply to A.M. 1804/14 approval is hereby given for them to be embarked, if necessary in ship unable to maintain 12 knots.
(D.O.D. (F) 1909A/16 to C. in C. E.F. (R) D.S.T.O. Mombasa).

Supplies Through Persia. Following from Chiefs of Staff No. C.O.S. (P.I.) 1 In view of recent proposal that trans-Persian railway should be taken over, developed and operated by U.S. forces and your own responsibility for ensuring that supplies for Russia pass forward without loss or hinderance to maximum available capacity of the routes through your Command, following procedure is proposed.
(W.O., 2215/16 to C. in C. Persia - Iraq).

War Diary.

16.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

MAURETANIA. Norfolk arrived 2200Z/15. MAURETANIA.
(N.S.H.Q. 0336Z/16 to D.S.T.).

U/B. Following received.
Intercept 0511 G.M.T. 500 K/Cs from San Juan,
Puerto Rico, S/M sighted 19.40 N. 75.50 W.
(Plymouth C.C.O. 0612/16 to Admty).

EMPIRE SOLDIER EMPIRE SOLDIER sank position 047° 35' N. 051°
sunk. 44' W. at 0630Z/16th. All survivors on board. Am
proceeding to St. Johns N.F.
(AMHERST. 0630Z/16 to C.C.N.F.(R) C.T.24.Admty, etc).

EMPIRE SOLDIER in S.C.100 rammed and sunk 0630/16 (position
etc).

(F.O.N.F. 1355Z/16 to Admty).

EMPIRE SOLDIER P.T.S.31 of S.C.100 sank at 0445 G.M.T./16 in
47.35 N. 51.44 W. after collision with F.J.WOLFE who was proceeding
St. Johns ex O.N.127. No casualties, C.B.landed. Routeing
instructions burned by second Officer.

(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1803Z/16 to Admty (R) Cominch, N.S.H.Q)

Movements	1800 G.M.T./16.			
Summary.	Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
	KEREN.	43° N. 28½° W.	014°	14.
	Convoy	11½° N. 36½° W.	093°	9.
	"Mincement"			
	T.A.22.	49½° N. 37½° W.	189°	25.
	(D.O.D.(F) 0942Z/16 to Opnav (R) Comnavu).			

Ship
Torpedoed. Received 1023 G.M.T. from Camperdown, Nova Scotia,
W/T Station SSSS 49.05 N. 67.04 W. ship torpedoed.
(Halifax W/T 1033Z/16 to Londonderry for Escort Con-
trol, 24.7 (R) C. in C.W.A.).

U/B
O.N.129. D/Fs at 0915Z and 0925Z suggest that probably O.N.
O.N.130. 129, or possibly O.N.130, may have been reported by
a U/Boat.

(D.D.I.C. 1131A/16 to Escorts O.N.129, O.N.130).
A.M. 1131A/16. D/F bearings at 0958Z indicate
U/B in your vicinity.

(D.D.I.C. 1144A/16 to Escorts O.N.129 (R)
Escorts O.N.130 etc).

D/F Bearings at 0915, 0925 and 0958 G.M.T./16 indicate at
least one U-Boat in vicinity of convoy O.N.129.

(D.D.I.C. 1313A/16 to A.C.I.C. (R) H.Q.C.C., C. in C.W.A.).

EMPIRE LUGARD British EMPIRE LUGARD in convoy T.A.G.5 sunk 0430
(Sunk 13/9) F.T/13 12° 07' N. 63° 32' W. Master 44 men landed
Trinidad 14th, 1 missing. S/M not seen. Comcarib,
Cominch, C and R informed.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1207Q/16 to Admty etc).

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War Diary.16.9.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

NIMBA (Sunk 13/9). Panamanian NIMBA sunk 0500 G.M.T./13 010° 40' N. 060° 15' W. Chief Officer and 11 men picked up by U.S. destroyer, Master 17 men and one passenger presumed drowned.
(Kingston, Jamaica 1226Q/16 to Admty, S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D., Opnav C.C.S.). W.D. Note:-Different position from former report?

ELISABETH VAN BELGIE. (Sunk 10/9). (1) ELISABETH VAN BELGIE.
(2) Armament Department of Antwerp. Agents Maritime Internationale.
(3) 1435Z/10, 51.30 N. 28.25 W.
(4) Not seen. (5) Not seen. (6) Submerged. (7) Ship Sank (8) See my 1322Z/16. (9) Not seen. (10) Torpedo (11) All C.Bs placed in perforated steel box and dumped overboard personally by Master.
(N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 1320Z/16 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q. Cominch).

U/B. S/M on surface 49.28 68.12 at 1301Z/16.
(Halifax N.S. 1330Z/16 to Whitehall W/T).

NORSEMAN Escort. Admty's 1153/15. This matter has been referred to Navy Dept. with a request for necessary action.
(B.A.D. 1335Z/16 to S.B.N.O.W.A. (R) Admty).

GRANVILLE. C.T.U. 24.6.5. reports sighting GRANVILLE 1010Z/14 west about at 57.00 N. 34.30 W. My 2336/15 (N.T. in W.D.)
(C.T.G. 24.6.1348Z/16 to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24 Admty etc).

Attack on U/B. A/C attacked S/M on surface in 49° 28' N. 65° 20' W at 1320Z/16.
(Ship at Sea 1410Z/16 to All British War Ships Area 7A. A.I.G. 302).

ESSEX LANCE torpedoed (S.Q. 36). SS. ESSEX LANCE torpedoed and uncontrollable in 049° 03' N. 067° 08' W. require assistance, tug. VEGREVILLE standing by.
See next page (SALISBURY 1447P/16, to N.O.I.C. Gaspé, (R) N.O.I.C. Quebec, ARROWHEAD) See also 1531/16.

Port Defence Material. Your 1931Z/24/7. It will ultimately be essential to establish numbers of defended bases in East Indies and the provision of a central boom depot in Australia from which they can be equipped is considered to be necessary.
It is requested that requirements outlined in A.M. 1637B/16/7 may be communicated to U.S. authorities with a view to suitable arrangements being made as early as practicable.
Unless provision is made now the facilities will not be available by the time they are required.
(Head of M. 1507A/16 to B.A.D. (R) A.C.N.B.).

/ U/B.

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

- U/B. Following has been read :- Addressed Admty, C. in C. W.A. 7 H.Z V 5. C.7.B. S/M 44.00 N. 61.16.W. at 1457 G.M.T. (Halifax W/T 1509Z/16).
- French Shipping. Extract from A Fairmiss Telegram. French ship TROIS ILETS. (San Pedro de Macoris 1523R/16 to M.W.T.).
- Convoy F.H.1. Pre-sailing telegram F.H.1 (A) 2200/16/9. (B) H.M.C.S. GODERICH (C) 5 ships (D) 36 hours. (N.O.I.C. St. John. N.B. 1530Z/16 to Admty, (R) C.O.A.C. Connav, N.S.H.Q. GODERICH.).
My 1530/16th. Weather dense fog. Intend sailing F.H.1. 24 hours late (5 ships) delay due to weather conditions also compass and mechanical difficulties of 3 ships. (N.O.I.C. St. John N.B. 2133Z/16 to Admty. (R) C.O.A.C. Connav, GODERICH N.S.H.Q.).
- S.Q. 36 survivors. Ref. S.Q. 36. 32 survivors from JOANNIS Greek nil missing. 48 survivors from *ESSEX LANCE, 2 missing landed at Mechins, 3 hospital cases. ~~No survivors reported from PAN YORK.~~ *ESSEX LANCE still afloat. Salvage tug LORD STRATHCONA leaves Quebec for Mechins, 1530/16. (N.C.S.O. Quebec 1531Z/16 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav Admty, etc).
** See previous page*
- HARBOROUGH (torpedoed 14/9). Police Tobago report 46 survivors from SS. HARBOROUGH torpedoed 1230 G.M.T./14 60 miles off Tobago. (F.O.I.C. Port of Spain Trinidad 1612Q/16 to S.O. (I) Kingston, Jamaica, (R) Admty).
- U/B. S/M sighted vicinity 047° 38' N. 053° 09' W. at 1330Z/16. (C.O.A.C. 1620Z/16 to GB7A).
- O.15. F.O.S. 1734/15. Route for O.15. All following position are N. and W. unless otherwise indicated. G. 049° 45' 046° 01'. H. 053° 10'. 038° 15'. J. 055° 02' 030° 01' K. 055° 50'. 019° 58'. L. 056° 10'. 014° 01' M. 057° 01' 011° 59'. N. 080° Barra Head 10 miles. F.O.N.F. is requested to route O.15 to position G. (C. in C.W.A. 1631Z/16 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty etc).
- U/B. Positions. S/M estimate 16/9. U.S. S/M notice. (C. in C.U.S. Fleet, 1653/16, 1654/16, 1657/16, to Admty).

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

U.S. Forces. Admty 1241/27/8. Further dispositions U.S. Forces in Atlantic:- Battleships: NEW YORK at New York, TEXAS at Hampton Roads, MASSACHUSETTS at Boston. Aircraft Carrier: RANGER at Hampton Roads. 8" Cruisers: WICHITA at Norfolk, AUGUSTA at Hampton Roads. 6" Cruisers. PHILADELPHIA at Norfolk, MILWAULKEE due Pernambuco 18/9, OMAHA at Trinidad, BROOKLYN, SAVANNAH, CLEVELAND, at Hampton Roads. (D.O.D.(F) 1721A/16 as amended 1609A/17 to C. in C.H.F., S.B.N.O.W.A N. S.H.Q.).

NYDIA, AMELIA, overdue. My 2323/28/8. Schooner arrived Ciudad Trujillo 15/9. (S.O.(I) Kingston 1746Q/16 to Admty etc).

EMPIRE MOONBEAM. (sunk 11/9). 2.Ropner & Co.Ltd. 3. 2310Z/11 48.55 N. 33.38W. 4,5 Not seen, 6 Not known, 7.Ship sunk. 8. 3 Firemen missing. 9.Not seen. 10 Torpedo, 11. Not disposed of. (N.C.S.O. St.Johns N.F. 1757Z/16 to Admty).

O.N.129. IRISH PLANE suspicious. O.N.129 P.C.end S. at 1800Z/16th 053° 33' 030° 42' 251° 9½. SS. IRISH PLANE passed convoy steering about 100° at 0730Z. Suspicious of this vessel as she was also sighted in vicinity O.N.113 between attacks on that convoy. Weather report. (C.T.U. 24.1.12. 1825Z/16 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).

DAYLIGHT. Your 1656/11 not to S.O.(I) Jamaica. Have you any news of DAYLIGHT? (D.T.D. 1829Z/16 to Connav, (R) S.O.(I) Jamaica). (Reply 0257/17).

KINGSLEY. SS.KINGSLEY sent S.O.S. from garbled position off Manzanille (Mexico) received 0552/16. Following received 0914/16.

"Temporary repairs effected, ship off Leeward shore, hope to make port under own power if weather is moderating, position approx. 019° 05' N. 104° 52' W.".

Mexican Authorities asked to send assistance.

(N.C.S.O. San Francisco 1831Z/16 to Admty (R) N.S.H.Q.).

HEKTORIA (presumed sunk 11/9). (2) Hektoria Ltd, London (3) 2310Z/11 48.55 N. 33.38 W.(4) S/M not sighted. (7) Ship torpedoed, caught fire, presumed to have sunk. (8) 4th Engineer missing. (10) Torpedo. (11) See my 1842/16). (N.C.S.O. St.Johns N.F. 1841Z/16 to Admty (R) Cominch N.S.H.Q.).

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

War Diary.

16.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd

M.A.R.I. Your 1644/15. Amendment to M.A.R.I. No.75. In view of cancellation of sub-para 3 by amendment 75, routing instructions for example from Trinidad to Freetown area are not understood. Request clarification of amendment No.75.
(B.A.D. 1843Z/16, to Admty)
(Reply 1238/17).

Attacks on U/Bs. Trinidad reports as follows. (Begins) Following attacks on S/Ms by U.S. forces have been carried out. (1) By A/C in 011° 14' N. 060° 21' W at 1210Z/16, result promising. (2) By A/C in 009° 05' N. 058° 00' W. at 1559Z/16, results unknown. (3) By destroyers in 011° 05' N. 060° 20' W. at 1347Z/16, results not yet known. (1) (3) probably same S/M Com.Caribbean Sea. Cominch informed. (Ends).
(S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica, 1905Q/16, to B.A.D. S.B.N.O.W.A.Admty).

U/B. Fisherman reports sighting S/M vicinity of 049° 44' N. 053° 59' W. at 1330Z/16 heading East.
(C.O.A.C. 1930Z/16 to G.B.7.A).
My 1930/16 correct position 049° 44' N. 053° 39' W.
(C.O.A.C. 2223Z/16).

Tanker torpedoed 13/9. Connav Serial 16. O.N.127 unidentified tanker torpedoed night 13/9.
(Connav 1958/16 to Comnav. (R) N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O. W.A. S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica, Com.E. and G.S.F.).

U/B. Shore watchers report S/M in vicinity 047° 53' N. 059° 25' W. at 1930Z/16 course S.W.
(C.O.A.C. 2015Z/16 to G.B.7.A. C.T.F.24).

B.3.Group. Free French Authorities have represented that French Corvettes of B3 Group should call at St. Pierre and Miquelon during periods in between their escort of westbound and eastbound convoys.
This would appear to be desirable and your remarks are requested.
(D.O.D.(H) 2024A/16 to C. in C. W.A. C.T.F.24).
Reply: C. in C.W.A. 0852/17.

U/B. U/B estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of convoy or important unit 1932Z/16 ENIGMA, 11068 K/Cs.
(Cominch. 2036Z/16 to BURNHAM (R) C.T.24).

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War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Sub.Attack and Sighting Summary. Para.A.SANTA CECILIA torpedoed 38.27 N. 55.54 W. 2140Z/15. Unidentified torpedoed 49.05 N. 67.04 W. 1023Z/16. A/C attacks S/M on surface 49.28 N. 62.50W. 1320Z/16. Plane sights S/M on surface attacks after submergence 09.05 N. 58.W. 1559Z/16.

Plane sights S/M on surface 44 N. 61.16.W. 1457Z/16. Course West possibly U-88 type.

Para.B. CRIPPLE CREEK, 2 torpedo hits. Later info. time attack AMATLAN 0455Z/5. Plane attacks S/M 19.40 N. 73.50 W. 2255Z/15. Plane and DD attack S/M 11.14 N. 6021 W. 1210Z/16.

Para.C. STAD AMSTERDAM possibly U-45 type. WAWALOAM S/M C.O. gave name as "Schult" U.S.S.ANTIETAM attacks sound contact 21 N. 75.07 W. 1710Z/24 July. H.M.T. ARCTIC EXPLORER attacks sound contact 38.47 N. 74.33 W. 1320Z/20 August. Plane sights S/M 57 N. 19.14 W. 2050Z/12 Sept. Navy mail plane reports S/M contact 11.07 N. 61.39 W. 1410Z/15 PBV attacks possible S/M 11.02 N. 62.25 W. 1025Z/15. S/M sighted 11.09 N. 60.51 W. 0850Z/15. Plane sights S/M 48.50 N. 62.05 W. 1812Z/15. Navy Mail Plane sights S/M 11 N. 61.30 W. 1225Z/15. S/M sighted 19.40 N. 75.51.W. about 0440Z/16. 2 S/Ms sighting reports from fishermen about 42 N. 67 W. 1030Z/16. S/M sighted about 14 N. 61.05 N. 1830Z/16. About 47.38 N. 53.09 W. 1330Z/16. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet 2155Z/16, to Admty for O.I.C.).

Destroyer situation in Canadian Escort Forces. Correct my 1720Z/15 as follows. 1 Para.2 delete reference to BURWELL and READING which are allocated to Canadian Mid Ocean Groups. Para.3 for one short read three short including BURWELL and READING. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2234Z/16 to Admty).

Destroyers in Canadian Escorts. 2 vessels and other escort craft completing before 1/3/1943 is now under discussion with Navy Dept. (B.A.D. 2315Z/16, to Admty, (R) N.S.H.Q.).

S.Q.36. Arrived False Cape Horn 1900/6 less SOHAVEN, WINHA detached, SATURNUS, INGER ELIZABETH, JOANNIS, sunk, ESSEX LANCE torpedoed and afloat. (N.C.S.O. Quebec 2320Z/16 to N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B.(R) Admty, N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. S.H.A.72).

YORKTOWN HAMMANN (sunk 7/6). Navy Dept. announced 16/9 losses in Midway Island battle of aircraft carrier YORKTOWN and destroyer HAMMANN. YORKTOWN was put out of action by A/C bombs and torpedoes on 4/6, towed from battle zone, and abandoned, but salvage prospects were good until p.m.6/6 when a U/B scored 2 hits with torpedoes. YORKTOWN capsized and sunk a.m./7/6. HAMMANN, escorting YORKTOWN, was torpedoed and sunk p.m.6/6. (The Times 17.9.42).

War Diary.16.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand - Contd.Situation.

Serial No.237 15/9.

Continued evidence enemy activity ashore Buin Area where numerous motor vehicles observed and marines believed constructing aerodrome.

2 1 small supply ship arrived Buka Passage 14/9, another morning 15/9, both from North. Reports indicate further extensions being made aerodrome this Area.

3 11 B.25s attacked enemy barges and stores dump Bung Area, no results observed, nil activity on aerodrome.

4. Allied patrols active Ioribaiwa Area but progress slow due very difficult terrain. Allied reinforcements arrived in Area KML enemy endeavouring develop track between Nauro and Ioribaiwa.

5. 4 B.17s attacked shipping Rabaul Harbour noon 15/9. Total shipping obscure due poor visibility but group 5 ships including one possible "Nisshin Maru" type attacked in section of Harbour, results uncertain. Interception by approx. 15 Zeros, 1 destroyed.

6. Report indicates 1 enemy merchant ship and possible other vessels off Betano (South Coast Portuguese Timor) 13/9.

7.3 Hudsons attacked enemy vessel Saumlaki 15/9 scoring 1 hit on stern.

8. Air R/C 15/9 reported 1 (?10,000) ton vessel in Harbour. (G.H.Q.S.W.P. 0750Z/16 to Admty etc).

Boom Depot
Australia.

Admty.1507A/16. See America & West Indies.

U.S.Forces.

Admty.1240/27. Following changes of dispositions of U.S.Forces in Pacific:-

LOUISVILLE, INDIANAPOLIS, NASHVILLE, HONOLULU, ST. LOUIS, in Alaskan waters. RICHMOND, CONCORD,

at Balboa. TRENTON Patrolling S.E.Pacific Area. ENTERPRISE, SAN JUAN, COPAHEE, at Pearl Harbour. SOUTH DAKOTA, SARATOGA, NEW ORLEANS, En route Pearl Harbour. WASHINGTON, JUNEAU, HELENA, ATLANTA, SAN DIEGO, South Pacific Area. RALEIGH, at Suva. DETROIT, at Samoa. PHOENIX. AUSTRALIA, Left Brisbane 7/9 for patrol. (D.O.D.(F) 1736A/16 to C. in C.E.F. N.Z.N.B., A.C.N.B., N.S.H.Q.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.Indefinite U/B positions at 1200Z/16.
(D.D.I.C.1447A/16, 1523A/16).

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War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

At 0800 today P.Q.18 was estimated to be in 72° 18' N; 46° 50' E, and Q.P.14 in 74° 33' N. 48° 30' E. 2 Russian Destroyers are expected to meet P.Q.18 at about 1030A today, and 2 more at daylight tomorrow. The 7 submarines on patrol covering P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 moved this morning to take up new patrol position at 2100. At 0200 tomorrow the 7 British S/MS covering these convoys are to begin to move into new Patrol Zones. No R/C of Altafiord has been possible today. R.A.(D) transferred from P.Q.18 to Q.P.14 today. JUNON is to return from patrol off Bergen. (See 11/9).

The Corvettes EXE and TAY are to join the new 20th Escort Group for service in mid-Atlantic.

FORMIDABLE arrived at the Clyde this morning from Freetown.

Hampdens attacked a convoy off Obrestad today and obtained hits on a 6,000 and a 2,000 ton vessel.

At 1415 today the M/S Trawler WATERFLY was sunk by F.W.A/C off Dungeness. Casualties included her C.O.

South Atlantic.

At 1030 G.C.T. an American aircraft attacked a U/Boat in 04.50 S. 12.22.W. (750 miles South of Freetown) with 2 demolition bombs and 2 depth charges, all of which are claimed as hits. A/C circled for 40 minutes but apart from oil slick, no further results were noted. U/B is believed sunk or badly damaged.

R.A. West Africa reports the details of arrangements which have been made between himself and Admiral Ingram (Commander South Atlantic Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet) for co-operation in the event of operations against enemy units which require co-ordination of U.S. and British forces.

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17.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

2 enemy cruisers and 3 destroyers were reported by air R/C at 1615 in 40.00 N, 16.50 E. (Gulf of Taranto) course N.E., and at 2101B, V.A. Malta stated that photographic interpretation showed the former vessels to be the battleships ^{ARMANDO DI} DORIA and CAIO DUILIO.

An aircraft obtained a direct hit with a 500 lb. bomb today on a 2,000 ton merchant ship off Ugento (Gulf of Taranto). The vessel's deck cargo was blown into the sea and the vessel left with a heavy list to port and oil pouring from it.

A 2,000 ton merchant ship was stopped with a heavy list by air attack off the Tunisian coast today, and tonight our torpedo bombers attacked enemy merchant ships north of Tobruk and report hits on a 7,000 ton and a 2,000 ton vessel.

U.S. Liberators bombed Suda Bay today and hit one or possibly two ships.

It is reported that Russian naval aircraft bombed Crimean ports today, sinking 3 minesweepers and 4 E-Boats and scoring hits on 2 merchant vessels.

East Indies.

Madagascar.

At 1733Z EREBUS reported that armistice terms had been refused by the French delegates, who return by air tomorrow morning. A Vichy broadcast at 1844 confirmed this and added that fighting continues.

MANXMAN at 1915Z reported Operation "Esme (B)" completed. She has left Nosí Be for Diego Suarez, where she is due at 0900D/18.

A submarine was reported at 0600 local time today 8 miles east of Berbera near the coast by an African N.C.O, and a submarine was sighted and attacked at 0820Z today in 15° 1' N; 52° 41' E.

War Diary.

17.9.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

Owing to the large number of U/Boats to the southward of Freetown, the Admiralty consider that AQUITANIA and MAURETANIA should proceed for U.S.A. to the Cape via Rio de Janeiro, and ask Connav to arrange sailing and bunkering accordingly.

SS. MAE was torpedoed and sunk at 0015 ship's time today in 8° 3' N; 58° 13' W. (60 miles off the coast of British Guiana).

Australia & New Zealand.

Air attacks were made yesterday and again today on some 30 landing barges in the Buna area; air R/C next day showed 27 barges burnt out as the result of these attacks. Larger fires were started among fuel and stores dumps and many explosions were heard.

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

20th E.G. My 1438Z/16, para 2. EXE and TAY are to join
EXE 20th Group.
TAY (C. in C. W.A. 0957A/17.)

2 trawlers Your 2020/16. This will be arranged. Request
for you will confirm that these ships return to my
Harwich. command when existing shortage becomes less acute.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1459A/17 to Admty.)

VESPER. Admty. 2003/22/8, my 1234/23/8 and F.O.I.C.
Tyne 1005/31/8. VESPER is due to complete damage
repairs shortly. Request your concurrence for her
to return to this command on completion where she
is badly required.
(C. in C. Nore 1756A/17 to C. in C. H.F.)

NEPTUNE. Your 1225/15 September. Release of Danish M.F.Vs
KARINA. from prize court being hastened.
PETER (D.S.V.P. 1819A/17 to N.O.I.C. Leith.)
NYBORG. (D.S.V.P. 2351A/17 to F.O. Humber.)

Flag of The flag of Vice Admiral Syfret is to be transferred
Vice-Ad. from RODNEY to a ship to be detailed by C. in C.
Syfret. Rosyth on 20/9, and transferred to NELSON at
Rosyth on 21/9.
(C. in C. H.F. 2137A/17.)

Movements.

FORMIDABLE. My 1438A/11. C. in C. H.F. 0001A/13. Latter
VICTORIOUS. passed to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.
→ RODNEY. 1. Escort for FORMIDABLE.
A. From Clyde. BLYSKAWICA S.O.
B. From Londonderry to R/V as arranged by N.O.I.C.
Greenock, SHIKARI, ZETLAND.
2. These destroyers are subsequently to act as part escort to
VICTORIOUS and RODNEY.
(C. in C. W.A. 1041A/17.) *See P. 497.*

PRINCE Intend to sail PRINCE CHARLES for Portsmouth at
CHARLES. 0630A/18. E.T.A. 1800A/19. C.C.O's 1755A/16
refers.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1048A/17.)

EMPIRE A.M. 2254/11 and 1240/16. Route to Gibraltar by
MINOTAUR. Q.Z.L.18 to P 180° Fastnet Rock 10 thence through
EMPIRE GNOME Q. 048° 05' 016° 40'. R. 042° 59' 016° 35'.
EMPIRE PAT. thence as ordered by F.O.C.N.A. Codeword "Shilling"
(C. in C. W.A. 1205A/17.)

A.M. 1240/16. EMPIRE MINOTAUR and EMPIRE GNOME are delayed and
cannot sail as directed on 19/9.
2. They should be sailed if ready with the 134th M.L. Flotilla
parting company as requisite to proceed to Horta for fuel.

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

EMPIRE PAT is to sail on 19/9 as directed but will proceed via Gibraltar with the convoy.

3. EMPIRE PAT is to sail on 19/9 as directed but will proceed via Gibraltar with the convoy.

4. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to arrange onward passage to Freetown.
(D.O.D.(H) 1544A/17 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

EMPIRE GNOME.
EMPIRE PAT.
Contd.

KING SALVOR. Salvage vessel KING SALVOR is to sail from Milford Haven to Gibraltar on 19/9 in company with ships referred to in A.M. 2254/11.
F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail KING SALVOR to Milford Haven to conform.
(D.O.D.(H) 1231A/17.)
Intend sailing KING SALVOR for Milford Haven at 0400A/18 in accordance with A.M. 1231A/17. E.T.A. Milford Haven 0900A/19.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1936A/17.)

SEALION On arrival in Clyde area p.m./18 SEALION is to proceed Campbeltown for trials with GRAPH on 19th and will arrive Holy Loch p.m. 19th. After detaching SEALION off Campbeltown WHITE BEAR and TUNA proceed Holy Loch.
(Capt. S.3. 1401A/17.)
Intend to sail WHITE BEAR, TUNA, SEALION at 0600A tomorrow.
E.T.A. Holy Loch 0630A/19.
(TITANIA 1934A/17.)
Cancel my 1934A/17. Intend to sail WHITE BEAR, TUNA, SEALION at 0800A tomorrow. E.T.A. Campbeltown SEALION 0530A/19.
Holy Loch WHITE BEAR, TUNA 0830A/19.
(TITANIA 2359A/17.)

UNBEATEN. Sheerness departure UNBEATEN and P.51 escorted by P.51. BUNGAY at 1505/17. E.T.A. E A 5 Float 0600/18.
(C. in C. Nore 1430A/17 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

STURGEON. STURGEON sailed in F.S.410 for Sheerness.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1431/17.)

WAYLAND. My 1129/12. Movement postponed 24 hours.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1446A/17 to Admty.)

No.6. Sailed by inshore route Turkish mine recovery vessel No.6 (NKB) to Tyne for onward passage to Inverness. E.T.A. Tyne p.m./19. No identification signals issued.
(N.C.S.O. Harwich 1503/17.)

VENOMOUS. Your 1017/7. Request you will sail VENOMOUS to Londonderry as soon as convenient.
See p. 500
(C. in C. W.A. 1503A/17 to C. in C. H.F.)

OTUS. Arrived OTUS. (Blgth.)
(Capt. S.6. 1515A/17.)

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

H.50. H.50 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER is northbound to
comp. 500 the Irish Sea tonight.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1747A/17 to BIRDLIP. SPHENE.)

Operations.

Patrols. Patrol tonight. One A. GUILLEMOT. One B. SHELDRAKE. Two. HAMBLEDON. Three. LA MELPOMENE. Four. QUORNA. Five. CATTISTOCK. Six. PYTCHLEY.
 (C. in C. Nore 0944A/17 and 1234A/17.)
 Tonight GLAISDALE, ALBRIGHTON patrol approx. 180° Needles 30 miles.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1233/17.)
 Available M.Ls are to sail at 1930 today and take up patrol line similar to, but 5 miles 180° from, S.3. patrol, returning to Dartmouth after daylight 18th.
 2. Object. To intercept enemy minelayers and to cover P.Q.219.
 3. Codeword "Range 6".
 (C. in C. Plymouth 1525A/17 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
 2 M.Ls leave Dartmouth 1930 for patrol 25 miles E.S.E. Start, returning daylight.
 (C. in C. Plymouth 1533/17.)
 M.Ls 146 - 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoy. E.T.D. 2005. E.T.R. 0605/18.
 The following anti-E.Boat patrols from 2030.
 M.Ls 293 and 140 near C One Buoy.
 S.G.B. 9 and 8 near No. 10 Buoy.
 (V.A. Dover 1816A/17.)

Operation E.X. Operation E.X. Intend sailing FORMIDABLE escorted by BLYSKAWICA passing Clyde Boom 1030A/19 to R/V SHIKARI and ZETLAND at 1600A/19 in position 270° Oversay 6 miles, thence through Minches to R/V NELSON and escort off Stromlight at 0600A/20, thence Rosyth arriving Eyelady Buoy 1600A/20. BLYSKAWICA, SHIKARI and ZETLAND subsequently acting in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1041A/17. *p. 495*
 Codeword "Eager".
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1534A/17.)

Allied Air Activity.

Operation "Bobbery" From today intend taking first suitable opportunity to begin operation "Bobbery".
 (H.Q.B.C. 0950A/17 to D.D.O.D. (M.))

Bomber Command Operations. On night 16/17, 233 A/C bombed Essen.
 (H.Q.B.C. 1550A/17.)

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Heinkel My 2205/16/9. Following from N.L.O. R.A.F.
A/C Kirkwall. Begins. My 1754. Low flying Heinkel 111
damaged attack A.E.S. Station Fair Isle at 1720. Aircraft
on 16/9. was plotted by R.D.F. after attack for 48 miles on
course N.E. 1 section of Spitfires 5A from
Sumburgh intercepted approx. 50 miles east of
Sumbro, and claim to have damaged a Heinkel 111. No return fire
was experienced, the rear gunner was put out of action, and
starboard engine was smoking. A/C 20 feet above water when last
seen. 2300/16 ends.
(A.C.O.S. No T.O.O. Recd. 1217/17.)

Convoy Convoy has been reported by hostile aircraft.
P.W.219. (C. in C. Plymouth 1809A/17 to Escorts P.W.219.)

WATERFLY At 1415 today two F.W.190s attacked WATERFLY in
(M/S trawler) 250° Dungeness 4 miles when returning from M/S
sunk. operations in company with M.M.S. 56 and 82.
A/C attacked from eastwards out of low cloud at
1,000 feet and about 6 cables distance, and it had
not been possible to pass any warning from R.D.F. plot.
One bomb was a near miss and the other a direct hit on well-deck
below which it exploded. WATERFLY sank in a minute and a half
with casualties of C.O. and one rating killed, one officer and
12 ratings missing presumed killed, three ratings wounded.
Aircraft were engaged with 0.5" and .303" from WATERFLY and M.M.S.
82 but disappeared in the cloud.
(V.A. Dover 2003A/17, 1023A/18.)
Casualties and names.
(LYNX 2026A/17.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Enemy shipping (1) Complete R/C of Biscay ports 16/9 showed
in Biscay following ships absent:-
Area. (a) ERMLAND believed to have been ship last seen
in position 43° 00' N 15° 00' W course 235° at
1825A/10/9.
(b) SPICHERN (ex KROSSFONN) last seen 1805A/11/9
in 43° 47' N 08° 12' W.
(c) Altmark Class tanker last seen 0645A/12/9 in 43° 38' N
05° 00' W.
Both (b) and (c) are believed to have returned to a Biscay port
consequent on above sightings and have apparently sailed again.
(d) KOTA NOPAN last seen St. Nazaire 8/9, may be a supply ship.
(2) Recent activity of following ships in Biscay ports indicates
their departure in near future.
(a) BEIGRANO (ex RIO GRANDE) already loaded and last seen at
Bordeaux under way and being headed down stream at 0915/16/9.
(b) PIETRO ORSEOLO already loaded and last seen at Bordeaux on
16/9.
(c) BURGENLAND anchored off Le Verdon on 16/9. Has left since.
(d) SILVA PLANA at Bordeaux on 16/9.
(e) A tanker identified as CATARACTE or BRAKE in La Pallice
Roads on 16/9.
(D.D.I.C. 1412A/17 and 1827A/17.)

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Off
Brighton.Have detonated red magnetic mine 200° Brighton
East Pier 6.3 miles. Details.
(Lt. Cdr. M/S Newhaven 1308/17.)
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 2115/17.)Lyme
Bay.Mine detonated in Oropesa Sweep in approx.
050° 25' N 002° 47' W at 1150/17.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1400A/17.)
Your 1938/16. "Ounce V" arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1456A/17 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Yarmouth.

LL Sweepers detonated one red magnetic mine at
1411 in 024° 3A Buoy 2 miles. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1515A/17.)
(Cdr. M/S Lowestoft 2250A/17.)

→ M.S.N.3.

All Dan Buoys adrift. Have recovered three, no
mines attached, saw two dummy mines no sinkers
attached, and one beacon in minefield. No other
in first 15 miles. PLOVER has laid one Dan Buoy and has 11 left.
Propose running taut wire new Dan to North Rona, Sule Skerry to
new Dan, arriving 0800 or later to lay new line of Dan Buoys 2
miles .5 apart if acceptable. Request instructions.
(SCOTT 1800A/17 to M/S 15.)Western
Channel
clearance
sweep.Clearance of south end Q.Z.X.787 extended to line
joining 50° 12' 12" N 03° 09' 12" W and 50° 16'
18" N 03° 21' 24" W. Negative result.
Q.Z.X. 809 completed in G formation. One mine
swept in 50° 12' 48" N 03° 24' 36" W and
subsequently sunk. I intend carrying out high
percentage sweep before declaring area clear.
(M.S.13 1945/17 to C. in C. Plymouth.)U-Boats.U-Boats
attacked.Attacked U-Boat at 0210/15 in 057° 23' N 021° 12'
W.
(WATCHMAN 1320Z/17.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges and
estimate no hits.
(A.O.C. 19 Group 1415/17.)→ U-Boat
reported.Am in contact enemy submarine in 059° 16' N
005° 37' W.
(SCOTT 2026A/17 to A.C.O.C.)

500

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.L.C.P.
Craft.

^{N.T. & W.D.}
My 1006/16. Arrived 0900/17 owing to craft being holed.
(NORTHNEY 1008/17 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

VENOMOUS.

See p. 496

^{N.T. & W.D.}
Your 1853/16. I do not intend using VENOMOUS any more during operation E.V. Request you will issue necessary instructions.
(C. in C. H.F. 1017A/17 to C. in C. W.A.)

H.50.

See p. 497

Starboard main engine (? out of action) P.C.S. 028° The Smalls 22 miles, 049°, 6.5 knots, escorted by JAN VAN GELDER.
(H.50 1235A/17.)

Scapa
Loops.

Request Cable Ship may visit Scapa as soon as possible to make good defects in number 8 and 11 indicator loops.
(A.C.O.S. 1530/17 to Admty.)

JAMES J.
MAGUIRE.
(British
Tanker,
10,525 tons)

Following from JAMES J. MAGUIRE, position (? 051° 28' N 004° 56' W. Engine disabled. Require towing assistance immediately.
(Burnham Radio 1545 G.M.T./17 to Admty.)
Sailed CHERBOURGEOIS III at 1917/17 to assist J.J. MAGUIRE in 180° St. Govens Head 9 miles with engine defect. Both arrived Milford Haven 2230/17. Assistance not required.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2319/17.)

HELEN
sunk.

N.A.B. HELEN sank in River Foyle at 1520/15 after collision with Admty. tug JAVA. No casualties. Salvage operations proceeding and hoped to raise HELEN shortly.
(Cdre. Londonderry 1619/17.)

SS.
GRANVILLE.

C.T.U. 24.6.5. escorting O.N.S.J.128 reported Panama Flag GRANVILLE destination Botwood a straggler and advised GRANVILLE returns Reykjavik. Position at 1900Z/8 58.39 N 24.42 W. No further sighting of GRANVILLE. Extensive air sweeps have failed to locate.
(C.T.G. 24.6. 2336/17.)

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. Convoys crossed over about 2000/16. Estimated
 Q.P.14. position of convoys at 0800/17.
 Q.P.14. 074° 33' N 048° 30' E 8½ knots.
 P.Q.18. 072° 18' N 046° 50' E.
 (F.O.S. 0039A/17 to S/MS.)
 Russian destroyers GREMYASHCHI and SOKRUSHITELNI expect
 meet you in 071° 40' N 047° 30' E at about 1030A today.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0625A/17 to Escorts P.Q.18.)
 Your 1022/16, last paragraph. A Royal Marine Engineer
 Officer is being sent by air to consult you about this today.
 (A.C.I.C. 1058A/17 to V.A.2.)
 Expect Catalina A/S escort 2200C/17.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1145A/17 to Escorts Q.P.14.)
 Reliable fix and D/F bearing of U-Boat 1602C/17 in estimated
 position 070° 55' N 044° 15' E.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 1425A/17 to Admty. Escorts P.Q.18.
 Q.P.14.)
 Russian destroyers (?K)UIBYSHEV and URITSKI expected to
 join you daylight tomorrow and (?reinforce) escort to Archangel.
 (S.B.N.O. Polyarno 1544A/17 to P.Q.18.)
 Your 1976A/16 and S.B.N.O. N. Russia's 2225A/16. U.S.S.R.
 destroyers URITSKI and KUIBYSHEV left Iokanka 1600A today. Will
 carry out A/S search during night and join P.Q.18 a.m. tomorrow
 18th.
 (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1622A/17 to C. in C. H.F. (R) S.B.N.O.
 North Russia. MALCOLM.)
 Positions of submarines at 0800A/18 and movements for
 following 24 hours.
 RUBIS in Zone K.154. UNIQUE, P.45, P.221, P.54, UREDD, TRIBUNE
 and TIGRIS in zones K.76, K.77, K.78, K.79, K.80, K.81 and K.82
 respectively. P.614 and P.615 with Q.P.14.
 (F.O.S. 1646A/17.)
 At*0200/18 S/MS are to commence a move so as to be in
 undermentioned zones at 1400/19. UNIQUE to K.64, P.45 to K.65,
 P.221 to K.66, P.54 to K.67, UREDD to K.68, TRIBUNE to K.69,
 TIGRIS to K.70.
 (F.O.S. 2011A/17.)
 Weather prevents R/C of Altafiord today.
 (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2028A/17.)

*? 2000/18

Tanker Pass to N.C.S.Os. To facilitate distribution of
 Messages. messages addressed to Admty. or M.W.T. referring
 to commercial tankers or to Admty. oilers all
 such messages are to contain an indicator
 consisting of the words (tanker message.)
 2. The indicator is not to be placed before the text but is to be
 inserted somewhere (tanker message) within the text at the
 discretion of the originator. This paragraph provides an example.
 3. The above instruction does not apply to (a) telegrams
 relating to established routine convoys. These are already
 provided for by N.C.S.I. 41 (b) Vesca messages (c) route signals.
 (D.T.D. 2219A/17.)

War Diary.17.9.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.**CENTURION**
R. GIULIANI,
(damaged at
Santander.)

Policy of H.M.G. re internment.
(M. Branch 0027A/17 to N.A. Madrid.)
See Lion Copy.
Expect repairs to S/M will take at least one
month.
(Santander 1130/17 to Admty. (R) Gibraltar
and Madrid.)

I am still waiting report damaged submarine at Santander.
Spanish D. of N.I. informed me batteries completely ruined.
U.S. Asst. N.A. expected tomorrow with report. U.S. A.N.A.
now in Santander.

(Madrid 1844/17 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

DURBAN.
DESPATCH.

A.M. 1836/16. Convoy W.S.23.
DURBAN and DESPATCH will require to fuel at
Ponta Delgada and should be detached from Convoy
in turn as requisite for this purpose.
(D.O.D.(H) 1538A/17 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C.
Liverpool.)

M.M.S.
Flotilla.

Your 1618/2/9. Arrangements have been made
for despatch of spare gear for M.M.S. Flotilla
direct to new operational bases. 2. Extra
Base Staff will consist of (details).
(N.A. 2nd S.L. 1754A/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

S/M P.247.

My 1706/15. Departure 1720 S/M P.247.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1802A/17 to C. in C. Med. (R)
Admty., V.A. Malta, Capt.(S) 10, Capt.(S) 1.)

IMPERIALIST
defects.

Forward bearing of main engine running hot.
Maximum speed without over heating $7\frac{1}{2}$ knots.
Am now steering 120. Permission is requested
to return to harbour. Position (?293) Cape
Trafalgar 73.
(IMPERIALIST 1815/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MIRROR,
Cable
operations.

Pass following to MIRROR (Begins) On completion
of operation C, MIRROR is to proceed as necessary
to cut in on Borkum cable to eastward of Break 30
to 40 miles from Fayal and test eastward (?end)..
Test is to ascertain that cable is unbroken to
Channel cut. Operation is to be named "Operation D". (Ends)
(2) LEYLAND is to continue as escort subject to my 1816/3 (N.T.
in W.R.) para (8) and is to instruct MIRROR to acknowledge this
message by cable or W/T in event of operation C. being un-
successful.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2232A/17 to LEYLAND.)

SECRET

MESSAGE

0027./17th September

OUT

To: H.M. Madrid

Date: 17.9.42

NAVAL STORES CODE (O.T.P.)

Damaged Italian UB at Santander.

From: Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

Your 2027/9 and Charge d'Affaires' telegrams Nos. 1237, 1247 and 1250. We are very far from satisfied with treatment of U-Boat ^{CENTURIONE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI and measures taken by Spaniards are illogical.

2. ^{LUGI} TORRELLI's offence was that she broke out whilst under internment order of Minister of Marine. Neither Spaniards nor H.M.G. have received any satisfaction for this gross breach of law and we have a right to expect that the Spaniards will now obtain ^{CENTURIONE} satisfaction both for themselves and us, by immediately interning ^{RE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI which we have delivered into their hands at the very scene of the former insult to the Spanish Navy.

3. Instead, all that Spaniards are doing is to prevent U-boat departing surreptitiously without completing the repairs for which time has been requested. The Spanish Navy profess to be treating the Italians severely but in fact they have allotted them the grossly excessive period of 70 days for repairs despite our protest at the length of time allowed to the Cartagena U-boat. Nor is it any advantage to H.M.G. and the United Nations that the U-boat should be compelled to remain until she is sufficiently repaired to be able to submerge and thereby perhaps escape our further attentions. You should therefore ^{LUGI} remind Minister of Marine that the party most injured by TORRELLI's escape was H.M.G. who are still without any satisfaction from the Spanish Government.

4. ^{CENTURIONE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI by attempting to break out in defiance of Spanish orders simply invited the immediate internment which TORRELLI's misconduct had justified the Spaniards in enforcing. Spanish Navy's self respect must be at very low ebb to meet this further insult with grant of liberal period of 70 days for repairs.

5. We appreciate difficulties of new Foreign Minister but unless you have favourable information of Spanish Navy's intention of which we are not aware, you should communicate the above to H.M. Charge d'Affaires with a view to further immediate representations for internment of ^{CENTURIONE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI and her crew.

6. We attach even more importance to a decree prohibiting all entry of belligerent submarines into Spanish waters than to internment of ^{CENTURIONE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI and trust that utmost use will be made of this incident to obtain such a decree. We should, if necessary, be ready to forgo our claims on ^{CENTURIONE} REGINAUDO GIULIANI in return for the immediate issue of the decree.

/7. W.O.

1111/17 September.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN

From: Reporting Officer Vigo

Date: 17/9/42.

Recd: 2030

O.T.P.(19) by Cable. Recirculation

Addressed: S.O.(I) Gibraltar Repeated: Admiralty for D.N.I.

Following supplies received 16th from Germany by rail and (taken?) on board German ships at Vigo - 4 machines enclosed in metal dimension about 6 feet by 3 feet 6 inches by 4 feet high, with radiator at end. These appear to be petrol - electric generators. Also 15 drums electric cable diameter of drum about one metre. Also truck load of wood cases.

Suggest this may be degaussing equipment for tanker.

1111/17

Advance copy sent D.N.I.

Passed to:- C. in C. Plymouth C. in C. Western Approaches F.O.S. H.Q. Coastal Command at request of H.I.D.20

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- V.C.H.S.
- A.C.H.S. (1)
- A.C.H.S. (1)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.N.I. (5)
- O.I.C. (3)
- Ops. (3)
- O.D. (5)
- W.D.
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.E.W.D. (3)
- M (2)
- D. of P. (3)

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War Diary.17.9.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.ROYAL
SOVEREIGN,
destroyers.Sailed to Capetown in company by route R.5 S. of
A. 14 knots, E.T.A. 0600Z/20 (A) ROYAL SOVEREIGN,
(B) DUNCAN, (C) ANTHONY.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 0532Z/17 to Admty. etc.)A/C attack
on U/B.At 1030 G.C.T. American Aircraft sighted S/M
in 004° 50' S. 012° 22' W. A/C approached S/M
1500 feet, released 2 demolition bombs with 10
second delay fuses and 2 350-pound depth charges,
all in train completely covered wash and outline of S/M. 2
bombs struck ~~(stern)~~ and 2 directly on top. A/C circled position
for 40 minutes, oil slick but no further results were noted.
S/M believed to have been sunk or badly damaged.
(N.O.I.C. Ascension 1310Z/17, to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A.,
Admty.)*stern
W. apia
W. 9.*SOUTHERN GEM
K.15. K.14.Departure 0741Z/17 SOUTHERN GEM, D.S/M K.15,
D.S/M K.14, routed as in my 1707/14. E.T.A.
position D 2/10 E.T.A. Freetown 5/10. Shift
to W/T organisation for area P at 1200Z/24.
(C. in C. S.A. 1521B/17 to Admty., R.A.W.A. etc.)O.21
defect.O.21's Vulcan clutch port engine broken beyond
local repair. Port main engine out of action
and port main motor only usable in case of
emergency used with increase damage. Speed 9
knots. Intend sailing her for repairs at
Simonstown.
(R.A.W.A. 1525Z/17 to Admty. (R) F.O.(S) B D Z 38,
D.S. COLOMBIA, S.O.D.S. O.21, C. in C. S.A.)Operation
"Volley".Movements Summary 2000Z/17 Area Q. SIRIUS 040°
00' S. 020° 56' E. 270° 15, PHOEBE 040° 00' S.
024° 56' E. 270° 15. Minesweepers ROODEPOORT,
STELLENBERG, FLORIDA 037° 30' S. 019° 30' E.
270° (?8) Minesweepers SOUTHERN BARRIER, TERJE
037° 30' S. 023° 00' E. 270° 8.
(C. in C. S.A. 1613B/17 to S.A. Stn.)Co-operation
with U.S.N.During meeting with Comsolantfor (Adm. Ingram)
following arrangements were made and personal
agreements reached.
(A) Strategic co-operation. (1) In the event of
operations against enemy units which require co-ordination of
U.S. and British Forces, the co-ordinating authority should
be the Admiral in whose area the first sighting report
originated. Note. The principles of such problems were
discussed fully and I believe the U.S. and British C.O.
concerned would act on the same principles.

17.9.1942

Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - conts.

Co-operation with U.S.N. (2) Decided to suggest to C. in C. S.A., Admty. and Navy Dept. that the dividing line of strategic areas be reviewed so as to extend R.A.W.A.'s area to the West in latitude of Freetown and Comsolantfor's area to the East in latitude of Recife. This would more evenly divide waters in narrowest part of the Atlantic, bringing waters in which R.A.W. Af. now acts as diverting authority within British strategic area and bringing Ascension, defence, of which is U.S. commitment, within U.S. strategic area. Dividing line would run approx. from 20° N. 40° W. to Ascension thence to 40° S. 26° W.

(3) Comsolantfor intends to set up H.Q. in Base Ship at Recife and asked help in starting operations and intelligence organisation, which is being arranged.

(4) Full exchange of operational instructions and administrative information arranged.

(5) Arrangements made to ensure Adm. Ingram receiving and being able to use complete shipping information.

(B) Tactical Co-operation. It was agreed that where the identity of the S.O. was not immediately apparent when U.S. and British Forces were engaged in common tactical action, the Commander of the Forces first engaged would co-ordinate action when required. Note. The principles of combined tactical action and divided tactics were engaging a single target were discussed and U.S. C.Os act on similar principles to ours, so that signalling should be seldom necessary.

(C) Information and Intelligence. (1) Both Admirals will keep each other fully informed on all operational movements, R.A.W.A. passing information of U.S. Forces, Repeated to C. in C. S.A.

(2) At present such information must be passed by cable but new W/T station at Recife, when operating, will give direct W/T communication.

(3) Courier service between Comsolantfor and R.A.W.A. to be arranged.

(4) Cdr. Fure who was present at meetings has signalled to D.N.I. agreed views on amendments to Intelligence Organisation Y to assist Comsolantfor.

(D) General. (1) Comsolantfor has not had available sufficient operational and shipping information because (a) It appears Connav has not been passing all he requires. (b) He has no intelligence organisation or operational staff to handle what he does receive.

Arrangements being made should rectify this. Letter follows.
(R.A.W.A. 1855Z/17 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty.) *Concur. (C. CSA, 1044/30) p. 879*

M/L for Bissao.

Request Portuguese Govt. may be informed that it is proposed I M.L. shall visit Bissao for less than 24 hours arriving p.m./21 with diplomatic mail and that I may be informed early if there is any objection to this visit.
(R.A.W.A. 1904Z/17 to Admty.)

/Movements ...

War Diary.

17.9.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

Movements.

Pointe Noire departure 18/9 ALCANTARA (with survivors) DERWENT, PINDOS to rejoin W.S.22. Neth. Ship SUMATRA escorted by GRIFFIN and DECOY, no merchant ship in company. (? B.N.L.O. W. Africa 2230/17, to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

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War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean

Enemy M/V. Following read by Malta W/T: 1 enemy medium M/V (not exceeding 10,000 tons) in 39.42 N. 19.56 E. course 014° 10 knots.
(A/C Using Call Sign 60AH 0855B/17).
Following has been read:- 3 small M/Vs in 39.42 N. 19.51 E. (A/C using call sign 60AH 1003/17).

Benghazi Raid. Joint War Communique - 17/9. Allied Heavy Bombers yesterday carried out a daylight attack on shipping at Benghazi. Hits are claimed on 2 vessels, 1 being set on fire.
(Mideast T.O.O. 0900Z/17).

UTMOST P.46. P.211. Capt.(S) 10's 1115/7. UTMOST will dive near position B about 0545B/19 and proceed to N.E. P.46 will follow same route at UTMOST 24 hours later. Longitude P.211 position at 0001(?B)/20th should read 013° 50'.
(V.A.Malta 1042B/17 to P.211 P.37 (R) C. in C.Med F.O.C.N.A. Capt.(S) 1, Capt.(S) 8, S/Ms on patrol).
My 1235/15.(W.R.Note. Not circulated concerned sailing of UTMOST and P.46 on patrol in Tyrrhenian). S/Ms will leave following vicinities p.m. on dates given:-
(1) UTMOST, Naples 23rd. Ponzio 24th. Civita Vecchia 27th, Cape Ferre 28th, Cavoli 30th arrive Malta a.m./3/10.
(2) P.46 Palermo 21st Stromboli 24th, Eufemia 24th, Cape Palinuro 27th Naples 29th, Cape Gardo 1/10, arrive Malta 4/10.
(Capt. S.10.1151B/17 to Capt.S.1.).

Cositrep No.520. Air 14/9. American B 24 bombing Suda Bay, Crete, at dusk claim hits on 1 ship followed by smoke. Fire started on docks, possibly on another ship.
Night 15/16 Sept.Tobruk Harbour bombed. Fires started near patrol installations. 16/9. British Liberators and American B.24 made midday attack on Benghazi shipping. 2 ships claimed hit, other bombs on converted wrecks. 2 enemy aircraft shot down, 1 probably destroyed, 7 damaged over battle area. 1 fighter lost.
(C. in C.M.E. 1045.G.M.T./17).

U/B. Am investigating suspicious wake or swirl in 32° 42' N. 34° 40' E.
(A/C Using Call Sign T3RQ Via Malta W/T 1240C/17).
Have lost touch with enemy submarine, last seen in 32.42 34.40.
(A/C using Call Sign T3RQ 1305C/17).

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 3 medium sized enemy M/Vs and 2 destroyers and 3 aeroplanes are 34° 22' N. 23° 10'E. 170° 8 knots.
(A/C call sign U6MS 1313/17).
Following has been read P.C. and S. of enemy, 1 destroyer, 2 small M/Vs not exceeding 2,000 tons, 1 unknown vessel, 2 A/C 34.38 N.23.12.E. 160° 8 knots.
(A/C using call sign U6MA via Malta W/T 1330/17).
/Petrol...

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

- Petrol in S/MS PARTHIAN. 1. Your 1736/16. para.2. Concur S class S/M should not carry petrol. 2. Ref. para.3, request PARTHIAN carry full outfit S/M torpedoes and leave re-load at Malta. (V.A.Malta 1313B/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.Med, Admty).
- COMMANDANT DUBOC. F.N.F.L.London 1900/15. (re F.S.COMMANDANT DUBOC to be used in East Indian areas). Request I may be informed how long it is intended COMMANDANT DUBOC shall be so employed. (C. in C.Med. 1335C/17 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A.).
- Op. "Waylay" Fighter Protection. A.O.C. in C.Middle East and I have read with much annoyance highly coloured and extremely misleading account published in London of fighter protection to ships whilst returning from Tobruk operations. Comparison with para.15 of my 2327/15 in which the communique was presumably based will emphasise our point. Such exaggeration does great harm to the close co-operation which we are trying to build up between Navy and R.A.F. Admty pass to Air Ministry from A.O.C. in C.M.E. (C. in C.Med 1425C/17 to Admty).
- Op. "Waylay." Press Reports. My 2013/15/9. Cable Company refused to accept press stories by cable owing to length. In view of Admiralty announcement of loss of SIKH and ZULU stories have now been sent by W/T. (C. in C.Med. 1612C/17 to Admty).
- Malta Air Report. I.690 17/9 1942. C.S.R.Malta. 16th. 1458 hours, 6 plus enemy fighters approached Island, 9 Spitfires up but raiders avoided combat and withdrew without crossing coast. 1550 hours, 20 plus ME 1092 approached at height. 17 Spitfires up intercepted incoming raiders 10 miles north of Island and destroyed 1 ME 109. Other raiders withdrew. 1659 hours (2 or 10?) Spitfires made anti-'E' boat search. Night 16th/17th 2208 hours. 1 raider approached at great height partial R.D.F.interference 2 Beaufighters up but raider dropped bombs in sea 15 miles N. of Malta and returned. 17th. 0650 hours. 22 plus ME.109s and MC 202s approached Malta at height. Partial R.D.F. interference. 18 Spitfires up. Destroyed 1 ME.109 probably destroyed 1 ME.109 and 1 MC.202 and damaged 1 MC 202. 1 German prisoner. 1 Spitfire slightly damaged pilot unhurt. 0900 hours, 27 plus ME.109s and MC.202s approached Malta at height and were intercepted 10 miles N. of Island by 20 Spitfires. 1 ME.109 probably destroyed. 2 MC.202s damaged. 1 Spitfire shot down sea. Pilot rescued unhurt by R.A.F.Launch (H.Q.R.A.F.Malta 1650/17.)

/Enemy....

War Diary.

17.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy Units. Visual at 1615/17th. 2 Cruisers, 3 destroyers, 040° 00' N. 016° 50' E. course N.E. Photographic interpretation later.
 (V. A. Malta 1822B/17 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty).
 My 1822B/17. Photographic interpretation shows 2 battleships **ANDREA DORIA** and **DUILIO** and 3 destroyers.
 (V. A. Malta 2101B/17 to C. in C. Med (R) Admty).

U/B. S/M has dived bearing 046° 32° N. 34° E. 30 miles.
 (C.5SB. 2040/17 to 201 Group).

Enemy Units. R/C A/C reported at 2143C/17 3 merchant ships, 2 destroyers P.C. and S. (? 033°) 15' (?) 023° 39' 170° 6.
 (Capt.S.10.2116B/17 to TAKU (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.S.1) P.C. and S. of enemy 3 M/Vs and 2 destroyers 33.15 N. 23.39.E. 170° 6 knots.
 (T6RE(Call sign undecypherable). 2143/17 to 201 Group).
 33.15 N. 23.40 E. 5 unknown.
 (R.A.F. Call Sign T6RN (Signification unknown) 2250C/17 to 201 Group).

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17.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Madagascar Concur generally with your proposals. S.O. Force
administra- M is requested to make necessary arrangements
tion. (? until arrival) (corrupt group) (? of) 5th
K.A.R. group. EREBUS pass to G.O.C. East
Africa.
(C. in C. E.F., 0549Z/17 to G.O.C. in C. E.
Africa, (R) S.O. Force M, Admty., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.)
Following for General Platt from Chiefs of Staff No. (E.A.) 15.
Your 00095/G dated 16/9 (1400/16.)
When you think position allows, you should hand over to
Smallwood. Sturges and H.Q. 121 Force should return to U.K.
(W.O., 2030/17 to H.Q. Buttermere.)

Madagascar 00131/G cipher 17th September.
Armistice Terms refused by French delegates who return by
Refused. air tomorrow morning 18/9.
(H.Q. Buttermere, 1107/17 to S.O. M Force, 22nd
Bde. Island Area, War Office, C. in C. E.F.,
G.O.C. in C. E.Africa, C.G.S. South Africa (personal for
F.M. Smuts.)
(EREBUS, 1733Z/17 to S.O. Force M, C. in C. E.F.)
Madagascar: Armistice off. British demands in Madagascar
have been rejected by Governor-General. Fighting continues.
(Vichy Home Service via Lyons, 1844/17.)
Report of negotiations.
(G.O.C. in C. E.A., 2330/17 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.

Air Report. Daily Intelligence Summary. No. 186 up to
1800 hours 17/9. 15/9, 3 Blenheims attacked
river craft Mandalay Area. 1 barge hit, 3
bombs vicinity Quay, results other attacks unobserved, tracer
machine gun and heavy A.A. fire. Sightings approx. 12 moored
barges 2 steamers about 35 huts/tents reported in lines 7 miles
N.W. Mandalay.
(Air H.Q. India, 1250Z/17.)

MANXMAN My 1302Z/16 and 0920Z/17 neither to Admiralty.
Operation Clear of land with force embarked. E.T.A.
"Esme B." Nosi Be 1945C today Thursday to conclude
Operation "Esme B."
(MANXMAN, 1425Z/17 to S.O. Force M, (R) C. in C.
E.F., Admty., N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez.)
Nosi Be. Departure MANXMAN for Diego Suarez. E.T.A. 0900D/18.
(ii) Operation "Esme B" completed. (iii) N.O.I.C. pass to
M.L.C. Commander.
(MANXMAN, 1915Z/17 to S.O. Force M, (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Diego
Suarez.)

/EREBUS ...

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

- EREBUS. Your 1810/10 para. 1.
Concur that EREBUS should be employed as Turret Drill Ship at Durban but with reduced crew and at 3 weeks operational notice.
(2) Paras. 2 and 3. This will be arranged when practicable but opportunities will be infrequent and at irregular intervals.
(C. in C. E.F., 1506Z/17 to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med., R.A.T.E., C. in C. S.A.)
- HECLA. Your 1909/10. Implications of removal of HECLA from your Command have been carefully considered. As however it is not anticipated that 4th S/M Flotilla can be built up to full strength in the near future, it has been decided that HECLA must be recalled.
2. Your para. 5 will be kept in mind.
(D.O.D.(F), 1717A/17 to C. in C. E.F.)
- Passengers in Slow M/Vs. Your 1549/15. Rule does not apply to troop convoys in Indian Ocean.
(D.O.D.(F), 1850A/17 to C. in C. E.F.)
- Madagascar, My 2120Z part 2 (? final).
→ EREBUS report. 2. Only one M.L.C serviceable today at Majunga but Titan crane working all day and to (corrupt group) landed tonight sea (? conditions) make use of L.C.M. and lighters extremely hazardous. This makes estimate of time of departure of remainder of 1/6 K.A.R. group uncertain.
3. TWEEDCOLE. Arrived Sofia ferry 1415 hours late patrolling port Berge 17/9.
4. (Corrupt group) (2 groups missing). (? Head) of column (? 25) miles (? south) of Ambanja night of 16th/17th (corrupt group) (?.) All enemy troops (? between) (corrupt group) (corrupt group) Cmandia (? accounted for. All bridges) between (? S)Encol (remainder of message undecypherable).
(EREBUS, 2120Z/17 to C. in C. E.F.)
Note by W.R. - Part 1 not received.

MOST SECRET

2330/17th G.M.T. Sept.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

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

Date 18.9.42
Rec'd. 0325Cipher

Addressed The War Office, repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet

MOST IMMEDIATE51936 cipher 073483. 17th September MOST SECRETFirst Cipher Part

Following has been received from Buttermere T.O.O.

1717/17/G.M.T. Begins. Most Secret. Addsd. Troopers repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet (E.A. Command please pass). Ref. Air Ministry telegram O.Z. 1285 (Chiefs of Staff No.(E.A)14) of 16/9. Two French Delegates Brunet Head Political Section and Fauche Governor Generals Aide-de-Camp arrived by air 1300 hrs. today. Both were accredited as plenipotentiaries by Governor General and Fauche by General Guillemet also.

2. On my instruction Grafftey Smith presented terms of "agreement for cessation of hostilities" prefacing discussion with statement as instructed in your telegram under reference. Delegates considered terms unacceptable.

3. They have reported complete breakdown in negotiations to Tananarive and will return to Capital by air morning 18th Sept. (they travel in British Aircraft).

4. Delegates pleaded for presentation terms in a form which Vichy could accept and argued news of severity of our conditions would stiffen opposition in Army and in public opinion while acceptance would encourage German designs on North Africa. They were distressed that Annet's gesture intentionally made before main contacts in hostilities led

to

510^B

to further bloodshed found no reflection in our response. Our terms could not be accepted at present stage of conflict before French Troops had been at all seriously engaged.

Part two follows. Ends.

2330/17 G.M.T.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- Dep.1st S.L.
- V.C.M.S.
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(H)(2)
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.O.P.(2)
- D.N.I.(4)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.of P.(0)
- D.C.(2)
- D.S.D.
- Ad. Blake
- C.C.O.(2)
- D.P.D.
- N.I.D.20
- Hd.of M.(26)
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Capt. Wharton

- Copies Circulated by War Office
- S.of S.
- C.I.G.S.
- V.C.I.G.S.
- D.M.O.
- D.P.(2)
- D.D.M.O.(0)
- M.O.1.5.11.
- D.M.I.
- D.D.M.I.(1)
- M.I.3.3a.
- D.D.I.P.
- I.P.1.
- Col. Jacob
- Major Morton 10 Downing St.
- A.M.C.S.
- Head of War Reg. Admy.
- Mr. Stirling F.O.(2)

m.s

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B attacked. C.A.F.O. 834/41. (A) MANSFIELD (B) 1435Z/(?15)/(?9)/42. (C) 43° 25' N., 58° (?10') W. (?D) 16 (E) (?15) 20Z. (MANSFIELD, 0001Z/17).

PAN YORK. *msg 1531/16. PAN YORK arrived Father Point safely. Casual returns to no survivors. (NCSO Quebec, 0020Z/17).*

U/B U-boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 2118Z/16. ENIGMA 7645 k/cs. (Cominch, 0035Z/17 to BURNHAM (R) C.T.24).

DAYLIGHT. Your 1829Z/16, vessel arrived New York 16/9. (Cominch C. and R 0257/17, to Admty).

Rockets 2 White Rockets reported 15 miles off Shelburne at 0045Z/17 and closer at 0105 (five Groups missing) reported off Shelburne aground whistle buoy at 0140Z/17. Aircraft and crash boat investigating. (C.O.A.C., 0402Z/17 to Admty).

S.Q.36 2 ships torpedoed 16/9. Following received from SALISBURY. (Begins) 2 ships S.Q.36 torpedoed in 049° 10' N., 067° 05' W. at 0710. 0744P/16 (Ends). (C.O.A.C., 0505Z/17 to C.T.F.24 (R) Opnav, Admty. etc).

Following received SALISBURY (begins) My 0744 JOANNIS sunk. ESSEX LANCE settled slowly by stern and in tow VEGREVILLE. Survivors from JOANNIS being picked up by Q.0172. No visible result from depth charge attack. Escort except VEGREVILLE now rejoining convoy. Position 0800 049° 07' N., 067° 15' W, 0802P/16 (Ends). (C.O.A.C., 0507Z/17 to C.T.F.24).

NIMBA (sunk 13/9). Following is a repetition of my 1226Q/16 (begins) Admty. S.B.N.O.W.A., B.A.D., Opnav, C.C.S.F. from S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica, Panamanian NIMBA sunk 0500 G.M.T./13 010° 40' N., 060° 15' W. Chief Officer and 11 men picked up by U.S. destroyer. Master 17 men and 7 passengers presumed drowned. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0635Q/17 to Admty etc).

Air Report 16/9. 2 Hudsons 113 BR Det. on A/S Sweeps of St.Lawrence River in vicinity of attack on Convoy S.W.36 Hudsons R/113 attacked U-boat on surface with depth charges and machine gun fire in 49.28 N. 65.20 W. at 1301.

First reports indicated good attack all 4 depth charges exploded. Bracketed target at angle of 60° to U-boats advance. C/T still visible when D.Cs exploded, explosion and swirl intermixed. Considerable quantity of oil observed 2 to 5 minutes after attack. (E.H.C., Halifax, 1145/17, 1200/17).

War Diary.

17.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

B.3 Group Your 2024A/16. (Visit of French Corvettes to Miquelon and St. Pierre) Concur provided visits do not unduly interfere with harbour training. (C. in C. W.A., 0852Z/17 to Admty).

Movements Summary.	Ship Convoy	Position	Course	Speed
	"Mincemeat"	11½° N. 32½° W.	093°	9
	T.A. 22	43° N. 45° W.	256°	25
	(D.O.D. (F) 0915Z/17 to Opnav (R) Comnav) Amended 1300Z/17.			

U/B O.N.129 D/F bearings at 0850Z/17 on 7640 k/cs indicate U-boat still in vicinity O.N.129. (D.D.I.C., 1030A/17 to Escorts O.N.129)

Suspicious Ship, 13/9. Master British W.H. ARBUTUS reports vessel about 3000 tons fully lighted at 2200 ship time 13/9 50 miles N.E. Swan Island travelling slow S.S.E. Comment:- Cannot identify. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1046Q/17 to Admty, B.A.D., Connav etc).

O.N.128 In view of submarine situation request information whether escort will be provided for 5 ships for Sydney (C.B.) (C.T.U., 24.1.16, 1210Z/7 to Connav).

*AQUITANIA, MAURETANIA. Owing to large number of enemy submarines to Southward of Freetown it is considered necessary for AQUITANIA and MAURETANIA to proceed via Rio de Janeiro.
* See next page.
2. Request you will arrange sailing and bunkering accordingly.
3. It is suggested that personnel for West Africa should proceed to Capetown to await on carriage to destination if overloading entailed can still be accepted for longer voyage. (D.O.D. (F) Approved A.C.N.S. (H), 1230A/17 to Connav (R) B.A.D., R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., S.B.N.O.W.A.) A.M. 1230/17. Communications for AQUITANIA given in my 1757/10 have been amended as follows (details).
2. Remainder of communication instructions stand. (B.A.D., 2315/17 to C. in C. S.A.)

M.A.R.I. Your 1843/16. Subject to limitations imposed by sub. paras. (3) and (4) of M.A.R.I. IV 8, all shipping from Trinidad area and south thereof may be routed diversely North of Ascension to the Freetown Approach circle, see M.A.R.I. IV 6. (D.T.D., 1238A/17 to B.A.D.)

/Lourenco...

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Lourenco Marques. Request that vessels from Indian Ocean carrying strategic material to U.S. area strategic control be directed not to call Lourenco Marques. (Connav, 1302/17 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.) Reply: Admty 1957/19

P.555 Your 1408/16 (Time P.555 will pass position B). See my *1542/15 (P.555 docking Bermuda with defects) and Cdre. I/C Bermuda's *1401/16. Information required will be included in sailing signal. (S.B.N.O.W.A., 1302P/17 to F.O.C.N.A.)
* N.T. in V.D.

R.C.N. Corvettes My 1718/10. Additional Corvettes with H.X. 207 LOUISBURG (S.O) WOODSTOCK and PRESCOTT. With S.C. 100 NASTURTIUM (S.O.) WEYBURN and LUNENBURG. 2. If these Corvettes are not immediately required for special service request any possible improvements in their A/S and R.D.F. Equipment may be progressed or completed. It is intended that all Canadian Corvettes should eventually be modernized with extended forecastle, improved bridge, fitting of Gyro Compass, type 145 Asdic, and R.D.F. Type 271 or its Canadian equivalent. (N.S.H.Q., 1407Z/17 to Admty).

BAGE, CUYABA Repatriations. B.A.M.S.4 Brazilian repatriation ships BAGE and CUYABA sailed Rio de Janeiro 16/9 for Recife and Lisbon. Details. Estimated P.C. and S. 1900Z/17 22° 40' S., 39° 28' W., 031° 11.2 knots. (Cominch, 1532/17 to Admty).

AQUITANIA (A.S.7). *See previous page* (?Com) 3 pass to Port Director, New York, for action. Cancel my 1841/15. AQUITANIA A.S.7 sailing New York about 19/9 to Rio de Janeiro, E.T.A. 30th via (C) 36.50 N., 68.20 W. (D) 32.20 N., 62.10 W. (E) 25.50 N., 52.50 W. (F) 18.10 N., 43.50 W. (G) 08.50 N., 34.25 W. (H) Equator 26.10 (J) 12.10 S., 32.30 W. (K) 23.50 S., 39.15 W. (Connav, 1626/17 to Port Director New York).

U/B Positions. S/M situation 17/9 and U.S. submarine notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1656/17, 1657/17, 1658/17, 1659/17, 1700/17).

SORHOLT (sunk 15/9). Norg. SORHOLT sunk 0530 G.M.T./15 10.45 N., 60° W. Master and 30 men rescued, 7 presumed killed. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1659Q/17 to Admty S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D.)

/Convoy...

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Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Convoy T.10 Sailed VIMY and BURDOCK escorting Special Gibraltar convoy (T.10) E.T.A. Gibraltar 1600Z/5/10.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad (Port of Spain) 1702Q/17 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty etc).

F. J. WOLFE (torpedoed 10/9). (2) Anglo American Oil Co. (3) 1423Z/10 51.30 N., 28.25 W. (4) (5) Not seen (6) Submerged (7) Torpedoed port side aft but continued convoy speed to St. Johns N.F. (8) No casualties (9) Not seen (10) Torpedo (11) Remaining on board.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns, 1713Z/17 to Admty).

DAGHILD (torpedoed 12/9). (1) DAGHILD, (2) Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission (3) 0430Z/12, 49.02 N., 33.03 W. (4) (5) Not seen. (6) Not known. (7) Torpedoed starboard side aft but continued to St. Johns N.F. (8) No casualties (9) Not seen (10) Torpedo (11) C.B.s remaining on board.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns, 1714Z/17 to Admty).

MARIT II (torpedoed 10/9). (2) Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission. (3) 2220Z/10 51.15 N., 28.40 W. (4) (5) Not sighted (6) Unknown (7) Torpedoed starboard side aft, but continued with convoy to St. Johns N.F. (8) No casualties (9) Not seen (10) Torpedo (11) No C.Bs. remain on board
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns 1715Z/17 to Admty).

QUEEN MARY Further to my 1924/16, recommend armament of QUEEN MARY should be adjusted at first opportunity as follows (details).
9. Single Colts embarked with troops to be sited as convenient but must not interfere with arc of fire or above armament.
(D.T.D., 1740A/17 to B.A.D., D.E.M.S. New York).

Enemy Mining. Due enemy mining activities U.S. Atlantic imperative all vessels strictly conform to establish swept channels when entering and leaving port. Centres pass routing officers your area.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet C. and R. 1830/17 to Admty).

O.N.S. 130 O.N.S. 129. O.N.S. 130. Your 1340/17 to C. in C. W.A. Concur that a diversion is desirable but as U/B disposition in my 1335Z/17 and your 1657/16 shows a group of U/Bs in neighbourhood of 45° N., 40° W. whose movements are uncertain, it is felt that a diversion to the northward well clear of the U/Bs in vicinity of O.N.129 is preferable and had already been planned.
(A.C.N.S. (T), 1843A/17 to Connav (R) C. in C. W.A.)

/B.Y.M.S...

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

- B.Y.M.S. My 1808/16. ^{/N.T.A. W.D.} B.Y.M.S. 1 and B.Y.M.S. 29 sailed 1500 today.
(F.O.N.F., 1950Z/17 to Admty (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet C.T.24., C.O.A.C., Commdre. Londonderry C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D.)
- U/B Campaign. Connav Serial 17. SANTA CECILIA (U.S.) torpedoed 38.27 N., 55.54 W., 15/9. SORHOLT (Nor). torpedoed sunk 10.45 N., 60.00 W., 15/9.
*COMMERCIAL TRADER (U.S.) torpedoed sunk 11.15 N. 54.40 W. 16/9.
(Connav, 2056/17 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. S.O.(I) Kingston, S.B.N.O.W.A., Com. East, Gulf, Pan., Carib Seafrons).
** see next page*
- S.Q. and Q.S. Convoys. Your 2007/14 para. 4 (re only 10 timber ships ex O.N.126 to 130 to load at St. Lawrence ports) Last S.Q. convoy sails 22/9 and last Q.S. convoy 25/9. After that date 3 "Bangors" and 6 "Fairmiles" will be only vessels left in Gulf Escort Force. Huband advises that vessels ex O.N.126, 127 and 128 cannot be ready until 9/10. These will be given as much escort as possible with the above Force.
(N.S.H.Q., 2146Z/17 to Admty (R) C.O.A.C.)
- Sub attack and sighting summary. A. Cdrs. All Sea Fron. Lant N.O.B. Trinidad C.A.F.A.C., N.O.B. Guantanamo Cds. All Nav. Dist. Lant S.T.F. 23 informed. SORHOLT 3 torpedo hits sunk 10.45 N., 60. W 0530Z/15. JOANNIS torpedoed and sunk 49.10 N., 67.05 W., 1010Z/16. PAN YORK and ESSEX LANCE torpedoed approx. same time and position. *COMMERCIAL TRADER torpedoed and presumed sunk 11.15 N., 59.40 W., 0900Z/16. Trawler sights S/M on surface 28.47 N., 91.08 W., 0330Z/9/7. D.D. attacks S/M 11.05 N., 60.20 W., 1347Z/16. ** see next page*
B. MOENA U.45 type, 1 torpedo hit, 1 miss. BRENAS, possibly 2 submarines participating, ship crew fires 46 rounds. TOPA TOPA U.88 type C.D. picket boat sights S/M 40.20 N., 70.50 W. 0240Z/17.
C. SS. SAN BRUNA sights possible periscope 28.37 N., 95.37 W. 1712Z/9/7. Panam plane sights S/M 21.55 N., 86.49 W., 2033Z/1/7. Planes attack surfacing S/M 22.30 N., 97.30 W., 1350Z/8/7. Shore observers sight 2 S/Ms 28.17 N., 96.20 W., 1615Z/26/7. Plane sights possibly damaged S/M trailing oil 22.22 N., 77.45 W. 4/9. Fisherman sights S/M headed east 49.44 N., 53.59 W. 1330Z/16. D.D. attacks sound contact 10.55 N., 60.15 W., 1745 and 1754Z/16. Attacks on contact about 49.07 N., 67.15 W., 0800Z/16. Shore watchers sight S/M 47.53 N., 59.25 W., 1930Z/16. course S.W. C.D. plane sights possible periscope or submerged S/M 25.52 N. 79.51 W., 2200Z/16. S/M sighted area 40.20 N., 70.40 W. 0100, 0410 and 0500Z/17.
D. U.S.S. CHEVALIER attacks suspected sound contact 19.49 N., 75.13 W., 2033Z/28/8. Attack on contact 11.34 N., 60.09 W., 0830Z/17.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2155/17 to Admty).

/Malta...

War Diary.17.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

Malta Convoy lessons. Request you will forward by air bag addressed for B.A.D. Staff Officer any details of air fighting during Malta convoy, especially including any lessons learnt or details of any new enemy tactics.

2. Bureau of Aeronautics have consistently endeavoured to supply us with lessons learnt in their Pacific Battle and we should reciprocate.

3. Request you will also consider possibility of giving us information which we can pass on to the firms who make the aircraft, i.e. Grummans and General Motors .
(B.A.D., 2205Z/17 to Admty for D.N.A.D.)

U/B Coast watcher reports sighting S/M at 0830Z/17 vicinity 050° 00' N., 055° 35' W.
(C.O.A.C., 2224Z/17 to Admty).

COMMERCIAL
TRADER
(torpedoed
16/9).
*See previous
page.*
Following from Trinidad (begins) S.O.(I) Kingston from S.B.N.O. Trinidad. Police Tobago report SS. COMMERCIAL TRADER torpedoed 0900 G.M.T./16 50 miles off east coast Tobago. 29 Survivors reached Tobago (Ends).
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 2355Q/17 to Admty B.A.D. etc).

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation Digest Serial No. 238 16/9. Reports Buin Faisi Rtonolei Harbour area 16/9 indicate presence 3 heavy cruisers (described 2 Nachi Class 1 Kako Class) 2 light cruisers (1 Sendai 1 probable NATORI Class) 12 destroyers 1 gunboat, at least 4 merchant ships including 1 tanker.
(2) 1 small cargo vessel reported Buka Passage air R/C 16/9.
2 Catalinas bombed this area night 15/16, small fires started.
(3) 4 Fortresses attacked Vunakanau aerodrome night 15/16 results not observed.
(4) 2 cruisers reported 6° 58' S. 149° 10' E., air R/C 0245Z/16 course 220° speed 20 knots. 2 Zeros observed in vicinity at time but no attack. 6 Marauders later detailed to attack and Fortress detailed to search, all failed to locate target.
(5) Patrol skirmishes continue Lae area. (6) 22 barges observed concentrated on beach near Buna by air R/C at 2210Z/15 subsequently attacked by 1 Fortress. 9 Bostons later failed to locate target due to bad weather.
(7) Further enemy pressure Ioribaiwa area. Indications some natives assisting enemy. 1 Boston attacked enemy positions this area 16/9.
(8) Small parties enemy troops still being mopped up north shore Milne Bay. Air R/C this area past few days reported nil sightings.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0713Z/17 to Admty etc).

/H.D.M.Ls.

War Diary.

17.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand. - Contd.

H.D.M.Ls.

Your 1443M/16. Original allocation of 22 H.D.M.Ls. stands. 12 of these will be supplied from those building in U.S.A. vide para (2) (a) of a.m. 1814A/29/8 and 10 from boats building in U.S.A. or U.K. depending on shipping facilities (D.D.O.D. (C) 1802A/17 to N.Z.N.B.)

Ocean Island. No. 286. Your telegram No. 335.* As there is no obvious reason why Japanese should choose to remain in occupation of Ocean Island they may well have left after destroying wireless and other installations. Unless it is certain that enemy are in occupation I feel heavy responsibility for food supplies which according to your telegram No. 205 will now be running out. I appreciate difficulty of pressing for air R/C or other means of obtaining latest information and also that of supplying island if Japanese are found to have left but in any case I believe that R/C flight would have valuable effect in maintaining islanders' morale. Please report any action you feel able to take both to obtain certain knowledge and, if necessary and possible, to re-provision the island. (Sec. of S. for Colonies 1830/17 to High Commissioner (Sir P. Mitchell Western Pacific) * (1745/5/9).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1454A/17, 1525A/17).

18.9.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

TIRPITZ and 2 destroyers were seen by visual R/C of the Narvik area this afternoon in Bogen.

P.Q.18 was attacked by high level and torpedo bomber aircraft off Cape Kanin between 0830 and 1030 today. SS. KENTUCKY was torpedoed and sunk. At least 4 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

Dartmouth was bombed at 1130A today. Damage was caused to the Naval College and to Philips Noss Works. Collier FERNWOOD was sunk on an even keel, coal hulk DAGNY and a crane lighter were sunk, and SELKIRK (4th M/S F) and M.L. 155 were damaged. There ~~was~~ some naval casualties.

South Atlantic.

R.A. West Africa reports that there are now 10 or more U-boats in the area between Ascension and the coast of Africa. He suggests that unless raider activity renders it undesirable, consideration should be given to adopting a policy of widely dispersed routes over the South Atlantic, instead of less dispersed traffic lanes, since the submarines recently north of Ascension may get on to the present route of Cape shipping. C. in C. S.A. suggested that the routes given in Admty. message of 15/9 be continued for the present, in view of the concentration of U-boats north of Ascension.

SS. TALISMAN arrived at Takoradi p.m. today from New York with 18 survivors of CALIFORNIA picked up in 7° 45' N., 26° 35' W., on 14/9 after 32 days in a boat.

CORINTHIAN this morning picked up 13 survivors of Dutch SS. BREEDIJK (which was torpedoed and sunk at 2315/14) in 4° 8' S., 8° 36' W.

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Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Beaufighters bombed and left stationary off Kelibia today a 2,000 ton cargo motor vessel.

East Indies.

Operation
 "Jane" at
 Tamatave.

Operation "Jane", landing at Tamatave, began early this morning. Force M anchored at 0500Z.. The Governor was called upon to surrender, refused and fired at our envoys. Accordingly, a minimum naval bombardment was carried out before landing. Cruisers and destroyers opened fire at 0751 with 4" and short range armament on military objectives. The French did not reply and hoisted white flag at 0754. No air bombardment was carried out, and no damage or casualties appear to have been caused. By 0843Z, C. in C. E.F. was able to report that the town had been occupied.

America & West Indies.

SÖRVANGEN was attacked by torpedo and shelled at 0830 G.M.T. today in about 8° 25' N., 59° 35' W. (off the coast of British Guiana); she was not hit but went aground and was later refloated.

Survivors of schooner HELEN FORSEY sunk by U-boat by gunfire at 1000Z/6 in 28° 35' N., 57° 35' W. arrived at Bermuda today.

SS. NORFOLK was torpedoed and sunk at 1200Z today in 8° 36' N., 52° (or 59°) 20' W. (about 130 miles N.W. of Georgetown).

18.9.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Flag of V.A. Syfret. C.in C.H.F. 2137/17th flag V.A.Syfret will be transferred from RODNEY to DELHI at 0800/20 and to NELSON at 0900/21.
(C. in C.Rosyth 1115A/18).

ACTIVITY. Re equipping and training.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1734A/18).

2 Trawlers. Your 1459/17. It is the intention that these ships will be returned to your Command when the position at Harwich has improved but no date for this can be anticipated at present.
(D.A./S.W. 1839A/18 to C. in C.Rosyth).

2 M.G.Bs. of 14th M.G.B.F. Request you will arrange for two M.G.Bs of the 14th M.G.B.Flottilla to be sailed so as to arrive Plymouth on 22/9.
(D.D.O.D.(C) 2021A/18 to V.A.Dover).

6 M.G.Bs of 8th M.G.B. Flottilla. Request you will arrange for 4 C Type M.G.Bs and 2 M.G.Bs of the 8th M.G.B Flottilla to be sailed so as to arrive Plymouth on 22/9.
(D.D.O.D.(C) 2038A/18 to C.in C.Nore)

Defence of U.K.

Loch Cairnbawn. Admiralty's 2149A/8th (T.O.O.2249 intended?)
1.- 4. Security arrangements.
5.Request confirmation that operation will commence on 22nd.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1416/18 to Admty).

Movements.

L.23. Arrangements for sailing escorted by BARBARA ROBB at 1900A/18 for Tobermory.
(TITANIA 0901A/18).

CAPE PORTLAND, NORTHERN REWARD, and VASCAMA will be at sea with incorrect signals until 27/9, 25/9 and 26/9 respectively.
(N.O.I.C.Kirkwall 1225A/18).

VICTORIOUS. Intend VICTORIOUS shall proceed from Scapa to Clyde to work up her squadrons. Trials referred to in your 1125/18 can best be done in Clyde as screen is not available at Scapa.
(C. in C.H.F.1558A/18 to R.A.(A) H.F.).

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

P.51. Intend to sail P.51 at 1900/20, unescorted diving by day for position (H) 043° 00' 012° 30' E.T.A. 2000/27th routed as follows, all positions North and West. Q.Z.S. 284 and 293 to position.
 (A) 050° 33' 001° 51' thence through (B) 180°. Start Point 25 miles (C) 180° Lizard Head 30 miles (D) 049° 16' 009° 00'.
 (E) 049° 09' 012° 00'. (F) 047° 00' 012° 10' (G) 045° 00' 012° 20'
 2. Thence P.51 proceed Gibraltar as ordered by F.O.C.N.A.
 3. Communications.
 (Capt.(S).5,1615A/18)

15th M.S.F. Intend to sail from Broad Bay 0700/19th for Loch
~~of M.S.N.3. P.1.~~ Ewe to oil. E.T.A. 1000 and remain there until
~~see p. 397~~ operation can begin. In view of high boiler hours due to delays. WORTHING will be detached to Port Z.A. Request you will sail ARDROSSAN or BOTTLE, to join me at Loch Ewe by p.m./19th.
 (S.O.15th M/S F. 1651A/18 to R.A.(M).

Trawlers Admty 2254A/11/9 with amendments and additions &c for Intend to sail "Shilling" Group. Less Gibraltar. H.M.T.STROMA and M.M.S.113 and 71 and 5 at 1500/19. Request long range weather forecast for route ordered to reach me by 0800/19.
 (F.O.I.C.Milford Haven 1801A/13 to Admty, C. in C. W.A.).

JUNON. E.T.A. Lerwick 0900A/19th. My position 062° 14' 30" N, 000° 42' E. Weather report.
 (JUNON 1916A/18).

Operations.

E-Boats. 2 Enemy E/Boats bearing 165° distant 1 mile. My position 182° from Eddystone Rock distant 4 miles.
 (CLEVELAND 0010/18 to Devils Point W/T).
 My 0010 3 enemy E-Boats.
 (CLEVELAND 0014/18th).
 My 0010 2 pairs E-Boats operating.
 (CLEVELAND 0029/18).

Operation "EX." Your 1534/17th. It is important R/V should be kept and 18½ knots is too high a speed to allow for passage from R/V to Eyebroughy Buoy.
 2. Request FORMIDABLE may be sailed 2 hours earlier and time of passing Stroma adjusted to 0500A/20th.
 3. C. in C.W.A. please pass to 15th Group, C. in C.Rosyth please pass to 18th Group.
 (C. in C.H.F. 1114A/18 to N.O.I.C.Greenock, 18th Group (R) N.O.I.C. Londonderry, R.A.D. H.F. N.O.I.C.Belfast, FORMIDABLE, 15th Group, C. in C.W.A. Admiralty, A.C.O.S. C. in C.Rosyth, R.A. A/C.C.H.F. H.Q.C.C.NELSON, SHIKARI, ZETLAND, BLYSKAWICA).

/My.....

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War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Operation "EX" Contd. My 1534A/17 and C. in C.H.F. 1114A/18th Codeword "Eager". Intend to sail passing Clyde boom 0830A/19. R/V off Oversay 1415A/19. R/V with NELSON 0500A/20.
(N.O.I.C.Greenock 1756A/18 to C. in C.W.A.Admty A.C.O.S, C. in C.Rosyth, N.O.I.C.Londonderry C. in C.H.F.(R) R.A.(D) H.F. R.A.(A) H.F.N.O.I.C. Belfast H.Q.C.C., A.O.C.15th Group, A.O.C.18th Group FORMIDABLE, NELSON, BLYSKAWICA, SHIKARI, ZETLAND).

E.X.Proceed passing Hoxa gate at 0420A/20th to R/V in QZS. 323 with FORMIDABLE who passes Stroma at 0500A/20th. Thence to Rosyth. 2.R.A.(D) H.F.(in TYNE) is requested to sail WHADDON and BLEAN to join NELSON outside Hoxa Gate.
(C. in C.H.F. 1943A/18 to NELSON (R) FORMIDABLE, WHADDON, BLYSKAWICA BLEAN, A.C.O.S. C. in C.Rosyth R.A.(D) H.F.(in TYNE)).

Patrols. Tonight 18th, 19th September. M.T.Bs.55,50, 53, patrolling near 060° 15' N. 000° 20' W.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 1156A/18).

1. Intend M.Ls. 123, 205, 303, to patrol lat 50° 20' N.between 1° 35' W. and 2° 10' W. tonight Friday 18th leaving Weymouth at 2000 and patrol line at dawn to return to base. 4. Codeword "Devil"
5. Request air protection be arranged.
(F.O.I.C.Portland. 1211A/18).

Weather permitting establish an M.L.patrol on a line 120 from Lille Dimon distant from 10 to 50 miles from 2000 today Friday until 0800/19.

2. Communication as in my 1643/7/8 as amended by my 1135/20/8.
(A.C.O.S. 1258/18 to N.O.I.C.Faeroes (R) C. in C.H.F., C. in C.W.A. C. in C.Rosyth, Admty).

Dover dispositions for night of 18th/19th September. M.Ls 146 and 147 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and N.E.Spitt Buoy E.T.D. 2005 E.T.R. 0610/19. M.Ls 141 and 142 near C.l. Buoy.
(V.A.Dover 1738A/18).

Your 1258/18. Patrol withdrawn weather unsuitable.
(N.O.I.C.Faeroes 1925A/18 to A.C.O.S.).

Exercise Cole IV. Intended to carry out Cole IV on 30/9 and 1/10. Arrangements.
(C. in C.Plymouth 1239A/18).

Raspberry Artichoke. &c. It is desired to obtain information on the efficiency of the existing escort diagrams and offensive operations used such as Raspberry, Artichoke etc. Cpts.(D) should include in their remarks on report of proceedings where applicable observations on these points as brought out in report. In particular it is desired to ascertain when U-Boats are not detected whether in each case this is attributable to defects in diagrams and operations or to failure of escorts to carry out the instructions. When success is achieved it is also desired to ascertain what were the chief factors contributing to the success.
(C. in C.W.A. 1615Z/18 to Cmdre.Londonderry Cpts (D) Liverpool, Greenock, 18, (R) C.T.F.24, C.T.G.24, 7. C.T.G.24.6., F.O.N.F. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. R.A.W.A. Admiralty).

/Baltic.

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War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.Baltic
Soviet
S/MS.

As transport of Third Mountain Division from Oslo via North Aaland Island to Tallin is now complete there would appear to be no purpose in moving Soviet S/M known to be operating on that date north Bothnia to more Southern waters. Please inform Soviet Mission. (N.A.Stockholm 2145/18 to Admty).

Allied Air Operations.Bombing
Restrictions.

Ship AC.105 18/9. Cancel my AC.150/15 reference surface bombing restrictions. (H.Q.F.C. 1730A/18 to H.Q.Nos.10,11 Groups).

Enemy Air Operations.

WATERFLY.

Amendment to 2003A/17.
(V.A.Dover 1023A/18).

Dartmouth.

At approx. 1130/18 the following damage was caused to R.N.College Dartmouth. (S.C.E.Devonport 2000/18.)

Casualties. Philips Noss Works machine shop wrecked. Coal hulk DAGNY sunk. Collier FERNWOOD sunk. Pontoon crane with grab for coaling sunk. M.L.155 leaking badly. H.M.S.SELKIRK minor damage and leaks. R.F.A. BERTA reports diesel and fuel oil contaminating each other and water contaminating both. (Lt.Brammal 2000A/18, N.O.I.C.Dartmouth 2225/18.)

Mining.Off
Hastings.

Details of mines 13 and 14 swept 17/9 in Q.Z.X. 780. (V.A.Dover. 0058A/18).

Sheerness.

One ground mine detonated 0142/18 as follows (Capt.M/S Sheerness 1040/18).

Yarmouth.

Oropesa Sweepers exploded moored mine in 076° No.4 Buoy 4.75 miles at 1320. (F.O.I.C.Gt.Yarmouth 1351A/18).

RUBIS.

Lay your mines in accordance with para.3. of my 1736/15th. On completion return to Lerwick by reverse of outward route.

Reference F.S.D.2 para 7 report your P.C. and S. when 100 miles clear of position of laying. (F.O(S) 1644/18 to RUBIS)

Operation
M.S.N.3.

PLOVER*, SCOTT, LLANDUDNO anchored at Loch Eriboll. (PLOVER 2110A/18). *5 next page 10/18)

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.

SCHARNHORST. On 7/9 SCHARNHORST left Gdynia, and following day
EMDEN. carried out steaming trials and gunnery exercises
between Rixhoft and Scholpin. Graded B.3. On 27/8
EMDEN sighted at Swinemunde in company with Cruiser of LEIPZIG
Class. Grade B.4.
(N.A. Stockholm 1807/18).
O.I.C. Comment. Para. 1. Corroborated other information received that
SCHARNHORST is now carrying out trials.
Para. 2. P.R.U. Swinemunde 27/8 showed LEIPZIG only present.
EMDEN was seen in dry dock at Wilhelmshaven on 26/8.

TIRPITZ. Visual R/C Narvik area at 1415 today 18th shews
TIRPITZ and 2 destroyers Bogen.
(D.D.I.C. 2109A/18 to A.I.G. 21. A.I.G. 47 S.B.N.O.
Russia. N.A. Stockholm, Admiral Miles, Hofors, H.Q.C.C
H.Q.B.C. Cominch Comnavu). F.O.(3) 2253A to S/Ms
operating N. of Lat. 51° N.)

U-Boats.

U/B attacked Following has been read: Am over enemy S/M in 46° 31'
by A/C. N. 9° 18' W. Enemy S/M when reported was on surface
when first sighted. Course 270° speed 6 knots.
(A.O.C. 19th Group 1020/18).

Following has been received. Have attacked enemy with torpedo
estimate 1 hit.

(A.O.C. 19th Group 1025/18).

U/B attacked SCOTT's 0451/18th. Attacked without result in 059°
by SCOTT. N. 005° 37' W. almost certain wreck shown near by
** See previous page* on miscellaneous chart 316. Depth off bottom 50
feet. Still in contact. Request permission to abandon hunt.
(S.O. 15th M/S F. 1306A/18 to A.C.O.S).

U/B U-Boat reported by A/C in 060° 25' N. 007° 00' W.
Reports. at 1330/18th.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1338A/18).

Am over enemy S/M in 60° 12' N. 4° 37' W. periscope only
sighted.

(A/C AY9K 1500/18 to C. in C. Rosyth 1534A/18).

Navigational.

6A Buoy. 6A Buoy light extinguished.
(WOOLSTON 0535/18).

3C Buoy. 3C Buoy missing from station having been fouled by
SS*INGERTRE. Both buoy and Merchant Ship now
proceeding to Yarmouth in tow. Request Q.Z.H.
(C. in C. Nore 0735A/18). * See next page.

Dhuheartach Greenock area. Fog signal at Dhuheartach lighthouse
Ltho. Fog No. 1160 is out of action for repairs.
Signal. (N.L.B. Edinburgh 1225/18).

Whittaker T.H.V. report Whittaker Buoy missing from station.
Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1729A/19).

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War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

- EMPIRE
OIL. My 0020/13 your 1552/12 ADHERENT reports:-
We have made wide search in vicinity. No trace of casualties request orders.
(A.C.I.C. 0046A/18 to Admty (R) C. in C.W.A.).
Your 0046A/18 ADHERENT and KIRKELLA should continue search to prudent limit of endurance and then return to base.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2321A/18 to A.C.I.C.).
- SS. INGERTRE *See previous page* Fouled 3 C buoy. Propeller jammed and rudder broken. ATTENTIF towed her to Yarmouth.
(GUILLEMOT 0258A/18, 0606A/18, C. in C.Nore, 0517A/18, F.O.I.C.Gt.Yarmouth 0737A/18, 1159A/18, F.O.I.C.Harwich 1025A/18).
- MARIA. My 1216A/17. MARIA entered harbour with boiler defects.
(F.O.I.C.Gt.Yarmouth 0820A/18).
- SS.
QUARTZITE My 1305A/16. No information has been received of SS. QUARTZITE in this sub command since leaving Tobermory 10/9.
(F.O.I.C.Greenock 1029A/18).
- NELSON. C. in C.H.F.'s 1809/8. As far as can be estimated in absence of ship full repairs to No.37 oil fuel tank would require about 5 to 6 weeks. Alternative method approx. 3 weeks. Request immediate decision.
(A.S.Rosyth 1045A/18).
- WAVENEY. Owing to gunnery defects developed on trials sailing of WAVENEY will be delayed approx.4 days.
(N.O.I.C.Middlesbrough. 1305/18).

Shipping & Convoys.

- W.S.23. Convoy W.S.23. will comprise the following 4 troop transports.
(D. of S.T. 0423A/18).
- Q.P.14.P.Q.18. No position of Q.P.14 can yet be given as owing to weather conditions Catalina escort did not meet this convoy yesterday.
KENTUCKY Sunk. (S.B.N.O.North Russia 0726A/18 to Admty (R) C. in.C H.F.).
2 Russian A/C are patrolling ahead of you type D B.3., S.B and M.B.R.2 alternatively. Height 300 - 600 metres and ordered not to fly over ships.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0810A/18 to Ships escorting PQ & QP Convoys 18. MUSKETEER, S.B.N.O. North Russia).

/Intend...

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys--North--

Q.P.14, P.Q.18 Intend to proceed a.m./19 to vicinity Jan Mayen
KENTUCKY returning to Akureyri a.m./22. After fuelling
Sunk. propose proceeding about noon/23 to Hvalfjord.
Contd. (V.A.2. 1148/18 to C. in C.H.F. (R) C.S.18,
R.A.(D) H.F. A.C.I.C.).

P.Q.18 attacked by high level and two suspects
torpedo bombers off Cape Kanin between 0830 and 1030. SS.
KENTUCKY torpedoed and sunk. At least four enemy A/C destroyed.
(MALCOLM 1231Z/18 to C. in C.H.F.).

Rescue tug being sent from Iokanka.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1237P/18 to MALCOLM).

C.L.O reports:- Following patrols now being maintained from
Gryaznaya. C/422 HH off patrol 0100C 17/9 Q/210 QP convoy off
patrol 1000C 18/9. K/210 GG of patrol being diverted Lakhta.
E.T.A. 1330C/18/9. S/210 ON PQ convoy 1200C/18/9 until 0500C/19/9
landing Lakhta. Give maximum cover to PQ convoy. T.O.O.1930C/17/
9 Ends.

(18th Group 1250A/18 to H.Q.C.C.).

My 1148A/18th. If close support by Battle Fleet is required
Destroyers must either return to Akureyri or fuel from Force (?P)
or Force Q.

If occasion arises be prepared to inform me whether either Force
could fuel these Destroyers and in what position.

(V.A.2. 1352A/18 to R.A.(D) (R) C.S.18).

Following is report from Hurricane V.7653. Launched from
EMPIRE MORN at 1150C/18 in 68° 30' N. 42° 30' E. Enemy force
attacking convoy 15 Heinkel IIIs. Hurricane fired 2190 rounds.
Result one Heinkel shot down. Landed Kegostrov 1415C. Weather
cloud 7/10 at 2,000 feet, 10/10 at 4,000 feet. Visibility 10
miles. Wind S.E. Composition of convoy 29 merchant vessels, 12
destroyers and escort vessel. Course 180° speed 9 knots. Result
of attack (corrupt group) no hits observed. Russian air escort
2 M.B.R.3 (?Wellington).

(Party A. R.A.F. Archangel 1530Z/18 to Admty).

Hvalfjord departure SAN UBALDO escorted by OPHELIA. E.T.A.
Akureyri 1800A/20.

(A.C.I.C. 1745A/18 to V.A.2).

Your 1148/18. Concur.

(C. in C.H.F. 2323A/18 to V.A.2 (R) R.A.18th C.S. R.A.(D)
H.F. A.C.I.C.).

A. Estimated position Q.P.14 at 0800/19, 075° 53'. 023° 50'.
B. My 2011/17. Move is to be continued so that S/Ms are in
undermentioned zones at 0001/20. UNIQUE to K.61, P.45 to K.62
P.221, to K.63, P.54 to K.64, UREDD to K.65, TRIBUNE to K.66,
TIGRIS to K.70.

C. At. 0001/20th Subs in covered zones are to proceed to Lerwick
as routed Captain (S) 9th S.F.

(F.O.(S) 2327A/18).

On leaving Q.P.14 P.614 and P.615. are to proceed through
074° 30' 005° 01' E. and 074° 30' 006° 30' E. respectively thence
as routed by Capt.(S) 9th to Lerwick. Report Your P.C. and S.
when 150 miles clear of convoy.

(F.O.S.2331A/18 to P.614, P.615, (R) A.I.G. 47. S/Ms operating
N. of Lat. 51° N. H.Q.C.C.).

/North...

MOST SECRET

526A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1914A/18th Sept.

IN

From: S.B.N.O. Archangel.

Date: 25.9.42.

Recd: 1830.

NAVAL CYPHER 'A.1' BY CABLE

Addressed; Admiralty, Repeated: S.B.N.O. North Russia,
C. in C. Home Fleet, A.C.I.C. (A.I.G.47) Home
Fleet Operational, Admiral Miles.

498. P.O. 18. Following information from Cam pilot.
0300 13th STALINGRAD and one Archangel ship sunk by
submarine.

1200 13th 45 torpedo bombers again (?made) determined
attack sinking 8 ships. High level bombing and further
torpedo bombing attacks followed. No casualties.

1200 14th Convoy flying balloons. Attack 18 JU 88 no
casualties.

1200 15th. 25 torpedo bombers attacked one merchant
ship sunk.

A.M. 16th U-Boat and spasmodic air attacks. One ship
thought to be ATHELCTEMPLAR sunk.

17th no attack.

1000 18th. 9 torpedo bombers attacked off Kanin Nos from
astern no casualties. Dive bombing followed by JU 88

KENTUCKY set on fire and afterwards blew up. Further
attacks by 15 torpedo bombers no casualties. 17 enemy

aircraft destroyed for certain 2 probably 17 damaged.
Cam Pilot officer Burr Homed are safe having destroyed

Heinkel III.

* Admiralty pass to all concerned except Russia.

1914A/18.

* Passing action being taken in War Reg.

Advance Copy sent N.A. 1st S.L. D.C. D.O.D.(H)
D.D.I.C. D.T.D. & D.P.D.

1st Lord	
1st S.L. (2)	
Dep. 1st S.L.	D.T.D. (3)
2nd S.L.	D.T.D. (M)
3rd S.L.	D.T.D. (C)
4th S.L.	D.T.S.D.
V.C.N.S.	D.G.D.
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)	D.T.M.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.D.T.M.
A.C.N.S. (T)	D. of S.T.
A.C.N.S. (W)	Hd. of M. (30)
C.N.S.	D.S.D.
A.C.N.S.	D.S.D. 9.
Nav. Sec.	W.D.
N.A. 1st S.L.	I.P. (2)
Capt. Pin.	Ad. Blake.
D.O.D. (H) (2)	Ad. Cunningham.
D.O.D. (F) (2)	
D.C. (2)	
D.D.I.C. (2)	
D.N.I. (4)	
D. of P. (2)	
D. of P. (Q)	
D.A/S.V.	
D.N.A.D.	
D.A.C.D.	
D.P.D.	

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1530/18th Sept.

IN.

FROM: Pary A. R., F. Archangel.

Date. 25.9.42
Recd. 1202

O.T.P (143) (I.D.C.) by cable.

ADDRESSED: Admiralty. Repeated B.N.O North Ryssia.

ARC 953 Sept 18th. Following is a report from Hurricanes V 7653 pilot Flying Officer A.H. Burr launched from EMPIRE MOON at 1150C Sept 18th in position 68 30 North 42 30 East. Enemy force attacking convoy 15 HE GR. Hurricane fired 2190 rounds result one Heinkel shot down. Landed KEGOSTROV 1415C. Weather cloud 7 10th at 2,000 feet 10 10th at 4,000 feet. Visibility 10 miles. Wind S.E. Composite convoy 29 merchant vessels 12 destroyers and escort vessels. Course 100 degs T 9 knots. Result of attack on convoy no hits observed. Russia air escort 2 M B R 3 well clear. Admiralty pass Air Ministry. Air Ministry inform Officer Commanding M S F U Speke.

1530 /18

Advance copy ONS O.D. & O.I.C.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L (2)
- D.F. S.L
- Nav Sec.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- N.A. 1st S.L
- Capt Pin
- C.H.A.S.
- A.C.N.S.
- O.S (3)
- O.D. (5)
- O.I.C. (3)
- D.N.I (5)
- D.S.D.9 (2)
- D.A/S.W.
- D.H.A.D.
- D.A.C.D.
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- M (5) & for Air Ministry.
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- D.G.D. (2)
- C.G.L.S.
- I.P (3)
- W.D.
- Admiral Blake
- U.S.N (3)

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War Diary.

18.9.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & ^{convoys.} Casualties. - contd.:

North Russia
Hospital
unit.

Your 1638A/14th. I appreciate your fears for future fully but substance and tone of Molotov's final letter of Sept.12th to Ambassador gave no immediate prospect of hospital unit being allowed to remain in Russia.

(2) Reference your para.6 am sure that Russians in present frame of mind would put every obstruction in way of any medical personnel coming out here at present.

(3) There were other complications and I hope to be able to raise whole question in London shortly.

(4) Admiralty pass to C. in C.H.F.

(Admiral Miles 1826/18 to S.B.N.O.North Russia).

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

KAOLACK. A.M. 0006/16 not to Barcelona or Malaga. Request whereabouts of KAOLACK as no report of arrival at Malaga yet received. (M. Branch 0104A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) N.A. Madrid. Consul-General Barcelona. Consul Malaga.) Arrival ST. NECTAN. M.L.170 with British ship KAOLACK. (F.O.C.N.A. 0958A/18 to Admty. (R) N.A. Madrid.)

U/B. D/F bearings at 2256Z/17 indicate U-Boat within 45 miles of 30° N 25° W. (D.D.I.C. 0423A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

Possible U/B supply ships at Cartagena BESSEL. Your 1202/10 and 1652/11. Considering that Embassy made particular indictment of BESSEL in their note of 31/12, and that this vessel is more likely than either tanker to act as depot ship Minister's neglect to place guards on board is incomprehensible, especially as guards have been placed on board the tankers which are already moored close to the naval base. Failure to deal firmly with the prime offender is not re-assuring, and we trust that Minister will not fail to implement his pledge to place guards on board in addition to moving vessel out of harms way. 2. Concur to defer action under Admty. message 1830/13. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1218A/18 to N.A. Madrid.)

Tugs. C. in C. W.A. 1205/17. (sailing and routing of tugs) Onward route from position (R) to (S) 39.26 13.33. (T) 37.01 09.39. (U) 36.01 05.59, thence to Gibraltar. 2. N.O.I.C. Milford Haven is requested to arrange tug to fuel at Ponta Delgada. Onward passage will be signalled to N.C.S.O. San Miguel (Ponta Delgada.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1542A/18 to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

ESSO GETTYSBURG. Your 1346/31. Request reason why ESSO GETTYSBURG was routed to Trinidad. (D.T.D. 1551A/18 to V.A.C.N.A.)

French shipping. Gibraltar 0855, patrol vessel LA SETOISE, ships OUED TIFLET, light deck cargo motor lorries, PARAME, laden 12 motor lorries, 1 fire-engine on deck, MONTAIGNE, light deck cargo, 12 motor lorries and agricultural soda, CARTHAGE, laden deck cargo motor transport SAVOTE, laden, auxiliary fishing yawl, MONTCALM, in tow of trawler KEROMAN, trawler KERMARIE, westbound. (S.O.I. Gib. 1721A/18 to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.

18.9.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Gibraltar, Your 1540/15.
explosions (a) Would lookouts or sentries for each merchant
in M/Vs. ship be of any use?
(b) If so, and you cannot provide these, request
you approach Governor to ask for soldiers who
could be trained for this purpose.
(c) Would Aldis or other lamps be useful for sentries and if so
how many are required?
(d) Owing to difficulty of swimming in D.S.E.A. or similar gear,
it is probable that divers are ferried by boat and dive very close
to target. All fishing and other craft which persist in keeping
close to merchant ships must, therefore, be considered suspect.
(e) Further signal will be made regarding arrival of Cockles.
(D. of .L.D. Approved by A.C.N.S. (F.) 1836A/18 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Reply: 1742/21.)

LADY Your 1902/5 and my 1418/7. Intend to sail LADY
HOGARTH. HOGARTH as additional escort to H.G.89. Request
you will signal refit port.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1924A/18 to Admty.)

BAGE Cominch's 1931/14 and C. in C. U.S.F. 1521/17/8.
CUYABA SS. BAGE and SS. CUYABA sailed Rio de Janeiro
repatriations. 16/9 for Recife and Lisbon.
(M. Branch 2249A/18 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.
R.A.W.A.)

South Atlantic.

MERCATOR. My 1344A/13. Belgian authorities have no objection
to any work necessary for fitting out MERCATOR
being undertaken at once even though charter
formalities have not been completed.
(Head of M 0044A/18 to R.A.W.A.)

Convoy Sailed 18/9 E.T.A. Freetown 29/9. Details.
C.F.5. (S.T.O. Capetown 0923Z/18.)

Convoy Your 0909Z/18 (Situation report) P.C.S. of
"Mincemeat" "Mincemeat" at 1400Z, 011° 20' N 032° 18' W 'A'
090° 9. Weather report.
(PATHFINDER 1032Z/18 to R.A.W.A.)

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

WESERLAND (German) My 1412A/17. B.2. report states ERMLAND now renamed WESERLAND will reprovision first in South Atlantic and later by Japanese in Pacific. Comment. Necessity for reprovisioning is not understood but report infers ERMLAND may be meeting some other vessel in South Atlantic and Pacific. (D.D.I.C. 1140A/18 to S & A. South Atlantic, Cominch, Commaveu)

Operation "Volley" Movements summary 2000Z/18 Area Q.
SIRIUS 040° 00' S 020° 56' E 270° 10.
PHOEBE 040° 00' S 024° 56' E 270° 10.
Minesweepers ROODEPOORT, STELLENBERG, FLORIDA 037° 30' S 019° 30' E 270° 8.
Minesweepers SOUTHERN BARRIER, TJ(?ER)JE 037° 30' S 023° 00' E 270° 8.
(C. in C. S.A. 1155B/18 to S.A. Station.)

CORFU. Left Capetown 0627Z/18 for escort of C.F.5. Shifts to W/T organization for area P at 0800Z/24. (C. in C. S.A. 1243B/18 to Admty.)

NARKUNDA. In view of length of NARKUNDA 608 feet, Master states that if there is any doubt as to whether ship can be taken at Ponta Delgada for fuel he will have to call at an earlier port for this purpose. (N.C.S.O. Capetown 1302Z/18 to Admty.) Sailed 18/9. Requirements Ponta Delgada. (S.T.O. Capetown 1602Z/18.)

Dakar R/C 15/9 indicate 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers had left since 5/9. 1 cruiser was sighted west of Freetown course 160° p.m. 15/9. R/C 17th indicate 2 ships type unknown returned Dakar. Aircraft report 16/9 1 S/M with 4 lifeboats alongside full of survivors presumably from LACONIA. Aircraft on 18th sighted group of 4 empty lifeboats. D/F bearings at 0301 and 0401/18 indicate 2 unknown French warships within 120 miles of 002° 30' S 013° 30' W. It seems possible that these ships were rendezvousing submarine to transfer (corrupt group) survivors from LACONIA. Has Admty. any further information. (R.A.W.A. 1333Z/18 to Admty. (R) N.O.I.C. Ascension. C. in C. S.A. etc.) See also 1935/18.

ASTURIAS. Subject to your concurrence following refit programme is intended:-
ALCANTARA. A. ASTURIAS to be sailed to U.K. for refit about end November, 1942, on relief by CHESHIRE or

CILICIA.
B. ALCANTARA to be sailed to U.K. for refit and improvement of armament on relief by ASTURIAS about early February, 1943. Anticipated time in hand about 3 months.
2. Further signal will be made regarding CARNARVON CASTLE. (D.O.D. (F.) 1621A/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)
Concur. (C. in C. S.A. 1127C/21.)

/French...

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

French warships. My 1533/18. Addressed Admty. (N.T. in W.D.) Ascension reports U.S. aircraft sighted one French (?cruiser) and 1 destroyer in 02° S 13° W. Have instructed N.O.I.C. Ascension to shadow but not interfere. Is there any information regarding convoy which cruiser might be meeting?
(R.A.W.A. 1838Z/18 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. CORINTHIAN.)

U-Boats dispersion of shipping. There are now 10 or more U-Boats in area Ascension-Africa Coast. Information of exact position of submarines is seldom available in time to effect diversions owing to SSS reports not being received. Submarines recently north of Ascension may get on to present route of Cape shipping. Suggest unless raider activity makes this undesirable, consideration be given to adopting policy of widely dispersed routes over South Atlantic instead of less dispersed traffic lanes.
(R.A.W.A. 1922Z/18 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty.)

LACONIA survivors. Your 1414/15. What warships are searching for survivors?
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1935A/18 to R.A.W.A.)
In previous page
Your 1935A/18. CORINTHIAN commences search dawn tomorrow Saturday. Aircraft from Ascension are co-operating.
(R.A.W.A. 2217Z/18 to Admty.)

CALIFORNIA survivors suspicious ship. TALISMAN (Norway) from Mid New York arrived Takoradi p.m./18 with 18 survivors including Master of U.S. CALIFORNIA rescued in 007° 45' N 026° 35' W on 14/9 after 32 days in boat. TALISMAN also reports vessel flush deck built up forecastle and stern sanson at funnel in built up sections amidships ventilator derrick cruiser stern semi sheer form of bow gun on stern, 004° 12' N 013° 18' W 1646/16. Chased for 1½ hours but escaped owing to her high speed (18 knots) Report by H/F G K Y D E B P (B or E) K, T.O.O. 2100Z/16. Full report of both incidents together with silhouettes of suspicious vessel being forwarded by air mail.
(N.C.S.O. Takoradi 2215Z/18 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Unit. My 0215 (N.T. in W.D.) Position of enemy is 32.20 N 23.50 E.
(Call sign (T6RA) Undecypherable 0406/18 to 201 Group.)

/Cositrep...

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Cositrep No. 521. 3. Air. Night 16/17. Tobruk Harbour bombed, near misses claimed on 1 ship, bursts on decks and jetties. Torpedo and bomber Wellingtons attacked M/V 1000 tons S.W. of Crete, results unobserved. 17/9. Operations restricted by sandstorms. Ref. Cositrep 520 para 5, photographs confirm direct hit on 1 M/V, near miss on another in Benghazi on 16/9. (C. in C. M.E. 0935/G.M.T.)

UTMOST P.211. UTMOST remain about 30 miles south of position D until further orders. P.211 if east of position B report your position when half way between position D and E. If west of position B keep to N.W. reporting your position when considered safe to do so and await further orders. (V.A. Malta 1433B/18 to P.211, UTMOST. (R) S/Ms on patrol, C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.8.)

Operation "Waylay". Your 2013/15, correspondents stories arrived in London stamped passed general censorship Alexandria and were not, therefore, submitted to censorship in London.

It has been ascertained that B.B.C. news referred to in your signal gave exact words of the Communique which was drafted by you, with addition of one sentence which stated that "Daba on the Egyptian coast is some 300 miles east of Tobruk". (D.P.D. Approved by A.C.N.S. F. 1654A/18 to C. in C. Med.)

Malta air report. I.693 18/9. C.S.R. 17th. 2 alerts. 1350 hrs. 18 plus enemy fighters including Me.109s of which 6 plus crossed Gofeai Island. 16 Spitfires up, 8 sighted enemy but had insufficient height to intercept. 2 other Spitfires patrolled over minesweeper. 1457 hrs. 9 plus Me.109s approached at great height to within 15 miles of Malta and returned. Partial R.D.F. interference. 10 Spitfires up failed to intercept. 2 other Spitfires on protection to minesweeper. 1605 hrs. 4 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta. 8 Spitfires on offensive patrol for protection to returning Beaufighters (see part 2) Night 17/18. 1814 hrs. 1 Beaufighter up no enemy sighted. 18th. 0815 hrs. 4 Spitfires up for raid which did not approach close to Malta. Photo R/C No.3, Corfu, 2 M/S 4000 tons beached, 1 M/V 7000 tons probably hit, 1 torpedoed by Beauforts on 6th down by stern evidently on the bottom. 1210 hrs. visual 1 M/V 2000 tons 210° Kelibia 18 miles course 210° 8 knots, 6 Beaufighters 5 carrying bombs despatched to attack. 6 500 lb 2 250 lb G.P. 3 seconds delay. Bombs dropped from 40 or 50 feet at 1540 hours scoring one direct hit with 500 lb and near misses. Deck cargo blown into sea. Beaufighters also cannon and machine gunned M/V. M/V left stationary with heavy list to port, oil pouring from it, also emitting brown and white smoke. Results confirmed visually by R/C A/C. 1 Beaufighter missing seen by R/C A/C to crash in sea and explode 12 miles from vessel attacked. 18th photographic R/C scene of Beaufighter attack. 0620 hrs. streak of oil and two M.A.Ss 200° Kelibia 30 miles. (A.H.Q. Malta 1730/18.)

/TRAVELLER...

War Diary.

18.9.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

TRAVELLER.

At 2002C/18 my position $35^{\circ} 05' 29''$ (?36' or 26').
Intend remain on the surface arrive dawn 20th.
Successful, 2 re-embarked, regret (?remainder)
missing.
(?TRAVELLER 2021C/18 to Capt. S.I. (R) C. in C.
Med. etc.)

War Diary.18.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Operations in Madagascar.Armistice
Refusal.Reasons for French refusal.
(G.O.C. in C. E.A. 0230/18 to W.O.)
See Lion Copy.Operation
"Jane",
Tamatave.

"Jane" anchored. Have been in W/T communication with Tamatave since 0540/C. Governor refused to receive envoys and is asking (?) Tananarive for instructions. Am now sending envoys ashore under flag of truce and have warned Governor that if envoys are fired on we will immediately bombard. So far no firing either side.
(S.O. Force M. 0503Z/18 to C. in C. E.F. (R) EREBUS for Buttermere.)

Communicated with Local Governor by W/T whilst approaching "Jane". He refused to (?receive) envoy having been ordered by Tananarive to defend town.

2. After having threatened bombardment at 0730 envoy was sent ashore at (?0736) under (corrupt group) flag. Machine gun fire opened on boat at (?0748).

?3. Cruisers and destroyers opened fire at 0751 with 4-inch and short range armament on military (?objectives.)

4. French did not reply and hoisted (?white) flag 0754. (?Ceased) (?fire) immediately.

5. Landing now (?proceeding).

6. No air bombardment. No damage or casualties so far.
(S.O. Force M. 0511Z/18 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., EREBUS, for Buttermere.)

French Commandant refused ultimatum. Minimum bombardment on defending positions has been carried out prior to landing.

(C. in C. E.F. 0543A/18 to Admty. (R) E.A. Command.)

Following from S.O.(M) (begins) Town occupied. Little damage. Unlikely any damage casualties H.M. Ships 0634. (Ends)

(C. in C. E.F. 0843Z/18 to Admty. (R) E.A. Command.)

(a) Following signal exchanged in P.L. with Tamatave W/T.

(1) Do not fire. Order troops to remain in barracks, ~~e~~envoy is being sent 0540.

(2) Reply. Your message is being telephoned to Chef De Region now. Please wait.

(3) From Chef. Your message will be transmitted to Tananarive 0100. Do not land anyone as I have orders to defend town. Please await reply Tananarive, T.O.O. 0556.

(4) From British warships. Unless you agree to receive envoy under white flag within half an hour I shall be forced to commence bombardment to cover landing of troops, T.O.O. 0615.

(5) If you compel us to bombard and (?wish) save life hoist white flag on Government House and Tanio Point lighthouse when you feel you can surrender with honour. T.O.O. 0640.

(6) Do you want extension of time limit, otherwise will open fire 0430 G.M.T. T.O.O. 0700.

(7) Reply. Yes we require extension of time limit T.O.O. 0707.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE. 0230/18th September. IN.

Date 18.9.42.
Recd. 0750.

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

CIPHER.

Addressed War Office. Repeated C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

51937 cipher 073498 18th September MOST SECRET.

Further to my 51936 dated 17/9 T.O.O. 2330/G.M.T. following is part two of message from Buttermere begins. Part Two of my 00132 query.

5. They had hoped not only for continuance of French Sovereignty in Madagascar (of which I offered to include guarantee in terms) but for suggestion of continuance of present French administration intact from Annet downwards and of use of French Military Forces as Militia for police duties in the Interior. They stated that contact with Vichy must for forms sake be maintained but we could rest assured that it would be mainly for face saving purposes. There was a suggestion that even administrative communications with Vichy might be controlled by us.

6. They offered in fact to let us have our way in Madagascar with full French Administration working under Annet if we enabled them to present situation in manner acceptable to Vichy and trusted them to play fair.

7. Alternatively they explained that Governor General must call on all officials to follow him into exile and that most would obey.

8. Argument based on risk in this latter threat (Query) to permanent French interests here and on Force Majeure enabling Annet to yield honourably failed to move them.

9. (Query) They probed anxiously to discover whether we intended to import a fighting French Governor General which they declare would be unacceptable to officials and public opinion.

10...../

- 2 -

10. I received delegates later and we exchanged regrets on failure of discussions. I made it clear that our operations would proceed as originally planned. ENDS.

0230/18 G.M.T.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (2)
Dep 1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (T)
A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
A.C.N.S. (W)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D. (F) (2)
D.O.D. (H) (2)
D. of P. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
D.C. (2)
ER. D.S.D.
Admiral Blake
C.C.O. (2)
D.P.D.
N.I.D. 20
Hd. of M. (26)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Capt. Wharton.

War Office circulation.

S. of S.
C.I.G.S.
V.C.I.G.S.
D.M.O.
D.P. (2)
D.D.M.O. (0)
M.O.L. 5.11.
D.M.I.
D.D.M.I. (I)
M.I. 3.3.a.
D.D.I.P.
I.P.1.
Col. Jacob
Major Morton, 10 Downing Street.
A.M.C.S.
Head of War Reg. Admiralty.
Mr. Stirling Foreign Office (2).

Received in War Registry at 1155/18.

War Diary.18.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - conts.Operations in Madagascar - conts. -

- Operation "Jane", Tamatave (contd.)
8. From Chef de Region. Signals will be exchanged through signal station by port office flying French flag. T.O.O. 0718.
- (9) I am sending envoy in boat with white flag. If you fire on him I shall at once bombard. T.O.O. 0721.
- (10) Reply: I have no instructions to treat with you. T.O.O. 0728.
- (b) Boat left ship flying flag of truce at 0736 and was fired on at 0748.
- (c) Having given Chef de Region final warning and he having fired first shot I had no alternative but to reply with ships' guns at 0751 but I (group omitted (?with)) held WARSPITE and only 18 rounds 6" were fired.
- (d) After white flag had been hoisted from flag staff cease fire was immediately obeyed 0754 and orders given for landing to proceed, after which only one rifle shot heard.
- (e) Town occupied. Details of military situation follow as soon as possible.
- (f) All times C.
(S.O. Force M. 1028C/18 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., EREBUS for Buttermere.)
1300. Town completely in hand. Aerodrome reconstructed and ready for use. Harbour obstructions removed. Most cranes immobilised by French sometime ago.
2. Chef de Region Renne disgruntled but willing to co-operate temporarily. Population indifferent.
3. 2 companies R.W.F. and 1 company South Lancs Regt. marching alongside railway line towards Brickaville left 1000. 230 men of South Lancs Regt. left by train 1300. No news of either party.
4. Number of road blocks reported on road to Tananarive. All local (?labour) employed to clear. No report of blown bridges.
5. Enemy strength at Brickaville reported as 60. Majority Tamatave garrison left for Tananarive by train yesterday 17th except party about 120 who attempted to leave 0330 today. Train containing latter was stopped.
(S.O. Force M. 1131Z/18 to EREBUS for Buttermere (R) C. in C. E.F., Admty.)

Situation.

1. Leading troops 22nd East Africa Bde. 25 miles North Ankazobo 90 miles North of "Line" (Details).
2. In view of French refusal to accept terms (?4th) K.A.R. will now disembark "Stream" and join 22nd Bde. For operations against "Line". 29th Independent Bde. Group after occupation of (?Jane) will advance on Brickaville and thence on "Line".
3. Should French change their minds before 22nd Bde. have reached "Line" it may still be quicker owing to instructions and (?blown up) bridges to send one battalion to (?Jane) by sea from "Stream". Propose therefore holding 1 liberated ship at "Stream" for this purpose. If this is not done relief 29th Independent Bde. in "Jane" likely to be much delayed.
(H.Q. Buttermere 1530/18 to 121 Force (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)

/Dispositions ...

War Diary.18.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - contd. -Operations in Madagascar - contd.

Dispositions Providing all continues satisfactorily intend
Op "Seal". sailing in BIRMINGHAM with VAN GALEN and TJERK
(Occupation of ~~Reunion~~) HIDDES for (?Diego Suarez) p.m. tomorrow and
there await operation "Seal".
I should (?suggest) Hewitt resume command of DAUNTLESS remaining
at (?Jane) as S.N.O. General (?Sturges) being transferred
sick to DAUNTLESS.
(iii) ILLUSTRIOUS, NAPIER, (?NORMAN) NIZAM, HOTSPUR, (?WARSPITE)
GAMBIA, D.S. HEEMSKERCK, NEPAL, FORTUNE sailed. CROMER (Corrupt)
and ROMNEY sail 1200C/19th.
(S.O. Force M. 2103Z/18 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

Press
Reports.

Ref. press report in S.O. Force 'M' 1225/18*
would prefer press report to be issued on
official communique (?in) East Africa Command
52059 18/9 to Troopers, T.O.O. 1306/18.
Consider for the present name of Commanders
and reference 15" guns should be suppressed.
(C. in C. E.F. 1540Z/18 to Admty. (R) S.O.
Force M.)

* Note by War Reg: Not yet recd. see also
C. in C. Eastern Fleet's 1824/18.

If S.O. Force 'M' 1225/18, 1227/18, 1816/18, containing
Press Reports have been read by you, request you will take no
action.

(C. in C. E.F. 1824Z/18 to Admty.)

Note by W.R. None of these Messages appear to have been
received - see also C. in C. E.F. 1540/18.

My 1824/18. Add 1520Z/18, 1524Z/18, 1526Z/18, 1530Z/18,
and 1540Z/18.

(C. in C. E.F. 2124Z/18.)

Note by W.R. None of these messages appear to have been
received except 1540/18 to D.P.D.

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War Diary.18.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - ~~Leants~~General.

Troops for Bombay and Basra, transport. Your 2321/12 to S.S.T.O. Capetown. We estimate 13250 personnel 56 Division for on carriage Bombay Basra about mid October. Can only provide shipping for approx. half this number. Armindia states no accommodation in India adjacent to ports is available for balance. Also consider Basra would have great difficulty in handling this large number of ships at same time. Suggest you consider transshipment of other half of personnel in South Africa into ships able to proceed to Basra. And the half proceeding from Bombay would be despatched so as to arrive Basra about 7 days after arrival of Cape half. Agreed Armindia. F.O.C.R.I.N. pass to Armindia. (P.S.T.O. Bombay 0230Z/18 to D.S.T.)

U/B. S/M sighted and attacked at 0820Z/17 in 015° 01' N. 052° 41' E.
(C. in C. E.F. 0525Z/18 to S. and A. E.I.S.
(R) C. in C. S.A. Admty.)

Persia Gulf. Your 2110/15. Ships required for entirely different services. ADRIA as *B.A.S. ship Persian Gulf Forces by S.N.O. Persian Gulf. MELCHIOR TREUB instead of ISIPINGO as base ship for scheme N.A. My 0505/6/9. 1013/29/8, 0825/23/7 all refer.
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0909Z/18 to D.S.T. (R) C. in C. E.F. etc.)
*? Base

Raiders. Situation No.7.
(1) No further information German or Japanese raiders. (2) French ship CEPHEE ex FRANCOIS L.D. now at Dakar may sail for Far East. German ship believed 187 departed Bay of Biscay about 8th probably outward bound blockade runner.
(C. in C. E.F. 1011Z/18 to S. & A. E.I.S. etc.)
Your 1156Z/11 para 2. (Raiders Situation No.6) Request source of information and any further details if available.
(D.D.I.C. 1557A/18 to C. in C. E.F.)

B.D.Vs. Your 1513/15/9. Regret none can be made available there are not sufficient in the Medit. to compete adequately with requirements.
(C. in C. Med. 1131C/18 to C. in C. E.F.)

U/B Berbera. At 0600 local time 17th S/M reported 8 miles East of Berbera near coast by African N.C.O.
(C. in C. E.F. 1534Z/18 to S. & A., E.I.S. etc.)

/Troops for ...

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War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - contd.Troops for
Dar es
Salaam.

War Office have requested urgent movement of one battalion from Suez to Dar es Salaam, probably embarking in AORANGI and SAMARIA about 24/9.

2. Request C. in C. E.F. report whether escort can be provided if numbers exceed 250 per ship.
3. Request F.O.I.C. East Africa report whether ships can be accepted at Dar es Salaam and whether unloading of troops and M.T. will be possible at that port. 4. Reports in paras 2 and 3 should be repeated to C. in C. M.E. and G.O.C. in C. E. Africa.
(D.O.D. (F) 1731A/18 to C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C., E.A.)

Liaison.

My 1545/13. Cominch now states that under present circumstances he feels your purpose could be better served by sending selected British Officers to observe operations of (?Com) Task Forces Pacific Fleet rather than by sending U.S. Officers for (?short) visits to Eastern Fleet. If you concur arrangements will be made when Commander Clark arrives in Washington. Understand Admiral Stark has ordered Commander Clark to temporary duty in Washington.
(B.A.D. Washington 1849Z/18 to C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

U/B
attacked. GANANOQUE attacked a good contact considered possible S/M in 048° 50' 068° 05' at 2100Z/17, dropping 2 patterns. No result obtained and contact not regained after 2nd attack.

WITHERINGTON took part in hunt but obtained no contact. (WITHERINGTON, 0115Z/18 to N.O.I.Cs Quebec, Sydney C.B., Gaspe, C.T.F. 24, GANANOQUE.)

Wreckage. Wreckage approx. 30 feet square reported in vicinity 41.09 N. 71.45 W. 17/9. (Comnav, 0155/18 to Admty.)

SÖRVANGEN
(attacked) Following from Georgetown radio. SÖRVANGEN attacked by torpedo and shelled 0830 G.M.T./18 in 008° 25' 059° 35', not hit, but went aground. Now refloated. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 0846Q/18 to Admty., etc.)

Movements
Summary. 1800 G.M.T./18 September.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy "Mincemeat".	} 11½° N. 28½° W.	099°	9
T.A. 22			
(D.O.D.(F), 1018Z/18 to Opnav, (R) Comnav.)	40½° N. 58° W.	256°	25

O.N. 127. C.T.U. 24.1.14 1640Z/11, FJORDAAS arrived Clyde 15/9 damaged by torpedo but no casualties. (D.T.D., 1040Z/18 to Connav, C.T. 24.)

ST. LAURENT. My 1530/8. Intend to sail ST. LAURENT 1430/19 independently direct Londonderry great circle route 20 knots, E.T.A. Londonderry a.m./23rd. Request ST. LAURENT be sailed with Task Unit 24.1.11 escorting O.N. 133. (F.O.N.F., 1109Z/18 to C. in C. W.A.)

SKEENA, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1541/12.
BROADWAY. 1. Request confirmation that SKEENA can be sailed so as to arrive in time to rejoin C.T. 24.1.13 sailing St. Johns N.F. 6/10 escorting H.X. 210.

2. Request confirmation BROADWAY is with 24.1.13 escorting O.N. 131. It is intended to give BROADWAY quick turn round and sail to re-enter proper Group 24.1.12 escorting S.C. 102. (C.C.N.F., 1110Z/18 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty., etc.)

MAE U.S. MAE torpedoed sunk 0015 ship's time 17/9
(sunk 17/9) 008° 03' N. 058° 13' W. 43 survivors landed at Georgetown, 1 killed. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1117Q/18 to Admty., etc.)

/ U/B

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- U/B. S/M reported by A/C in 12° 50' N. 060° 35' W. at 1502Z/18 approaching convoy. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1120/18 to VIMY, (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., Admty., S.O.(I) Kingston, Jamaica.)
- Convoy Cycles. Your 0004/15. Concur that trans-Atlantic convoy cycles should be opened to 8 days. Coastal convoys will be opened to 8 and 4 days to agree. Suggest 1/11 as date on which new cycles become effective. (Cominch, 1235/18 to Admty. (for information), Cinclant, C.T.24, Cdrs. of all Sea Frontiers, Atlantic, N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., B.A.D., C. in C. W.A.)
- W.B. 1. Arrived. (N.C.S.O. Sydney C.B., 1244Z/18 to N.S.H.Q., Admty., (R) N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F.)
- Convoy T. 9. My 1742/17th. For T.10 read T. 9. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1252Q/18.)
- W.S.C. 98 and 100. Your 1706/16. Please verify message received Aug. 30 no T.O.O. as it did not originate from N.C.S.O. Your 1923/10 has now been received but not in time to inform Master. As no reply was received to my 1252/14 neither ship in W.S.C. was advised of her destination. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1424Z/18 to Admty.) Note by W.R. - Re first sentence. Message no T.O.O. received Aug. 30 cancelled another 1120/29 from St. Johns and did not cancel W.S.C. 98 advanced sailing telegram as was first thought.
- O. 15. Intend to sail submarine O.15 at 1430/19 routed through following positions G. 49.45 N. 46.59 W. H. 53.10 N. 38.15 W. J. 55.02 N. 30.01 W. K. 55.50 N. 19.58 W. L. 56.10 N. 14.01 W. M. 57.01 N. 11.59 W. N. 080° Barra Head 10 miles, S. of A. 9½ knots. 2. W/T watch. (F.O.N.F., 1434Z/18 to Admty.)
- QUEEN MARY. Revised E.T.A. at Ambrose Channel Light Vessels 1600 G.M.T./19. (QUEEN MARY, 1609Z/18 to Connav, (R) C.T.F.24 etc.)

/Fairmiles ...

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Fairmiles M.Ls 370 and 371 are now operating from Kingston at Kingston. Jamaica in accordance with my 1752/29/4 para. A. Request that following be sent.
 A. H.S.D. for Jamaica M.L. Base. To go direct as soon as possible.
 B. Complete set of spares type 134A at earliest opportunity. B.A.D. requested to state whether these can be sent from U.S.
 C. In view of above and delivery of 72 foot M.Ls shortly, all base personnel.
 (S.B.N.O.W.A., 1623P/18.)

GUADELOUPE (French) Departure New Orleans 18/9 1000 Fort de France, Martinique, 20th.
 (New Orleans, 1635/18 to M.W.T.)

U/B Positions. S/M estimate 18/9 and U.S. Submarine Notice. (Cominch, 1641/18, 1642/18, 1643/18, 1644/18, 1645/18 to Admty.)

H.J. 12. River steamers arrived.
 (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1710Z/18.)

U/B. U-Boat position by D/F at 1557Z/18 within 150 miles of 52 N. 33 W.
 (Cominch, 1718/18 to Admty., (R) HARVESTER, HIGHLANDER, C.T. 24.)

Westomp, position. Effective commencing with Convoys H.X. 208 and O.N. 129 position Westomp will be approx. 49° W. Escort sailing authorities (C.T.F. 24 and F.O.N.F.) will designate actual junction position to ensure escort reliefs being accomplished during daylight. When convoy sailing interval is increased to 8 days it is anticipated that Westomp will be approx. 45° W.
 (C.T.F. 24, 1745Z/18 to C.O.A.C., C. in C. W.A., F.O.N.F., (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)
 Reply from N.S.H.Q. 1547/19.

Mines. Pass to N.C.S.Os. Masters of all merchant ships proceeding to U.S.A Atlantic coast ports are to be warned that on account of enemy minelaying, it is most important to adhere strictly to established swept channels to such ports.
 (D.T.D., 1749A/18 to F.Os.I.C.)

F.H. 1. Sailing telegram (5 ships).
 (N.O.I.C. St. John N.B., 1745/18, 1750Z/18.)

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18.9.1942.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

REGENT. Sailing REGENT about 20/9 to Gibraltar via Bermuda through points C. 35.50 N. 69.40 W. then D. 33.20 50.35. E. 32.20 34.30. F. 35.10 Advise sailing time and S. of A. (Connav, 1801A/18 to Com. 4, (R) C.E.S.F., Admty., etc.)

Shipping, My 1849/2 para. 1(D). It is now agreed that Valparaiso, British controlled shipping with warlike stores Montevideo. on board may call at Valparaiso or Montevideo for oil or coal bunkers. Request Sparks New York may be advised. (D.T.D., 1813A/18 to B.A.D.)

Shipping, Experienced shipping men Valparaiso state west- Cape Horn. bound high-powered ships do not require pilots and should invariably use Straits. Only small ships or low-powered ships in ballast need use Patagonian channels and pilots and then only if west coast South America is destination. Tankers in particular should use Straits only as they are too long for channels. Same shipping authorities point out that for Atlantic traffic to and from Australia or New Zealand there is no advantage gained by using Straits instead of Cape Horn, Cape Horn route has distinct advantages eastbound in ballast. Cape Horn also offers secrecy of movement which is impossible when Straits used. (Connav, 1830/18 to Admty., N.S.H.Q.) First part repeated to C. in C. S.A. (D.T.D., 1519A/20.) Admty. reply 1046Z/20.

M.A.R.I. Your 1644A/15 (re amendment to M.A.R.I. No. 75.) *See next page.* consider 8A ambiguous. Suggest paragraph be rewritten considering vessels proceeding from U.S. and West Indian ports to Freetown. (Connav, 1951/18 to Admty.)

Schooner Sunk 6/9 in 28.35 N. 57.35 W. by U-Boat by HELEN FORSEY. gunfire. Two killed four survivors arrived Bermuda 18/9. (S.B.N.O.W.A., 2102Z/18.)

A.T. 23. My 1356/5. Convoy A.T. 23 from New York will be composed of following ships. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2110/18.)

/ U/B Campaign ...

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War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

U/B Connav serial 18. CALLIROY Panamanian aground
Campaign. 52.23 S. 73.41 W. 14/9.
HARBOROUGH British torpedoed sunk 11.20 N. 59.30
W. 14/9.
MAE U.S. torpedoed sunk 08.03 N. 58.13 W. 17/9.
VICTORIAN Panamanian engine trouble returned Jamaica 17/9.
SORVANGEN Norwegian attacked 18.03 N. 59.37 W. Not hit, went
aground, refloated 18/9.
(Connav, 2111/18 to Comnav, (R) N.S.H.Q., etc.)

PRINCE ALBERT British PRINCE ALBERT PARK, 11 knots ready to
PARK. sail from Bermuda to Lagos, W.A. No local
escort available.
2. Recommend sailing this ship independently to
Freetown or destination in view present U-Boat situation
Trinidad area.
(B.A.D., 2127Z/18 to Admty.)

G. 3. Arrived Guantanamo 17/9.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 2148Q/18.)

M.A.R.I. Pass to F.Os. I.C. and N.C.S.Os.
See previous page Amendment No. 76 to M.A.R.I. Sect. II para. 12,
and sub-para. 4.
All independently sailed ships bound for New York from overseas
fitted with H/F transmission are to report when approximately
24 hours steaming time from destination their expected time of
arrival off Ambrose Light Vessel. Only the time of arrival
and not the destination is to be signalled. Messages are to
be in P/L addressed C.E.S.F. Ships are to use their War Call
Signs.
(D.T.D., 2148A/18 to Cs. in C. etc.)

R.C.N. Change of plan making it imperative for the 6
Corvettes. additional corvettes at present with S.C. 100
See p. 544 and H.X. 207 to return to Halifax.
2. Request you will issue immediate instructions
for these corvettes to be detached at daylight Saturday 19th
and return direct to Halifax at their best speed.
(N.S.H.Q., 2213Z/18 to C.T. 24.) See 2232/18.

O. 15. Please convey to Royal Netherlands Navy our
See p. 540 appreciation of excellent work of S/M O.15 during
the period of her co-operation with R.C.N. She
has been of great value to us. We wish her every success in
her new duties. F.O.N.F. pass to D.S. O.15.
(N.S.H.Q., 2214Z/18 to Admty.)

/A.N.D. ...

543^A

2236/18 September.

CONFIDENTIAL AIRMAILGRAM

IN.

From Cominch.

Date 18.9.42.

P/L.

Addressed COMCARIBSEAFRON. Repeated Admiralty. S.B.N.O.
Western Atlantic.

Admiralty advises that the following cables are awaiting repair by cable ship NORSEMAN in order of priority. Jamaica-Ponce 93 miles from Ponce. Jamaica-Santiago 49 miles from Santiago Cuba. Santiago-Cape Cruz 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. These repairs are approved as a military necessity. Request adequate escorts be provided as and when possible in view of the importance of these repairs and the value of the cable ship.

2236/18.

Received by mail from U.S. Navy
1618/30.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F).
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- Capt. Pim. Admy. Hse.
- Ops. (3).
- O.D. (5).
- O.I.C. (3).
- I.P. (3).
- D.S.D. 9. (2).
- D.A/S.W.
- W.D.
- D.S.D. (2).
- M. (2).
- W/T Board (2).
- Adl. Blake.

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

A.N.D. A.M. 1146/6/6 para. (4) and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa ships in 1414/8/6. B.R.O. New York advised re H.X. 208 H.X. 208. that Commodore strongly objected inclusion of 2 A.N.D. ships with declared speed of 10 knots being convinced their speed with nets cover about $8\frac{3}{4}$ knots reducing ocean speed of entire convoy accordingly. Goldsmith's view concurred in by Commodores C Arabbe, Magee, White and Forsyth who wired conference. However O.R.S. 6 art. 280 para. (E) based on signals cited above left B.R.O. no option but to request their inclusion. Suggest for reconsideration whether declared speed should be with net down.
(N.S. Ottawa, 2230Z/18 to Admty.) *Repl: Admty. 1520A/20. page 599.*

R.C.N. Admty. 1728A/11 (Hush, Most Secret distribution.)
Corvettes. which has only just been received at N.S.H.Q.,
Sup. 543. is being passed to you for necessary action.
(2) The 6 corvettes mentioned in my 2213Z/18 are to be given all possible priority for fitting Oerlikons and provision of additional crew.
(3) 10 Oerlikons from D.E.M.S. Sydney and 16 from D.E.M.S. Montreal are being shipped to Halifax by fast freighter.
(4) All other corvettes mentioned in my 2220Z/9 are to be sailed to Halifax as soon as possible to be fitted with a total of 6 Oerlikons each.
(N.S.H.Q., 2232Z/18 to C.O.A.C, (R) C.C.N.F., Admty.)

DAYLIGHT. Cancel my 0025/12 reference oiler DAYLIGHT.
(D. of S., 2218A/18 to B.R.O. Trinidad.)

Sub attack (A) HARBOROUGH torpedoed and sunk 11.20 N. 59.30
and sighting W. 1230Z/14. MAE torpedoed shelled and presumed
summary. sunk 08.03 N. 58.13 W. 0415Z/17. SÖRVANGEN
torpedo and shell fire all misses 08.36 N.
59.37 W. 0850Z/18. X.B. 24 attacks sub on
surface painted white 06.20 S. 13.10 W. 0930Z/16, reported sunk.
U.S.S. BEATTY and U.S.S. MERVINE attack sub on surface 11.13 N.
60.10 W. 2400Z/16. Sub fired 1 torpedo, miss, possibly sunk.
U.S.S. JOUETT sights sub on surface 04.18 S. 35.44 W. about
1700Z/17.
(B) ARARAQUARA, KIOTO, and ABBEKERK, 2 torpedo hits each.
TOPA TOPA, U.88 type, silver painted. Sub sighted 0330Z/09
July, my 2155/17/9 white cross on C/T. MANSFIELD attacks
contact 43.25 N. 58.10 W. 1435Z/15. Sub sighted on surface
40.20 N. 70.30 W. 0845Z/18.
(C) G.G. ALGONQUIN and MOHAWK attack sound contact about 51.55
N. 55.48 W. 0130Z/28/8. C.G. DIX attacks sound contact 12.05
N. 68.58 W. 1252Z/16. Submerged sub sighted 04.38 S. 35.11 W.
2220Z/17. C.G. 67 attacks sound contact about 40.51 N. 71.53
W. 1855 and 2015Z/17. Subs reported 12.50 N. 60.35 W. 1302Z/18,
10.59 N. 61° W. 1652Z/18, about 40.20 N. 70.30 W. 0024Z/18.
(D) C.G. 213 attacks sound contact 38.47 N. 74.28 W. 1915Z/16.
Air and surface craft attack magnetic and sound contact 39.25
N. 74.14 W. 1625Z/17.
(Cominch, 2240/18 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

War Diary.18.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Situation.

Serial No. 239 17/9.

Enemy force Buin Faisi Tonolei harbour area indicated from reports 17/9 as including 3 heavy cruisers (described 2 Nachi Class 1 Kako Class), 2 light cruisers (including 1 Sendai Class), 11 destroyers, 1 possible aircraft carrier, 1 seaplane tender (Chitose type), 1 converted seaplane tender, 4 merchant ships including 1 tanker 8 flying boats. Possible aircraft carrier observed departing Tonolei harbour area with 1 destroyer at 0200Z/17 course 30°.

(2) Continued indications enemy developing airfield Buin area where buildings being erected and 750 yard cleared strip possibly uncompleted runway observed 17/9.

(3) Air R/C Buka Island 17/9 indicates possible runway Queen Carola harbour area.

(4) Photographs Buka aerodrome 16/9 indicate further development runway and dispersal areas. 2 bombers 3 fighters observed on this aerodrome 17/9.

(5) 6 Fortresses attacked Vunakanau aerodrome night 16/9. Bombs dropped on runway and dispersal area causing 2 large fires, 2 smaller fires, 1 loud explosion; possible cruiser and smaller vessel observed by A/C in Wide Bay while returning. Some bombs also dropped over shipping at wharf Rabaul and Malaguna. 1 Fortress also bombed Lakunai and reported large unidentified vessel 6° 05' S. 150° 55' E.

(6) 1 B.17 bombed Gasmata 16/9 where 1 Zero and indications other aircraft observed on runway.

(7) Further patrol activity Markham Valley.

(8) Analysis photograph Buna area 16/9 reveals over 30 landing barges approx. 15 yards apart along beach, also indications heavy A.A. guns and stores dumps in area. No evidence activity Buna aerodrome. Runway unserviceable.

(9) 6 Kittyhawks attacked landing barges Buna area 16/9 and 12 Beaufighters attacked same target 17/9 destroying several barges and damaging at least 50%. Large fires started among fuel and stores dumps, many explosions heard.

(10) Ioribaiwa area allied patrols remain active.

(11) Air R/C Port Moresby by 1 enemy aircraft evening 17/9.

(12) Analysis photographs vessel Ambon 15/9 indicate Arimasan Maru type with gun mountings fore and aft.

B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0701Z/18 to Admty., etc.)

6-inch
Cruisers,
Armament.

Desirable to modernise H.A. armament of Dominion and Commonwealth 6-inch cruisers.

2. Principal items would be: (a) Fitting 2nd H.A.C.S. (b) Fitting 4-inch twin H.A./L.A. guns (ACHILLES only.) (c) Fitting pom-poms and/or

pom-pom directors, and it is considered that this can best be done in U.K. or U.S.A.

3. Requested that you will remark on the possibility of releasing ACHILLES, 3 months; LEANDER, 2 months; HOBART, 2 months, one at a time for this purpose.

(D.G.D., 1512A/18, 1434A/19 to A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B.)

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War Diary.

18.9.1942.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1425A/18, 1518A/18.)

548

19.9.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic - Contd.

Aircraft sighted a French cruiser and a destroyer today in 2° S. 13° W. perhaps searching for LACONIA's survivors. Two cruisers, 2 destroyers and a submarine have left Dakar since 5/9. RICHELIEU, one Galissonniere class cruiser, JULES VERNE (S/M depot ship) and 6 S/Ms are present.

Mediterranean.

TALISMAN
lost.

TALISMAN on passage from Gibraltar is 24 hours overdue at Malta and it is thought she may have come to grief on a minefield in the Sicilian Channel, but it is understood that the Italians claimed a S/M about 17/9. R/C shows 5 German E-Boats at Empedocle (South Sicily) since 14/9. UTMOST is watching to discover whether they are engaged in minelaying, and if so, where.

Enemy schooners were attacked today off Tripoli by Beaufighters, with some success.

Enemy submarines have been sighted in the Black Sea.

Tonight aircraft from Malta and Egypt attacked with bombs and torpedoes a southbound convoy of 2 merchant vessels escorted by 7 destroyers off the southwest coast of Crete. Results were obscured by smoke screen, but it is reported that one destroyer was near missed.

America and West Indies.

SS. QUEEN MARY arrived at New York today.

U.S. tanker PETROFUEL was attacked by a U-Boat about 1750Z today in 37° 10' N. 74° 21' W.

H.M.T. PENTLAND FIRTH was sunk in collision off New York today.

/The ...

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies - Contd.

The tanker WOENSDRECHT reported torpedoed on 12/9 in 10° 27' N. 60° 17' W. (off Port of Spain, Trinidad) and presumed sunk arrived at Trinidad today in tow of CONFIDENT. The ship is considerably damaged and may be a total loss.

SS. OLAF FOSTENES is believed to have been attacked by a U-Boat and sunk at 2025 today, 470 miles S. by E. of Cape Race (see 20/9.)

Spanish SS. MONTE GORBEA was torpedoed at 1420 today in 14° 55' N. 60° 0' W. 42 persons are missing.

Australia and New Zealand.

In the Solomons, the Japanese have temporarily abandoned direct attack on Guadalcanal in favour of infiltration by night using small boats. There is a force of between 6000 and 8000 men on the island, representing a serious threat to the airfield.

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ESKDALE,
BLENCATHRA.

A.M.1857B/24/5. ESKDALE has now joined 1st D.F. Propose if you concur to transfer BLENCATHRA to your Command as from 22/9. 22nd September. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1100A/19 to C. in C. Nore).

WITCH,
CHURCHILL.

C.O.A.C. has represented that WITCH cannot be employed in Western Local Escort Force during winter. Propose that WITCH should exchange with CHURCHILL and that Admiralty should make necessary arrangements with Canadian and U.S.N. Authorities concerned. (C. in C. W.A., 1129A/19 to Admty).

Akureyri and
Iceland Bases.

V.A.2 1022/16. Akureyri is useful base for Russian Convoy operations but Hvalfiord and Seidisfiord are of greater importance. Any additional defences in Iceland must not prejudice adequate maintenance of defences at these 2 bases. Subject to this consideration concur in V.A.2s proposal. (C. in C. H.F., 1133A/19 to Admty).

20th E.G.

My 1438/16.

1. STORK and DEPTFORD will arrive a.m./22nd. ROTHER, SPEY, and EXE will arrive a.m./21st. Further signal will be made regarding TAY who may be delayed. Request all ships concerned may be given as much A/S practice as possible. C.O. STORK wishes to hold conference with all C.Os.

2. Cancel paragraph 4 (a) and substitute destroyers are to sail in company with STORK.

3. LAURELWOOD is now carry 2,000 tons fuel oil. Cancel last sentence paragraph 5 (B) and substitute:- observing LAURELWOOD is primarily required to fuel E.G.20. Convoy escorts should only top up if necessary informing E.G.20 quantity of fuel remaining in LAURELWOOD.

(C. in C. W.A., 1133A/19 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

Intend to sail SPEY, ROTHER, and EXE to Londonderry at 2000 today. E.T.A. Londonderry 0800/21. Request fighter protection.

(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1200/19).

N.T. n. d. Your 1100/19. Concur. Ship is allocated to 21st Flotilla. (C. in C. Nore, 1634A/19 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

CAMPBELL,
MONTROSE,
MACKAY.

For the last four weeks practices requiring destroyer co-operation have been virtually at standstill seriously affecting working up of new ships and maintenance efficiency of all important fleet units.

(2) On return from operation E.V. there will be period of not less than 10 days during which at least 9 destroyers will require boiler cleaning at Scapa Greenock and Rosyth and considerable amount of action repair and maintenance work must be anticipated.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

CAMPBELL,
MONTROSE,
MACKAY.
Contd.

(3) All H.F. destroyers also require Gunnery, Torpedo, and A/S practice before further operation and cannot therefore be employed on screening duties. Apart from those required to exercise with capital ships and cruisers it will be necessary from 21/9 to end of October to provide average of nine destroyers to screen

capital ships carrying out gunnery practice etc., on four days in each week.

(4) Request therefore that: (A) CAMPBELL, MONTROSE, MACKAY may be retained until about 5/10 to assist in screening heavy ships. Destroyers are selected as they had least steaming during operation E.V. (B) The working-up period of any three of following five ships may be extended for a fortnight.

ROTHERHAM, PORCUPINE, BLEAN, TANATSIDE, PENYLAN.

(C. in C. H.F., 1321A/19 to Admty).

C. in C. H.F. 1321/19, para. 4 (A).

These destroyers are the only leaders in this command.

2. Capt. (D) 16 is at present accommodated in SOUTHDOWN with one Staff Officer but this ship whose refit has already been postponed is due to be taken in hand at the beginning of October.

3. Of the 8 destroyers ordered to be lent to H.F., WALPOLE requires to dock for repairs (A.C.O.S. 1507/19 refers). VIVACIOUS complete in November, and WINDSOR and WORCESTER probably require boiler cleaning and minor repairs on return, thus leaving only VESPER available.

4. Retention CAMPBELL and MONTROSE until 5/10 is concurred in if FERNIE can be retained until they return. It is requested that MACKAY may be returned on completion of operation E.V.

(C. in C. Nore, 2314A/19 to Admty).

Eddrachilles
Bay. S/M
Sanctuary.

Your 1146/1 which had been passed to A.CO.S. approved.
(D.O.D. (H), 1732A/19 to F.O.S)

18th M.G.B.
Flotilla.

The 18th M.G.B. Flotilla consisting of M.G.Bs. 602, 608, 611, 613, 614, 615, and 616 is allocated to Portsmouth.
(D.D.O.D. (C), 2013A/19).

Defence of United Kingdom.

Loch
Cairnbawn.

My 1416/18 para. 3. Request confirmation before p.m. Monday 21st that Army personnel can be accommodated in vessels taking part.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1538/19 to Admty).
Security arrangements.
(Head of N.L. 2000A/19 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)
(Head of N.L. 2010A/19 to C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- JUNON. Arrival JUNON.
(S.O.S/M, Lerwick, 0845A/19).
- P.51 P.51 sails Portsmouth at 1900/20 and crosses latitude 043° N., at longitude 012° 30' W., at 2000/27.
(Capt. S.5., 0910A/19).
- TUNA, SEALION. TITANIA's 2359A/17 arrived Clyde.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0944A/19).
- VIRGINIA. Intend to sail VIRGINIA 1200A/21 for short period of working up and inclusion in O.S. convoy to Freetown for onward routing to Kilindini in accordance with Admty. 1823A/3 and 1632A/8.
E.T.A. 0800A/22.
(F.O.I.C., Liverpool, 1124A/19).
- SVOLVAER. Reykjavik arrival SVOLVAER.
(A.C.I.C., 1152A/19).
- VICTORIOUS, RODNEY. E.T.A. Cape Wrath 0600A/21 in VICTORIOUS with RODNEY and 5 destroyers.
(R.A.A. H.F., 1214A/19 to A.C.O.S.)
- Trawlers etc. My 1801A/18. After*STROMA add OTHELLO.
for Gibraltar. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1255A/19). *See 15.5.54
My 1255A/19 OTHELLO not sailing on account of Boiler Room defects. Estimated time to make good 3 to 4 days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1515A/19).
- JUNON Intend to sail JUNON escorted by LOCH MONTEITH for Dundee 2359A/20 routed (A) 087° Sumburgh Head 5 miles (B) 093° Fair Isle 6 miles (C) 058° 29' N., 002° 42' W. thence via Searched Channel. E.T.A. 0600A/22.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1537A/19).
- STURGEON. Sheerness for Chatham, arrival STURGEON at 1543.
(C. in C. Nore, 1602A/19).
- PRINCESS IRIS. Intend sail PRINCESS IRIS at 1900 today to Dundrum Bay via searched channels and standard routes. Request you will instruct ship to return to Inveraray after discharging landing craft.
E.T.A. Clyde Light Float 0400/20. Destination 1130/20.
(C.C.T.C. Inverary, 1620/19).

/Amend....

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

PRINCESS
IRIS.
Contd. Amend my 1620/19. Ship named will sail as indicated at 0530/20 with landing craft and personnel. Speed of advance 10 knots. Request fighter protection expected time of arrival Clyde Light Float 1330. Destination 2000. Request you will instruct ship to return to Inveraray after discharging landing craft. (C.C.T.C. Inverary 2335/19 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

WAYLAND. WEYLAND will be sailed from Needles at 0800/21 for Plymouth. Application will be made in due course to No. 10 group for Fighter Escort on category one scale. Surface escort of 2 or 3 A/A destroyers will be provided. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1622A/19 to H.Q.F.C.)

Trawlers,
103rd M.M.S.
Flotilla.
M.M.S.80, 47,
9.
LINNET,
KING SALVOR,
EMPIRE PAT,
ITTERSUM.
114th M.M.S.
Flotilla for
Gibraltar. A.M. 2254/11, C. in C. W.A., 1205/17, F.O.C.N.A. 1542/18 para. (1), and My 1801/18. (1) Sailed SHIANT, EDAY, INCHMARNOCK, KERRERA, CAVA, RONALDSAY of 8th and 4th Trawler groups escorting 103rd M.M.S. Flotilla comprising numbers 53, 1, 70, 68, 85, 114, and 114th M.M.S. Flotilla comprising numbers 88, 58, 140, 65, 63, 89, 46, also Motor Minesweepers 80, 47, 9, also under escort LINNET, KING SALVOR, tug EMPIRE PAT, ITTERSUM. S. of A. 8 knots. Code work "Shilling". (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1631A/19).

ESCAPADE Your 1155B/5/8. ^{/N.T. 21.3.} Request I may be informed when ESCAPADE may be expected. (R.A.D., 1711A/19 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).

STORK,
DEPTFORD. C. in C. W.A. 1812A/18. Intend to sail STORK and DEPTFORD at 1700A/21 to Loch^{Loch} Foyle for exercises. E.T.A. 0900A/22. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1736A/19).
*See p. 550
(10th E.C.)*

VENOMOUS Hvalfjord departure VENOMOUS at 1720/19 routed through (Q) 062° 09' N., 017° 10' W. (P) 059° 05' N., 010° 09' W., (R) 270° Barrahead 10 miles, thence to Londonderry. E.T.A. Loch Foyle 1400/21. (A.C.I.C., 1810A/19).

ST. OLAVES Sailed Rescue Tug ST. OLAVES for Scapa for onward routeing to Harwich. E.T.A. 1400A/20. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1847A/19).

CARDIFF My 1031/3. CARDIFF completed exchange of guns and minor repairs and proceed down river to Tail of Bank p.m./19. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 1944/19).

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

STROMA Your 0918/19. STROMA should be sailed to arrive Milford Haven as soon as possible. (D.M.S., 1948A/19 to F.O.I.C. Greenock). Arrangements are required to lift about 60 American medium tanks from Northern Ireland probably to Clyde between 30/9 and 8/10.
2. Request early report whether L.S.T. or L.C.T. can be made available for this move. (C.C.O., 1955A/19 to S.O. A.S.C.)

Operations.

Operation My 1756A/18. Sailed. Codeword "Eager".
E.X. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0906A/19).

Patrols. Patrol tonight number 1A WIDGEON, 1 B. SHEARWATER, 2 QUORN, 3 ATHERSTONE, 4 LA MELPOMENE, 5 MENDIP, 6 COTTESMORE. (C. in C. Nore, 0942A/19).

Intend M.G.Bs. 52 (S.O.) 54 and 57 to patrol tonight from 2100/19 till dawn/20 on lat. 50° 20' N., between 1° 32' W., and 2° 05' W. E.T.D. Weymouth 2000/19. Codeword "Device".

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1148/19).

(1) Intend M.Ls. 123, 205, and 303 to patrol between positions (a) 50° 20' N., 2° 20' W., and (b) 50° 15' N., 2° 40' W. tonight from 1900/19 till 2330/19 then returning to base.

(2) Object to cover W.P. 220 entering Portland. (3) Codeword "Befoul."

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1239A/19).

Available M.Ls are to sail today so as to be on patrol by 2200/19. Patrol is to be between position 050° 03' N., 004° 12' W., and 049° 55' N., 004° 23' W. M.Ls. are to return Falmouth after daylight. (2) Object. To intercept E-boats attacking P.W.220. (3) Codeword "Cloak 5".

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1345/19 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth).

One M.T.B. operating S. of Portland. 3 M.G.B.s patrolling S. of Anvil Point. 3 M.Ls. patrolling S. of Portland Bill. 2 M.T.Bs. patrolling near 50° 15' N., 00° 30' W. 3 trawlers patrolling near E.A.5 buoy.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507A/19).

My 1507A/19 add. 2 S.G.Bs. patrolling to the east from Newhaven.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1850A/19).

→ My 1239A/19. "Befoul" sailed 1905A/19. My 1148A/19.

→ "Device" sailed 2045A/19.

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 2115A/19).

Allied Air Activity.

S/Ms at
Lerwick.

Anticipate there will be a concentration of S/Ms at Lerwick between 23/9 and 27/9. (A.C.O.S., 1102/19 to A.O.C. 14 Group).

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Operations. - Contd.

Bombing restrictions. Institute total submarine bombing restrictions for 30 miles either side of line joining. A. 66° 21' N., 06° 28' E. to B. 63° 06' N., 02° 19' E. from 1200/21 until 1200/22 and (B) to (C) 60° 04' N., 01° 00' W., from 0500/21 until further notice.

(H.Q.C.C., 1200A/19 to Admty).

Institute total submarine bombing restrictions between 68° N., 10° E., 68° N., 05° E., 71° N., 05° E. 73° 25' N., 15° E., 71° N., 10° E., from 0001A/20 until 1200A/22. (H.Q.C.C., 1535A/19).

U.S.A. Aircraft.

Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m./19. No change. No further movements expected today. (Air Ministry, 1600A/19).

Enemy Air Activity.

One enemy aircraft believed F.W. sighted off Hafnarnes 064° 52' N., 013° 45' W., at 1236A/19 course S.W. cloud 9 - 10th 1500 feet, visibility 9 miles.

(A.C.I.C., 1416A/19 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Mining.

M.S.N. 3.

Raise steam and proceed at 0900 today to join M.S. Group 15 in Loch Ewe.

(R.A.M. 0028/19 to ARDROSSAN).

My 1650/18. Sailed.

(15 M/S 0721A/19 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).

PLOVER, SCOTT, LLANDUDNO sailed.

(PLOVER, 0805A/19).

Clearance of Q.Z.X. 810.

Proceed at 0545 tomorrow with available ships of 9th and 12th Minesweeping Flotillas and carry out clearance of Q.Z.X. 810 commencing on Western edge and extending clearance to three miles to eastward of area.

(C. in C. Nore, 1038A/19 to M.S.9).

Programme to comply with C. in C. Nore's 1038A/19:- sail at 0545, Cork at 0630, 3B at 0930. Begin sweeping at 1030. Finish for day at 1745. E.T.A. Yarmouth 1900.

(M.S.9., 1601A/19).

Minelaying by Bomber Command.

On night 18/19 operations were confined to minelaying. 115 A/C were detailed. 99 A/C were successful in their allotted areas and 1 in an alternative position. 5 A/C are missing from there. Widespread mining operations.

(H.Q.B.C., 1140A/19).

/Congratulations...

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - ~~cont.~~

Minelaying
by Bomber
Command.
Contd.

Congratulations on last night's magnificent mine-laying effort, which has already born fruit. (1st S.L., 1357A/19 to H.Q.B.C.)

Yarmouth

"LL" Sweepers detonated one Red Magnetic mine at 1135 in position 168° 1 mile 7A Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1155A/19). S/A trawler detonated mine probably acoustic. Position of explosion approx. 055° 3 miles 3 buoy at 1237. Details. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1416A/19 and 1657A/19). (Cdr. M/S Lowestoft, 2250A/19).

Lyme Bay
Sweep.

Your 1954/18 "Ounce V" arrived 1542. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1605A/19 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Off Berry
Head.

Belgian trawler 0260 exploded a mine with trawl warp at 1330 today in position 146° Berry Head 7.2 miles. No damage to ship or trawl. (R.N.O. Brixham, 1910/19).

Enemy Intelligence.

Baltic.

A. German minefields have been reported in vicinity of Riga as follows

1. South Kurmraga Light to point between Hergraf and Ragotsem.

2. Between Huno and Dogenas.

3. Between Hillva and Ovisi.

B. Convoys proceeding between Stettin and Baltic ports continue to follow coast as follows.

1. Troop transports mostly 11 knot ships with an escort of trawlers about 6 for repeat for 8 ships.

2. Supply ships are mostly 7 knot convoys protected by only one or two trawlers.

C. Stettin. Nearly all war stores for Finland are now loaded at this port as follows;-

1. Molle ammunition guns torpedoes.

2. Free harbour - remaining war material and some ammunition.

All graded B.3. Please inform Soviet Mission as necessary and repeat (C) to Air Ministry.

(N.A. Stockholm, 1722/18).

U-boats.

U-boats
attacked.

Am investigating suspicious object Oil patch in 55° 03' N., 8° 42' W. Wake or Swirl, (A.O.C., 15 Group, 0915A/19). Dropped 4 D.Cs. No results observed. (A.O.C. 15 Group, 0918A/19).

U-boats
reported.

By D/F at 0910Z/19. U-boat in your vicinity may have reported you. (D.D.I.C., 1351A/19 to Escorts S.L.122).

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats-contd.U-boats
reported.
Contd.An over enemy S/M in 50° 12' N., 4° 04' W. Enemy
was sighted on surface, course 180° speed 6 knots.
(A.O.C., 19 Group, 1557/19).Technical.Tests of
27 inch
diaphragms.Admty's 0023A/10. Reports of Tests.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1044A/19) (Capt. M/S
Granton 1445/19) (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1708A/19).E-boat
interception.Doctor Bullard on staff of Chief Adviser on
Operational Research will be visiting Portsmouth
on 23/9, Dover on 29/9, and Nore on 1/10 to
discuss scientific problems in connection with
interception of E-boats. Request he may be
afforded full facilities.
(D.D.O.D. (C), 1050A/19).Casualties & Defects.

STROMA

My 1008A/18. Estimated completion of STROMA's
defects is noon 21st.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0918A/19).

DILIMER

F.O.I.C. Galsgow's 1310/17. Sailed DILIMER in
tow of SOUTHERN WAVE for Irvine. E.T.A. 0630/20.
Request services of harbour tug on arrival.
(N.O.I.C. Oban, 1039A/19).

NELSON.

(1) The W/T equipment and associated wiring of
NELSON is in urgent need of overhaul.
(2) Request it may be inspected on arrival at
Rosyth and that as much work as possible particularly in
R.C.O. and second office may be carried out.
(C. in C. H.F., 1117A/19 to A.S. Rosyth).

DELHI

A.S. Rosyth 1610/18. The work required on DELHI
can be carried out by Harland and Wolf, Belfast.
When gear is on board and ship is ready for
sea C. in C. Rosyth is requested to sail DELHI for
Belfast.
(D.O.D. (H), 1512A/19).

MARY HERD

My 1521/3. MARY HERD can be taken in hand at
Aberdeen for survey of hull and machinery with a
view to determining whether their condition
justifies necessary repairs to boiler.
(D.O.D. (H), 1619A/19 to A.C.I.C.)

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. My 2109A/18. P.R.U. confirms visual R/C.
Q.P.14. Also at Narvik 2 torpedo boats and 7 M.V.s.
(D.D.I.D. 0239A/19.)
Admty. please pass to S.B.N.O. North Russia,
18 Group. Five Catalinas to be returned U.K. 20/9. Remainder
Catalinas to return 21/9. Maintenance personnel and ground
organisation to remain North Russia pending further orders.
(H.Q.C.C. 0947A/19 to Admty.)
D/F bearings from Reykjavik at 0030Z, 0124Z and 0150Z
indicate that Q.P.14 is being shadowed.
(D.D.I.C. 1038A/19.)
My 2327/18, para. (b). Correct to read TIGRIS to K.67.
(F.O.S. 1047A/19 to S/Ms.)
Akureyri departure V.A.2 with Battle Fleet screen at
0735/19.
(A.C.I.C. 1101A/19 to C. in C. H.F. (R) 18 C.S. R.A.D. H.F.)
GKK from HPZC at 1137. SSSS TROUBADOUR chased by submarine
position 76° 14' N 19° 00' E.
(Wick Radio 1149/19.)
Your 0246/16. (?0246/19 intended) Presume seven merchant
vessels sighted are those reported lying in Skjomen in my R S
841 September 12th.
(N.A. Stockholm 1151/19 to Admty.)
F.O.S. 2327/18. Subs are to leave patrol for Lerwick through
091° Out Skerries 5 miles through undermentioned positions as
follows:-
1. At 0001/20th. UNIQUE. (a) 071° 01' 008° 59'.
P.45. (b) 070° 59' 011° 01'.
P.221. (c) 069° 02' 008° 01'.
TRIBUNE. (d) 071° 39' 017° 20' thence through (c). *See next page*
TIGRIS (e) 071° 10' 017° 58'. (f) 068° 40' 008° 40'.
2. At 0400A/20 P.54 (g) 071° 55' 016° 35'. (h) 069° 20'
007° 05'.
UREDD through (d) and (f)
3. Total bombing restriction will be arranged.
4. Subs should proceed on surface at C.O's discretion.
(Capt. S.9. 1155A/19.)
After passing through positions ordered by F.O.S. 2331/18
proceed through 073° 01' N 005° 01' E thence 090° Muckle Flugga
10 miles and direct to Lerwick on surface at C.O's discretion.
(Capt. S.9. 1237A/19 to P.614 and P.615.)
→ Unless Russian authority objects intend TIGRIS leaving zone K.
67 at 0001/20 for Lerwick to pass through N.W. corners of Russian
zone 11 B and 10 B. *See next page.*
(F.O.S. 1304A/19 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
Positions of submarines at 0800A/20 and movements for
following 24 hours.
(B) P.217 in zone K.104.
(C) UNIQUE 72° 15' N 13° 50' E about 9 knots through 71° 01' N
08° 59' E to Lerwick.
(D) P.45 72° 15' N 15° 10' E about 9 knots through 70° 59' N
11° 01' E for Lerwick.
(E) P.221 72° 02' N 15° 30' E 10 knots through 69° 02' N 08° 01'
E for Lerwick.
(F) P.54 72° 40' N 18° 02' E at 8 knots through 71° 55' N 16° 35'
E for Lerwick.
(G) UREDD 72° 40' N 19° 01' E at 8 knots through 71° 39' N 17° 20'
E and 68° 40' N 08° 40' E for Lerwick.

/(H) TRIBUNE...

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. (H) TRIBUNE 71° 59' N 18° 10' E at 10 knots
Q.P.14. through 71° 39' N 17° 20' E and 69° 02' N 08° 01'
Contd. E for Lerwick. *See previous page.*
(J) TIGRIS 69° 53' N 19° 20' E at 10 knots through
71° 10' N 17° 58' E and 68° 40' N 08° 40' E for

Lerwick. *See previous page.*
Submarines in (C) to (J) are probably on the surface.
(K) RUBIS approx. 69° 50' N 11° 15' E probably on surface for
Lerwick.

(F.O.S. 1621A/19.)

P.Q.18 and escort less STALINGRAD, OLIVER ELSWORTH, EMPIRE
BEAUMONT, JOHN PENN, EMPIRE STEVENSON, WACOSTA, AFRICANDER,
OREGONIAN, MACBETH, SUKHONA, ATHELTEMPLAR, MARY LUCKENBACH and
KENTUCKY arrived Dvina Bar 1700A/19. Full westerly gale.
Convoy unable to enter Dvina Ports until weather moderates.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1852A/19 to Admty.)

Operation E V appendix III. Q.P.14 will not split and is to
proceed Loch Ewe.

2. Route from position Q to new position E.
E. 066° 46' N 014° 59' W thence new position F
F. 078° Langanes Light 10 miles thence A A and as ordered for
U.K. portion of Q.P.14.

(C. in C. H.F. 1918A/19 to Escort Q.P.14.)

On arrival at position Q, R.A.D. H.F. is requested to detail
six destroyers to augment close escort until arrival of convoy
in position D.D.

(2) R.A.D. H.F. in SCYLLA to proceed independently from position
Q to Scapa at 25 knots or best speed.

(3) Remainder of covering force and carrier force to return to
Scapa as ordered by R.A.D. H.F.

(4) Escort Q.P.14. Minesweepers and destroyers part company at
position D D and proceed Scapa. Remainder with convoy to Loch
Ewe.

(C. in C. H.F. 1921A/19 to R.A.D. H.F. M/S.1.)

If not otherwise ordered by R.A.D. H.F. Force P route to
Scapa from west of Jan Mayen through new position E E 066° 46' N
014° 59' W to new position F F 078° Langanes Light 10 miles.
Then west of Faroes Iceland mine barrier through new position
G G 060° 20' N 009° 42' W. Thence Scapa.

(C. in C. H.F. 1927A/19 to OAKLEY.)

Operation E V. Subsequent movements battle fleet and cruiser
force.

Battle fleet. V.A.2 in ANSON will remain at Hvalfiord retaining
MONTROSE. V.A.2 is requested to sail DUKE OF YORK with JAMAICA,
KEPPEL, BROKE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY to Scapa. Time of sailing to
be given after convoy passes position E E .

2. R.A.D. H.F. (in TYNE) is requested to sail ORIBI with mail for
Iceland, ANSON, NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, ECHO and MONTROSE a.m./24 to
Hvalfiord to relieve MONTROSE. *ORIBI*

3. Cruiser force. On arrival at Hvalfiord flag of C.S.18 is to
be*transferred to SHEFFIELD. After fuelling, SHEFFIELD with
LONDON, CUMBERLAND proceed with ECLIPSE, BULLDOG and AMAZON.
Destinations. SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE Scapa. LONDON, CUMBERLAND
through Minches to Clyde, detaching destroyers to destination as
ordered by C. in C. W.A. NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, ECHO remain at
Hvalfiord.

(C. in C. H.F. 1935A/19.)

* from NORFOLK.

/Your...

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - *contd.*

- P.Q.18. Your 1304/19. No objection.
Q.P.14. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2000A/19 to F.O.S.)
Contd. Unreliable fix and D/F bearings of enemy unit at
1904 G.M.T./19 to 1918/19. Probable 4 U-Boats
073° 35' N 022° 26' E 072° 30' N 029° 20' E 072°
32' N 026° 43' E 072° 00' N 025° 10' E. Admty.
pass to F.O.S.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 2218A/19 to Admty.)
- PRAGUE. Intend to sail transports PRAGUE and AMSTERDAM
AMSTERDAM. from Cromarty 0315/23, 17 knots, routed Admty.
message Q.Z.S. 15035Z to 35 buoy whence PRAGUE
to Long Hope, E.T.A. 0830/23. AMSTERDAM and escort
2 miles east Fair Isle to Lerwick, E.T.A. 1415/19. Request
escort and fighter protection and if available relief escort at
0715 from 35 buoy to Scapa.
(N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1143A/19 to C. in C. Rosyth.)
- S.D.32. Intend sailing LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE, CASTLETON, WELLS
at 1945/20 for Greenock routed as in C. in C. W.A.
1328/19.
(A.C.I.C. 1718A/19.)
- ARAWA. My 1230A/19. For 15 knots read 14½ knots.
E.T.A. Barry Roads 1615A/20.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast 1831A/19.)
- W.S.23. Admty. 1836/16.
W.S.24. 2. Following are intentions for escort of W.S.23
from Freetown to Cape.
A. DURBAN and CARTHAGE to provide ocean escort to
Cape a.m. 1153/10/8 refers.
B. DESPATCH to escort as far as Pointe Noire returning to
Freetown when DURBAN has rejoined after fuelling.
C. As KANARIS will be only through destroyer escort, maximum
available A/S protection should be afforded as far as Pointe
Noire.
3. It is intended that before joining SOLANTFOR, DESPATCH shall
be employed as ocean escort for W.S.24 possibly from Azores area
to Freetown and from Freetown to Pointe Noire through escort
being provided by one A.M.C.
(A.C.N.S.(F.) 1832A/19.)
- Hatteras anchorage. The attention of Masters concerned is to be drawn
to T.D. 27/42 advising that the Hatteras anchorage
is closed to shipping. M.A.C.R.I. Section I para
6 and Q.J.A. 601 refer. This anchorage is not to
be used except in emergency. Cancel my 1933/18.
(D.T.D. 1950A/19.)

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

M/Vs firing at aircraft. In the Atlantic southward of 20° N. and Indian Ocean westward of 80° E. merchant ships within 500 miles of British territory or British Occupied territory are not to open fire on single aircraft unless actually attacked.

In these areas single friendly aircraft may approach merchant ships closer than 1500 yards for purposes of identification. The aircraft will close by circling and will not fly directly at merchant ships.

2. A.M.S.I. 234/42 will be amended.
(D.T.D. 1826Z/19 to B.A.M.S.All Areas).

North Atlantic.

Tugs. Instructions contained in your 1542A/18. para.(11) and Admty's 1544A/17 para.3. differ. Intend acting in accordance with Admty's 1544A/17. Request confirmation.

(F.O.I.C.Milford Haven 0025A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.).
A.M. 1544/17, not received until 1622/18th. Amend para (2) of my 1542/18th to comply with A.M. 1544/17th and for N.C.S.O. San Miguel (P.Delgada) read R.O. Horta.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0242A/19 to N.O.I.C.Milford Haven).

ESSO GETTYSBURG. Your 1551A/18. Ship was routed to Trinidad for Curacao in accordance with M.A.R.I. section 2 sub sec.14 para.5. Declared speed of ship is 14 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1002A/19 to Admty).

French Shipping. Passings 18/9. Westbound 0900 KEROMAN, KERMARIA, Trawlers OUED TIFLET, MONTAIGNE, both light deck cargo motor lorries, CARTHAGE laden deck cargo motor transport, SAVOIRE. Laden, PARAME laden twelve motor lorries.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1031A/19).

ALOUETTE. Sunk. H.M.T.ALOUETTE torpedoed and sunk 0230A/19 7 miles west Sesimbra. First torpedo destroyed wireless aerial. Captain and 26 others out of total of 44 landed at Setubal including 6 hospital cases. 17 missing including 2 Officers probably on Carley float for which Portuguese fishing boats and naval A/C now searching. This may have landed at Sesimbra. Captain (Lt.Adams R.N.R.) reports no S.Ps or C.Bs compromised as all were locked in safe and went down with ship. Further signal will be made.
(N.A.Lisbon. 1223A/19 to S.O.(I) Gib, (R) Admty).

My 2315/19.(N.T. in W.D.) 5 survivors, 3 hospital cases landed by Portuguese fishing boat in Lisbon 2320 tonight.
(N.A.Lisbon 2345A/19 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar. (R) Admty).

/REGINALDO...

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.**CENTURIONE**
REGINALDO
GULLIANI.

Your 0027A/17. These instructions are being carried out. Please see Embassy tel. to F.O. No.1283 of 19th. This is to be followed by note verbal and verbal representations to M.F.A.

while I do the same with M. of M.

(N.A. Madrid 1400/19 to Admty).

American N.A. and A.N. A. who have been at Santander at my suggestion report as follows:-

- (1) S/M in dry dock clear view of starboard side but port side only obliquely viewed.
- (2) No damage starboard 42 square metres plating under C/T port side removed (by observation). 23 frames and one bulkhead require renewal (this from owners dry dock, not by observation).
- (3) Hit that caused above damage killed 2 men and wounded 6 including C.O. who is not expected to recover. Family have arrived from Italy.
- (4) U.S.N.A. estimates S/M as now maimed cannot be ready for surface navigation under 3 weeks and for diving under many weeks more.
- (5) Men living in hotel Concepcion. At night about 7 on board by day 16 to 20 men working on board. Apparently no night work.
- (6) Officers in hotels Grand and Suizo. Also 2 Italians from Embassy and 3 Naval Constructors just arrived from Rome.
- (7) Watch kept on S/M by civil guard from side of dock but no Spaniards were seen to go on board at any time. Apparently none have done so since S/M was docked.

Can I insist with M. of M. that Spanish experts should inspect (?work) regularly? We are maintaining watch and one of my assistant N.As will visit Santander next week to report. I hope to obtain details of damage and photographs of S/M.

(Madrid 1717/19 to Admty).

*Reply:- Yes. (D.N.I. 1334A/22).

P.222

Arrived.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1416A/19 to C. in C.Med).

P.222 patrolling in Gulf of Genoa. No Merchant ships or aircraft sighted except 2 small steamers out of range off Port Ferrajo.

(2). P.222 patrolling 2 days 3 miles off Portofino, 2 days in Piombino Channel, 1 day between Gorgona and Leghorn, 1 day round Capraia Islands, 1 day off Cape Mele, 1 day 10 miles S.E. of Genoa.

(3) No. A/S Patrol seen except 3 M.A.S.B off Vada Rock.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1510A/19).

LEYLAND.

Report Your P.C. and S. forthwith through Ponta Delgada.

MIRROR.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1742/19 to LEYLAND).

My 1256/3rd. Operation C. completed 2000A/18th. (2)

MIRROR and escort proceeding Ponta Delgada to refuel. (? LEYLAND) thence in accordance with your 2034/16.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1848A/19 to Admty).

JONQUIL.

My P.C. and S. 037° 14' 011° 32' 125° 9.7. E.T.A. Gate 0600A/21st. Weather report. (JONQUIL 2011A/19 to F.O.C.N.A.).

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

PETUNIA. E.T.A.1530N/19. (*Am town*)
(PETUNIA 0301N/19 to R.A.W.Af.)

BREEDIJK. CORINTHIAN picked up 13 survivors of Dutch SS. BREEDIJK in 09° 24' S. 07° 48' W. at 0830Z/18/9 3 boats with 37 men missing. Ship was torpedoed at 2315/14/9 in 04° 08' S. 08° 36' W. (S.O.(I) Freetown 0951Z/19).

Co-operation with U.S.A. Personal from 1st Sea Lord. Your 1855Z/17. Congratulations on very successful results of your visit. (Admty. 1034A/19 to R.A.W.Af.)

ADRASTUS. Your 2042A/14th not to Lagos. ADRASTUS arrived Lagos 17/9. Request further instructions. (R.A.W.Af.1041Z/19 to Admty). Reply from Lagos 1145/20.

MILFORD Brazilian Co-operation. Your 1717Z/6. (MILFORD to take 2 Brazilian M/S to show how protection to Merchant Ships should be given.) Operations not commencing till next week. Request mail may be continued to Rio de Janerio. (MILFORD 1159Z/19 to R.A.W.Af.F.(R) C. in C.S.A. Admty).

Shipping routeing. R.A.W.A. 1922Z/18. In view of present concentration of S/M North of Ascension suggest routes given in A.M. 1644/15 be continued for the present. (C. in C.S.A. 1227B/19 to Admty).

Situation Report. CARNARVON CASTLE, CARTHAGE patrol H 34 C and D, E. of 026°
CORINTHIAN about 005° S. 012° searching for survivors. (*LALONIA*) (R.A.W.Af.1227Z/19).

Unidentified Ship. Unidentified ship which in certain respects resembles Raider H was sighted in 04.12 N. 13.18 W. at 1646Z/16th. (R.A.W.Af.1241/19 to Ships in Area P).

C.M. 32. Sailed (A) RANCHI (B) EXPRESS escorting convoy C.M. 32. routed as in C. in C.E.F's 0958Z/11. S. of A. 9½ knots.
(2) EXPRESS E.T.A. Kilindini a.m./29/9.
(3) RANCHI parts company p.m./21 returning to Durban. E.T.A. 0500Z/23rd.
(4) EXPRESS shifts to W/T organization V at 14(+?15)Z/25. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1436Z/19 as amended 1002C/20 to Admty).
Sailing telegram 5 ships (N.C.S.O. Durban 1514Z/19).

NARKUNDA. Your 1302/18. No limitation on length at Ponta Delgada. Request Master be informed. (Admty 1606A/19 to N.C.S.O. Capetown).

/ROYAL....

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.B.A.D.Washington's 1925/15. C. in C.E.F. 1014/31/8
and 0932/31/8, none to all addressees.ROYAL SOVEREIGN is to be escorted throughout her
voyage from Capetown to Philadelphia. DUNCAN andANTHONY may accompany her throughout the voyage but arrangements
must be made to relieve them while refuelling on passage.2. C. in C. S.A. is requested to sail ROYAL SOVEREIGN for Freetown
as early as practicable.3. R.A.W.A. is requested to signal his proposals for onward
passage including fuelling arrangements for destroyers. If
necessary ROYAL SOVEREIGN may be held at Freetown till ARROW and
ACTIVE are available.4. C. in C.E.F. is requested to inform addressees when it is
expected ARROW and ACTIVE will reach Freetown.5. On completion of escort duties DUNCAN, ANTHONY, ARROW and
ACTIVE are to be sailed for U.K. without delay.(A.C.N.S.(F) 1838A/19 to C. in C.S.A. R.A.W.A.C. in C.E.F.
R.A.D.E.F. B.A.D.Washington S.B.N.O. W.A.).Warships
at
Dakar.My 1533/18* Reply of Air R/C 17/9 shows no
Warships have returned to Dakar. 1 Cruiser, 1
Destroyer sighted by aircraft in 002³ 013° W.
on 18/9. Whereabouts of other 2 Warships unknown.
(R.A.W.Af.1841Z/19 to Admty).
*(1333/18 intended).

M.A.R.I.

Pass to F.O.I.Cs and N.C.S.Os. Amendment No.77 to
M.A.R.I. 1.Cancel instructions in Sect.IV para.8
(a) and substitute:- Routeing in South Atlanticis unrestricted expect (1) All shipping other than West African
coastal traffic is to be routed outside an area between African
coast and a line Freetown, Ascension St.Helena, thence 090° to
the coast.(2) Ships plying between ports within the above area are to be
routed coastwise.(3) Ships for West African ports entering the area north-about
are to call at Freetown for onward routeing; ships entering
southabout are to be given coastal routes from 16° S. to destination

(4) Sub-paras 3 and 4 of Sect.IV 8 are still in force.

2. Sect.IV 6 sub. para (2) add except as modified by Section IV 8a

3. Section IV.7 sub.paras 1 and 2, amend para. 8 to read para.8A.

(D.T.D. 2024A/19 to C. in C.W.A. C. in C.S.A. etc).

SUMATRA.
GRIFFIN.
DECOY.Your 1651Z/19th. Position SUMATRA, GRIFFIN, DECOY,
0000Z/20th 001° 50' S. 005° (?20') east, averaging
S. of A.16. Request further order.
(SUMATRA 2200Z/19 to R.A.W.Af).

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19.9.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Operation "Waylay". Reply to his 1425/17. Re communique. (D.P.D.0004A/19 to C. in C.Med).

Bi-Weekly Opsum No.57. Night 15/16. 9 Halifaxes, 18 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. 5 fires started near petrol installations N.W. of harbour. 1 fire on S.Shore other bombs on jetties. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk attacked Matruih. Bombs bursting near tank repair workshops. 2 Wellingtons on special operation bombed Heraklion Aerodrome, Crete, causing 3 explosions. 3 Hurricanes Intruder Patrols Daba Area. No enemy aircraft sighted. 16/9. In afternoon. 7 R.A.F. Liberators 16 American B.24s bombed shipping in Benghazi Harbour. Photographs confirm 1 M/V hit, near misses on another. 2 converted wrecks used as landing stages also hit. 1 Liberator unable to reach Benghazi bombed Matruih hitting tank repair workshops. Night 16/17. 26 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, claiming near misses on 1 ship. Other bombs burst on docks and jetties. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Sollum with unobserved results. 4 A.S.V. Wellingtons 5 torpedo 3 Bomber Wellingtons despatched to locate and attack enemy shipping S.W. of Crete and N.W. of Tobruk. 1 Southbound M/V 1000 tons located about 50 miles S. of Cape Stavros Crete and attacked by 1 torpedo bomber Wellington. Results unobserved. 2 Wellingtons on special operation bombed Sidi Habeish landing grounds, result obscured by cloud. Night 17/18. 9 Halifaxes, 16 Wellingtons, bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk. Fire started on water near jetty believed on small ship. Another jetty hit, fires started on docks. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Halfaya starting 6 fires. 2 A.S.V. 6 Torpedo 4 Bomber Wellingtons despatched to locate and attack southbound, enemy convoy reported south of Crete previous day by R/C Maryland. 3 M/Vs of 7,000, 4,000 and 2,000 tons respectively escorted by 2 destroyers found about 66 miles N.E. Derna, course S. speed 6 knots. Bomber Wellingtons claim 3 explosions on the largest ship. Vessel subsequently appeared stationary and low in water. Torpedo attack followed by 2 explosions on 2,000 ton ship, other ships seen to close in on this vessel. 1 Wellington damaged by A.A. fire. At dusk 14/9 6 American B.24s bombed shipping and docks Suda Bay Crete, bombs straddled one ship causing smoke to rise. Fire started in docks possibly on another ship. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 0918Z/19).

Cositrep 522. 17th Sept. Malta bombers attacked southbound M/V 2,000 tons off Tunisian Coast, scoring 1 hit, several misses. Vessel left stationary with heavy list to port and oil and smoke pouring from it. Night 17/18. Tobruk Harbour bombed. Fire started on water believed on small ship 1 jetty hit and fires started on docks. Torpedo and bomber Wellingtons attacked Southbound convoy north of Tobruk. Explosions claimed on two vessels of 7,000 and 2,000 tons respectively. Former later appeared stationary and low in water. (C. in C.M.E. 1000/19 G.M.T.).

/Destroyers...

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War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - ~~cont.~~

Destroyers &
S/MS Built
for Turkey.

Personal from 1st S.L. for Adml. Kelly.
We are anxious to keep the "borrowed" destroyers and S/MS. Do you think it likely that Turks will ask us to deliver them in accordance with arrangements set out in your aide-memoire dated 6/11/41? If so, can you suggest any effective method of forestalling such a demand? Matter should not be raised with the Turks at present.
(Admty 1001A/19 to N.A. Ankara).

Enemy
Convoy
TAKU.

A/C reports 2 merchant ships 7 destroyers with air escort 038° 28' 020° 15' 175° 10-12 knots at 0901B/19th.
(Capt. S.10 1101B/19 to TAKU (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1, S/MS on Patrol).

MAURO
CROCE.
(Italian).

Entered Barcelona from Genoa 27/8 discharged 402? drums petroleum 2 drums mineral oil and 24 drums crude petrol. Document handed by Chief Gunner to Italian Consul. Master of MAURO CROCE is known to have stated that this consignment is destined S/M in it appears West Spain and that mineral oil is special type used only in Anti-Aircraft. Custom Clearance effects 31/8, and consignment newspaper routed overland. Am endeavouring ascertain exact Spanish destination.
(Consul Gen. Barcelona 1131/19 to Fairmiss (R) N.A. Madrid etc).

P.46.

Remain within 40 miles of coast in present vicinity until further orders. R/C shows tanker in Palermo.
(Capt. (S) 10 1133B/19 to P.46 (R) 10th S/M F. C. in C. Med. Capt. (S) 1.).

TALISMAN
overdue.

TALISMAN is now 24 hours overdue and has not reported her position as ordered. Patrol in my 1151/17th to Capt. (S) 1 have been postponed. P.46 now in Kuriat area and UTMOST watching Empedocle to report on possible E-Boats activity.
(Capt. (S) 10 1145B/19 to C. in C. Med. F.O.C.N.A. (R) Capt. (S) 1. Capt. (S) 8).

P.211.

Arrival P.211.
(V. A. Malta 1225B/19).

UTMOST.

→ 1. TALISMAN is overdue and thought may have met with misadventure anywhere between long. 0 and Malta, the passage through Q.B.B. 255 is the only possible mined area.
2. R/C shows 5 German E-boats at Empedocle since 14/9. It is vital we know if they are engaged on minelaying and where.
3. You are to establish patrol 10 miles westwards of Empedocle by 1900 each day, surfacing when dark and setting listening watch without charging until 0100, if not sighted retire south and charge repeat daily.
4. If enemy sighted withdraw and charge returning in time to (?note) direction and hour of return. Information re safety of passage route though Q.B.B. 255 is your object.
5. If sighting made withdraw and inform me from latitude 036° 20' then return, negative information not required.

/G. During.

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

UTMOST Contd. 6 During daylight keep clear of ports but mining may be undertaken then, and coast crawling probably, find out all you can. Attack nothing of less importance than U-Boats.
(Capt.(S) 10 1251B/19 to UTMOST (R) C. in C.Med. V.A.Malta Capt.(S) 1).

Malta Air Report. I.695 19/9 C.S.R.
18th 1420 hrs 5 Spitfires up for raid which turned back before reaching Malta.
Night 18/19. Nil .19th 0736 hrs 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol S.E.Sicily, 0910. 4 Spitfires up for raids which did not approach close to Malta.
(A.H.Q.R.A. F.Malta 1600/19).

P.44. Arrived P.44.
(N.O.I.C.Malta 1640B/19).

Situation Report 267. My 2327C/15. paras 13 and 14. Casualties in COVENTRY were 3 officers, 60 ratings, and in ZULU 4 Officers and 34 ratings killed. (Op: 'Waylay' - Sum p. 568)
2. CLEOPATRA in dock Massawa.
3. Malta 2,000 tons motor (?vessel) with cargo bombed and left stationary off Kelibia by Beaufighters 18/9.
(C. in C.Med 1759C/19 as amended 0959C/20 to Admty).

Enemy Intelligence. 15/9 enemy S/Ms sighted (a) on patrol 40 miles N.W.Tuapse (b) on (?surface) 80 miles S.W. Sevastopol on easterly course. Enemy E-Boats sighted 40 miles south Novorossisk.
Both sides re-grouping forces and bringing up marines in Novorossisk area. Fighting confined to artillery fire and minor engagements.
(N.L.O.Black Sea No.T.O.O.).

P.37. Remain North and West of Marettimo. If you see an unescorted worth while target attack it at your discretion. Your passage through Q.B.B. 255 is delayed 2 or 3 days.
(Capt.(S) 10 1947B/19 to P.37).

PROTEUS V.A.Malta's 1137/16. Estimate shall be in position (3) of S.1. 12 30, Westward Cyrenaica 15B/20th Expect me A.M./22nd S.A.M. not held.
(PROTEUS, 2058B/19 to Capt.(S) 10).

Enemy Convoy. P.C.S. of 6 Destroyers, 2 merchant Vessels, 35.20 N. 21.30 E. 180° 12 knots.
(A/C 6 Sqn Duty S.2250B/19 to A.H.Q.Malta).
P.C.S. of 2 enemy M/Vs 7 enemy destroyers 35.20 N. 21.30 E., 225° 15 knots.
(A/C No.6 Sqn.(Malta Command) Duty Y. 2315B/19 to A.H.Q.Malta)
P.C.S. of 4 enemy destroyers 2 unknown are 35.45 N. 21.42.E. 260° 10 knots.
(A/C of No.6 Sqn.Duty P.(Malta Command) 2320/19 to A.H.Q. Malta).
P.C.S. of 1 enemy convoy are 35.26 N. 21.33 E., 190° 12 knots.
(A/C of No.6 Squadron Duty L (Malta Command) 2330/19 to A.H.Q. Malta).
P.C.S. of enemy (2 merchant vessels, 7 destroyers) are 35.43 N 21.48 E. 210° 10 knots.
(A/C Call sign S7W.Duty A. 2330C/19 to 201 Group).

MOST SECRET~~MOST SECRET~~

1430/19th G.M.T. September

IN

From C. in C. Middle East

Date 20.9.42
Rec'd. 0100

Cipher

Addressed The War Office, (Pass to Air Ministry) Repeated
 British Army Staff Washington (Personal for F.M.DILL)
 C. in C. India (Personal for Gen. Wavell)
 C. in C. Mediterranean, G.O.C. in C. Egypt,
 C. in C. Persia/Iraq (Personal for Gen. Wilson)

MOST IMMEDIATE*Operation "Waylay".*

282378 0/50473 cipher 19th Sept. MOST SECRET

SITREP. Part one of two parts.

1. Combined operation Tobruk. Operation generally unsuccessful. Although Naval forces spotted by enemy reconnaissance aircraft on morning 13th Sept. whilst steaming as if for Alexandria and Haifa respectively, surprise appears to have been achieved up to actual time of first attack by land force. Enemy sea reconnaissance was on abnormally high scale in Western Mediterranean. Land force comprising detts. 1 S.S. regt. A.A. and C.D. gunners, R.E. and one patrol L.R.D.G. having come from Kufra attacked A.A. and C.D. guns at entrance to Marsa Umm es Sciause at 2130 hrs. approx. under cover of heavy air bombing attack on North shore of Tobruk Harbour. Land Force definitely captured Marsa Umm es Sciause and is known to have been in control of this area and probably that immediately to East and West from 0015 to 0600 14th Sept.

2. M.T.B.'s. with Coy. 1 A, and S.H. Pl. R.N.F. and Dets. R.A. and R.E. on board began arriving off Tobruk at 0145 hrs. M.T.B.'s. had become somewhat dispersed during night, probably due to high speed at which they had been travelling, and in consequence did not arrive off Tobruk together as planned. Meanwhile part of alternative success signal between ground and air had been seen by bombers at 0015 hrs. but was not reported as codeword by Aldis lamp ground to air was not flashed. Main success signal was sent by land force by wireless at 0120 hrs. If success signal had not been received by 0200 hrs. Operation would have been automatically abandoned and Naval Forces would have returned to Alexandria. First party M.T.B.'s. found Marsa Umm Es Sciause but saw no recognition lights as arranged and on trying to enter the bay were fired on. This probably due to mistaken identity as we believe that German E boats had previously attempted to enter Marsa Umm Es Sciause. All M.T.B.'s. eventually arrived off Tobruk later two M.T.B.'s. succeeded in entering the bay without opposition, and landed their troops who made contact with the land forces already there. At 0340 hrs. land force signalled that only two M.T.B.'s. had entered and that others were awaited. One M.T.B. trying to enter the bay later on saw the recognition signal but was fired on.

3. At 0145 hrs. submarine reported that Folbotists had landed at Marsa Mreira.

4/.....

W. D. Note.

Later and fuller report of this operation, at C.C.M.E. 0700/14/10
 page 422A October Sign.

4. H.M.S. SIKH and H.M.S. ZULU with 11 Bn. R.M. and attached troops arrived within two miles of Marsa Mreira at 0300 hrs and disembarked first flight who met strong opposition but a proportion got ashore at approx. 0400 hrs. In this connection enemy news broadcasts mention Wadi El Auda. Destroyers on coming in again to within one and one quarter miles of the shore to land second flight were picked up by searchlights. SIKH was hit and disabled and endeavoured to withdraw. At 0520 hrs. land force asked if landing by Royal Marines had been effected and was told no (rept. no) in accordance with reports received from H.M.S. SIKH. At 0635 hrs. ZULU attempted to take her in tow but a hit aft parted the wire. As ZULU was being hit repeatedly she had to leave SIKH and make for Alexandria.

5. M.T.B.s on finding that they were unable to enter Marsa Umm Es Sciausc and appreciating that the landing on the north shore had failed withdrew and eventually arrived back at Alexandria in small parties. The last M.T.B. which left Marsa Sciausc at about 0600 hrs. saw fighting and explosions on both north and south shores in progress.

6. Casualties. Total missing thirty eight officers four hundred and nineteen O.R.s includes twenty officers and two hundred and eighty O.R.s of 11 Bn. R.M. but excludes R.N. personnel of H.M.S. SIKH.

PART TWO

7. Diversion at Siwa. In order to draw off enemy airforce dummy parachutists were dropped at Siwa during night 13/14 Sept. and on day 14 Sept. a motor bn. (1 S.D.F. bde.) from Bahariya Oasis moved to Sitra returning to Bahariya following day. Diversion uneventful but enemy has now reinforced Siwa.

8. Operation at Benghazi. Attack at Benghazi with same objectives as at Tobruk took place night 13/14 Sept. with diversion bombing, but land attack proved complete failure. No details yet available. Force heavily attacked from the air during withdrawal and now concentrating North East of Gialo. Several enemy aircraft damaged two shot down. Casualties as at present known. Personnel, 6 killed 14 wounded 3 missing. Vehicles, 15 Bantams 18 by 3 ton lorries.

9. Small raiding party which attacked Barco L G's same night claim twenty aircraft destroyed and 12 damaged. This party also heavily attacked from the air causing casualties to Personnel and vehicles. Wounded sent L G 125 and from there evacuated by air to Kufra 18th Sept.

10. 1 Mot. Bn. S.D.F. and attached troops attacked Gialo first light 16th Sept. but attack failed though own troops later established in Western end of Oasis. Enemy garrison shelled throughout 16th and 17th Sept. causing fires and explosions. Enemy bomber aircraft very active against T.O.F. Force and dump established 75 miles S.W. Giano but little damage. One CR 42 shot down and one A/C damaged by S.A. fire. Operation continuing.

11. Specially request no mention made to press of Operations recorded in part two of this signal as any premature

MOST SECRET

release may jeopardise Operations which are still in progress. Further request complete stop on overland approach to Tobruk as enemy seems to believe whole Operation sea-borne or airborne and some personnel may be able to escape.

1450/19/G.M.T.

Received by hand from War Office at 0720/20.

War Office circulation:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st Lord | S. of S. |
| 1st S.L.(2). | C.I.G.S. |
| D.F.S.L. | V.C.I.G.S. |
| 2nd S.L. | D.M.O. |
| 4th S.L. | D.P.(2). |
| C.N.A.S. | D.D.M.O.(O)(H). |
| A.C.N.A.S. | M.O.1.5.6. |
| V.C.N.S. | D.M.I. |
| A.C.N.S.(F) (2). | D.D.M.I.(I)(F). |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | M.I.2.3.3b.14. |
| D.O.D.(F) (2). | D.A.F.V. |
| D.O.D.(H) (2). | D.D.I.P. |
| D.D.I.G.(2). | Duty Captain (Admy.). |
| D. of P.(2). | Duty Officer (Upper Admy. |
| Duty Captain (2). | War Room). |
| Head of M. | Head of War Registry (Admy.). |
| D.N.I.(4). | A.M.C.S. (Air Ministry) (6). |
| I.P.(2). | Col. Jacob (Capt. Offices). |
| D.P.D. | Cabinet War Room. |
| W.D. | S. of S.F.O. |
| Admiral Blake | C.C.O.(5). |
| D.N.A.D. | |
| D.A.C.D. | |

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

W.S.21B. Arrivals 0505Z BATHURST, 0515Z ENTERPRISE with
W.S.21B.
(S.O.I. Bombay 0613Z/19.)

Shipping instructions. 1. Pig and whistle procedure should only be issued to Masters of ships of 12 knots or more proceeding in either direction through Mozambique Channel and Masters should be warned that procedure may be used at any time. A.M. 2311/11/12 refers. Request you will inform N.C.S.Os.
2. C. in C. S.A. is requested to instruct N.C.S.Os to resume issue of the procedure to northbound ships.
(C. in C. E.F. 0836Z/19 to C. in C. S.A. Cdre. I.C. Aden.
D.C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

29th Bde. Movement. Arminidia 2275C of 19/6. In view of development of operations in Madagascar and continued French resistance it seems unlikely 29th Brigade can be released before end of September.
(2) G.O.C. in C. East Africa has been asked estimated dates.
(C. in C. E.F. 0837Z/19 to F.L.O. Delhi. (R) Admty.)

Navigation Lights. Pass to N.C.S.O. Cancel my (?2761) 22/7 1941 157 C.
(1) Merchant ships in Indian Ocean are to exhibit dimmed navigation lights in accordance with C.A.M.S.I. 32 C.A.F.O. (1) to avoid collision and when exceptional circumstances render their use necessary.
(2) In addition dimmed navigation lights are normally to be exhibited (A) in approaches to Gulf of Aden through Guardafui Channel between 010° 30' N and 050° 30' only when visibility is low. (B) within 20 miles Perim and Aden. (C) in Persian Gulf and approaches between 055° 30' E and 057° 30' E. (D) in approach Channel to any Port.
(3) C.A.M.S.I. 32/42 para 4 where held is to be amended accordingly in pencil giving reference to this signal.
(C. in C. E.F. 0840Z/19 to E.I. Stn.)

Passengers in slow M/Vs. Your 1804/14. Under existing conditions in Indian Ocean, I consider that application of your 2320/18/7 causes greater interference in essential movements of personnel than is justified by the lesser risk of loss of life.
2. The following proposals are made: (a) Ruling in your 2320/18/7 should not be applicable to any ships in escorted troop convoys.
(b) At discretion of C in C Eastern Fleet, numbers and classes of personnel as contained in A.M. 1936/25/9/41 as amended by A.M. 1948/25/2/42 should be permitted to travel in unescorted merchant ships of less than 12 knots.
(c) At discretion of C. in C. E.F. in particular cases, other categories of passengers not exceeding number on passenger certificate may travel in unescorted ships of less than 12 knots. This rule includes Indian Coastal traffic and Pilgrim traffic in Red Sea, Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea.

/ (d) In all...

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - *contd.*

Passengers in slow M/Vs. Contd. (d) In all other cases the ruling in para 3 of A.M. 2320/18/7 to stand.

3. Para 2 (a) is necessary in order to maintain the flow of troops on this station in view of the fact that some ships normally employed even in W.S. or C.M. convoys stop? below the speed of 12 knots.

4. Para 2 (b) is required to maintain the normal traffic of reliefs reinforcements and leave personnel in the East Africa Command to such places as Mogadiscio, Madagascar and Colombo in view of the fact that most of the ships available for this service have a speed less than 12 knots.

5. Para 2 (c) is necessary to maintain essential movements of certain categories of passengers on this station for whom there is not other means of transport, for example traffic to Mauritius (A.M. 1555/30/8 refers) and Indian evacuees from East Africa whose removal to India is desired by East Africa Gov.

6. D.S.T.O. Representative of M.W.T. and Provincial Commissioner have been consulted.
(C. in C. E.F. 0906Z/19 to Admty.)

Troop movements. Cancel my 1035/27/8. Following is a revised and up to date programme of proposed troop movements. (P.S.T.O. India 1001Z/19 to D.C. in C. E.F.)

Madagascar. Re future administration. (H.Q. Buttermere, Gen. Platt, 1102/19 amended 1330Z/20 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

Indian Coastal Areas. F.O.C.R.I.N's 0413/17/7 which has only recently reached me and F.O. Ceylon's 1205/16 to C. in C. E.F. only.

Naval Control around India. I consider the following re-arrangements to be most effective for Naval Control around India and Ceylon: 3 Coastal areas to be formed as follows:-

- (a) West Coast area, West Coast down to 8° N.
- (b) Ceylon area, from 8° N on west coast to 15° N on east coast including Ceylon.
- (c) Bengal area, on east coast northwards from 15° N to include Burmese coast and Andamans.

2. (a) Comdre. R.I.N. to lapse and become Comdre. Operating Coast of India. H.Q. to be at Bombay.

(b) Comdre. Bengal to be appointed for Bengal area. H.Q. to be at Calcutta.

3. Above arrangements make it necessary to institute a Cmdre. East coast of India.

Air control around India.

4. The arrangements being formulated for control of all aircraft around Indian coast are summarized as follows:-

- (a) Flying boats. For large scale operations and strategical planning all flying boat squadrons will be operationally controlled by 222 Group. For administration and local operational control flying boat squadrons in N.W. India come under 227 group.
- (b) Shore based long range G/R squadrons. For large scale operations and strategical planning long range land based G/R

/squadrons...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE. 1102/19 G.I.T. Spet. IN.

Date 20.9.42.
Recd. 1350

From H.Q. Butternere, General Platt.

C I P H E R.Addressed The War Office. IMMEDIATE*Madagascar administration.*

00193 cipher 073938 19th Sept. Most Secret. My 00132 17th Sept. Following from General Platt.

First of Two parts.

Just before leaving Brunet volunteered suggestions for future administration of island. Brunet deliberately did not speak in front of Fauche who had clearly come to protect personal interest of Annet.

2. Brunet presumed Annet would have to go. He also suggested we would not want to retain Ponvienne Secretary general. (This is certainly the case). He said if latter were replaced from local civil service and local man found to replace Annet i.e. without importation extraneous personnel (especially?) Degaullists he and his colleagues would feel they could collaborate with us. He quite understood that (?complete) (?separation) from Vichy was essential. He considered collaboration would be possible in view of our guarantee of continuance of French sovereignty which had been emphasized in discussion of justice terms. See DOZ 12 of 16th September.

3. Somewhat similar indications were subsequently given by (?F)auche who is provincial commissioner Majunga one of the largest provinces of the island.

4. I fully appreciate your difficulties and reasons for preferring no alternative governor general to Annet pending possible transfer to Fighting French. See your telegram 64519 (M.O.11) of 10th September which was received after much delay and after (repeat after) despatch my tel No. 00036 of 14th September.

5. But your proclamation No. 1 created so many practical administrative difficulties that I must press for some discretion. If French administrative machine will work, with or under a new secretary general who can be found (group undecipherable) not (repeat not) governor general, well and good. But if we are faced with risk of (?complete) administrative breakdown solely owing to (?lack of) titular French head of colony I must request authority appoint one for time being. Possible nominee exists in person of Reallon who holds personal rank of Governor General retired was at one time secretary general and has acted as Governor General.

Part 2.

Last of two parts.

6. AS my suggestion to hand over island to Fighting French (see my telegram 44992 of 15/8) immediately on occupation has proved impracticable need of establishment of ultimate British responsibility for administration of Madagascar for an indefinite interim period is manifest (?first opportunity) but as suggested above it may prove essential to appoint Titular French Governor General to make this regime work.

7. With or without one I must emphasize danger of complete breakdown in which (?word omitted) we have not necessary British staff to restore order if difficult and necessary period of cooling off is interrupted by introduction of Fighting French into picture. May I urgently request that whatever is upshot of discussion with De Gaulle I may have three to six months without advertisement of Fighting French in order to get island into shape for them.

8. Latest intelligence is that French troops are being withdrawn south from Tananarive to Antsirabe. If correct this will leave us with destruction of communications to overcome but no military forces to defeat in immediate future and thus force acceptance of terms. Such a situation will increase administrative problem referred to above especially with rains due three weeks time.

9. In my immediate following telegram are certain suggested amendments from proclamation No.1 which I now consider essential in any case.

1102/19 G.M.T.

NOTE BY C.6. (Tels)

Message delayed owing to being received corrupt.
C.6 (Telegrams).

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (P) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (P) (2)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D. of P. (2)
- D.H.I. (2)
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D. of P. (1)
- D.C. (2)
- D.S.D.
- Admiral Blake
- C.C.O. (2)
- D.P.D.
- N.I.D. 20
- Hd. of M. (29)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- Capt. Wharton.

War Office circulation.

- S. of S. P.U.S. P.U.S. (F) C.I.G.S.
- V.C.I.G.S. D.M.O. D.P. (2) D.D.H.O.
- (O)(H) M.O. 1, 5, 11. D.M.I. D.D.M.I. (1)
- D.F. (a) F.5. Brig. Jacob, Major
- Morton (10 Downing Street) 1st Sea
- Lord, Col. Spraggett (Admiralty)
- Head of War Reg. Admiralty, A.M.C.S.
- Foreign Secretary (2) Mr. Stirling,
- Foreign Office (2) Dominions Office
- (Mr. Kimber.)

570A C

MOST SECRET **MOST SECRET** M E S S A G E 1330Z/20 Sept. IN

From H.Q. Buttermere.

Date 20/9/42.
Recd. 1435A

CYPIER

Addressed Troopers.

IMMEDIATE

282545. 00194/Political. 19/9/42..

Reference my immediately preceding telegram No. 00193/.

Suggest (1) That para. 7 of Proclamation number under heading be replaced by addition to preamble as follows:-

"And whereas it is expressly declared nothing in the jurisdiction hereby provisionally established for the items (?) of present military emergency in any way affect or diminish sovereignty of France in Madagascar and its dependencies in which French flag will continue to be flown at all appropriate points".

(2) To avoid appearance of assumption of responsibility of detailed administration and to preserve French local administrative responsibilities to greatest possible extent, for word "full" in para. 1 substitute "final".

1330Z/20

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

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.(2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- N.A.1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.O.D.(H)(2)
- D. of P.(2)
- D.N.I.(4)
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D. of P.(Q)
- D.C.(2)
- Admiral Blake.
- C.C.O.(2)
- D.P.D.
- N.I.D.20
- Hd. of M.(2)
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.
- Capt. Wharton.
- D.S.D.

4 1102/19.

Recd. in War Reg. 2140/20.

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- F.5.
- Brig. Jacob.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

Z 50/19th September

OUT

To British Joint Staff Mission, Washington
 C. in C. India
 C. in C. Middle East
 C. in C. Persia & Iraq.
 C.G.S. South Africa.

Date 19.9.42.

CIPHER

From The War Office.

*Madagascar, progress.*IMMEDIATE

66596. Cipher (M.O.1) 19th September.

Most Secret. Personal from C.I.G.S. for Field Marshals
 Dill and Smuts and Cs. in C.

+

Madagascar operations. My 65901 (M.O.1) of 16/9.

French plenipotentiaries sent by Governor after broadcast
 appeal for Armistice arrived Majunga on 17th refused our terms
 and returned Tananarive 18th.

Sea borne operation against Tamatave opened early 18th.
 Commandant called upon to surrender refused and fired on our
 envoy. After short bombardment white flag hoisted 0754.
 Our troops landed and occupied town without incident. Found
 majority of garrison had departed for Tananarive on 17th.
 Our forces now advancing on Brickaville where Vichy strength
 reported as 60.

Advance on Tananarive from Majunga delayed by damaged
 bridges and many road blocks. Leading elements successfully
 engaged coy of Senegalese holding strong position covering
 demolished bridge 5 miles South of Andriba. Now reached
 point 90 miles North of Tananarive.

In North Maromandia was occupied 1200 hours 15th by
 det R.M. landed up river South of town. French force about
 100 strong surrendered to our column advancing from Ambanjia
 same day. Northern column continuing in direction Maromandia
 but delayed by broken bridges.

Our patrols from Majunga operating towards Port Berge with
 object clearing French forces between there and Maromandia.

1450/19.

Received from War Office at 1200/20.

+ 1935/16.

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

D.D.I.C. (2)
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 Duty Capt. (2)
 D.S.D.
 Admiral Blake
 C.C.O. (2)
 D.P.D.
 N.I.D. 20.
 Head of M. (2)
 I.P. (2)
 W.D.
 Capt. Wharton.

War Office Distribution:-

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 M.O. 1, 2, 5, 12.
 Brig. Jacob (Cabinet Offices)
 G.N.S.
 C.A.S.

War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - *cont.*

Indian Coastal Areas. Contd. squadrons when required come under operational control of Durban group. For other operations and administrations they will come under their local group commander.
(c) Short range R/C and striking forces. Short range R/C and air striking force squadrons will be operated and administered by their local group commanders.
(C. in C. E.F. 1358Z/19 to F.O.C.R.I.N. F.O. Ceylon.)

Madagascar. Report on operations for F.Ms Dill and Smuts and Cs. in C.
(W.O. 1450/19.) (See Lion Copy.)

Flying Boat Squadrons. A.275 19/9. Ref. C. in C. E.F. T.O.O. 0845/12.
(N.T. in W.R.-asked for)
(1) Your para 1. No major comments operational allocation of Flying Boat Squadrons.
(2) Main maintenance base 4 squadrons in No.207 Group area will be Kisumu.
(3) Forward maintenance bases for 2 squadrons Mombasa, Kraal, 2 squadrons Madagascar, location latter to depend on developments present operation reveal better site or sites than Diego Suarez.
(4) In general Mombasa Squadrons will operate as requisite from Mombasa, Dar Es Salaam, Lindi and (corrupt gp.)
(5) Similarly Madagascar Squadrons operate from Madagascar, Pamanzi (corrupt gp.) and Rodriguez Island.
(6) Your para 4. 38 Eastern Limit No. 207 Group is 65° E as proposed C. in C. E.F. This will encroach on area covered by India in the North. Suggest Eastern limit No. 207 Group (?) DIM East from south to Equator and from Equator northward revert to 60° E.
(7) Your 8, 9 and 11 agreed.
(8) No comments remaining paragraphs.
(Middle East H.Q. 1654Z/19 to India Command. C. in C. E.F. etc.)

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

→ LOUISBERG, PRESCOTT, WOODSTOCK. In accordance with instructions issued by N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, detach LOUISBERG, PRESCOTT and WOODSTOCK at daylight 19th with orders to return direct to Halifax at their best speeds. (C.T.F. 24, 0103/19 to C.T.U. 24.1.17 (R) N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., Admty., C. in C. U.S.Fleet.)

→ NASTURTIUM, LUNENBURG, WEYBURN. In accordance with instructions issued by N.S.H.Q. Ottawa detach NASTURTIUM, LUNENBURG and WEYBURN at daylight 19th with orders to return direct Halifax at their best speed. (?C.T.F.24 0121/19 to C.T. 24.1.3 (R) N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F. Admty., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

In view of convoy being shadowed 2 S/MS contact close to (? convoy) and ideal weather for S/M attack request you ask N.S.H.Q. reconsider detaching 3 Corvettes to permit their retention at least temporarily and until situation clears. C.T. 24 pass to other addressees.

(C.T.U. 24.1.3 0435Z/19 to C.T. 24 (R) N.S.H.Q. Admty., F.O.N.F., Connav.)

Your 2213/18 and A.M. 1728/11. In view of C.T.U. 21.1.3's 0435/19 it is suggested that LOUISBERG, PRESCOTT, WOODSTOCK and NASTURTIUM, LUNENBURG, WEYBURN remain with their convoys to U.K. Endeavour will be made to equip these ships with Oerlikons upon arrival.

(D.O.D.(H) Approved A.C.N.S.(T) 1154A/19 to N.S.H.Q.)

→ NASTURTIUM, LUNENBURG and WEYBURN are to return to S.C.100 and LOUISBERG, PRESCOTT and WOODSTOCK to return to H.X.207. Corvettes are to remain with these convoys until arrival U.K.

(N.S.H.Q. 1502Z/19 to NASTURTIUM, LOUISBERG, (R) C.T.U. 24.1.3; C.T.U. 24.1.17.)

U/B. U-Boat by D/F at 0532/19 in your vicinity on 5650 k/cs made sighting report. (N.S.H.Q. 0722Z/19 to C.T.U. 24.1.17, C.T.U. 24.1.3 (R) Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., Opanav, C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F.)

O.N.131. C.T.U. 24.1.13 in SAGUENAY plus SKEENA, SACKVILLE, WETASKIWIN, GALT, AGASSIZ, ANEMONE^{*} sailed for O.N.131. None fitted with H/F D/F. Latest Q.J.A. held 147. (C.T.G. 24.7 0920/19 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav etc.)

→ U/Bs. S.C.100. S.C.100, S/M sighted 0916Z/19 in 54.30 N. 41.18 W. (C.T.U. 24.1.3, 0920Z/19 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav etc.)

S.C.100, S/M sighted 1105Z/19 in 55.35 N. 41.02 W. (C.T.U. 24.1.3 1120Z/19 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24, Admty., etc.)

/U/B ...

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/B.

Inconclusive D/F bearings on 5650 k/cs at 0532Z/19 suggest that O.N.130 may have been reported. E barred procedure used.
(D.D.I.C. 0959A/19 to Escorts of O.N. 130)

Movements
Summary.

1800 G.M.T/19.

Ship	Position	Course.	Speed.
VIMY	} 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	065°	9
BURDOCK			
with convoy	54° N. 31° W.	251°	15
WHITEHALL	48° N. 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	063°	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
S/M O.15.			
(D.O.D.(F) 1057Z/19 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)			

WINCHELSEA.

Your 1916/18 (WINCHELSEA to remain with Task Unit 24.1.12) Concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1128A/19 to F.O.N.F.)

PENELOPE.

Sailing PENELOPE when ready about 21/9 to Bermuda via Point. (C) 34.50 N. 69.25 W. Onward route to Portsmouth via (D) 37.40 56.58.
(E) 42.40 47.33. (F) 47.05 35.55.
(G) 49.40 33.30. (H) 50.20 20.20.
(J) 49.30 07.40. S. of A. 17 knots until 015° W. then 22 knots.
(Connav 1245/19 to Port Director Norfolk (R) C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Atlantic Fleet, C.E.S.F., N.O.B. Bermuda, Admty., C. in C. W.A., S.B.N.O. W.A.)

Attacks on
O.N.127.

Following personal views of Woodward, Vice Commodore O.N.127 who has not been able to consult Commodore Cochrane are forwarded for your consideration (begins) "Now that columns are 5 cables apart, U-Boats appear to attack by day on opposite courses between columns using angle gyros. Suggested counter-measures one or more of following (A) close columns to 3 cables, (B) zig-zag by day, (C) stagger columns. (Ends.)
(C.O.A.C. 1256Z/19 to C. in C. W.A. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Wreck.

Sunken wreck aground in 5 fathoms of water 11.05 N. 60.52 W.
(U.S. Navcom 1350/19 to Admty.)

O.15.

1637/18. E.T.A. 020° W. 0800/18. Diving by day east of 020° W. when estimated distance per day will be 130 miles.
(C.C.N.F. 1546Z/19 to Admty., F.O.S.)

/Westomp ...

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.Westomp,
position.

Your 1745Z/18 is impossible for Western local escort force with its present 8 groups in addition to "Bangor" class minesweeping limits maximum period at sea to 7 days.

(2) With 7 days cycle Westomp cannot be farther East than about 051° W.

(3) With 8 days cycle Westomp cannot be farther East than about 049° W.

(4) Request position Westomp be left to discretion of F.O.N.F. as proposed in my 1615Z/13.

(N.S.H.Q. 1547Z/19 to C.T.F. 24 (R) C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty., C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S) C. in C. W.A., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C.)

WOENSDRECHT.

My 1512/15. Tug CONFIDENT arrived with SS WOENSDRECHT in tow. Ship broke in 2 forward of engine room and stern portion open. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad (Port of Spain) 1752Q/19 to S.B.N.O. W.A. (R) Admty., S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica.)

20 Escort
Group.

Following is Cominch 2108/18 action to Cinclant information C.T.F.24. "C. in C. W.A. 1438/16. In view of limited endurance "Esses" and trials of oiling at sea, Admiralty desires retain control

20th Escort Group when operating west of "Chop" on condition U.S. Authorities concerned be kept fully informed. Advise if satisfactory." Following is Cinclant 0007/19 action Cominch information C.T.F.24 "Cominch 2108/18 affirmative". (Cominch 1651Z/19 to Admty.)

U/B
Positions.

19th S/M Estimate and U.S. Submarine Notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1656/19.)

LACONIA
search.

Navy Dept. would like to be informed of any information and action taken with regard to search for LACONIA's boats. (B.A.D. 1711Z/19 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.) Reply: R.A.W.A. 1259Z/20.

AQUITANIA,
MAURETANIA.

SS AQUITANIA, S. of A. about 18 knots, will leave New York on 19/9 for Suez via Rio de Janeiro and Cape.

2. SS. MAURETANIA will carry out a similar voyage leaving New York probably early October.
3. Ships will proceed unescorted but where necessary air and surface A/S precautions should be arranged. In order to minimize the distance that these ships will be from possible life saving craft, Cs. in C. are requested to arrange for such A.M.Cs and large warships as can be spared from other operations to be stationed at intervals along their route.

(D.O.D.(F) Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 1807A/19 to C. in C. E.F. F.O.R.S.C.A., C. in C. Med., R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A.)

AQUITANIA. Following condemnation by Bureaux Marine Inspection of 22 30-foot life boats quota, War Dept. considered

/necessary ...

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War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - conts. -

AQUITANIA,
MAURETANIA.
~~conts.~~

necessary cancel embarkation troops schedule for today until remedial measure effected. No 30-foot boats obtainable but have arranged with Army transport service to supply 26-foot boats as replacement and we will provide additional buoyancy apparatus to cover capacity plus 25%. Vessel move to army base station island Saturday morning to vacate pier 90 for QUEEN MARY. Hope to complete life boat installation in time to embark Sunday evening sailing Monday 21/9.
(M.W.T. New York 1809Z/19 to D.S.T.)

VANOC,
VETERAN,
River
Steamers.

Sailed 1100Z/(?16) 9 River Steamers escorted by VANOC and VETERAN to St. Johns N.F. routed through L, 044° 30' N. 061° 00' W. M, 046° 20' N. 052° 40' W. N, 047° 31' N. 052° 15' W. Speed 12 knots, St. Johns N.F. 1000Z/18th. When ready for passage request 9 River Steamers be sailed to Iceland escorted by VANOC and VETERAN for onward routing to U.K. Admty. 1248A/12 refers.
(C.O.A.C. 1819Z/19 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty. etc.)

U/B.

U-boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made sighting report of convoy or important unit at 1351Z/19th. ENIGMA 10510 k/cs.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1843/19 to HIGHLANDER (R) C.T.24.) *next page*

Shipping
Routes.

Your 1945/14 (N.T. in W.D.) concur as a temporary measure. Consider that further adjustment of routes may be necessary because of effect of weather on air coverage and length of voyage for escorts. Routes of convoys your 1112/18 will be amended to conform.
(Cominch 1845/19 to Admty. (R) Cinclant, C.T.F.24, N.S.H.Q., C. in C. W.A., B.A.D.)

O.15.

2- p. 573.

Allied S/M Notice. Dutch O.15. Unescorted estimated 48° N. 51° 30' W. at 1800 G.M.T/19. Course 063° speed 9.5.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1856/19.)

A.T.23.
N.A.16.

Convoy A.T.23 sails from New York 25/9 and is joined by Convoy N.A.16 from Halifax.
2. Destinations Belfast, Liverpool, Clyde.
3. Escort will be provided by T.F.38 consisting of U.S.S. ARKANSAS and U.S. Destroyers PLUNKETT, NIBLACK, BENSON, GLEAVES, MAYO, MADISON, LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES and C.F. HUGHES.
4. C.T.F. 38 is requested to detail destroyers to escort Belfast, Liverpool and Clyde portions of the convoy.
5. On completion of escort duty ARKANSAS will proceed to Clyde and destroyers to Londonderry.
6. E.T.A. of different portions of convoy at U.K. ports should be signalled 24 hours before arrival at North Channel.
7. H.Q. Fighter Command is requested to provide maximum fighter protection.

/8. ...

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19.9.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.A.T.23.
N.A.16.

8. Fighter protection code word "Corncrake".
9. On arrival C.T.F.38 is requested to report proposed date of sailing of T.F.38 for return voyage to New York, on receipt of which information Admty. will promulgate route. There will be no transports.
(D.O.D.(H) 1903A/19 amended 2337A/22 to C.T.F. 38, C. in C. W.A.)

Lourenco
Marques.

Connav's 1302/17, request you will obtain amplification as to (a) what is strategic material, (b) what is the objection to use Lourenco Marques, (c) what ships are affected.
(D.T.D. 1957A/19 to B.A.D. (R) C. in C. S.A.)
Reply: B.A.D. 2343Z/21.

ILEX.

Your 0141/26/7. ILEX will be required for operations prior to joining her station. Request you will ensure that she is fully worked up before leaving Trinidad.
2. Working up period may be extended to 5 weeks.
(D.O.D.(F) 2017A/19 to B.A.D. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A. ILEX.)

Lifeboats.

Distress signal has been intercepted from 2 lifeboats in 044° 50' N. 042° 00' W.
(BURNHAM 2025Z/19 to F.O.N.F.)

O.N.127.

Request names and latest information concerning ships sunk or missing other than F.J. WOLFE, MARIT II, DAGHILD, FJORDAAS, EMPIRE OIL, and LIBERTY GLO may be signalled as soon as available.
(D.T.D. 2035Z/19 to Connav.)

U/B
Campaign.

Connav Serial 19. WEST LASHAWAY (U.S) torpedoed sunk 300 or 400 miles east of Trinidad 30/8. HELEN FORSEY (British) Schooner shelled sunk 28.35 N. 57.35 W. 6/9.
(Connav 2046/19, Cdr. U.S. Naval Forces in Europe (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)

U/B.

U-Boat estimated in your vicinity has made a sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 1945Z/19th.
(Cominch 2048/19 to HIGHLANDER (R) C.T.24, Admty.) *see previous page*

U/B.

Sub reported 1930/19 in 049° 01' N. 066° 59' W.
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2057Z/19 to All ships Gaspe area (R) Connav, Admty. etc.)
Suspicious object reported at 1800/19th in 049° 20' N. 064° 36' W. Aircraft investigating.
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2120Z/19 to All Ships Gaspe Area, C.T.24)

/My 2057/19 ...

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - conts.

- U/B. My 2057/19. Suspicious object sighted 2000/19
(contd.) in 049° 13' N. 066° 57' W.
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2221Z/19 to All ships Gaspe
area (R) C.T.F. 24 etc.)
- Sub attack Para A. PETROFUEL attacked 37.10 N. 74.21 W.
& sighting about 1750Z/19. P B Y 5 attacks sub on surface
summary. 27.02 N. 61.32 W. 1950Z/12/8. P B Y 5 A and
D D attack sub on surface 20.18 N. 73.19 W.
1100Z/21/8 course 185°. Green and white
camouflage markings on C/T. Army plane attacks sub on surface
12.34 N. 60.10 W. 1845Z/18, course 90.
Para B. C G Picket boat sights sub on surface 30.58 N. 81.07 W.
0825Z/19 course 34°. S.C.100 sights sub 54.30 N. 41.18 W.
0916Z/19. Plane attacks sub 34.44 N. 72.55 W. 1230Z/19. S.C.
100 sights sub about 55° N. 41.02 W. 1105Z/19.
Para C. P C 419 attacks sound contact 21.29 N. 83.28 W. 1957Z/31/8.
B.24 attacks sub 0503 S. 11.40 W. 18/9. GANANOQUE attacks sound
contact 48.50 N. 68.05 W. 2100Z/17. Panam plane sights sub
08.15 N. 57.05 W. 1900Z/18. Cap Plane sights sub 30.39 N.
80.57 W. 2140Z/18. U.S.S. COWIE attacks sound contact 43.30 N.
70.07 W. 0222Z/19.
Para D. C G 6 attacks echo and possible propeller sound contact
22.35 N. 78.15 W. 1620Z/9/7. U.S.S. INGHAM attacks sound contact
60.06 N. 26.16 W. 1001Z/2/9.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2106/19 to Admty. for O.I.C.)
- U/B. U.Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has made
sighting report of a convoy or important unit at
2012Z/19th and at 2135Z/19th.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2158/19 to U.S.S. SPENCER,
C.T.24, Admty.)
- U/Bs. Following passed G.B.7 A G "Shore watcher reports
sighting possible submarine at 049° 20' N. 064°
36' W. at 1800 G.M.T. today T.O.O. 2101Z/19.
Shore watcher reports submarine in vicinity 049°
01' N. 066° 59' W. at 1930 G.M.T. T.O.O. 2210Z/19."
(C.O.A.C. 2257Z/19 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav etc.)
- Unknown Ship. Following from Portishead Radio at 2344 G.M.T.
on 8290 k/cs band from KVOF*. MSG1 CK54.
Distress messages were intercepted here several
times during the day. Due to severe static
these messages could not be received with any
accuracy. Following is believed to be approximate text of these
messages "SOS SOS Lifeboats from BLVZ** (or possibly BDVZ***)
34.52 N. 42.00 W.
(Portishead Radio No T.O.O/19.)
* ESSO WILLIAMSBURGH. ** (Undecypherable) *** OCEAN VISTA.

War Diary.

19.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

PENTLAND
FIRTH
sunk.

Regret to report loss on 19/9 of H.M.T.
PENTLAND FIRTH in collision off New York.
All crew saved.
(B.A.M.R. 2337/19 to Admt. (R) S.B.N.O.W.A.,
N.S.H.Q.)

QUEEN MARY.

New York arrived 19/9 QUEEN MARY.
(N.S.H.Q. 2359Z/19 to D.S.T.)

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War Diary.19.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.Situation.

Digest Serial No.240.

- R/C Buin area 18/9 indicates 27 burnt-out barges following previous days air attack. Aerodrome Buna still unserviceable but several A/A positions this area. Considerable enemy activity observed between Buna and Kokoda.
- (2) Beaufighters attacked Buna Kokoda Road 18/9.
 - (3) Situation static with patrols active Ioribaiwa area.
 - (4) Allied patrols active against isolated enemy parties south coast Goodenough Bay. Some indications these parties heading towards Buna.
 - (5) Possible flare path and possibly 2 vessels observed west side Sawatotoi Bay (north coast Normandy Island) by Catalina night 17/9.
 - (6) Photographs Buka 17/9 show 8 heavy bombers (2 damaged) and 3 fighters on aerodrome.
 - (7) 1 Fortress attacked Lakunai night 17/9 starting fires. Another dropped bombs Vulcan area without observing results.
 - (8) Lae Salamaua aerodromes bombed by Fortresses night 17/18 causing fires. B.A.D. pass to Opanav.
- (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0720Z/19 to Admty. etc.)

Modernising
H.A.
armament of
6" cruisers.

Amendment to A.M. 1512/18.
(Admty. 1434A/19.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

All U/B positions estimated at 1200Z/19 are very indefinite. (list)
(D.D.I.C. 1432A/19, 1454A/19.)

War Diary.

20.9.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

P.Q.18.

The submarines covering P.Q.18 moved into new zones by 0001 today. The convoy was weather-bound all today in Dvina Roads, but 5 ships passed up harbour this evening and it is hoped to berth all ships tomorrow. Attack at 1415A by 24 Ju.88 was driven off without damage to the ships, 2 of the enemy aircraft being shot down. Molotovsk was bombed at 1500A but no material damage was caused.

Q.P.14:
LEDA sunk ^{by U.435}
SOMALI
torpedoed ^{by}
U.703.

*At 1700 a
ship was
torpedoed

R.A.(D) H.F. reported at 1059A today that Q.P.14 was being shadowed by at least 5 U-boats and 2 aircraft: LEDA (1st M/S F) (one of the escorts) was sunk by a submarine *U.435 at 0530 today about 250 miles N.W. of Bear Island. R.A.(D)'s position at 1059A was 76° 10' N. 1° 50' E, steering 240° at 8 knots.* R.A.(D) transferred to MILNE at 1800 today and in order to save SCYLLA and AVENGER from heavy U-boat menace he detached the former to Seidisfiord and the latter to Scapa (fuelling at Seidisfiord en route) with escort of 3 destroyers. At 2000A he reported that SOMALI had been *torpedoed in the engine room and was in tow of ASHANTI. *by U.703. (G.D.443) He asked for as many Catalinas as possible to assist in keeping down S/Ms.

The four boats of the 21st M.L.F. (A/S striking force) are to be withdrawn from the Faeroes.

S.B.N.O. North Russia reports that Luostari Aerodrome was fairly effectively bombed almost every night last week and Banak was reached on two occasions.

South Atlantic.

Two unidentified ships were 14 miles off Ascension at 0125Z today.

War Diary.

20.9.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

p. 196
In the new scheme for the sailing of trans-Atlantic convoys (see 8/9) New York is to supersede Halifax as assembly port for H.X. and S.C. convoys.

Convoy F.H.1 arrived at Halifax from St. Johns, N.F. today.

Trinidad reported a submarine on the surface damaged by air attack at 1634A today in 11° 10' N. 56° 45' W. Further aircraft were despatched.

U/B attacks
on S.C.100.

Three U-boat attacks were made on S.C.100 today and EMPIRE HARTEBEESTE was torpedoed and sunk at 1318Z in 56° 25' N. 38° 5' W. (about 300 miles S.E. of Cape Farewell, Greenland) five S/Ms were sighted on the surface between 1038Z and 1331Z.

A distress signal was intercepted at 0118 today from two lifeboats of OLAF FOSTENES, about 470 miles S. by E. of Cape Race (see 19/9).

Australia and New Zealand.

New Guinea.

5 Beaufighters attacked 5 barges and a tug at Lae wharf today and it is believed all the vessels were burnt out and the wharf possibly damaged.

War Diary.

20.9.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

A.C.I.C. R.-Adml. C.E. Morgan has assumed the duties of A.C.I.C. (A.C.I.C., 1000A/20.)

Faroes Intend withdrawing the 4 boats of 21st M.L. Flotilla from Faroes of first opportunity after 7/10. (?If) suitable weather for passage to Orkneys, you should sail them accordingly. (A.C.O.S., 1109/20 and 1700A/21 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

CAMPBELL, C. in C. H.F. 1321/19 and C. in C. Nore's 2314/19.
MONTROSE,
MACKAY, Approved for C. in C. H.F. to retain CAMPBELL and MONTROSE until 5/10.
*WORCESTER, 2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail MACKAY, WINDSOR, WORCESTER and WINDSOR on completion of present duty and WALPOLE on 25th September to rejoin Nore Command.
WALPOLE, **p. 586*
FERNIE etc. 3. Approved for C. in C. Nore to retain FERNIE until return of CAMPBELL and MONTROSE.
4. C. in C. H.F. para. 4(b). Extension of working up of the three Hunts is acceptable, but ROTHERHAM, PORCUPINE, QUALITY and HOLCOMBE will be required for service between 26 and 30/10. (D.O.D.(H), 2244A/20.)

Movements.

PRINCESS Leaves Inverary at 0530A/20 via searched Channels to position I.J. 4530. E.T.A. 2000A/20. S. of IRIS. A. 10 knots. Request air protection. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0056A/20 to 13 and 82 Groups.)

A.F.D. 17. Weather permitting intend sailing A.F.D. 17 in tow of tugs FREEBOOTER, NIMBLE and SCHELDE escorted by ACHROITE, FOXTROT, INDIAN STAR for Reykjavik at 0800/21. Estimated S. of A. 4 knots. Codeword "Congress". N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to provide fighter protection as far as practicable and C. in C. W.A. Air A/S escort. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0100A/20.) **p. 585*
My 0100A/20. Operation postponed owing to weather. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1923A/20.)

KRAKOWIAK. KRAKOWIAK sailed. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0420/20.)
Leave P.W. 220 forthwith and proceed to Portsmouth.
{WALPOLE} (C. in C. Plymouth, 1009A/20 to KRAKOWIAK.)

/NELSON ...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

NELSON, Scapa departures NELSON with BLEAN and WHADDON.
 FORMIDABLE, (A.C.O.S., 0420A/20.)
 VICTORIOUS, NELSON and FORMIDABLE with BLYSKAWICA, SHIKARI,
 RODNEY. ZETLAND, BLEAN, and WHADDON passed Inchcolm, May
 Island 1523/20.
 (C. in C. Rosyth, 1755/20 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)
 F.O.C. Aircraft Carriers Home Fleet in VICTORIOUS and RODNEY
 with BLYSKAWICA, SHIKARI, ZETLAND, BLEAN and WHADDON passed out
 May Island 1638/20 for Scapa.
 (C. in C. Rosyth, 1757A/20.)

L. 23. Arrived L.23 and BARBARA ROBB.
 (TITANIA, 0701A/20.)

BULLDOG, C. in C. H.F. 1935A/19. Request BULLDOG, AMAZON
 AMAZON. proceed to Clyde with LONDON, CUMBERLAND.
 (C. in C. W.A., 0953A/20 to C.S.18.)

WAYLAND. My 1129/13 and 1446A/17.
 Intend sailing WAYLAND from Needles at 0730/21
 for Plymouth for onward sailing to Clyde.
 (ii) Routed Q.Z.S. 284 and 293 to 180° Portland Bill 3½ miles,
 thence 180° Portland 10 miles, 050° 10' N. 003° 00' W., 180°
 Start Point 10 miles, 050° 09'18" N. 004° 19'36" W, and Q.Z.S.
 278. S. of A. 13 knots. E.T.A. 1600/21.
 (iii) (? Acceptance) trial will be carried out on passage.
 (iv) WAYLAND will be escorted by KRAKOWIAK (S.O.) and ALBRIGHTON
 to Plymouth and onward towards Clyde, parting company to return
 to Plymouth by daylight 23rd. BLEASDALE will act as extra
 escort as far as Start Point then returning to Portsmouth.
 (v) Air Escort will be provided. Category one. Codeword
 "Device". BLEASDALE return passage "Device 2".
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1043A/20.) * See previous page

DELHI. Intend to sail DELHI for Belfast passing May
 Island 2100/22.
 (C. in C. Rosyth, 1059A/20.)

4th M.S.F. To relieve pressure on Dartmouth during next few
 days it is desired that 4th M.S.F. should work
 temporarily from Portland.
 2. Request confirmation that this can be arranged conveniently.
 3. It is intended 4th M.S.F. should proceed to Portland on
 completion of sweeping tomorrow.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1403A/20 to F.O.I.C. Portland.)
 Your 1403A/20. Quite convenient.
 (F.O.I.C. Portland, 1457A/20 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

P.C. 74. Sailed P.C. 74 in accordance with my 1648A/18.
 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1450A/20.) N.T. 21/22.

/Trawlers ...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.- Contd.

Trawlers for Gibraltar. My 1137A/17 and A.M. 1544A/17. "Bucket" group can be sailed (1) on 22/9 with FLUELLEN, HORATIO and 134th H.D.M.L. Flotilla or (2) on 23rd with STROMA and OTHELLO in addition or (3) on 24/9 if desirable accept delay for inclusion of EMPIRE MINOTAUR and EMPIRE GNOME. Request decision. If (1) is decided upon should STROMA and H.M.S. OTHELLO be held till tugs are ready. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1707A/20 to Admty.)

ESCAPADE. Your 1402A/20. Request you will sail ESCAPADE for Scapa on completion. (R.A.D., 1750A/20 to N.O.I.C. Belfast.)

P. 51. S.5's 1615/18. P.51 sailed Needles 1920/20. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1930A/20 to C. in C. Plymouth)

CHELSEA. Sailed CHELSEA from Lough Foyle at 2000A. E.T.A. Hvalfjord 1800A/22 for fuel and onward routeing to St. Johns N.F. (Cdre. Londonderry, 2030A/20 to C.C.N.F.)
See p. 601

Operations.

Patrols. My 2115A/19. "Befoul" arrived. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 0232A/20.) M.Ls 139 and 137 at 'D' Buoy from 2030. (V.A. Dover, 1654A/20.)

Mining.

Lyme Bay sweep. Your 1954A/18 "Ounce V" sailed 0634A/20. (F.O.I.C. Portland 0718A/20 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

M.S.N. 3. My 2004/13. Intend leaving Loch Ewe 2015/20 and arriving at position of operations 0700/21. Weather permitting sweeping will continue until p.m. 25th subsequently returning to Port ZA. (M/S 15, 1056A/20.) *See next page. (PETERHEAD)*
Rejoin PLOVER forthwith broke down in 059° 17' N. 005° 38' W. (M/S 15, 2148A/20 to LLANDUDNO.)
Am proceeding to 059° 24' N. 005° 36' W. by 0600/21 at 10½ knots. (M/S 15, 2158A/20 to PLOVER.)
My 2030A/20. Am towing PLOVER 059° 19' N. 005° 36' W. at 2200, course 110°, speed 4 knots. (SCOTT, 2202A/20.)
My 2202/20. PLOVER defect made good. She is proceeding under own steam. (? SCOTT, 2320A/20.)

/Western ...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

- Western Channel Sweep. Intend proceeding with five ships of 4th M.S.F. at 0700 tomorrow to commence area contained in your 1153A/17. *M.T. & M.D.*
(ELGIN, 1214A/20 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- Sweep of Q.Z.X.810. A.M. Q.Z.X. 810 two laps swept without result. Weather now unsuitable for clearance. Proceeding Yarmouth, Intend to proceed at 0545, sweeping from 0715, leaving area 1545 arriving Cork 1930. (M/S 9, 1555A/20 to C. in C. Nore.)
- Liverpool. At 0905A/20 one magnetic mine exploded by Sweepers. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1610A/20.)
- RUBIS. *See next page* My P.C.S. are 68° 08' N. 8° 58' E., 208°, 9 knots.
(RUBIS, 2000A/20.)
- U-Boats.
- U-Boat reported. Intercept from ship No. 13 of O.N. 131 Convoy. Periscope sighted port quarter 130°, 1227Z, ends.
(Valentia Radio, 1235/20.)
(Port Patrick, 1335/20.)
- U-Boat attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 47° 20' N. 14° 49' W. Sighted on surface and observed to submerge on course 104°, speed 10 knots.
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1641/20.)
My 1641. Have attacked enemy with depth-charges. Estimate no hits.
(A.O.C. 19 Group, 1700/20.)
- Casualties and Defects.
- M.L. 155. My 1512/19. M.L. 155 now slipped and damage more extensive than thought at first.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1039/20.)
- FREEBOOTER. *See p. 582 (A.F.D. 17)* FREEBOOTER out of action due to engine defects. Estimated time to effect repairs 48 hours.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 1551A/20.)
- PETER HEAD. *See previous page (M.S.N. 3.)* Sailed M/S 15's 1056/20. PETER HEAD detained owing to boiler defects.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 2045A/20 to R.A.M.)

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q. 18. From Jan Mayen at 0840/19. Heard A/C over north coast proceeding N.E.
Q.P. 14. LEDA sunk. (U.435) (A.C.I.C., 0807A/20 to Admty., (R) C. in C. H.F.)
SOMALI My P.C.S. 076° 10' N. 001° 50' E., 240°, 8 knots, torpedoed. (U.702) passing through 075° 25' N. 003° 50' W., thence

Q. All convoy except TROUBADOUR (straggler) in company as well as OLIGARCH and "WORCESTER." (U.435) TROUBADOUR escorted by ONSLAUGHT have joined remainder of Force P which leave Spitzbergen a.m. today. LEDA sunk by submarine at 0530 today. Convoy being shadowed by at least 5 U-Boats and 2 aircraft. Request Catalina. Weather report 4882 1273. Have closed down on G.A. routine. *U.435 (6-2-44)

(R.A.D.) H.F., 1059A/20 to Admty., C. in C. H.F., V.A.2, C.S.18, A.C.I.C.)

No R/C Altafiord possible today due to weather.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1420A/20.)

My 1541/12. Fairly effective bombing Luostari aerodrome almost every night during past week and Banak reached on two occasions.

Two Ju.88 and one D.O.18 jettisoned two torpedoes each when attacked by Russian aircraft.

Advance patrol on right flank of northern sector inflicted exceptionally heavy losses on two German Battalions during 15 hour engagement on 13/14. Four part landing force, 800 men in all, carried out combined operation across Motovski Gulf night of 17/18. Several fortified positions destroyed, including four 75-millimetre guns. Enemy casualties 150 to 200 and Russians 80 killed and wounded. No prisoners taken. Force satisfactorily withdrawn despite air attack.

(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 1421A/20.)

Positions of submarines at 0800A/21 and movements for following 24 hours.

P.217 in zone K.104.

(E) RUBIS approx. position 66° 25' N. 05° 30' E., 10 knots.

(F) P.221 68° N. 08° E., 10 knots.

(G) UNIQUE 69° 30' N. 07° 01' E., 9 knots.

(H) P.45 69° 30' N. 08° 02' E., 9 knots.

(J) TRIBUNE 69° 27' N. 09° 25' E., through 69° 02' N. 08° 01' E., 10 knots.

(K) TIGRIS 69° 15' N. 10° 35' E. though 68° 40' N. 08° 40' E. 10 knots.

(L) UREDD 70° N. 13° E. through 68° 40' N. 08° 40' E. 8 knots.

(M) P.54 70° 15' N. 10° 40' E. through 69° 20' N. 07° 05' E. 8 knots.

(N) P.614 72° 20' N. 04° 20' E. 10 knots.

(O) P.615 72° 38' N. 04° 35' E. 10 knots.

Submarines, except P.217, are proceeding to Lerwick probably on the surface.

(F.O.S., 1619A/20.) See next page.

Your 1059A/20. Expect Catalinas from 0700A/21st until 1300A/21st followed by one Liberator until dark. May procedure "B" be used to assist A/C in homing on to convoy.

(A.C.I.C., 1655A/20 to R.A.D.H.F.)

/ (A) TIGRIS ...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - L.A.T.s.

P.Q.18. (A) TIGRIS proceed forthwith diving by day to
Q.P. 14. zone K.153 and K.154 to patrol vicinity of 069°
LEDA sunk. (U.435) 25', 016° 30'.
SOMALI (B) TRIBUNE proceed forthwith diving by day to
torpedoed. (U.703) zone K.151 and K.152 to patrol vicinity of 069°
(Contd.) 14', 015° 35'.
(F.O.S., 1802A/20.)
My 1619/20. Amend as follows:- Paragraph (j)
TRIBUNE in zone K.152. Paragraph (k) TIGRIS in zone K.153.
(F.O.S., 1832A/20.)
Report immediately whether P.Q.18 has arrived safely, as
Germans are making sweeping claims regarding our losses.
(D.O.D.(H.), 1931A/20 to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)
In order to save SCYLLA and AVENGER from heavy U-Boat
menace I transferred to MILNE at 1800/20 and detached SCYLLA to
Seidisfjord and AVENGER with 3 destroyers to Scapa, destroyers
fuel at Seidisfjord if necessary.
2. I will retransfer to SCYLLA at Seidisfjord p.m./22nd and
proceed to Scapa at 28 knots.
3. SOMALI*torpedoed in engine room, at present in tow of ASHANTI.
4. Request as many Catalinas as possible to escort convoy Q.P.14
to assist in keeping down S/Ms. * by U.703. (L.3.443.)
(R.A.D.H.F., 2000A/20 to Admty., C. in C. H.F.)
Pass to Polyarno. Begins. For S.R.A.F.O., S.B.N.O. Lakhta,
Vaenga, Gryaznaya from 18 Group. As Altafiord Force may leave
for Narvik after 0800A/21 P.R. of area high priority 21/9.
T.O.O. 2025A/20. Ends.
(18 Group, 2025A/20 to Admty.)
Your 1931A/20. Information is contained in my 1852A/19.
Convoy has been weather bound all day in Dvina Roads but five
ships passed up harbour this evening and it is hoped to berth
all ships tomorrow. Attack by 24 Ju.88 at 1415A today driven
off without damage to ships. Two enemy A/C shot down.
Molotovsk bombed by seven Ju.88 at 1500A. No material damage.
13 ships lost and 27 have arrived. All escorts and rescue
ships arrived.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 2053A/20 to Admty.)
18 Group 2025A/20. Most important results of R/C
Altafjord 21/9 be transmitted to U.K. without delay.
(H.Q.C.C., 2110A/20 to S.R.A.F.O.)
Cancel P.R. Narvik 21/9 and substitute following. R/C
is required 21/9 of shipping route between Lofoten Islands and
Altafjord detailed by S.N.S.O. H.Q.C.C. Direct to Navigator
Leuchars 13/9 on Chart 2228, aircraft to land to Vaenga. If
negative landing forecast Vaenga received, aircraft to proceed
up shipping route as far as possible and return Sumburgh. If
weather north of Lofotens makes this R/C impossible, photographic
R/C Nervik should be attempted.
(H.Q.C.C., 2130A/20 to P.R.U. Benson, S.R.A.F.O. North
Russia.)
At 1752/20 reliable fix of U-Boat in 073° 31' N. 002° 30' W.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2146A/20.)

/P.Q. Convoys ...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

P.Q. Convoys. It is understood that M.O.W.T. representative Reykjavik is provided with copies of all signals relating to programme for P.Q. convoys except those containing sailing dates. You are authorized to inform him as to sailing dates with such notice as will enable him to carry out his duties.
(D.O.D.(H.), 2201A/20 to A.C.I.C.)
Request early reply to my 1202C/6/9.
(Ad. Miles, 1204C/20 to Admty.)

PRAGUE,
AMSTERDAM.

Your 1143A/19. ^{p.561} WALPOLE will provide escort. Regret no additional escort available from 35 Buoy to Scapa.
(A.C.O.S., 1036/20 to N.O.I.C. Invergordon.)

S.D. 32.

Estimated situation at 2058 tonight. S.D.32, CASTLETON, WELLS off Skagi to southward.
(A.C.I.C., 1303A/20.)
Sailed my 1718/19 at 1940/20. E.T.A. 1545/23.
(A.C.I.C., 2021A/20.)

Convoy for
Gibraltar.

A convoy composed of the following ships will be ready to leave Clyde for Gibraltar on 2/10.
Admiralty Colliers. BLAIRESH, MACBRAE, and EDENCRAIG.

Admiralty Tanker. SAN ADOLFO.

Merchant Ships. FLAMINIAN and PACIFIC - Final destination of 2 latter ships is Lisbon.

2. Escort to a M.O.M.P. will be provided by:-

(a) 4 escort vessels.

(b) 11th Trawler Group.

3. Speed of advance $7\frac{1}{2}$ knots.

4. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail as many merchant ships for U.K. as can be made ready and escorted from Gibraltar to M.O.M.P. where escorts other than trawlers will change over.

5. Destination of 11th Trawler Group is Gibraltar.

6. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to:-

(a) Provide escorts as in para. 1(a).

(b) Sail and route convoy arranging M.O.M.P. with F.O.C.N.A. direct.

(D.O.D.(H.), 1941A/20.)

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.MIRROR,
LEYLAND.

Cable ship MIRROR escorted by LEYLAND was expected to arrive Ponta Delgada early a.m./19. If not arrived at time of receipt this message request you organize search.

(2) Last known position of ships 037° 48' N., 026° 20' W., at about 2000A/18.

(F.O.C.N.A., 0654A/20 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada (R) Admty. B.N.A. Lisbon, R.O. Ponta Delgada).

Your 0654A/20. Air search located ships 40 miles West of Ponta Delgada steering toward Sao Miguel.

(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1805/20 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar (R) Admty. N.A. Lisbon).

Your 0654/20 Portuguese Ministry of Marine report Naval Aircraft have sighted MIRROR apparently in normal condition 30 miles from Ponta Delgada.

(N.A. Lisbon, 2320A/20 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty etc).

Italian Ship
at Bougie.

Following from American Consul Algiers 19/9. Italian vessel approx. 7,000 tons arrived Bougie early in week to load iron ore for Italy. Expected to depart 20th or 21st.

(R.O. Tangier, 1140/20 to Admty, S.O.(I) Gib) Left, see 21/9.

Following from Tangier (quotes 1140/20).

(2) Report considered as reliable.

(S.O.(I) Gib., 1318A/20 to S.O.(I) Malta, S.O.(I) Med).

VANSITTART.

A.M. 1604/30/8. Intend to sail VANSITTART for U.K. 2030/20 routed through (A) 035° 50', 005° 59' (B) 35° 54', 08° 20' (C) 36.50 10° 15' (D) 40° 01', 15° 30' (E) 44° 59' 15° 30'

56° 15 Knots.

(2) Admty is requested to signal destination and C. in C. W.A. onward route.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1148/20 to Admty. etc).

My 1148/20. Sailed VANSITTART.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2002A/20).

SABIB
(P.212)

Bromage
BROMAGE may expect (some) friends playing leapfrog tomorrow.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1406A/20 to 8 S/M Flotilla).

Lifeboat
S O S.

~~ALFERRAREDE~~
Portuguese ship ~~ALFERRAREDE~~ reports received S O S from a lifeboat on 19th which was in 44° 50' N., 41° 59' W. Whaler had no receiving set and name of ship unknown. ~~ALFERRAREDE~~ proceeded at once to search but could find nothing.

(N.A. Lisbon, 1511A/20 amended 1106A/21 to S.O.(I) Gib. (R) Admty).

A/S Sweep

Sailed M.Ls. 458, 443, 173, 176 170, 463 for Anti-Sub. Sweep to St. Vincent Cape, thence to R/V with British SS. CARA off Huelva and escort coastwise to Gib.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1644A/20 to Admty).

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- M.A.R.I. My 2024/19, amendment to MA.R.I. my 1033/18 is still in force.
(D.T.D., 1016A/20 to R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A.)
- U/B S.L.122 A.M. 0041A/20. Further D/F at 0827Z/20 indicates U-boat still in your vicinity, probably reporting you.
(D.D.I.C., 1122A/20 to Escorts S.L.122).
- CHARON,
PRUDENT. Request confirmation that final destination H.M. Tugs CHARON and PRUDENT is Freetown.
(R.A.W.A., 1137Z/20 to Admty (R) NIMROD etc).
Arrival 19/9 PETUNIA escorting tugs CHARON and (?PRUDENT)
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1818Z/20 to Admty F.O.C.N.A.)
- ADRASTUS Your 1041/19 ADRASTUS arrived Lagos 18th sailed 19th due Matadi 22nd. She received diversion signal but had no charts which were supplied here.
R.A.W.A.F. 1940/19 to Lagos only also refers.
(N.T. in W.R.)
(N.O.I.C. Lagos, 1145Z/20 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty).
- ROBERTS Sail ROBERTS to Simonstown by route 9 S. of A. 11½ knots E.T.A. 1700C/23.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1252Z/20 to Admty etc).
- LACONIA search. Situation regarding search for LACONIA survivors.
(1) SS. EMPIRE HAVEN searched from p.m./16 to p.m./18. CORINTHIAN searching from a.m./19 to a.m./21.
(2) Area of Search N.W. and W. of 005° 05' S. 011° 38' W. to distance about 300 miles.
(3) About 1,000 passengers and crew and 1800 (Italy?) prisoners of war missing.
(4) U.S. aircraft from Ascension co-operating in search have sighted about 6 boats and 7 rafts with survivors on. None have been picked up by British ships.
(5) About 6 U-boats believed to have been in vicinity some probably searching for (?Tanker). 3 or 4 U-boats have been attacked by U.S. aircraft.
(6) 1 French cruiser and Sloop, French destroyers, presumably from Dakar, are in vicinity.
(7) Unidentified ship was in 004° 12' N., 013° 18' W. at 1646Z/16 and 2 unidentified ships 14 miles off Ascension at 0125Z/20.
(R.A.W.A., 1259Z/20 to B.A.D. Comsolantfor (R) Admty etc).

/My...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - ~~cont.~~

LACONIA search. Contd. My 1259Z/20. Have considered possibilities of AURORA escorted by PARTRIDGE and QUIBERON on return passage Pointe Noire to Freetown continuation search. But in view of time now elapsed intend ships to proceed through position X. 005° S., 006° E., and Z. 001° N., 001° E. to search for supply ship in calm weather area.

(R.A.W.A., 1301Z/20 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A. etc) Instructions by AURORA, see R.A.W.A., 1043Z/21.

My 1259Z/20. Is any information concerning LACONIA survivors recovered by Vichy ships available from U.S. sources in Dakar?

(R.A.W.A., 1437Z/20 to Admty (R) B.A.D.)

Convoy "Mincement" Ref. Convoy "Mincement" due Freetown 23/9. Are tankers ORANGELEAF (Br) DSUPA (Pan) NORVIK (Nor.) ALBERT L. ELLSWORTH (Nor) CISTULA (Dut) to sail in S.L.123? Request destinations. (N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1431Z/20 to Admty).

Shipping, Cape Horn. For information, following received from Connav. "Experienced shipping men Valparaiso state west-bound high powered ships do not require pilots and should invariably use Straits. Only small ships or low powered ships in ballast need use Patagonian channels and pilots and then only if west coast South America is destination. Tankers in particular should use Straits only as they are too long for channels". (D.T.D., 1519A/20 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation "Volley". Movements summary 2000Z. SIRIUS on patrol about 039° S. 018° E. PHOEBE on patrol about 039° S. 022° E. Minesweeper ROODEPOORT, STELLENBERG, FLORIDA on patrol about 037° 30' S., 019° 30' E. Minesweeper SOUTHERN BARRIER, TVERJE (■) on patrol about 037° 30' S., 023° 00' E. (C. in C. S.A., 1537C/20 to S.A. Stn).

FOO SHING (bombed 2/9). CERONIA 2/9 intercepted at 0510 G.M.T. on 500 k/cs when in 012° 50' N., 060° 51' E. following message (begins) AAAA De V P B Y gunned bombed. V P B Y allotted to British ship FOO SHING believed on passage to Calcutta. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1006B/20 to C. in C. E.F., Admty).

BULKOIL, oiling of ROYAL SOVERIGN etc. Alter immediately for new position AA which has latitude of reference position B less 001° 05' and longitude of B less 002° 17'. Adjust your speed so as to arrive at AA at 1200 G.M.T./26 to R/V with & fuel one battleship and one destroyer. You will be escorted to your destination by these ships. (Simonstown, 1628 G.M.T./20 to BULKOIL (R) Admty).

/Intend...

War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.BULKOIL
oiling of
ROYAL
SOVEREIGN
etc. Contd.

Intend sailing ROYAL SOVEREIGN escorted by
ATHONY and DUNCAN for Freetown at 1200Z/21.
2. Ships will fuel at St. Helena from BULKOIL
and escort her to Freetown routed through:-
B. 008° S., 18° 10' W. C. 00° 10' S. 17° 50' W.
3. Request you will signal onward route from
position M.
(C. in C. S.A., 2317C/20 to R.A.W.A.)

Overdue
Shipping.

Greek PANTELIS due Lourenco Marques 13/9 from
Aden not arrived. British Ship SARTHE due
Lourenco Marques 14/9 from Aden not arrived.
(C. in C. S.A., 1745C/20 to Admty C. in C. E. F.
etc). Cancel SARTHE, see 1731C/21. PANTELIS
arrived see 1426C/22.

Vichy
Cruiser.

At 1220/20/9 Vichy Cruiser air sighted in
10° 22' N., 17° 05' W. Course 20° speed 20
knots and shadowed to 10° 48' N., 16° 51' W at
1400/20.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1748Z/20 to Admty (R)
F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A.)

MOUNT PERA
lost.

Greek Ship MOUNT PERA from Capetown to Lourenco
Marques grounded off Inhaca midnight 19/9
and is a total loss. Crew safe and attempt is
being made to salvage (corrupt group)
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1822/20 to Admty etc).

VIMEIRA
(sunk 11/8)
SYLVIA DE
LARRINAGA
(sunk 14/8).

(1) Engineer of SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA and Second
Officer and 15 of crew from VIMEIRA landed
Takoradi by LADY DENISON PENDER at 1900/20 having
been transferred from SIRANGER at sea p.m./19
(2) VIMEIRA sunk at 0306/11/8 in 009° 20' N.,
028° 30' W. Master taken prisoner on board
Submarine. Second Officer reports all 5 engineer
officers and several of crew lost with ship.
VIMEIRA's boat picked up p.m. 12/8 by SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA.
One other boat with more than 20 on board still unaccounted for.
(3) SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA sunk 1610/14/8 3 boats got away and one
picked up on 11/9 by SIRANGER. Other 2 boats both with more
than 20 on board unaccounted for. Chief Engineer SYLVIA DE
LARRINAGA reports Master, 2nd Officer and one Ord. Sea went
down with ship. Names of survivors including D.E.M.S. ratings
follow.
(N.C.S.O. Takoradi, 2032Z/20 to Admty etc. as amended 1811Z/21)

U/B

U.S. army aircraft reported U-boat in 000° 40' N.
006° 12' W., at 1140Z/20.
(R.A.W.A., 2137Z/20 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.
etc).

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20.9.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. 3 Destroyers 180° 10 knots 315° HLPP 252°
(indecypherable).
(A/C No.6 Squadron Duty K Malta Cmd. 0004B/20
to A.H.Q. Malta).
P.C. and S. of enemy 35.30 N., 21.40 E., 180°
10 knots.
(A/C No. 14 Squadron Duty B (Malta Command) 0015B/20 to
A.H.Q. Malta).
P.C. and S. of enemy convoy 35.46 N., 21.52 E. 220° 10
knots ? destroyer.
(A/C Call Sign S7W Duty R, 0020/20 to 201 Gp. H.Q.M.E.)
P.C. and S. 3 destroyers 35.15 N., 20.55 E., 220° 12 knots.
(A/C No. 6 Squadron (Malta Command) Duty W. 0040/20, to
A.H.Q. Malta).
P.C. and S. of enemy 23.15 N., 22.13 E. 240° 15 knots.
(A/C Call sign S7W Duty L, 0135C/20 to 201 Gp. H.Q.M.E.)

Cositrep 523. 5. Air. Night 18/19. Tobruk harbour bombed
fires started at jetties. 1 Wellington missing.
19/9. Air activity on reduced scale.
(C. in C. M.E., 1015/20).

Enemy Units At 1030B/20 1 merchant ship 6,000 tons with 3
P.46. escorting aircraft 080° Kelibia 10, course
southerly, speed 8½ knots.
(Capt. S.10, 1232B/20 to P.46).
My 1232B/20. At 1450B. P.C. and S. 036° 26' N.,
010° 43' E. south west, 10 knots.
(Capt. S.10., 1601B/20 to P.46).
My 1601/20. At 1800 P.C. and S. 36° 07' N., 10° 35' E.
course 180° speed 8 knots.
(Capt. S.10., 1931B/20 to P.46).
R/C p.m./20 showed several small and medium ships off
Marettimo southbound between 1600 and 1730 apparently unescorted.
(Capt. S.10., 2245B/20 to P.46 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt.
S.1).

Operation Your 0004/19. Regret it was not made clear that
"Waylay" objection referred to exaggerations. Summary
Press Report. of Communique published local paper from London
Wednesday follows: "British Warships from Tobruk
now returned to harbour. Escorted on their 300
mile voyage back by long range fighters which beat off repeated
attacks. Many Axis planes damaged and compelled to jettison
bombs far from vessels. Terrific battles were fought by
British air umbrella covering the ships". Ends with letters
"A.N.A."
(C. in C. Med., 1258C/20 to Admty).

Black Sea. (1) Night 18/19 Russian fast minesweeper bombarded
enemy positions in Novorossisk area. (2)
Minesweeper attacked enemy submarine off
Novorossisk. (?Result) not known.
(a) Bombed Crimean ports sinking 3 minesweepers and 4 E-boats
and scoring hits on 2 merchant vessels.

/(b)

20.9.1942.

Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean--L.M.T.S.

Black Sea. (b) Bombed Maikop aerodrome.
 Contd. (c) Bombed seaplane base yesterday afternoon
 Toberchikskoe (40 km. South of Nevillech).
 (4) Nororossisk. Position remains the same.
 Considerable artillery activity. 17/9 and 18/9
 enemy bombed Gelendjik where Russians are landing troops and
 supplies.
 (5) Tuapse. Enemy made small advance along road from Maikop and
 has occupied village at foot of Caucasus mountains about 50 kms.
 from Toberchikskoe.
 Russian armoured train shelled this village.
 (N.L.O. Black Sea, 1317C/20 to Admty. Am. Miles).

Malta Air I.697 20/9. C.S.R. 19th. 1500 hours. 9
 Report. Spitfires up for raids which turned back before
 reaching Malta. 1639 hours 2 Spitfires on R/C
 patrol S.E. Sicily destroyed 2 enemy flying boats
 taking off east of Pachine.
 Night 19/20. 2155 hours, 1 Beaufighter up saw no enemy
 aircraft. (0037 or 0034 corrupt) hours, 5 raiders approached
 Malta, serious Beaufighter and partial R.D.F. interference, 1
 raider dropped bombs on land causing no material damage, other
 raiders dropped bombs in sea. 1 Beaufighter up chased 2
 raiders but did not intercept.
 20th. 0900 hours 4 Spitfires up for raids which turned back
 before reaching Malta.
 Part 2. 19th. 3 photographic R/Cs. (1510 or 1500 corrupt)
 hours 3 schooners photographed 070° Tripoli 11 miles course
 east 5 knots, 1635 hours 4 Beaufighters attacked schooners
 now 24 miles east of Tripoli. Misses within 10 yards, all ships
 raked with cannon fire and 1 ship left stationary with wheel
 house collapsed and emitting grey smoke from stern.
 1015 hours 2 M/Vs 6/7000 tons and 7/8000 tons 7 D/Rs see my
 I. 695 photographed 180°. Cape Geroghambo 26 miles course
 170° 11 knots visual sighting of 12 Italian fighters over
 convoy. Night 19/20. 2055 hours convoy now 187° Sapienza 75
 miles, course 225° 13 knots attacked by Wellingtons. Bombs
 dropped from 4,000 feet, 1 possible near miss scored on 1 D/R
 and another D/R possibly straddled other results were unobserved
 owing to dense smoke screen.
 (Air H.Q. Malta, 1620/20).

Landing 0/51010. Have received urgent request for 10
 Craft for L.C.A. to be sent to India for operational use.
 India. Can provide 11 L.C.A. and 1 L.C.A. converted to
 L.Cs. Majority can be shipped 30/9 with party
 of 6 naval ratings for maintenance. Remainder
 including converted L.Cs probably 2/10. Please reply
 urgently whether approved.
 (C. in C. M.E., 1755/20 to W.O.) Approved by Admty. see 2029A/21.

/Massawa...

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20.9.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Massawa
Salvage.

Your 1919A/16 and your 0729Z/6/7. U.S. have now agreed to institution of British prize proceedings in these cases.
(M. Branch 1925A/20 to N.O.I.C. Massawa).

Genoa.
Spez~~zia~~,
Leghorn.

G/863 19/9 P.R.U. sortie C/404 date 19/9
(details)
(P.R.U. Benson, 2300A/20).

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War Diary.20.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.AMIRAL
PIERRE.

French Ship AMIRAL PIERRE may have left Reunion Island for Lourenco Marques on 18th or 19/9. If sighted she is to be sent in to Diego Suarez under armed guard.

Vessel may have Japanese agent on board. She is believed to be short of coal. Endeavour to intercept her but do not delay your arrival at Durban by more than 48 hours or outstay the limit of destroyers' fuel.

Description of ship follows. ILLUSTRIOUS acknowledge forthwith. (C. in C.E.F. 0110Z/20 to ILLUSTRIOUS (R) S.O. Force "M" C. in C. S.A. Admty).

Your 0110Z/20 acknowledged.

Destroyers already extremely limited to fuel. Oiling hoses unserviceable after fuelling NAPIER yesterday. Sending Air search now covering probable area between 044° E. and 049° E.

(ILLUSTRIOUS 0405Z/20, to C. in C.E.F.(R) C. in C.S.A. etc).

My 0110/20. Air search by ILLUSTRIOUS unsuccessful. Owing to shortage of destroyers' fuel ship proceeding Durban.

(C. in C.E.F. 1342Z/20 to Admty).

Movements
Summary.

No.16.20/9.

1. DEVONSHIRE with U.S.17 due Durban 23/9.
2. MAURITIUS, KANIMBLA, SCOUT, with U.S.(?16) due Colombo (?21/9).
3. WARSPITE, H.M.S. NEPAL, FORTUNE, N.L.C. HEEMSKERCK, due Kilindini 21/9.
4. ILLUSTRIOUS, HOTSPUR, NIZAM due Durban about 23/9.
5. NAPIER, NORMAN due Majunga 22/9.
6. EXPRESS, RANCHI, left (?Durban) 19/9 escorting C.M.32 (?3) ships routed through Mozambique Channel. RANCHI to be (?detached) 20/9 to Durban.
7. BOMBAY left Fremantle 13/9 escorting U.S. Navy Tanker TRINITY. Calling Diego Garcia 26/9 thence Colombo.
8. WOODLONGONG left Fremantle 14/9, escorting U.S. Tanker VERA, Calling Diego Garcia 26/9 thence Kilindini.
9. WORCESTERSHIRE leaves Kilindini 21/9, escorting convoy K.R.4., 3 ships, to Seychelles and Colombo.
(C. in C.E.F., 0735Z/20 as amended 1342Z/21).

Air
Report.

Daily Intelligence Summary No.189 to 1800 hours 20/9.

Amend Summary No.186 for 17/9. Mandalay attack to read 15/9, not 16/9.

U.S.A. Air Force report - Operations 17/9.

(A) One B.25 2 near misses steamer Bhamo.

(B) One B.55 bombed machine gunned oil large Katha. 1 direct hit.

(A.H.Q. India, 1136 G.M.T./20).

Dispositions.

Eastern Fleet weekly dispositions summary No.11.

FROBISHER to escort convoy in Arabian Sea.

BIRMINGHAM, GAMBIA at Diego Suarez.

ENTERPRISE at Bombay, NEWCASTLE at Capetown on passage to U.S.A.
E. Local operations completed.

(C. in C.E.F. 1219Z/20 to C. in C.S. A., etc).

/Movements.....

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20th 9. 1942.

Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Movements.

Tamatave 20/9 departure DAUNTLESS, ACTIVE, INCONSTANT, EMPIRE PRIDE, DILWARA, DUNERA, Hospital Ship VASNA. (ALBATROSS 1348Z/20 to Admty etc).

FOO SHING.

Bombed on 2/9. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1606B/20). See South Atlantic.

OCEAN HONOUR.

Life boats of OCEAN HONOUR picked up in 011° 40' N 046° 00' E. Ship independently routed from South. but conformed to air patrolled lanes in my 1632Z/7 (Shipping control in Gulf of Aden). (Cdre. Aden 1945Z/20, to C. in C.E.F. etc).

War Diary.

20.9.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

New York-Halifax assembly ports. It is realised that the use of New York as an assembly port for H.X. and S.C. convoys will greatly reduce the use of Halifax as an Ocean Convoy assembly port and T.L. desire to express their appreciation of the splendid organisation that has, during the past three years, been built up there for the assembly, sailing and servicing of ships in convoy. It is hoped that it will be found possible to utilise experience in implementing the new scheme for the sailing of trans-Atlantic convoys.
(Head of M 0102A/20 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.)

Lifeboats. Distress signal has been intercepted from 2 lifeboats in 044° 50' N 042° 00' W.
(C.O.A.C. 0118Z/20 to C. in C. W.A. T.G.24.7. etc.)

Movements summary. 1800 G.M.T./20.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
Convoy T.9 ¹⁰			
VIMY			
BURDOCK	17° N 55° W	065	9
S/M Q15	49½° N 46½° W	062	9½
WHITEHALL	52° N 40° W	243	15

(D.O.D. (F.) 1030Z/20 to Opnav. (R) Connaveu.)

Shipping, Cape Horn. Your 1830/18, request you will instruct routing authorities in your area accordingly as regards British managed ships concerned.
(Admty. 1046Z/20 to Connav. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Bombing restrictions. Ref. F.S.A.5.
(1) H.Q.C.C. are responsible for informing aircraft operating from Iceland (C) of submarine bombing restrictions required.
(2) Since these may include Liberator aircraft with an operational range of 1000 miles, intend to institute bombing restrictions for submarines on trans-Atlantic passage when east of 045° W.
(3) I presume you arrange bombing restrictions for aircraft operating from West Atlantic Coast.
(F.O.S. 1058A/20 to F.O.N.F. (R) Admty. H.Q.C.C.)

Bunkers, New York. Personal for Capt. Morey. Sparks and Salter have been requested by M.O.W.T. to contact you regarding bunkering difficulties New York about which they are much concerned.
2. M.O.W.T. anticipate that additional traffic proceeding to U.K. via U.S.A. instead of Freetown will aggravate difficulties and add to congestion and delays.
3. Fully concur your representations to Connav as to ships leaving and joining G.N. and N.G. convoys in order to bunker Hampton Roads.
(D.T.D. 1153A/20 to B.A.D.)

F.H.1. Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Halifax 1206Z/20 to N.S.H.Q. Admty.)

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20.9.1942.

Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

U/Bs
S.C.100.

D/F bearings at 1013Z, 1022Z, 1038Z and 1100Z indicate that S.C.100 is still being shadowed and reported by at least 3 U-Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 1237A/20 to Escorts S.C.100. (R)
Escorts H.X. 207 and O.N.130. C. in C.W.A. etc.)

WEST
LASHAWAY.
(sunk
30/8.)

17 survivors U.S. steamer WEST LASHAWAY lost by enemy action on 30/8, landed here yesterday.
(Govr. Barbados No T.O.O. Recd. 1250/20.)

TROIS
ILETS,
French.

Departure 19th Puerto Plata, Martinique 24th.
(Ciudad Trujillo 1309R/20 to M.W.T.)

OLAF
FOSTENES

Admty. 0957/20 (re lifeboats of OLAF FOSTENES adrift, N.T. in W.D.) PICTOU proceeding AR 1430Z/20 to search for lifeboats OLAF FOSTENES 44.50 N 42.00' W. If C.T.F. 24 able to provide aircraft request aircraft be instructed to direct PICTOU to survivors.
(F.O.N.F. 1355Z/20 to C.T.F.24. Connnav. Admty. PICTOU.)

Wreck.

Submerged wreck previously reported 1.9 miles 229° from Ambrose Lightship lies in 40° 25' 15" N 73° 52' 15" W and has been marked by a quick flashing red gong construction buoy 400 ft. S.S.W. of wreck. Wreck projects about 3ft. out of water.
(U.S. Navcom 1430/20 to Admty.)

NORFOLK
(sunk
18/9)

Trinidad reports British NORFOLK torpedoed and sunk 1200Z/18 008° 36' N 052° 20' W. Chief officer and 12 men landed Trinidad 19th, Master and 5 men killed.
(S.O.(I.) Jamaica 1513Q/20 to Admty. etc.)

A.N.D.
ships.

Your 2230Z/18. By agreement with M of W.T. no ship fitted with A.N.D. is to be relegated to a slower convoy than she would otherwise have sailed in on account of this gear.

2. If a ship so fitted cannot maintain convoy speed with the nets streamed she should not stream them.
3. On the other hand no ship of under 11 knots has been fitted and trials have shown that the loss of speed does not exceed $1\frac{3}{4}$ knots, so that if placed as leaders of columns ships should be able to keep up, but as stated in para 2 the governing factor for inclusion in convoy is the ship's speed with A.N.D. inboard.
(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S. (T.) 1520A/20 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D. B.R.O. New York.)

Corvettes.

My 1502Z/19 is passed for information. This was made direct to ships concerned immediately on receipt of Admty. 1154A/19 in order to save time and fuel. (N.S.H.Q. 1528A/20 to C.T.F. 24.)

/ILEX...

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20.9.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.- Contd.

- ILEX. ILEX sailed Charleston 1300Z/20 for Key West.
Route A 030° 24' N 081° 17' W.
B. 028° 39' 080° 15'.
C. 025° 48' 080°. Mean S of A 22 knots. E.T.A.
Key West 1700Z/21.
(C.S.A. Key West 1612Z/20 to Admty. (R) B.A.M.R.
etc.)
- U/B S/M situation 20/9 and U.S. S/M notice.
positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1636/20, 1637Z/20, 1638/20,
1639/20, 1640/20, 2328/20.)
- Attacks 3 S/M attacks on S.C.100.
on EMPIRE HARTEBEESTE No.71 torpedoed starboard side
S.C.100. and sunk at 1318Z/20 in 56.25 N 38.05 W. All
officers and men saved. 5 S/Ms sighted on surface
between 1058Z/20 and 1331Z within a radius of 18
miles of torpedoing. 1900Z observed P.C.S. 56.48 N 37.08 W 044°
7. Weather report. 9 escort vessels present. SPENCER short of
depth charges. Request Greenland air coverage if practicable.
C.T.24 pass to other addressees and suggest Cominch pass to O.N.
130.
(C.T.U. 24.1.3. 1758Z/20 to C.T.F.24. Cinclant. (R) Admty.
etc.)
(Connav 2315/20 to C.T.G.24.6. (R) C.T.U. 24.1.18.)
D/F bearings at 1838Z and at 1857Z and 1905Z indicate 3
U-Boats in vicinity of S.C.100.
(D.D.I.C. 2100A/20 to Escorts S.C.100. (R) Escorts H.X.207
O.N.130. C. in C. W.A. etc.)
- U/B Trinidad reports S/M on surface damaged by air
attacked. attack at 1634A/20 in 011° 10' N 056° 45'W.
Further aircraft despatched.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1801Q/20 to S.B.N.O. W.A. Admty.
B.A.D.) Contact lost. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1742Q/21.)
- Westcomp Refer your 1547/19.
position. Position Westcomp of approx 49° W must necessarily
be sufficiently flexible to permit Western Local
Escort fuel St. Johns for westbound assignment.
Exact junction point as determined by sailing authorities (C.T.F.
24 and F.O.N.F.) will vary as circumstances require and permit.
(C.T.F. 24. 1815Z/20 to N.S.H.Q. (R) Cominch. Admty. C. in C.
Lant, C. in C. W.A. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.)
- K.H.404. My 1732/17 (re ships joining N.K. 502 off Key West)
G.K.703 also R/V with N.K.502, both becoming K.H.
404.
(B.R.O. Key West 1816Z/10 to Galveston.)
- K.P.405. G.K.704 arrived off Key West at 1300 G.M.T./20 and
changed designation to K.P.405 proceeding without
stopping.
(Broutof, Key West 1826/20 to B.R.O. New Orleans,
(R) Admty. etc.)

/U/Bs...

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War Diary.

20.9.1942.

Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

- U/Bs. Shore watcher sighted 2 S/Ms in 048° 51' N 064° 09' W at 1325Z/20.
(C.O.A.C. 1832Z/20 to G.B.7A.G.)
- Survivors. Connection with survivors in 044° 50' N 042° 00' W aircraft has been directed to render all practicable assistance in search and rescue operation commencing morning of 22/9.
(C.T.24. 2107/20 to C.C.N.F.)
- Western Local Escort Force. Ref. Western Local Escort Force.
(1) Assume VANQUISHER, VANOC, VETERAN, VERITY to have been relieved by SALISBURY, GEORGETOWN, MANSFIELD, *CHELSEA.* *See p. 584*
(2) Anticipate LEAMINGTON will arrive early November to relieve WANDERER who then joins F.O.C.N.A. in place VANOC.
(3) Remaining destroyers to be relieved are WALKER, WITHERINGTON, WITCH.
(4) CHURCHILL from B.5 is presumably available for exchange at short notice. ~~SARIT~~ ALBANS should be available late November, RICHMOND mid-December.
(C. in C. W.A. 2141Z/20 to C.O.A.C. (R) Admty. etc.)
- Sub. attack and sighting summary. A. HELEN FORSEY shelled and sunk 28.35 N 57.35 W 1000Z/6. *NORFOLK torpedoes and sunk 08.36 N 59.20 W 1200Z/18. SS. GLOXINIA attacks sub. conning tower 49.09 N 36.20 W 0750Z/26/8. Swastika in circle on C/T. * *See p. 594*
B. EMPIRE CORPORAL, EMPIRE BEDE 2 torpedo hits each. STELLA LYKES 2 torpedo hits, 40 shells. Large hole 10 ft abaft C/T. Possibly U.45 type. SIR HUON U.88 type. AMATLAND also shelled U.88 type. Army plane sights sub. 60.15 N 50.05 W 0243Z/18/7.
C. PBY5 attacks C/T 33.52 N 65.51 W 1237Z/2. S.S. REINHOLT attacks periscope and partly surfaced C/T 09.48 N 51.41 W 0855Z/3/8. Plane sights sub 18.10 N 64.55 W 1410Z/7/9 course 120°. SS. SURPRISE attacks subs one 19.53 N 75.12 W, one 17.35 N 75.13 W 12/9. One 15.44 N 73.47 W 14/9 reported sunk. Navy plane reports possible sub contact 24.18 N 82.18 W 1430Z/18. Pan Air Plane sights periscope and sub outline 25.32 N 79.42 W 1835Z/19 course N. Shore watcher sights sub 49.03 N 66.57 W 1930Z/19. CG220 sights 25.31 N 80 W 0815Z/20. YP sights sub silhouette 30.24 N 81.15 W 0655Z/20. Sighted on surface 40.18 N 73.03 W 0225Z/20. CGR 1941 sights sub on surface 40.13 N 72.50 W 0645Z/20 course 300. Subs sighted 10.49 N 57.36 W 1143Z/20. 11.02 N 57.05 W 1210Z/20. 11.10 N 56.45 W 1634Z/20. CGR 7016 challenges and attacks unidentified craft which escapes southward 25.50 N 80.05 W 0850Z/20. HG watcher sights 2 subs 48.51 N 64.09 W 1325Z/20.
D. Attack at 1750Z/19 my 2106/19 cancelled, sighting by same ship considered doubtful.
(Cominch 2145/20 to Admty. for O.I.C.)
- O.N.S. 130. Diversion by Connav, from 54.28 N 37.20 W to new A. 53.16 N 37.40 W thence new B., 52.40 N 41.33 W thence to M.
(D.T.D. 2350A/20 to H.Q.C.C. (R) C. in C. W.A.)

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20.9.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Situation. Digest Serial No. 241 19/9. Continued activity Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area where reports indicate force 19/9 included 3 heavy cruisers (described 2 Nachi class 1 Kako class), 1 Sendai class light cruiser, 16 destroyers, 2 probable gunboats, 1 probable Chitose type Seaplane Tender, 1 converted Seaplane Tender, 5 merchant ships including 1 tanker.
2. Air R/C reported 1 destroyer, 1 6000 ton transport, 6° 10' S. 153° 45' E. at 2305Z/18 course 170°. Nil shipping Queen Carola Harbour (Buka) but 2 aircraft (probably float planes) observed taking off and indications landing strip being developed.
 3. 1 5000 ton M/V sighted air R/C morning 19/9 east Umboi Is. (Dampier Strait) course 140°. 2000 ton M/V reported off west coast Umboi Is afternoon 19/9. Both vessels attacked by B.17s during afternoon, nil hits.
 6. 6 Bostons accompanied by 6 Marauders attacked enemy installations Lae 19/9.
 7. R/C Buna Kokoda area 1849 indicates 15 camouflaged I aircraft Buna Aerodrome but runway still unserviceable, aerodrome Kokoda appears unserviceable but some indications runway being developed.
 8. 7 Beaufighters with fighter escort attacked Buna Kokoda area 19/9 1 A/A gun silenced, 1 Zero destroyed Buna where large fire started huts and buildings heavily strafed.
 10. 50 to 70 Japanese reported north coast Normanby Island possibly survivors from destroyer successfully attacked this vicinity 11/9.
 11. Patrol activity Beco Ossu Area (Portuguese Timor).
 12. 2 Catalinas attacked Buka night 18/19, weather bad, results not observed. B.A.D. pass to Opnav. (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0726Z/20 to Admty. etc.)

Nauru and Ocean Island. No.346. Your telegram No.286. On 9/9 I received following from C. in C. (Begins) Positive information that Nauru held by enemy. Land planes there and possibly A.A. batteries.

Industrial inactivity. Waterfront installations deserted, but intact. Ocean Island, no activity noted. No ships present either place. (Ends).

2. On 15/9 I telegraphed to C. in C. as follows (Begins) Am most anxious about fate of Ocean Island where rations will not last beyond today, and shall be glad to know whether you have any further information. (Ends)

3. On 16/9 C. in C. replied: Have no further information regarding Ocean Island, but all evidence points to its occupation by enemy. (Ends) 4. Have today received from C. in C. (Begins) Have received further indications which would make certain occupation of Ocean Island by enemy. (Ends)

5. I shall miss no opportunity of getting information and if possible action, but in the present circumstances we are helpless in this matter.

(High Commr. (Sir P. Mitchell) Western Pacific, 1440/20 to S. of S. for Colonies.)

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20.9.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1441A/20.)

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

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

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

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

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

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Seventeen Canadian corvettes are being temporarily allocated for service in the Western Approaches Command. The first 6 are expected to arrive with H.X.207 about 25/9 and S.C.100 about 28/9.

P.Q.18.

S.B.N.O. Archangel reported at 1921A today that 24 ships of P.Q.18 were now berthed and discharging. The other 3, LAFAYETTE, SAHALE and CAMPFIRE went aground in the Dvina; the last named, which was hard aground was abandoned by her American crew, who were later ordered to return. There was an abortive air attack by Ju.88s on the ships at Dvina Bar at 1330C today, no damage being caused. A/S Trawler DANEMAN is ashore, but it is hoped to refloat her shortly.

Q.P.14.

The position of Q.P.14 at 1005 today by aircraft reckoning was 74° 43' N 6° 15' W. R.A.D. H.F. reported that an escorting Catalina aircraft had been shot down by a U-Boat; the crew was rescued, but A.C.I.C. was unable to send a relief Catalina until weather conditions improve. (Aircraft were sent from first light/23 and later an A/S sweep was carried out in addition, ahead of the convoy, along the coast of Iceland as far south as 64° 30' N.)

Weather.

Bad weather prevails over the entire Home Commands area. The sailing of R.U.41 from Iceland has been postponed. 15th M.S.F. engaged on operation M.S.N.3 proceeded for shelter. This afternoon Wick harbour was closed at 1700A. Convoy S.C.100 is hove to in mid-north Atlantic. Coastal craft patrols from Portland were cancelled.

The British Naval Hospital at Vaenga is being closed down on orders from Moscow and unless the situation is changed, the staff will be sent home in Q.P.15, S.B.N.O. North Russia expresses fears for the morale of crews of ships awaiting P.Q. convoys, as the conditions in Russian hospitals are likely to become well known.

21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.Scuttling
instructions.

The Admiralty today issued instructions that in order to prevent shipping from falling into enemy hands, British merchant ships in the Atlantic Oceans south of the Equator or in the Indian Ocean are to scuttle themselves if attacked by surface raiders and if they are about to be boarded by the enemy or if the crew have been ordered to abandon ship. Allied Governments are being asked to conform and the views of the U.S. authorities are being obtained as to the issue of similar instructions in the Pacific.

Operation "Volley" (patrols by SIRIUS, PHOEBE and South African minesweepers south of the Cape) was cancelled today on account of the severity of the weather, and the title of S.O. Force V lapsed.

U/B
situation.

There has been considerable W/T traffic from German and Italian U-Boats in the area north of Ascension between 12/9 and 17/9. There may have been up to 8 U-Boats in this area and off the Gold Coast, but apparently they did not operate in the Freetown area whilst on passage south. A B.2 report states that a concentrated attack by German and Italian U-Boats will shortly begin against shipping to the Middle East, in order to assist Rommel. Two tankers which have been attempting to leave Biscay since 10/8 and which now appear to have broken out may be intended to supply these U-Boats. Two unidentified ships were sighted 14 miles off Ascension at 0125Z/20.

C. in C. S.A. reports that the crew of H.M.I. minesweeper ORISSA refused duty on 17/9 and the entire crew is now under arrest at East London.

Five D/F. Stations are being established in Brazil. Tentative locations are Belem, Recife, Bahia, Santos and Rio Grande.

Mediterranean.

C. in C. Med reports that TALISMAN must now be considered lost (see 19/9)

Photographs of Naples today show that the Italian 8 inch cruiser BOLZANO has arrived with a large gash from the upper deck to the waterline starboard side abreast the foremost funnel which is displaced.

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean - Contd.

P.46 torpedoed and sank Vichy SS. LIBERIA in 35° 36' N 11° 9' E at 0213 today. At 0440 she torpedoed and sank a 2000 ton southbound merchant ship in 35° 45' N, 11° 11' E. At 0105 she set on fire by gunfire a large southbound schooner. (AQUILA)
*LEONARDO PALOMBA.
(Name from Capt. Shadowell)

East Indies.

A submarine was sighted at 0840 today in 12° 2' N 46° 8' E north of the Mozambique channel.

It is reported that SS. OCEAN HONOUR was torpedoed and sunk at 0600C/16 in 12° 48' N 50° 50' E.

Shipping routes in the Gulf of Aden were promulgated today by C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

America and West Indies.

Fleet minesweeper GEORGIAN reports sinking a submarine about 2135 today in 49° 2' N 63° 59' W.
(Not confirmed by Lt. Rowbottom on Comd. 6643.)

SS. PREDSEDNIK KOPAJTIC was sunk in the area 8° 30' N 59° 30' W today.

Australia and New Zealand.

Solomon Is.

There has been a lull in the fighting at Guadalcanal since the enemy's unsuccessful attempt to capture the airfield on the night 13/14 Sept. Supplies and reinforcements have reached the Allied forces.

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

30 Mission. During my absence in extempore Colonel Exham will act temporarily as head of 30 Mission.
2. Commander Lea will be in charge of Naval Section Mission.
3. Admiralty pass to War Office and Air Ministry. (Ad. Miles 1001C/21 to Admty.)

E.G.20. Your 1438/16 para (2). SARDONYX, SALADIN, SCIMITAR detailed.
(M/s ... P.665) (Cdre. Londonderry 1021A/21.)

Canadian Corvettes. 17 Canadian corvettes are being temporarily allocated for service in C. in C. W.A. command.
2. On arrival in U.K. these ships should proceed to Londonderry.
3. The first 6 to arrive will be LOUISBURG, WOODSTOCK, PRESCOTT with H.X. 207 arriving about 25/9 and NASTURTIUM, WEYBURN, LUNENBURG with S.C.100 arriving about 28/9.
4. The 6 corvettes referred to will be required for service, three by 22/10 and three by 5/11.
5. While in U.K. it is desired to arrange for (a) An A/S work up. (b) The fitting of Oerlikons on Mark IV mountings to complete to a total of 6. (c) Any possible improvement of A/S and R.D.F. equipment.
6. Commodore Londonderry is to signal as soon as possible after their arrival requirements under (b) and (c) when refitting ports will be allocated.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1157A/21.)

Vaenga Naval Hospital. My 1638/14th Sept. C. in C. Soviet Northern Fleet after being most helpful he has now received orders from Moscow to request me to close British Naval Hospital at Vaenga and to ask for date on which party will leave.
2. Request very strong representations may immediately be made and reverse this decision. If we give in on this on top of our capitulation over Archangel Hospital Unit, I fear further humiliations will follow.
3. Reiterate my opinion that (a) Russian Hospitals are quite unsuitable (at any rate in Kola Inlet) and quite inadequate in number and size to meet any major emergency (b) conditions are likely to become so well known in Merchant Navy as to affect morale in ships awaiting P.Q. convoys.
4. Hospital is being closed down and unless situation is changed in the meanwhile staff will be sent home in P.Q.15.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1518A/21 to Admty.)

VANSITTART. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1148/20. On arrival in U.K. VANSITTART will join Western Approaches command temporarily.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1855A/21.)

Eagle Ships. Request your remarks on C. in C. Nore's 1228A/14.
(D. of L.D. 2046A/21 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

- WAYLAND. Cancel my 1043A/20. Movement postponed due to machinery breakdown.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0058A/21.)
- RODNEY. Lights in Pentland Firth being kept on until further notice. BUCCANEER is returning to Scapa from westward. *See next page*
(A.C.O.S. 0349A/21 to RODNEY.)
(Op: E.W.)
Scapa arrival. RODNEY.
(A.C.O.S. 0728Z/21.)
- CASTLETON
WELLS. When released from duty with S.D. 32 return to Port Z.A.
(R.A.M. 0924A/21 to CASTLETON, WELLS.)
- ARGUS. Admiralty 2313/28. Intend sailing ARGUS for Clyde at 1400/26. E.T.A. Clyde 0630/28.
Request fighter protection and surface escort.
(N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne 1010/21.)
- TAY. Intend to sail TAY for Londonderry at 2000 today.
E.T.A. 0800/23.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1105/21.)
My 1105/21. Postponed 24 hours owing to defect.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1652/21.)
- VICTORIOUS
FURIOUS. Cancel my 1558/18. Intended programme for VICTORIOUS and FURIOUS as in a.m. 1839/19.
VICTORIOUS will remain at Scapa until about 7/10. FURIOUS to proceed to Clyde to re-arm as in a.m. 2002/19 and to work up.
(C. in C. H.F. 1129A/21.)
Propose sailing for Clyde 0900/23. 807 Squadron now embarked, 822 squadron A/C to be embarked on passage. 823 squadron remaining at Hatston until disposal instructions are received. All arrangements are being made regarding transfer of squadron stores and personnel.
(FURIOUS 2333A/21.) *See next page*
- WAVENEY. Intend sailing WAVENEY for Tobermory leaving TBl Buoy 1800/22. E.T.A. 0330/24 in accordance with A.M. 1630B/5/7/42. Request fighter protection. Ship newly commissioned.
(N.O.I.C. Tees 1147/21.)
- P.312. My 1106/14. Intend to sail P.312 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER 1015A/23 Northabout for Clyde. Speed 10 knots. E.T.A. Cumbrae 0530A/24.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 1252A/21.)

/VIRGINIA ...

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

- VIRGINIA. My 1124A/19. VIRGINIA delayed.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1458A/21.)
- P.216. Intend to sail "~~BUTSER~~" 1030A/22. For Clyde
FURIOUS. escorting P.216 and returning Liverpool on
completion trial programme and A.S.C.B.S. letter
reference 196/9. E.T.A. 0800A/23.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1532A/21.)
Admiralty 1839/19, para (c). Propose FURIOUS should sail
for Clyde 23/9. *See previous page.*
(R.A.A. H.F. 1645/21 to C. in C. H.F.)
- TRUANT. Following is a repetition of my 1726/21/8.
TRIDENT. Begins. Addressed Admiralty. My 1617/17/7
and Admty. 1831/21/7. As TRIDENT now*completes
4/11 request C. in C. Eastern Fleet may be
instructed to sail TRUANT to arrive U.K. 1st
week in Nov. Ends. ** at the end.*
(F.O.S. 1654A/21 to Admty.)
- M.Ls for Your 1707/20. EMPIRE GNOME is not expected to
Gibraltar. arrive Milford Haven before a.m. 25th.
2. Owing to approach of less favourable weather
conditions it is not desired to delay sailing
of M.Ls longer than is absolutely necessary.
3. Request you will sail all available craft on 23/9 or as
soon after as weather is suitable.
4. EMPIRE MINOTAUR should not sail unless EMPIRE GNOME is
ready.
(D.O.D.(H.) 2040A/21 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

Operations.

- Operation The services of a motor launch or other fast
E.W. seaworthy craft is urgently required for quick
communication between Port Z.D. and Port H.H.Z.
during period of exercises at latter port
observing it is important that ships in Port H.H.Z. should
maintain W/T silence and there are no telephone communications.
It is requested a suitable craft with crew may be placed at the
disposal of training Commander TITANIA forthwith until
completion of these exercises in about 6 weeks' time.
(F.O.S. 1048A/21 to Admty.)
Proceed passing Hoxa Gate at 0620A/22 to port H.H.Z.
(2) R.A.D.(H.F.) is requested to detail 3 destroyers as escort.
(3) RODNEY is to detach destroyers to return Scapa after
arrival destination.
(C. in C. H.F. 1749A/21 to *RODNEY.) ** See previous page.*
Scapa departure MARAUDER and ALLIGATOR for Port H.H.Z.
E.T.A. 0600/22.
(A.C.O.S. 1839/21 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)
Following received from F.O.S. Repeats F.O.S. 1048/21.
2. Request you meet this commitment with an M.L. from the 18th
Flotilla at Stornoway, the resultant reduction from "Knocker"
being accepted.
(D.O.D.(H.) 2031A/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Patrols ...

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - contd.

Patrols. (1) Intend M.Ls 123, 205 and 303 to patrol latitude 50° 20' N. between 1° 55' W. and 2° 10' W. tonight. Leaving Weymouth at 1945 and patrol line at dawn to return to base. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1234/21.)

Cancel my 1234A/21. In view of weather M.Ls will remain in Harbour at short notice. M.G.Bs at Standard notice. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1848A/21.)

3 A/S Trawlers patrolling vicinity E.A.5 Buoy. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1506A/21 and 2005A/21.)

Allied Air Activity.

Dartmouth. Considerable damage has been caused in recent air attacks on Dartmouth to E.N. College and shipping. Request consideration may be given to provision of suitable protection. (D.L.D. 1912A/21 to Air Ministry.)

"Knocker". Operation "Knocker". Nil. (Reykjavik 2005Z/21.)

Escort for "Roman". AC/843 21/9. Possibility of providing Liberator escort for "Roman" from N. Ireland on 22/9 has been explored. Range would give extremely short period over convoy and weather forecast indicates extremely bad conditions for operations from this end but improved conditions for operations from Iceland. Provision of escort for "Roman" during 22/9 therefore rests entirely with you. (H.Q.C.C. 2030A/21 to R.A.F. Iceland.)

Enemy Air Activity.

STAR OF PEACE attacked. S/T STAR OF PEACE of Milford, position 51° N. 9° W. Galley Head bearing 25 miles. Being attacked from the air by German aeroplane. (Lands End 0859/21.)

Intercepted 0950 G.M.T. We are being attacked by German Planes 25 miles S.S.W. of Old Head of Kinsale. H.E. machine gunned.

(Burnham Radio No T.O.O. Recd 1100/21.)
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1009A/21.)

Intercept 0951 G.M.T. D.E. Trawler name refused Galley Head 25 miles S.S.W. off the Old Head. We are being attacked by airplane and being machine gunned. (Lands End 1052/21.)

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

M.S.N.3. My 2132/20. In view of SCOTT's 2320A/20 return to harbour.

(A.C.O.S. 0009A/21 to BUCCANEER.) *in A 604*

SCOTT and PLOVER proceeding to R/V you 5 miles 270° Cape Wrath at 0330. Owing to uncertainties of our position due to breakdown and poor visibility consider it essential to sight North Rona 0600 before running to Beacon. Dan Buoy positions will be passed by V/S.

(SCOTT 0036A/21 to M/S 15.)

059° 08' N. 005° 32' at 0145 very uncertain, course 160°, 9 knots toward R/V.

(LLANDUDNO 0205A/21 to A.C.O.S., PLOVER, M/S 15.)

My 2148/20. Weather impossible. Am returning to Southward. R/V 090° N. Rona 7 at (?time).

(M/S 15 0601A/21 to PLOVER.)

In view of PLOVER's 0745 am proceeding to shelter probably Loch Laxford.

(M/S 15. 1101A/21 to PLOVER etc.)

Arrived SCOTT and PLOVER.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1215A/21.)

S.O.M/S F.15.is proceeding shelter probably in Loch Laxford but continue to Loch Ewe and on arrival place yourself under orders of PLOVER.

(R.A.M. 1526/21 to BOOTLE.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Suspicious plot. Suspicious plot in position 190° Portland Bill 15 miles.

(Capt. S.5 0035A/21 to P.51.)

Tanker. 48° 15' N. 8° 57' W. Tanker 760 tons Eirean markings, 163°, 6 knots.

(A.O.C. 19 Group 0723/21.)

Enemy inland water-way traffic. (1) Detailed reports from various countries, together with impressions from recent visits of German shipping delegates, show that Germany is making a marked attempt to increase her pool of small self-propelled vessels of less than 500

tons and lighter tonnage.

(2) Though there has been a tendency to send vessels to S.East Europe it appears to be part of a general policy to provide greatly increased water transport in small craft in Germany herself as well as in occupied countries (corrupt group) by our reports.

(N.A. Stockholm 1121/21 to Admty.)

N.I.D. Comment:- This report is confirmed by other ground reports. It shows that Germany is trying to make the most efficient use possible of inland water transport, because of difficulties with the railways. The barge concentration is thought to have no invasion significance. On the contrary, the likelihood of invasion is diminished by the need to use all invasion barges for domestic transport.

/Narvik ...

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - contd.

Narvik. Your 1151/19. Agreed.
(D.N.I. 1305A/21 to N.A. Stockholm.)

KOTA NOPAN. A.M. 1412A/17 and A.M. 1827A/17. Photographs
REKUM. show KOTA NOPAN had returned to St. Nazaire
by 18/9. Tanker REKUM left Nantes between
4 and 9/9 and was not seen in any Biscay port
on 16 or 18/9.
(D.D.I.C. 2116A/21.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat Am over enemy S/M in 67° 33' N. 19° 51' W.
reported. On surface, course 360°, speed 10 knots.
(A.O.C. 15 Group 0615Z/21.)

Navigational.

56 Buoy. 56 buoy extinguished.
(VANITY 0609A/21)
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1436A/21)
(C. in C. Nore 1549A/21.)

Wick. Harbour closed weather.
(R.N.O. Wick 1700A/21.)

Casualties and Defects.

ST. OLAVES. Following received. S O S from ST. OLAVES.
Aground on rocks inside Duncansby Head.
Require immediate assistance.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 0200/21 to Admty.)
Making water fast. Starboard lifeboat smashed.
(ST. OLAVES 0200/21.)
My 2141/20. Tug ~~SAINT~~ OLAVES towing Waterboat GOLD CROWN
stranded 1 mile west of Duncansby Head about 0200 today.
Present reports indicate all crew both vessels safely landed.
Salvage vessel is standing by.
(A.C.O.S. 1008/21 to Admty.)
Tug ST. OLAVES aground Duncansby Head and breaking up.
Following not saved and may become compromised.
(1) Latest Q.Z. messages Plymouth to Loch Ewe.
(2) Purg envelope relative to class (of) ship(s).
(N.O.I.C. Thurso 2037/21.)

NELLY. Faroes Ketch NELLY picked up by LE LUTTEUR in
Pentland Firth in answer to distress signals
and towed to Lyness. Vessel is disabled owing
to broken crankshaft. Possibility of repair
is being investigated.
(C.S.V.O. Lyness 1500/21.)

/HELEN ...

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

HELEN. Cdre. Londonderry's 1619A/17. Concur.
(C. in C. W.A. 1716A/21 to Admty.)

FREEBOOTER. Your 1551A/21. ^{/N.T. & H.S.} It is not convenient to
relieve FREEBOOTER. Necessary repairs should
be carried out as soon as possible.
(C. in C. W.A. 1828A/21 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

KEPPEL. Your 1009/15. KEPPEL can be taken in hand
for conversion to three boiler ship and refit
on 1/10 at Blackwall.
(D.O.D.(H) 2008A/21 to C. in C. W.A.)

Shipping and Convoys.

P.Q.18. My 1655/20. Amend to read: One Catalina
Q.P.14. from 0700/21, one Liberator from 1000/21,
followed by 2nd Catalina from 1700/21 until dark.
(A.C.I.C. 0230A/21 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Am over enemy S/M in 73° 42' N. 6° 45' W. Enemy was
sighted on surface.

(A.O.C. 15 Group 0634Z/21.)

→ P.R.U. Altafiord 1500C/21. Two units probably KÖLN and
HIPPER seen and photographed also destroyers. Langfiord not
seen owing to cloud. Two fighters sent up over Altafiord.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 1538A/21.)

Following signals exchanged. A.C.I.C. From R.A.(D) H.F.
Catalina shot down by U-Boat. Crew rescued. Request relief
1140/21. R.A.(D) H.F. from A.C.I.C. Your 1140/21. Regret
relief is not possible until weather conditions improve 1335/21.
Aircraft was Z 330 (Norwegian) Squadron.

(A.C.I.C. 1631A/21 to Admty., C. in C. H.F.)

Positions of S/Ms at 0800A/22 and movements for following
24 hours.

(F.O.S. 1651A/21.)

On completion of operation E.V. all corvettes and above
who took part are to report by letter direct to C. in C. H.F.
copies to administrative authority total quantity of fuel
expended during the operation.

(C. in C. H.F. 1712A/21.)

My 0230/21. A/S air escort has had to be cancelled
because of weather.

(N.O.I.C. Reykjavik 1715A/21 to R.A.D. H.F.)

→ My 1415/16 and 2310/16. Visual R/C of Altafiord at
1500C/21 showed two units probably KÖLN and HIPPER. Langfiord
not seen owing to cloud.

(D.D.I.C. 1715A/21.)

/Cruiser ...

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21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - conts.

P.Q.18 Cruiser force P.C.S. 068° 34' N. 017° 30' W.
Q.P.14 215° 18. E.T.A.Hvalfiord 1600Z, tomorrow
contd. Request A/S Air escort if available. Weather
report.
(C.S. 18 1800A/21 to A.C.I.C.).

Jan Mayen reports having observed one aircraft-carrier and some small craft west of island, course S.W. at 1430A/21.

→ Presume this is AVENGER.

(A.C.I.C. 1829A/21 to C. in C.H.F.).

ASHANTI with SOMALI in tow escorted by OPPORTUNE, ESKIMO, INTREPID last known position 074° 55' N. 006° 25' W. at 0800A/21. course 240°, 5½ knots. Request maximum A/S air cover be provided and that you inform Capt.(D) 6th direct what arrangement can be made for taking over tow. It must be assumed that strict wireless will not be known until considerably nearer Iceland. In case Capt.(D) 6 wishes to take a route further westward request latest ice information be passed to him.

(R.A.D.H.F. 1845A/21 to A.C.I.C.).

P.Q.18 24 (Merchant?) ships? now berthed and discharging. LAFAYETTE, SAHALE, and CAMPFIRE aground in Dvina. Expected refloat 1st 2 tonight but latter hard aground and abandoned by American crew who have been ordered to return immediately. Abortive air attack JU.88s on ships at Dvina Bar 1330C today? No damage. Trawler DANEMAN ashore, hope to refloat shortly.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel 1921A/21).

My P.C.S. are 072° 40' N. 004° 50'E, 190° 9½. Weather report.

(P.615 1932A/21 to F.O.S.)

E.T.A. Seidisfiord with FURY, WHEATLAND, and WILTON in company 1700A/22. Destroyers will complete with oil fuel.

→ (AVENGER 2001A/21).

Position of Q.P.14 at 1005/21 by A/C reckoning 074° 43' N. 006° 15' W, course 206° speed 8 knots, visibility good with showers. A/C was unable to get position from escort.

(A.C.I.C. 2021A/21 to C. in C.H.F.).

Your 1800A/21. Regret no A/S air escort available.

(A.C.I.C. 2202A/21 to C.S.18).

R.A.D.H.F. 2000/20. para.(3). Rescue tug ADHERENT returned after 9 days in mid-Atlantic and will be ready for sea about 0001/22. 2 Trawlers are available as escort.

(A.C.I.C. 2225A/21).

Casualties in P.Q.18. Following merchant ships were sunk up to 16/9.

(a) Sunk by S/M (3), STALINGRAD, OLIVER ELSWORTH, ATHELTEMPLAR,
(B) Sunk by torpedo - bomber (9), EMPIRE BEAUMONT, JOHN PENN, EMPIRE STEVENSON, WACOSTA, AFRIKANDER, OREGONIAN, MACBETH, SUKHONA, and MARY LUCKENBACH. One other merchant ship was damaged by explosion of MARY LUCKENBACH but continued to Russia.
2. All British and American survivors of above except cot cases were transferred safely, 209 in SCYLLA, ? remaining (corrupt group) in H.F. destroyer. 124 Russian survivors and 11 British or American cot cases were sent on to Russia.

(R.A.D.H.F. 2321A/21 to Admty).

O.S.41. Sailed LEITH to overtake O.S.41.
(N.O.I.C.Greenock 0234A/21).

/H.X.208, S.C.101.

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

- H.X.208. In view of forthcoming operation of a temporary
S.C.101. reinforcing group I shall be grateful if you
will ensure that escorts of H.X.208 and S.C.101
will conform to my W.A.General Message N.365
1231 6th June as amended W.A.general message N.370 1638 16th
June.
(C. in C.W.A. 0956/21 to C.T.F.24).
Plan to fuel corvettes at sea.(?Conserved) fuel for
corvettes from 2 tankers S.C. 100 on 17 and 18/9. 2200Z/21
weather report 4461-94611. Convoy still have to in approximately
same position.
(C.T.24-1-3 2325Z/21).
- Air Cover Increase air cover from Iceland (C) is now
from provided. Ships are to repeat all enemy reports to
Iceland. A.C.I.C. that will be of assistance to him when
arranging air protection.
(C. in C.W.A. 1204A/21 to A.I.G.32).
Air coverage of convoys by A/C based in Iceland is now
available to a radius of 800 miles. Southbound Commanders are to
include A.C.I.C. and Comtask 24.6 in addition to usual
addressees (?keeping) enemy reports within the air coverage area
in order that Auxiliary vessel operations may be effectively
arranged.
(Comtask 24.1403/21).
- R.U.41. R.U.41.Sailing postponed 24 hours on account of
weather.
(N.C.S.O.Iceland 1551A/21).
- W.N.39. Propose heaving to in position 7 miles due North
Strathy Point to await a.m. Pentland Firth tide
tomorrow. Orkneys R/V 0900/22. WESTMINSTER
now in company.
(SALTAREL/0 1625A/21 to A.C.O.S.).
- Scuttling. D.T.D.1728Z/21, to A.I.G.11 (R) B.A.D.) See
Foreign Stations.

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Shipping, British B.A.M.S. Lettered Message "JC".
 Scuttling. Ref. A.M.S.I. 177/42, in order to prevent shipping from falling into enemy hands, British Merchant Ships in the Atlantic Ocean south of the Equator or in the Indian Ocean are to scuttle themselves if attacked by surface raiders and if it is clear beyond reasonable doubt that they are about to be boarded by the enemy or if the crew have been ordered to abandon ship. (D.T.D., 1728Z/21 to A.I.G. 11.)
 Paraphrased version to A.I.G. 12 under T.O.O. 1829/21.

North Atlantic.

MIRROR, My 1605/20 (1805/20 intended) MIRROR arrived
 LEYLAND. Ponta Delgada 2100 G.M.T./20.
 (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 0905/21 to F.O.C.N.A.)
 2034/16. MIRROR reports operation completed and test figures reported to Cable and Wireless Head Office from Ponta Delgada.
 (2) Test shows cable broken in 38° 19' N. 26° 50' W. (3) Have ordered MIRROR to return Gibraltar on completion of LEYLAND fuelling at Ponta Delgada.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1248A/21 to Admty.)
 H.M. Trawler LEYLAND arrived Ponta Delgada 1530 G.M.T./21st.
 (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1510C/21 to S.O.I. Gib.)
 Your 1805/20th and 0905/21. Request you will convey to Portuguese authorities concerned my appreciation and sincere thanks for their help.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2204A/21 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, (R) Admty., B.N.A. Lisbon.)

LAVORO, Admty. 0232/20. Assume you will notify me when
 ARCOLA & preparations for sailings are complete. (2)
 TAIGETE Ship is to proceed Gibraltar for control and
 (Italian issue of route instruction before final
 Repatriations) departure.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1012A/21 to N.A. Madrid, (R) Admty.)

TALISMAN TALISMAN left Gibraltar p.m./10th route given as
 (overdue) in my 1208/9th and was subsequently ordered to
 pass through position given in Capt. (S) 10 1032/
 14, not to Admty.
 (ii) Your 1313/15. Following signals were made: TALISMAN
 1953/12 reporting P.C. and S. when astern bombing restrictions,
 0645/14 reporting U-Boat, 0854/14 reporting another U-Boat.
 (iii) My 2242/14. Aircraft photographs show that this was
 definitely not TALISMAN.
 (iv) Subject to any remarks by V.A. Malta understand Italians
 claimed a S/M about 17th and if so this might refer to TALISMAN.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1126A/21 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., etc.)

21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

P. 212 P. 212 after patrol off west coast of Sardinia
R. of P. reported: (1) 1 schooner sunk by gunfire off
Columbargia.
(2) 1 schooner sunk by gunfire off Cape
Argentiera. Shore battery opened fire.
(3) Torpedoes fired into wharves Buggerru exploded amongst
schooners.
(4) Firm M.D.U. contact off Cape Marargru.
(5) Cape Sandale light burning at full brilliancy on one
occasion.
(6) Tunny fishing off whole coast.
(7) 1 schooner sighted had lookout on bow and (? mast).
(F.O.C.N.A., 1340A/21 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., etc.)
W.D. Note:- Dates of these attacks 12/9, 15/9, 14/9, see
1136A/23.

Gibraltar, Your 1836/18.
Explosion (A) Good lookout most necessary. Lookouts are
in M/Vs. maintained in each M/V by either D.E.M.S. ratings
or one of ship's crew. In many ships 2 lookouts
are kept on watch. Captains are impressed with
importance of good lookout and told lookouts should be super-
vised by officers. Patrol boats are instructed to hail ships
frequently in order to ensure lookouts being alert.
(B) This is not considered to be necessary at present.
(C) Yes. 15 Aldis.
(D) Concur. Patrol boats and M/Vs have always been warned
about fishing boats. The difficulty is, as in the case of
RAVENS POINT, many ships have to anchor in water which Spanish,
not unreasonably, claim as theirs, where fishing is a perfectly
legitimate occupation, smuggling is traditional, and we have no
legal jurisdiction or control over movements of ships or boats.
(2) Use of Spanish waters by RAVENS POINT was necessitated
owing to restriction of British anchorage by A/T baffle.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1742A/21 to Admty.)

NIGERIA B.A.M.R's 1932/19.
(damaged When NIGERIA is ready for sea, she is to be
12/8.) sailed for Philadelphia at best speed.
2. Report anticipated S. of A.
(D.O.D.(F), 1743A/21 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MAURO At Barcelona.
CROCE. (N.A. Madrid, 1819/21.)
See Mediterranean.

Italian My 1140/20. Italian vessel left tonight 21st.
Ship at Approximate speed 10 knots.
Bougie. (R.O. Tangier, 2420/21(sic) to Admty., S.O.I.
Gib.)

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21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Movements. Arrived ILLUSTRIOUS, HOTSPUR, NIZAM.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0612Z/21 to Admty., etc.)

Convoy "Mincemeat". Situation report. PATHFINDER with "Mincemeat"
009° 55' 020° 50' 100° 9 at 2000Z/21st.
(R.A.W.A., 1031Z/21 to S.A. Stn.)

AURORA,
PARTRIDGE,
QUIBERON. Proceed Freetown with PARTRIDGE and QUIBERON
through positions X. 005° S. 006° E.
Z. 001° N. 001° E. B. 000° 01' N. 009° 17' W.
A. 007° 29' N. 014° 20' W.
(2) Report time of sailing and S. of A.
(R.A.W.A., 1043Z/21 to AURORA, (R) Admty., C. in
C. S.A., B.N.L.O. W.Africa, PARTRIDGE, QUIBERON.)

MILFORD. Your 1928/4. (Corrupt group) MILFORD is to be
sailed for Cape from Freetown at first opportunity.
If escort duty off Brazil can be completed in
time, propose she should arrive Freetown by 10/10 in order
to join escort of W.S. 23.
(R.A.W.A., 1101Z/21 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty.)

ASTURIAS,
ALCANTARA. Your 1621/18. Concur correction. *(Refer Programme)*
(C. in C. S.A., 1127C/21 to Admty.)

ADRASTUS. Your 1041/19. ADRASTUS should follow
instructions of M.W.T.R. Lagos.
(D.T.D., 1222A/21 to R.A.W.A., (R) N.O.I.C.
Lagos.)

ORISSA,
crew trouble. Crew of H.M.I.S. ORISSA refused duty on 17/9
when C.O. stopped all leave as result of
incident on shore. Entire crew now under
arrest at East London. Intend to man ORISSA
with R.N. Officers and ratings for passage to India and send
R.I.N. Officers and crew by freight to Bombay.
(2) Incident on shore arose over local colour bar which
prohibited Indian ratings from using European other ratings
bar. To minimize possibility of recurrence recommend ships
manned by Indian ratings should spend minimum possible time
Union ports.
(C. in C. S.A., 1251C/21 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.R.I.N., R.A.W.A.)

CHARON
PRUDENT. Your 1137/20.
CHARON, Freetown - until relieved by DESTINY.
PRUDENT - allocated to C. in C. E.F. for
Mayotta until relieved by BOLD.
(C.C.R.T., 1341A/21 to R.A.W.A.)

/Shipping ...

21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Shipping, British Ship CITY OF LINCOLN was routed to
Bunkers. Pernambuco for oil bunkers in accordance with
M.A.R.I. Sect. A. para. 7 (3) and because of
D. of S.T's 1927A/25 to P.S.T.O. Capetown re
shortage of fuel at Freetown. Now understood from M.W.T.
that similar shortage exists at Pernambuco and that ships
should have been sent to Trinidad. Request clarification
of bunkering position for ships of over 15 knots proceeding
to U.S. Ports.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown, 1421Z/21 to Admty.)

THYME, Departure 0818 G.M.T./21 THYME with Neth. S/M
O. 19. O.19 for Simonstown routed as in para. 3 C. in
C. S.A. 1335/16 (N.T. in W.R.) to position C
thence to 035° 20' S. 020° 00' E. thence to
Simonstown, S. of A. 12 knots, E.T.A. Simonstown
0600Z/23rd.
(N.O.I.C. E. London, 1447Z/21 to Admty., etc.)

Operation My 1304/14. Operation "Volley" cancelled due
"Volley". to severity of weather.
See next page. (2) Ventura aircraft carried out patrols on a
330 mile front to 41° S. daily. Considered
this can be extended to 42° S. in future.
(3) Although patrols were unproductive much valuable
experience gained.
(C. in C. S.A., 1550C/21 to Admty.)
Question re repetition.
(Admty., 1121A/23.)

ROYAL Capetown arrival 20th and departure 1245Z/21
SOVEREIGN, ROYAL SOVEREIGN, ANTHONY and DUNCAN for R/V
ANTHONY, with Tanker BULKOIL off James Bay, St. Helena
DUNCAN, at 1200Z/26 for fuel thence with BULKOIL in
BULKOIL. company to Freetown S. of A. 15 knots.
(2) Route (A) 030° 00' S. 008° 00' E. St.
Helena. (B) 008° 00' S. 018° 10' W. (C) 000°
010' S. 017° 50' W. thence as ordered by R.A.W.A.
(3) Governor St. Helena requested to report following for
ROYAL SOVEREIGN. (A) Departure St. Helena. (B) S. of A.
(C) E.T.A. 015° S. (D) E.T.A. Freetown.
(C. in C. S.A., 1631C/21 to Admty., etc.)

NEWCASTLE. Capetown at 0858Z/21 NEWCASTLE for Pernambuco
S. of A. 18 knots E.T.A. 0900Z/29th.
(ii) Routed A. 029° 40' S. 005° 00' E.
B. 023° 20', 010° W. C. 015° 15', 025°.
(iii) W/T watch.
(iv) U.S. Naval authorities Pernambuco requested to provide
NEWCASTLE with onward route to Bermuda.
(C. in C. S.A., 1651C/21 to Admty., C.T.F.23, etc.)

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- C.M. 32. Convoy C.M. 32 sailed for Aden 19/9 E.T.A. 4/10. Personnel on board PULASKI, ELISABETHVILLE, CITY OF CANTERBURY, CITY OF PARIS. (D.S.T.O. Durban, 1707/21 to D.S.T.O. Aden.)
- SARTHE. Overdue shipping my 1745/20, cancel all reference to SARTHE. (C. in C. S.A., 1731C/21 to Admty., etc.)
- Force V. Operation "Volley" having been concluded the title of S.O. Force V has now lapsed. (C. in C. S.A., 1809/21 to Admty.) *See previous page*
- VIMEIRA (sunk 11/8) N.C.S.O's 2032Z/20th for SILVIA DE LAGENGA read SYLVIA DE LARRINAGA throughout. Para. 3 for 0410/14 read 1610/14 (2032/20 amended). Substitute D.E.M.S. personnel survivors ex VIMEIRA being discharged Freetown first opportunity. (Names). (N.O.I.C. Takoradi, 1811Z/21 to Admty.)
- GUARDIAN. Expect GUARDIAN will require to arrive Freetown not later than (a) 25/10; or (b) Possibly 2/11. Request an estimate of the length of B.1 defence which will have been laid in each case. (D.O.D.(F), 1831A/21 and 0019A/22 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., F.O.C.N.A.)
- Dakar R/C. Air R/C of Dakar on 20/9 shows following arrived since 18/8:- 1 Galissonniere Class Cruiser, 2 Fantasque Destroyers, 3 Redoubtable Class submarines and 1 escort vessel, and no departures. Merchant ship CEPHEE has moved from Mole 8 to Outer Road. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1921Z/21 to Admty.)
- U/B Campaign. A B.2 report states that a concentrated attack by German and Italian U-Boats will shortly begin against shipping to Middle East in order to assist Rommel.
- Comment. There has been considerable W/T traffic from German and Italian U-Boats in area North of Ascension between 12/9 and 17/9 and there may have been up to 8 U-Boats in this area and off Gold Coast. Apparently these did not operate in Freetown area whilst on passage South. 2 tankers which have been attempting to leave Biscay since 10/8 and which now appear to have broken out may be intended to supply these U-Boats. (D.D.I.C., 2010A/21 to S. and A. S.A., S.B.N.O.W.A., Cominch, Comnavu, C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.N.A.)

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. Following has been read. P.C.S. of 1 enemy M/V and 1 destroyer 37.30 N 12.02 E 210° 10 knots. (Med. A/C 0040/21.)

TAKU. You have freedom of continuing in your present area.
(Capt. S.1. 0205C/21 to TAKU. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.10.)

Cositrep 524. 2nd Part. 1. Air. 19/9. Beaufighters from Malta bombed and machine gunned 3 schooners off Tripoli, scoring near misses. 1 schooner left stationary and emitting smoke.
2. Night 19/20. Aircraft from Malta and Egypt attacked with bombs and torpedoes southbound convoy 2 M/Vs 7 destroyers off S.W. coast of Greece. Effective smoke screen rendered attacks difficult and obscured results, but near misses claimed on 1 destroyer.
3. Tobruk harbour bombed. Fires and large explosion caused on docks, another fire near petrol installations
(C. in C. M.E. 1150/21.)

TALISMAN presumed lost. Request to report TALISMAN 3 days overdue and has failed to answer signals and must be considered lost.
See p. 616
2. TALISMAN left Gibraltar 10/9 on passage to Malta and reported sighting (?U-Boat) in 37° 48' N 6° 00' E at 0845B/15 since when no news of her.
3. Cause of loss unknown but mining in Sicilian Channel possible. No reason to suppose books compromised.
4. Capt. S.10 and Capt. S.8 are requested to report any other known details and casualties direct to Admty.
(C. in C. Med. 1245C/21 to Admty. (R) V.A.M. etc.)
Italian news evening 19th claims torpedo boat on escort duty sank submarine. The 2000 ton southbound merchant ship sunk by Beaufighter in Gulf of Hammamet 1740/17 would have been passing Marittimo between 1800 and 2400/16 about same time as TALISMAN. This ship was moving south without escort when attacked by air. I fear TALISMAN attacked this ship and was successfully hunted and counter attacked. It seems probable passage route is not compromised nor mined and intend moving UTMOST to Hammamet tomorrow and bring P.37 through.
In future intend to revert to submerged passage only of Q.B.B.255 since route is vital to us and R.D.F. may be used by enemy.
(Capt. S.10 1905B/21 to C. in C. Med. (R) F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.8.)

Destroyers and S/Ms built for Turkey. Personal from Adm. Kelly for 1st. S.L. Your 1001/19 Have consulted Ambassador who agrees we should take no action and make no preparation until matter is raised by Turks when it can be treated on its merits. The present Prime Minister and M.F.A. were 2 Turks who were party to arrangement.
(N.A. Ankara 1545C/21 to Admty. (R) F.L.O. Delhi. Ambassador, Ankara.)

/Genoa...

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21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

Genoa Air R/C 19/9 (details)
Spezia (D.D.I.C. 1550A/21 to C. in C. Med. etc.)
Leghorn

Situation Submarines. TRAVELLER sank heavily laden merchant
report ship N.E. of Derna on 5/9. At 2140/5 in 33° 17' N
No.268. 21° 59' E. Estimated one hit on 3000 ton merchant
ship. *for amount of loss: see 25/9 p 740.*
2. P.44 sank by gunfire and torpedoes one 200 ton
schooner and a small merchant ship in Ziliten Roads (West of Ras
Misurata) on 17th September.
3. Malta. 3 schooners attacked by Beaufighters with bombs and
canon fire east of Tripoli 18/9. All ships hit and one left
stationary on fire.
4. TALISMAN overdue and must be considered lost. (see my 1245
21/9.) *Missing page*
(C. in C. Med. 1639C/21 to Admty.)

MAURO Please repeat amount and character of suspected
CROCE cargo discharged.
(Italian) Can any explanation be given of why petrol and
arrived crude oil are destined for submarines? Can this
Barcelona be a mistake for diesel oil?
27/8. (N.A. Madrid 1819/21 to Barcelona (R) Admty.
Gibraltar.)
W.D. Note: Barcelona 1131/19 refers.

Malta I.699. 21/9. C.S.R. Malta.
Air 20th. 1315 hours 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol
Report. South Sicily. 1409 hours 5 Spitfires up for raids
which turned back before reaching Malta. 1432
hours, sections of Spitfires made R/C patrol S.W.
Sicily, no enemy aircraft sighted. 1502 hours, 10 Spitfires up
but raiders turned back before reaching Island. 1630 hours, 2
Spitfires on anti-E.Boat patrol south of Sicily sighted nothing.
Night 20/21. No enemy air activity 1 Beaufighter returning from
intruder patrol S.W. Sicily attacked 2330 hours 1 100 foot ship
off shore near Marina Di Palma scoring numerous hits.
21st. 0713 hours, 4 Spitfires up for raiders which returned before
reaching Malta. 0908 hours 20 plus raiders approached Malta,
partial R.D.F. interference, 27 Spitfires up but saw nothing
except 2 Me.109s at great height which avoided combat and returned.
0648 hours 1 vessel probably the schooner attacked by Beaufighters
1635 hours (my I.697) photographed in tow 15 miles East of
Tripoli course west speed 3 knots.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1900/21.)

Landing C. in C. M.E's O/51010 (1755/20) Approved for
craft these landing craft to be shipped to India subject
for to your concurrence.
India. 2. It will not be possible to replace these craft
from U.K. for several months.
(D of P Approved D.O.D. F. 2029A/21 to C. in C.
Med. (R) C. in C. M.E. etc.)

/ZULU...

War Diary.

21.9.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

ZULU
casualties.

Your 1759C/19 and 0859C/20, confirm that the 4
officers and 34 ratings casualties ZULU are killed.
Your *2345C/17 and *2348/17 states
(A) 1 officer 10 ratings killed.
(B) 3 officers 24 ratings missing.
(C.W. C. 2045A/21 to C. in C. Med.)

*N.T. & W.D.

War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Scheme
N.A. 2.Request reply to my 0505Z/6.
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 0412Z/21 to Admty).OCEAN HONOUR
(torpedoed
16/9).OCEAN HONOUR torpedoed in 12° 48' N., 50° 50' E.
0600C/16. 1 boat 17 survivors landed Aden.
1 boat 16 survivors last seen 11° 48' N., 48° 46'
E. a.m./19. S/M seen had 2 guns and was very
large. Air search for survivors being carried out
from Aden. All C.B.S. dumped in weighted bags.
S/M shelled ship as she did not immediately sink.
(Com. Aden, 0732Z/21 to C. in C. E.F., C. in C.
Med., etc).Aircraft
and Blockade
Runners.Following received from Admiralty. Several of
our aircraft have been shot down during recent
interception of enemy supply ships and
blockade runners in Bay of Biscay. These vessels
(?are) very well armed and aircraft should be
warned to close suspicious ships with care.
(C. in C. E.F., 0854Z/21 to V.A.E.F. R.A.(A) E.F.
C.S.4 etc).AMIRAL
PIERRE
(French).Your 1342/20 (search by ILLUSTRIOUS unsuccessful)
Can any other ships be sent to search for her?
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1307A/21 to C. in C. E.F. (R)
C. in C. S.A.)
(2) Your 1307/21. RANCHI has been sent.
(C. in C. E.F., 2128Z/21 to Admty (R) C. in C. S.A.)Troop
Transport.Cancel my 1731/18.
War Office state movement of battalion from Suez
to East Africa is not now required.
(D.O.D. (F), 1308A/21 to C. in C. E.F., F.O.I.C.
E. Africa).Shipping
Routes.Pass to N.C.S.Os. Shipping in Gulf of Aden.
Following routes are to be brought into force
forthwith.

1. Shipping to and from Persian Gulf Karachi,
and Bombay. Westbound traffic within 10 miles to
North and Eastbound traffic within 10 miles to South of a line
through following positions (L) 012° 43' N., 046° 00' E.
(M) 014° 51' 052° 40' (N) 017° 25' 057° 30'.
 2. Shipping to and from Ceylon and the South. Westbound traffic
within 10 miles to South and Eastbound within 10 miles to
North of a line through following positions (E) 011° 06' 046° 00'
(F) 011° 30' 047° 15'. (G) 012° 18' 051° 00' (H) 013° 12' 054°
00'.
 3. Southbound ships are to proceed through Guardafui Channel
after passing through position (G).
 4. Lettered positions for foregoing traffic lane may be omitted
from Vescas and convoy route signals but the designations Gan
(Gulf of Aden North) and Gas (Gulf of Aden South). are to be
used instead.
- (C. in C. E.F., 1442Z/21 to E.I. Stn).

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Madagascar,
work of the
Navy.

With reference to part played by Navy in recent operations Madagascar I requested G.O.C. and Local Control to give no indication in communique of movability or composition of Naval Forces taking part of under whose orders they were acting. My reason was that doubt on these points would help conceal absence of Eastern Fleet Ships from their Station.

2. Although admirably planned and executed operations by Joint Force Commanders was in very large measure responsible for so little opposition being encountered, I feel as Naval Forces were not engaged in any serious fighting it is desirable reference should be restricted to part played by Navy in bringing assaulting and occupying troops safely to their destination and landing themselves at exact time on their prescribed beaches.

3. EREBUS pass to G.O.C. EA.
(C. in C. E.F., 1605Z/21 to Admty (R) S.O. Force M., etc).

ALAUNIA
Hormuz.

Your 2301/19 (N.T. in W.D.) ALAUNIA will be retained at Hormuz for 1 month to carry out duty of N.O.I.C. With return of (?Officers) from Madagascar operation it is now possible to provide Secretary and S.O. Operations from station resources. N.O.I.C. must be provided from U.K.
(C. in C. E.F., 1700Z/21 to Admty (R) S.N.O.P.G.)

Liaison
with U.S.N.

Your 1849/18. This proposal does not meet my requirements as it is particularly desirable that both I and my staff should be able to question U.S. officer on many points which require elucidation. I should be most grateful therefore if my original proposals may stand.

2. Cdr. Clark will bring long questionnaire with him but I (?welcome) proposal to send British officer to observe operations.

3. For Admty only. In view of Cdr. Clark's forthcoming visit officer referred to in para. 2 need not necessarily be sent from Eastern Fleet. Are any British officers available in U.S.A. to carry out this duty?

(C. in C. E.F., 1958Z/21 to B.A.D., (R) Admty).

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21.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B Positions. C.E.S.F.'s 1850/20 to all commands concerned with S/M reports informs as follows, S/M estimate 0800/21. (Comnaveu 0026/21 to Admty).

A/S Tactics. This is C.T.F. 24's 2135/20. Addressed C. in C.W. A.(R) Cinclant, Cominch, from C.T.F. 24. C. in C. W.A. 1735Z/14. Consider it most desirable that operational policies for escorts be as nearly alike on both sides of CHOP as the variables of the strategic and tactical situations permit. I therefore believe that it would be helpful and would contribute to uniformity if I could have an opportunity to acquaint C. in C. Western Approaches with my views on matters such as (A/S) tactics before promulgation of instructions which must inevitably affect details of operations in Western Atlantic. With particular reference C. in C.W.A. 1735Z/14, I consider the restricting of anti-trailing sweeps to be playing into the enemy's hand. Daylight submerged attacks can only be launched after attaining favourable position in the van, and this the enemy can accomplish with leisurely accuracy if all escorts remain close to convoy. Failure to operate against trailers on the flanks permits unhampered homing of the pack and also permits trailers to be in handy position and in full force for (?night) surface attacks.. Maximum scale of offensive action after attack would not appear to hold any more promise of success than heretofore, and at night may deplace escort at the time when other attacks are imminent. On the other hand, maximum offensive action before attack hampers enemy plans and reduces scale of his attack. Recommend following general policy as best counter against the potentiality of both daylight, submerged and night surface attacks, and upon receipt of your concurrence will explain its possibilities to escort unit Commanders, who in last analysis must make their own decisions and tactical dispositions:-

(A) During daylight at least 2 escorts operate distantly ahead and on flanks to prevent assembly and gaining favourable positions for either submerged or surface approaches.

(B) During daylight maintain as many escorts with convoy as is consistent with efficient performance of (A).

(C) During daylight dispose escorts with convoy in such manner as to cope with submerged attacks, having regard for limiting area for which submerged approach can be made (forward beam of convoy).

(D) During hours of darkness dispose escorts to make best use of asdic and radar to prevent both submerged and surface attacks also sweeping round convoy and investigating D/F bearings as indicated.

(E) Deliver punishing counter-attacks as may be consistent with not weakening escort to the point of being incapable of dealing with succeeding waves of attack.

(Radio Washington 0517Z/21 to C. in C.W.A.) Reply 1903Z/22. Strongly concur (Cominch 2148/22)

U/B. Intercepted at 0537 G.M.T. de San Juan. Radio San Jan CK 10 0032 G.M.T./21 S/M sound contact. 13.36. 56.13 at 0032/21. N.A.U. (Port Patrick Radio, 0637/21, N.A.U. 0700/21). My last message Warning urgent Gr.10 found contact 18 /36. 66/13, at 0032/21. (N.A.U.0750/21). W.D.Note. Position differs from former.

/ESSO.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

ESSO Received at 0824 G.M.T. from KVOF. (ESSO
WILLIAMSBURG/1. WILLIAMSBURG/1). pass to Admiralty. From:-
KVOF MSG 1 CK.73 strong distress signals were
heard here all day on 600 metres at 1 hour and
2 hour intervals sometimes at 30 minutes after the hour and other
times at 45 minutes after the hour. Signals consisted of distress
signal sent 3 times followed, by a 4 second, and repeated for app-
roximately 2 minutes. A blue flare was sighted at 2230 G.M.T./
20 at 43.30 N. 42.30 W, filed 2250Z/20.
(Portishead Radio 0834 G.M.T./21 to Admty, C. in C.W.A.).

French A.M.2024Z/16th. French Corvettes will be
Corvettes. afforded every possible opportunity to visit
St. Pierre consistent, with voyage repairs and
short turn around periods. On last 2 visits
RENONCULE and LOBELIA have had only 48 hours in port.
(C.T.24, 0945/21 to N.O.I.C. Greenock, Admty, (R) C. in C.W.A.
Capt. (D) Greenock, F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.N.S.H.Q.).

Coastal N.S.H.Q.. 1433/10 and 2154/18.
Convoy (1) All convoy movements in Gulf and Caribbean
Signals. required at this centre also coastal Atlantic
convoys in and out of this area including N.K.C.N.
(2) Propose (A) B.A.D. request Cominch C. and R.
include S.O.(I) Jamaica in addressees summaries, Cominch 2031/9
refers.
(B) B.R.O.S. and U.S.R.O.S. all ports be instructed discontinue
convoy signals to S.O.(I) Jamaica.
(3) Exceptions to YWK (B) to be (A) Guantanamo to continue
reporting sailings to Caribbean Ports reason being time factor.
(B) Trinidad to continue reporting east bound convoys which
required for early promulgation to continuous areas.
(4) If Cominch does not concur, propose (A) ports this area
continue reporting as at present (B) N.S.H.Q. instruct B.R.O.S.
his area report to this centre as follows:-
Departures (I) Convoy destination.
(II) date and time G.M.T. departure (III) E.T.A. at
convoy destination. (IV) Names of ships and final destinations
(if for South Atlantic signal to state via Trinidad or Colon).
Arrivals. (I) Key West and Gulf Ports to be reported in Vesca
form. (II) Atlantic Coast ports not required.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1028Q/21 to B.A.D. Admty, N.S.H.Q.).

Movements 1800 G.M.T./21.
Summary. Ship Position Course Speed
* Convoy T.9 }
VIMY } 18½ N. 51½ W. 065 9
BURDOCK }
S/M O.15. 52 N, 41.W. 055 9½
WHITEHALL 49½N. 48½W. 243 15
(D.O.D. (F) 1052Z/31 to Opnav (R) Comnavu).

* ~~10~~ p. 598
Dispositions My 1135/10. Scapa. Add VICTORIOUS, RODNEY, 1
destroyer delete NELSON.
(D.O.D. (H) 1208A/21 to C. in C.U.S. Fleet).

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

ILEX. My 1612/20 ILEX returned Charleston, probably
See bottom of next page. sailed 1600Z/22nd.
 (B.R.O. Charleston 1349Z/21. to Admty) See 2205/21.

U/B Positions. S/M estimate 21/9 and U.S.S/M notice.
 (Cominch, 1631/21, 1632/21, 1633/21, 1634/21, 1635/21 to Admty).

PENELOPE. At what time should PENELOPE pass through
 49° 30' N. 07° 40' W. en route for Portsmouth?
 Time of sailing from Bermuda will be adjusted to
 comply.
 (S.B.N.O.W.A. 1742P/21 to C. in C.Plymouth).

U/B attacked by A/C 20/9. My 1801/20. Contact lost.
 (S.O.(I) Jamaica 1742Q/21 to Admty, S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D.).

U/B attacked. Trinidad reports aircraft attack on S/M 1136Z/21
 in 009° 28' 058° 22', result unknown.
 (S.O.(I) Jamaica 1743Q/21 to Admty, S.B.N.O.W.A. B.A.D.).

OLAF FOSTENES Survivors. At 1500Z/21 ^{St John's N.F.} my P.C. and S. 45.36 N. 45.02 W. 112°
 16. E.T.A. survivors SS.OLAF FOSTENES, 2230Z/21.
 Weather report.
 (PICTOU, 1802Z/21 to C.T.F.24 (R) Connav etc).

VANOC VETERAN River Steamers. My 1455/19. Sailed VANOC and VETERAN escorting
 River Steamers less VIRGINIA LEE routed to Londonderry direct by Great Circle.
 (F.O.N.F. 1803Z/21 to Admty (R) C. in C.U.S. Fleet etc)

WITCH CHURCHILL. Owing to lack of heating apparatus WITCH is
 considered unsuitable for employment with Western Local Escort Force at Halifax during winter conditions.
 It is proposed that WITCH exchange duties with CHURCHILL now in B.5. group.
 If Cominch and N.S.H.Q. concur request they will order the exchange to take place on a date convenient to both.
 (D.O.D.(H) 1856A/21 to Cominch N.S.H.Q.)
 (Concur Cominch 2136/22, N.S.H.Q. 1420/23).

D/F Brazil. For Sandwith from Op - 20 - G.
 Proceeding to establish 5 direction finder stations in Brazil as recommended by radio intelligence conference last April. Tentative locations subject to Brazilian approval Belem, Recife, Bahia, Santos, Rio Grande.
 Negotiating with Brazilian authorities.

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War Diary.21.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - contd.D/F
Brazil.
Contd.

2. Assembly of personnel and equipment under way. Arrangements will have to be made for necessary flash service via British cable serving these ports and also between control centre at Recife and Washington.
(Opnav 2010/21 to Admtly).

Sub Attack
and
sighting
summary.

MONTE GORBEA torpedoed and sunk 14.55 N. 60° W. 1820Z/20, U.S.S. SATURN 2 torpedo misses 43.20 N. 61.01 W. 0720Z/21.
CALIFORNIA, 2 torpedoes shelled O joined O or Y letters possibly T and N conning tower, U- 88 type. Lifeboat CALIFORNIA alongside Sub. 4/9, black elephant under two green cocoanut trees. Chief Officer CALIFORNIA boarded Sub. saw German code book dated 1931 near periscope. 5 Subs sighted about 56.25 N. 38.05 W. 1058 to 1331Z/20.
A. 29 plane attacks sub. on surface 11.02 N. 57.05 W. 20/9 course N. Blue green colour. Plane attacks Sub. possibly Italian 11° N. 56.45 W. 1629Z/20; after initial attack Sub. surfaced and exchanged machine gun fire with plane. Possibly damaged.
B. OLAF FOSTENES presumed attacked and sunk 44.50 N. 42° W. about 2025Z/19. P.C. 588 attacks propellor and sound contact 10.05 N. 79.35 W. 0410Z/29/8.
C. U.S.S. WILKES attacks sound contact 42.19 N. 57.30 W. 5045ZD/23/8 U.S.S. OVERTON attacks sound contact 35.21 N. 75.10 W. 0342Z/27. Fishermen sight 2 S/Ms, one conning tower, one fully surfaced, 0345 S 38.27 W. 0500Z/20/9.
D. U.S.S. SWANSON attacks sound contact 42.59 N. 61.58 W. 2151Z/22/8 (Cominch 2119/21 to Admtly for O.I.C.).

Halifax
as Convoy
Port.

Your 0102Z/20 is greatly appreciated. N.C.S.O. Staff at Halifax would be only too glad to render assistance if called upon.
(N.S.H.Q. 2125Z/21 to Admtly (R) B.A.D. etc).

U/B Sunk
by
GEORGIAN.

(Not confirmed by Lt. R. B. B. in land. 6842)

GEORGIAN reports (?S/M) contact at 2125/21st in 049° 02' N. 063° 59' W.
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2135Z/21, to C.T. F.24 (R) Connnav et al)
Following received from GEORGIAN (begins):-
S/M surfaced, send assistance, 2135/21. (Ends).
(N.O.I.C. Quebec 2146Z/21, to C.T.F.24 (R) Connnav etc).

My 2135/21, not to SALISBURY. GEORGIAN reports S/M sank. Further signals following (See 0324/22)
(N.O.I.C. Gaspe 2331Z/21 to C.T.F.24 (R) Connnav, Admtly, C. in C W.A., N.S.H.Q. F. O.N.F. C.O.A.C.C.T.G. 24.7. N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B., N.O.I.C. Quebec, SALISBURY).

U/B.

S/M sighted 58.36 N. 35.08 W. at 1415 G.C.T./21. (Cominch 2150/21 to B.A.M.S. Area 1A, B.A.M.S. Area 2A., Admtly).

TLEX.

See Memo page. (10/2)

Your 2017/19. para (2). (1) U.S. Authorities have agreed to additional time being spent at Guantanamo where facilities are good.

/(2).....

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War Diary

21.9.1942.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

ILEX
Contd.

(2) ILEX further delayed by boiler defects. She should sail Key West about 24/9. Her date of completion working up practices at Guantanamo will therefore be about 27/10.
(B.A.D. 2205Z/21 to Admiralty (R) ILEX S.B.N.O.W.A)

Lourenco
Marques.

Your 1957/19. A.Strategic material comprises essential products for use in war effort of which supply in U.S.A. is limited or non-existent.
B.Request from Aluslo Capetown on security grounds
No details given.

C.Eastbound U.S.ships stopping only for fuel Westbound United Nations ships entering U.S. strategic area.
(B.A.D. 2343Z/21 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A.).

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21.9.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation Digest Serial No. 242. 20/9.
2 enemy supply ships reported Buka passage 19/9.
2 schooners reported operating off east and west entrances Buka passage past few days possibly engaged minelaying. 1 small vessel reported off west end of Buka passage proceeding northerly course 20/9.
2. Indications enemy developing landing strip at Hopoi (20 miles east Lae) also new strip reported under construction Paiawac (30 miles S.S.E. Salamaua).
3. 5 Beaufighters strafed 5 barges and 1 tug at Lae wharf 20/9. All vessels believed burnt also possible damage to wharf.
4. 6 Bostons bombed and strafed Buna Kokoda Road morning 20/9, fires started.
5. 12 Kittihawks strafed Kokoda Efogi Wairopi area morning 20/9, many huts attacked, large fire started Kagi.
6. Patrol activity continues Ioriba Wa Area.
7. Further indications enemy activity eastern coast Normandy Island.
8. 1 enemy aircraft dropped bombs Port Moresby area night 19/9.
B.A.D. pass to Opnav.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0623/21 to Admty etc).

Attack on Japanese Battleships. IZ. 1559. No. 23186/C. Press today quotes communique of Navy Department Washington dated 19th announcing that on 14/9 enemy battleships were sighted N.E. of Tulagi and they (?) were possibly hit by bombs.
2. No intimation of this has appeared in digest covering events up to 16th. Latest digest received is no. 240 but No. 239 is still missing.
(Arminia, 0625Z/21 to Air Min. for C.O.S.)

Cruiser Armaments. Your 1512/18 (Modernisation of armaments on Dominion and Commonwealth 6" Cruisers) has been referred to Comsopac for comment. Further signal will be made.
(N.Z.N.B., 1532M/21, to Admty).

NIEUW AMSTERDAM. N.Z.N.Bs. 1812/15. Request addressees signal proposals for escort of NIEUW AMSTERDAM to Suez. Approx. date of disembarkation at Suez in A.M. 1541/8 should now read 14/10 and date of arrival of ship in New Zealand would therefore be about 10/11.
(D.O.D. (F), 1854A/21 to N.Z.N.B., C. in C. E.F., A.C.N.B., (R) F.O. Ceylon, F.O.R.S.C.A., P.S.T.O. Egypt). Reply N.Z.N.B., 1705M/22.
C. CEF, 13072/6/10.

Solomon Islands. Washops. Solomon Is. There has been a lull in fighting at Guadalcanal since enemy's unsuccessful attempt to capture airfield on night of 13/14/9 Activity confined to minor patrols, sniping and occasional skirmishes between enemy and U.S. Marines. Supplies and reinforcements have reached Allied Forces.
(J.S.C.O. Washington, 1911Z/21 to Admty etc).

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21.9.1942.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1324A/21, 1403A/21).

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

P.R.U. of Altafiorden and Langefiord at 1630 today sighted two destroyers but no major units.

Q.P.14.
attacked.

At 0626A today shortly after R.A.D. in MILNE had left the convoy, Q.P.14 was attacked by U-Boats about 60 miles S.W. of Jan Mayen Island and BELLINGHAM, OCEAN VOICE and R.F.A. Tanker GRAY RANGER were torpedoed and sunk. The convoy is being continuously shadowed by aircraft.

Operation
E.V.

V.A.2 in ANSON with DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, KEPPEL, MONTROSE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY and ?BROKE, and C.S.18 in NORFOLK with SUFFOLK, LONDON, CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD and 4 destroyers arrived at Hvalfiord this evening.

HUGH WALPOLE attacked a U-Boat this evening west of Ru Stoer, Hebrides, and left the S/M definitely leaking and herself returned to Stornoway early on 23rd, damaged.

The 20th Escort Group less "Esses" (see 16/9) sailed from Londonderry this evening to overtake O.N.132. (SARDONYX, SALADIN, SCIMITAR sailed at 0830/23 and SABRE at 2150A/23 to relieve SARDONYX who returned with defect.)

C. in C. Nore proposes that a small trawler Oropesa mine clearance force, to be known as the Lowestoft Mine Clearing Force shall be established, to be available for searching and mine clearance on nights on which the weather is suitable for E-Boat operations.

The port of Archangel was closed from 0730A today until 0815A/23 on account of suspected minelaying.

South Atlantic.

As a result of a revision of convoy policy it is intended temporarily to discontinue sailing S.L. convoys subsequent to S.L.125.

HOTSPUR and NIZAM proceeded at 1720Z today from Durban to search for French SS. AMIRAL PIERRE, believed to have a Japanese agent on board, probably in 24° 49' S 47° 19' E at 0710Z/20. Aircraft from Maputa are to co-operate tomorrow.

/ILLUSTRIOUS...

War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - Contd.

ILLUSTRIOUS's aircraft made a short search on 20/9 whilst on passage to Durban, but had to abandon the search on account of shortage of fuel in the escorting destroyers.

Mediterranean.

Beauforts at dusk today torpedoed a 5000 to 6000 ton merchant ship or tanker from Taranto escorted by 3 destroyers 10 miles west of Antipaxos. Six Wellingtons attacked again at 2320 and obtained near misses with bombs on the merchant vessel.

Eight U.S. heavy bombers successfully attacked the port of Benghazi at dusk today: direct hits were made on two 7000 to 8000 ton vessels which were set on fire one of these being entirely destroyed. 11 British Liberators which followed up with a night attack found the harbour covered in smoke with fires and bombed through the smoke starting further fires. Photos on 23/9 showed 1 M/V of 7-8000 tons destroyed, and another of similar tonnage damaged.

N.L.O. Black Sea reports that a Russian submarine on 7/9 sank the Rumanian destroyer MARAS/ES/TI.

East Indies.

U.S. PAUL LUCKENBACH was torpedoed at 1415Z today in position reported to be 10° 3' N 63° 42' E (450 miles E by S of Socotra)

America and West Indies.

Further attacks on S.C.100.

Convoy S.C.100 (reported hove to 21/9, see Home Commands.) was again attacked by U/B at 2228Z today in 58° 24' N 33° 38' W and tanker ATHELSTULTAN was torpedoed and sunk; about 50 men are missing, including Commodore Gale. TENNESSEE, a straggler was torpedoed and sunk at 2340Z. The escorts made three effective counter attacks and it is believed destroyed or badly damaged one U-Boat.

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22.9.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Admiral Miles. Admiral Miles arrived Archangel p.m.yesterday and leaves for U.K. by Catalina 0800A to-day. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 0731A/22 to Admty).

Eagle Ships for Methil. Your 2046A/21. C. in C.Nore 1228/14. Understood armament of GOATFELL and SCAWFELL consist of.
(1) 12 Pdr (1) 2 Pdr.(2) 0.5 inch Mk.111 and (4) Boulton Paul Turrets and though their sea-keeping qualities are superior to BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN, their armament is considered inferior and unsuitable for A.A.Guardships at Methil. Following proposal is put forward:- GLENAVON and GLENUSK to be allocated to Methil until GOATFELL and SCAWFELL have been re-armed in accordance with A.M./L.D. 03751/42 of 29/8/42. BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN to be surrendered on arrival of the first named ships.
(C. in C.Rosyth 1040A/22 to Admty).

Lowestoft Mine Clearing Force. 1. It is desired to have a small trawler Oropesa mine-clearing force available at anchor off Yarmouth or Lowestoft on nights on which the weather is suitable for E-Boat operations.
2. The duty of this Force will be to proceed, when ordered at best speed to any suspected part of the Searched Channel in the Yarmouth or Lowestoft area and to search in G. formation this part of the Channel or any ordered diversion and if mines are found to continue clearing them till relieved by Fleet Minesweepers.
3. It is essential that the officer in charge of the Force should have the latest information before sailing and should be acquainted with convoy time tables. It is therefore suggested that he should be ashore and should be sent out to vessels before they sail. It is most important that he should send information as to progress of operation and any recommendations for the safe passage of the convoy.
4. It is suggested that the force should be provided by the Lowestoft Base and that it should be known as the Lowestoft Mine Clearing Force. It should comprise one or more vessels for Dan laying. It can be employed on routine searches in Lowestoft area, when not required for clearance work.
5. It is not intended that the force should normally be sailed so as to arrive on the main searched channels before daylight.
6. Request your proposals.
(C. in C.Nore 1316A/22 to F.O.I.C.Yarmouth).

Indication of Operation Days. As from 25/9 the method of referring to days of operations is to be amended as follows to conform to United States' practice.
Initial day of operation is to be referred to as D day, second as D plus 1, third day as D plus 2, and so on. No change in designation of days preceding the operation, that is to say the day before D day is D minus 1 and so on. All previous instructions on this matter are cancelled.
(Air Ministry 1802A/22 to all R.A.F.Units).

/Corvettes...

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy - Contd.Corvettes
with
Oerlikon.

Your 1240A/23/8. The following are the dates of completion for Corvettes being fitted with Oerlikons. CONVULVULUS 29/9; MARIGOLD, 28/9; SAMPHIRE 29/9; PENSTEMON Complete; VETCH 29/9; GARDENIA 24/9.
(F.O.I.C.Liverpool 1815A/22 to C. in C.W. A.).

Movements.

P.51.

First Lieutenant suffering haemorrhage. Intend returning to Falmouth for medical attention. Present position 049° 29' N. 005° 02' W. approx. (P.51 0135/22).

Your 0125/22. R/V escort 180° Lizard Head 5 miles at 0700/22. Total bombing restriction arranged.

(Capt.S.5. 0452A/22 to P.51).

My 0452/22. Escort will be M.L.179. P.W. convoy expected at D.1 buoy at 0800/22.

(Capt.S.5. 0525/22 to P.51).

E.T.A. R/V 0830.

(P.51 0640/22).

Arrival P.51.

(F.O.I.C.Falmouth 1037A/22).

Request you sail P.51 when ready routed from position (D) as in my 1615/18. Necessary bombing restrictions will be arranged.

(Capt.S.5 1402A/22 to F.O.I.C.Falmouth).

Intend sailing P.51 at 1600/23 E.T.A. 180° Lizard Head 5 miles at 1800 escorted by 2 M.Ls.

(N.O.I.C.Falmouth 1420A/22).

My 1420A/22 add thence routed as in Capt.S.5 1615/18 from position (D) E.T.A.position (H) 2200/29.

(N.O.I.C.Falmouth 2205A/22 to Capt.S.5).

My 0910/19. paras.1 and 2. Amend time of crossing 043° N. and shift wireless watch to read 2200/29th.

(Capt. S.5. 2245A/22 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) Admty. etc).

FURIOUS.

R.T.A. N.S.
Your 1645/21. Approved.

(C. in C.H.F. 0801A/22 to R.A.A.).

Your 2333/21 Approved.

(R.A.A. 0923A/22 to FURIOUS).

PENELOPE.

Connav's 1245/19 and 1742/21. Cancel position (J).
Route to Needles.

See pp 653 + 655

(C. in C.Plymouth 0925A/22)(See C. in C.Plymouth 1027A/24);

L.23
ALECTO.

1. Intend sailing L.23 escorted by ALECTO at 1000A tomorrow for Eddrachillis Bay S/M Sanctuary, E.T.A. 1400A same day.

2. ALECTO to proceed thence port H.H.Z., E.T.A.

1500A same day.

3. L.23 to exercise independently in Sanctuary until 1530A/24, returning thence port ZD escorted by BARBARA ROBB, E.T.A.1930A. (TITANIA 0947A/22).

/P.216....

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- P.216. My 1651/21 add new para (O) P.216 leaves Liverpool escorted by BUTSER at 1030/22 for Clyde. E.T.A. 0800/23. (F.O.S. 1011A/22).
- SHEFFIELD, Intend to sail in SHEFFIELD with LONDON, LONDON, CUMBERLAND, BULLDOG, ECLIPSE, and AMAZON passing CUMBERLAND, Hvalfiord boom at 0940Z/23, S.O.A. 17 knots, BULLDOG, routed via Reykjanes passage and 058° 45' N.(? 006° ECLIPSE, 45' W. Thence SHEFFIELD and ECLIPSE to Scapa, AMAZON. E.T.A.0700A/25, remainder via Minches to Clyde. Request A/S air escort. AMAZON has A/S dome defect and may require docking. (C.S.18 1620A/22).
- DELHI. My 1059/20. E.T.A. 1830/23 or, if delayed by weather, 0630/24. (C. in C.Rosyth 1745A/22 to F.O.I.C.Belfast).
- P.217 My 1651/23 add Para.(k).
P.221. P.217, P.221, UNIQUE, and P.45 escorted by WHITE
*UNIQUE. BEAR leave Lerwick 1200A/24 West of Orkneys for
P.45. Holy Loch. E.T.A. 1400A/26.
*~~2~~ p.642 (F.O.S. 1932A/22).
- TANGO. My 0030/22 ^{/KT. W.D.} On leaving the coast in 022° 30' W. steer to pass through 067° 02' N. 019° 58' W, thence to 070° 01' N. 015° 03'.W. TANGO pass to ADHERENT. (A.C.I.C. 1958A/22 to TANGO). ~~2~~ p.641. (P.217/22)
- BITER. Request you sail BITER for Scapa on 30/9., when she will come under the orders of C. in C.H.F. and will be administered by R.A.A.(Home Fleet). (D.O.D.(H) 2000A/22 to C. in C.W.A.?).
- ACHATES. Departure ACHATES with official and ordinary mail. E.T.A. Kola 0900C/24. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 2002A/22).
- FAOILEANN. Your 1021/12 N.A.B.FAOILEANN. Report present position. (D.S.V.P. 2133A/22 to F.O.I.C.Greenock)

Operations.

- Operation "EW" Scapa departures RODNEY escorted by *TANATSIDE, *PENYLAN, and *BLEAN for Port HHZ. E.T.A.1200/22. (A.C.O.S. 0617/22 to N.O.I.C.Aultbea).

*~~2~~ p.640
/F.O.C.(S)...

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - conts.

Operation F.O.C.(S) 1146A/1st and Admiralty 1732A/19th.
"EW". Intend imposing Eddrachilles Bay S/M Sanctuary
Contd. from noon 23rd until 1800/24th.
(TITANIA 1013A/22).
A.M. 2031/21. Request you will detail one M.L
reporting its number. That this reduces M.Ls of 18th Flotilla to
three for operation "Knocker" is noted.
(C. in C.W.A. 1204A/22 to N.O.I.C.Stornoway).
Your 1204/22. M.L.225 detailed.
(N.O.I.C.Stornoway 1501A/22 to C. in C.W.A.).
Arrived RODNEY, *TANATSIDE, *BLEAN, *PENYLAN. *Imp p 640.*
(N.O.I.C.Aultbea 1427A/22).

20th E.G. Sail 20th Escort group less ESSES as convenient
before dark to overtake O.N.132. ESSES to
be at 2 hours notice for steam by 0600. *Imp p 643*
(C. in C.W.A. 1458A/22 to N.O.I.C.Londonderry).
Sailed STORK, DEPTFORD, ROTHER, SPEY, EXE in accordance with
C. in C.W.A. 1458A/22.
(Cdre, Londonderry 1925A/22).

Patrols. 3 A/S Trawlers patrolling in vicinity of E.A.5 Buoy
GLAISDALE and BLEASDALE on patrol between Portland
and Needles.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 1553A/22).
M.L.s.147 (S.O) and 151 from Ramsgate patrolling between
Dumpton and N.E.Spit buoys, E.T.D. 1955, E.T.R. 0615/23.
S.G.Bs.3 (S.O) and 9 from Newhaven patrolling from Two miles south
of D buoy to No.10 buoy from 2015.
(V.A.Dover 1622A/22).

Operation Crews of Tunny-men brought into Penzance have been
"Inspiration" held since arrival at disposal of departments
concerned. No instructions have been received as
to their disposal. Propose to release these men
and request arrangements be made for their maintenance and future
employment.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1847A/22).

Allied Air Activity.

Channel 823 Squadron and that part of 832 not to be
Anti- embarked are required for special operations as
shipping soon as possible.
A/C. 2. The A/C will require V.H.F. R/T which it is
understood A.O. C. in C.Fighter Command has agreed
to fit.
3. R.A.N.A.3. is requested to arrange the movements of these units.
(D.N.A.D. 2015A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.Channel
Anti-
Shipping
A/C.
Contd.

My 1536/14/8.

It is intended to increase the number of Albacores on anti-shipping operations in the Channel under the operational control of Fighter Command by the attachment of 823 Squadron consisting of 9 Albacores and 3 Albacores of 832 Squadron.

2. It is considered that when operationally efficient 823 Squadron should work in the Portsmouth Area and that the flight of 832 Squadron should be attached to 841 Squadron at Manston.

3. R.A.N.A.S. is requested to arrange with H.Q.F.C. for V.H.F.R/T to be fitted in these aircraft.

4. Fighter Command is requested to inform the Admiralty when the aircraft will be ready to operate.

5. These aircraft will probably be required for embarkation in carriers towards the end of the year and may be withdrawn about mid-November.

(D.O.D.(H) 2211A/12 to R.A.N.A.S.).

Enemy Air Activity.M.G.Bs
attacked.

At 0755 today M.G.Bs 46, 43 and S.3, while on passage from Dover to Ramsgate were attacked with Cannon Fire near N.W.Goodwin Buoy by two F.W.190.

All M.G.Bs heavily engaged both A/C one of which is considered to have been severely hit. Superficial damage and two minor casualties in M.G.B.43 only.
(V.A.Dover 1022A/22).

Mining.Lyme
Bay
Sweep.

Your 1815/20. Sailing of TREVO TERCEIRO, COMMANDER EVANS, SEDDON, and BRECON CASTLE postponed until 0615/23, owing to weather.
(F.O.I.C.Portland 0758A/22 to N.O.I.C.Darmouth).

Enemy Intelligence.Ships at
Marstrand.

Reported from Marstrand Sept.20th 16 German south-bound vessels detained, presumably on account of British mining of Sound.
(N.A.Stockholm 1101/22).

TIRPITZ.
SCHARNHORST
GNEISENAU.

(1) TIRPITZ. Apart from her being held in reserve during recent Arctic convoy operations following reports now received: (A) Consignment of boiler tubes now being sent from Germany to Narvik for

TIRPITZ. Graded A.2.(B) 200 German dockyard workmen passed over Swedish railways yesterday 21/9, route Narvik. Foreman apparently in good faith naively informed Swedish Controller that party was detailed for work in TIRPITZ. Graded B2.

(C) Norwegian report dated about 10/9 pronounced TIRPITZ observed with heavy list. Graded C.3.

/Inference.

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - conts:-

TIRPITZ. Inference. TIRPITZ no longer in state of fighting
 SCHARNHORST. efficiency due unknown defect which Germans are
 GNEISENAU. trying to make good at Narvik.
 Contd. (2) GNEISENAU. (A) Sighted at anchor outside Port
 Gdynia few days ago by Master of Swedish steamer.
 Graded B.3.

(b) Danish Government has been told by Germans to provide shipyard
 accommodation for battle cruiser and Nakskov has been mentioned.
 Swedish staff have same report which they discredit. Graded B.4.
 (N.A. Stockholm 2020/22).

Comment by O.I.C.

(1) During the period of the passage of P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 TIRPITZ
 has remained in Narvik area whilst HIPPER, SCHEER, and KÖLN
 moved to Altafjorden. It is therefore possible TIRPITZ was not
 fully effective for operations.

(2) (a) Source evidently means SCHARNHORST not GNEISENAU.

(b) Shipyard accommodation may be required for GNEISENAU which is at
 present at Gdynia with her gun turrets removed. Nakskov is on
 Laaland Island but depth of water available would not appear to
 take GNEISENAU.

In view of recent movements of a floating dock to Gdynia it is
 considered unlikely that Germans contemplate moving GNEISENAU to a
 Danish Yard.

U-Boats.

U-Boat Consider S/M in 058° 12' N. 005° 41' W. Lost
 attacked. contact. Am rejoining convoy. HUGH WALPOLE
 continue to sweep area for two hours.
 (DUNKERY 1310Z/22).

Your 1246A/22. Contact still being obtained. By echo-sounder
 S/M possibly on bottom in 058° 13' N. 005° 44' W. which has been
 buoyed. *TANATSIDE continuing the hunt. *PENYLAN and *BLEAN return-
 ing to Scapa.

(TANATSIDE 1715A/22). * *see pp 637 & 638. (of: EW)*

Carried out D charge at 1700A, position 58.13 05.43. Lost
 contact. WHITE BEAR in company. Search continuing.

(HUGH WALPOLE 1740A/22 to C. in C.W.A.).

WHITE BEAR discontinued search and proceeded at 1901A.

(WHITE BEAR 1901A/22).

Your 1740/22. Rejoin convoy.

(C. in C.W.A. 2027A/22 to HUGH WALPOLE).

Your 2027/22. Regained contact at 2100. Carried out 4
 attacks, only 1 pattern left, contact definitely leaking very
 badly. Request instructions.

(HUGH WALPOLE 2210A/22 to C. in C.W. A.).

Navigational.

20D Buoy. 20 D Buoy is extinguished.
 (WALLACE 0005A/22) (N.C.S.O.Methil 1440/22).

Wick. Wick Harbour open.
 (R.N.O.Wick 0725A/22).

57 G. Buoy. 57 G. Buoy adrift and light extinguished.
 (VIVIEN. 1935A/22).

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

- SOBIESKI. My 0316/21/8. para.7. SOBIESKI should be taken in hand at Greenock for repairs and completion of fitting as L.S.I.(L). (D.S.T. 0431A/22).
- BRADFORD. My 1233A/21 BRADFORD has serious main engine defect which will prevent her joining 09.41. (Cdre Londonderry 1001A/22).
- ST FRANCIS. My 1015Z/20. ^{no. in w. 3.} ST FRANCIS delayed due to serious bearing defect and cannot sail with T.U.24.1.11. (C.T.G.24.7. 1600Z/22 to C.T.F.24).
- L.C.P. Departure H.M.R.T. KENIA to assistance of L.C.P. in Wallet. (F.O.I.C.Harwich 1702A/22).
- WELLS. E.T.A. Port ZA. 1030A/23. WELLS proceeds to 5 Channel Buoy with D.S.32, thence Port ZA. Vibrating badly. Request S.E.O attends on board on arrival, before oiling, as docking inevitable. (CASTLETON 2332A/22 to R.A.M.).

Shipping & Convoys.

- P.Q.18 V.A.2's 2101/21. Suggest SAN UBALDO remains
Q.P.14. Akureyri in case required by other vessel
BELLINGHAM returning. Tanker as available at Hvalfjord.
OCEAN VOICE (A.C.I.C. 0112A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).
GRAY RANGER. R.A.D.H.F.1845/21 H.M.Tug ADHERENT
Sunk. escorted by *TANGO and ST ELSTAN sailed for
position 070° 01' N. 015° 03' W. speed (?)
10 knots. *see p. 637
(A.C.I.C. 0535A/22 to Capt.D.6).
- Port Archangel closed temporarily on account of suspected minelaying.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0730A/22 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno).
F.W.circled Vattirnes (? 063°) (?44") N. 013° 40' W. at 0914A/22 and proceeded N.E.cloud 10 10th at 600 feet, visibility 5 miles.
(A.C.I.C. 1031A/22).
Report your position every 4 hours.
(V.A.2 1041A/22 to BROKE).
My A.C. 828 20/9. P.R.Altafiord and Lang Fiord still first priority until 1200A/23.
(H.Q.C.C. 1110A/22 to S.R.A.F.O and S.B.N.O.North Russia).
P.R.U.Altafiord p.m.21st shows two main units present. Third not located. As result my 1051/22, it is hoped these Units may make passage South shortly. Anticipate you will be recalled from patrol p.m./tomorrow. My 1051/22 is H.S.460.
(F.O.S. 1111A/22 to TRIBUNE, TIGRIS).
At 0626A. BELLINGHAM, OCEAN VOICE, and GRAY RANGER torpedoed and sunk. Am retaining BLACK RANGER and escort as convoy is being continuously shadowed by A/C. RATHLIN has 280 survivors and is short of provisions. Intend sending her into Seidisfiord

/on..

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - ports.

P.Q.18 on passing for provision approx. 2000A tomorrow.
 Q.P.14. Position at 1200A today 070° 23' N. 011° 13' W.
 BELLINGHAM Weather.
 OCEAN VOICE (Capt.D.8. 1216A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).
 GRAY RANGER. On completion of present duty, escorts of Q.P.14
 Sunk. are required to proceed following ports. Details.
 Request you detach and route ships to destination.
 Admiralty 1722/21 and 1631/9. refers.
 (C. in C.W.A. 1234A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).

P.C.S. at 1300A/22 065° 10' N. 002° 23' E. 195° 9 knots.
 (UNIQUE 1258A/22). *See p 637*
 Seidisfiord arrival SCYLLA at 0750/22nd.
 (A.C.I.C. 1355A/22).
 Positions of S/MS at 0800A/23 and movements for following
 24 hours.

TRIBUNE in Zone K.152.
 TIGRIS in Zone K.154.
 (F.O.S. 1618A/22).
 Expect Catalinas from 0930/23 onward.
 (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1924A/22 to Q.P.14).
 It is estimated that 3 or 4 U-Boats may be operating off East
 Coast of Iceland (C).
 (D.D.I.C. 1933A/22 to Q.P.14);

→ Seidisfiord arrivals AVENGER, WHEATLAND, WILTON in company at
 1740/22.
 (A.C.I.C. 2003A/22).
 Hvalfiord arrivals 18th C.S. in NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, LONDON,
 CUMBERLAND, SHEFFIELD, ECLIPSE, BULLDOG in company at 1815/22.
 ECHO and AMAZON at 1925/22.
 (A.C.I.C. 2015A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).

Q.P.14. Request Escorts and Merchant Ships be instructed
 to transfer Merchant Navy survivors to LEINSTER which will meet
 convoy at Loch Ewe for passage to Clyde.
 2. Survivors in Rescue Ships except cot cases should also be
 transferred to LEINSTER to facilitate complete check, medical
 examination etc., while on passage to Clyde. Food and clothing
 will be issued on board.
 3. Cot cases remain in Rescue Ships and land at Greenock.
 (D.T.D. 2131A/22 to C. in C.H.F.).
 Route 63.00 N. 13.00 W. 60.00 N. 9.30W. 58.45 N. 6.30 W.
 E.T.A. Hoxa 2300/24.
 → (AVENGER 2135A/22 to A.C.O.S).
 Expect A/S escort one Catalina first light 23rd to 1400A/23,
 one Catalina 1500A/23 to last light 23rd.
 (C. in C.Rosyth 2151A/22 to Escorts Q.P.14).
 (1) Report a S/M in 67.33 N. 19.51 W. at 0715A/21. It is
 possible there may be others in the vicinity.
 (C. in C.H.F. 2242A/22 to H.F.Ops).
 Hvalfjord arrivals V.A.2 in ANSON, DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA,
 KEPPEL, MONTROSE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY, (?BROKE).
 Seidisfiord arrival F.O.C.(D) H.F. in MILNE.
 (A.C.I.C. 2311A/22).
 Escort as follows for Q.P.14 being provided Catalinas from
 Sollum 23/9. First A/C on patrol 0630A off patrol 1400A. Second
 A/C on patrol 1500A off patrol 2100A. First A/C will search 100
 miles to North of Q.P.14 immediately after contacting Q.14.
 If possible ensure that Sorties ICE/Wly 22/9 refers overlap blank
 periods in above programme.
 (H.Q.C.C. 2315A/22 to R.A.F. Iceland).

/Trawlers.

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Trawlers A.M. 2040A/21. Intend sailing "Bucket" Group 23/9 for Gibraltar. with daily postponement when weather is unsuitable. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1025A/22.)

P.W.221. C. in C. Plymouth 1307/20. RHODODENDRON sailed to overtake P.W.221. Minor defect completed. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1105A/22.)

O.N.132. Sail 20th Escort Group less ESSES as convenient before dark to overtake O.N.132. ESSES to be at 2 hours notice for steam by 0600. (C. in C. W.A. 1458A/22 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry.)

O.N.127. Your 1256/19. According to information available only two daylight torpedo attacks were made on O.N.127 at 1435/10 numbers 12, 22 and 32 were torpedoed. At 1920/19 (?1920Z/10) number 84 only was torpedoed. In first attack position of ships indicates probability that attack was from port beam. There is therefore insufficient evidence to justify adoption of any of Commodore Woodward's suggestions. (C. in C. W.A. 1539Z/22 to C.O.A.C.)

BEN-MY-CHREE. BEN-MY-CHREE will be used to transport U.S. troops from Belfast to Gourock and Roseneath crossing night of 24/25th September. 2. Request ship be sailed accordingly. (D.O.D.(H.) 1805A/22 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raiders.

Intelligence. 1. No further reliable information of German or Japanese Raiders.
2. A.M. 2124A/15 para 3. Photographic R/C shows these two tankers probably left Biscay on 14th or 15/9.
(D.D.I.C. 1832A/22 to A.I.G. 13 etc.)

North Atlantic.

BAGE,
CUIYABA,
Repatriations. My 2249/18. SS BAGE and SS CUIYABA sailed Rio de Janeiro 0500Z/17th not 16th.
2. Route: Coastal to Recife. Then Recife to Grand Canary on true course 28°, from Grand Canary to Cape Razo, on true course 24°. Approx. rate 270 miles per 24 hours.
(Hd. of M. Branch 0023A/22 to F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A.)

A/S Sweep. Sailed WISHART, VERITY for coastwise A/S sweep between Cape St. Vincent and 39° north.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0720A/22 to Admty.)

MAURO CROCE (Italian) Arrived Valencia 19th in ballast.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0940A/22 to 8 S/M Flot.)

ESSO GETTYSBURG. COREOPSIS sailed to meet you during daylight hours 24/9 and escort you to destination.
COREOPSIS. (F.O.C.N.A. 1013A/22 to ESSO GETTYSBURG and 1019A/22 to Admty.)

TALISMAN (overdue) (1) Para. 4 of C. in C. Med's 1245/21. My 1126/21 refers.
(2) Capt.(S) 10, 1909/21 which is being passed to Admty., F.O.S. also refers.
(3) Agree that TALISMAN may have attacked merchant ship west of Marittimo if latter appeared to be unescorted. C.O. had been specifically ordered (a) to take no action that might compromise passage through Q B (corrupt group) (b) Not to attack escorted ships other than cruisers or above.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1058A/22 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

VANSITTART. F.O.C.N.A. 1148/29. Onward route from (E) to (H) all following positions are North and West unless otherwise indicated: 051° 02' 015° 05', (J) 053° 58' 011° 35' (K) 055° 25' 008° 30' thence by Standard route to Liverpool.
(C. in C. W.A. 1146A/22 to VANSITTART (R) Shore Authorities in U.K. Concerned, F.O.C.N.A.)

/REGINALDO ...

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War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - contd.

CENTURIONE
REGINALDO
GULLIANI.
(Santander)

Your 1717/19, last paragraph (Spanish technicians to inspect periodically the repairs) Yes.
(D.N.I. 1334A/22 to N.A. Madrid.)

LARACHE
THALIA.

Following received from R.O. Cadiz (begins) German vessels LARACHE and THALIA now being discharged Victoria Wharf Cadiz. Rumour states vessels sold to Spanish Government but they are still flying German flag. T.O.O. 1100/21st.
(Ends.)
(S.O.I.) Gib. 1652/22 to Admty. (R) N.A. Madrid.)

DELAES
(sunk 10/9)

On 10/9 Portuguese fishing boat DELAES sunk by gunfire in 050° 03' N. 029° 32' W. All saved. Can Ministry of Marine be informed no British or Allied submarine (other than American) was in vicinity at the time?
(N.A. Lisbon 1655A/22 to Admty. (R) S.O.I. Gib.)
Reply: Yes (Hd. of M. 2201A/23.)

Fayal,
Emergency
Plans.

Following letter received today from Military Commandant Fayal, relating step to be taken by foreigners here in the event of declaration by this Military Commandant of "Provocation of emergency" in Fayal. 1st 2 paragraphs restrict movement of foreigners to certain small localities, untrustworthy report (corrupt group) they are remaining in their residences. 3rd paragraph "All wireless sets, telegraphic apparatus for cable working and wireless apparatus must be disconnected immediately and handed over to Portuguese Legion who will be indicated by this command".

2. I have interviewed Military Commandant who gave following verbal interpretation of 3rd paragraph "Cable companies apparatus must be disconnected by company's engineers and offices would be occupied by Military Guard. The apparatus would not be removed".
Message ends.

(V.C. Fayal 2330C/22 to Consul General Lisbon (R) Consul Funchal, Admty. for D.N.I., S.O.(I) Gibraltar,)

South Atlantic.

MILFORD.

Your 1103/21 (1101/21 intended, propose MILFORD should arrive Freetown to join escort of W.S.23.) Concur, but doubt if MILFORD can reach Freetown in time. MILFORD's 1159/19th refers.
(C. in C. S.A. 1214C/22 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.

22.9.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

M.L.1076 Arrival 21st M.L.1076. Sailing due to Tornado, evening 21st, launch broke adrift from mooring buoy, sustained damage; probably leaving a.m./23rd. 2. Your 1061Z/18. Unable to arrange for 4 survivors leave by this motor launch. (R.O. Bissau 1338/22 to S.O.I. Freetown for R.A.W.A.)* Word "delayed" omitted?

PANTELIS. My 1725/20 (1745/20 intended) Greek PANTELIS arrived 31/9 (?21/9 intended). (C. in C. S.A. 1426C/22 to Admty. etc.)

O.19. Re 1525Z/17 from R.A.W.A. (not to O.19 and B.S.O.) Concur sailing O.21 to Simonstown for repairs. Request O.19 may be routed to Simonstown in order to investigate if Vulcan coupling port engine O.19 can be used as replacement for defect coupling O.21, if latter cannot be repaired. Request O.21 will signal in detail on which facts unserviceability coupling was concluded. Dutch Dockyard Director Heringa will be able to give assistance. (B.D.Z. 1647/22 to Admty. (R) R.A.W.A., F.O.S. etc.)

HOTSPUR, C. in C. E.F.'s O110/20. Proceed to patrol NIZAM. 037° 00' E. between 025° 30' S. and 026° 30' S. AMIRAL Be on patrol at 1200Z/23rd. PIERRE. (2) Object. May intercept Vichy SS AMIRAL PIERRE making for Lourenco Marques from France, return speed between 7 and 8 knots. (3) Enemy Intelligence. Ship probably in 024° 49' S. 047° 19' E. at 0710Z/20 steering 220° (Description) (4) Search is being made by 4 Ventura aircraft from Maputa. (5) Communication. In addition to normal W/T watch guard is to be kept on Durban aircraft operational frequency 5480 k/cs. while aircraft are operating. (6) If intercepted ship is to be boarded and sent into Durban. (?Repeating) charge might be fitted. Captain very anti-British. (7) Aircraft will be operating from 0500Z/23 to 1200Z/23. (C. in C. S.A. 1550C/22 to HOTSPUR, NIZAM (R) C. in C. E.F., N.O.I.C. Durban, RANCHI, Admty.) Sailed NIZAM, HOTSPUR in accordance with C. in C. S.A. 1549/22 (not to Admiralty) to patrol longitude 037° 00' E. between 025° 30' S. and 026° 30' S. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1720Z/22 to Admty. etc.)

*AQUITANIA, Admty. 1807/19, not to Comsolantfor. CARNARVON MAURETANIA CASTLE and CARTHAGE available for AQUITANIA. protection. CARTHAGE must return to harbour for fuel by 2/10 ASTURIAS will be available for MAURETANIA. * *in p. 652* 2. Subject to any arrangements which may have been made for disposition of U.S. force, propose CARNARVON CASTLE and CARTHAGE patrol from 008° N. 026° W. to 009° S. 026° W. from p.m./27 to p.m./30, CARTHAGE breaking off on 29/9 to return to Freetown. (R.A.W.A. 1801Z/22 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty., B.A.D. etc.)

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

BULKOIL, ROYAL SOVEREIGN. In view of possible concentration of U-Boats on line Ascension to Cape or to east of this line request you will (a) order BULKOIL to join ROYAL SOVEREIGN as soon as possible. BULKOIL to remain in company until Freetown (b) Route them well to westward of St. Helena and Ascension. It is undesirable to oil at St. Helena if this can be avoided. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1951A/22 to C. in C. S.A. (R) R.A.W.A.)

S.L.Convoy Discontinued. As a result of a revision of convoy policy it is intended temporarily to discontinue sailing S.L. Convoy subsequent to S.L.125.

2. Ships below 15 knots which would have been sailed to Freetown for convoy after S.L.125 are therefore to be routed as follows:-

A. From South African ports or further East or from River Plate in accordance with my 2330A/1.

B. From West Africa and from South America north of River Plate and south of Cape Orange to Trinidad.

3. It is desirable that M.W.T.Rs at Capetown and Freetown should take all possible steps to promote quick bunkering and loading so as to permit as many ships as possible to be included in S.L.125.

4. It is possible that there may be ships of under 15 knots which can take sufficient bunkers to make a direct passage from South Africa to U.S. East Coast ports without calling at Trinidad. Such ships, provided they can maintain a speed of not less than 12 knots, are to be routed direct to destination subject to any diversions which may be ordered by Connav.

(A.C.N.S. (T) 2349A/22 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A. (R) B.A.D. Connav.)

Mediterranean.

NEBOJSCA. NEBOJSCA's 1201/1 and C. in C. Med's 2046/4. NEBOJSCA is allocated as A/S Training S/M at Kilindini and will be attached to 4th S/M Flotilla, accounts in ADAMANT. *See p. 650.*

2. NEBOJSCA will continue to fly the Yugoslav flag pending further instructions.

3. NEBOJSCA is to be sailed for Kilindini as soon as convenient.

4. C.O. and crew to take over vessel are ready to leave U.K. and await passage to Port Said. Capt.(S) 1 should supply First Lieutenant and Third Hand. (Hd. of M. 0024A/22 to C. in C. Med. C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) C. in C. S.A., N.O.I.C. Simonstown, F.O.S., Capt.(S) 4, NEBOJSCA, Capt.(S) 1, F.O. East Africa.)

/S/M Routes ...

War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

S/M Routes to Malta. (1) Cancel 1st sentence of para 2 of my 1150/29/3. It is possible that enemy has resumed minelaying in Sicilian Channel and that R.D.F. or similar station covers it. (2) Eastbound submarines should make passage through Q.B.B 255 during daylight hours at 120 feet throughout with M.D.U. running continuously, missing of W/T routine being accepted. Speed should be adjusted to dive in position B before daylight and surface after dark as near position D as possible. (3) If westbound S/M makes passage on same day as eastbound S/M they will proceed at 80 feet between position C and B. Both S/M should attempt S.S.T. communication in S.E./N.W. direction and if contact is established pass starboard to starboard.
(V.A. Malta 1005B/22 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.S. Capt.(S) 1, Capt.(S) 8.)
Reply: F.O.C.N.A. 1536A/23, as regards CLYDE.

Enemy Units, TAKU. Aircraft report 0845, 1 Merchant Ship 3 D/R 039° 44' N. 018° 38' E. course 110° speed 8 knots.
(V.A. Malta 1039B/22 to TAKU (R) Capt. S.1.)

UTMOST P.46. UTMOST proceed forthwith to operate between 036° 45' and 035° 50' P.46 between that latitude and 035° 01' both keep west of 012° 10'. Attention is drawn to Q.B.B. 286. Southbound ships appear to hug coast to 010° 35' possibly calling at Sousse, and northbound make Pantellaria from S.S.W.
(Capt. S. 10 1045B/22 to 10 S/M Flot (R) C. in C. Med., Capt.S.1.)
P.46 is returning to Malta. UTMOST has freedom of action in both areas in my 1045/22nd.
(Capt. S. 10 2146B/22 to 10th S/M Flotilla (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1.)

Cositrep No.525 Part 2. 7. Air. Night 20/21. Wellingtons bombed Tobruk Harbour. Results mainly obscured by low cloud. 1 aircraft missing.
(C. in C. M.E. 1100 G.M.T./22.)

Black Sea. MARASHES/TTI sunk. One Roumanian destroyer MARASHES/TTI sunk by Russian sub on 7/9 about 20 miles (corrupt group) off Bosphorous.
(2) Night 19/9. 2 Minesweepers again shelled enemy positions around Novorossisk, causing fires.
(3) Russian E and R boats patrolling against Roumanian shipping between Feodowsia and Kerci.
(4) Novorossisk, no advance along coast road to Tuapse. Enemy consolidating positions and preparing for new attack.
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1217C/22 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

/Naples ...

War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

Naples,
Damage to
BOLZANO.

Photographs Naples 21/9 show BOLZANO arrived.
2. Large gash starboard side from upper deck
to waterline abreast foremost funnel.
3. Foremost funnel displaced.
(V.A. Malta 1325B/22 to Admty. (R) C. in C. Med.)

Malta Air
Report.

I.1, 22/9. C.S.R. Part 1. 21st. 1205 hours,
5 Spitfires up for raids which turned back
before reaching Malta. 1500 hours 5 Spitfires
made R/C patrol South Sicily. 1630 hours, 2
Spitfires anti E/Boat patrol saw nothing.

Night 21/22. 2015 and 2100 hours 2 (MJH Sic) fighters up saw
no enemy aircraft.

22nd. 0700 hours, 2 plus Me.109s approached Malta on R/C at
great height. 9 Spitfires up but raiders turned back when 7
miles north of Island.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1800/22)

Part 2 - R/C only.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1810/22, 1820/22.)

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War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

- NEBOJSCA. To be A/S training S/M at Kilindini.
(Admty., 0024A/22.)
See Mediterranean. *p. 647*
- U/B. At 0840/21 S/M sighted in 012° 02' N. 046° 08' E.
(C. in C. E.F., 0403Z/22 to S. & A. E.I. Stn.,
Admty.)
- HARESFIELD. Overdue shipping HARESFIELD due Colombo 17/9
from Aden not arrived.
(S.O.I. Colombo, 0506Z/22 to Admty., etc.)
W.D. Note: Sunk 10/9. See Diary 23/9.
- SARTHE. C. in C. S.A. 1745/20 (overdue shipping).
British ship SARTHE now due Lourenco Marques
24/9.
(S.O.I. Colombo, 0628Z/22 to Admty., etc.)
- Movements. 1145^Z/21 sailed CROMER, CROMARTY, ROMNEY E.T.A.
Kilindini 0400Z/24. 0945Z/22 sailed CARADOC
E.T.A. Kilindini 0615Z/24.
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 1015Z/22 to Admty., etc.)
- Cochin,
Convoy
Assembly
Port. Your 0947/12. After consulting with M.W.T.
consider Cochin most suitable convoy assembly
port.
2. Am not in favour of Gulf of Kutch for the
following reasons (a) difficulty of protecting
the anchorage which would be completely open to
sea attack. (b) bad communication with the shore, ship would
be anchored from 8 to 10 miles away. (c) No repair facilities
are available and supplies of fresh food are difficulty to
obtain. (d) Anchorage would provide little shelter against
westerly wind.
3. Cochin provides for all these points and could take the
ships.
(F.O.C.R.I.N., 1129Z/22 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty., S.N.O.P.G.,
F.O. Ceylon.)
- Raiders. Your 1557/18. My 1156/11 para. 2 should have
read "Possibly blockade runner" and was based
on Chesor Mauritius J 1013/8/9.
(C. in C. E.F., 1251Z/22 to Admty.)

/Pilgrim ...

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

Pilgrim Ships, Escort. Your 0623/22 to C. in C. E.F. only and my 0854/?11 to F.O.C.R.I.N. Confirmed A/S escort for Pilgrim ships will be provided in approaches to Bombay and Karachi and in Gulf of Aden but that ocean escort cannot be provided. There will always be some risk to these ships if escorted or not. Whether this risk can be accepted is a matter for decision of Govt. of India.
(C. in C. E.F., 1332Z/22 to F.L.O. Delhi, (R) Admty., F.O.C. R.I.N.)

HECLA. Your 1727/17 (1717A/17 intended). HECLA has on board spare gear for destroyers of all classes, some depot stores required at Durban, stores especially transferred from GRIFFIN, DECOY, DUNCAN and ANTHONY and other gear for Eastern Fleet. The bulk of these stores and spare gear is urgently required at Kilindini. As HECLA is now to be withdrawn it is requested she may be informed what classes of destroyers she will be required to service so that sufficient spare gear and stores for these may be retained on board, the balance being shipped to Durban and Kilindini.
(2) If time permits most satisfactory solution would be for HECLA to visit Durban before leaving station.
(C. in C. E.F., 1509Z/22 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., HECLA, S.O.(D) E.F.)

PAUL LUCKENBACH torpedoed. U.S. PAUL LUCKENBACH torpedoed at 1415Z/22 in 010° 03' N. 063° 42' E. Ship may still be afloat.
(C. in C. E.F., 1543Z/22 to S.A. E.I. Station, (R) Admty., N.O.I.C. Aden.)

A.F. Message.
(Adm. Mombasa, 1529Z/22 to B.A.M.S. 7A.)
Following read by Slangkop W/T from PAUL LUCKENBACH:-
Addressed B.A.M.S. 7. Torpedoed 1415 position at 1430, 10.30 63.42 AAA. Crew still on board, send help immediately. Please acknowledge. 1444 G.M.T./22.
(Colombo Radio T.O.R. 1553 G.M.T.)
W.D. Note:- Latitude differs from former.

Escort of ROYAL SOVEREIGN. Admty. 1838/19. ARROW and ACTIVE arriving Durban about 27/9 for onward passage to Freetown.
2. C. in C. S.A. is requested to report programme and to make arrangements for boiler cleaning as necessary.
3. Allowing a 5 days boiler cleaning period it is expected they can arrive Freetown by 16/10.
(C. in C. E.F., 1842Z/22 to Admty., etc.)

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

- Suspicious Vessel. C.T.F. 24.1.14 1803/11 (Suspicious vessel sighted N.T. in W.D.) Further description. S/M on surface 3 to 4 miles from her. ST. CROIX was unable to raise her by V/S., position 49.50 N., 31.40 W.
(F.O.N.F., 0054Z/22 to Admty C. in C. U.S. Fleet)
- U/B Shore watchers report possible S/M sighted vicinity 049° 42' N., 064° 23' W., at 2130 G.M.T./21st.
(C.O.A.C., 0203Z/22 to B.M.S., Area 7AG).
- AQUITANIA *See p. 646* New York sailed 1145Z/21.
(N.S.H.Q. 0206Z/22 to D.S.T.)
- U/B This is re-encipherment of 1712/21. S/M sighted 1415Z 58.36, 35.08, course (true) 340° speed (knots) unknown.
(Radio, Washington, 0217/22 to Admty).
- H.X. 207. C.T.U. 24.1.3 2325Z/21 (re fuelling corvettes at sea by 2 tankers of S.C.100). Corvettes could make little headway into present westerly gale. Corvettes in vicinity but not yet joined
- H.X. 207. Propose they join me as this important convoy is considerably spread out by weather. PIORUN has A/S out of action
Weather report.
(C.T.U. 24.1.17, 0230Z/22 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Connav C.T.F. 24 etc).
- U/B My 0331/21 (2331/21 intended) GEORGIAN zig-zagging 170 revs. per minute 14 knots to overhaul convoy.
21/9. 1st indication of S/M strong hydrophone effect and echoes 048° 56' N., 064° 03' W. S/M then sighted off port bow 1,000 yards, periscope and part of C/T showing. Closed to starboard side, S/M submerged, attacked with full pattern 50 foot setting, strong hydrophone and instant echo. 1 depth charge from starboard thrower definitely dropped directly over spot where C/T observed disappearing. A/S contact still held after passing over S/M for 600 yards.
(2) GEORGIAN then turned towards target, range 1,000 yards and deliberate attack (?aft) This 2nd pattern set for 150 feet. After crossing target searching for a time deliberate attack, S/M surfaced astern 900 yards.
(3) GEORGIAN turned towards target again intention ramming. Before reaching position S/M turned on her side definite wake astern then sank. As she was sinking uncommon blue smoke observed which held on surface 1 minute. Full pattern 150 feet then dropped over position where submarine sank, huge patch of oil appeared.

War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B
attacked
by GEORGIAN
21/9. Contd.

See next page

(4) Weather clear, visibility 20 miles, broad daylight, sea calm, light northward and eastward wind. Continued (approach or reception?) definitely established by bearing for 1 hour. No further indication of S/M observed other than continual oil definitely thick on surface over broad area. 34 D/Cs expended. (N.O.I.C. Gaspe, 0324Z/22 to Connav (R) Admty. Etc).

Attacks on
U/Bs.

Comnavu, 0956/22 D.A.S.W., 1649A/22, and S.O.(I) Kingston, 1728Q/22. See U-boat Campaign.

Movements
summary.

1800 G.M.T./22.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy T.9	20° N. 48½° W.	065°	9
S/M O.15	54° N. 35½° W.	068°	9½
2 D/Rs and River Steamers.	49½° N. 48° W.	064°	9
REGENT (D.O.D. (F), 1057Z/22 to Opnav (R) Comnavu).	36° N. 70° W.	130°	6½

U-boats
attacked.

Following received. Am over enemy S/M in 59° 45' N., 31° 18' W. Periscope only sighted. Course 180° speed 6 knots. (A.O.C. 15 Group, 1221Z/22 and 1231/22).
Following received. Have attacked enemy with depth-charges. Estimate no hits. 1221. (A/C 15 Group, 1230Z/22).

PENELOPE

See pp 636 & 655

Norfolk sailed 0330Z/21. PENELOPE. (N.S.H.Q., 1255Z/22 to Admty (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., etc).
Bermuda arrival PENELOPE. (S.B.N.O.W.A., 1752P/22 to Admty) Orders to PENELOPE, see 2012Z/22.

U/B attacks
on O.N.127.

Your 1256/19. According to information available, only 2 Daylight torpedo attacks were made on O.N.127. At 1435/10 Nos. 12, 22 and 32 were torpedoed. At 1920/19 (?1920Z/10) No. 84 only was torpedoed. In first attack position of ships indicates probability that attack was from port beam. There is therefore, insufficient evidence to justify adoption of any of Commodore Woodward's suggestions. (C. in C. W.A., 1539Z/22 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q., Admty).

Navigation
Greenland.

W.J.A. 139. West Greenland. A light and radio beacon has been established in 066° 01' 54" N. 053° 55' 50" W., at entrance to Sendre Stronfjord Light flashing every 10 seconds. Radio beacon characteristic "O" (3 dashes) on 294 k/cs. during the third and sixth operational periods of (?) hours. (C.N.S., Canada, 1542Z/22 to all S.Os. etc).

/U/B...

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.U/B
Positions.S/M estimate 22/9 and U.S. S/M notices.
(Cominch, 1558/22 to Admty)MATHILDA
U/BMATHILDA sighted S/M 51.17 N., 43.48 W. T.O.O.
1600.(Valentia Radio, 1654/22 Camperdown Radio, 1710Z/
22, C. in C. Plymouth, 1907/22).Received 1804 G.M.T. SSSS MATHILDA 51.05 N., 44.16
W. attacked by Sub.

(Halifax, 1836Z/22 to C. in C. W.A., etc).

Following received from HIGHLANDER (begins).

F.O.N.F. from HIGHLANDER. MATHILDA's submarine attack, am
closing. My P.C. and S. 51.23 N., 43.24 W. 260° 24. O.N.S.130
P.C. and S. at 1800M, 51.34 N., 43.08 W., 230° 7. Request air
co-operation. 1812/22 (Ends).

(F.O.N.F., 2004Z/22 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet, Admty etc).

PICTOU,
defects.(Your?) 1300/22. Have been considerably delayed
with engine trouble. Broken oil feed caused
burning out of main bearing H.P. engine.Addition of replaced bearing does not permit speed
of over 10 knots. In view of impossibility of arriving St. Johns
N.F. before 1430/24 intend passing through position in your 1630/
21 and proceeding St. Johns N.F. at 1930/22. No aircraft
sighted, no D/F bearings received. Weather report.
(PICTOU, 1645Z/22 to F.O.N.F.(R) C.T.24).

U/B

D/F bearings at 1509Z/22 and at 1517Z/22 indicate
U-boat or U-boats reported convoy possibly O.N.131
or S.C.100.(D.D.I.C., 1755A/22 to Escorts O.N.131 and S.C.
100).

H.X.208

Your 1112/18 and Cominch 1845/19. Due to general
U-boat situation H.X.208 will conform to original
route. Will advise later concerning amending
routes for S.C.101 and S.C.102.

(Connav, 1816/22 to Admty (R) C.T.F. 24., etc).

?U/B sunk
by GEORGIAN
21/9.My 0324/22 (N.T. in W.D.) Add depth of water
187 fathoms, time of first attack at 2110/21
and submarine sunk at 2158/21.(N.O.I.C. Gaspe, 1832Z/22 to C.T.F.24 (R) Connav,
Admty etc).*See pp 652-9653**3rd Party not confirmed**by Com: Zoubothan's list**on land. 6843*

/A/S...

654^A

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE
AIRMAILGRAM.

1850/22 September

IN

Date 22.9.42.

From Cominch

Recd. 1622

Addressed. Cinclant. Repeated. Com. Task Force 24,
N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. Admiralty, Norwegian Naval Hqrs.(London).

My 1850/17+ July cancel. KING HAAKON 7th assigned
to C.O.A.C.

1850/22

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
N.A.1st S.L.
Ops.(3)
O.D.(5)
O.D.8.
M.(2)
Mails
Movts.
D.A/S.V.
D.N.I.(5)
I.P.(3)
W.D.

+ Re P.C.467 to be renamed KING
HAAKON 7th and manned by Norwegians
under that Flag will be directed
report Com. Task Force 24 about
1st Sept. for duty in a Western
local escort group.

B.N.L.O. Norwegian Navy
U.S.N.(3)
Ships Names Committee
P.)
S.W.R.) Bath

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.A/S
Tactics.

Your 0517/21. I entirely concur in your view that we must co-operate fully in the production of common operational policy and I think the mutual exchange of views on this matter is most desirable. My 1735/14 was not intended to prohibit offensive action against U-boats shadowing the convoy but was issued in order to check a tendency, which had become apparent, to denude the convoy of close support during daylight by allowing a large proportion of the available escorts to be drawn away from the convoy by prolonged chases. This merely emphasises the last sentence of para. 1 W.A.C.I. Part 300. It would appear that the enemy is possibly deliberately endeavouring to effect this. My signal was addressed to groups operating to the southward as well as the transatlantic groups, and they in particular being small groups with a low speed have need to be careful in this respect. I regret that my signal appeared to effect a radical change in policy as this was not intended and I am glad you have drawn attention to it. Dealing with your individual proposals my remarks are as follows:-

(a) Concur, but consider that number of escorts detailed for this purpose should not normally exceed one-third of the available escort forces unless it is certain that no U-boats have gained touch or that if they have there is no chance of an undetected U-boat closing in while attention is diverted to another one. (b) Concur. (c) Concur. The best disposition to effect this purpose is a point on which there is much disagreement but it is thought that the diagrams given in A.C.I's effect a compromise between prevention of attack and successful counter attack but that further evidence on this point may necessitate some readjustment. My 1201/15 refers. (d) Concur. (e) Concur. In general I believe that the orders on this subject should not be too rigid but that general guidance only should be given to escorts. If you concur with my remarks above I propose we issue jointly a signal to escorts outlining the day policy and I would be glad if you would propose a signal of this nature. I do agree that Operations against shadowing U-boats are desirable but I also wish to emphasise that we may be playing into the enemy's hands by allowing a large proportion of the escorting forces to be drawn away from the convoy for relatively long periods.

(C. in C. W.A., 1903Z/22 to C.T.F. 24. (R) Admty Cinclant, Cominch).

IRISH
PLANE.

Ref. 1825Z/16 from C.T.U. 24.1.12. Admty. has no grounds for suspicion of this vessel but matter will be watched.
(A.C.N.S. (T), 1946Z/22 to Connav (R) C.T.F.24 etc).

PENELOPE

2-11-42
9653

Leave Bermuda at 1300Z/23 proceed through following positions. D. 37.40 N., 56.58 W.
E. 42.40 N. 47.33 W. F. 47.05 N. 35.55 W.
G. 49.30 N. 07.40 W. to (?Ascension).

S.O.A. 17 knots until 15° W. then 22 knots.

2. Communications in accordance with A.F.O., "S" 1/42 section A.C. table 2.

War Diary.

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PENELOPE Contd. (1) Line 2 (according to area) until 1900Z/27 then in accordance with S 2/42 section 2 table 2 (i) line 4.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 2012Z/22 to PENELOPE (R) Admty, B.A.D. etc).

P.553 Notify earliest opportunity my 1800/9. P.553 working up practice delayed by fog. Ready to sail Tuesday 29/9.
(B.A.M.R., 2114Z/22 to N.S.H.Q. (R) C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., etc).

U/B U-boat estimated in your vicinity has made a sighting report of a convoy or important unit at 2056Z/22. ENIGMA.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2119/22 to HIGHLANDER (R) VANOC U.S.S. MONOMOY, C.T.24).

WITCH, CHURCHILL. Concur with Admty 1856A/21. Arrange with Canadian authorities for exchange.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 2136/22 to C.E.S.F. (R) Admty.etc).

A/S Tactics. Strongly concur C.T.F. 24 2135/20 (Circulated in Admiralty with T.O.O. 0517/21. Policy for escorts).
(Cominch, 2148/22 to Admty).

ATHELSULTAN S.C.100 torpedoes. S.C.100. Submarine attack 2228Z/22. P.C. and S. 58:24, 33.38, 080° 7. ATHELSULTAN torpedoed.
(C.T.U. 24.1.3., 2325Z/22 to C.T.F.24 (R) Connav, Admty. C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F., C.T.G. 24.7).

Australia & New Zealand.

Situation Digest Serial No. 243. 21/9.
1 Catalina bombed aerodrome Buka passage night 20/21.
(2) Air R/C 21/9 reported 1 6,000 ton cargo vessel and 1 destroyer off North Coast Gazelle Peninsula heading towards Rabaul. Approx. 14 unidentified vessels portion Rabaul Harbour. Further observation prevented by Zero interception.
(3) Patrol activity continues Iorobaisa area where 200 Japanese estimated killed since 16/9.

War Diary.22.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.

Situation (4) Further mopping up operations small enemy
Contd. parties Taupota Wendaugnea (South Coast
Goodenough Bay)
(5) 25 to 30 heavy bombers escorted by 10 Zeros
attacked Rorona aerodrome (35 miles N.W. Port
Moresby) noon 21/9. No damage or casualties.
(6) 10 Kittyhawks bombed and strafed bridges and buildings
on Buna Kokoda Road 21/9.
(7) Dummy periscope similar that located off N.S.W. Coast last
August located on beach Geraldton area (Western Australia) 15/9.
Constructed 8 foot bamboo pole protruding 2' 6" above water
and weighted by bottles showing Japanese characters.
(8) Indications enemy cruiser and destroyer force reported by
signal No. 241 para. 1 still operating same area 21/9. Some
indication enemy fighters may be using new Buin Air Strip.
B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 0652Z/22 to Admty. etc).

NIEUW A.M.1854/21. Anticipate vessel sails
AMSTERDAM. Wellington 14/11 and will require water and fuel
at Fremantle.
2. Comsopac has been requested to provide
cruiser escort to position South of Tasmania or
trans-Tasman dependent on whether N.Z.E.F. proceeds independently
or in company with vessel conveying A.I.F. reinforcements
mentioned in A.C.N.B. 0251/11/9.
3. A.C.N.B. is requested to provide onward escort to Fremantle
from alternative positions in (2). C. in C. E.F. pass to P.S.T.O.
Egypt and F.O.C. Red Sea Force.
(N.Z.N.B., 1705M/22 to A.C.N.B., C. in C. E.F., Admty).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Estimated positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1322A/22 1405A/22).

22.9.1942.
Tuesday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN--conts.Submarines Attacked.U.S. Report,
W/E 20/9.

Cominch's 1925/21 addressed to Admiralty and for information Comnavu and B.A.D. informs as follows:

This refers to Admty. 1059B/22/7. On 14/9 U.S.S. SURPRISE dropped 8 depth charges 9,000 yards in rear of Caribbean Convoy. No damage was evident. Held the sound contact for 1 hour and 45 minutes when the remaining 7 depth charges were dropped. A huge bubble came up after the last charge exploded and S/M surfaced bottom side up exposing about 100 feet of surface. S/M sank before the after gun could be brought to bear. On 16/9 a U-boat was bombed by aircraft near Tobago. It was sighted surfacing by a destroyer group 2 hours later. The group on positive sound contacts made 5 depth charge attacks and aircraft also made 5 attacks during same period which resulted in oil slick and wreckage. Six hours later the same group augmented by QUICK, BEATTY and MERVINE made surface night contact in same vicinity. S/M was subjected to combined gunfire of the whole group before submerging and to 9 depth charge patterns by one destroyer while it was submerging. S/M fired stern torpedo but missed all ships. Oil slick and wreckage appeared. On 18/9 Army aircraft attacked U-boat near Barbados with 3 650 pound depth charges. This blew the stern out of water about 15 feet. 60 attacks were reported in week ending 2400Z/20 (Comnavu, 0956/22 to Admty).

Admty
Report.

A Sunderland aircraft sank a U-boat off Algiers on 14th 2 depth charges fell close to Port Bow and 2 on Starboard side of C/T. 36 men were photographed in the water. German type.

A Whitley aircraft probably damaged a U-boat near Rosemary Bank on 15th. 5 torpex depth charges dropped from 50 feet, set 25 feet. 3 depth charges were short, one practically direct hit, and one over. Oil and debris were seen after bows had broken surface and slid backwards.

An unusual form of attack was made by a Hudson, South of Faroes on 18th. The aircraft was flying at 2,000 feet when it sighted a U-boat in the process of surfacing. Sighting was mutual and the U-boat dived. 3 minutes later U-boat was still visible below the surface and an attack was made from 50 feet, depth setting 25 feet, spacing 36 feet. First 2 depth charges straddled U-boat near C/T and bow. Debris and oil were seen. R.A.D. reports several attacks made on U-boats by escorts of P.Q.18 convoy.

(D.A./S.W., 1649A/22 to Cominch (R) B.A.D. etc).

Jamaica
Report.

From report of aircraft attacking submarines just received. (1) 15/8, 008° 19' N., 054° 18' W. probable hit.

(2) 16/8 0070° 53' N., (?007° intended) 053° 52' W. result unknown.

(3) 19/8 approx. 55.00 G.M.T. (sic) 007° 40' N., 052° 00' W. 2 direct hits, claimed sunk, and members of crew seen swimming. (S.O. (I) Kingston, 1728Q/22 to Admty).

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

There are indications that the enemy main units in the Altafjorden area may be moving south: TIGRIS and TRIBUNE have been ordered to remain on patrol in zones K.151 to 154. It is hoped that the enemy may make this move as a result of signals which he may intercept from other of our submarines well to the southward. Air R/C of Narvik area has been ordered for tomorrow.

TANATSIDE, PENYLAN, BLEAN, SCOTT, PLOVER, LLANDUDNO and M.L.215 spent a long time today hunting a supposed U-boat in the North Minch.

South Atlantic.

Vichy French MARECHAL GALLIENI which was sighted and reported by aircraft from ILLUSTRIOUS on 20/9 was sighted, identified, photographed and reported by aircraft of S.A.A.F. today. NIZAM (patrolling to intercept AMIRAL PIERRE) this evening intercepted the ship in 25° 37' S., 36° 32' E. and is escorting her to Durban (where she was requisitioned by the South African Govt). Orders have been given that French SS. CEPHEE who is believed to have sailed from Dakar since 20/9 is to be captured if she is intercepted without an escort. Ships in the area have also been warned that the Altmark class tanker and SPICHEREN (ex Norwegian tanker KROSFONN) which are believed to have left Biscay on 14 or 15 Sept. are possible submarine supply ships. Search for SS. AMIRAL PIERRE is continuing

SS. BRUYERE made a submarine distress signal at 2145 G.M.T. today in 4° 55' N., 17° 16' W.

Mediterranean.

A Beaufighter on intruder patrol over south west Sicily last night attacked E-boats moored at Porto Empedocle, obtaining numerous hits.

7 Halifaxes and 20 Wellingtons continued the bombing of Tobruk last night.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.

Sixteen of the crew of SS. HARESFIELD, torpedoed and sunk p.m./10 about 30 miles N.E. of Socotra landed at Karachi today.

Tananarive, capital of Madagascar, was occupied by military forces today.

America & West Indies.

Four ships are overdue at Trinidad (U.S. WICHITA, British ANCYLUS, DILIGENCE, REEDPOOL (see 25/9)

Convoy
S.C.100

SS. PENNMAR a straggler from S.C.100 reported that she was attacked by a U-boat at 1655 G.M.T. in approx. 58° 25' N., 32° 15' W. She was later reported sunk. The convoy is proceeding at 7 knots. At 2030Z the wind was still strength 8. 12 ships and 8 escorts were present. At 1400Z the convoy was in 58° 29' N., 30° 23' W. MAYFLOWER and SPENCER have slight weather damage.

USANTINOUS is reported torpedoed in 8° 58' N., 59° 33' W. (she was torpedoed a second time on 24/9 q.v.) and an unidentified ship was reported attacked at 1300Z today in 8° 40' N., 59° 15' W. SS. LINDVANGEN was torpedoed and sunk at 0035Z today in 9° 20' N., 60° 10' W. at the mouth of the River Orinoco.

Australia & New Zealand.

Papua

Allied aircraft attacked the Buna - Kokoda areas today and set barges and launches on fire and caused damage ashore.

Four Fortresses attacked shipping in Rabaul harbour last night, scoring two probable hits on a large vessel.

23. 9. 1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia & New Zealand contd.

VOYAGER
destroyed.

Australian destroyer VOYAGER grounded in Betano Bay (approx. 9° 11' S., 125° 43' E) on 23/9 whilst engaged in landing reinforcements for A.I.F. in Timor. VOYAGER was subsequently attacked by aircraft but final destruction was effected by her own personnel in view of the impossibility of salvage. The ship's company returned to Darwin, there were a few minor casualties.

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

Flag of C.S.18 transferred to SHEFFIELD at 0800Z today.
C.S.18. (C.S.18 0901A/23.)

** See next page*

Passage of Belligerent Transports in Swedish waters.

1. At Secretary General's request H.M. Minister and I took part in an informal talk with him, the object of which, he stated, was to assist in seeking a satisfactory solution to British objections to passage of German transports in Swedish east coast convoys.

2. Secretary General blamed international law for this situation and was puzzled to find solution

which would meet our objections whilst remaining within framework of international law.

3. It would facilitate our force of argument if your comments could be telegraphed on following points:-

(A) It appears that there is no clause in international law against individual troopships or transports (whilst flying mercantile flag) enjoying safety of passage through Swedish waters.

(B) Sweden contends it is their duty as a neutral to protect their waters from being used by a belligerent for the purpose of attacking vessels enjoying innocent passage. When their waters were recently violated by Russian submarines Sweden realised they could no longer afford this protection along whole of their length of coast, and they arranged therefore for vessels to collect each day and form a convoy in order that waters adjacent to vessels on passage could be efficiently protected against sub. attack.

(C) These convoys are composed of ships which have collected during previous 24 hours. It may often be difficult to discern whether these are individual vessels in legitimate trade or whether they are vessels from a German military convoy which has previously opened out to considerable distances apart when approaching Swedish waters.

(D) British Government, in a note May 22nd. 1939 to Swedish Government referring to Baltic States Neutrality Rule paras one and two section six, laid special stress on a belligerent warships right to enter neutral waters for innocent passage. Sweden contends that this argument applies with at least equal force to merchant vessels carrying troops or equipment.

(N.A. Stockholm 1151/23 to Admty.)

Eagle ships for Methil.

C. in C. Rosyth 1040/22. Concur in allocation of GLENAVON and GLENUSK to Methil.. If this is agreed it is preferred to retain GOATFELL and SCAWFELL rather than change them round after rearmament.
(C. in C. Nore 1158A/23 to Admty.)

C. in C. Nore 1158A/23. Concur in this proposal subject to GOATFELL and SCAWFELL replacing GLENAVON and GLENUSK should latter prove unsuitable for winter weather conditions off Methil.

(C. in C. Rosyth 2158A/23.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

L.23
ALECTO My 0947/22 and 1013/22. Postponed 24 hours.
(TITANIA 0322A/23.)

*SHEFFIELD My 1620/22. Sailing postponed until weather
X LONDON moderates.
CUMBERLAND (C.S.18 0840A/23.)
BULLDOG If it is your intention that LONDON or CUMBERLAND
ECLIPSE should be at more than 4 hours notice while at
AMAZON Greenock request they may be informed accordingly.
(18 C.S. 1309A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)

* See previous page My 1629/22. Add 23 hours to all times.
X See next page (C.S.18 1826A/23.)

P.217. Arrived H.M. Submarine P.217.
See next page (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0851A/23.)

P.51. My 1618A/22 add para. (O). P.51 Falmouth 1600/23
for Gibraltar through 180° Lizard Head 5 miles,
thence dived by day through (A) 170° Bishop Rock,
30 miles (B) 49° 16' N 09° 01' W and (C) 49° 09' N 12° 01' W.
(F.O.S. 0916A/23.)
My 1420/22. Sailed. Code word "Wheel".
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1609A/23.)

FURIOUS. Scapa departure FURIOUS with ROTHERHAM, PORCUPINE
and OBDURATE. E.T.A. Clyde 0800/24.
(A.C.O.S. 0942/23.)

P.312. My 1252/21 and 1751/22. Sailed P.312 and ANGLE.
(N.O.I.C. Barrow 1125A/23.)
/for Clyde
** See next page*
p. 669.

RUBIS. RUBIS arrived.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1131A/23.)

ARGUS N.O.I.C. Newcastle-on-Tyne 1010/21 and R.A.D. H.F.
QUALITY 1745/22. R.A.D. H.F. is requested to sail
FARNDALE QUALITY to R/V ARGUS at T.2 buoy at 1415/26.
2. N.O.I.C. Humber is requested to sail FARNDALE
to same R/V.
3. FARNDALE and QUALITY are to escort ARGUS to
Clyde, refuel and await further orders.
(C. in C. H.F. 1136A/23.)

SCYLLA Seidisfiord departure R.A.D. H.F. in SCYLLA,
AVENGER. AVENGER, MILNE, FURY, WHEATLAND, WILTON at 0740/23.
(A.C.I.C. 1207A/23.)

RODNEY. Sailed RODNEY.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1309A/23.)
See p. 667
(bottom line)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- * P.217
P.221
UNIQUE
→ P.45
** See previous page*
1. Intend to sail P.217, P.221, UNIQUE and P.45 escorted by WHITE BEAR 0900A/24. Route. E.T.A. 1400A/26.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1315A/23 and 0013A/24.)
UNIQUE due Lerwick 0759A/24.
(UNIQUE 1458A/23 to A.C.O.S.)
Arrived P.221.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1655A/23.)
- KEPPEL
→ MONTROSE
- Your 1935A/19. KEPPEL will not be available until 26/9. Propose MONTROSE should accompany DUKE OF YORK to Scapa in her place.
(V.A. 2. 1325A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)
- P.552.
- Intend sailing P.552 escorted by *ANGLE from Rothesay at 1600A/25 to arrive in 330° Bishop Rock 8 at 2320A/27. Thence P.552 proceed diving by day through 49° 15' N 12° 30' W to 43° 01' N 12° 28' W. E.T.A. 1800A/3. Thence Gibraltar as routed by F.O.C.N.A.
(Capt. S.7. 1456A/23.) ** See previous page (P.212) p.664*
- RENOWN.
- Intend to sail RENOWN passing Clyde Boom 0645A/24 to R/V with destroyer ex FURIOUS screen south of Cumbraes, thence via Minches to Scapa. E.T.A. 1630A/25.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1624A/23.)
- A.F.D.
17.
- Weather permitting intend sailing A.F.D.XVII in tow of tugs FREEBOOTER, NIMBLE, SCHELDE escorted by FOXTROT, DRANGEY, INDIAN STAR for Reykjavik at 1200/24. Estimated S.O.A. 4 knots. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to provide fighter protection as far as possible and C. in C. W.A. Air A/S escort.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1823A/23.)
- DUKE OF
→ YORK
JAMAICA
- Intend to sail DUKE OF YORK, JAMAICA, MONTROSE, CAMPBELL, BROKE and MACKAY tomorrow for practices and thence to Scapa.
(V.A.2. 2147A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)
- LONDON.
See previous page
- P.45.
- Arrived P.45.
(S.O.S/M Lerwick 2233A/23.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

20th E.G. Request you will arrange for EXE, SPEY, ^{*}ROTHER, and TAY to carry out M/S exercises in company under S.O. in EXE for a period of not less than 12 days as convenient to complete by 26/10. (D.O.D. (H.) 0145A/23 to C. in C. WA.)^{*} *p. 669*

(M/S exercises) Should be under Training.

Sail SARDONYX, SALADIN, SCIMITAR as soon as possible at best speed consistent with weather conditions. (C. in C. W.A. 0558A/23 to Cdre. Londonderry.) C. in C. W.A. 0558A/23. Sailed SARDONYX, SALADIN, SCIMITAR. (Cdre. Londonderry 0830/23.) Position at 1200 055° 35' N 007° 52' W, course 282°, speed of advance 10 knots. (SARDONYX 1201A/23 to STORK.) Fresh water tank leaking badly. Am returning to Londonderry. E.T.A. Lough Foyle 1630. (SARDONYX 1303A/23.) *p. 669*

TAY after fuelling at Aultbea and SABRE from Londonderry are to join STORK at best speed allowed by weather.

3. STORK's P.C.S. at 1400A/23. 56° 05' N 11° 04' W 282° 12 knots.

4. STORK give further orders as necessary. (C. in C. W.A. 1814A/23.) Sailed TAY via Butt of Lewis in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1814A/23. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 2147A/23.) Sailed SABRE to join 20th E.G. (Cdre. Londonderry 2150A/23.)

Enemy TRIBUNE and TIGRIS are now patrolling areas as follows (1) TRIBUNE areas K.151 and K.152. Main Units. (2) TIGRIS areas K.153 and K.154 until it is known that main units have moved south. It is hoped that enemy will make this move as a result of signals which he may intercept from other British submarines well to the southward. (F.O.S. 1144A/23 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.) My 1111/22. There are indications enemy main units may be on the move. Remain on patrol. (F.O.S. 1608A/23 to TIGRIS, TRIBUNE.)

Allied Air Activity.

A/C for Channel Admty. 2211A/22. Request that three Albacores of 832 Squadron proceed to Manston as soon as possible where VHF/RT will be fitted and crews worked up. (H.Q.F.C. 1310/23 to R.A.N.A.S.)

Admty. 2211A/22. Request 9 Albacores of 823 Squadron proceed as soon as convenient to Tangmere where very high frequency R/T will be fitted and crew worked up in Fighter Command's Control procedure subsequently operating under direction of C. in C. Portsmouth and No.11 Group. (H.Q.F.C. 1736A/23 to R.A.N.A.S.)

A.M. 2211A/22. Arrangements have now been made for the 3 aircraft of 832 Squadron to be placed under the C.O. of 841 Squadron at Manston under the operational control of No.11 Group Fighter Command in co-operation with V.A. Dover.

2. The 9 aircraft of 823 Squadron are being moved to Tangmere to operate under the control of No.11 Group Fighter Command in co-operation with the C. in C. Portsmouth.

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity - contd.A/C for
Channel.
Contd.

3. Paragraph 4 of A.T. 1536A/4/8 and A.T. 1804/2 are cancelled.

4. The primary object of these aircraft is the destruction of enemy naval and merchant shipping. (D.O.D. (H.) 2113A/23 to H.Q.F.C.)

Bomber
Command
Operations.Day 20/9 and night 20/21, no operations.
Day 21/9. 9 Whitleys carried out an anti-submarine patrol. A submarine was sighted about 420 miles N.W. of Cap Finisterre and attacked with machine gun fire and D.Cs. The D.Cs fell about 100 yards

astern.

Night 21/22. 11 A/C laid mines.

On day 22/9, one A/C attacked Ijmuiden Steel Works at 1057 hours from 100 feet, the bombs being thought to have hit the coke-ovens. (H.Q.B.C. 1445A/23.)

"Knocker"

15 C.47s, 10 A.20s, 9 B.25s arrived Iceland today. E.T.D. 0815A/24 weather permitting. (A.C.I.C. 2230A/23.)

Enemy Air Activity.Rye
bombed
on 22/9.

During air raid at Rye at about 1340/22, following damage was done by blast to property about to be requisitioned by Admty. Details. Temporary repairs being executed. No further damage caused to property previously requisitioned. (S.C.E. Chatham 1030/23.)

Iceland.

One enemy aircraft unidentified sighted over Hafnarnes 064° 52' N 013° 45' W at 1156A/23 course N. Sighted from Vattarnes 064° 56' N 013° 40' W at 1200A. Fire opened by ground defences and aircraft disappeared course East with port motor on fire at 1209 cloud 10/10ths at 1000 feet visibility 4 miles. (A.C.I.C. 1300A/23.)

Mining.Lyme Bay
Sweep.

My 0758/22. Postponed further 24 hours owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Portland 0833A/23 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

M.S.N.3.

Sailed PLOVER, SCOTT, LLANDUDNO. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1125A/23 to M/S 15.) Intend to sail from Loch Ewe 0600/24 and proceed to locality of operations commencing sweep p.m. if beacons are still in position and continuing until p.m. 29th, subsequently returning to Port Z.A. (M/S.15 1823A/23 to R.A.M.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

East Coast Sweep. Your 1506/22. Intend passing Cork at 1045/25. Start sweeping 1220, finish sweeping 1855. Then at 12 knots to pass Sand Head Buoy at 2015. Reduce to 9 knots to pass Beachy Head at 0200/26. E.T.A. Outer Spit 0800. (M/S.9 1421A/23.)

WURI sunk on 17/8. German transport WURI 10,000 tons mined and sunk 5 miles south Hals Barre Light 17/8. Vessel carried 500 Luftwaffe mechanics equipment, also 1,000 men. 400 casualties landed Aalborg and 100 men lost.

See my 1041/19 which would probably account for wreckage washed ashore at Laeso. Graded A.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1515/23.)

Western Channel Sweep. Swept area extended to line joining 50° 30' 03" N 02° 45' 18" W, 50° 23' 57" N 03° 10' 15" W. Two mines probably German R type detonated in positions 50° 27' 39" N 02° 55' 24" W and 50° 27' N 02° 58' W. (ELGIN 1823A/23.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats attacked. Your 2210/22. Continue search until daylight and if not then in contact proceed to Stornoway to embark depth-charges. (C. in C. W.A. 0009A/23 to HUGH WALPOLE.)

Proceed forthwith to search for enemy S/M reported and attacked by HUGH WALPOLE in vicinity 270° Ru Stoer 11 miles. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0032/23 to M.L.215.)

Cancel my 0009A/23. Proceed to Stornoway. (C. in C. W.A. 0041A/23 to HUGH WALPOLE.)

My 0032/23 sailed.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0049A/23.)

Arrived HUGH WALPOLE.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0102A/23.)

Contact reported by HUGH WALPOLE in 058° 13' N 005° 43' W.

Sail two destroyers to search. Destroyers are to return to harbour if no contact obtained by 1000, or earlier if required by RODNEY.

M.L. now searching.

(C. in C. H.F. 0117A/23 to RODNEY.)

Sailed PENYLAN and TANATSIDE in accordance with your 0117/23.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 0539A/23 to C. in C. H.F.)

Am in firm contact in 058° 14' N 005° 45' W. PENYLAN and

M.L.215 in company.

(TANATSIDE 0743A/23.)

Return to base.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 0750/23 to M.L.215.)

Have carried out attack. Contact still firm.

(TANATSIDE 0844A/23.)

TANATSIDE continue hunt with M.L.215. PENYLAN join RODNEY.

(C. in C. H.F. 0945A/23.)

TANATSIDE 0743A/23. RODNEY remaining here at short notice until screen is available. *Sailed - see p. 663 (bottom line)*
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1017A/23.)

/Following...

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats attacked. Contd. Following received from RODNEY. BLEAN has been ordered to join TANATSIDE. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1037A/23.) A continuous A/S patrol will be maintained in vicinity 058° 14' N 005° 45' W until last light 23rd. 3 aircraft are taking part. 1st aircraft left Twatt 1145 and returns on completion of patrol. 2nd and 3rd aircraft will return Stornoway and remain for night returning a.m./24. (C. in C. H.F. 1158A/23.) Your 1119A/23. Am still hunting. Consider S/M bottomed. BLEAN 20 charges remaining. TANATSIDE none. (TANATSIDE 1216A/23 to RODNEY.) When destroyers are detached request you will order them to R/V with TANATSIDE, hunt contact in 058° 14' N 005° 45' W. TANATSIDE to detail one destroyer to continue hunt and report situation after FURIOUS is clear to southward. Remaining destroyers return to Scapa. (C. in C. H.F. 1246A/23 to RODNEY.) Am still in contact. Following ships BLEAN, SCOTT, LLANDUDNO, PLOVER, M.L.215. PENYLAN rejoining. (TANATSIDE 1457A/23.) Request you will take charge of U-Boat hunt so that destroyers may return to Scapa. They are urgently required for other duties. (C. in C. H.F. 2017A/23 to SCOTT.) My 1715. Firm contact still held same position. Well depth charged. (TANATSIDE 2200A/23.) Your 2017/23. SCOTT now anchored Broad Bay. Left TANATSIDE in 58° 12.7' N 5° 42.2' W at 1900. All other ships had left previously. SCOTT danned position carefully and echo-sounded for 1 hour over very definite 300 feet wreck or U-Boat on bottom probably bow down stern 46 feet up. TANATSIDE dropped pattern on bottom in exact spot. Have expended depth-charges, but LLANDUDNO in company with A/S and depth-charges. Am I to relieve TANATSIDE any way? (SCOTT 2200A/23 to C. in C. H.F.) Have attacked enemy submarine with depth charges. My position is 68° 9' N 135°, ? knots. (A.O.C. 15 Group 0820/23.) Am over enemy S/M in 63° 16' N (?longitude). Enemy was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, course 240°, estimated speed 6 knots. (A/C G5BJ 1229/23.) Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate 0 hits. (A/C G5BJ 1231/23.) Am over enemy submarine in position 7 PUJ 5239. Enemy sighted on surface. When first sighted was on course 000°, estimated speed 5 knots. (A/C 15 Group 1256Z/23.)

"Pillenwerfer" Admty. 1329/22. Further evidence confirms the existence of this device in U-Boats. It is generally known as "Pillenwerfer"
2. Report of one successful hunt states that U-Boat echo of moderately low pitch, suddenly became double echo, the first no doppler, the second moderately low in pitch. The interval between echoes increased as U-Boat moved on and ships were able to hold second echo which retained its moderately low pitch and proved to be the U-Boat. (D.A/S.W. 1436A/23.)

U.2536mt
by 14/200
68° 14' N
13° 50' W

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Navigational.

57 G. Buoy confirmed missing from station.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 1145A/23.)

Casualties and Defects.

LEITH. *Not met. My P.C.S. 054° 01' N 017° 26' W 237°,
4 knots. Asdic dome carried away and oscillator
bent.
(LEITH 0859A/23.) ** 0.5.41 (sum p. 614.)*

ANGLE. Touched bottom in Barrow entrance channel at 0830.
sum p. 623 & 664 No apparent damage. Dome untouched. Proceeding
according orders with P.312.
(ANGLE 1105A/23.)

CHELSEA. CHELSEA delayed with defects.
(A.C.I.C. 1136A/23.)

NELSON. *p. 525*
(Repairs to oil fuel tank.) Your 1045/18. Alternative method is to be adopted.
Three weeks is maximum time acceptable. Ship
should be ready to sail on 16/10.
(D.O.D. (H.) 1147A/23 to A.S. Rosyth.)

VENOMOUS. Your 1721A/7. All A and B Fire rows of all
boilers of VENOMOUS require retubing and boilers
condensers and fuel system will require degreasing.
Propose to send ship to Belfast for this work.
(Cdre. Londonderry 1210/23.)

ROLLETTA damaged. *N.C.S. Drifter ROLLETTA sustained damage whilst
proceeding alongside EMPIRE RUSKIN at 1135 today
in Methil Roads. No apparent damage to EMPIRE
RUSKIN but vessel sailed before survey could be
carried out.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1244/23.)

** Red list given as Yacht. (D.O. 2nd Div.)*

SARDONYX. Fresh water tank leaking badly. Am returning to
Londonderry. E.T.A. Lough Foyle 1630.
(SARDONYX 1303A/23.) *sum p. 665.*

ROTHER. *sum p. 665*
(20th E 6) ROTHER stopped with steering defects in 056° 03' N
010° 40' W. DEPTFORD standing by with orders to
join me on completion of repairs. My P.C.S. at
1400A 056° 05' N 011° 04' W, 282°, 12 knots.
(STORK 1404A/23.)

ARAB. */N.T. 21.3.*
My 1655/21. ARAB delayed until 1200 Friday 25th.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1611A/23.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys ~~-----~~

- P.Q.18. Russian S/M will occupy Zone 2 from a.m./25.
Q.P.14. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 2115A/23.)
Contd. Will escort for Capt. D.6. require relief.
(2) If so have you organized it.
(C. in C. H.F. 2301A/23 to R.A.D. H.F.)
Expect Catalinas from 0800A/24 until 2000A/24.
(A.C.I.C. 2312A/23 to Q.P.14.)
- A.T.24. (D.O.D. (H.) 0206A/23) See America and West Indies.
- O.N.132. Your 2336/22. My P.C.S. at 0400A/23, 055° 44' N
009° 00' W, 282°, 10 knots. Condition suitable
"Esses".
(STORK 0350A/23.) *p. 449 - (ROTHER)*
- Trawlers My 1025A/22.
for Postponed 24 hours.
Gibraltar. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0917A/23.)
- W.P.222. W.P.222 is to proceed direct to Portsmouth without
calling at Dartmouth.
2. COTTESMORE is to leave trawlers and proceed to
relieve TYNEDALE as destroyer escort to W.P.222 before dark if
possible.
3. TYNEDALE on relief to proceed to Plymouth.
4. Estimate position W.P.222 at 1900/23, 050° 09' N 004° 20' W,
routed through 180° Start Point 4 miles, then to Dart Buoy and by
route N.
5. Cancel para. 2 of my 1149/23 to COTTESMORE.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1331A/23.) *N.T. in H.D.*
- B.B.23. TYNWALD will resume duty with Irish Sea convoys
sailing with B.B.23. As the shortage of A.A. ships
still persists propose that TYNWALD continues under
orders of N.O.I.C. Milford Haven as in my 0923B/18/6.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 1814A/23.)
- White Kapruts. White route is to be amended as follows:-
Route. A new 4th position is to be temporarily established
with numbers 451 to 480. Only numbers 457, 35° 30'
S 16° 00' E to 476, 36° 08' S 16° 38' E inclusive
being used, the remainder being blank. D. Lat. and D. Long. will be
2 minutes difference respectively for each position, e.g. 458 is 35°
32' S 16° 02' E, 459 is 35° 34' S 16° 04' E etc.
The above to take effect with O.S.42. Ships not calling at
Capetown join R.8 route at position (2)
(D.T.D. 1923A/23.)

M/V's ex
Convoy PQ.18:*Russians propose loading as follows to U.K. and
U.S.A. Details. (Frankel and Ives, Archangel
1615A/23 to Adty)*

/K.X.1...

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

K.X.1.
(BLAIRESH,
etc.)

A.M. 1941/20.
This convoy will in future be referred to as
convoy K.X.1.
2. Amend para 1. For FLAMINIAN read OPORTO,
(D.O.D.(H.) 1947A/23.)

LADY OF
MANN.

A.M. 2012/28/8. After calling at Faeroes on 30/9
LADY OF MANN should return direct to Clyde.
2. Surface escort may be detached on arrival in the
Minches, remainder of passage being made with air
protection only.
(D.O.D.(H.) 2000A/23 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.ST. NECTAN,
ARCTIC
RANGER.

Have left ARCTIC RANGER in order to make R/V in time. ARCTIC RANGER to R/V off Espichel. My position 349° Cape St. Vincent 12, wind North 4, sea 35.

(ST. NECTAN, 1015A/23 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) WISHART)

Attacks by
P.212.

C.A.F.O. No. 1278/41.

A. (a) 12/9 (b) 14/9 (c) 15/9.

B. (a) 35 ton schooner. (b) Pier-head and shipping at Buggeru, Sardinia, (c) 20 ton schooner

C. S/M P.212. D. (a) 18 rounds 3 inch quick-

firing. 20 cwt. H.E.D.A. (c) 5 rounds 3 inch quick-firing
20 cwt. H.E.D.A.

G. (b) One 21 inch mark 8, 2 Star A.A.19 65.

J. (A) (C) sunk. (B) pier-head damaged, Schooners probably damaged or sunk.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1136A/23 to F.O.S. etc).

Situation
2003A/23.

(5) ST. NECTAN R/V 4 merchant ships off Lisbon at 2100/23 and escort coastwise to Huelva 8 knots.

(6) WISHART, VERITY sweeping vicinity convoy

ST. NECTAN to Huelva 8. Thence part company to return to Gibraltar 15 knots.

(7) PENN, PANTHER, GERANIUM 5 merchant ships 39.15, 16.09 127° 8½.

→ (8) LOCH OSKAIG R/V with ST. NECTAN 4 merchant ships off Lisbon 2100/23 (?escort to) Cape Sines then resume patrol off Cape Roca.

→ (9) ARCTIC RANGER off Cape Sines to join ST. NECTAN convoy off Cape Espichel.

(10) COREOPSIS estimate 30.32, 19.48 349° 8¼.

(11) JULIET, CORIOLANUS escorting SALVONIA towing crane lighter leaving Gibraltar 2000/23 through 34.01, 09.00 5. *See next page*

(F.O.C.N.A., 1332A/23 to N.A.S.)

CLYDE

(1) CLYDE with only 2 batteries cannot comply with para. 2 of your 1005/22 since maximum distance she can proceed submerged is about 45 miles.

(2) If above cannot be accepted I consider she should not sail but should proceed to refit which is overdue.

(3) CLYDE ready to sail 26th.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1536A/23 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty etc) Reply:
V.A. Malta 1411/24.

S/Ms

→ Intend sailing P.212 and P.247 for Malta about 1/10 and 12/10 respectively and to retain P.219, P.222 for the time being.

(2) P.211, P.212 P.247 have identical spare gear.

(3) PARTHIAN ready to sail for Malta about 27th.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1636A/23 to Admty (R) C. in C. Med etc).

/Lighter...

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23.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.

Lighter for Freetown. SALVONIA, JULIET, CORIOLANUS. Intend sailing crane lighter No.3 at 2030/23rd towed by SALVONIA escorted by JULIET, CORIOLANUS for Freetown (route).
Approx. S. of A. 5 knots.
2. R.A.W.A. is requested.
See Memoirs page (Salvonia) (a) Signal onward route from position H.
(b) Sail SALVONIA for Gibraltar as soon as convenient after arrival Freetown.
3. JULIET will report if it becomes necessary for trawlers to coal or water at Bathurst.
4. Admty is requested to signal ultimate destination JULIET, CORIOLANUS. Codeword "Baggage".
(F.O.C.N.A., 1716A/23 to Admty R.A.W.A.) Reply: Admty. 1743/24
My 1716/23. Sailed H.M. Trawlers JULIET, CORIOLANUS escorting H.M. Tug SALVONIA towing crane lighter No. 3.
Q.G.A.104, G.B.127.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2012A/23).

CANADA (French). N.A. informed me Hospital Ship CANADA will proceed to Djibouti to repatriate sick and will call at Casablanca and Dakar. She will pass Gibraltar westbound 4/10. Your 0004B/13/6 now applies.
(N.A. Madrid, 1823/23 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

German Tankers, Vigo. My 1111/17 Spanish Guard who has been on Board German Tankers has stated that they intend to sail and that Masters have been in touch with Captain Spanish cruiser NAVARRA, presumably about the Guards.
(R.O. Vigo, 1827/23 to S.O.(I) Gib (R) Admty).
See Admty. 1954/24.

DELAES (Portuguese) (sunk 10/9). Your 1655/22. Yes.
(Hd. of M. 2201A/23 to N.A. Lisbon).

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1618A. Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE escorting Ships MARECHAL LYAUTEY, STRASBOURGEOIS and Trawlers MENGWEN and AUGUSTE DENISE, Eastbound.
(S.O.(I) Gib. 2220A/23 to Admty).

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.CÉPHÉE
(French).*See p. 677*

My 1515/15. Air R/C shows CÉPHÉE moved to outer road 20/9. Considerable importance is attached to interception of this ship if she attempts to break out to the south and, if unescorted, every effort should be made to capture her.

2. It is nevertheless undesirable for political and military reasons to attempt interception off West Africa if, as is likely, she leaves Dakar under escort.

3. French escort is unlikely to proceed beyond the South Atlantic but if necessary it may be decided to put Operation "Ration" into force from the Cape, and in that event further instructions will be given by Admiralty.

4. B.A.D. is requested to ask U.S. for earliest available report of sailing and for all possible assistance, particularly in Ascension area.

5. In the event of interception CÉPHÉE should if possible be sent into Unionport, not Freetown. Attention is drawn to scuttling instructions issued to all French merchant ships, see my 1420/22/4/41.

(M. Branch 0031A/23 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., B.A.D., (R) Cominch, Eastern Fleet).

DEVONSHIRE

Arrived with U.S.17.

(N.O.I.C. Durban, 0923/23, 1555Z/23 to Admty etc)

French
Cruiser.

At 1400/22/9 Wellington A/C in transit sighted cruiser unidentified probably GALISSONIERE Class, in 20° 11' N., 18° 25' W., course 360° speed 15 knots.

(S.O.(I) Freetown, 0941A/23 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation
"Volley".

Your 1550/21. Do you intend to repeat Operation? (D.O.D. (F), 1121A/23 to C. in C. S.A.)

Dispositions.

See p. 677
PATHFINDER with "Mincemeat" 08.27 N., 13.32 W. to Freetown. WESTON with O.S.40 (?17).10 20.50 155° 8½. 5 M.Ls. about 12.30, 17.30 to Freetown 9. ANTELOPE 09.55 17.10 290° 10 at 2001Z/23rd. PELICAN with S.L.123 off Freetown 280° 7.

(R.A.W.A., 1135Z/23 to S.A. Stn)

MOONSHINE,
SUNBURST.

Sailed MOONSHINE, (?SUN)BURST to Kilindini routed as in my 0644/11/8.

2. Continuous wireless guard on 500 k/cs

5. S. of A. 7 knots E.T.A. 0900Z/4/10.

(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1219Z/23 to Admty etc).

/ARROW...

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

ARROW,
ACTIVE.

C. in C. E.F's 1842/22. Intend following up programme of ARROW and ACTIVE.

Arrival	Place	Sailing.
27/9	Durban	27/9
28/9	East London	3/10
5/10	Simonstown	5/10
10/10	Pointe Noire	11/10
16/10	Freetown	

(C. in C. S.A., 1403C/23 to Cdre. Durban (R) Admty etc).

ROYAL
SOVEREIGN,
BULKOIL.

Admty. 2319A/12 and B.A.D. 1925D/15.

1. Request early information whether destroyers now to escort to Philadelphia or ROYAL SOVEREIGN and destroyers to wait Freetown till U.S. escort available.
2. Propose sailing BULKOIL with ROYAL SOVEREIGN for fuelling on passage. BULKOIL to proceed independently to destination after refuelling completed. This is dependent on BULKOIL being fitted for fuelling at sea which is not known at Freetown.
3. Doubtful if FORTOL has sufficient capacity and her use would greatly delay refuelling of W.S.23 at Freetown.
(R.A.W.A., 1445Z/23 to Admty). Reply: Admty 0110/26.

Lifeboats,
MYRMIDON.

2 Lifeboats picked up by SOUTHERN PRIDE and brought to Takoradi. One in 003° 30' N., 001° 30' W. at 0800Z/20. One in 003° 38' N., 001° 32' W. at 0900Z/20. Names on boats under paid MYRMIDON Liverpool, Boats numbers 7 and 10. Following gear also found in boats (details)
(N.C.S.O. Takoradi, 1615Z/23 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A.) *As received.

Movements
summary.

2000Z/23. ROYAL SOVEREIGN, DUNCAN, ANTHONY 027° 40' S., 005° 25' E. to St. Helena 14.
NEWCASTLE 027° 30' S., 000° 20' W., to Pernambuco 18.
SHROPSHIRE about 034° 30' S., 017° 30' E. 18 to R/V with W.S.22. *see p. 677*
(C. in C. S.A., 1637C/23 to S.A.S.)

GYLFE

Your 1457B/13 not to Admiralty GYLFE Norwegian not yet arrived Rio de Janeiro.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1751Z/23 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty) W.R. Note Re Nor. ship GYLFE diverted to Rio de Janeiro.
W.D. Note. Arrived 26/9 see 1817/26.

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War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.Axis and
Vichy
Shipping.

1 Altmark Class Tanker and SPICHERN (ex Norwegian Tanker KROSFONN) probably left Bay of Biscay on 14th or 15/9. These are possibly submarine supply ships.

(2) French (CEPHEE) May have sailed from Dakar since 20/9. If unescorted she is to be captured and taken toward South African Port. If with escort she is to be shadowed. In either case report is to be made Admty (R) C. in C. S.A., and R.A.W.A. *sub 475.*

(3) Attention is called to S.A.O.23.

(R.A.W.A., 1931Z/23 to Ships in Area P. (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty).

MILFORD

Escort duties for MILFORD have been cancelled. She will be ready to proceed Friday 25th. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1948Z/23 to C. in C. S.A., (R) B.A.D. etc).

Suspicious
Tanker 11/9Following from Buenos Aires (begins)
A Norwegian Captain who was a passenger aboard JOSE MENENDEZ which arrived Buenos Aires today reported on 11/9 between 8 and 9 a.m. in 033° 34' S., 010° 15' W., sighted suspicious looking tanker of about 10,000 tons loaded. When sighted was about 4 miles distant heading N.W. and proceeding dead slow. When about 7 miles distant vessel turned south and disappeared.

(Description)

(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2005Z/23 to Admty).

O.21

(1) Sailed D.S. O.21 for Simonstown via Pointe Noire at 1830Z/23. E.T.A. Pointe Noire a.m. 2/10

(2) Escort provided by D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES to Pointe Noire and by H.M. tug PRUDENT from Pointe Noire to Simonstown.

(3) Onward route from Pointe Noire: (d) 16.20 S., 10.01 E. (e) 29.30 S., 13.30 E. (f) 35.30 S., 17.20 E. thence Simonstown S. of A. 9 knots.

(4) W/T watch.

(5) Time of shift to area Q W/T organization and E.T.A. Simonstown will be signalled from Pointe Noire.

(R.A.W.A., 2030Z/23 to C. in C. S.A. (R) Admty etc).

W.S.22

Simonstown departure 1845C/23 SHROPSHIRE for escort of Durban portion of W.S.22. (C. in C. S.A., 2050C/23 to Admty. ALCANTARA).

"Mincemeat".

Arrival 23/9 PATHFINDER, QUENTIN, SNOWDROP with convoy "Mincemeat".

(S.O.(I) Freetown, 2115Z/23 to Admty etc).

/Attacks...

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War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Attacks on
U-boats.

Following attacks on U-boats by U.S. Aircraft.
0930/16 in 5° S., 11° 40' W., 4 depth charges
dropped and U-boat reported destroyed. 1055/23
in 7° 36' S., 14° 30' W., 2 depth charges
dropped, no results observed.
(R.A.W.A., 2131Z/23 to Admty).

BRUYERE
attacked.

Following received from Valencia Radio, from
Sierra Leone Radio. S S S S De BRUYERE
position 4.55 N., 17.16 W. 2145 G.M.T./23 (ends)
(C.C.O. Plymouth, 2149A/23 to Admty).

T.S.19

Arrival 23/9. BRILLIANT, VELOX with T.S.19.
(S.O.(I) ? Freetown 2151Z/23 to Admty etc).

PHOEBE,
ORONSAY.

Sailed (A) PHOEBE escorting (B) SS. ORONSAY to
outer end searched channel Capetown by route R.
5 S. of A 17 knots. PHOEBE thence to Simonstown
(2) E.T.A. outer end searched channel 1200Z/26.
(3) E.T.A. PHOEBE Simonstown 1330Z/26.
(Cdre. Durban, 2154Z/23 to Admty etc).

CROCUS

R.A.W.Africa's 1760?/22. E.T.A. Pernambuco
1130Z/25.
(CROCUS, 2204Z/23 to Comsolantfor (R) R.A.W.A.)
My 2204Z/23. Fuel required 140 tons approx.
Request pilot. Request information may be
passed to British Consul if necessary.
(CROCUS, 2216Z/23 to Comsolant (R) R.A.W.A.)

MARECHAL
GALLIENI
intercepted.

Cancel my 2015Z/23 (Not received in W.R.)
MARECHAL GALLIENI has been intercepted and
boarded in 025° 37' S., 036° 32' E. Am
escorting her to Durban, course 215° speed 8 knots
(NIZAM 2350Z/23 to Cmdr. Durban (R) C. in C.
S.A., C. in C. E.F.)

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War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy Units. Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 1 M/V and 4 destroyers is 38.45 N. 19.55 E. 320° 10 knots.

(A/C Call Sign 5 HR Duty W. 0135B/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 1 enemy tanker, 1 medium M/V not exceeding 10,000 tons and 4 destroyers is 38.54 N. 19.46 E. stationary.

(A/C Call Sign M3P Duty 0137B/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 2 enemy destroyers and 1 M/V 38.54 N. 19.30 E. 270° 5 knots.

(A/C Call sign 5 HR duty S. 0140B/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 1 enemy M/V and 4 destroyers 38.50 N. 19.20 E. 270° 8 knots.

(A/C Call sign M3P Duty K. 0230/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 1 Enemy M/V and 2 destroyers 38.57 N. 19.40 E. 045° 5 knots.

(A/C Call Sign M3P Duty B. 0230/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 1 M/V, 4 destroyers 38.50 N. 20° 00' E. 025° 5 knots.

(A/C of Malta Command Duty X 0256B/23.)

Bi-Weekly Opsum No.58. Night 18/19. 20 Wellingtons bombed shipping and Harbour installations Tobruk. 7 fires started near Jetties, 1 fire with explosions S.W. Corner Harbour, 1 Wellington bombed large ship off Mersa Belafarit, results unobserved, 6 Wellingtons unable to reach Tobruk bombed BU Amud Landing Ground, M.T. West of Bardia, Sollum and Matruh. Explosions and small fires among buildings near Docks Matruh. Other results unobserved. 1 Wellington missing.

Night 19/20. 1 A.S.V. Liberator, 2 A.S.V. 6 Torpedo Wellingtons despatched to locate and attack Southbound Convoy, 1 M/V 6/7000 tons, 1 of 7/8000 tons, 7 Destroyers, off S.W. Coast Greece. Liberator found Convoy about 15 miles S.W. Cape Matapan but effective smoke screen hampered bombing and only results claimed were 2 near misses on 1 Destroyers. A.S.V. and Torpedo Wellingtons found Convoy about 45 miles S.W. Cape Matapan but only 1 Wellington sighted 1 M/V through smoke screen long enough to release 1 Torpedo with unobserved results. This Wellington was damaged by A.A. Fire. Both M/Vs reported to be flying balloons at 500 feet. Malta C.S.R. for 20/9 contains details Malta strike. 9 Halifaxes, 20 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, violent explosions and 1 large, 4 smaller fires on docks near main jetties. 1 fire near petrol installations N.W. of harbour and another on south shore. 1 Wellington unable to reach Tobruk bombed Bardia, results unobserved.

Night 20/21. 23 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour installations Tobruk, results mainly obscured by low cloud but bursts seen along waterfront and near petrol installations N.W. of harbour. Small fire started on south shore. 1 Wellington missing.

22/9. 8 American B.24s bombed shipping in Benghazi Harbour at dusk, direct hits claimed on 2 vessels. British Liberators which followed on night attack found Harbour covered in smoke with fires. Liberators bombed through smoke starting further fires. Night 22/23. About 2 enemy aircraft operated over Alexandria area during night. Preliminary reports indicate few bombs dropped on Edku where 3 airmen killed, 3 wounded. 2

/Beaufighters ...

Alouana
7949 tons

680

23.9.1942.

Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-wants:

Bi-Weekly Beaufighters up, no interceptions.
Opsum No.58 (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1036Z/23, 1056Z/23, 1121Z/23,
(contd.) 1141Z/23, 1159Z/23.)

Situation THRASHER at 0355C/4/9 in 032° 58' N. 024° 11' E.
Report No.269. torpedoed and probably sank 5000 ton southbound
 merchant ship.
 (2) P.46 reported having sunk 1 3000 tons and
1 5000 tons Colon on 22/8 (sic) P.46 was operating in Gulf of
Hammamet (Amplified by 1831C/25 g.v.)
(3) DIDO is south of canal for A/A protection.
(C. in C. Med. 1043C/23 to Admty.)

Cositrep No. (8) 22/9. Offensive fighter patrols forward
526. Part 2. area met no enemy aircraft. Me.109s attacked
 two landing grounds near Delta. Slight damage.
 American Liberators bombed Benghazi Harbour at
dusk. Direct hits claimed on 2 vessels. British Liberators
which followed on night attack found harbour covered in smoke
with fires. Liberators bombed through smoke starting further
fires.
(9) Night 22/23. 2 enemy aircraft over Delta. Some bombs
dropped east of Alexandria. No interceptions.
(C. in C. M.E. 1045 G.M.T./23.)

RORQUAL. Intend sailing RORQUAL from Beirut at 1400C
(?24th) to carry out A/S exercises in accordance
with N.O.I.C. Beirut 1031/23. On completion of
exercises at 1900 RORQUAL will proceed from
vicinity 000° Ras Beirut 5 miles on mean course
270° for next 24 hours.
(Capt. S.1 1109C/23 to C. in C. Med., (R)
ORION, C.S.15, S.N.O. Levant Area, C.C.O. Beirut,
N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports, Haifa, 235 Wing,
TURBULENT.)

UTMOST. UTMOST leaves patrol as requisite through 035°
44' 012° 55' to arrive end of searched channel
1115B/25.
(Capt. S. 10 1129B/23 to 10 S/M Flot.)

DERNA ? Arrived.
(Italian) (Barcelona 1212/23 to Admty.)

Greek relief Greek relief vessels. EROS, CAMELLA and
Vessels. FORMOSA left Piraeus for Montreal 23/9.
(N.A. Stockholm 1225/23 to Admty.) *See next page*

/Enemy Units ...

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War Diary.23.9.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Units. Following has been read. P.C. and S. of enemy 1 M/V, 2 destroyers 35.17 N. 23.23 E. 180° 5 knots.
(A/C call W6Q 1423/23.)

Following has been read. P.C. and S. of enemy 2 destroyers, 2 M/Vs not exceeding 10,000 tons, 1 Aircraft, 35.02 N. 23.24 E. 170° 10 knots.

(A/C using call sign W6QD 1528/23.)
Aircraft reported 1 enemy merchant ship, 2 destroyers 038° 46' N. 020° 25' E. 207° at 1200, speed not known.
(Capt. S. 10 1529B/23 to I.S.F. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Greek relief scheme. Your 1810A/22nd. (1) ARKA and YARRAWONGA arrived Piraeus 18/9 as reported in H.M. Minister's despatch 494 (?) 457 ? 21/9. Safe conduct by H.M.G. Germans and Italians has been granted to these 2 ships and for CAMELIA, EROS, FORMOSA, BARDALAND, FENRIS, MONGABARRA, whilst vessels are employed in Greek relief traffic between Gothenburg, Montreal and Piraeus. (2) Positions will be transmitted to you daily.
(N.A. Stockholm 1731/23 to Admty.) *See previous page.*

Special Source Value.
EMPIRE PINTAIL. H.M.S. (?SS intended) EMPIRE PINTAIL grounded on Hindi Gider, 019° 23' N. 037° 54' E, on 21/9. H.M. Tug HENRIETTA MOLLER together with Tugs and Lighters from Port Sudan and Massawa attending. Hoped to refloat ship a.m./24 (see D. of S.T.s 2301/1/8 (?2310/1 intended) Paras 2 and 3)
(C. in C. Med. 1827C/23 to Admty.)

Malta Air Report. I.2 23/9 C.S.R. Malta. Part 1. 22. 0745 and 0805 hours, 2 sections of Spitfires made R/C patrols south Sicily. 1036 18 plus enemy fighters approached Malta at great height, partial R.D.F. interference, 2 Spitfires up to protect friendly shipping and 9 Spitfires despatched to intercept but raiders turned back without crossing coast. 1342, 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol S.E. Sicily. 1623, 4 Spitfires made Anti E-boat patrols S. Sicily, saw nothing.
Night 22/23. 2151, 4 raiders including 2 Ju.87s approached island, 2 crossed coast and dropped a few bombs on land but caused no damage. 1 Beaufighter up did not intercept. 1 Beaufighter on intruder patrol S.W. Sicily attacked E-boats moored at Porto Empedocle scoring numerous hits.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1910/23.)

Part two of my I.2. 22nd. 6 R/C photos. Taranto, 1 tanker 5/6000 tons left (and photographed ?) 0645 hours with 3 D/Rs 270° Maria de Leuca 5 miles course 110° 8 knots. 9 Beauforts, 7 Beaufighters despatched to attack, 1 Beaufighter collided into a Beaufort on outward journey. Beaufort crashed sea. Beaufighter was damaged and returned. Remaining aircraft made dusk attack (1337 or 1637?) hours on convoy now escorted by 3 Ju.88s 275° Antipaxos 10 miles course 155°, 8 knots. 2 Beaufighters raked leading D/Rs with cannons scoring strikes and 1 small explosion. Other Beaufighters drove off the Ju.88s.

/Simultaneously ...

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - conts:-Malta Air
Report.

Simultaneously Beauforts dropped 8 torpedoes Duplex non contact setting 16 feet range 800 yards height 70 feet scoring 1 definite and 1 possible hit causing explosion and black smoke visible 2 miles.

2 Beauforts slightly damaged by flak. 1 Beaufighter damaged by flak crash landed Malta owing to petrol shortage. Crews unhurt. Night 22/23. 6 Wellington 8 despatched to attack same convoy found 2320 hours 1 M/V or tanker 5/6000 tons, 3 or 4 D/Rs escorted by 1 Ju.88 230° Antipaxos 33 miles course 230° 6 knots. 20 x 500 lb. G.P. bombs dropped from 4000 feet. 3 bombs fell within 12 yards of M/V? Intense flak encountered. 1 Swordfish on anti-E.Boat search near Malta sighted nothing.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1915Z/23, 1930Z/23.)

TALISMAN
(lost)

My 1245/21/9/42. Ref. (?A.F.O) 4230/42 para 3. Propose TALISMAN be paid off to date 18/9 1942. (C. in C. Med. 2125C/23 to Admty.)

THORN
(lost)

My 1412/14/8 (1418/14 intended) Ref. A.F.O. 4230/42. para 3. Propose THORN be paid off to date 11/8/1942. (C. in C. Med. 2131C/23 to Admty.)

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War Diary.23.9.1942.
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

HARESFIELD. Your 0506/22 not to N.O.I.C. Karachi. Lifeboat of HARESFIELD with chief officer and 15 persons landed Karachi this morning after 14 days at sea. Other lifeboats known to be launched, captain in one last seen steering northward, no further details available. Information received by M.W.T. Bombay.
(S.O.I. Bombay 0546Z/23 to S.O.I. Colombo (R) Admty. etc.)

My 0546/23. N.O.I.C. Karachi reports ship torpedoed and sunk p.m./10th, 30 miles N.E. of Socotra. 2 other boats last seen by Chief Officer steering North.
(S.O.I. Bombay 1137/23 to S.O.(I) Colombo (R) Admty., C. in C. E.F., N.Os I/C Karachi, Aden.)

BARMILL. Your 1324/21. B.6. (N.T. in W.D.) It is intended to base BARMILL on Colombo when JAMDE WALLE returns to Addu Atoll after present refit.
(F.O. Ceylon 0702z/23 to C. in C. E.F. (R), Admty.)

Wreckage. Wreckage dangerous to navigation has been reported in 25° 59' S. 33° 02' E.
(Adm. Mombasa, 0707Z/23 to B.A.M.S.3C, 7A, 7B.)

OCEAN HONOUR (sunk 16/9) I.D. Form S.A. (1) OCEAN HONOUR. (2) M.W.T. managed by Chellev Steam Navigation Co.
(3) 0253Z/16 12° 48' N. 50° 50' E.
(4) First sighted after ship abandoned. Surfaced and circled ship in position as (3)
(5) 0400Z/16 position as (3). Dived to Eastward (6) Surfaced after ship was torpedoed and abandoned (7) OCEAN HONOUR sank. S/M escaped. (8) See my 1601/23 P/L. (9) Estimated 1,000 tons. Grey. No stripes markings or number. Chariot shaped C/T. Certain 1 gun aft of C/T possibly 1 forward. Double report and double flash on firing. Possibly small net cutter. Trail of exhaust seen coming from immediate aft of C/T. (10) Ship abandoned after torpedo hit, then was sunk by gunfire. (11) All C.Bs dumped overboard in perforated weighted box.
(Cdre. Aden 1603Z/23 to C. in C. E.F. Admty. (R) S.O.I. Med.)

AMIRAL PIERRE. Your 1327/21 (1307/21 intended re search for AMIRAL PIERRE.) Dispositions are being made to intercept AMIRAL PIERRE and any other Vichy shipping attempting to reach Lourenco Marques from Madagascar.
(C. in C. E.F. 1621Z/23 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. etc.)

/Tananarive ...

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

Tananarive
Occupied.

No. 3246 of 23rd. Tananarive entered by East African troops supported by South African Armoured Car (Armed Force) (as received). British Artillery at 1200(1700)hrs at 23/9. Garrisons of Andrima and Ivato gave in unconditionally. Tananarive declared open town. Seat of Government remains in Tananarive with Secretary General (?at head). All quiet in town.
(E. Africa Command 2245Z/23 to C. in C. E.F.)

Liaison
with U.S.N.

Your 1958/21. The reasons underlying C. in C. U.S. Fleet's proposal were (a) U.S. ships are at present engaged in active operations against the enemy. (b) It would be of little value to send any but experienced officers to visit Eastern Fleet. (c) None can be spared from their duties.
2. Under present circumstances I do not think it would be either fair or reasonable to press this matter. I may be possible to find some other solution as result of Cdr. Clark's visit.
3. Ref. para 3 of your signal application has been made to Navy Dept. for Lt. Cdr. Luard now waiting in New Zealand for passage to U.K. to be temporarily embarked in a U.S. A/C carrier.
(B.A.D. 2307Z/23 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- A.T. 24. Convoy A.T.24 comprising SS. QUEEN MARY carrying U.S. Troops will leave New York on 27/9 for Clyde unescorted.
2. Connav is requested to route ship so as to R/V in 12° W. at daylight on 2/10.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to (a) Provide route from R/V to Clyde. (b) Sail CURAÇOA to provide A/A escort from R/V. (c) Sail 6 destroyers to provide A/S escort or sweep according to weather conditions.
4. H.Q.F.C. is requested to arrange maximum possible fighter escort and to arrange that fighters are sighted by the convoy from time to time. Fighter protection code word "Skunk".
5. QUEEN MARY is expected to arrive Clyde p.m. 2/10 and will sail for New York p.m. 5/10.
6. Air Ministry is requested to arrange for special protection whilst at anchorage in accordance with my 1045/18/4. (D.O.D.(H), 0206A/23 to C. in C. W.A., C.E.S.F., Connav, Air Ministry, H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.I.C. Greenock, etc.)

Scuttling
of ships
to avoid
capture.

My 1728/21. Request views of U.S. Authorities be obtained as to issue of similar instructions in the Pacific.

2. Allied Governments are being asked to conform to our instructions.
(M. Branch, 0218A/23 to B.A.D.)

U/B
O.N.131.

Bearings at 0808Z/23 indicate U-Boat possibly in vicinity O.N.131.
(D.D.I.C., 1001A/23 to Escorts O.N.131.)
D/F bearings at 1346Z indicate U-Boat in area within 60 miles of 56° 30' N. 26° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C., 1540A/23 to Escorts O.N.131.)
D/F bearings at 1740Z indicate U-Boat within 45 miles to eastward or to westward of 56° 30' N. 27° W.
(D.D.I.C., 1956A/23 to Escorts O.N.131.)

TAIGETE,
ARCOLA,
Repatriations.

Italian tanker TAIGETE and ARCOLA sailed 1100QR/23 E.T.A. Las Palmas 11/10 S. of A. 8 knots following reverse route from previous Las Palmas voyage.

W/T on board vessels defective approx. range for ARCOLA 500 miles sending. Receiving moderately efficient. TAIGETE sending and receiving range about 300 miles. Italian Consul Las Palmas has agreed to transfer equipment from Italian vessel at present in Las Palmas; expected time required for repair 10 days.
(B.S.N.O. Curacao, 1035QR/23 to Admty., (R) Cominch, etc.)

Overdue
Ships.

Trinidad reports U.S. WICHITA, British ANCYLUS British DILIGENCE REEDPOOL, overdue.
(S.O.(I.) Jamaica, 1046Q/23 to Admty., etc.)

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

U/B
Positions.

C.E.S.F's 1935/22 informs as follows.
(Comnaveu, 1113/23 to Admty.)

Movements
Summary.

1800 G.M.T./23.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy T.9	22½° N. 45½° W.	045°	9
S/M REGENT	34½° N. 67½° W.	132°	6½
PENELOPE	Arriving Bermuda		
S/M O.15	55° N. 29° W.	082°	9½
2 Destroyers and River Steamers	50½° N. 43° W.	063	9
(D.O.D.(F), 1135Z/23 to Opanav, (R) Comnaveu.)			

Attacks
on U/Bs
O.N.S.122.

Presume you will assess attacks on U-Boats made by escorts of O.N.S.122 in accordance with Admty. 1845A/13/8. In view of exceptional interest in this operation D.A/S.W. is making a general analysis of events connected with this convoy.
(D.A/S.W., 1236A/23 to Cominch, (R) Comnaveu, N.S.H.Q.)
Reply: 2222/24.

Targets for
Freetown.

B.A.D. Washington's 1553/16. (1) It is desired to tow one of the new Battle Practice Targets at Bermuda to Freetown.
(2) B.A.D. is requested to arrange for one of the B.A.Ts referred to in his 1553/16 to undertake this duty.
(3) All 4 tugs should sail in company from Trinidad to Freetown.
(4) B.A.D. and R.A. West Africa are requested to arrange local A/S escort.
(D.G.D., 1302A/23 to B.A.D., R.A.W.A.)

BROADWAY.

Your 2129/18 and N.O.I.C. Liverpool's 1457/17^{NT 43}
(BROADWAY still in hand for repairs.) As BROADWAY will not complete until 8/10 request she may be held to relieve WINCHELSEA in her proper group T.U. 24.1.12 designated escort to O.N. 139 sailing 17/10. Additional time should enable completion H/F D/F.
(F.O.N.F., 1306Z/23 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Admty., etc.)

ANTINOUS
torpedoed.

Sailed ZWARTE ZEE and H.M. Tug BUSY to ANTINOUS, U.S., torpedoed and afloat in 008° 58' N. 059° 33' W.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1312Q/23 to Admty., (R) S.B.N.O.W.A., etc.)
Again torpedoed, see 1502Q/24.

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

M.A.R.I. Amendment No. 79.
(D.T.D., 1344A/23.)

WITCH,
CHURCHILL. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa concurs with Admty. 1856/21.
C.O.A.C. arrange exchange direct with C.E.S.F.
Cominch 2136/22 refers.
(N.S.H.Q., 1420Z/23 to C.O.A.C.)

PENELOPE. Left Bermuda in accordance with my 2012/22 and
See previous page
(Previous Summary) C. in C. Plymouth 0925/22.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1502Z/23 to Admty.)

STIRLING
CASTLE, N.A.16. Master STIRLING CASTLE states vessel was
delay. delayed 24 hours at Cristobal while N.C.S.O.
secured orders regarding destination.
(C.O.A.C., 1524Z/23 to D.S.T.)

CSIKOS. CSIKOS Panamanian has not arrived (? Halifax)
from O.N.S.128. M.W.T. Langston Harbour reports
ship returned to U.K. Please confirm.
(N.S.H.Q., 1536Z/23 to Admty., (R) Connnav, etc.)

MONTE
GORBEA. Navy Department informs U.S. Naval Attache that
Spanish MONTE GORBEA from Curacao to Bilbao was
torpedoed 1420/19 in 014° 55' N. 060° 00' W.
28 survivors at Martinique. 42 missing.
(N.A. Madrid, 1600/23 to Admty., (R) N.A. Lisbon,
F.O.C.N.A.)

U/B Submarine estimates 23/9 and U.S. S/M Notice.
Positions. (Cominch, 1621/23, 1622/23, 1623/23, 1624/23,
1625/23, [1621/23 amended 0008/24.]

PENNMAR Following received, addressed Admty. and Adm.
S.C.100 Liverpool, from Burnham on Sea Radio. Inter-
U/B. cepted 1709 G.M.T. de GCK (Valentia Radio)
See next page S S S S PENNMAR, Submarine attack position approx.
58.25 N. 32.15 W. at 1655 G.M.T.
(Portishead Radio, 1704/23 to Admty., etc.)
(Valentia Radio, 1705/23 to Admty., etc.)
(C.C.O. Plymouth, 1809/23 to Admty.)
(Wick Radio, 1811/23 to R.A.F. Wick, Adm. Lyness.)
Received 1702 G.M.T. S S S S de PENNMAR 58.25 N. 42.15 W.
sub. attack de VCM.
(Halifax W/T, 1745Z/23 to C. in C. W.A., Escort Control
Londonderry, T.G. 24.7.) Note, difference in longitude.
Received at 1812 G.M.T. de Gallon Head Radio at 1805
PENNMAR says submarine on surface.
(P.P. Radio, 1912/23 to Navycharge Greenock.)

/Shipping ...

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.Shipping,
New York.

Pass to N.C.S.Os.
Office of B.R.O., New York is always open day and night including Sundays. Masters concerned are to be informed accordingly and instructed to report there as soon as possible on arrival New York.
(D.T.D., 1753A/23 to F.Os.I.C.)

P.555.

S/M P.555 will be exercising in vicinity of Bermuda from 0800P/24th to 1800P/24th with escort.
(S.B.N.O.W.A., 1949Z/23 to REGENT, (R) U.S.N.O.B. Bermuda.)

Attacks on
S.C. 100.

S.C.100. 1400Z/23 58.29 30.23, 092°, 7.
→ ATHELSTULTAN torpedoed starboard side and sunk 2228Z/22 in 58.24 33.38. 10 survivors. About 50 missing including Commodore Gale. Picked up 22 survivors from straggler TENNESSEE who reported ship torpedoed port side and sunk 2340Z/22. About 20 missing. U-Boat or periscope not seen both attacks. Greenland and Iceland patrol planes rendering excellent service searching for S/Ms and stragglers and survivors. 3 effective counter attacks made by escorts and one U-Boat believed destroyed or badly damaged. No damage from gale except MAYFLOWER bridge and SPENCER forward 5-inch gun and splinter protection and deck damaged. 12 convoy ships and 8 escorts present. → CAMPBELL to eastwards rejoining and searching for stragglers. Weather report.
(C.T.U. 24.1.3, 2030Z/23 to C. in C. W.A., A.C.I.C., (R) C.T.F. 24, etc.)
Connav Serial No. 23. → ATHELSTULTAN torpedoed 22/9 58.24 N. 33.38 W. convoy S.C. 100. PENNMAR same convoy attacked 23/9 58.25 N. 32.15 W.
(Connav, 2205/23 to Comnav.)

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

→ A. ATHELSTULTAN torpedoed about 58.24 N. 33.38 W. 2228Z/22. *SS. PENNMAR sights S/M 58.25 N. 32.15 W. about 1655Z/23. A.29 attacks S/M on surface 09.32 N. 58.53 W. 1230Z/22 probably damaged.
B. Unidentified attacked 08.58 N. 59.33 W.

0900Z/23.

C. Sound contacts 10.57 N. 60.53 W. 2015Z/18. 07.24 N. 57.35 W. 0815Z/20, and 06.46 N. 56.08 W. 1950Z/20. Plane sights possible S/M 26.58 N. 79.55 W. 1118Z/23.
D. Plane attacks contact 33.00 N. 79.06 W. 1649Z/23.
(Cominch, 2102/23 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

O.N.S.130
U/B.

Transmissions from 1534Z to 2016Z/23rd indicate you are still being shadowed.
(N.S.H.Q., 2205Z/23 to C.T.F. 24.1.18, C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., (R) Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A., Opnav.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.U/B
O.N.130.U-Boat made first sighting report at 2016Z.
Probably Convoy O.N.130.
(D.D.I.C., 2228A/23 to Escorts O.N.130.)Canadian
Warships
Completing.

Following assignment of escort vessels and mine-sweepers expected to complete before 1/3/1943 has been agreed with Cominch. Two twin screw corvettes building in Canada assigned to U.S.A. Six of the 26 D.Es and B.D.Es building in U.S.A. assigned to Britain. The first 2 to be completed will go to U.S.A. next 1 to Britain and the remainder will be spread proportionately. All 173 foot P.C. Boats to U.S.A. 4 B.A.M.S. building in U.S.A. assigned to Britain. Two A.M.S. building in U.S.A. assigned to Britain. All "Algerines" and "Bangors" building in Canada assigned to Britain.
(B.A.D., 2309Z/23 amended 1719Z/24 to Admty., (R) N.S.H.Q.)

Co-operation
with U.S.N.,
Communications
in Combined
Operations.

Your 0141/2*. What is the position regarding this proposed revision? Navy Dept. were informed of C. in C. H.F.'s suggestions but are awaiting a definite proposal from Admiralty before taking any definite action.
(B.A.D., 2325/23 to Admty.)
* To C. in C. South Atlantic. Re revision of communications between British U.S. Forces during combined operations.

Secrecy of
Messages.

C.B. 01619L/42 Art. 51 states that on British Stations abroad 2 letter serial messages are red and 3 letter blue, but Art. 5 gives example of "QPA 3 Red". It is not clear whether abroad originators of 3 letter messages are precluded from issuing red messages or originators of 2 letter messages from issuing blue messages. Request clarification.
2. My 0411/17/7. When are these corrections going to be issued?
(B.A.D., 2327Z/23 to Admty.)

War Diary.23.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest serial No. 224, 22/9.
Further activity Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area where reports indicate naval force operating 22/9 included 3 heavy cruisers, 4 light cruisers, 17 destroyers, 3 merchant ships (including 1 tanker), 1 large unidentified vessel 2 of the destroyers observed laying smoke screen round the large unidentified vessel.

2. Air R/C 22/9 reported 1 destroyer, 1 gunboat, 1 10,000-ton transport and 1 possible 8000 ton seaplane tender, 5° 65' (sic) S. 153° E. at 0245Z/22 course 140°.
3. 2 small steamers reported ?Buka passage 22/9 one of which arrived from N.W. 3 Catalinas bombed aerodrome this area night 21/22 dropping bombs on runway and starting fires.
4. Enemy patrols active Markham Valley area.
5. 1 B.25 attacked Buna aerodrome 23/9 while 4 Aircobras, 12 Kittyhawks, bombed and strafed Buna Kokoda areas. Barges and launches set on fire. A.A. positions attacked Buna, area buildings storage areas and 1 bridge hit and damaged, fires started between Buna and Kokoda.
6. 6 Bostons attacked Kokoda Nauro area same day scoring hits occupied areas, silencing A.A. post, starting fires.
7. Patrol activity continues S. coast Goodenough Bay and Ioribaiwa areas.
8. Ambon Bay. 4 possible destroyers off main wharf and 1 other larger vessel reported by air R/C 22/9.
9. Enemy patrols reported retired from Beacoossu Area (Portuguese Timor.)

B.A.D. pass to Opnav.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0725Z/23 to Admty., etc.)

Navigation. W/F 176.
Western Approaches to Spencer and St. Vincent Gulfs. Navigation is prohibited in the following area due to British Mines. From Cape Vennachar approx. 6 points 5 miles 199° from Cape Boarda Light (1072) to Neptune Isles Light (1014) thence in a 327° direction to the coast of Sleaford Bay. From position 34° 56' 135° 59' E. In a 100° direction to Thistle Island. From Waterhouse Point the south east extremity of Thistle Island in a 147° direction to Cape Torrens.
(A.C.N.B., 0921Z/23 to all concerned W/F messages, Colombo, C.O.P.C., Admty., S.B.N.O.W.A.)

HOBART. Your 1512A/18 re modernisation of H/A armament of HOBART. Request particulars including statfiles if possible of alterations required for fitting second H/A control system and pompom directors (corrupt group) consideration fitting at Sydney N.S.W.
(A.C.N.B., 1317Z/23 to Admty.)

TIJUCA. Have you any news of TIJUCA (Norwegian) due Sydney N.S.W. 10/9 from Balboa?
(D.T.D., 1627A/23 to D.N.I. Melbourne.)

War Diary.

23.9.1942.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approximate U-Boat positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1400A/23, 1414A/23.)

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

SOMALI broke in half without warning whilst in tow at 0230 today in 69° 11' N. 15° 32' W. and sank; it is thought that there were about 50 casualties.

S.C. 100.

Two submarines were sighted at 1245Z today in 58° 43' N. 25° 6' W. Twelve ships of the convoy were present and one straggler was reported a long distance astern. The escorting aircraft had sighted 7 submarines around the convoy and report a direct hit in one of two attacks made on the enemy. The convoy had not been attacked up to 1445Z today. BLYSKAWICA was sent to reinforce the escort (sailed from Londonderry O325A/25) and the 20th Escort Group are transferring from O.N. 132 to S.C.100.

Mediterranean.

There is a shortage of tonnage for maintaining the essential requirements of the 8th Army in the Western Desert. P.S.T.O. Egypt is asking for 12 ships of 2000 tons deadweight carrying capacity.

3 Torpedo Wellingtons damaged a large tanker escorted by destroyers last night, about 110 miles N.N.W. of Tobruk.

America and West Indies.

SS. MARYMAR was attacked at 1525Z/24 in 7° 37' N. 58° 18' W.* ANTIPOUS, torpedoed yesterday and still afloat was again torpedoed at 1625Z today in 9° 22' N. 60° 9' W; the tugs abandoned the wreck. Tanker ESSO WILLIAMSBURG (U.S. loaned to Great Britain) was presumed attacked and sunk about 1200Z today in approx. 53° 10' N. 41° W.

* Report cancelled 28/9.

The Navy Department consider that U-Boats are continuously fuelling from depot ships or depot submarines in the area between approx. 32° N. and 35° N. and 45° W. and 48° W. They suggest that REGENT should carry out an offensive patrol in this area for about 4 days en route to Gibraltar from Philadelphia.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia and New Zealand.

A U.S. submarine hit with 3 torpedoes a heavy cruiser of the Kinugasa class near St. Georges Channel, Bismarck Archipelago. It is believed the cruiser sank.

Six Fortresses attacked shipping in Rabaul Harbour last night and hit amidships an 8000 ton merchant ship, setting it on fire and causing a secondary explosion.

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

French
Tunny
Ships.

Your 1847/22. Crews of tunny vessels at Penzance have been cleared by Security Authorities and decision as to their future rests with Home Office and Fishery Authorities. Probability is that all will join Free French, six for Navy, five for Fishing and four either for shore jobs or Fishing. Disposal of boats, necessarily depends on decision as to crews. Request confirmation that boats at Penzance are MUSE DES MERS and MARIE HENRIETTE.

2. VER LUISANT. F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 1015/19 refers. Part of the crew of this boat were employed in Operation "Inspiration" and all are now either with Free French or under the Security Authorities. Need for special patrol vessel is not, therefore, understood. Question of disposal of this boat and crew is linked with the others.

(M. Branch, 0405A/24 to C. in C. Plymouth).

My 0405/24. Home Office hope to complete arrangements in the course of today and permission to land will then be granted. Crew should not be released until permission is given by Immigration Authorities.

(M. Branch, 1553A/24 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Your 0405A/24. Names of boats at Penzance are MUSE DES MERS and MARIE HENRIETTE.

(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 1748A/24 to Admty).

Spanish
Vessels.
Markings
and Lighting.

Your 1807A/17. All Spanish warships have national colours painted on both sides and at night have colours illuminated besides burning (missing group) all Spanish merchant ships should have national colour and name in large letters painted on both sides. Owners are requested but not ordered also to have national colour displayed on deck and deck house.

Repetition of order has now been promulgated but is not believed there are many if any who do not obey instructions already though colours on deck cannot be guaranteed.

Merchant ships have orders to burn navigation lights by night and to illuminate national colour.

No camouflage.

(Madrid, 1749/24 to Admty).

Movements.

P. 54

See next page

P. 54 arrived.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 0639B/24).

RENOWN

Sailed RENOWN in accordance with my 1624A/23.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 0648A/24).

P. 312

Arrived Clyde P.312 escorted by ANGLE.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0724A/24).

UNIQUE

See next page

Arrived. UNIQUE.

(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 0803A/24).

/ACHATES...

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

- ACHATES Arrival Kola Inlet 0700A/24 ACHATES.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0900A/24).
- FURIOUS Arrived Clyde FURIOUS.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0914A/24).
- P.217, My 1315/23 as amended by my 0013/24. Sailed. ^{/N.T. in H.D.}
P.221 (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 0915A/24).
P.45
- UNIQUE. *See previous page*
- L.23 My 0947/22 and 0322/23 para. 1 sailed.
ALECTO. (TITANIA, 0954A/24).
- PENELOPE Your 1742/21. Cancel position (J) in Connav's
See pp 716 & 717 1245/19. From position (H) 050° 20' N., 020° 20'
W. to new position (J) 180° 10' passing at 0630A
(K) 180° Lizard 8 (L) 180° Start 10 (M) 050° 10'
N., 003° 00' W. (N) 180° Portland 10 (O) 180°
Portland 3½ then by Q.Z.S. 293 and 284 to Needles.
This corrects my 0925/22.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1027A/24 to S.B.N.O. W.A.)
- P.54 *See previous page* (1) Intend to sail P.54, UREDD, and RUBIS escorted
*UREDD, by LOCH MONTEITH for Dundee at 0530A/25 routed
RUBIS. (a) 088° Sumburgh Head 5 miles (b) 089° Fair Isle
6 miles (c) 058° 29' N., 002° 42' W., thence via
* *See next page* searched channel. E.T.A. 0830A/26.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1047A/24 to A.C.O.S.)
- MENDIP Arrival D.21 in MENDIP at 0955.
(F.O. Humber, 1110A/24).
- SHEFFIELD, Sailed F.O.C. 18th C.S.'s 1620/22 at 1030/24.
LONDON, (A.C.I.C., 1114A/24).
CUMBERLAND My 1935/19 Keep steam 4 hour's notice from 0500 to
etc. 1600 daily whilst at Greenock. Night leave may
See p. 702 be given.
(C. in C. H.F., 2207A/24 to LONDON, CUMBERLAND).
- BRAMHAM Akureyri arrival BRAMHAM at 0840/24.
(A.C.I.C., 1214A/24).
- VANSITTART ^{/N.T. in H.D.}
F.O.C.N.A. 1148A/20. Request destination. Your
1228A/24 not understood. My position 052° 55' N.
012° 20' W.
(VANSITTART, 1418Z/24).
Your 1418Z/24. Destination Liverpool, fuelling
Londonderry if necessary.
(C. in C. W.A., 2101A/24 to VANSITTART).

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

WOLVERINE *See p. 707* Your 1150/24. From (O) 044° 59' N., 014° 30' W. to (P) 049° 59' N., 013° 10' W. (Q) 180 Bishops 10 (R) 180 the Lizard, and by Q.Z.S. Message 278 to Plymouth. Arrive position Q at 0630A/29. Fighter co-operation ordered daylight 29th till arrival. Codeword "Wheel". (C. in C. Plymouth, 1717A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.)

DUKE OF YORK etc. *Hunting* My 2417/23. Sailed (?DUKE OF YORK)*JAMAICA, MONTROSE, BROKE, CAMPBELL, MACKAY for Scapa. E.T.A. 1045A/26. Re sleeve target.* *See p. 702* (V.A. (2) 1730A/24).

VIOLET Request VIOLET may be sailed to Liverpool 30/9. (C. in C. W.A., 1744A/24 to C. in C. Nore).

P.614 Arrival P.614. (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1745A/24).

P.C.74 C. in C. W.A. 1555/24 and 1557/24. Intend to sail P.C.74 and BUSTLER from Milford Haven approx. 1400/25. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1817A/24). *(See previous page to S.S. DAFOE - sailed 9 - 9.11.42 - p. 700)*

KEPPEL Your 1325/23. Request you sail KEPPEL for Londonderry on 26/9. (C. in C. H.F., 1821A/24 to V.A.2).

UREDD *See previous page* UREDD arrived Lerwick 1235A/24. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 1831A/24).

O.15 *N.T. in H.D.* Your 1952A/24. 055° 10', 024° 05', 077° 9½. (O.15 2330A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operations.

20th E.G. (Convoys O.N.132 and S.C.100). My P.C.S. at 1100A/24 56° 23' N., 15° 00' W., 280° 9 knots. Anticipate meeting daylight tomorrow. Should it be impossible to fuel during Friday consider necessary in view prevailing weather for destroyers to proceed Hvalfjord or Londonderry. (SALADIN, 1101A/24 to STORK).

STORK, SPEY, EXE expected to join S.C.100 at 0230Z. from ahead, ROTHER and DEPTFORD at dawn. Intend to take up following positions all 10 miles from convoy, STORK astern, SPEY starboard beam, EXE port beam, ROTHER port bow, DEPTFORD starboard bow. (STORK, 1814Z/24 to C. T.U. 24.1.3).

/Enemy...

24.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - Contd.

Enemy Main Units. TRIBUNE in zones K. 151 and K. 152. TIGRIS K. 153 and K. 154. (F.O.S., 1608A/24). TIGRIS amend patrol position to read 069° 34', 016° 30'. (F.O.S., 1944A/24).

Patrols 1. GLAISDALE, ESKDALE patrolling South of Needles weather permitting.
2. 2 M.G.Bs. 1 M.T.B. exercising in Weymouth Bay 1930 - 2200/24. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1610A/24).
S.G.Bs. 9 and 8 from Newhaven patrolling between D and No. 10 buoys from 2000. (V.A. Dover, 1717A/24).
My 1610A/24 add:- (5) S.G.Bs. 8, 9 from Newhaven patrolling between D and No. 10 buoys.
(4) 3 A/S Trawlers patrolling vicinity E.A. 5 Buoy. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1945/24.)

Allied Air Activity.

"Knocker". My 2230/23. First plane air-borne 0630Z/24. (A.C.I.C., 0815A/24).
My 2230/23. Last plane airborne 1052Z/24. One aircraft will not leave today. (A.C.I.C., 1320A/24).

Convoy S.C.100 In view of your report G.14 22/9 consider you should put all available aircraft in neighbourhood of S.C.100 to attack U-boats and search for Stragglers. (H.Q.C.C., 0950A/24 to R.A.F. Iceland).

A/C for Channel. Comply with H.Q.F.C. 1736A/23. (R.A.N.A.S., 1227A/24 to Hatston).

Bomber Command operations. Narrative of Operations. Night 22/23. No operations. On night 23/24 16 A/C bombed the ship yard at Flensburg and 28 A/C laid Mines. (H.Q.B.C., 1640A/24).

Mining.

M.S.N.3 PLOVER and SCOTT sailed for North Rona. (PLOVER, 0305A/24 to M/S 15). *See next page*
Sailed FRASERBURGH, with LYME, REGIS, BEAUMARIS, DUNBAR, PETERHEAD, BOOTLE in company. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0613A/24 to R.A.M.)
See next page

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining-Contd.

M.S.N.3
Contd. My 1823/23. Weather quite unsuitable. Am proceeding to Loch Laxford. (15 M/S 1021A/24 to PLOVER). Anchored Loch Laxford. LYME REGIS, BEAUMARIS, ARDROSSAN, PETERHEAD. BOOTLE in company. (M/S 15 1207A/24). (FRASERBURGH)

Lyme Bay
Sweep. My 0833A/23. "Ounce V" postponed further 24 hours owing to weather. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 0743A/24 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Western
Channel
Sweep. Area swept extended to line joining positions 50° 23' 30" N., 03° 10' W., 50° 29' 30" N., 02° 45' W. One mine detonated in 50° 27' 00" N. 02° 56' 54" W. Intend proceeding at 0700/27 and subsequent days to continue clearance. (ELGIN, 1823A/24 to C. in C Plymouth.)

U-boats.

U-boats
attacked. One Sunderland will be assisting you from approx. 0230A/24 to 1030A/24. (C. in C. W.A., 0055A/24 to TANATSIDE, SCOTT). SCOTT's 2200/23. Necessary for TANATSIDE to return to Scapa. Please arrange relief by one A/S vessel with depth charges. (C. in C. H.F., 0225A/24 to R.A.M.) C. in C. H.F., 2017A/23 and SCOTT 2200A/23. LLANDUDNO has relieved destroyers. (PLOVER, 0300A/24). Comply with C. in C. H.F. 0225/24. (R.A.M., 0553A/24 to M/S 15). Relieved by LLANDUDNO, E.T.A. Scapa 1110. Contact still held. (TANATSIDE, 0659A/24). Am sailing NEWARK to relieve LLANDUDNO in 058° 14' N., 005° 43' W. On relief LLANDUDNO proceed as ordered by S.O. 15th M/S F. (R.A.M., 0904A/24). If wreck is still in same position hunt is to be abandoned. SCOTT and LLANDUDNO to proceed in execution of previous orders. (C. in C. H.F., 0937A/24 to R.A.M.) Sailed NEWARK in compliance with C. in C. H.F., 0225A/24. (TRELAWNEY, 1002/24 and 1410A/24). Contact on ledge in 058° 14' N., 005° 42' W. Depth 43 fathoms. Consider non-submarine. With all characteristics 0 deep pattern 6 charges fired at 1123A. Contact remains the same. No surface evidence. (LLANDUDNO, 1200A/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Am...

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.U-boats - conts.

U-boats Am over enemy S/M in 58° 50' N., 26° 56' W.
 attacked S/M was on surface when first sighted and was on
 Conted. a course 140° estimated speed 15 knots.
 (A.O.C. 15 Group, 1212Z/24).
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Estimate
 one hit.
 (A.O.C. 15 Group, 1215/24).
 Am over enemy submarine in 58° 34' N., 25° 51' W. Enemy
 was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, 090° 12.
 (A/C, N.1 U.K., 1235/24).
 Have attacked enemy with bombs level. Estimate no hits.
 (A.O.C., 15 Group 1240/24).
 Am over enemy S/M in 46° 30' N., 6° 50' W. S/M was
 sighted on surface and observed to submerge and when first
 sighted was on a course 090° estimated speed 8 knots.
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1310/24).
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits.
 (A.O.C. 19 Group 1312/24).
 Am over enemy S/M in 58° 37' N., 25° 24' W. Was sighted
 on surface and observed to submerge. Was on a course 090° speed
 10 knots.
 (A/C NLUK 1400Z/24)
 Am over enemy submarine in 58° 35' N., 25° 37' W., sighted
 on surface and submerged. Course 045° speed 8 knots.
 (A/C NLUK 1415/24).
 Am over enemy submarine in 58° 39' N., 25° 30' W. sighted
 on surface and submerged, course 060° speed 8 knots.
 (A/C NLUK 1425/24).
 Have attacked enemy S/M with gunfire. Result of attack
 2 hits.
 (A/C NLUK 1444/24)
 Two submarines sighted at 1245Z/24 in 58° 43' N., 25° 06' W.
 One straggler reported in 59° 06', 27° (?03') at 1245Z. 12
 convoy ships present. Air escort has sighted 7 submarines around
 S.C.100. Has made 2 attacks, one direct hit. Two escort ships
 (?hunting). No attack on convoy.
 (C.T.U. 24.1.3., 1445Z/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
 Following has been read 7 S/M in 58° 43' N., 24° 54' W. at
 1430Z/24.
 (N.G. C/S Block 6 1542/24 to Whitehall W/T).
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Estimate one hit.
 (A/C HL61 1630/24).
 Am over enemy S/M in 59° 08' N., 26° 00' W., sighted on
 surface and observed to submerge, course 090° speed 8 knots.
 (Unknown origin 1630Z/24).
 Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate no hits.
 (A.O.C. 15 Group, 1852/24).
 Am over enemy submarine in 58° 56' N., 25° 37' W.
 (A/C HL6A, 1858/24).

General (Mostly incorrect) (N.A. Stockholm, 1701/24)
 Information. See Lion Copy.

U-boat D/F bearings at 1450Z/24 indicate U-boat probably
 reported within 60 miles of 66° N., 5° W. U-boat possibly
 eastbound.
 (D.D.I.C., 1800A/24).
 Enemy submarine on surface and observed to submerge
 (A/C HL6A 1900/24).

SECRET

MESSAGE 1701/24 September IN

From Naval Attache Stockholm

DATE 25.9.42.

Inter Departmental Cypher (I.T.P) REC'D 0300
by Cable

Addressed Admiralty.

German U Boats.

- (a) U-Boats observed in BODO as follows:-
 - (i) 377 July 5th July 30th August 10th.
 - (ii) 378 August 10th.
 - (iii) 457 July 22nd.
 - (iv) 586 July 9th.
 - (v) 703 August 8th.

B 2 repeat B 2.

- (b) Following reported amongst those missing:-
411 417 429 433 434 501 504 506 543 545 546
570 573 574 577.

C 3 repeat C 3.

- (c) Following casualties are reported:-
 - (1) 5 ^(75?) (83) ashore but may be refloated.
 - (ii) 431 damaged but repairing.
 - (iii) 421 damaged beyond repair.

All dates are lacking.

- (d) Atlantic. Sea particulars reported as follows:-
 - (1) Autumn 1941 - 34 days in harbour to 40 at sea.
 - (ii) April May 1942 - 29 days in harbour to 59 at sea.
 - (iii) June July 1942 - 31 days in harbour to 65 at sea.

B nought repeat B nought.

(ii) Station U-Boats.

- (a) 65 reported in commission of which (? 20) are large type.
- (b) Very small type have been reported recently in Greek waters.

(c) New.....

699B
MPPJ

- (c) New construction - 6 of 250 tons and 6 small type.
- (iii) Japanese U-Boats.

At Lorient Japanese U-Boat length 110 metres with hangar reported August 27th. Said to have left Singapore April 19th after operating off Colombo Aden and Mozambique with help of aircraft which was subsequently lost off South Africa.

Reported vessel will proceed to Brest and then German Port for present to Germans.

B nought repeat B nought.

1701/24

Advance copy sent to O.I.C.

N.I.D. Comment.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- N.A. to 1st S.L.
- Capt. Fin, Ad., Hse.
- Naval Sec.
- Ops (3)
- O.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- O.I.C. (4)
- D. of P. (9)
- D.A/S.W. (2)
- I.P. (3)
- W.D.
- D.P.D.
- D.S.D. (2)
- M (2)
- Admiral Blake
- Admiral Usborne

Paragraph (a) The U-Boats mentioned are thought to be operating from N. Norwegian waters. It is unlikely that the dates are all accurate.

Paragraph (b) Some of the U-Boats mentioned have been sunk but 50 per cent of the information is in correct.

Paragraph (c) Unreliable.

Paragraph (d) It is unlikely that U-Boats work to a fixed schedule, but there has been an increase in the length of cruises and in the proportion of time spent at sea as opposed to in port. 500 ton U-Boats are capable of remaining as long as 65 days at sea, provided there is not much high speed steaming.

- (ii) (a) Agrees with previous information.
- (b) No confirmation - submarines operating in Aegean are thought to be of medium tonnage.
- (c) Agree but in addition seven medium tonnage believed working up and five of medium tonnage.

(iii) The arrival of a Japanese Submarine at a French Port is corroborated by other reports, one of which also stated it would proceed to Germany.

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.

SOMALI SOMALI broke in half without warning whilst in tow at 0230/24 in 69° 11' N., 15° 32' W. (Capt. D.6., 0830A/24) See Shipping.
See also p. 704

DEFOE SS. DEFOE developed fire in (cargo?) fuel. Bow of ship as far as foremast blown off. ROCHESTER and SS. INCOMATI standing by. (ROCHESTER, 0915A/24).

My 0915A/24. DEFOE is still burning but do not intend to sink her.
(ROCHESTER, 1141A/24).
My 1141A/24. Fire dying out, ship floating well. 45 Survivors. Am rejoining convoy with SS. INCOMATI. Ship abandoned in 051° 40' N., 019° 16' W.
(ROCHESTER, 1201A/24).
Proceed at best speed to assist DEFOE damaged by fire in 52° 11' N., 19° 32' W. ROCHESTER is standing by. Report P.C.S. (C. in C. W.A., 1326A/24 to BUSTLER).
My 1201A/24. Correct position SS. DEFOE to read 051° 54' N. 019° 16' W., good fix. Master thinks ship capable of salvage. Chlorine gas escaped from ships cargo. Explosion on board. (ROCHESTER, 1400A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 1326/24. Proceed to Milford Haven and await escort. (C. in C. W.A., 1547A/24 to BUSTLER).
Request you will sail BUSTLER escorted by P.C.74 as soon as the latter is available. *See p. 696*
(C. in C. W.A., 1555A/24 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven).
F.O.I.C. Belfast is requested to sail BLACKFLY to relieve P.C.74 escorting ships to join O.N.133.
2. On relief P.C.74 is to R/V with BUSTLER and escort her to DAFOE.
3. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven to arrange both rendezvous. (C. in C. W.A., 1557A/20 to F.O.I.C. Belfast).
Position 052° 00' N., 005° 30' W., course 270° speed 14 knots (BUSTLER, 1615A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1326/24 and your 1547/24. Returning Milford Haven, E.T.A. St. Ann's Head 2200/24.
(BUSTLER, 1825A/24 to C. in C. W.A.)

Sleat Boom Sleat Boom was observed to be intact p.m./21.
Damaged. There is now a hole about 40 feet wide and about 10 feet below surface but (?jetty) is intact. This was discovered at 1000/23. The whole of No. 15 (?section) has today been removed for repair and examination shows wire has been cleanly cut possibly deliberately. N.O.I.C. is investigating the damage in person. As no spare section is available destroyer patrols have been instituted at the boom and at both entrances to Kyle Rhea. Remaining ships are at immediate notice and all possible precautions have been taken. In view of full moon and fact that 30 hours has elapsed without any untoward incident I consider it unlikely that a U-boat or midget S/M have entered.
(R.A.M., 1602A/24 to Admty (R) C. in C. H.F.)

My 1602/24. Adequate report cannot be made until damaged section has been laid out on the beach and examined. Work can only be fully carried out when tide is out. Further signal will be made after p.m. low water tomorrow. Request officer with

/specialist's...

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects.Sleat Boom
Damaged.
Contd.specialist's knowledge of boom defences may be sent by quickest possible method to report to me forthwith.
(R.A.M., 1814A/24 to Admty).

ROSE

Sailed H.N.M.S. ROSE. E.T.A. Tobermory 2000/25. Echo-sounding gear defective and no spares available at Milford Haven. Two Pdr. Mark VIII gun needs replacement, spare not available at Milford Haven.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1837A/24).Shipping & Convoys.Q.P.14 ^{LEPA}
SOMALI
lost.

Expect A/S air escort during daylight today by 4 Sorties of (?Whitleys). First and last Sorties by three Aircraft, 2nd and 3rd by two aircraft. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0021A/24 to Escorts Q.P.14). Your 2301A/23. No, they should have sufficient fuel to reach Iceland.

(R.A.D., H.F., 0034/23 to C. in C. H.F.)

Catalinas will be searching for you today.

(A.C.I.C., 0036A/24 to Capt. D.6., ASHANTI, TANGO).

Seidis Fjord arrivals Capt. D.17 in ONSLOW, OFFA,

WORCESTER, RATHLIN, and ZAMALEK in company at 2055A/23

(A.C.I.C., 0056A/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

My 2312/23. For Catalina's read Northrops and or Liberators

(A.C.I.C., 0043A/24 to Escorts Q.P.14)

D/F bearings at 0508Z and 0517Z indicate possibility that convoy has been reported by U-boat.

(D.D.I.C., 0744A/24 to Escorts Q.P.14)

Seidis Fjord departure 0725Z/24 ONSLOW, OFFA, WORCESTER, RATHLIN, ZAMELEK to rejoin Q.P.14.

(Capt. D.17, 0828A/24).

SOMALI broke in half without warning whilst in tow at 0230/24 in 069° 11' N., 015° 32' W. Have Force P, ONSLAUGHT, and TROUBADOUR in company. Am detaching Force P with TROUBADOUR and LORD MIDDLETON to Scapa through 090° Grimsey Island 5 miles where TROUBADOUR, escorted by LORD MIDDLETON, will proceed Akureyri. Remaining H.F. Destroyers proceeding to Scapa best speed. A.C.I.C. recall ADHERENT. Weather report 3777 1087+.

(Capt. D.6., 0830A/24 to C. in C. H.F.)

Scapa arrivals R.A.D. H.F. in SCYLIA.

(A.C.O.S., 0926/24).

My 1116A/23. Sailed. (ORIBI) E.T.A. 1700/25.

(R.A.D., 0930A/24 to A.C.I.C.)

Return to Reykjavik with ADHERENT and ST. ELSTAN forthwith by reverse route.

(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0934Z/24 to TANGO)

My 0043/24 and my 0212/24. A constant patrol of Lightnings will be maintained between Hofn and Buforeyri today.

(A.C.I.C., 0955A/24 to Escorts Q.P.14)

/Intend...

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Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. --- 15. ---

Q.P. 14, LEPA 9 Intend to sail LEINSTER through Clyde expect at
SOMALI 1600/25 for Loch Ewe to comply with Admty. 2131A
lost. /22. S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 1100/26.
Contd. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1252A/24).
Situation report at 2000. AVENGER, FURY, WILTON,
WHEATLAND 059° 16', 006° 50' to Scapa 12.
(C. in C. W.A., 1310A/24).

Estimated positions at 2059 tonight. JAMAICA, MONTROSE,
CAMPBELL, MACKAY, BROKE on passage Hvalfjörd. *SHEFFIELD, LONDON
CUMBERLAND, BULLDOG, ECLIPSE, AMAZON 062° 27', 018° 05' to
South Eastwards. LORD MIDDLETON, TROUBADOUR approaching
Akureyri. TANGO, ST. ELSTAN, ADHERENT 066° 55' 020° 30' to
South westwards. Q.P. 14, 063° 42', 014° 35' to South Eastwards.
Force P 066° 35' 016° 59' to Eastwards. *
(A.C.I.C., 1626A/24).

Following is a brief summary of events during Operation E.V.
Conferences and preliminary movements went off satisfactorily
and according to programme up to 9th. September 1942 when I
joined P.Q. 18. Enemy aircraft and U-boats shadowed the convoy,
one promising attack on a U-boat carried out.

2. 11th September 1942. I proceeded with force B to oil at
Bell Sound, leaving Captain (D) 8th Destroyer Flotilla in
Command.

3. 12th September 1942, convoy shadowed by Bloem and Voss 138
several attacks on U-boats including very promising one by
FAULKNER.

4. 13th September 1942. Two merchant ships torpedoed by U-boat
Minelaying by enemy aircraft ahead of convoy. Rejoined convoy
with Force B just in time for first of a variety of air attacks.

5. First attack was high level bombing by about 6 Ju. 88s
through gaps in clouds. No casualties on either side.

6. Second attack by between 40 and 50 torpedo bombers who
approached from starboard bow, line abreast in close formation,
looking like a cloud of phantom locusts. Despite intense fire
by all ships, attack was most courageously pressed home to very
short range and resulted in 8 merchant ships being sunk, 5 enemy
aircraft seen to crash, many others damaged.

7. Third attack by 9 torpedo bombers was driven off by destroyers
gunfire resulting in torpedoes being dropped at long range, well
outside screen. 2 bombers seen to crash.

8. One Hurricane who attacked a shadowing H.E. 115 was shot
down in flames. Destroyer found no trace of pilot.

9. Minelaying by large number of aircraft ahead of convoy
Emergency turn made to avoid.

10. Fourth attack at dusk by 12 torpedo bombers again frustrated
by gunfire of screen and AVENGER's fighters. 6 aircraft seen
to crash.

11. 14th September 1942. At dawn ATHELTEMPLAR torpedoed in
engine-room by U-boat and sunk by own forces.

12. Swordfish sighted U-boat 6 miles distant. ONSLOW sent to
hunt and after dropping 5 patterns reported "Oil, air bubbles,
wreckage of wooden gratings and some green vegetables".

13. Fifth attack in early afternoon by 22 torpedo bombers from
ahead, pressed home but no ships hit, AVENGER and SCYLLA being
chief target.

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24.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys- contd.Q.P.14. LEBA 9
SOMALI
Lost. Contd.

14. Sixth attack by 12 Ju.88s closely followed. High level bombing lasting about one and a quarter hours. No damage. Several ships of escort had near misses.
15. Seventh attack by 25 torpedo bombers from right ahead followed immediately. Attack split and passed either side of SCYLLA, one merchant ship hit and blew up the explosion causing damage to her next astern who was, however, able to proceed. Two torpedo bombers destroyed in the explosion. Three Hurricanes shot down, all pilots saved. I shall never forget the reckless gallantry of Hurricane pilots in their determination to get in amongst the enemy despite the solid mass of our defensive fire of every type.
16. Eighth attack by Ju.88. Through clouds, few opportunities for defensive fire. Heavy bombs dropped close to SCYLLA, AVENGER and escort who appeared to be chief target.
17. From detailed analysis total of 24 aircraft seen to crash during attacks on 14/9. AVENGER sighted 17 torpedoes and her pilots claim 5 certain kills, three probables and 14 damaged.
18. 15th September, 1942. All British and American survivors of ships sunk, totalling 443, transferred to ships of covering force. 124 Russian survivors and 11 British cot cases left in rescue ships.
19. Ninth attack. High and low level bombing for three hours by fifty to seventy aircraft. Attack carried out mainly from above low clouds. Enemy harassed by Hurricanes above clouds and by intense gunfire by escorts whenever they appeared below. Many bombs dropped including some very heavy, one bomber seen to crash at a distance.
20. Many A/S contacts and hunts during the day, including one promising attack by IMPULSIVE who reported diesel oil, bubbles, wood, wreckage, etc. (14/9) U.589 sunk by ONSLOW. See A 390.
21. 17th September 1942. Transferred to Q.P.14.
22. 18th September 1942. Shadowing aircraft appeared for short time, several ice-bergs sighted. W/T silence.
23. 19th September 1942. After passing South Cape, in order to keep out of range of torpedo bombing attack altered course to northward at dawn. Convoy's alteration of course unfortunately sighted by aircraft carrying out meteorological reconnaissance.
24. In order to avoid weakening the screen by sending destroyers in to Bell Sound to fuel, two destroyers had previously been sent ahead to bring one oiler from Force P out to join up with the convoy and these R/V with me at 1900.
25. ONSLAUGHT despatched to assistance of TROUBADOUR a straggler from the start, who was being attacked by U-boat 70 miles astern. Contact made with assistance of Swordfish.
26. 20th September 1942. Numerous A/S contacts obtained during night and at 0530 ship "A" in rear of convoy was torpedoed and sunk by U-boat. Convoy constantly shadowed by U-boats from now on.
27. A Swordfish and ASHANTI both reported very promising attacks on U-boats. At 1700 one merchant ship hit by two torpedoes and in view of heavy U-boat threat I transferred to MILNE and sent SCYLLA and AVENGER on to Seidisfjord at their maximum speed.
28. Ship B. was hit in engine-room by torpedo and ASHANTI took her in tow.
29. 21st September 1942. BRAMBLE and WORCESTER carried out promising attack on U-boat. Under-water explosions heard and large air bubbles seen. Catalina in carrying out attack on U-boat was shot down.

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - conts:

Q.P.14 LEDA
SOMALI
lost. Contd.

30. 22nd September 1942. Shortly after leaving
convoy in MILNE in position Q, two merchant ships
and GRBY RANGER torpedoed and sunk by U-boat.
Summary.

31. P.Q.18. 4 Hurricanes were only Naval losses.
3 pilots saved. 3 merchant ships sunk by U-boat.
9 by aircraft up to 17th September. Total of 578 survivors.
38 enemy aircraft seen to crash, many others damaged. Very
promising attacks on 4 U-boats.

32. Q.P.14. Ship "A" sunk by U-boat. Ship "B" torpedoed
*taken tow, broke in two and sunk today. 3 merchant ships and
R.F.A. GRBY RANGER sunk by U-boat. Very promising attacks on
two U-boats. *U.435 - see p. 586.*
(R.A.D., 1741A/24 to Admty). *see below for*

My 1741A/24. Ship "A" is LEDA. Ship B is SOMALI. *see p. 700.*
(R.A.D., H.F., 1743A/24 to Admty).
Capt. (D) 6's 0830/24. It is no longer necessary to keep
an oiler at Akureyri.

2. If not required to escort TROUBADOUR to Reykjavik, LORD
MIDDLETON should be sailed for refit in accordance with
C. in C. W.A's 1234/22.

3. BRAMHAM is to be sailed for Londonderry.
(C. in C. H.F., 1826A/24 to A.C.I.C.)

My 0830. At 1200A/24 my P.C.S. 068° 47' N., 015° 30' W.
140° 18 knots for position 066° 16' N., 010° 01' W. thence East
Faeroes for Scapa. ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE, and INTREPID in
company. ESKIMO following independently at best speed to join me
(2) Force P, TROUBADOUR, and LORD MIDDLETON in 069° 06' N., 016°
03' W. at 1000/24 for Grimsey, 8 knots.

(3) ADHERENT and Escort met by ESKIMO and ordered by him to
return to Harbour.

(4) SOMALI casualties in nature of 40 Officers and Men drowned,
5 killed, and 4 wounded. C.O. safe and well.

(5) ESKIMO report P.C.S. when 100 miles clear of Force P. Weather
Report 47721516.

(Capt. D.6., 1930Z/24).

Scapa arrival 2143 MILNE.

(A.C.O.S., 2151/24).

My P.C.S. 066° 23' N., 012° 52' W., 142° 18 knots. E.T.A.
Switha 0730A/26. Have survivors 50 from SOMALI 39 from U.S.
Freighter. Weather 2872, 2186.

(ESKIMO, 2255A/24 to A.C.O.S.)

P.Q.19
DALDORCH.

Your 1418/20. Request confirmation DALDORCH will
be included in P.Q.19 as essential to avoid
further delay in replacing these stores.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 0823A/24 to Admty).

S.C.100

1. When ready BLYSKAWICA is to proceed Londonderry
to fuel thence to join S.C.100 at dawn 26th.

2. Estimated positions at 1500Z/24 058° 32' N.
025° 00' W., routed through D. 058° 12', 013°
03', speed 7 knots.

(C. in C. WA. 1008Z/24).

Sailed BLYSKAWICA to comply with C. in C. W.A. 1008Z/24.

E.T.A. Merville 2300A/24.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1848A/24 to Cdre. Londonderry).

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

- S.D.32 Clyde arrival LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE at 1230A/23.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1158A/24).
- W.S.23 Z. W.S.23 Z, comprising SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH will carry troops from U.K. to Suez according to following approximate programme:-
Leave U.K. 17/10 Due Freetown 25/10 Due Capetown 2/11 Due Suez 13/11.
2. She will proceed unescorted. Available air and surface A/S forces should be used to sweep ahead of her track and not necessarily to provide close escort. In order to minimise the distance that the ship will be from possible life-saving craft Commanders-in-Chief are requested to arrange for such A.M.Cs. and other warships as can be spared from other operations to be stationed at intervals along her route
(A.C.N.S. (F), 1548A/24).
- W.S.23 Convoy W.S.23. My 1836/16 para. 6.
If it is not practicable for C.O. QUEEN OF BERMUDA to attend conference F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to arrange for all necessary information and instructions to be dispatched in time to reach QUEEN OF BERMUDA before sailing.
(D.O.D. (H.), 1747A/24).
A.M. 1836/16. Amend para. 1 for 29/9 read 30/9.
(D.O.D. (H.), 2309A/24).
Admiralty 1836/16. (1) Ocean escort (a) from Liverpool. DURBAN S.O. DESPATCH. (b) from Clyde QUEEN OF BERMUDA.
2. A/S Escort (a) from Liverpool BEAGLE S.O., WRESTLER, PUCKERIDGE, KANARIS. (b) from Londonderry, BICESTER, ZETLAND.
(3) BEAGLE is to arrive Liverpool A.M. 28th.
(4) Escorts from Clyde and Londonderry are joining at Oversay R/V.
(5) N.O.I.C. Liverpool is to arrange fuelling of DURBAN, DESPATCH, PUCKERIDGE, BICESTER, ZETLAND, KANARIS at Ponta Delgada.
(6) BEAGLE, WRESTLER are to return base at P.L.E.
(8) Request you will sail ships accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A., 1457A/24).
- S.C.L.99 Request news of JOHN H.B. LATROBE.
JOHN H.B. (D.T.D., 1804A/24 to A.C.I.C.)
LATROBE.
- BB C. in C. W.A., 1459A/17/3/42.
Convoys. Ships from Holyhead are not to join BB Convoys but are to sail in H.Ms.
BB. convoys are to be sailed at such a time as will enable them to arrive in position 180° Smalls 5 miles at daylight. Ships from Mersey Ports are to proceed to Holyhead for onward routeing in H.M. Convoys.
(C. in C. W.A., 1849A/24).

/North...

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.North
Russia.
Hospital
facilities.

Your 1106/24. The small (?number) of hospital casualties landed at Archangel from P.Q.18 is not necessarily typical, as exceptional opportunity arose to (?transfer the) great majority of survivors at sea to homeward -bound ships.

2. Request following factors may also be brought to notice of Ambassador (a) Murmansk hospital (450 beds) has been abandoned. (b) Possibility of damage to remaining three (?small) Kola Inlet hospitals (total 400 beds approxmiately) (c) Probability of R.A.F. (?Casualties) when operating from Graznaya (?and) Vaenga. (d) Possibility of land offensive in Northern Sector of front with consequently heavy Russian casualties. (e) British hospitals cannot be established in a day (?.) First steps to establish present hospitals (?were) taken (?beginning) August. It is not structurally complete nor equipped. (corrupt group) factors (b) (c) and (d) may operate concurrently with naval surface action (?without) disaster to convoy comparable to P.Q.17 Naval and Merchant seamen engaged in Russian convoys deserve that they should not be subjected to additional danger through lack of proper hospital (?facilities). (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2010A/24 to 30 Mission, (R) Admty, C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French
Shipping.

Passing 23/9. Eastbound 1650 MARECHAL LYAUTEY,
STRASBOURGEOIS and trawlers AUGUSTE DENISE, MEM
GWEN.
(V.A. C.N.A. 0949A/24 to Admty for M.E.W.).

WOLVERINE.

See p. 696

Intend to sail WOLVERINE for Devonport at
2030/24 routed through (L) 36.01. 06.02, (M) 36.48
10.20 (N) 40.01 14.30 (O) 44.59 14.30 S. of A.13
knots.

2. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to signal onward route from position
(O).

(F.O.C.N.A. 1150A/24 to Admty etc).

Your 1150/24. From (O) 044.59 N. 014.30 W. to (P) 049.59 N.
013.10.W. (Q) 180° (?knots) 10.

(R) 180° thence 8 and by QZS Message 278 to Plymouth. Speed to
be adjusted to arrive position Q at 0630A/29. Bishop Light will
be shown at 0530 and 0600 for 5 minutes. Fighter co-operation
ordered daylight 29th till arrival. Codeword "Wheel".

(C. in C. Plymouth 1717A/24 to F.O.C.N.A. WOLVERINE).

My 1150/24. Sailed WOLVERINE.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2030A/24).

PARTHIAN.

Intend sailing PARTHIAN making 150 miles a day for
Malta p.m./26th, crossing 009° E. in 038° 17' N.
at 0300A/31 thence as ordered by V.A. Malta.

2. Last message concerning route V.A. Malta's 1005/22nd.

3. PARTHIAN carrying stores for Capt.(S) 1 and Capt.(S) 10.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1408A/24 to V.A. Malta (R) Admty etc).

My 1408. For 31st read 1st October.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1806A/24, to V.A. Malta).

GLOIRE.

Following from American Consul, Casablanca, French
Cruiser GLOIRE, reported to have left Dakar
(?15/9) had not entered Casablanca port at 1100/22.
(R.O. Tangier 1723/24, to Admty (for D.N.I.) and
S.O.(I) Gibraltar).

JULIET,
CORIOLANUS.

See p. 74

(lighter for the tower)

Your 1716/23, para.4.

Ultimate destination of JULIET and CORIOLANUS is
Gibraltar.

2. They may continue on present duty but should be
sailed to arrive Gibraltar not later than 31/10.

(D.O.D. (F) 1743A/24 to F.O.C.N.A.).

NIGERIA.

Your 1745/21, para.2. (Presumably 1743/21 re NIGERIA
being sailed for Philadelphia), 19 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1826A/24 to Admty).

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - 10000.

Bilbao.

No iron ore ships have arrived or left Bilbao since 20/9 due it is rumoured to minefield recently laid down French Waters.
(Consul, Bilbao 1843/24 to Admty).
W.R.Note: This message has been passed to H.Q.C.C. F.O.S. C. in C.Plymouth, C. in C.W.A., O.I.C.Comment
Previous to this date arrivals at and departures from Bilbao occurred almost daily.

German Tankers. Vigo.

Following from R.O.Vigo timed 1827/23 (quoted) Have you received these two signals direct from Vigo?
In view of final paragraph of Embassy's note of 31/12/1941 to M.F.A. and R.O. Vigo's 1827/23 you should take immediate steps to have them immobilised and interned. F.O. are agreeable to Charge d'Affaires making approach if you consider preferable.
(D.N.I. 1954A/24 to N.A.Madrid).

U/B.

Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 37.48 N. 2.25 E. contact lost, 3 miles search negative, continuing patrol.
(A/C Using Call Sign TV5C 2113A/24 to Gibraltar).

Enemy A/C Gibraltar.

4 A/C thought to be Italian were over Rock between 2231 and 2330/24. No Spitfires up. A/A engaged, no claim. No damage or casualties.
(A.H.Q. Gibraltar 2328Z/24 to H.Q.C.C., Air Min).

South Atlantic.

MARECHAL GALLIENI.
(intercepted 23/9).

See p. 710

Vichy ship MARECHAL GALLIENI sighted by South African Air Force at 1111 yesterday 23rd and intercepted by NIZAM in (025°?) 37' S. (7036°) 38' E. Ship is being escorted to Durban. E.T.A. a.m. Saturday 26th.
(C. in C.S.A. 0646Z/24 to Admty (R) C.in C.E.F.).
See also 1255/24 and 1428/26.

Shipping Bunkers.

Request reply to my 1421/21. (Routeing SS CITY OF LINCOLN). Similar case is likely to occur shortly.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown 0755Z/24 to Admty).

/Your....

709

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. contd.Shipping
Bunkers.
Contd.

Your 1421/21, CITY OF LINCOLN was correctly routed but further stocks oil bunkers not immediately available Pernambuco. Ships should not call Trinidad for the present. 3 or 4 ships Capetown to North American ports may call

Freetown and lift minimum oil bunkers to ensure safe margin to destination.

Further signal will be made when oil bunkers Pernambuco available. (D.T.D. 1952A/24 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, (R) C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A.).

ORISSA.

Your 1258/22. (N.T. in W.R.) Approved to steam ORISSA to Durban with original engine room crew and R.N. upperdeck crew and officers from H.M.S.

NIGELLA. Balance of Indian crew is to be embarked in British ship KOHISTAN due East London shortly for passage to Durban.

Preliminary arrangements have been made with Master but necessary passages should be requisitioned by you unless you think it necessary to keep ring leaders under close arrest. Ratings to be kept in open arrest and no guard is required. Officer belonging to ORISSA are to be sent to Durban by mail. ORISSA is to be sailed as soon as possible.

(C. in C.S.A. 0847/24 to N.O.I.C. East London).

AURORA,
search
for→ CÉPHÉE
(French)* See next page
(DuRor R/c)

My 1931/23. Search for CÉPHÉE in H.35 (c) to limit of prudent endurance. Report new E.T.A. on leaving search.

(R.A.W.A. 1035Z/24 to AURORA, (R) Admty, C. in C. S. Atlantic, CARNARVON CASTLE, CARTHAGE, CORFU, PARTRIDGE, U.S.S DOBBIN, Comsolantfor, N.O.I.C. Ascension, QUIBERON).

SAVOIE.
(French)

Reported A.1. Vichy Merchant ship SAVOIE is expected Conakry about 15/10 with 1000 African reliefs for Division. Senegal Mauritanic. Another ship will leave Conakry about 1/10, for Casablanca with 500 reliefs for North Africa.

(S.O.(I) Freetown 1213Z/24, to Admty) Comment by N.I.D. French SS.SAVOIE passed Gibraltar westbound 18/9, laden.

Convoy
Sailing
Signals.

In view of the difficulties of reception experienced by C. in C. ... 0016B/4 not to Admiralty, it is intended to make S.T. convoy sailing signals in the following form:

(1) Convoy number. (2) Time and date of sailing
(3) S. of A. (4) Number of ships and destinations. (5) Convoy route.
(6) Stragglers' route. (7) Dispersal positions (8) Details of Cape ships (read in 6 columns - name - Kaprut - speed - E.T.A. - Chop - days bunkers.) (9) Letters of coloured position. (10) Positions on Kapruts. Ships pads through Alarm Southern and reference positions if any. (11) W/T call sign. (12) Recoding Tables. (13) Latest "Q" Messages. A separate signal will be made giving routes of South American ships.

{N.C.S.O. Freetown 1220Z/24 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A., R.A.W.A.).

/MILFORD.

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

MILFORD. Your 1948/23rd MILFORD is to be sailed for Freetown to comply with R.A.W.A.'s 1101/21st. B.N.A.Rio de Janeiro pass to MILFORD. (C. in C.S.A. 1221C/24, to N.A.Rio de Janeiro (R) Admty, B.A.D. R.A.W.A.).

CARNARVON CASTLE. Your 1801/22. (Proposed patrol of CARNARVON CASTLE and CARTHAGE). Concur. (C. in C.S.A., 1234C/24 to R.A.W.A.).

CARTHAGE.

AMIRAL PIERRE. Your 1607/23, not to Admty, and my 0646Z/24. S.A.N.F. Whaler CEDARBERG will relieve NIZAM of escort of SS.*MARECHAL GALLIENI at 0430Z/25. Orders to NIZAM. (ii)*NIZAM will then return to patrol. HOTSPUR. (iii) HOTSPUR will R/V with NIZAM on patrol 0400Z/26. * 2-4 p. 708 (iv) A/C will patrol twice daily starting 25/9 area to a depth of 130 miles east from Lourenco Marques.

(v) Object is to intercept SS. AMIRAL PIERRE. (C. in C.S.A. 1255C/24 to C. in C.E.F.(R) Admty etc).

COMMANDANT DUBOC. F.N.F.L.London has requested that COMMANDANT DUBOC on route to Mediterranean be employed in East Indies area until further orders, preferably based Durban or Kilindini.

2. Intend sailing her for Durban tomorrow 25/9. Would you like her sent on to Kilindini? (C. in C.S.A. 1319C/24 to C. in C.E.F.).

TREVILLEY, BREEDYK, survivors. Following has been read. CUBANGO. Notice. Inform Board Master Steamers TREVILLEY and BREEDYK torpedoed salvaged crews on board TREVILLEY 15 BREEDYK 13. Take attention to the rest like boats. (Freetown W/T T.O.R.1354Z/24).

Dakar R/C. Photographic air R/C of Dakar at 0710/23 shows * CEPHEE sailed. Present French battleship RICHELIEU and 2 "Galissienne" Cruisers. Also 2 "Fantasque" destroyers. No accurate statement of minor war vessels. 1 "Jamaique" Merchant ship departed. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1357Z/24 to Admty).

* See previous page.

Movements Summary. 2000Z/24. ROYAL SOVEREIGN, DUNCAN, ANTHONY, 024° 00' S. 001° 50' E. 322° 14 knots. NEWCASTLE 024° 10' S. 007° 30' W. to Pernambuco, 18 knots. (C. in C.S.A. 1406Z/24 to S.A.S.).

/Lighter.....

711

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Lighter for
Freetown.Ref. 1716A/23rd from F.O.C.N.A. (intended sailing
crane lighter No 3. towed by SALVONIA escorted by
*JULIET and *CORIOLANUS), * ~~3-1-707~~Onward route from (H) (J) 014° 43' N. 019° 27' W.
(K) 010° 50' (017°) 08' (L) 008° 52' 014° 28'

thence to Freetown.

(R.A.W.A. 1541Z/24 to JULIET).

?Vichy
Ships.Hudson A/C in transit Gibraltar to Bathurst reports
following ships sighted at 1120Z/24 in 021° 16' N.
017° 15' W., steering North 10 knots; - 1 passenger
ship 10,000 tons similar to PROVIDENCE; 1 S/M; 1Merchant ship 4,000 tons similar to CEPHEE: 1 destroyer. Also
at 1147Z/24 in (020°) 10' N. 017° 28' W. steering South 12 knots,
1 6,000 ton tanker unidentified. Report will be made if further
details are available.(R.A.W.A. 2029Z/24 to F.O.C.N.A. Admty, (R) C. in C.S.A. C. in C.
W.A. PATHFINDER, Escorts of O.S.40, Escorts of S.L.123).PATHFINDER
QUENTIN.(1) Sailed at 2100Z/24. PATHFINDER and QUENTIN
for Gibraltar and onward routing to U.K. Route A.
010° N. 018° W. B. 013° 019° C. 022° 019° D. 028°
013° 30' E., 034° 009° F. 036° 006°. thence to

Gibraltar, S. of A. 16 knots.

(2) E.T.A. Gibraltar p.m./30/9.

(3) Ships will shift to North Atlantic W/T organization at 0500Z/27

(4) A.M. 2315/12 is passed to F.O.C.N.A. PATHFINDER has asked to be
sailed to U.K. as early as possible to dry out oil fuel tanks at
refitting yard before 7/10.

(R.A.W.A. 2124Z/24, to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty etc).

Mediterranean.Enemy
Units.

1 Destroyer 33.57 N, 23.40 E. 170° 20 knots.

(A/C 0100/24, to 201 Group)

P.C. and S. of enemy, 2 destroyers, 1 Tanker
33.50 N. 23.26.E. 180° 12 knots.

(A/C Call Sign V8XA 0130C/24 to 201 Group).

P.C. and S. of enemy 3 Destroyers, 1 M/V, not exceeding 10,000
tons, 33.31 N, 23.29 E. 150° 8 knots at 0350C. Am returning to
base.

(A/C Call Sign V8KO. 0440C/24 to A/C Call O.N.1.).

P.C. and S. of enemy. 1 M/V, 2 Destroyers, 32.36 N, 23.46.E. 160°
3 knots.

(A/C Call Sign S3DD 0904/24 to A/C Call Q.R.8).

P.C.S. of enemy, 6 Transport Barges, 32.21 N. 24.55.E. 260°

6 knots.

(A/C Call Sign S3DD 0929/24)

/Cositrep....

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Cositrep 1.Ref.Cositrep 526 Para.8.(Benghazi 22/9).
No.527 Photographs show 1 vessel 7/8,000 tons entirely
Part 2. destroyed. Second vessel same size with hatch-
covers apparently blown off. Stern half of
converted wreck destroyed and now useless.

2. 22/9. At dusk Malta Torpedo Beauforts, with Beaufighter escort,
attacked southbound tanker 5/6,000 tons, escorted by 3 destroyers,
10 miles west of Antipaxos Island. 1, possibly 2 hits claimed,
followed by explosion and black smoke. Wellingtons continued
attack after nightfall, claiming 3 near misses.

3.Night 22/23. Halifaxes and Wellingtons bombed Tobruk, causing
violent explosion and large fires main quay area. Wellingtons
and Bostons bombed landing grounds east of Matruh.
(C.in C.M.E.1030/24)

RORQUAL. RORQUAL leave position 000° R(?as) Beirut 5 miles
at 1902C/24 on course 270° to position 033° 57'
025° 54' thence 034° 49' 018° 59' thence as
ordered by Capt.(S) 10.
(Capt.S.1. 1038C/24 to C. in C.Med (R) Capt.S.10. No.201 Group.
S/Ms on patrol).

CLYDE. Your 1536/23. Essential that CLYDE should do
cargo trip. Speed should be adjusted to dive
before dawn in 037° 42' 012° 14' to surface as
near position D as possible. If forced to dive earlier withdraw
and report when safe to do so.
(V.A.Malta 1411B/24 to F.O.C.N.A.(R) Admty, C. in C.Med, etc).

Air Sqdns. A.277 24/9. Your T.O.O. 1435/12/9. (A) Northern
Location Limit 207 Group Area 10° N.
and Area (B) Aden responsible Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea
Limits. West of 54° E.inclusive Socotra to latitude 10° N.,
thence along this parallel to African coast.
(C) Iraq responsible Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman
West of 60° E. and for coastal strip 250 miles in depth extending
from this meridian to 54° E. When suitable aircraft become
available Southern Limit of coastal strip will be extended
Southwards to 10° N.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., 1644/24 to C. in C.E.F.).

Supply Ships Tonnage available for supply of stores apart from
for 8th petroleum to 8th Army through Western Desert ports
Army, is insufficient (? to) maintain estimated essential
requirements at 1200 tons initially rising to 2,000
tons daily for prolonged period.

2. Tonnage available (list). This makes (? no) allowance for
inevitable high rates of casualties due to increased air and S/M
risks.

3. Majority of Greek ships are unsuitable for Western Desert run
owing to limitations of speed and are already fully employed. No
other tonnage is available without calling upon commercial feeder

/service.....

713

24.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - conts.

Supply Ships for 8th Army. Contd. service which is already hard pressed. 4. It must be emphasized that tonnage shown in para. 2 is at present employed carrying military cargo to Eastern Mediterranean and Red Sea which will not decrease, and withdrawal for Western Desert service must lead to employment of Ocean going vessels on this service unless additional small ships are provided. 5. You will appreciate that shortage of desertworthy mechanical transport one of the principal factors in present military supply situation. 6. In order to ensure that supplies to 8th Army can be maintained and to meet requirements in para.4 request 12 ships approximating 2,000 tons deadweight carrying capacity and minimum speed 9 knots may be allocated and sent to Middle East as early as possible. 7. Agreed M.W.T, M.E.C.in C.M.E., (P.S.T.O.Egypt. 1905C/24 to Admty for D.S.T.).

Malta Air Report.

I.3. 24/4. C.S.R.Malta.

23rd. 0740 hours, 8 Spitfires up for raids which turned back before reaching Malta. 0855 hours, 32 plus ME.109s approached Malta at height, serious R.D.F.interference, 18 Spitfires up intercepted 30 miles north of Island but enemy had height advantage 1 ME.109 damaged, 1 Spitfire missing and not found by subsequent searches. 1150 hours, 6 plus enemy fighters approached Malta. 9 Spitfires up but raiders turned back 20 miles N. of Island. 1420 hours 57 Spitfires up for raids which returned before reaching Malta. 1540 hours, 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. Night 23/24. 2 Beaufighters and 2 Spitfires up in full moon. 2005 hours, 3 raiders approached Island partial R.D.F. interference, identified as JU.87 shot down in sea by Beaufighter 12 miles east of Malta, other raiders then turned back and were pursued by Spitfires. 2 Beaufighters made intruder patrols S.W.Sicily but saw no enemy aircraft. 24th. 0425 hours, 2 sections Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 0600 hours, 7 ME.109s approached Island at great height, serious R.D.F.interference 7 Spitfires up but raiders had height advantage avoided combat, and withdrew. 0825 hours, 9 plus ME.109s approached at height, serious R.D.F.interference, 18 Spitfires intercepted over Island and raiders withdrew after inconclusive combats. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1950/24).

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Kilindini
sullage
lighter

A.M. 1351B/16/7 and my 0920C/20/8. With the large number of ships now using this port much trouble is being experienced with Health and Harbour Authorities concerning sullage from H.M. ships which is polluting harbour and is likely to have detrimental effect on health of Fleet and Community.

(4) Request immediate Admty. action to provide sullage lighter vide my 1553A/6/6/42 and details of shipment communicated.

(F.O. E.Africa 0753A/24 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. V.A.E.F.)

Plan "Damen" SNOPE 10/11/24. See P. 714A.

MADRAS
LAUNCESTON
use of
Diego
Garcia.

C. in Cs 1755Z/11 MADRAS and LAUNCESTON report no difficulties experienced at Diego Garcia.

(2) These ships experienced bad weather throughout their voyage and were unable to oil at sea. On arrival at Diego Garcia LAUNCESTON had only 1½ tons bunkers, 3 tons diesel oil fuel and 3 tons fresh water remaining although utmost economy had been practised throughout. MADRAS was better off although margin was un(?comfort)ably low.

(3) Consider undermentioned precautions are necessary in future in case oiling at sea is again impossible.

(a) Ship to complete to absolute maximum with fuel immediately before leaving Fremantle.

(b) Attendant oiler to carry sufficient fresh water to supply them at Diego Garcia.

(c) C.O. to be ordered to practice strictest economy in expenditure of fuel and water throughout whole passage.

(d) Ship to be routed direct to Diego Garcia.

(4) Only other alternative is to route them via Cocos but this is not (?recommended) as oiling would have to take place in outer anchorage and (?island) is occasionally visited by enemy R/C aircraft.

(F.O. Ceylon 1117Z/24 to A.C.N.B. (R) C. in C. E.F. Cdre. W. Australia.)

U.S.16.

Sailed for Suez via Aden p.m./24. E.T.A. Aden a.m./3/10.

ARONDA, RAJULA, DEVONSHIRE. Requirements.
(S.T.O. Colombo 1150Z/24 to S.T.O. Aden.)

Q.C.H.
Messages.

Q.C.41. Q.C.H. messages are being instituted. These messages are based on reliable hydrographic information and may be used for issuing fleet notices to mariners and are for the same addressees as Q.C. messages.

(2) The receipt of a fleet notice to mariners embodying such information will automatically cancel Q.C.H. message concerned.

(3) This message is also Q.C.H.1.

(F.O. Ceylon 1151Z/24 to Q.C. addressees.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1 1011/24th September
IN

From. S.N.O. Persian Gulf.

Date. 30.9.42.

Time. 0210.

INTERSERVICE SPECIAL X BY W/T

Addressed. C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Rept. A.O.C. 215 Group.,
A.H.Q. Iraq., COMRIN., Comi/c Aden., F.O.I.C. Ceylon.IMMEDIATE.*Persian Gulf Shipping A/S protection*

Most Secret. Suggest following emergency plan to be brought into force immediately U boats appear in Gulf of Oman to cover inward and outward shipping with resources immediately available, shipping each way now averages five per day.

2. Plan to be known as plan OM/N as follows, an anti-submarine vessel BARDAR YEBAS about every 12 hours but more often if possible intervals variable 9 knots escorting any ships ready to sail.

3. Mean route in Gulf of Oman through position AA 24 degs. 26' N. 58 degs. 14' E. to BB 23 degs. 07' N. 61 degs. 08' E. not used by P B Convoys. Outbound shipping within 10 miles North of Mean route inward bound shipping within 10 miles South of route.

4. On reaching B B outbound convoys disperses escort transfers to inward route and returns to Khor Kuwait still at 9 knots.

5. Incoming shipping to be sent to B B by (?BAMS?) broadcast and told to steer for A A along Mean route and attach themselves to any escort they see going either way but preferably West.

6. Above routes to be patrolled by Blenheims from Sharjah operating from Ras Al Hadesaed if necessary Muscat (?if it is?) not yet fit to operate Blenheims.

7. As soon as possible flight Catalinas to be sent to relieve Blenheims which are old and unsuitable for escort work. When Catalinas available route could be altered to hundred fathom line Mepran Coast to dispersal point off (?Jiwani) much safer for incoming traffic but this route not suitable for present Sharjah Blenheims.

8. Estimate minimum number anti-submarine vessels required 8 plus normal patrol numbers to be made up by robbing other escorts as Japanese cannot be strong everywhere.

9. This plan proposed in consultation with A.O.C. 215 Group might be cheapest way of dealing with two way

/traffic

traffic. Anyhow I cannot think of a better one for immediate use which is most necessary.

1007/24
Advance Copies D.C., D.F.D., B.O.D.(F)

Note:- Part 4 (final) of this message, which is passed to Admiralty for information vide C. in C. E.F.'s 1907Z/29, has not yet been received. Hastening action has been taken.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.(2)
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
- A.C.N.S.(T)
- A.C.N.S.(W)
- C.N.A.S.
- A.C.N.A.S.
- N.A.1st S.L.
- D.O.D.(F)(2)
- D.O.D.(H)(2)
- D.C.(2)
- D.S.D.
- D.T.D.(3)
- D.T.D.(M)
- D.A/S.W.
- Hd. of M.
- D. of P.(2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.A.C.D.
- C.C.L.S.
- D.D.I.C.(2)
- D.N.I.(4)
- Ad. Billairs
- Ad. Blake
- Hd. of Air Br.
- Ad. Usborne
- I.P.(2)
- W.D.

NMB

714 B.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1011/24 Sept.
IN

From. S.N.O. Persian Gulf.

Date. 30.9.42.

Time. 0210.

INTERSERVICE SPECIAL X BY W/T

Addressed. C. in C. Eastern Fleet, Rept. A.O.C. 215 Group.,
A.H.Q. Iraq., Comrin., Com i/c Aden., F.O.I.C. Ceylon.

IMMEDIATE.

If approved will you publish so that it can be brought into force in emergency by one short signal from either you or me. The immediate detaching of four additional anti submarine vessels to supplement those on the spot at the time is essential to the plan when put into operation.

1011/24

NOTE. This is part 4 (final) of 1011/24 from S.N.O. Persian Gulf, 3 parts of which have already been circulated.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- C.N.A.S.
- A.C.N.A.S.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- D.C. (2)
- D.S.D.
- D.T.D. (3)
- D.T.D. (4)
- D. N/S V.
- Hd. of M.
- D. of P. (2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.A.C.D.
- C.O.L.S.
- D.D.I.C. (2)
- D.N.I. (4)
- Adm. Bellairs.
- Adm. Blake.
- Hd. of Air Br.
- Adm. Osborne.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

14th M.S.
Flotilla. In order to strengthen A/S Forces in Gulf of Aden intend to sail M.S.14 in CROMER with CROMARTY and ROMNEY in company for Aden on 27/9.
(C. in C. E.F. 1414Z/24 to F.O.R.S.C.A. (R)
C. in C. Med. Admty. Comdre. Aden.)

W.D. Note:- CROMER, CROMARTY and ROMNEY lent from 14th M.S.F. Mediterranean to Eastern Fleet, recently employed in Madagascar.

Arrived 24/9 CARADOC, CROMER, CROMARTY, ROMNEY.
(F.O.E.A. & Z 1500Z/24 to Admty.)

Port
Reitz
Aerodrome. Proposal that R.N.A.S. should take over.
(C. in C. E.F. 1441Z/24.) (See Lion Copy.)

Air
Sqdns. Location, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf and Gulf of Omar.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1644/24.) See Mediterranean.

14412/24th September

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN

From C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

Date 27.9.42.
Recd. 1515.

NAVAL CYPHER (X) PLUG BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty.

60. I forwarded to A.O.C. Middle East on 5th September proposal that the Port Reitz aerodrome should be taken over by the Naval Air Service for the following reasons:

1. This is the only aerodrome from which aircraft can be re-embarked whilst the fleet is at normal notice. Re-embarkation from Tanga and Mackison Road involves at least 24 hours' delay. The use of this aerodrome by fighter squadrons for the defence of Kilindini is undesirable since the aerodrome is far too close to the target area. Experience at China Bay support this objection.

2. Samburu, situated about thirty miles North West of Mombasa, is being developed as a fighter station, and should prove more suitable for this purpose than Port Reitz.

3. The development of Port Reitz as a Naval Air Station need not prejudice its potential use for other purposes should the general situation alter, in particular there is no need to disturb the present plan for the Fighter Operations room near Port Reitz.

4. To sum up, I consider the transfer of Port Reitz to Naval Air Stations achieves far greater (?potential) contribution to the war effort than intended use for Royal Air Force Fighter Squadrons. Request Air Ministry be approached with a view to transfer to the Navy.

14412/24.

1st Lord.
1st S.L (2)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
C.N.A.S.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (V)
A.C.N.S. (E)
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (3).
C.D. (5).
Ops. (3).
M. (10) for action.
O.I.C. (2)
Air Branch.
A.C.N.A.S.
D.N.A.D.
D.A.C.D.
D.A.M. (2).
D.A./S.W.

I.P. (3)
W.D.
D.T.S.D.
D. of L.D. (3)

War Diary.

24.9.1942.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

JARVIS and
LITTLE
lost.

Navy Department announced 24/9 that destroyer JARVIS, which was damaged by Japanese aircraft off Guadalcanal some time ago, must be presumed lost at sea en route from Tulagi to a southern repair base. Also announced that small auxiliary transport LITTLE was sunk in recent operations in Solomon Islands area. Approximately half the personnel of LITTLE were saved, but her C.O. was among those who perished. Department said that JARVIS had been overdue for several weeks, and an intensive search by ships and aircraft had failed to locate her or to reveal any trace of her personnel. It is assumed that she was sunk by enemy submarines or aircraft. A vessel of 1,500 tons, commissioned in 1937, JARVIS normally had a complement of 172 officers and men. (The Times 25/9/1942.)

U/B.

Admty. 2228A/23 (re U/B made first sighting report probably of O.N.30.) H/F D/F bearings on 10510 K/cs suggest R.B.1 or possibly H.X.208 reported. (C.T.U. 24.1.18 0045Z/24 to Connnav, VANOC, VETERAN, Escorts of X.H. 208.)

PENN MAR
torpedoed.

Intercepted at 2358 G.M.T. De Valentia Radio. S S S S de K U N F torpedoed 58.12 N. 34.35 W. at 2350 G.M.T. de G C K 2352/23. (Port Patrick Radio 0058/24) (C.C.O. Plymouth 0059/24.)

RARITAN
U/B.

At 0136Z/24 intercept S S S de N R P S (RARITAN) 43.33 N. 69.38 W. V A V approaching 265°. (Halifax W/T 0156Z/24 to Admty. etc.)

U/B
Positions.

C.E.S.F. in his despatch 2030/23 informs as follows. (Commaveu 0911/24 to Admty.)

Movements
Summary.

1800 G.M.T/24.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy T.9	25° N. 42½° W.	045°	9
* REGENT	Approaching Bermuda	130°	6½
PENELOPE	37½° N. 57° W.	054°	17
2 D/Rs and River Steamers.	53½° N. 32° W.	070°	12

(D.O.D.(F) 1045Z/24 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)

* (red) - See next page.

U/B.

S/M sighted on surface at 12 miles in 055° 29' N. 031° 39' W. at 1110Z/24. Observed to submerge. Weather. (SKEENA 1127Z/24 to Connnav (R) C.T.F. 24, Admty. etc.) *See p 720*

War Diary.24.9.1942.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

- ESSO
WILLIAMSBURG. Distress signal from lifeboat not acknowledged
distress. by any coast station heard from ESSO WILLIAMSBURG
53.10 N. 41.00 W.
(C.T.U. 24.1.16 1251Z/24 to Connav (R) C.T.F.
24, Admty. etc.)
- WITCH
CHURCHILL. Your 2055/23. WITCH will be sailed to arrive
New York during interval 17/10 to 21/10.
Request CHURCHILL T.U. 24.18.4 at New York
escort H.X.213.
(C.O.A.C. 1316Z/24 to C.E.S.F., N.S.H.Q.,
Cominch etc.)
- U/B
O.N.131. Sighted U-Boat 8 miles ahead of Convoy O.N.131
at 1140Z. 9 stragglers. All escorts present.
See next page Convoy P.C. and S. 055° 45' N. 030° 55' W.
241° 7.5 knots. Weather report.
(WETASKIWIN, 1324Z/24 to Connav (R) C.T.24.)
- PENELOPE. My 0640/24 to PENELOPE reports 6 merchant ships
See pp 695-716 likely to be encountered west of 040° W.
Request PENELOPE may be informed of ships she
may encounter east of 040°.
(N.S.H.Q. 1409Z/24 to Admty.)
- REGENT. Bermuda arrival REGENT. She has minor defects
requiring about 5 days to repair.
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 1452Z/24 to Admty., (R) B.A.D.etc.)
- ANTINOUS
again
torpedoed. My 1312/23. ANTINOUS again torpedoed 1625Z/24
in 9° 22' N. 60° 09' W. Tugs abandoned wreck
and are returning with survivors.
(F.O.I.C. Trinidad 1502Q/24 to Admty.)
- U/B. U-Boat estimated in your vicinity by D/F has
made sighting report of a convoy or important
unit at 1240Z/24.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1503/24 to SAGUENAY (R)
VANOC, C.T.24.)
- CHELSEA. Your 1136/23 (CHELSEA delayed with defects)
Grateful for early information when CHELSEA
can arrive here. She was intended for local
Western escort sailing a.m./28.
(F.O.N.F. 1509Z/24 to F.O.I.C. Iceland (R)
C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q.)

/U/B Fuel ...

War Diary.

24.9.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

U/B Fuel Ships. REAGENT. Navy Dept. consider U-boats are continuously fuelling from depot ships or depot submarine in approx. area between 32° and 35° N. 45° and 48° W.
(ii) They suggest REAGENT should carry out offensive patrol in this area for about 4 days en route to Gibraltar and request your concurrence.
(B.A.D. 1517Z/24 to Admty. F.O.S. (R) S.B.N.O. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., REAGENT.)
Concur, F.O.C.N.A. 1040/25.

IRISH ROSE intelligence. Master of IRISH ROSE reports as follows. 1120/16/9 in 49.58 N. 36.36 W. passed large life raft with attached buoy, no sign of life, presumed not long in water. 1400/16/9 large 3 funnel vessel presumably an Auxiliary Cruiser sighted steering South at a moderate speed, she had an Ensign flying when first sighted but hauled it down before it could be identified; ship resembled MONARCH OF BERMUDA. 1600/22/9 43.26 N. 64.51 W., heavy fumes of benzine coming from southward and lasting for about 1/2 hour.
(N.O.I.C. St. John N.B. 1522Z/24 to C.O.A.C. (R) N.S.H.Q. Admty.)

O.N.131. *Previous page* This is Connav B.A.M.S. Area 2 A - 1 A 1542/24 transmitted to all stragglers O.N.131. Proceed direct Stragglers Route.
(Connav 1543/24 to Admty., C.O.A.C., N.S.H.Q., C.T.U. 24.1.13.)

Convoy Position Reports. Connav Daily convoy positions report to U.S., Canadian and British Midway Ocean units at sea will include the third number of task unit designation or name of senior escort ship (?prefixed) to convoy number as an aid to escort Commanders to evaluate (?corrupt group) Submarines sighting and D/F reports.
(Connav 1606/24 to Escort Units, F.O.N.F. etc.)

QUEEN MARY. Sailed QUEEN MARY A.T.24, to arrive R/V 056° 20' N. 012° 01' W. at 0700Z/2/10 via positions
(C) 038° 55' 068° 55'.
(D) 039° 05' 057° 30'.
(E) 041° 20' 044° 20'.
(F) (?045°) 40' 032° 25'.
(G) 050° 55' 024° 30'.
(H) 056° 30' 016° 30'.
(J) 056° 19' 011° 30'.
"Chop" 0400Z/1. Com. 3 pass to Port Director New York.
(Connav 1608/24 to Port Director, New York.)

/U/B Positions ...

24.9.1942.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

U/B Positions. 24/9 S/M estimate and U.S. Submarine notice. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1614/24, 1615/24, 1616/24, 1617/24, 1618/24 to Admty.)

Ship Torpedoed. Following has been read. Ship torpedoed position 09° 22' N. 60° 09'* W. (Curacoa W/T 1625/24.)
* W.R. Note.- Accuracy doubtful.

Canadian Warships Completing. My 2309/23. D.Es and B.D.Es For 'first 2 to be completed will go to U.S.A. next 2 to Britain etc', read 'first 2 to be completed will go to U.S.A. next 1 to Britain etc'. (B.A.D. 1719Z/24 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.) (Amendment made.)

STONESTREET. Have you any news of STONESTREET (Panamanian) due New York 21/9 ex Convoy O.N.127? (D.T.D. 1805A/24 to D.N.I. Ottawa.)
Reply: 1814/26.

Shipping, Gut of Canso. Your 2223/9 (St. Lawrence closed) and 2146/17 (last S.Q. and Q.S. convoys). Assuming that arrangements can be made to lift cargoes from lumber ports between George Bay and Chatham including Prince Edward Island would there be any objection to suitable ships from U.K. proceeding there through Gut of Canso? Request length and draught limitations if any. (D.T.D. 1904A/24 to N.S.H.Q.)
Reply: N.S.H.Q. 2009/26.

A.T.23. My 2110/18 and 1356/5. Convoy A.T.23 delayed until 26/9. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1937Z/24 to C. in C. Atlantic Fleet (U.S.))

Canadian Escort Forces. My 2309/23 and N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1720/15. Suggest consideration be given to assigning 2 of the 6 D.Es to Canada. (B.A.D. 1953Z/24 to Admty.)

U/B. R.B.1. A.M. 1452A/24 (N.T. in W.D.) Further D/F bearings including 1823Z/24 on 10,510 k/cs indicate R.B.1 is still being reported. (D.D.I.C. 2034A/24 to Escorts of R.B.1 (R) Escorts H.K.208, O.N.S.130 and S.C.101, C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C. Cominch, A.C.I.C., C.T.G. 24.7.)

720

War Diary.

24.9.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Sub attack & sighting summary. *Q.P.14* Para A. OCEAN VOICE and GRAY RANGER, BELLINGHAM and TROUBADOUR torpedoed and sunk 70° N. 10° 30' W. 22/9. TENNESSEE torpedoed and sunk about 58.24 N. 33.38 W. 2340Z/22. Unidentified attacked 07.37 N. 58.18 W. 1525Z/24. *See p. 716* SKEENA sights sub on surface about 55.29 N. 31.39 W. 1110Z/24. Para B. PREDSEDNIK KOPAJTIC sunk area 08.30 N. 59.30 W. 21/9. Unidentified attacked 08.40 N. 59.15 W. 1300Z/23. Panair Plane sights periscope and sub outline 24.18 N. 81.27 W. 2235Z/23. U.S.S. RAVEN sights submerged sub 39.16 N. 69.24 W. 0900Z/24. Para C. M/V NASSAU sights sub on surface about 25.23 N. 79.27 W. 1415Z/13. Sub sighted 10.40 N. 66.56 W. 1715Z/22. Attacks at sound contacts 0815Z/20 and 1950Z/20. My 2102/23. (Cominch 2100/24 to Admty. for O.I.C.)

U/B Campaign. Connav serial No.24. TENNESSEE British torpedoed sunk 22/9, Convoy S.C.100, approx. 58° N. 33° W. PREDSEDNIK KOPAJTIC torpedoed sunk 21/9 08.30 N. 59.30 W. ANTIPOUS torpedoed 23/9 08.58 N. 59.39 W. SANTA CECILIA serial number 17 arrived U.K. undamaged. (Connav 2107/24 to Comnav (R) C.E.S.F. etc.)

U/B. Submerged S/M 50.00 N. 65.55 W. 1940 G.M.T. (Halifax S/T No T.O.O./24 Recd. 2117/24.)

KINUGASA class cruiser. Attacked by U.S. S/M. (J.S.M. 2145Z/24) See Australia.

Attacks on U/Bs. O.N.S.122. Your 1236A/23, affirmative upon receipt of written reports. (Cominch 2222Z/24 to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation. Digest Serial No.245 23/9. Photographic R/C Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area morning 23/9 indicated presence 22 vessels including 1 heavy cruiser, at least 2 light cruisers, 12 destroyers, 2 probable seaplane tenders, 5 other vessels including supply ships. (2) Small steamer departed Buka passage northerly course morning 23/9. Indications enemy establishing observation post East Coast (group missing). Opposite Queen Carola Harbour.

/(3) ...

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War Diary.24.9.1942
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Situation (contd.) (3) 4 Fortresses attacked shipping Rabaul Harbour night 22/9 scoring 2 probable hits on large vessel, other results not observed. 1 Fortress also dropped bombs Lakunai aerodrome.
- (4) Japanese reported concentrating natives Mubo.
- (5) 6 Beaufighters escorted by 8 Kittihawks attacked barges buildings vicinity Buna morning 23/9. 9 heavy bombers and at least 6 Zeros observed over Buna possibly intending to land. Interception by Zeros.
- (6) 12 Kittihawks and 8 Aircobras attacked Buna aerodrome and track between Buna Kokoda afternoon 23/9, new (sic) enemy aircraft sighted.
- (7) 7 Beaufighters detailed attack enemy aircraft reported landing Buna morning 23/9 failed locate enemy aircraft and machine gunned Buna aerodrome which is now believed serviceable.
- (8) 7 Fortresses detailed attack shipping Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area with 2000 lb. bombs night 23/9 failed locate target due poor visibility. Some dropped bombs Buna aerodrome while returning causing large fire M.E.
- (9) Continued patrol activity Ioribaiwa area. Enemy aircraft reported dropping flares this area night 22/9.
- (10) Allied raiding force captured 8 enemy prisoners Normanby Island 22/23 September. 1 enemy destroyer, 1 escort type vessel sighted off Cape Peirson (N.E. tip Normanby Is.) during night 22/9 endeavouring communicate with Japanese survivors ashore by signal lamp. 3 enemy bombers, 9 fighters also reported flying low over Normanby Is. noon 23/9.
- (11) 1 enemy aircraft dropped bombs Port Moresby area night 23/9.
- (12) Enemy mine German origin located Torres Strait 17/9 considered approx. 8 months in water.
- (13) Air R/C Koepang Area morning 23/9 reported at least 3 small M/Vs off Koepang, 2 bombers on aerodrome.
- (14) Catalina on patrol attacked by enemy bomber 15° 30' S. 116° 30' E. at 0207Z/23, enemy aircraft departed northerly direction, no damage to Catalina. B.A.D. pass to Opnav. (G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 1023Z/24 to Admty. etc.)

Area Boundaries. Your 23186/C of 21/9. As from 1st Aug. 42 boundary between S.W. Pacific and S. Pacific Areas is longitude 159° E. from the Equator Southward. S.E. Solomons now in S. Pacific area. Information available here on operations confined to press reports and Washops repeated C. in C. E.F. (W.O. 1605/24 to C. in C. India.)

Jap Cruiser Torpedoed. U.S. S/M scored 3 torpedo hits on heavy cruiser of Kinugasa class near St. Georges Channel, Bismark Archipelago. Cruiser believed sunk. (J.S.M. 2145Z/24 to Admty. etc.)

Gilbert Is. Almost daily air R/C of unoccupied Islands and sightings of merchant and warships, during past 3 weeks. Abemama occupied 2/9 Tarawa finally occupied 3/9. 2 Seaplane tenders and 5 Cruisers reported to have conducted original landing Abemama of which 1 ship, 1 flying boat, 150 Japanese remained 4/9. Roman /Catholic ...

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War Diary.

24.9.1942
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia and New Zealand - ~~contd.~~

Gilbert Is.
(contd.)

Catholic Priest departed in launch from Maiana 2/9 destination unknown believed enemy agent. Japanese landed Maiana 24/9 from 1 merchant ship and 1 warship. Beru attacked by 3 warships and believed occupied 25/9. Still in daily contact Kuria and reports that Japanese landing there 13/9 not correct.
(N.Z.N.B. 2331Z/24.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Indefinite positions.
(D.D.I.C. 1459A/24, 1500A/24.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Attack
on R.B.1.

Convoy R.B.1 (River Steamers) was attacked at 134° N. today and SS BOSTON was sunk in position reported to be 54° 23' N. 27° 54' W. The convoy was reported attacked again at 2110 and again later and SS NEW YORK, and possibly one other ship,* were torpedoed and the first named, at least, sunk in 54° 34' N. 25° 44' W. The convoy became disorganised after these latter attacks.

*Probably SS SOUTHLAND. (see 29/9)

SS EMPIRE BELL. from Convoy U.R.42 was torpedoed and sunk at 1530A today in 62° 18' N. 15° 30' W. 115 miles south of Iceland (C).

Four Mosquitoes attacked Oslo today at low altitude.

51 aircraft laid mines last night from the Dutch coast to GYD.

North Atlantic.

Vichy cruiser GLOIRE arrived at Casablanca this afternoon and it is reported that about 80 British soldiers (presumably survivors of LACONIA) destined for a military prison were put on waiting trucks.

It is reported that the French M/S ANNAMITE on escort duty in the Gulf of Guinea received S O S from LACONIA and signalled to Dakar for assistance. GLOIRE sailed on 15/9 and rescue work continued for 4 days. All survivors were put on board GLOIRE.

South Atlantic.

N.A. Lisbon reports that Portuguese SS CUBANGO picked up 15 survivors from SS TREVILLEY in 1° 42' N. 6° 25' W. on 20/9. The latter is reported to have been sunk by U-boat early on 12/9 in 4° 54' S. 7° 40' W.

War Diary.

25.9.1942
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic - contd.

The G.O.C. in C. West Africa reports that the French appear to be expecting an attack on their colonies, and in particular Dakar, at short notice. They are taking precautions, particularly as to dispersal of aircraft.

America and West Indies.

Georgetown
Shipping.

B.R.O. Georgetown cancelled all sailings today due to U/B attacks near the port. U.S. Navy Dept. consider that this suspension is outside the scope of his duties, as the estimate of degree of enemy risks to be accepted must be decided by the authorities providing protection, in this case Comdr. Caribbean Sea. Admty. concur in this view and have asked that B.R.O. Georgetown be informed accordingly.

It is reported that U.S. STONE STREET detached from O.N.127 on account of boiler trouble, was torpedoed and sunk at 1345/13 in 48° 18' N. 39° 43' W.
S.O.(I) America reports that REEDPOOL was sunk at 0215/20 in 8° 58' N. 57° 34' W.

Aleutians.

A successful air attack was made on enemy shipping and seaplanes at Kiska today.

Australia and New Zealand.

Five Fortresses attacked the Rabaul area at 1700Z today and report probable success against shipping.

In the Solomon Islands, U.S. heavy bombers attacked enemy shipping in the Faisi Buin Tolonei area yesterday and again today.

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of U.K.Damage
to Sleat
boom.R.A.(M)'s 1602A/24 and 1814A/24 not to C. in C.
Rosyth or S.B.D. Rosyth.
Request Officer with specialist knowledge of
boom defences may be sent to report to R.A.(M)
by quickest possible method to examine damaged

net section.

(D.B.D., 1017A/25 to S.B.D. Rosyth.)

My 1602/24 and 1814/24. After personal inspection with N.O.I.C.
we are unable to advance any definite cause of the damage to the
net. Boom defence specialist with greater experience of damaged
nets may be able to do so. Estimated that section of net will
be replaced by p.m./29th but when this has been done depth of
about 25 feet from sea bed will be left unprotected.

(R.A.M., 1604A/25 to Admty.)

Dartmouth.

Reference your 1912/21. 4 Bofors now at
Dartmouth being re-sited and four additional
Bofors also being deployed to cover R.N. College.
Total 8. Typhoon squadron being moved to Exeter.
(H.Q.F.C., 1130A/25 to Admty.)Movements.UREDD,
RUBIS.*P.54.
LOCH MONTKITH.*My 1047/24 sailed. ^{p.645} (for Dundee).
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 0540/25.)

RENOWN.

Scapa arrival RENOWN with ROTHERHAM, PORCUPINE,
OBDURATE.
(A.C.O.S., 0728A/25.)

P.615.

*See p/p 726 & 727*Arrived.
(S.O. S/Ms Lerwick, 0745A/25.)

MINSTER.

Your 2302/23 not arrived Aultbea.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0919A/25 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

L.23.

My 0947A/22 para. 3. For BARBARA ROBB read
PHRONTIS. ^{p.636} (sent to Port 23 from ex-
(TITANIA, 1023A/25 to L.23.)

MILNE.

My 0848A/25 sailed E.T.A. 0630/26.
(R.A.D., 1258A/25 to F.O.I.C. Humber.)DURBAN,
DESPATCH.Take DESPATCH under your orders and proceed
Liverpool passing Hoxa Gate at 1200A/26th.
(2) Route through Minches.
(3) Report E.T.A. before sailing.
(C. in C. H.F., 1402A/25 to DURBAN.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- 13th M.S.F. Ref. A.L. M/M.S. 0586/42 dated 15/9 and A.M. 1553/17 request you will sail 13th M.S.F. negative BLYTH to Greenock to arrive 12/10.
2. Further instructions regarding BLYTH will be signalled later.
(D.M.S., 1436A/25 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- ARGUS,
QUALITY. Proceed passing Switha at 2015A tonight Friday to R/V with ARGUS in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1136A/23.
2. Fighter protection up to rendezvous has been asked for codeword "Novel".
3. On completion of duty act in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1136A/23 para. 3.
(R.A.D., 1440A/25 to QUALITY.)
- BRAMHAM. Akureyri departure BRAMHAM at 1205/25th in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1826/24th para. 3. E.T.A. 0705/28th.
(A.C.I.C., 1511A/25.)
- P.552.
~~ANGLE.~~ My 1456/23 sailed. ^{A 664} (No. 1456/23) (S.7, 1601A/25 to A.I.G. 220, 19 Group, F.O.C.N.A.)
- M.G.Bs. My 2038/18 request you will sail the 4 "C" Type M.G.Bs to Portsmouth and the 2 M.G.Bs of the 8th M.G.B.F. to Felixstowe as soon as they can be released.
(D.D.O.D.(C), 1644A/25 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- A.M. 2021/18 request you will sail the two M.G.Bs of the 14th M.G.B.F. to Dover as soon as they can be released.
(D.D.I.D.(C), 1648A/25 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- A.F.D. XIX. A.M. 1918/7.
It is impracticable at this time of year to arrange for A.F.D.XIX to be clear of normal E-Boat area in dark hours. Moreover bad weather is likely to be encountered in vicinity of Pentland Firth should tow proceed northabout.
2. Intend therefore to sail A.F.D.XIX southabout to Corpach.
3. Escort as far as Spithead will be provided from this Command.
C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth and C. in C. W.A. are requested to provide any onward escort considered necessary.
4. Weather permitting sailing date is expected to be 6/10.
(C. in C. Nore, 1712A/25 to Admty.)
- ^{see p. 733} O.15, JAN Intend to sail JAN VAN GELDER at 2200A/26th for VAN GELDER, Vatersay Bay via Sounds of Islay and Mull. P.614,*P.615 E.T.A. Vatersay 1700A/27th.
* see p. 725 2. Subsequently JAN VAN GELDER sails as reqte. to R/V with O.15 in 190° Barra Head 5 miles about 1400A/28 escorts her to Vatersay to meet P.614 and P.615 with A/S trawler provided by A.C.O.S.

War Diary.

25.9.1942.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

→ 0.15, JAN
VAN GELDER,
* P.614, P.615.
(Contd.)

* *See p. 729^A*

3. Thence 0.15 proceeds to Scapa escorted by A/S trawler and JAN VAN GELDER escorts P.614 and P.615 to Holy Loch. My 1353/25 refers.
4. A.C.O.S. and F.O.I.C. Greenock are requested to arrange fighter co-operation. JAN VAN GELDER's S. of A. 11 knots alone and 10 knots when with submarines. Help messages on 385 k/cs.
5. Communications.
(S.3, 1731A/25 to A.I.G. 219.)

Operations.

20th Escort
Group.

My P.C. and S. at 0700Z/25 056° 35' 017° 38' 276° 12 knots, weather report 3671 2375.
(SABRE, 0659Z/25 to Admty.)

D.S. 0.15 at 2330A/24th was in 055° 10' N. 024° 05' W. course 77° 9½ knots.
(C. in C. W.A., 0943A/25 to SALADIN, SCIMITAR, SABRE, TAY.)
My P.C. and S. at 1159A/25th 056° 37' 019° 23' suffix B 258° 15 knots. Expect to join O.N.S.132 weather permitting at 2159A/25th. Weather report 4778 2475.
(SABRE, 1234A/25 to STORK, FAME, (R) C. in C. W.A., 20th Escort Group.)
Your 1738Z/25 and FAME's 1802/25 not to all addressees.
Have sufficient fuel intend meeting 0600Z/26 SCIMITAR in company.
(SALADIN, 2000Z/25 to C. in C. W.A., (R) 20th Escort Group, S.E. Convoy O.N.132, C.T.24, Admty., C. in C. U.S. Fleet, SABRE, FAME, VETERAN, STORK, F.O.N.F.)

Patrols.

1. Intend M.Ls 123, 205, and 303 to patrol latitude 50° 20' N. between 1° 35' W. and 2° 10' W. tonight 25/9 leaving Weymouth at 1930 and leaving patrol at dawn/26.
2. Usual books will be landed.
3. Constant W/T watch on 2300 k/cs.
4. Codeword "Service".
5. Request air protection be arranged.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1124A/25.)
Tonight 25/26. M.T.Bs 55, 49, 50, 53 patrolling 050° 15' N. 000° 20' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1138A/25.)
Portsmouth Nightly Movement 25th Sept. 26th Sept.
- (1) 2 A/S Trawlers patrolling off E.A.5 Buoy.
- (3) Three motor launches patrol south of Anvil Point.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1507A/25.)
Departure at 1435/25 MENDIP to carry out patrol 5.
(F.O. Humber, 1515A/25.)
3 A/S Trawlers patrolling near E.A.5 Buoy.
- 3 M.T.Bs patrolling 20 miles to S.E. of E.A.5 Buoy, passing E.A.5 Buoy at 1930/26 and 0615/27.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1540/25.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - *conts.*

Patrols. (1) Motor Launches 153, 157 and 195 are to sail
(Contd.) at 1900/25 and are to take up patrol between
position:- 050° 03' N. 003° 00' W. and 049°
59' N. 003° 20' W. returning to Dartmouth at
daylight codeword "Cloak 6".
(2) Object to intercept E-Boats minelaying or attacking P.W.223.
(3) Three destroyers with fast convoy bound west passing north
of Patrol Line about 0230/26th.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1559A/25 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, (R)
C. in C. Portsmouth, N.O.I.C. Portland, TYNEDALE, Admty.,
Escorts P.W.223.)
Departure at 1715 SHELDRAKE to patrol 1B thence to join
F.S.417.
(F.O. Humber, 1950A/25.)

Allied Air Activity.

North I would be grateful if O.C. R.A.F. Kola Inlet
Russia Air could be instructed to inform me of operations
Liaison. being carried on by aircraft under his command.
Since Group Captain Hopps and his S.A.S.O. left
there has been an entire absence of liaison
between R.A.F. and myself. This is particularly unsatisfactory
in view of fact that Polyarno W/T is still undertaking all
ground to air communications with R.A.F. aircraft and the C. in
C. Northern Fleet (?) relies on me as S.B.O. here to keep him
informed of movements of all British units.
(2) Today a Catalina was in trouble at sea and first indication
I received that it was operating was an S O S from aircraft.
The Russian Naval Staff upon whom I had to call with request to
rescue aircraft share my spirit and concern at not being informed
of its movements.
(3) It is not clear whether Coastal Command units have
instructions to continue to co-operate with me as was done
during operation E.V. or whether they are to operate independently
(4) Request also I may be informed when to expect officer
referred to in Air Ministry's O655 August 27th.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2314A/25 to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. 0945/25 aircraft
heard East Beerenberg veered in direction 180°,
000°.
(A.C.I.C., 1547A/25 to Admty.)

Mining.

Lowestoft Your 1316/22. 3 or 4 Oropesa Trawlers and 2
Mine Dan Layers can be made available in Lowestoft
Clearing Roads. Suitable Officer is always available.
Force. In the event of mining taking place in Northern
area of Q.Z.S.311 Yarmouth trawlers anchored
off Sheringham can commence preliminary search.
Relief trawlers can be provided from Yarmouth when any of the
clearing force have to boiler clean.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 1025A/25 to C. in C. Nore.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.- Contd.

NAVIGATOR, Press reports -
VLEDPEREN. (1) Finnish NAVIGATOR 8000 tons carrying ore mined sunk near Trelleborg Southern Approach Buoy today 25/9.
(2) Dutch VLEDPEREN II 133 tons mined and abandoned 4 miles from Southern entrance to Falsterbo Canal today 25/9.
(3) Small unknown Danish steamer mined South Helsingor and towed into harbour 22/9. Also schooner mined and sunk same area.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1512/25.)

"Ounce V". Intend to sail TREVO TERCEIRO, NIGHT HAWK, COMMANDER EVANS, BRECON CASTLE, SEDDON at 0615/26. Sweeping route N to Portland expected time of arrival 1530 codeword "Ounce V".
2. F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them back to Dartmouth at 0615/27 sweeping the same route. Codeword "Ounce V".
3. Request fighter protection.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1844A/25 to C. in C. Plymouth, (R) F.O.I.C. Portland, C. in C. Portsmouth, Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Supply ship or blockade breaker. Activity of F.W.200 aircraft from Bordeaux between 0900A and 1200A/25 is consistent with movement of a supply ship or blockade breaker in an area bounded by 44° N. and 45° N. and 3° and 4° W.
(D.D.I.C., 1340A/25 to C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.C.N.A., H.Q.C.C., F.O.S.)

Unknown Ship. At 2127C/25th on 7495 k/cs unknown ship bore 285° from station 27 reliability B.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 2000A/25.)

U-Boats.

U/B hunt on 23/9. LLANDUDNO's 1200/24th to above only. Submarine or wreck lay in exact position 58° 12.7' N. 05° 44.2' W. in 59 fathoms flat bottom. SCOTT reports strong non-submarine contact on ledge 58° 11.8' N. 05° 43.0' W. to TANATSIDE, there are others all alongside ledge. Hence reason why SCOTT maintained contact from eastward entire time and able by eye on slight oil track for 3 hours to direct asdic disregarding wakes and bad depth charge attacks. Not Pinnacle Rock.
(SCOTT, 0930A/25 to C. in C. H.F.)

/Ship ...

SECRET

1839A/25th Sept.

IN

729A

From F.O. (S)

Date 8.10.42
Recd 1540

ADDRESSED D.T.M. London, repeated Commander W
Supt. R.N.T.F.

Following extract from S.O. S/MS
Lerwick's 1943/24 for your information.

2. P. 614 reports:

1517A sighted probable 750 tons
U-Boat, course 326 degs. 800 yards 25 degs on his
port bow speed 11 knots. 1520A fired 4 torpedoes on
120 track 6 seconds interval spread over 1½ lengths
range 500 yards, torpedoes heard to explode after
12, 26 and 31 seconds.

P. 614 broke surface and before
periscope was obscured by snow, tail of U-Boat was
observed to disappear in large patch of white foam,
one white patch observed short of U-Boat which is
considered to be caused by first torpedo exploding
prematurely. C.C.R. pistol used.

1839A/25

1st Lord	D.T.D.
1st S.L. (2)	D.T.D.(M)
3rd S.L.	D of P.(3)
V.C.N.S.	D.A/S.W.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.P.D.
A.C.N.S. (F)	Hydrog (2)
A.C.N.S. (T)	HEAD of M.
A.C.N.S. (W)	I.P.
Parl Sec.	W.D.
Fin. Sec.	Adm. Usborne
Nav Sec	Adm. Blake.
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.T.M.
D.O.D. (H) (2)	
D.O.D. (F) (2)	
D.C. (2)	
D.N.I(2)	
D.D.I.C. (3)	

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats - Contd.

Ship torpedoed. Intercepted 1427 G.M.T. 500 k/cs de GMH?
SSSS de VK 51 62.18 N. 15.30 W. 1521 de GMH?
Rebroadcast by Port Patrick Radio at 1430 G.M.T.
(Burnham on Sea Radio, 1427/25, Port Patrick
Radio, 1525/25.)

Following has been read:- SSSS de VK51 62.18 N. 15.30 W.
torpedoed.

(Burnham on Sea Radio, T.O.R., 1602/25.)

Proceed to assistance of unknown ship torpedoed by U-Boat
in 062° 18' N. 015° 30' W. at 1557.

(A.C.O.S., 1635A/25 to KINGSTON AMBER, KINGSTON AGATE,
(R) S.O. N.P., A.C.I.C., C. in C. H.F., C. in C. W.A.)

U/B sighted. Fishing vessel GOLDEN LEA BF 499 reports sighting
periscope in approx. 58° 31' N. 05° 28' W. at
0820 today. Course N.W. Report garded B.3.
(A.C.O.S., 1841/25 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.I.C.
Greenock, N.O.I.C. Aultbea, N.O.I.C. Stornoway,
(R) Admty.)

U/B attacked. Am attacking enemy submarine in 062° 18' N. 015°
30' W.
(DUNKERY, 1900Z/25.)

Submarine sighted at 1850Z? and attacked.

Contact lost. Amended position 062° 22' N. 015° 34' W. Am
rejoining convoy.
(DUNKERY, 2130Z/25.)

U/Bs reported. Am over enemy S/M in 59.54 N. 10.27 W. enemy
S/M was sighted periscope only. Course 180°.
(A/C GQ8H, 2015/25.)

Am searching for submarine reported by aircraft
in 059° 33' N. 010° 16' W.
(BROKE, 2135A/25 to Admty.)

My 2135A search abandoned am proceeding to rejoin Fleet unit
at daylight Saturday.

(BROKE, 2313A/25 to Admty., (R) C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.

HAUGAN. H.M.D. FOX sailed 0645/25 towing HAUGAN for
Buckie. Vessel is damaged but made sufficiently
seaworthy for passage to Buckie for disposal.
(N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 1040A/25.)

S O S. Following intercepted by Tiree Radio - 328° grade
4 distress VK (corrupt group).
(Port Patrick Radio 1423 G.M.T./25, &c.)

/Survivors ...

25.9.1942.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

Survivors *(Pg. 18)*
(Q.P. 14) Of SOMALI, NATHANIEL GREENE, LAFAYETTE, OREGONIAN, EMPIRE BEAUMONT returning in ASHANTI, INTREPID, ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE. OPPORTUNE requires B mounting lift as gun training is defective. (Capt. (D) 6, 1455A/25.) *See next page*

LOUISBURG, Admty. 1157/21. LOUISBURG, PRESCOTT, and WOODSTOCK have been inspected and the following work is necessary. Details. In view of Londonderry commitments none of these vessels can be fitted in this port. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1627A/25.)

SCOTTISH Chartered oiler SCOTTISH MUSICIAN took heavily on SUFFOLK when berthing on 23rd Sept. She was in charge of Admiralty pilot. Subsequent examination showed damage to two blades of forward starboard propeller also one accommodation ladder smashed. Ship also took on bulge at about 150 station but damage is not apparent. Trial at full power today was satisfactory. (SUFFOLK, 1711A/25.)

2 lifeboats. S O S. Two lifeboats sighted 62.18 N. 23.26 W. circling boats take bearings. (A/C HL6I, 1955/25.)

Reference T.O.R. 1955 from aircraft I. Position should read 062° 40' N. 015° 29' W. (A.C.I.C., 2159Z/25 to Ships and Authorities in Icelandic Waters.)

Take bearings for two lifeboats on ME now we must leave. (HL6I, 2019/25.)

Proceeding Reykjavik to land 2 urgent cot cases. E.T.A. 1800Z/26th. Will pass through 062° 18' N. 023° 26' W. about 1000Z/26th and will search for 2 lifeboats reported by aircraft. Please inform me if these are picked up earlier.

(EXE, 2117Z/25 to A.C.I.C., (R) STORK.)

Aircraft reported 2 lifeboats 062° 40' N. 015° 29' W. at 2055A/25th. Request search may be made by Northern Patrol Trawlers.

(A.C.I.C., 2305A/25 to A.C.O.S., (R) KINGSTON AMBER, KINGSTON AGATE.)

Distress Following from Sheigra Radio.
Signal. D/F bearing distress 26th September (sic) H L Six I.* Class One. (Port Patrick Radio, 2000 G.M.T./25.) (* Undecypherable in W.R.)

INDIAN STAR. INDIAN STAR has damaged propeller and cannot sail with "Congress". (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 2335A/25.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

Q.P. 14. Expect A/S air escort during daylight today Friday by Catalinas and Northrops.
(A.C.I.C., 0035A/25 to OAKLEY.)
Parted company with LORD MIDDLETON and TROUBADOUR at 0600 in 090° Grimsey Island 5 080° speed 13 knots for position EE. (Corrupt group) as routed in your 1927A/19th. E.T.A. Scapa Flow 1900/27th. Have transferred survivors from (corrupt group) to OAKLEY.
(OAKLEY, 0630A/25 to C. in C. H.F.)
E.T.A. 2130A in ASHANTI with ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE, and INTREPID in company. Request Gate and lights (details).
A.C.O.S. acknowledge.
(Capt. (D) 6, 1330A/25 to A.C.O.S.) *— previous page*

S.C.100. Arrived and sailed BLYSKAWICA in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1008Z/24.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 0325A/25.)
D/F bearings on 10510 k/cs at 0822Z/25 indicate U-Boat in your immediate vicinity and possibly reporting you.
(D.D.I.C., 0956A/25 to Escorts of S.C.100, (R) A.C.I.C., H.Q.C.C., C. in C. W.A., Cominch, C.T.G. 24.7, N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)
Task Unit 24.6.3 search for survivors of S.C.100 in area delineated in C. in C. W.A. 1421Z/24th. Terminate search in time to meet S.C.101 or as directed by C. in C. W.A. Do not expect aircraft today on account of weather.
(C.T.G. 24.6, 1200Z/25 to C.T.U. 24.6.3, (R) C. in C. W.A.)

P.Q.18. LAFAYETTE, SAHALE, and CAMP FIRE are still aground Dvina Bar. All 3 ships are discharging into lighter and EMPIRE ELGAR and the 2 former are expected to refloat shortly. CAMP FIRE will be more difficult. DANEMAN with no bunkers and no anchor badly ashore off Mudyuga Lighthouse. Salvage operations in progress. Master of SAHALE and crew of CAMP FIRE have abandoned their ships and have landed Mudyuga Island. I have told them they will probably be devoured by wolves. Some sporadic and ineffective bombing.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0932A/25.)

See next page
Following is (? narrative) of P.Q.18. 0850A/13th. U-Boat attack results in sinking of STALINGRAD and (?OLIVER) ELLSWORTH. 1530A/13th. (? Corrupt group) (? 30) bombers comprising He.111, He.115, Ju.88, and Do.18 made a very determined (? attack) and sunk EMPIRE BEAUMONT, EMPIRE STEVENSON, JOHN PENN, (?ANACOSTA), AFRICANDER, OREGONIAN, SUKHONA, and MACBETH. Of these EMPIRE STEVENSON blew up in sheet of flame and it is feared all crew lost. Enemy suffered severely in this attack. Ineffective high-level bombing chiefly directed at escort continued throughout afternoon. (? Further) abortive torpedo bomber attack at dusk, no (? casualties). Three planes destroyed for certain in this attack, which was easier to repel owing to visible tracer fire. 0320A/14. Attack by U-Boats resulted in tanker ATHELTEMPLAR being sunk. 1250A to 1400A/14. Attack by 15 torpedo bombers. No casualties. At least one plane destroyed, followed by further torpedo bomber attacks by 20 planes resulting in loss of MARY LUCKENBACH which blew up in a sheet of flame. Three planes destroyed for certain.

/1330A/15th. ...

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War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - *conts.*

P.Q. 18. 1330A/15th. Diving and high level bombing by
(Contd.) Ju.88s for about two hours. No damage.
16th and 17th were uneventful days, due no doubt
to interruption of patrols.

1030A/18 convoy attacked off Kanin Nosby, 12 torpedo bombers
from astern, resulted in loss of KENTUCKY. This was followed
by high level bombing and dive bombing attacks and subsequently
by further torpedo bombing attack. During latter C.A.M.
Hurricanes launched and shot down one He.111 and four planes
in all were destroyed.

On arrival Dvina Roads weather mild deteriorated and full north
westerly gale made it impossible to embark pilot. Convoy hove
to and no entry was possible till p.m. 21st.

Intermittent bombing by Ju.88s caused no damage and two planes
destroyed. Three U.S. ships and *DANEMAN ran ashore and salvage
operations are in progress.

Enemy aircraft casualties can be conservatively assessed as 34
to 36 destroyed and large number probably destroyed or several
damaged. Morale of crews was excellent and fine work done by
aircraft carrier and ULSTER QUEEN is commented on by all. There
is no doubt morale of Luftwaffe has suffered. This is borne out
by their failure to press home attacks in White Sea, Dvina
Roads and port.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1104A/25.)

My 0932A/25th. LAFAYETTE refloated and has entered
harbour.

(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 1709A/25.)

R.B.1. You may overtake D.S. O.15 who will be in
position 055° 40' N. 019° 59' W. at 1500A/25th
course 86°, speed 10 knots at night and 2 knots
by day dive. My daily 2000 situation should be
watched. *See p. 724, 727*

(C. in C. W.A., 1109A/25 to VANOC, (R) F.O. S/Ms.)

R.B.1 attacked. BOSTON sunk position 054° 23' N. 027°
754' W. Further report follows.

(VANOC, 1340N/25 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Connav, C.T.F.24,
Admty., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax,
C.T.G. 24.7.)

My 1340N/25th search for U-Boat has failed. VETERAN has
48 survivors including master. NEW BEDFORD has 2 survivors.
One dead. 15 missing presumed killed. Total crew 66. Escort
will have rejoined convoy by 2000Z.

(VANOC, 1855Z/25.)

R.B.1 attacked one ship sunk position 054° 34' N. 025° 44' W.

(VANOC, 2110N/25 to C. in C. W.A., (R) Connav, C.T. 24,
Admty., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax,
C.T.G. 24.7.)

Bearings including transmissions on 13768 k/cs at 1056Z/25
and on 10510 k/cs at 0956Z/25 indicate at least one U-Boat in
vicinity R.B.1, which may be reporting.

(D.D.I.C., 1235A/25 to Escorts R.B.1, (VANOC), (R) C. in C.
W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

[See also p. 744, America & West India] p. 748

/H.X.206 ...

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- H.X. 206. Average speed 9.5 knots. Fresh winds clear weather. All ships arrived.
(D.T.D., 1211A/25.)
- Convoy W.S.23. My 1836/16 and 2309/24.
Route - R/V in position - A. 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0700A/31 - thence through B. 54.30 N. 15.01 W. C. 50.58, 20.00. D. 43.25, 23.45.
2. Fighter protection codeword "Sparrow".
(D.O.D.(H), 1312A/25 to H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C.)
- Transport of U.S. troops from Belfast. U.S.S. BRAZIL speed 17 knots will be used to transport U.S. troops from Belfast to Liverpool crossing the night of 3rd/4th October.
2. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail BRAZIL from Clyde to arrive Belfast p.m./2/10.
3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange escort for passage from Belfast to Liverpool.
(D.O.D.(H), 1313A/25.)
- S.C.100, S.C.100 (E) C.T.U. 24.1.3, U.S. ^{John E.} SPENCER, U.S. Q.P. 14. ~~LEWIS~~ CAMPBELL, ROSTHERN, BITTERSWEET, TRILLIUM, MAYFLOWER, NASTURTIUM, LUNENBURG, WEYBURN, 58.12 19.10 to 58.10 13.03, 7½ knots.
Ships escorting Q.P. convoy 14 (A) BRAMBLE, BLANKNEY, MIDDLETON, PALOMARES, POZARICA, POPPY, DIANELLA, LOTUS, SEAGULL, LA MALOUINE, LORD AUSTIN, AYRSHIRE, *LORD MIDDLETON, NORTHERN GEM, ALYNBANK 60.25 10.30 to 60.00 10.00 thence 000° Butt of Lewis 5 miles speed 8.
(C. in C. W.A., 1331A/25.) *D. in C. W.A. 24/9 - 300 p.704.
- KYLE CLARE. Irish, leaving Swansea 2200/25th for Lisbon (route). Vessel is not to be molested.
(F.O.S., 1659A/25 to Submarines operating South of latitude 51° North.)
- LEINSTER. My 1252A/24 sailed 1 hour late.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1740/25.)
- VASAHOLM. Swedish, leaving Kristiansund p.m./27th speed 12 knots due Faroes 30/9 proceeding by regular route. Ship is not to be molested.
(F.O.S., 2126A/25 to Subs. operating North of latitude 51° North.)
- Operation E.V. Thank you for the effective co-operation provided by the Forces you command which operated with great efficiency as far as weather conditions permitted. I regret the Hampden striking force was not offered a target but there is little doubt that their presence helped to deter the enemy surface forces.
(C. in C. H.F., 2345A/25 to A.O.C. C.C.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.

Italian S/MS. Italian submarines are being provided with two torpedoes for their stern tubes having a circular track mechanism. It is probable that this is a retaliation weapon to be used when hunted, or pursued. In most submarines these are 21-inch torpedoes, having range setting 8,800 yards. Speed probably about 35 knots, giving time of run about 8 minutes. These torpedoes are air driven, so should show a track.
(D.T.S.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(W) 1300A/25 "A" Message.)

North Atlantic.

Gibraltar Raid. Air raid here 2231 to 2330/24. 2 or more aircraft 1 of which identified as Italian came in from N.E. returning same direction. A/A engaged, no results observed. Believed no bombs dropped on land. Few objects reported dropped outside Moles possibly blind projectiles, water being swept.

(V.A.C.N.A. 0942A/25 to Admty.)

Sitrep. Air raid on Gibraltar 2233 hrs. night 24/25. 2 approaches made to attack by single plus aircraft. First approach at 15,000 ft. from N.E. Second approach at 14,000 ft. from S.W. Both aircraft engaged and receded north. One identified as Italian Piaggio 108. Bombs dropped in Bay. No damage. All clear sounded 2331 hrs.

(Govr. Gibraltar No T.O.O./25 to W.O.)

REGENT. Your 1517/24 (REGENT to carry out offensive patrol) concur. 2. S.B.N.O. W.A. pass to REGENT.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1040A/25 to B.A.D. Admty., S.B.N.O. W.A., REGENT.)

CLYDE. Intend sailing CLYDE making good 150 miles a day p.m./28th with stores for Malta to cross 009° E. in 038° 17' N. at 0001/3/10 thence as ordered by you.
2. Last message concerning route your 1411/24th.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1106A/25 to N.O.I.C. Malta (R) Admty. etc.)

PARTHIAN. Sailed from Gibraltar exercising area 1700/26 through 180° Cape De Gata 10 miles at 0600/27 thence N.E. (2) PARTHIAN and P.247 may meet on night 26/27.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1406A/25 to 8 S/M.F.)

War Diary.25.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

P.34. ^{/N.T. W.D.}
See p.740
 Capt.(S) 10 1829/21. P.34 after reporting crossing 007° E. should be directed to remain North of 039° N. and East 006° E. until acknowledgment of her signal by F.O.C.N.A. is received. Onward route and bombing restrictions will then be signalled. (F.O.C.N.A. 1536A/25 to V.A. Malta (R) Capt.(S) 10, C. in C. Med., Capt.(S) 1, P.34.)

U/B. Transit Wellington sighted periscope in 049° 02' N. 007° 37' W. at 0904/25, course northerly. (F.O.C.N.A. 1647A/25 to Admty. etc.)

*TREVILLEY
 BREEDYK
 survivors.
**See next page*
 Portuguese SS CUBANGO picked up 15 survivors from SS TREVILLEY 001° 42' N. 006° 25' W. on 20th. Searched for 2 further lifeboats which are missing. Previously picked up 13 survivors from Dutch SS. BREEDYK South of Cape Palmas. Date latter unknown. (N.A. Lisbon 1656A/25 to S.O.(I) Gibraltar. (R) Admty.) See also South Atlantic 1321/25.

? P.S.1. Onward route on surface at your discretion through position A. 040° 01' 012° 30' W. at 1930/30th. B. 225° Cape St. Vincent 15 miles at 0100/2/10 thence diving by day through C. 036° 34' 006° 53' at 0100/3 thence on surface at C.O's discretion to R/V escort in D. 360° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 0830/3. (ii) Bombing restrictions 20 miles either side of route from 35 miles ahead to 35 miles astern of estimated position. Submerged bombing restrictions only on 2nd, otherwise total. (iii) Report if outside bombing restrictions and if unable to R/V within 2 hours of time stated. (iv) Keep a good look out for enemy S/MS which may be operating near coast between Gibraltar and Lisbon. (F.O.C.N.A. 1736A/25 to S/M P.S.1 (R) Capt.(S) 5, Capt.(S) 3, Admty. C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.(S).)

H.D.M.Ls. Owing to defects, H.D.M.L.1140 has been removed from 117th H.D.M.L. Flotilla. In consequence, this flotilla will temporarily consist of 7 boats. (D.D.O.D.(C) 1943A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

COREOPSIS,
 ESSO
 GETTYSBURG. ESSO GETTYSBURG not met. My position 035° 00' N. 024° 51' W. Special weather report. (COREOPSIS 2030A/25 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty.)

U/B.
 O.S.41. Bearings at 1922Z/25 indicate U-boat in vicinity O.S.41. (D.D.I.C. 2140A/25 to Escorts O.S.41, (R) C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C., F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.)

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.

PENN. My P.C. and S. at 2000A/25 035° 56' 009° 43' 091° 7½. Weather report.
(PENN 2159A/25 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

Operation "Volley" repetition. A.M. 1121/23/9. Yes, but not with SIRIUS or PHOEBE who are doing repairs and escorting ORONSAY respectively and will not be available after that. Intend later to use ALCANTARA and other H.M. Ships when available.
(C. in C. S.A. 0608Z/25 to Admty.)

PATHFINDER and QUENTIN. My 2124Z/24. (1) PATHFINDER and QUENTIN from Freetown are to join escort of convoy S.L.123 in 010° 20' N. 018° 23' W. at 1800Z/25. Course of convoy 342°.
2. PATHFINDER and QUENTIN are to be detached at daylight 27/9 to arrive Gibraltar at 1200Z/1, shift to North Atlantic W/T organization at 0500Z/28.
(R.A.W.A. 0951Z/25 to PATHFINDER, PELICAN (R) F.O.C.N.A., Admty., C. in C. S.A. QUENTIN, Escort S.L.123.)

BIRMINGHAM. Your 0523/6 BIRMINGHAM can be accepted at Simonstown for quick docking on or about 15/10.
NIZAM. (2) NIZAM can be accepted in lieu of DUNCAN to refit and dock at Simonstown with (?FOXHOUND) commence 8/10 for 7 weeks.
DAUNTLESS. (3) DAUNTLESS can be accepted at Simonstown late November but not before. Capetown unable to take before then.
(C. in C. S.A. 1145B/13 (Received 2135/25) to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty., F.O.C.4th C.S., Comdr. Supt. Simonstown, Comdr.D.)

TREVILLEY survivors. 12 survivors including 3rd mate and radio operator landed near Assini at 1215Z/25 from SS TREVILLEY bound to Cape York. Ship torpedoed 0135/12. 3 boats got away, 2 still unaccounted for. 1st landfall there 30 miles further west in Vichy (?territory), 2 crews swam ashore and did not return. Survivors due Takoradi a.m./26th when further report will be forwarded.
(N.O.I.C. Takoradi 1321Z/25 to Admty., R.A.W.A.)

/ORISSA ...

War Diary.25.9.1942
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.

ORISSA, Cancel my 0847/24 (N.T.in W.R.) Indian
crew trouble. authorities request every endeavour be made to
See also p 742 steam ship to India with original officers and
crew. Officers and crew should be informed by
you personally in suitable language that action in connection
with incident on 17/9 is being left to R.I.N. authorities who
will undertake (?not to) be influenced in their decision on
the matter by conduct of the crew during remainder of passage
to India. Officers and crew should then return to ship which
should be sailed for Durban.
2. If considered essential, Lieut. Dolan and P.O. Yunus may be
removed from (?ship) but to avoid any suggestion of bias one
should not be removed without the other.
3. Lieut. L.B. More, R.I.N. (?ex) KONKAN leaves Capetown by
rail 27/9 to report to you. He should take passage in ORISSA,
whether or not Dolan is removed. Report action taken to C. in
C. and C. in C's Office Capetown.
(C. in C. S.A. 1429/25 to N.O.I.C., E. London (R) Com. Durban
for C. in C.)

ROBERTS. Intend to sail ROBERTS escorted by AMARANTHUS,
p.m./26 for Freetown via Pointe Noire for fuel.
E.T.A. Pointe Noire 3/10. From Pointe Noire
route through equator and 005° E. thence as
ordered by you.
2. E.T.A. Freetown about 9/10.
(C. in C. S.A. 1500C/25 to R.A.W.A. (R) Admty.
etc.)

W.S.22. DERWENT has defect which involves docking.
Total time required 7 days. C.S.R. is being
asked if ship can be accepted at Durban.
2. PINDOS CITY boiler cleaning and is being taken in hand
at Simonstown.
3. W.S.22 will be sailing without A/S escort.
(C. in C. S.A. 1643C/25 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.F. (R)
Cdre. in C. Durban.)

Dakar. For M.I.3. French appear to be expecting
attack on colonies and in particular Dakar at
short notice. They are taking precautions
particularly as to dispersal of aircraft. All flying personnel
confined to bases. No indication whether they expect attack
by British, Americans or Brazilians.
(G.O.C. in C. W. Africa 1700/25 to W.O.)

BOREAS. Following is a repetition of my 0001Z/25/9 to
Milwestaf passed to you for information (begins)
"My 1817Z/23 (N.T. in W.R.) CHRISTIAN HUYGENS
left Pointe Noire (1703Z/24?) for Banana. BOREAS will ferry
troops to her from Matadi. Expect to sail from Congo River
on 29/9"(Ends).
(R.A.W.A. 1701Z/25 to D.S.T., C. in C.S.A. etc.)

/GRIFFIN ...

War Diary.

25.9.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

GRIFFIN
DECOY.

Admty. 2319A/12 and my 1445Z/23. GRIFFIN and DECOY arrived Freetown 25/9. Request instructions whether they are to proceed U.K. now or await ROYAL SOVEREIGN.
(R.A.W.A. 1801Z/25 to Admty. (R) GRIFFIN, DECOY, C. in C. S.A.)

Saldanha
Bay.

Facilities. Reply to C. in C. S.A. 1229/16.
(D.T.D. 1941A/25) See Lion Copy.

Cable
Repairs.

My 1113/20/8. Propose following programme of cable repairs for LADY DENISON PENDER.
(A) Freetown - Accra cable in vicinity Accra.
(B) In Freetown Harbour. (1) Freetown - Accra.
(2) Freetown - Bathurst (3) Freetown - Konakry in two places. (C) Freetown - Bathurst about 250 miles from Freetown. (D) Bathurst - St.Vincent.
(E) Gulf of Guinea. (2) Instructions have been issued for repairs in 1 (A) to be commenced (3) A.M. 2312/14/7. Request confirmation of decision on Lome - Duala diversion (4) Request decision on proposal in my 1057/18/8.
(R.A.W.A. 2201Z/25 to Admty.)

RECEIVED

MOST SECRET

RECEIVED

1941/25

25

To: C. in C. South Africa 991. 25.9.42.

NAVAL CYPHER (KD) PLUG.

From: Admiralty.

Your 1229/16. Following is a joint message from Admiralty and M.V.T.

1. Coal. M.V.T. are prepared to allocate two colliers probably HALVDAN and SAWILOMTO and are telegraphing the Durban Coal Committee with regard to (a) provision of necessary gear and staff for depot (b) alteration of colliers derricks if necessary. It is intended that the depot be operated commercially for M.V.T. account and it is very much hoped that full use be made of the facilities provided as these ships can ill be spared.
2. Oil. In view of (a) excellent oil bunkering facilities already available at South African ports (b) fact that delays to shipping for oil bunkering have been negligible (c) acute shortage of tanker tonnage. M.V.T. cannot agree to giving M.V.T.R. South Africa permission to allocate tankers to Saldanha. In an emergency until shore oil storage facilities are completed M.V.T. London will endeavour to arrange diversion of a tanker to Saldanha as required.
3. Water. In view of poor conditions and possible withdrawal for major repairs BENAKAT probably not available. M.V.T. has allocated as substitute BASSETT HOUND from Freetown to Capetown for use at Saldanha as required. Operators will be advised later.
4. Long Term Development. Can you please indicate as soon as possible probable completion date of shore installations (a) water supply and delivery facilities (b) oil storage and delivery facilities (c) shore coal depot and necessary lighters which it is understood are being provided in South Africa.

1941/25.

for D.T.D.(981)

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (2)
- Dep. 1st S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- Vice Contr.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (T)
- Sec.
- Fin. Sec.
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- P.A.S. (P.R.)
- P.A.S. (S)
- N.A. to A.C.N.S. (T)
- D.O.D. (F) (2)
- D.O.D. (H) (2)
- Duty Capt. (2)
- A.S. (C)
- D.D.I.C. (2)

- D. of P. (2)
- D.T.D. (3)
- D.T.D. (M)
- D.T.D. (C)
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- D. of S.T.
- D. of P. (Q)
- D.N.I. (4)
- D.A/S.V.
- D. of S.
- D.T.S.D.
- Hd. of M. (10)
- Hd. of P.
- Dep. Contr. } Bath
- D. of S. }
- C.E. in C. }
- Hd. of P. }
- Hd. of S.W.R. }

MOST SECRET

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

U/B,
RORQUAL. U-boat reported on line (?between) Haifa and S.W. corner Cyprus probably nearer Cyprus and moving South at 2317/24.
(Capt. S.1., 0607C/25 to RORQUAL (R) Subs on Patrol).

UNA,
P.34 *p. 736*. UNA and P.34 leave Filfla about 1701B/25 former for 36° 01' N. 12° 55' E. latter to N.W.
Submarines encountered night 25/26 not to be attacked.
(Capt. S.10., 0920B/25 to UTMOST (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 1).

Cositrep No. 528. 5. Air. Night 23/24. Wellingtons and Bostons bombed Sidi Haneish landing grounds, destroying two aircraft and starting fires. Torpedo Wellingtons claim a possible hit on southbound tanker 10,000 tons north of Tobruk. Broad streak of oil seen in wake after attack. 1 Wellington missing.
(C. in C. M.E., 1005 G.M.T./25).

Greek Relief Ships. (1) Swedish relief ships FORMOSA, CAMELIA, EROS passing through 180° Gavdo Island 20 miles about 1601B/25. arrive Straits of Messina about 0629B/27.
(2) From Messina South of Stromboli North of Vstica and 180° Spartivento (Sardinia) 20 miles to (?Gibraltar or Palma Majorca).
(3) Speed 12 knots, ships illuminated at night and if encountered on above circle are not to be molested.
(Capt. S.10., 1115B/25 to S/MS on patrol (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Med., Capt. (S) 8).

EMPIRE
PINTAIL. My 1827/23. Ship refloated 0001/25 and is being towed stern first to Port Sudan.
(C. in C. Med., 1130C/25).

TRAVELLER
attack on
M/V. *p. 622*
My 1639/21. Position of TRAVELLER's attack was 33° 2' N., 23° 13' E., at 0235/5.
(C. in C. Med., 1132C/25 to Admty).

Black Sea. (1) Naval. (a) German landings North group on night 20/21 mentioned by German radio, not known of here. (b) 23/9 enemy submarine sighted on surface off Sochi. (c) 22/9 convoy from Poti to Tuapse unsuccessfully attacked by enemy aircraft.
(2) Air. (a) Russia. Naval aircraft attacked enemy positions in Sancharo Pass and railway from Kranoddar to Novorossisk. Usual attacks on Crimea ports. (b) Enemy. Very frequent day and night R/C of land and sea communications up this coast. Regular bombing of Tuapse has recommenced; 50 aircraft attacked port on 23/9. Little naval damage. Gelendjik attacked regularly and other small coastal towns bombed by single aircraft.

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - cont.:-Black
Sea. Contd.

(3) Hand fighting. Novorossisk. No large scale activity Russian marines have recaptured several heights to north of the town.

(b) Russian artillery fire has partially disorganized concentrations of (?troops)

including Roumanian mountain units at Shapsugskaya (20 m/ms N. of Gelendjik).

Comment. (?Enemy) evidently intend to advance down small river valley from Shapsugskaya to Gelendjik and so cut off Russians to N.E. Advance along coast road being very difficult, this intended attack may be the precedent for a series of breaks through Caucasus mountains to (?sea).

(N.L.O. Black Sea, 1204C/25 to Admty Adm. Miles).

Axis
Shipping.Arrival 24th p.m. COETLOGON, French, MAURO CROCE Italian.
(Barcelona, 1626/25 to M.W.T.)

U/B

At 1213C/25 a U-boat was believed to be in 036° 50', 025° 00'.

(Capt. S.L., 1709C/25 to NEREUS (R) Subs. on patrol)

*(former and 22)*Ships Sunk
by P.46.

In amplification of my 1043/23 para. 2 (?P.46) in 035° 34' N., 11° 08' E. at 0105/21 fired 12 rounds at large southbound schooner scoring 8 hits. 4 hours later vessel still burning.

(B) At 0213/21 torpedoed and sank Vichy SS. LIBERIA (presumably LIBERIA) in 35° 36' N., 11° 09' E.

(C) At 0440/21 torpedoed and sank 2,000 ton southbound merchant ship in 035° 45' N., 11° 11' E.

(C. in C. Med., 1831C/25 to Admty). W.D. Note. The latitudes cannot all be correct.

Malta Air
Report.

I.6 25/9 C.S.R. 24th. 0930? hrs. 8 Spitfires up for raiders which turned back before reaching Malta. 1505 hrs. 6 Me. 109 approached Island at great height, 4 Spitfires up but raiders maintained height advantage avoided combat and returned

AA fired pointer rounds. 1535 hrs. 4 sections of Spitfires made R/C patrol South Sicily. 1630 hrs. 4 Spitfires made anti-E-boat patrol North Malta but saw nothing.

25th. 0445 hrs. 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol South Sicily. 0921 hrs. 12 plus Me. 109 approached Malta at height partial R.D.F. interference, 12 Spitfires intercepted 30 miles N.E. of Island destroyed 2 Me. 109s and damaged a third, 1 Spitfire damaged, pilot unhurt AA fired pointer rounds.

1225 hrs. 1 M/V 5/6,000 tons photographed in Naples 21/9 4 D/rs 1 possible Flak ship photographed 1 mile off Cape Carmi coast crawling East. 1903 hrs., 2 Beauforts attacked convoy 230° Point Tilo 6 miles, course North, 9 knots, 2 torpedoes Duplex non-contact depth setting 16 feet dropped from 80 feet range 700 yards torpedoes ran well but owing to dazzle from moon no other results observed. 1 Beaufort slightly damaged by AA hit, crew unhurt.

(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 2045/25).

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War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Suspicious
Ships.

Position 00.23 N. 70.48 E. at 0100 G.M.T. sighted 2 unknown ships ?apparently hostile? 1 intermediate cargo vessel, 2 masts counter stern. Other modern tanker light colour funnel with broad black band on top steering approx. south-west.
(CAPSA 0500 G.M.T. /25 to Bombay & Colombo W/T).

ORISSA.
(crew
trouble).*See p. 738.*

C. in C.S.A. 1257/20. (Presumably C. in C.S.A.'s 1251/21 intended re crew of ORISSA refusing duty, etc). Unless there will be insuperable difficulties I should very much prefer that ORISSA is brought to India by her own officers and ship's company.

(2) Public opinion in India is already very sensitive on colour bar question and increased attention throughout India would be attracted to the incident by crew being separated from their ship and sent to India by freighter.

(3) This incident requires the most careful handling from political aspect and also its possible repercussions on the morale of the whole service.

(4) If any punishments have been awarded in connection with this incident execution should be deferred until arrival ship's company in India.

(F.O.C.R.I.N. 0505Z/25 to Admty (R) C. in C.S.A.).

Air Sqdns,
Location
and
Control.

A.O.C. 294. 25/9. From A.O.C. in C.
1. Your 0849Z/12. Your 1248/21/8 not received here or by F.L.O.I. until 19/9.

2. For reasons you give agree 2 Squadrons be located N.W. India. Insufficient accommodation at Jiwani or Karachi for 2 Squadrons. Therefore

propose first squadron goes to Karachi and second to Jiwani.

3. Move of 1 Hudson squadron from Cuttack to Ceylon was dependent on flying boat squadron being located Calcutta. Propose therefore to retain both Hudson squadrons at Cuttack.

4. No information yet of date arrival of Liberators but will consult you on proposed location when this is known. Propose locate A.S.V. Wellington in Madras area from (?whence) patrols can be carried out into Bay of Bengal either direct or using advanced landing ground for refuelling in Ceylon.

5. Agree Eastern Limit 207 Group R/C area to be 65° E. (see H.Q.M.E. Signal A.275 19/9)

6. Your para 6, 7 and 8. Administration of units must be responsibility of Command or Group in which they are located. Therefore not possible for squadrons in N.W. India to be administered by 207 Group.

7. Operational control. Agree 222 Group should accept responsibility for all operational control of flying boats in India Command under directive issued by you. In these circumstances however very necessary Northern limit of flying boat responsibilities in Bay of Bengal should be fixed. Palliser will discuss my views. Any R/C North of this limit will be responsibility of G.R. landplanes operating under Bengal Command.
(A.H.Q. India 1047Z/25 to C. in C.E.F.(R) C. in C. Ceylon Admty etc)

/U/Bs.....

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

U/Bs. Japanese U-Boats. Estimated 1 probably Gulf of Aden last seen by A/C 012° 02' N. 046° 08' E. 21/9. 1 possibly Arabian Coast, (?unsuccessfully) attacked R.F.A. SEPIA 019° 21' N. 060° 30' E. 12/9. 1 definite Indian Ocean, probably homeward bound from Gulf of Aden, torpedoed PAUL LUCKENBACH (7010°) 03' N. 063° 42' E. 22/9. (C. in C.E.F., 1147Z/25 to E.I.Stn).

Raiders. Situation No.8. (1) No further information Japanese or German raider E.ARIBISTAN overdue (?Trinidad) since 29/8 from Capetown - considered possible victim of raider G or J. Unidentified vessel sighted 16th in 004° N. 013° W. resembling raider H in certain respects. (2) Tanker SPICHERN ex Norwegian KROSSFONN and an "Altmark" type probably departed Bay of Biscay on 14th or 15th. BURGENDLAND departed Le Verdon about 16th possibly out-bound blockade runner. (3) Raider situation No.6. para.2 should read "A possible blockade runner." (C. in C.E.F.1150Z/25 to E.I.Stn).

COMMANDANT DUBOC. Your 1319Z/24. Request you will sail COMMANDANT DUBOC as convenient to Kilindini. (C. in C.E.F. 1228/25 to C. in C.S.A.).

ILLUSTRIOUS A/C. Your 1935/10/4. To assist formation of policy for re-equipping ILLUSTRIOUS with Albacore can a definite date now be given for re-equipment of this ship with (1) Barracuda (2) Firefly, C. in C.E.F. pass to Commodore N.A.S. (R.A.A.E.F. 1715/25, to Admty (R) C. in C.E.F. Com.N.A.S. ILLUSTRIOUS).

Charts Indian Masters of all ships proceeding to ports in Indian Ocean Shipping. Ocean beyond Lourenco Marques are to be warned that they should have charts of sufficiently large scale to enable them to enter Aden, Bombay and Colombo. (D.T.D. 1818A/25 to F.Os.I.C.).

Your 1212/15. Steps will be taken to ensure that Masters have necessary charts. 2. Request your recommendation as to shortest notice required of arrival, taking into consideration possible danger of breaking W/T silence when at a considerable distance from port.

(D.T.D. 1830A/25 to F.O.Ceylon (R) C. in C.E.F.).

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

- PRIMROSE. A.M. 1817/21/8. On completion of refit request PRIMROSE may be sailed with T.U. 24.1.14 escorting O.N.137 10/10 or with T.U. 24.1.12 escorting O.N.139 17/10 whichever most convenient. Admty. pass to F.O.I.C. London
(C.C.N.F. 0036Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Admty. etc.)
- Wreckage navigation. Wreckage apparently the side of a wooden barge with 2 small timbers projecting out of water reported 2000 E.W.T./23 in 37.28 N 75.30 W. Wreck is marked by a fixed white light of low candlepower which may become extinguished. The wreck buoy marking wreck located 2.9 miles 229° from Ambrose Lightship New York has been moved and re-established lat. 40.25.24 N long. 73.52.06 W. Buoy which is black and green is marked No.3 located 500 feet east of wreck.
(U.S. Navcom No T.O.O. Recd. 0405/25.)
- VANOC attack on U/B. Carried out 2 attacks A/S contact classified sub in 053° 52' N 031° 46' W. Contact lost after 2nd attack. Rejoining convoy*. Weather report. (VANOC 0158Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. (R) Connav etc.)
(Convoy R.B.1.) * River steamers convoy. [See also Shipping, p. 733] p. 748
- A/C attack on U/B. Following received. S/M attacked on surface 49° 37' N 64° 48' W at 0154Z/25.
(Halifax W/T 0320Z/25 to C. in C. W.A., Londonderry for T.G.24.7. Admty.)
Attack was by Hudson A/C, see 0400/25.
- Attacks on U/Bs. (Air report) A.315 25/9. Operations 24/9. Times G.M.T.
(B) A/S sorties 17. Hudson A.113 Squadron sighted U-Boat at 1940 position 50.00 N 65.45 W and 2035 position 49.45 N 65.48 W. Attack made in latter position with depth charges. Believed unsuccessful although small oil trail produced. Hudson K.113 Squadron attacked U-Boat at 0154/25 position 49.37 N 64.48 W. Good attack.
(E.A.C. H.Q. 0400/25 to Air Min.)
- S.C.100 survivors search. Following from C.T.G.24.6 addressed C.T.U. 24.3.10 (R) C.T.U. 24.6.3. Escort unit 24.6.3. BIBB and INGHAM to be rejoined by U.S. destroyer LEARY, will search for S.C.100 survivors in area between 058° and 059° N and 031° and 035° W during daylight Friday. E.T.A. S.E. corner of area 1400Z/25. Make contact, scout and assist search.
(A.C.I.C. 0430A/25 to C. in C. W.A.)
- U/B. S/M sighted in about 47.35 N 53.10 W at 0435/25 G.M.T.
(Halifax W/T 0816Z/25 to Admty. etc.)

/SKEENA...

War Diary.

25.9.1942.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

SKEENA
attack on
U/B.
See ship p. 748.
Enemy S/M sighted at 0801Z/25 in 054° 36' N (035°?)
28' W observed to dive at 0811Z, am searching.
Weather report.
(SKEENA 0820Z/25 to Connav. (R) C.T.F. 24. Admty.
etc.)
My 0820Z/25. S/M was contacted attacked, brought to surface
but submerged again. Have not regained contact since. Weather
report.
(SKEENA 0916Z/25 to Connav. (R) C.T.F. 24. Admty. etc.)

ANTINOUS
(torpedoed
24/9.)
See p. 748
My 1502/24. Tugs returned with master and complete
crew 2 hospital cases. ANTINOUS resting on bottom
stern out of water in 9° 22' N 60° 09' W. Danger
to navigation. Request promulgation.
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad 1012Q/25 to Admty. (R)
S.B.N.O. W.A. etc.)

Movements
summary. 1800 G.M.T./25.
Ship. Position. Course. Speed.
Convoy T.9. 27½° N 39½° W 045° 9
PENELOPE 41½° N 50° W 055° 17
(D.O.D. (F.) 1052Z/25 to Opnav. (R) Comnav.)

REEDPOOL
(sunk
20/9.)
My 1046/23. REEDPOOL sunk 0215/20 in 008° 58' N
057° 34' W. Master prisoner 7 casualties, 34
survivors landed Georgetown B.G. S.B.N.O. Trinidad
informed.
(S.O.I. Jamaica 1141Q/25 to Admty. etc.)

U/B. Following has been received at 1117 G.M.T.
X80 V 6RRRR S/M 48.00 N 63.10 W.
(Halifax 1215Z/25 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connav etc.)

STONE
STREET. Attack by S/M.
(1) STONE STREET U.S. (2) Maritime Commission,
Waterman Steamships, New York, Agents.
(3) 1345/13 48° 18' N 39° 43' W. (4) (5)
(as (3)) (6) Submerged when attack occurred, later coming to
surface. (7) Sunk. (8) 1305/25. (9) Approx. 150 feet long,
no number seen, 1-3" forward 1-20mm aft of C/T. Snorting bull
each side of C/T. (10) Torpedo. (11) Sunk with ship.
(N.C.S.O. St. John N.B. 1255Z/25 to Admty. Cominch.)

U/B. 1 S/M 48.18 N 63.05 W at 1300Z.
(Halifax W/T 1326Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)

LINDVANGEN
(sunk 23/9)
See p. 748
Norwegian LINDVANGEN torpedoed sunk 0035/23 in
9° 20' N 60° 10' W. 15 missing. Master and 7
landed Georgetown B.G. S.B.N.O. Trinidad advised.
(S.O.I.) Jamaica 1331Q/25 to Admty. etc.)

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Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

P.555. Leave Bermuda at 2200Z/26 and proceed through following positions -
 A. $034^{\circ} 15' N 054^{\circ} 45' W$.
 B. $035^{\circ} (?25') N 040^{\circ} 30' W$.
 C. $(?041^{\circ}) 55' N 025^{\circ} 30' W$.
 D. $035^{\circ} 55' N 014^{\circ} 15' W$ to Gibraltar.
 (2) Until 300 miles from Bermuda proceed submerged by day on surface by night, S of A 110 miles per day. Thence on surface S of A 9 knots, diving at discretion.
 (3) Proceed submerged by day when within 300 miles of Gibraltar unless F.O.C.N.A. orders otherwise.
 (4) Wireless watch.
 (5) U.S. N.O.B. at Bermuda is requested to arrange bombing restrictions.
 (S.B.N.O. W.A. 1432Z/25 to P.555 (R) Admty. F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

U/B. D/F fix at 1256Z/25 over 150 miles $54.15 N 27.30 W$. 12700 K/cs indicates possibility of surface raider in area.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1540/25 to Admty. (R) VANOC. C.T.24. Cinclant.)

Your 1540/25. This transmission was originated at 1240Z/25 on Series AW and is considered to be a U/B. We have no previous record of Series AW being used by a surface unit.

(D.D.I.C. 2106A/25 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet. (R) VANOC. C.T.24. Cinclant.)

U/B positions. S/M estimate 25/9 and U.S. Sub. notice. (Cominch 1620Z/25 to Admty.)

U/B. S/M sighted in $46.30 N 60.09 W$ at 1625Z/25. (Halifax 1655Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)

Engines for M.Ls. F.O.N.F's. 1909/17. In view of extremely large demands for Hall Scott engines, unallocated spare engines will not be available in U.S.A. for some time. Suggest one of following alternatives.

(A) Divert engines from current production at expense of Dominions and U.K. (B) Delay 30th M.L. Flotilla in U.S.A. pending overhaul of engines at factory on west coast which would probably take 7 weeks and would be most unacceptable to Navy Dept., who are relying on arrival of Flotilla at Trinidad. (See my 1751/14 not to 30th M.L. Flotilla) F.O.N.F. pass to S.O. 30th M.L.F.
 (B.A.D. 1705Z/25 to Admty. F.O.N.F.)

Corvettes. N.S.H.Q's 1718Z/10 and 1407Z/17 to Admty. only, and Admty. 1728A/11 and 1157A/11. Remaining 11 corvettes after fitting of additional Oerlikons at

Halifax will sail as follows -

PORT ARTHUR, BADDECK with S.C.105.

*ALBERLDON, VILLE DE QUEBEC, SUMMERSIDE with H.X.210.

KITCHENER, CALGARY, CAMROSE with S.C.106.

MOOSEJAW, ALGOMA, REGINA with H.X.213.

*ALBERNI

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War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - cont.

- Corvettes. Six of the 17 corvettes WOODSTOCK, PORT ARTHUR, Contd. VILLE DE QUEBEC, KITCHENER, CALGARY and REGINA have extended forecastles and improved bridges. (N.S.H.Q. 1706Z/25 to Admty. (R) C. in C. W.A. C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. C.C.C.S. NIOBE.)
- Transports, Following received from S.O.I. Rio de Janeiro Rio. (Begins) "In order to avoid advertising too long in advance arrival here of ocean transports calling for bunkers request you will advise me by immediate signal whenever such ships have reported they are late on Schedule. This was not done in case of PASTEUR consequently oil and water barges were out in Bay 18 hours too early. T.O.O. 1536Z/23" (Ends.) (D.T.D. 1730Z/25 to Connav.)
- SKEENA. Proceeding to St. Johns N.F. course and speed 237° 13.5 knots for refuelling and immediate return to O.N.131 in accordance with C.T.U.24.1.13's orders. Shortness of endurance had been (?caused) by sea water leak into one fuel tank. P.C.S. O.N.131 at 1800Z/25 was 053° 31' N 037° 11' W. Suffix A 236° 8 knots. Weather report. (SKEENA 1830Z/25 to C.T.F.24. (R) C.T.U. 24.1.13. Connav. etc.)
- A.T.23. Sailing telegram. (Port Director, New York 1836/25 to Connav.)
- U/B. U/B position within 150 miles of 1702Z/25 55.15 N 27° W. ENIGMA. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1928/25 to Admty. (R) VANOC. C.T.24. Cinclant.)
- U/B My 1650Z/25. (N.T. in W.D.) Sighted by RAYON D'OR RAYON D'OR. who reported definite visual sighting 20 C on quarter and just below surface. RAYON D'OR was hove to repairing sweeping gear at time. S/M submerged further as soon as ship engine was started. 3 ships now conducting A/S search. (N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B. 1941Z/25 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connav. Admty. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C. C. in C. W.A. C.T.G.24.7.)
- U/B. Following has been read. X80 V 6RRA - 1 S/M 47.34 N 62.36 W. (Halifax W/T 2002Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. etc.) My 2002Z/25. Aircraft attacked S/M on surface, small oil slick markers dropped, confirm position 47.34 62.36 W at 2020Z/25. (Halifax W/T 2134Z/25 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)
- CEPHÉE Meter. R.A.W.A.'s 0959/24. Dakar 21/9 p.m. (B.2) (French) CEPHEE still awaiting orders. Anchored in outside anchorages in ballast. (B.A.D. 2027/25 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. R.A.W.A.)

/Special...

War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.Special
convoys
stopped.

Following is an extract of an order circulated by Navy Dept. to remain in effect after sailing of A.T.23 until further notice: "No special convoy, troop or other, of any kind can be sailed. It will be necessary for ships which would normally proceed troop or special convoys to sail in trade convoys, or unescorted if their speed and the submarine situation permit". (B.A.D. 2047Z/25 to Admty. (R) D of S.T.)

Sub.
attack
and
sighting
summary.

A. *LINDVANGEN torpedoed and sunk 09.20 N 60.10 W 0035Z/23. *ANTINOUS torpedoed 08.58 N 59.33 W 0900Z/23 and 09.22 N 60.09 W 1625Z/24 presumed sunk. MARYMAR attacked 07.37 N 58.18 W 1525Z/24. BOSTON attacked and sunk 55.23 N (W.D. Note. *VANOC's 1340N/25 says 54° N.) 27.54 W about 1430Z/25. Escort ships sight 2 S/Ms 58.43 N 25.06 W 1245Z/24 and air escort 7 S/Ms same area about 1400Z/24. 2 attacks on S/Ms **SKEENA attacks S/M on surface 54.36 N 35.28 W 0801Z/25. *VANOC S/M contact 53.52 N 31.46 W about 0150Z/25. WESTASKWIN sights S/M 55.45 N 31.03 W 1140Z/24. * See pp 733 1744
B. ESSO WILLIAMSBERG presumed attacked and sunk area 53.10 N 41 W about 1200Z/24. S/M attack 49.37 N 64.48 W 2154Z/25. Army plane attacks S/M on surface 34.10 N 71.03 W 1545Z/25 course 350°.
C. S/Ms sighted 50 N 65.55 W 1940Z/24 49.45 N 65.48 W 2025Z/24. 47.35 N 53.10 W 0435Z/25, 48.18 N 63.05 W 1300Z/25, 46.30 N 60.09 W 1625Z/25, 04.15 S 37.42 W 0800Z/25. CHURCHILL attacks S/M contact 36.41 N. 71° W. 2315Z/24. S/M sighted on surface 48 N 63.10 W 1117Z/25. * See p 745 ** See pp 745 9747
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2111/25 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q.)

U/B
Campaign.

Connav's Serial No. 25. *BOSTON U.S. sunk by torpedo Convoy R.B.1. 054° 23' N 027° 54' W 25/9. *LINDVANGEN sunk by torpedo 23/9 009° 20' N 060° 10' W. *ANTINOUS Serial No. 24 again ?torpedoed 24/9 while in tow, sunk 009° 22' N 060° 09' W. (Connav 2118/25 to Comnav (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)
* See above p. 745

Georgetown
suspension
of sailings.

Following received in Navy Dept. from N.O.B. Georgetown (Begins) "B.R.O. Georgetown cancelled all sailings today due to submarine attacks setting closer this port on available routes last 3 days". (Ends)

(2) Navy Dept. opinion is that suspension of sailings of ships from ports in U.S. area because of dangers which exist on routes to seaward is outside scope of R.O. duties. The estimation of degree of enemy risks to be accepted must be decided by the authorities providing protection, in this case Com. Caribbean Sea. N.O.I.C. Trinidad pass to N.O.B. Trinidad. (B.A.D. 2235Z/25 to Admty. (R) N.O.I.C. Trinidad. S.B.N.O. W.A. B.R.O. Georgetown. C.C.S.F. N.O.B. Trinidad.)
Reply: Admty. 1724A/26.

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War Diary.25.9.1942.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.

- Situation. Digest Serial No. 246. 24/9.
1 enemy destroyer, 1 7,000 ton merchant ship arrived Buka Passage from South morning 24/9.
Second small steamer departed this area evening 23/9 northerly course after operating in Soraken Harbour.
- (2) Reports indicate total enemy shipping operating Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour Area 24/9 included 3 heavy cruisers (described 2 Nachi, 1 Kako Class) 1 Sendai Class light cruiser, at least 11 destroyers, 6 gunboats, 2 seaplane tenders, 1 probable minelayer, 4 merchant ships including 1 tanker. 1 Nachi Class heavy cruiser departed westward at 0500Z/24. 4 destroyers indicated departing vicinity Faisi approx. noon 24/9 course E.S.E.
- (3) Report 23/9 indicates aerodrome vicinity Buin expected complete in one weeks time. Considerable force of enemy marines using native labour for construction aerodrome. Troops well equipped with motor vehicles and aerodrome working equipment. Stores and fuel dumps, A.A. positions, W/T Station and other buildings established vicinity aerodrome.
- (4) 1 Catalina attacked Buka aerodrome night 23/24 scoring 4 hits dispersal bays, heavy smoke observed.
- (5) 6 Fortresses attacked shipping Rabaul Harbour night 23/24 scoring direct hit amidships 8,000 ton merchant ship followed by fire and secondary explosion. Other results not observed due poor visibility.
- (6) 6 Bostons bombed and strafed Mubo Area 24/9.
- (7) 2 large merchant ships and 1 small reported air R/C anchored Hercules Bay (65 miles S.E. Salamaua) noon 24/9. Aircraft later detailed attack failed locate vessels in area.
- (8) 8 Kittihawks strafed Buna Kokoda Road Area 24/9. Several huts and buildings set on fire. Additional 3 Kittihawks later attacked Wairope Bridge this area.
- (9) Patrols Ioribaiwa continue penetration enemy positions.
- (10) Air R/C Dilli Harbour 24/9 reported 1 8,000 ton M/V, 1 small 400 ton vessel 3 barges. Large vessel attacked by 1 Hudson without effect.
- (11) Patrol Catalina again exchanged shots 24/9 with enemy bomber approx. 260 miles west of North Broome. No damage or casualties. Enemy aircraft proceeding N.E. direction.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0654Z/25.)

ACHILLES Your 1512/18 and my 1532/21 ACHILLES and LEANDER
LEANDER. can be released one at a time for modernisation of H/A armament in U.K.
(2) ACHILLES is now refitting at Auckland and expected completion date including trials is 22/11 1942. It was proposed that LEANDER should then be taken in hand for refit but she could now be sent to U.K. when ACHILLES is again in service. LEANDER has not, however, had any long leave for one year and it is decided to grant this at an early date subject to urgent requirements.
(3) ACHILLES could be sent to U.K. on return of LEANDER.
(N.Z.N.B. 0900/25 to Admty.)

TIJUCA. Your 1627A/23. TIJUCA arrived Sydney (N.S.W.) 12/9 vide N.C.S.O. Sydney (N.S.W.) 0001Z/12 to Fairmiss. (D.N.I. Melbourne 1031Z/25 to Admty.)

War Diary.

25.9.1942.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Positions estimated.
(D.D.I.C. 1440A/25, 1502A/25.)

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Convoy
Q.P.14.

10 Merchant ships and the Rescue ship ZAMALEK, all of convoy Q.P.14, arrived today at Loch Ewe, where the survivors of P.Q.18 and Q.P.14 except cot cases are to be transferred to LEINSTER. Eventually 14 ships arrived (including the 2 Rescue ships) out of 17 which sailed. The third of the 3 ships sunk, besides BELLINGHAM and OCEAN VOICE appears to have been SILVER SWORD. R.F.A. GRAY RANGER which was also sunk did not form part of the convoy which sailed from North Russia.

Convoy
R.B.1.

It is thought that VETERAN, after picking up survivors of SS. BOSTON and NEW YORK (Convoy R.B.1.) was torpedoed and sunk early this morning in approx. 54° 34' N. 25° 44' W. EXE, GENTIAN and aircraft were sent to search for her late on 28/9.

North Atlantic.

An unknown ship made an SSSS report at 0705 in 35.00 N 20.55 W.

LACONIA
and
TREVILLEY
survivors.

The U.S. Charge d'Affaires at Vichy has been informed by the Chief of French Naval Intelligence that 608 survivors from LACONIA (including R.N., Army and R.A.F. details, also women and children.) and TREVILLEY are arriving at Casablanca today and 14 survivors from TREVILLEY are going to Dakar.

South Atlantic.

CORINTHIAN dropped 3 patterns on a firm contact at 2202Z in 07.22 N.14.30 W. without result.

Mediterranean.

P.34.

Admty. today informed C. in C. Med. that S/M P.34 is not now required to arrive at Portsmouth before Dec. 5, but C. in C. Med. states she has had a rough time lately and should not be used for further patrol now unless absolutely necessary. He intends she shall continue her passage to U.K.

/Swedish...

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Swedish SS. KARLSHAMN was attacked and damaged by aircraft torpedo last night and is proceeding to Port Sudan.

The presence in the Black Sea of 6 Italian midget submarines is reported, of which two are stated to have been sunk.

Four German submarines are reported at Monkshylit (Danube)

East Indies.

Madagascar.

S.O. Force M is having difficulties with his landing craft owing to a lack of spares, and says it is essential for the efficiency of his force that stores be consigned to India immediately. They were demanded after "Ironclad" in May.

America and West Indies.

Convoy C.P.1. sailed (apparently Curacao to Cristobal)

SKEENA at 0930 today intercepted SOS from lifeboats claiming to be from ESSO WILLIAMSBURG claiming torpedoed in 53° 30' N. 41° W. The subsequent exchange of signals and absence of lifeboats in the position indicated led SKEENA to believe that a submarine was using a lifeboat transmitter and receiver and attempting to decoy SKEENA.

SS. TAMBOUR was reported torpedoed and sunk at 1006Z today in 8° 50' N 59° 50' W.

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Eagle Ships
for Methil.

Nore's 1158A/23. GLEN AVON, GLENUSK re-allocated Methil and are to be sailed as convenient. On arrival BOURNEMOUTH QUEEN to be sailed Harwich where she has been re-allocated.

2. If first two vessels prove unsuitable in Methil winter conditions their replacement by two more seaworthy Eagles will be considered.
(D.L.D. 1638A/26.)

Defence of U.K.Oban
obstruction.

A.L. B.D. 0773/42 dated 27th May 1942. The position regarding anti-boat obstruction between Lismore and Appin is that scaffolding only is in position. Owing to the small use now being made of the convoy anchorage at Oban consider that this obstruction should be abandoned. Suggest scaffolding should remain in position and that small amount of boom material available at Oban could be disposed on for other use.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0953A/26 to Admty.)

Dartmouth.

Admiralty's 1921A/21 to Air Ministry. Following received from Fighter Command addressed A.A. Command begins. Please arrange to deploy four additional Bofors in defence of R.N.C. Dartmouth, ends.
(D.L.D. 1230A/26 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Movements.

SHEFFIELD.

Scapa arrival SHEFFIELD.
(A.C.O.S. 0546/26.)

ARGUS.
FARNDALE.
QUALITY
BITER.

Departure at 0710 FARNDALE to R/V with ARGUS and QUALITY off Tyne, thence Clyde.
(N.O.I.C. Humber 0721A/26.)
My 1010/21. Sailed escorted by FARNDALE and QUALITY.
(N.O.I.C. Newcastle on Tyne 1356/26.)

A.M. 2000/22 and my 1136/23. FARNDALE and QUALITY are to escort BITER to Scapa.
(C. in C. H.F. 2016A/26.)

PRINCE
CHARLES.
PRINCE ALBERT.

Arrived PRINCE CHARLES, PRINCE ADBERT, ALBRIGHTON, BLEASDALE, GLAISDALE.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0737A/26.)

Group for
Gibraltar.

My 1025A/22. Postponed 24 hours. Improving conditions now point to sailing of Group 27th.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0911A/26.)

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

- P.614. (1) Intend to sail P.614 and P.615 escorted
P.615. by PRESTON NORTH END 0700A/27 September for
Vatersay Bay. Route.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 1021A/26.)
P.614 and P.615 escorted by PRESTON NORTH END leave
Scapa 0700A/27 for Vatersay Bay via Minches. E.T.A. 1200A/28,
10 knots.
(F.O.S. 2144A/26 to Admty.)
- ACUTE. On completion of D/G ranging a.m. 27th take
QUEEN OF KENT. QUEEN OF KENT (S.O) and QUEEN OF THANET under
QUEEN OF your orders and proceed by searched channels
THANET. to Harwich. Speed of advance 12 knots.
Fighter protection arranged.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1049A/26 to ACUTE.)
- P.34. Para (C) of A.M. 1827/21/7 and A.S. Chatham's
Sum pp 7689769 1610/23. Request arrangements be made with
C. in C. Med. for P.34 to arrive Portsmouth
not later than 5/12.
(F.O.S. 1201A/26 to Admty.)
- P.217. Arrived Clyde P.217, P.221, UNIQUE, P.45
P.221. escorted by WHITE BEAR.
UNIQUE (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1208A/26.)
P.45.
- DESPATCH Scapa departure DESPATCH and DURBAN.
DURBAN. (A.C.O.S. 1214/26.)
Situation at 2000. My 1318A/26. *RTM 24.2* Corrected
position DURBAN, DESPATCH 057° 54', 006° 27'.
(C. in C. W.A. 1620A/26.)
- DAFFODIL. My 1450/25 and S.O.A.S.C. 0008/26. Request
DAFFODIL be sailed for Greenock without
calling at Liverpool.
(C.C.O. 1214A/26 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- A.F.D.17. Situation report at 2000. A.F.D. 17 in tow
3 tugs, FOXTROT, INDIAN STAR, DRANGEY 058°
23', 005° 25' to 269° Cape Wrath 18 miles,
then 060° 22', 010° 58', 4.
(C. in C. W.A. 1302A/26.)
- A.F.D.19. Your 1712A/25. Could you not provide escort
as far as Land's End as shortage of destroyers
in Plymouth Command is already very acute.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1313A/26 to C. in C. Nore.)

/ONSLAUGHT ...

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

ONSLAUGHT. Proceed passing Switha 1600 tonight via
OPPORTUNE. Minches to Greenock for boiler cleaning.
(R.A.D. 1400A/26 to ONSLAUGHT, OPPORTUNE.)
My 1400A/26. Sailed. E.T.A. 0645A/27.
(R.A.D. 1700A/26.)

→ KEPPEL. Your 1821/24. KEPPEL sailed for Londonderry,
calling Scapa to disembark passengers and mail.
(V.A.2 1501A/26 to C. in C. H.F.)

LONDON. Following is repetition of my 1548 begins.
CUMBERLAND. Arrived LONDON, CUMBERLAND, BULLDOG, AMAZON
BULLDOG. ends.
AMAZON. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1550A/26.)

O.15. P.C.S. of O.15 at 1600A/26, 56° N. 17° 30' W;
091°, 2 knots. Altering at 2000A/26 to 073°
10 knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 1606A/26 to VANOC.)
At 2000A/26 alter course direct to (M) omitting (L).
(C. in C. W.A. 1612A/26 to O.15.)
My 1359A/26. O.15 proceed direct 057° 01', 011° 59'.
(C. in C. W.A. 1729A/26.)
My 3rd P.C.S. (?056° or 017°) 26', (?015°) 55', 080°, 7½.
Temporary engine defect. Covering 30 miles submerged daylight
hours 27th, anticipate 11 (?knots) (corrupt group) night 27th.
(O.15 2300Z/26 to Capt.S.3.)

WORCESTER My 2021/25. Request you sail WORCESTER for
MACKAY. Sheerness with MACKAY.
(C. in C. H.F. 1646A/26 to R.A.D.)
My 2021/25 and 1648/26. Destination for MACKAY and
WORCESTER is Harwich.
(C. in C. H.F. 2021A/26 to R.A.D.)

H.44. Sailed SEALYHAM escorting H.44 to Oban, E.T.A.
2000/26.
(WESTERN ISLES 1732A/26.)
Arrived H.44.
(N.O.I.C. Oban 2015A/26.)

→ KEPPEL. Hvalfjord departure KEPPEL at 1625/26 in
accordance with C. in C. H.F. 1821/24.
(A.C.I.C. 1809A/26 to Capt. D. Londonderry.)

War Diary.

26.9.1942
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - contd.

- CHELSEA. Hvalfjord departure CHELSEA at 1255A/26 routed through position (A) 062° 10' N. 029° 59' W. (B) 057° 50' N. 040° 01' W. (C) 050° 39' N. 049° 59' W. thence St. Johns, N.F. E.T.A. 1305A/1st. (A.C.I.C. 1855A/26.)
- P.C.74. Weather and sea deteriorating, cannot maintain escort duty, am returning southabout from 051° 21' N. 015° 00' W. (P.C. 74 1915A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
- ORIBI. Your 1116/23. Arrived ^{/Hvalfjord} at 1815/25. (A.C.I.C. 1930A/26.)

Operations.

- Patrols. Tonight M.T.B. 85, 84, 86 patrolling 050° 15' N. 000° 20' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1240/26.)
M.Ls 148 and 149 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 1945, E.T.R. 0620/27. S.G.Bs 3 and 8 from Newhaven patrolling between D and No.10 buoys and M.Ls 143 and 142 near C one buoy from 2015. (V.A. Dover 1702A/26.)
Patrol tonight. (1) M.G.B. 327 and 313 at Z.21. (2) M.G.B. 84, 82, and 91 at Z.17. (3) M.G.B. 76, 78, and 81 at Z.11. (C. in C. Nore 1803A/26.)
- ALERT in North Channel. G.P.O. cable ship ALERT will be engaged in cable operations in North Channel between 055° and 054° 30' N. starting at 0800A/27 and continuing until further notice. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1605A/26.)
- N.W. Norway S/M Patrol. TRIBUNE in Zones K.151 and K.152. TIGRIS in Zones K.153 and K.154. (F.O.S. 1802A/26.)
Unless otherwise ordered TIGRIS and TRIBUNE are to leave patrol after dark 27th for Holy Loch via Lerwick as routed by Capt.(S) 9. (F.O.S. 1926A/26.)
- Search for Airmen. 1. At 0700/27 CLEVELAND is to be in 49° 20' N. 4° W. with 2 destroyers spread 270° and 1 destroyer, M.Ls 184, 526, 491 and 195 and KRAKOWIAK spread 090° from her 3 miles apart.
2. KRAKOWIAK is to leave Dartmouth to conform.
3. M.Ls 181, 488 and 186 from Falmouth and R.M.L.524 from Penzance are to sail now and proceed in company opening out to 3 miles apart on bearing 270° at 0600, and adjusting course and speed to make contact with western-most destroyer by 0700/27, at which time CLEVELAND is to commence sweep with

/above ...

757

War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - ~~contd.~~Search for
Airmen
(contd.)

above forces on course 360° at 14 knots to locate airmen in sea.
4. Should contact not be made detached units are to sweep as above.
5. Fighters will join at 0730. Codeword "Wheel".
(C. in C. Plymouth 2305/26.)

Allied Air Activity.U.S.A.
Aircraft.

Position of U.S.A. aircraft as at a.m. 26th. No change. No further movements expected today.
(Air Ministry 1310Z/26 to 44 Group.)

Bomber
Command
operations.

On day 24/9, 5 A/C completed A/S Patrols in the Bay of Biscay. On night 24/25, 48 A/C laid Mines. On day 25/9, 3 A/C bombed the Gestapo H.Q. at Oslo to disorganise the Norwegian Nazi Party rally, organised by Quisling to celebrate the 2nd anniversary of his appointment as Puppet ruler. The raid was timed to coincide with his address to the Party leaders. Bombs were seen to hit the centre building throwing up a mass of debris and clouds of dark red smoke, shown on a photograph taken at the time of bombing. On night 25/26, 10 A/C laid mines.
(H.Q.B.C. 1520A/26.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Orkneys.

N.L.O. Kirkwall reports that enemy A/C flew in from eastward to Lossiemouth, thence 055°, crossing plotted positions of convoys "Barefoot" and "Transfer" at 1220 today, height 20/25000 feet, estimated speed 400 miles per hour.
(A.C.O.S. 1500A/26 to Admty.)

Mining.Lyme Bay
Sweep.

My 1844/25. "Ounce V" returned owing to weather.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0826/26.)

M.S.N.3.

Arrived SCOTT.
(N.O.I.C. Lamlash 0832/20.)

Off
Stavanger.

The Norwegian Press have announced that an area dangerous for fishing and anchoring is enclosed by lines joining the following positions. Details.
(Hydrog 1533A/26.)

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boats reported. By D/F at 0658Z/26. U-Boats still in contact with R.B.1. (D.D.I.C. 0925A/26 to Escorts R.B.1.)

By D/F at 0840Z/26 U-Boat within 40 miles of 61° N. 16° W. (D.D.I.C. 1016A/26.)

D/F bearings between 1049Z and 1153Z indicate at least four U-Boats in contact with convoy R.B.1. (D.D.I.C. 1354A/26 to Escorts R.B.1, O.15.)

Am over enemy submarine. My position is 64° 04' N. 3° 43' E. (A/C HK7W 1642/26.)

My 1642. Enemy on surface and observed to submerge, course 080°, speed 5 knots. (A/C HK7W 1652/26.)

One Whitley will carry out hunt for U-boats reported in 64° 5' N. 2° 35' E. and 64° 4' N. 3° 43' E. from 2145/26 to 0030/27. (C. in C. Rosyth 1935A/26 to C. in C. H.F.)

My 1354A/26. D/F Bearings up to 1829Z indicate several U-Boats still in contact with convoy R.B.1. (D.D.I.C. 2021A/26 to Escorts R.B.1, O.15.)

U-Boats attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 61° 45' N. 13° 50' W. Was on surface and submerged, course 300°, 15 knots. (A/C 6TFX 1134Z/26.)

My 1134. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate one hit. Position 61° 45' N. 14° 05' W. (A/C 6TFX 1144Z/25.)

Whitley aircraft is taking off shortly to hunt S/M reported damaged by aircraft A/48 at 1055/26. (C. in C. Rosyth 1156A/26 to C. in C. H.F.)

SCOTT's 0930/25. If you can spare a vessel to identify wreck it would be interesting to have a decision in this dispute. (C. in C. H.F. 1158A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

One submarine (?021°, 240° or 305°) 1 mile, steering 330°. My position 055° 18' N. 026° 40' W. (STORK 1640A/26.)

My 1640A. Submarine was 7 miles astern of convoy. (5.2.10-0) 5 attacks carried out by STORK, one by SPEY. Contact now lost. Intend searching till dusk, SPEY, ROTHER in company. (STORK 1742Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

Casualties and Defects.

Ship on fire. Following from Transatlantic Clipper N.C.80 at 2304 G.M.T. 25/9 "Surface Craft afire latitude 50° 20', Longitude 19° 20'." 19 Group informed by telephone 0205A. (T.A.C. Prestwich 0228/26 to Admty.)

Aircraft on passage reported sighting ship on fire at 2304Z/25 position 51° 20' N. 17° 20' W. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0311A/26 to P.C.74.)

/My 0228/26. ...

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.Ship on
fire.
(contd.)

My 0228/26. Further signal from Newfoundland states aircraft N.C.80 reports position of burning surface craft as 51° 00' N. 18° 10' W. (T.A.C. Prestwich 0620A/26 to Admty.)

MARIA.

My 1605/25. Did not sail. Entered harbour for repairs to topmast damaged by lightning. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0915A/26.)

Unknown
ship.

My 1635/25 and 0105/26. KINGSTON AMBER leaving on search and returning Kirkwall. KINGSTON AGATE continuing search for two lifeboats reported by aircraft in 062° 40' N. 015° 29' W. at 2055/25. (A.C.O.S. 1305A/26.)

KODUMAA.

Harbour Master Goole Docks reports SS KODUMAA sunk on East Side of River Ouse, on Goole Mess, abreast of Goole Docks early today. Marine casualty. Negative enemy action. Hull Salvage Officers dealing with salvage. (F.O. Humber 1635A/26 to Admty.)

L.C.P(R)618
and 622.

L.C.P(R)618 and 622 salvaged from Point of Ayr and now in Douglas. (N.O.I.C. Isle of Man 1855A/26.)

Shipping and Convoys.R.B.1.
NEW YORK
sunk.

My 2110N. R.B.1. NEW YORK torpedoed and possibly one other. NEW YORK floated but has since been sunk by further attack. VETERAN was standing by, now rejoining. Thirty survivors including Master. Raspberry drew blank. Convoy became disorganized in attack. Have broadcast instructions to them to steer 81° and reform at daylight. Fuel situation of (? warships) becoming shaky. Position 21.10 N., 054° 34' N. 025° 44' W. Weather 6862 1256. (VANOC 0056Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

My 1240. VANOC must now proceed Londonderry at economical speed on account of fuel.

(VANOC 1401Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

Your 1237A. Am not in company. (1) SS PRESIDENT WARFIELD probably yes. Remainder not known. Statistics were being passed as Cdre. was torpedoed. All ships have route to places mentioned. (2) Yes, in view present situation would suggest all ships proceed Moville and being resailed with or without bunkering as necessary. Have had no report VETERAN since 0038Z.

(VANOC 1641Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Your 1237A/26 ...

War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

R.B.1
NEW YORK
sunk. Your 1237A/26. PRESIDENT WARFIELD report as follows begins: (1) Yes. (2) Yes. My P.C.S. at 1900Z/26, 55° 22', 18° 10', 090°, 12 knots. SCIMITAR report tank leak has barely fuel to continue escort to Lough Foyle. Remainder of R.B.1 not met. VANOC's 1401Z/26. I have about 12 hours fuel in hand. Cannot contact VETERAN. Weather 2565 9077. (SALADIN 1901Z/26 to C. in C. W.A.)
Situation Report at 2000. River steamers SALADIN, SCIMITAR, VANOC, VETERAN 055° 04' N. 018° 26' W. via Great Circle to Londonderry, 12. (C. in C. W.A. 1359A/26.)
Report P.C. and S. and intentions. (C. in C. W.A. 2247A/26 to VETERAN.)

A.T.24.
T.A.24. Convoy A.T.24 is due Clyde 2/10.
2. Total of approximately 10,500 personnel will disembark 3/10.
4. Numbers to embark in T.A.24 will be about 2500. They will embark 5/10. (D.S.T. 0829A/26.)

BRAZIL. U.S.S. BRAZIL will sail from Clyde for Belfast arriving p.m. 2/10.
2. She will embark personnel 3/10 and will sail for Liverpool arriving a.m. 4/10. (D.S.T. 0831A/26.)

Q.P.14. Reykjavik arrival ADHERENT, TANGO, ST ELSTAN at 0855/26. (A.C.I.C. 1001A/26.)
Arrived EMPIRE TIDE, HARMATRIS, TOBRUK (Pole) OCEAN FREEDOM, MINOTAUR (U.S.A.) ALCOA BANNER (U.S.A.), WEST NILUS (U.S.A.), ZAMALEK, SAMUEL CHASE (U.S.A.), BENJAMIN HARRISON (U.S.A.) DEER LODGE (U.S.A.) (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1544A/26.)
Q.P.14. Your 0931/26. Request information as to whereabouts of WINSTON SALEM. (C. in C. W.A. 1649A/26 to PALOMARES.)
E.T.A. Mew Island 1230A/27, POZARICA in company. Following survivors from NORFOLK, NAVARINO, EMPIRE BARD and EMPIRE TIDE in PALOMARES. Details. In addition PALOMARES has two officers and eight ratings ex North Russia R.N. Hospital unit, and one merchant service rating (under arrest) ex HARMATRIS, under passage to U.K. Intend discharging all Naval Officers and ratings to CAROLINE on arrival. Request instructions as to disposal of other survivors. (PALOMARES 1731A/26.)
Your 1639/26. WINSTON SALEM straggled P.M.24th. Was in 61° 47' N. 12° 14' W. at 1400A/25. Course 150°, speed 8 knots. MARTIN in company. (PALOMARES 1759A/26 to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.26.9.1942
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

- H.M. Convoys. My 1248/10/7. It is anticipated that H.M. Convoys will in future sail daily. (C. in C. W.A. 1126A/26.)
- U.R.43. 7 knots "Miracle" sailed 1545/28. TOMSK, SVAVA, CISNEROS, AARO, NORCO. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1200A/26.)
- P.Q.18. Your 1252A/24. Arrived (LEINSTER). (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1202A/26 to N.C.S.O. Clyde.)
On arrival at Loch Ewe Merchant Navy survivors are to be transferred to SS LEINSTER for passage to Clyde.
(2) Survivors in rescue ships except cot cases should also be transferred to LEINSTER to facilitate check Medical Examination while on passage. Food and clothes will be issued on board.
(3) Cot cases to remain in rescue ships to be landed at Greenock. (C. in C. H.F. 1227Z/26 to Escorts Q.P.14.)
My 0932/25. SAHALE refloated and (?Proceeded to harbour.) (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1410A/26.)
- W.S.23. A.M. 1836/16th and 1314/25th. Sail Liverpool (Bar) 1430Z/30th. Commodore R/V noon G.M.T. 1st 055° 21' N. 008° 49' W, noon G.M.T. 2nd 053° 30', 016° 30'. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1402Z/26.)
- P.Q.19. Your 0823A/24. Yes. (D.T.D. 1536A/26 to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)
- JOHN H.B. LATROBE. Your 1804/24. Ship arrived with S.C.L.99 as reported C.T.G. 24.6. Signal 1855Z/18, to C. in C. W.A. (A.C.I.C. 1720A/25 to Admty.)
- A.T.23. A.M. 1903/19 and 2337/22. Reference former message. Amend para 1 for 25/9 read 2100Z/26/9. Amend para 2 to read (a) Belfast - DEMPO, ORONTES, SAMUEL CHASE, THOMAS STONE, LEEDSTOWN, ALMAACK. (b) Liverpool - ATHLONE CASTLE, STIRLING CASTLE. (c) Clyde - STRATHALLAN, AWATEA, PASTEUR, MARNIX, EXCELLER.
2. Convoy speed of advance 14.5 knots. (D.O.D. H. 1903A/26 to C.T.F. 38.)
- Convoy U.R.42. A.C.O.S. 1635A/25. Ship torpedoed and sunk EMPIRE CHEST in U.R. 42 at 1557/25 was EMPIRE CHEST (? EMPIRE BELL) BELL.) sunk on 25/9. (A.C.I.C. 2130A/26.)

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U/B sunk 31/7. U. 213.
(Dr: Rowbottom list: em: 6843/46)
T.L. consider that attacks by ROCHESTER, ERNE and SANDWICH on 31/7 resulted in the destruction of a German U-Boat. 2. They congratulate ROCHESTER, ERNE, and SANDWICH on this success. (1st S.L., 0021A/26 to Ships named.)
Pos: 36° 45' N. 12° 50' W.

U/B. Received from unknown station. S/M sighted 35.00 N. 20.55 W. at 0705. (Valentia Radio, 0731/26, C.C.O. Plymouth, no T.O.O., Burnham Radio, 0820/26.)

Chasseurs, EMPIRE WARLOCK. Amdty. 1743/20/8. Intend to sail Chasseurs 42 and 43 towed by EMPIRE WARLOCK 1830/26 for Bathurst (route). (2) No B.N.L.O. or British communications ratings borne in Chasseurs. EMPIRE WARLOCK no W/T operators borne.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1320A/26 to C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A., etc.)
Cancel para. (1) of my 1320/26 and insert new para. Ref. A.M. 1743/20th. Intend to sail Chasseurs 42 and 43 towed by EMPIRE WARLOCK at 1830/26th for Bathurst (route). Estimated S. of A. 6 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1916A/26 to R.A.W.A., (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty., N.O.I.C. Bathurst, B.N.L.O. to General de Gaulle.)
My 1320/26 sailed F.F. Chasseurs 42 and 43 in tow of Tug EMPIRE WARLOCK. Ships hold approaches to Bathurst but no Q.G.Bs.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1840A/26 to R.A.W.A.)

GLOIRE. My 1725/24 (N.T. in W.R.) American Consul Casablanca reports as follows. Fr. cruiser GLOIRE arrived Casablanca between 13 hours and 14 hours 25/9. (Corrupt group) dock entrance was closed by heavy guard. Vessel in custody and about 80 British soldiers destined for Military prison were put on trucks waiting. (R.O. Tangier, 1335/26 to Admty., S.O.I. Gib.)
Note. See also mge. received from U.S. Embassy 26/9 re survivors LACONIA and TREVILLEY. p 766.

Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas. (Details.)
(F.O.C.N.A., 1406Z/26 to Admty., H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)

PARTHIAN. My 1408 and 1806/24. Sailed PARTHIAN. Mail to Beirut.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1712A/26 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.S., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10)

JONQUIL, ESSO GETTYSBURG. Sailed JONQUIL 1440/26 to meet Tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1724A/26 to Admty., COREOPSIS.)

/WOLVERINE ...

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U/B sunk 31/7. U. 213. (Dr: Rowbotham list com: 6843/46) T.L. consider that attacks by ROCHESTER, ERNE and SANDWICH on 31/7 resulted in the destruction of a German U-Boat. 2. They congratulate ROCHESTER, ERNE, and SANDWICH on this success. (1st S.L., 0021A/26 to Ships named.) Pos: 36° 45' N. 22° 50' W.

U/B. Received from unknown station. S/M sighted 35.00 N. 20.55 W. at 0705. (Valentia Radio, 0731/26, C.C.O. Plymouth, no T.O.O., Burnham Radio, 0820/26.)

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Bombing restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas. (Details.) (F.O.C.N.A., 1406Z/26 to Admty., H.Q.C.C., (R) F.O.S.)

PARTHIAN. My 1408 and 1806/24. Sailed PARTHIAN. Mail to Beirut. (F.O.C.N.A., 1712A/26 to V.A. Malta, (R) Admty., C. in C. Med., F.O.S., Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10)

JONQUIL, ESSO GETTYSBURG. Sailed JONQUIL 1440/26 to meet Tanker ESSO GETTYSBURG. (F.O.C.N.A., 1724A/26 to Admty., COREOPSIS.)

/WOLVERINE ...

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

WOLVERINE. My P.C. and S. at 2000A/26 (?040°) 00' N. 014° 30' W. 000° 9 knots. Expect to increase speed when wind changes direction or moderates. Will adjust speed to arrive at position Q at dawn. Date will be signalled later. Weather report.
(WOLVERINE, 1801A/26 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CENTURIONE

R_A GIULIANI. My 1400/9 (19 intended.) Charge D'Affaires has presented very strong note verbale embodying all the points in your 0027/17 except last para. which (? is) reserved for verbal discussion with M.F.A. I have handed copy to M. of M. and gone through it with him. He agrees time is excessive in that S/M so damaged (group missing) not have any time at all but maintains it is not excessive for actual execution of repairs. Spanish engineer and constructors do inspect work and have never been impeded. Italians are not to be trusted and sub. cannot escape. He would welcome internment of sub. but cannot act without concurrence of M.F.A. In view of Spain's difficult position we are not likely to get vessel interned unless she exceeds her time but we stand good chance of obtaining general ban. When M.F.A. applies himself for advice as he must he will recommend internment. If M.F.A. brings up general ban he will support it. He has already suggested it in principle as a way out of all these difficulties.
(N.A. Madrid, 1808/26 to Admty.)

LAVORO, Your 1012A/21. Vessels ready to sail. Italy
ARCOLA, N.A. has asked M. of M. to ask me if following
TAIGETE route instructions will be acceptable to you.
(Italian) Algeciras to Gibraltar for control, then to point
20 miles S. of Cape Gata, then to 039° 24' N.
004° 08' E. then to 043° 52' N. 008° 47' E., then
to point 12 miles S. of Bren light, where she will arrive in
daytime to pick up Pilot.
(N.A. Madrid, 1815/26 to F.O.C.N.A., (R) Admty.)
Reply: 1112/27.

French Gibraltar 0750 Minesweeper TAPAGEUSE, ships
Shipping. ALGERIE, full deck cargo timber, JENNE laden, and
passengers, trawler LE DUGUAY-TROUIN full,
westbound.
(S.O.I. Gib., 1839A/26 to Admty., R.A.W.A.F.,
S.O.I. Kingston.)

Spanish Your 1230/25 and Admty. 1451/?26 not to Teneriffe.
Sailing Following is route to be given Spanish sailing
Vessel. vessel: Rechou Teneriffe to (A) (?030°) 00' N.
015° 00' W. thence through (B) 034° 00' 010° 00'.
(C) 036° 50' 007° 10', thence destination.
(2) Ship will be intercepted in position (C).
(F.O.C.N.A., 2252A/26 to B. Consul Teneriffe,
(R) Admty.)

War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

- ROYAL SOVEREIGN, BULKOIL. Your 1445/23. Concur with proposal to employ BULKOIL. She is fitted for fuelling at sea. 2. Request your further intentions. My 1838/19 which has now been passed to you refers. (D.O.D.(F), 0110A/26 to R.A.W.A.)
- ORISSA, crew trouble. Your 1251/21. Pending further instructions - A. R.I.N. Officers and men are not to be sailed from East London. B. H.M.I.S. ORISSA is not to be sailed with R.N. crew. (A.C.N.S.(F), 0140A/26 to C. in C. S.A., (R) F.O.C.R.I.N.) Admty. 0140/26. My 1429/25 is being passed to Admty. 2. No disciplinary (? action) has been (? taken). 3. No other Indian (? crew) available, so ORISSA is being held at East London (? in accordance with) para. (A). Request early decision when she may be sailed. (C. in C. S.A., 1043C/26 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.R.I.N., etc.)
- GUARDIAN. Your 1831/21. Estimates of length of B.1 defence which will have been laid by GUARDIAN are (A) 7.5 cables. (B) 15 cables. (C. in C. S.A., 0938C/26 to Admty.)
- QUEBEC CITY. Sailed Capetown 3/9 due Freetown 23/9 not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1019Z/26.)
- S.L.125. A.M. 2349/22. Propose if necessary to delay sailing of S.L. 125 to 14th or 15/10 to include maximum number of ships. (R.A.W.A., 1027Z/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A.) Concur. (D.T.D., 1658A/27.)
- AQUITANIA, cover. Following is a repetition of my 1201/25 (N.T. in W.R.) (begins) AURORA, CARNARVON CASTLE, CARTHAGE repeated C. in C. S.A., Admty., B.A.D., Cominch, CORFU, N.O.I.C. Ascension, Consolantfor, from R.A.W.A.
1. To provide cover to AQUITANIA, CARNARVON CASTLE proceed to arrive (A) 8° N. 26° W. at 1800Z/27 proceed due South at 14 knots to position (B) 9° S. 26° W. thence resume patrol in area equator and 5° S. 20° W. and 25° W.
 2. AQUITANIA pass through position G 8.50 N. (734).25 W. at about 1500Z/27 and is routed through position (H) Equator 26.10 W. and (J) 12.10 S. 32.30 W. S. of A. 18 knots.
 3. AURORA leaves patrol in area N.N.W. of Ascension p.m./26th for Freetown. *S. p. 766.*
 4. CARTHAGE leaves patrol in area N.N.W. of Ascension p.m./29 for Freetown. (Ends.)
- (R.A.W.A., 1032Z/26 to AURORA, B.A.D., Admty., etc.)

/Ships ...

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Ships for Trinidad. My 1952/24 (Ships not to call at Trinidad) refers only to ships of 15 knots and over.
(D.T.D., 1159A/26 to N.C.S.O. Capetown, (R) C. in C. S.A., R.A.W.A.)

LACONIA, TREVILLEY survivors. } Following received from American Charge d'Affaires, Vichy. *pink*
Has been informed by Chief of French Naval Intelligence that 608 survivors from LACONIA and TREVELLY (? TREVILLEY intended) are arriving Casablanca today 26/9 consisting of following:-
Officers O.R. Service.
1 178 R.N.
17 87 Army.
9 70 R.A.F.
8 178 Merchant Service.
1 36 69 582 Polish Forces.
50 women and children. 14 survivors from TREVELLY (? TREVILLEY) are going to Dakar.
(U.S. Embassy, No T.O.O./26 to Admty.)

MARECHAL GALLIENI, AMIRAL PIERRE. Vichy Ship MARECHAL GALLIENI arrived Durban and has been requisitioned by South Africa Govt. No passengers but crew is being interrogated as to identity.
(2) Ship was first sighted and reported by aircraft from ILLUSTRIOUS on 20/9. Sighted identified photographed and reported by aircraft of South Africa Air Force on 23rd. Intercepted and boarded by NIZAM on 24th. Escorted to Durban by South Africa Naval Force Ship CEDARBERG.
(3) This is example of co-operation between British and Dominion Sea and Air Forces.
(4) Request no publicity be given yet. Search is continuing for AMIRAL PIERRE. Subsequently South Africa Air Force will continue to patrol to search for coastal craft which may be escaping from Madagascar, if C. in C. E.F. concurs this patrol will be supported by South Africa Naval Force Ship.
(5) If publicity is given later request point may be made of co-operation with South Africa Sea and Air Force and first release may be made in South Africa.
(C. in C. S.A., 1428Z/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. E.F.)

Aerodrome Fire. Regret to report following aircraft destroyed or damaged by fire at Stamford Hill Aerodrome 25/9.
Destroyed 2 Swordfish - (?ILLUSTRIOUS),
1 Swordfish - Wingfield. 1 Walrus - DEVONSHIRE.
1 Walrus - Wingfield. Damaged 1 Swordfish and 1 Martlet - ILLUSTRIOUS.
Small amount of hangar equipment destroyed and considerable damage to hangar. No question of sabotage. Details of air frames and engines following.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 1436Z/26 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., etc.)

War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

- AURORA. *See p. 764* E.T.A. 1700Z/27th.
(AURORA, 1600Z/26 to R.A.W.A.F., (R) R.N.A.S. Hastings.)
- KELANTAN. Capetown departure 1300Z/26 KELANTAN for Freetown routed A. 035° 30' S. 016° 30' E. B. 035° 30' S. 003° 00' E. C. 006° 00' S. 018° 00' W. thence as ordered by R.A.W.A., S. of A. 9½ knots, E.T.A. Freetown 1200Z/14/10. Wireless watch on 500 k/cs 2 operator periods.
(C. in C. S.A., 1643C/26 to Admty., R.A.W.A., C.T. No. 23.)
- PHOEBE. Arrived Simonstown 26th.
(C. in C. S.A., 1644C/26.)
- BREEDIJK (A) BREEDIJK (Du.) (B) 14/9/1942, 2304, 05° 05' S. 08° 54' W. (C) Sunk with ship. (D) as (C) (E) Perforated metal box 26,000 fathoms. (G) Third Mate. Proceeding singly, sunk by 1 torpedo from S/M believed German. 11 survivors landed Freetown. 3 boat loads still unaccounted for.
(R.A.W.A., 1712Z/26 to Admty.)
- GYLFE. My 1751Z/23. GYLFE arrived Montevideo 26th.
(S.O.I. Montevideo, 1817Z/26 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty.)
- Dakar, *GLOIRE, CEPHÉE. ** See p. 762* My 2027/25 and 2055/25 (N.T. in W.D.)
Dakar 22/9. B.2. GLOIRE did not enter harbour on arrival but embarked stores at anchor and sailed at noon 21st, destination kept very secret. CEPHÉE entered harbour again.
(B.A.D., 1833Z/26 to Admty., (R) F.O.C.N.A., R.A.W.A.)
- MEDON. Portuguese LUSO arrived Buenos Aires 26/9 with Chief Officer and 14 of crew of motor vessel MEDON all well. This ship was torpedoed at 0350/10/8 in approx. 009° 26' N. 038° 28' W. All confidential documents destroyed. No information (? of other) 3 boats. Survivors (names) were picked up by LUSO on 13/9.
(B.R.O. Buenos Aires, 1930/26, 1935/26.)
- CORINTHIAN, attack on U/B. Dropped 3 patt. on firm contact in 007° 22' N. 014° 30' W. No result.
(CORINTHIAN, 2202Z/26 to R.A.W.A.)

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War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Enemy
Units.

Following received by Malta W/T addressed:-
A/C Call ONL. P.C.S. of enemy 5 destroyers 1
M/V 33.52 N 23.18 E, 180° 10 knots.
(A/C Call W7HR 0200/26.)

Bi-weekly
Opsum 59.

WX 5366 Part 1. A.663 26/9 Secret. My Opsum 58.
Dusk raid on Benghazi 22/9 made by 18 American
B.24 followed during night by 11 R.A.F. Liberators.
Photographs 23/9 show 1 M/V 7/8000 tons destroyed.
1 M/V 7/8000 tons damaged. Stern half of 1 converted wreck used
by enemy as landing stage rendered useless. One P.R.U. Spitfire
missing 22/9.
Night 22/23. 7 Halifaxes 20 Wellingtons bombed shipping and
harbour installations Tobruk. 1 large explosion 3 large fires
between docks and petrol installations N.E. of harbour. Many
bursts on bases of main jetties.
Night 23/24. 4 A.S.V. 9 torpedo Wellingtons despatched to
locate and attack southbound convoy 1 M/V 10,000 tons, 1 of
4/5000 tons, 2 destroyers, reported previous afternoon west of
Crete by R/C Maryland. 1 torpedo Wellington attacked with 2
torpedoes a 10,000 ton tanker about 110 miles N.N.W. Tobruk,
claiming 1 possible hit. Broad streak of oil seen in vessel's
wake after attack. 2 other Wellingtons located tanker but lost
sight of ship in effective smoke screen from destroyers before
they could attack. Intense A.A. fire experienced, 1 torpedo
Wellington missing.
4 enemy aircraft over Delta and Gulf of Suez during night bombs
dropped on 2 landing grounds near Turg El Arab. No damage yet
reported. A ship reported attacked in Gulf of Suez. Details
awaited. 6 Beaufighters up, 2 enemy aircraft sighted but contact
lost.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 0929Z/26, 1016Z/26, 1038Z/26, 1102Z/26.)

Cositrep
529.

Part 2. 1. Night 24/25. Malta Beauforts
attacked a northbound 6000 ton M/V off East
Calabrian Coast. Results of torpedoes unobserved.
Photographs following day show ship arrived at
Cotrone apparently undamaged.
(C. in C. M.E. 0935 G.M.T./26.)

Italian
midget
S/Ms.

S.O.I. Istanbul reported presence, in Black Sea,
of 6 Italian midget submarines, 2 of which had
already been sunk. Russians confirm this and
consider remainder to be those seen operating in
Sebastopol (?Tuapse) Novorossisk area.
(?Russians) report 4 German submarines of one class, at Monkshylib
(Danube) I am endeavouring to obtain (?group omitted)s of such
intelligence to avoid repeating information emanating from
Istanbul.
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1137C/26.)

Enemy
Units.

Following has been read. P.C.S. of 1 enemy M/V
unknown, destroyer 32.24 N 23.30 E. 180°
(no speed)
(A/C using call sign U6WS 1246/26.)

/Greek...

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26.9.1942.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.Greek
S/Ms.

Your 2508/22/7. A very marked improvement in the morale, keenness and efficiency has become evident in the past few months. They are working extremely hard to keep their submarines operationally fit and it is highly desirable to exploit this state of affairs.

2. Present condition of submarines is as follows:

(A) NEREUS having recently completed refit by Greek repair ship is now on patrol and should operate for a further 3 months.

(B) TRITON completes similar refit very shortly and should be fit for 3 months service.

(C) PAPANICOLIS has been operating since completion of refit in July and should continue for a further 9 months.

KATSONIS sank at Port Said in July on completion of intensive refit is again being refitted completing by November and should then be able to operate for 12 months.

3. At the end of periods in para 2. NEREUS and TRITON will require a further 3 months refit which will be carried out chiefly by IFAICTOS and MEDWAY II and for which certain gear particularly wiring and junction boxes will be required from U.K. NEREUS and TRITON should then be capable of a further 6 or 8 months service. To extend the lives of all 4 submarines further, the special gear referred to in your 2508/22/7 would be necessary.

4. It is intended to refit P.712. Propose she should then be offered to the Greeks. It is thought this would be welcome.

→ NEBOJSCA will be fit for service shortly and has been fitted as petrol tanker for Malta and for refuelling M.T.Bs. It is intended to use her with (712) and the 4 Greeks for offensive patrols. One of these submarines at a time will be used from (as received) A/S training.

(C. in C. Med. 1246C/26.)

→ NEBOJSCA.

Your 0024/22. Yugoslav S/M NEBOJSCA has been manned by mainly British crew from 1st S/M Flotilla resources. She has been extensively

refitted and fitted as a petrol tanker for M.T.B. to carry 10,000 gallons and will be operationally fitted shortly.

2. It is my intention to use her (a) for M.T.B. operations.

(b) for carrying petrol to Malta (c) offensively exploiting her powerful gun armament. To assist Greeks in providing an anti S/M training. My 1246/26 refers.

3. Need of own training S/M in Mediterranean is vital.

Experience has shown that Greeks lose heart if relegated to this duty. To keep up improved morale and enthusiasm it is essential a British manned submarine sharing these duties with them, and operational submarine cannot be spared. Request decision transfer NEBOJSCA to Eastern Fleet may be reconsidered.

(C. in C. Med. 1256C/26 to Admty. (R) C. in C. E.F. F.O.S. Capt. S.1. Capt. S.4.)

P.34.

A.M. 1827/21/7 and F.O.C.N.A. 1536/25/9. P.34 is not now required to arrive Portsmouth before Dec. 5th/42.

(D.O.D. F. 1303A/26 to C. in C. Med. V.A.M.)

/Your...

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War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.P.34.
Contd.

Your 1303/26. P.34 has had a rough time lately and should not be used for further patrol now unless absolutely necessary. Intend she shall continue her passage to U.K.

(C. in C. Med. 2058C/26 to Admty.)

After reporting your position in accordance with sailing orders remain north of 039° and east of 006° until acknowledgment and onward route is received from F.O.C.N.A.

(Capt. S.10 2031B/26 to P.34 (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

Malta
Air
Report.

I.7 26/9. C.S.R. Malta.
25/9. 1010 hours. 4 Spitfires up for raiders which turned back before reaching Malta. 1330 hours. 5 Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 1549 hours. 7 Me.109s approached Malta at great height

14 Spitfires up and intercepted but enemy had height advantage avoided combat and withdrew. 1633 hours. 2 Spitfires made anti E-Boat patrol North Malta.

26th. 0710 0740 and 0935 hours three sections Spitfires in R/C patrols south Sicily destroyed 1 Me.109 and probably destroyed another.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1631/26, 1650/26, 1705Z/26.)

TAKU.

If nothing has been sighted by 2103C/27 leave patrol proceeding through

(i) $032^{\circ} 35' 024^{\circ} 26'$ (ii) $033^{\circ} 41' 032^{\circ} 08'$ thence direct to arrive at end Beirut searched channel at 0545C/1/10.

(Capt. S.1. 1709C/26 to TAKU. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

NEREUS.

Leave patrol as necessary to pass through

See previous page -
(1) $035^{\circ} 37' 029^{\circ} 09'$ at 0300C/29.(2) $034^{\circ} 19' 032^{\circ} 21'$ at 1200/30.(3) $034^{\circ} 19' 034^{\circ} 47'$ at 0100/1. Thence direct to arrive outer end of Beirut searched channel at 0545C/1. Estimate your daily advance 110 miles. Report if unable to comply with above time.

(Capt. S.1. 1759C/26 to NEREUS. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

Enemy
Units.

Following has been read by Malta W/T.

P.C.S. of 1 medium M/V and 5 destroyers is 32.07° N 23.59° E - stationary.

(A/C using call sign U8HW 1945/26.)

12
A.L.Cs.

Concur that India's needs should be met as proposed by D.C.O's para 3., but consider C. in C. E.F. should be asked to send us 12 A.L.Cs on completion of operations in Madagascar as we shall never see those sent to India again. Admty. 2020/21 (2029/21 intended) also refers.

(C. in C. Med. 2154C/26 to G.H.Q. M.E. Forces.)

P.35.

Patrol about 10 miles S.W. of Strovathi Is. until further orders.

(Capt. S.10 2301B/26 to P.35. (R) C. in C. Med. etc.) Cancelled, See 2030/27. P.753

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

BADARPUR (Fleet Oiler) left for Kilindini 25th.
(N.C.S.O. Abadan, 0552Z/26).

Madagascar, Ref. S.N.O.L's 2231/21 reports from 3 harbours
Landing where landing craft are operating show not more
Craft. than (?70%) are serviceable.
(2) Immobilized craft cannot be repaired and number
of serviceable craft constantly diminishing
owing to lack of spares obtainable on the U.K. or

U.S.A.

(3) List of essentials follows by air.

(4) Essential for efficiency of force that stores be consigned
to India earliest opportunity. They were demanded after
"Ironclad".

(5) Wear and tear on craft greater than during "Ironclad" and
no spares are available.

(S.O. Force M., 0740/26 to C. in C. E.F., (R) Admty. for C.C.O.
ALBATROSS, for 121 Force and S.N.O. L., EREBUS, for G.O.C. in
C. E.A., F.O.C.R.I.N. for Armindia).

Indian
Ocean
Shipping.

Your 1830A/25. So long as they have necessary
charts and if possible instructions for entry,
no notice of E.T.A. is required.
(F.O.C. Ceylon, 1126Z/26 to Admty).

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War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

O.N.131. In view of C.T.U.24.1.13. 1705/25 intend unless otherwise ordered to sail RIPLEY as temporary reinforcement O.N.131. Ship will sail 1100/26 and should contact convoy a.m./27th and will be ordered to remain as necessary, detaching to Argentina.
(C.C.N.F. 0029Z/26 to C.T.24. RIPLEY, N.S.H.Q. C.in C. U.S.Fleet Admty, C.O.A.C. C. in C.W.A. C.T.U. 24.1.13).

U/B Positions. C.E.S.F. in his despatch 2040/25, informs as follows: S/M Estimate 0800Q/25.
(Comnav, 0706/26 to Admty).

Air Report. Operations 25/9, times G.M.T.(B) A/S Sorties 26. 5 U/Boat sightings by 113 Squadron. (1) 0145 position VMCE 3712. (2) 1117 position SPJA 0050 (3) 1300 position SPJA 1855. (4) 2002 ANEG 2013 position DCNA 3424

At 0145 sighting attack made, believed successful. At 2013 sighting attack made, believed good.
Other sightings made when aircraft too far from U/Boat for attack.
(H.Q.E.A.C.Halifax 0710Z/26).

Tankers at Aruba & Curacao. Admty 1806A/6. Tracings and data sheets of oil loading facilities sent to S.B.N.O. W.A. only. Tabulated list of arrivals, departures and movements between 28/8 and 3/9 to S.B.N.O.W.A. and Admty. Ref. para 3 (G) in order to load all ships scheduled for white oil it was necessary to utilize all 3 berths in Bullen Bay. No 2 berth only is adequately protected by nets and coastal craft patrol Bay day and night. This is not considered entirely satisfactory. Under circumstances it was decided to take this risk. Caracas Bay at that date was not protected and patrol craft were used here when necessary. Net protection here is now completed.
(B.S.N.O. Curacao 0925QR/26)

Convoy C.P.1. List - 4 ships.
(S.B.N.O. Curacao 0932QR/26 to Admty).

NEWCASTLE. Connav's 1345/25 addressed for action to Alusnob Recife, and for information to Comnav, Admty, and Comsolant, informs as follows:-
Admiralty 1651/21, Route NEWCASTLE via Bermuda to New York.
(Comnav 0944/26 to Admty).

/Movements...

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War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.Movements
Summary.

1800 G.M.T./26

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
Convoy T.9.	30° 37' W.	053°	9
PENELOPE.	44½° 42' W.	062°	17

(D.O.D.(F) 1110Z/26 to Opnav (R) Connaveu).

SKEENA
O.N.131.

My 1830Z/25. Am searching vicinity 053° N. 041° W. for life boat. Am now able use contaminated fuel and will search until dark. Weather report. (SKEENA 1146Z/26 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 1032Z/26 (N.T. in W.D.) SKEENA reports now in close vicinity searching to prudent limit of endurance. (C.T.U. 24.1.13 1255Z/26 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).
O.N.131. At 1146Z/26 SKEENA reports he is searching area 53° N.41° W. for life boats and will continue to search until dark. This answers your 1032Z/26 (N.T. in W.D.).

(C.T.24, 1649Z/26 to C.T.U. 24.1.13 (R) Cominch C.and R. Admty, C. in C.W.A. N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F.).

My 1146Z/26. Lifeboat not recovered but presume rescue effected by some other light vessel. Was in communication with lifeboat continuously from mid-day until dusk when he reported sighting ship with one stack. Transmissions then ceased. P.C.S. at 2000 G.M.T. 052° 22' N. 041° 25' W. 234° 13 knots. Weather report.

(SKEENA 2320Z/26 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).

W.D.Note. Lifeboat considered suspicious see F.O.N.F. 1906Z /28.

U/B.

My 0320Z/25th (a) U-Boat sighted on the surface by aircraft (b) 4 depth charges dropped bracketing conning tower. Helm still visible after attack (c) depth charge explosion not seen (d) no result observed. (C.O.A.C.Halifax 1241Z/26 to A.I.G. 301, Connav (R) C.T.F.24. Admiralty C. in C.W.A.,N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.O.A.C.Halifax C.T.G. 24.7).

SALISBURY.

Your 1042Z/26th.(N.T. in W.D.) My P.C.S are at 0900 047° 12' N. 060° 38' W. 082° 8 knots. Course of convoy was altered to 204° at 1800 last night on ice being reported ahead by aircraft. At 2000 GEORGIAN attacked submarine astern convoy, consider driven off. (SALISBURY. 1245Z/26 to N.O.I.C.Gaspe (R) C.O.A.C. N.S.H.Q. N.O.I.C.Sydney, C.B).

MONTE GORBEA
survivors.

Spanish Govt. is sending SS. MONTE ALTUB now at Demerara to Martinique to embark survivors of SS.MONTE GORBEA for passage to Spain. She should leave Demerara within next 48 hours.

Spanish Govt. request U.S.Naval Authorities be informed. (N.A.Madrid 1315/26 to Admty).

PENNMAR.

GEORGE M.
BIBB reports picking up 87 survivors of PENNMAR. (C.T.G. 24.6. 1340Z/6 to C. in C.W.A.(R) C.T.24. C. in C.U.S.Fleet, C. in C.Atlantic Fleet).

/REGENT....

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

REGENT. F.O.C.N.A's 1040/25 and Admty 0011/25 Navy Dept. request you issue necessary orders to REGENT to comply with my 1517/24 reporting intentions to Cominch before sailing.
(2) Any further intelligence regarding enemy fuelling activities in the area will be passed to you and REGENT S.B.N.O.W.A. pass to REGENT.
(B.A.D. 1359Z/26 to S.B.N.O.W.A.(R) Admty, REGENT .F.O.C.N.A.)

Wreck of ANTINOUS. Ref. S.B.N.O. Trinidad's 1012Q/25 and 1032Q/25, request you will arrange for promulgation by Q message.
(Hydrographer 1410A/26 to S.B.N.O.W.A.).

O.N.132 U/Bs. *See also p. 775* D/F bearings between 1126Z and 1250Z indicate possibility of several U-Boats being in vicinity of O.N.132.
(D.D.I.C. 1450A/26 to Escorts O.N.132 (R) C. in C. W.A. Cominch etc).

Chesapeake Bay. Q.J.A. 653. Details of danger area.
(C.N.S. Ottawa 1543Z/26).

U/B Positions. S/M estimates 26/9 and U.S. Submarine notice.
(C. in C.U.S. Fleet, 1605/26, 1607/26, 1608/26, 1609/26, 1610/26).

Canadian Warships Completing. Your 2309Z/23. Agreement appears equitable and is a satisfactory outcome to difficult negotiations.
(Head of M. Approved 1st S.L. 1651A/26 to B.A.D.(R) N.S.H.Q.):

ILEX. ILEX sailed Charleston 1600Z/26th for Key West. Route. (a) 030° 24' N. 081° 17' W.
(b) 028° 39'. 080° 15' (c) 025° 48' 080°.
S. of A. 22 knots. E.T.A. Key West 2000Z/27th.
(C.S.A. Charleston 1712Z/26 to Admty).

Georgetown Shipping. B.A.D.'s 2235Z/25. (re B.R.O. Georgetown cancelled all sailings due to S/M attacks). Concur. B.R.O. Georgetown should be instructed accordingly.
(D.T.D. Approved A.C.N.S. (T) 1724A/26 to S.B.N.O.W.A.)
See also 2222/27.

MARYMAR U/B. U.S. Ship MARYMAR reported 1525 G.C.T./24. S/M attack in 007° 37' N. 058° 18' W.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 1728A/26 to Admty). No attack. Sunken mast. See 1241R/27.

/OLAF....

War Diary.

26.9.1942.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

OLAF C.T. 24 1329Z/26. Have on board all Officers and crew (?including) Master, Aksel Fostenes, total 36, of Norwegian Motor Ship OLAF FOSTENES. Ship was sunk (?by) 2 U-Boats in 044° 56' N. 041° 05' W. at 0700Z/18. FIREDRAKE has (?contacted) S.C.102.
(FIREDRAKE 1745Z/26, to Connav (R) C.T.F. 24 Admty etc).
My 1745Z/26. E.T.A. St.Johns N.F. from 0600Z. Request boat may be sent outside boom to take off survivors. No cot cases. R.D.F beacon at 0130.
(FIREDRAKE 2359Z/26 to N.O.I.C.St.Johns N.F.(R) GREENWICH.)

→ STONESTREET. Your 1805/24. B.R.O. New York states Commodore's report indicates STONESTREET (Pan.) detached from O.N. 127 with boiler trouble and ordered to St.Johns N.F. N.C.S.O. St.Johns N.F. 1255/25 refers.(N.T. in W.D.) (N.S.H.Q. 1814Z/26 to Admty).
See also next page

Dakar B.A.D.1833Z/26. See South Atlantic.
Intelligence.

A/C Attack on U/B. Following received addressed A/C C/S unknown from ? YX8 Attack enemy S/M in position 8 miles Wabana Bay.
(Halifax W/T 1903/26 to C. in C.W.A. E.C.Londonderry T.G.24.7).

S/M Contact Wabana Bay at 1826/26th.
(C.O.A.C. 2002Z/26 to GB7A).

S/M Attack and Sighting Summary. → Para.A. STONESTREET torpedoed and sunk 48.18 N. 39.43.W. 1345Z/13. REEDPOOL sunk 08.58 N. 57.34.W. 1215Z/20. NEW YORK sunk 54.34 N. 24.44 W. 25/9. Navy planes attack S/Ms 59.08 N. 26 W. 1650Z/24 and 58.56 N. 25.37 W. 1858Z/24.
Para.B. Plane sights C/T 34.20 N. 76.45 W. 1305Z/25.
Para.C. Surface craft sights S/M 38.51 N. 67.45 W. 1855Z/25. Plane sights S/M on surface 47.34 N. 62.36 W. 2001Z/25. DD Attacks sound contact 18.30 N. 66.11 W. 2110Z/26. Panam. Plane sights S/M on surface 14.47 N. 38.41 W. 1400Z/25. S/Ms sighted 16.28 N. 58.44 W. 1333Z/26 and 19.50 N.75.10 W. 1258Z/26.
(Cominch 1910/26 to Admty for O.I.C.).

Ships Proceed-Your 1904/24. No limitations as to length and draught. Vessels should be sent to Halifax where Gut of Canso. they will be included in H.S.Convoys to be detached off Canso to proceed through Gut. Arrangements will be made for vessels to join S.H.Convoys from Gut on return journey.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2009Z/26 to Admty) Amplified by 1558/27 q.v.

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War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies - Contd.

SEVERN.

My 2152/11th A.M. 0111/15 SEVERN, will now be ready to sail from Philadelphia 30/9 and from New London for Portsmouth England on 17/10.
(B.A.M.R. 2018Z/26).

O.N.132.
U/Bs.*See p. 773*

D/F Bearings up to 1740Z, indicate several U-Boats in contact with convoy O.N.132.
(D.D.I.C. 2024A/26 to Escorts O.N.132).

30th M.L.
Flotilla.

B.A.D. Washington 1705/25 and my 1909/17. (Unallocated spare Hall Scott engines not available in U.S.A. for sometime. Alternative (B) delay 30th M.L. Flotilla in U.S.A.) If alternative B is adopted all buoys should be slipped and hull repairs carried out where necessary concurrent with engine overhauls and Flotilla would thus arrive Trinidad as a fully efficient unit. It is anticipated that Flotilla can be released from St. Johns on 10/10.
(F.O.N.F. 2025Z/26 to Admty).

U/B
Campaign.

Connav Serial 26. PENNMAR serial 23 sunk.
STONESTREET sunk 13/9 convoy O.N.127, 48.18 N. 39.43 W. REEDPOOL torpedoed sunk 20/9 08.58 N. (757). 34 W. NEW YORK U.S. River SS. torpedoed sunk 25/9 54.34 N. 24.44 W. Convoy R.B.1.
(Connav 2055/26 to Comnav) *See previous page.*

QUEEN MARY
A.T.24.

Sailing Telegram
(Port Director, New York. 2132/26 to Cominch C. and R)

P.555

My 1432/25th P.555 delayed about 6 days with defective air compressor.
(S.B.N.O.W.A. 2152Z/26).

U/Bs.

Coast Watcher reports suspicious object believed S/M 047° 38' N. 052° 37' W at 2215Z/26 headed North.
(?C.O.A.C. 2326Z/26 to C. in C.W.A. E.C. Londonderry)
Shore Observer reports suspicious black (corrupt group) believed S/M in 049° 15' N. 066° 00' W. at 1955Z.
(C.O.A.C. 2359Z/26 to C. in C.W.A. C.T.G. 24.7.(R) Admty)

War Diary.26.9.1942.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand.CAP DES
PALMES.Arrival 0105Z/26 and departure 0405Z/26, escorted
by CHEVREUIL.
(N.L.O.Vila 0409Z/26.)Situation.

Serial No.247. Reports Buin Faisi Tonolei Harbour area 25/9 indicate enemy force operating include 4 possible heavy cruisers, 3 light cruisers (3 funnels) 11 destroyers, 5 gunboats, 2 seaplane tenders 1 minelayer 1 tanker, 6 other vessels including supply ships.

(2) Small steamer arrived Buka passage from West Coast Buka Island morning 25/9, later departed for South. 1 destroyer, 1, 7,000 ton transport, 1 small steamer reported this area 0947Z/25.

(3) R/C Rabaul Harbour 25/9 reported 30 to 40 ships in Harbour. 2 other vessels off Cape Taivui heading towards Rabaul 25/9.

(4) Patrol activity continues Salamaua area.

(5) 2 merchant ships probably erroneously reported 8° 30' S. 148° 20' E. by air R/C morning 25/9. Fortresses detailed attack after thorough search failed locate target, dropped bombs Buna aerodrome.

(6) 1 Beaufighter made R/C Buna Manbare river area 25/9. Nil activity observed Buna aerodrome. Buildings strafed Ambasi but no activity observed.

(7) 6 Kittyhawks bombed and strafed Wairopi area 25/9 scoring 1 direct hit and 2 partial hits on bridge one-fourth of which completely destroyed. Several huts set on fire.

(8) Enemy reported in considerable strength near Menari (10 miles N.N.W.Ioribaiwa). Also indications track being developed this area. Allied patrols continue penetration enemy positions.

(9) 3 Hudsons attacked buildings Dilli area 25/9. Interception by 4 zeros, 2 of which probably shot down.

(10) Night 24-25/9, 2 raids Darwin area. 2 aircraft believed responsible each attack. Damage negligible.

(11) Enemy aircraft again sighted approx 260 miles WNW Broome by allied patrol aircraft 25/9. B.A.D.Washington pass to Opnav. (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0756Z/26 to Admty etc).

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.S/Ms Reported.Approx.positions
(D.D.I.C. 1510A/26, 1541A/26)

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War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

10th C.S.

All 6 inch cruisers in the Home Fleet will form the 10th C.S. as from 4/10 and R.A. C.H.J.Harcourt, C.B.E. has been appointed R.A.Commanding.

ROTHER (20th Escort Group), now operating near Convoy O.N.S. 132 attacked a U-Boat at 1550Z today in approx. 53° 20' N. 29° 26' W, and reports a hit by gunfire before the conning tower. ROTHER was unable to turn short enough to ram, but the U-Boat dived in the centre of a 50 ft. pattern which appeared to lift her out of the water, the stem disappearing at an angle of 75°.

South Atlantic.

An unknown ship made an "S" report at 1105 G.M.T. in 24.55 S. 21.51 W.a S/M or S/MS were reported on the surface jamming.

Two Brazilian ships, SS. OZORIO and LAGES were torpedoed at 2330Z today in 0° 13' N. 47° 45' W. (approaches to the Amazon)

East Indies.

SS. ERNE BANK reported having been attacked unsuccessfully by torpedo at 0954 in 18.54 N. 68.38 E.(Arabian Sea about 260 miles W. of Bombay)

CROMER, CROMARTY and ROMNEY of 14th M.S.F, which have been operating for several weeks in the East Indies command on passage to the Mediterranean from U.K. sailed this afternoon from Kilindini for Aden, to strengthen the A/S Forces in the Gulf of Aden.

America & West Indies

SS.QUEEN MARY carrying troops sailed from New York today for the U.K.

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War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia & New Zealand.

One of 6 Fortresses detailed to attack Rabaul harbour early this morning made one direct hit and one near miss on a 12,000 to 15,000 ton merchant ship.

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War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

R.A.C. Rear Admiral C.H.J. Harcourt C.B.E. has been
 10. C.S. appointed R.A.C. 10th. C.S. to date 4th. October
 V.A.C. 1942. His flag should be hoisted on that date
 18. C.S. in such ship as you may select and transferred to
 flagship of 10th C.S. the following day.
 The flag of V.A.C. 18th. C.S. should be struck at
 sunset on the 4th. October 1942 when the 18th. C.S. will cease
 to exist.
 All 6 inch Cruisers in H.F. will form the 10th C.S. as from
 4/10/42.
 (Head of M. 0034A/27 to C. in C. H.F.)

INAKI. Following may be met and is not to be molested.
 Panamanian ship INAKI sailed Lisbon p.m. 26th.
 for Holyhead via. A 040° 20' N 011° 10' W.
 B 043° 30' 012° 30'. C 049° 10' 012° 20'
 thence Fastnet Rock. S of A 8 knots.
 (F.O.S. 0817A/27 to S/MS.)

Clyde. The (?following) A/C Carriers are working in Clyde
 Request or are expected shortly: FURIOUS, ARGUS, BITER,
 for DASHER, PEGASUS and ACTIVITY. Crash boats are
 additional required on all occasions of flying.
 craft. (2) The patrol of Clyde loop and these crash
 boat duties have all to be undertaken at the
 present time by M.Ls 234, 249 and 445, all 3 of
 which cannot be kept continually in service. C. in C. W.A.
 1259A/11 refers.
 (3) It is again requested that 10 craft may be allocated to
 (?Capt. i/c) at a very early date unless delay in working up of
 A/C Carriers can be accepted.
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1736A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

Movements.

WORCESTER On completion of D.G. ranging at 1145 today take
 MACKAY MACKAY under your orders and proceed passing Hoxa
 to Harwich via swept channels to pass Flamborough
 Head at 0400/28.
 (R.A.D. 0200A/27 to WORCESTER.)
 My 0200A/27. Sailed. E.T.A. 1300/28.
 (R.A.D. 1226A/27.)

CHESTERFIELD. Admty. 2340A/26. Intend sailing CHESTERFIELD to
 Humber 1600A/27, E.T.A. Cape Wrath 1100A/28,
 Dunnet Head 1400A/28, Rattray Head 1900A/28,
 St. Abbs Head 0130A/29, Spurn Head 1330A/29.
 Speed 15 knots to Dunnet Head, thence 18 knots.
 (N.O.I.C. Belfast 0315A/27.)

P.614. My 1021/26. ^{P.754}sailed.
 P.615. (S.O. S/M Lerwick 0702A/27 to A.C.O.S.)
PRESTON NORTH
END.

/ACHATES...

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

- ACHATES. Sailed ACHATES wearing flag of S.B.N.O. North Russia. E.T.A. Dvina Bar 0700C/28. (S.B.N.O. North Russia 0840^h/27.)
- BROKE. Proceed passing Switha at 1200A today to Liverpool via Minches and North Channel. (R.A.D. 0939A/27 to BROKE.) My 0939A/27. Sailed. E.T.A. 1400/28. (R.A.D. 1227A/27.)
- CURACOA. When DELHI is ready for service C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail CURACOA for Scapa to carry out A.A. practices. 2. C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail her to arrive Belfast on 24/10. (D.O.D.(H.) 1335A/27.)
- ASHANTI. Proceed passing Switha at 1800 today to Rosyth via MARTIN. swept channels for boiler cleaning and minor repairs. (R.A.D. 1356A/27 to ASHANTI.) Scapa departure 1802 ASHANTI. Scapa arrival 1941 MARTIN. (A.C.O.S. 1948/27.)
- A.F.D.19. Your 1313/26. In view of A.M. 2140/21 and the fact that I am now providing escorts for C.E. and C.W. convoys, regret no destroyers can be made available to proceed beyond Spithead. (2) I intend to provide one destroyer and one corvette for the passage between Sheerness and Spithead when towing will be nearest to enemy coast. If number of vessels available permits the corvette can continue to Lands End. This will be decided on 3/10. (3) One destroyer from this command will be at Portsmouth from 4th to 7th October between arrival of C.W.125 and departure C.E. 123. She is available to assist you or C. in C. Portsmouth as desired. (4) Speed of towing is expected to be 6 knots. Suggest consideration be given to onward passage from Spithead in P.W. convoy if weather is suitable. (C. in C. Nore 1426A/27 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- Drifters Admty. 2234/28/8 and N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0930/30/8. for Request information as to when these drifters Iceland. will be sailed to Iceland. (A.C.I.C. 1604A/27 to A.C.O.S.)
- 134th (Pink List)*
~~134th~~ H.D.M.L. Admty. 1835A/30/8 and 2030A/21, para (3). Flotilla 1. Sailed FLUELLEN (S.O. of escort) HORATIO, for STROMA and OTHELLO escorting 13th. H.D.M.L. Gibraltar. Flotilla comprising M.Ls 1210 (S.O.) 1130, 1131, 1134, 1146, 1162, 1235 and 1237. S of A 8 knots. Codeword "Bucket". (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1615A/27.)

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

TASAJERA Your 1830/25. TASAJERA, MISOA and BACHAQUERO
MISOA are required to load on the Mersey on 13/10.
BACHAQUERO (D.O.D. (H.) 1704A/27.)

TRITON, The following vessels at present under conversion
QUERCIA, are required to arrive Clyde not later than 14/10.
TRANSVAAL, Request you will sail them to conform. They are
LAPERGERIA, to be stored and provisioned to the capacity of
YTHAN BRAES, available stowage.
INVERCLYDE. (D.O.D. (H.) 1913A/27 to F.O.I.C. London.)

Operations.

Search Intend KRAKOWIAK at 0330/27 to conform with
for C. in C. Plymouth's 2305/26.
Airmen. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 0013/27 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
 On reaching 50° 07' N KRAKOWIAK and M.Ls 491 and
 195 are to sweep on course 090° for 20 miles.

Other destroyers return to (PA. = Signification 17). M.Ls 181
and 488 proceed to position E. Remainder of M.Ls return to
(QY. = Signification 28).
(C. in C. Plymouth 0947A/27 to ALBRIGHTON, CLEVELAND, BLEASDALE,
GLAISDALE, KRAKOWIAK.)

Patrols. My 1540/26 para 3. M.T.B. patrol cancelled.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 0037A/27.)
 Intend M.Ls 123 and 303 to patrol on Lat. 50°
20' N between 1° 35' and 2° 10' W tonight, leaving Weymouth at
1930 and leaving patrol at dawn/28.
 (F.O.I.C. Portland 1055A/27.)
 Tonight M.T.Bs 55, 49, 50 patrolling 050° 15' N 000° 20' W.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 1055/27.)
 My 1055A/27 para 1, amend patrol to read. "On 50° 20' N
between 1° 45' and 2° 30' W, leaving Weymouth at 1900/27".
 (F.O.I.C. Portland 1315A/27.)
 Sail available M.Ls at 1900 today to take up patrol S.3.
returning to Dartmouth at daylight.
2. Object to intercept E-Boats minelaying or attacking east of
westbound convoys.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1609A/27 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
M.Ls 149 and 150 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton
and N.E. Spit Buoys, E.T.D. 1945, E.T.R. 0625/28. M.Ls 139
and 137 near C.l. Buoy. M.G.B. 107 and M.T.Bs 38 and 219 from
Ramsgate patrolling in vicinity of Nieuport Bank, M.G.Bs 13, 6
and 7 near V Buoy, E.T.D. 1945, E.T.R. 0600/28.
(V.A. Dover 1708A/27.)

N.W. (1) Leave patrol after dark tonight for Lerwick
Norway routed as follows. TIGRIS through (a) 069° 25'
S/M 011° 59'. (b) 068° 50' 010° 01'. (c) 091°
Patrol. Out Skerries 5 miles. TRIBUNE through (b) and (c).
 (11) S/Ms are to proceed diving by day only West
 of 010° East, thence on surface at C.O. discretion.
 (Capt. S.9. 1123A/27 to TIGRIS, TRIBUNE.)

TIGRIS and TRIBUNE may encounter U-Boats returning to
Norwegian bases from westward.
(F.O.S. 1402A/27.)

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - Contd.

Faroes
M.L.
Patrols. Weather permitting establish an M.L. patrol on a line 120° from Lille Dimon distant from 10 to 50 miles from 2100 today until 1000/28.
(A.C.O.S. 1245/27 to N.O.I.C. Faroese.)
My 1901/27. Returned to harbour due to stress of weather.
(N.O.I.C. Faroese 2039A/27 to A.C.O.S.)

20th
E.G. My 2059/26. EXE sailed to rejoin you.
(A.C.I.C. 1320A/27 to STORK.)
Situation report at 2000.
20th Escort Group, STORK (S.O.) reinforcing

O.N.S.132.
(C. in C. W.A. 1356A/27.)
Arrived VANOC, SCIMITAR, SALADIN.
(Cdre. Londonderry 2358A/27.)

Allied Air Activity.

Operation
"Pheasant" Decision regarding "Pheasant" will be made at 1600.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1229A/27 to H.Q.B.C. etc.)
Postpone "Pheasant" 24 hours.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1603A/27.)

Bomber
Command
operations. On night 26/27, one A/C bombed shipyards at Flensburg and 39 A/C laid mines.
(H.Q.B.C. 1505A/27.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Iceland. One four engined enemy aircraft sighted from Vatterpares 064° 56' N 013° 40' W at 1612A/27.
Course S, cloud three-tenths, 2000 feet, visibility 30 miles.
(A.C.I.C. 1719A/27.)

Mining.

M.S.N.3. My 0014/25. Sea condition impossible for at least next 24 hours even if weather moderates.
Proceeding Loch Eriball.
(M/S.15 1136A/27 to R.A.M.)
Arrived PLOVER.
(N.O.I.C. Loch Alsh 1412/27.)

Western
Channel
Sweep. Area swept extended to line joining 50° 22' 54" N 3° 09' 36" W, 50° 29' 06" N 02° 44' 36" W.
Two mines detonated in 50° 25' 54" N 02° 58' 18" W, 50° 26' 00" N 02° 57' 24" W.
(ELGIN 1845A/27 and 1747A/28.)

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.

U-Boat attacked. One sub. being attacked by ROTHER bearing 310° convoy 8. Position of convoy 053° 20' N 029° 26' W.
(STORK 1550Z/27.)

My 1550Z/27. Submarine surfacing 1000 yards on beam of ROTHER who claims hit by gunfire before conning tower. In prevailing weather ROTHER was unable to turn short enough to ram, but (?submarine) dived in centre of 50 foot pattern which appeared to lift her out of the water, stern disappearing at angle of 75°. Condition unsuitable for asdic. ROTHER remained in the vicinity until 1800N. Weather 3468 1668.
(STORK 1715Z/27 to Admty.)

Technical.

RENOWN armament. Your 1914/26. Opportunity should be taken for RENOWN to exchange 15-inch c.r.h. H.E. shell for 5/10 H.E. shell. 120 HEDA shell and 30 HETF shell will be available at Crombie. Practice or APC shell should be disembarked if necessary to afford the requisite stowage.
(D.O.D.(H.) 1321A/27 to C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.

M.L.309. Sailed my 1305A/26 less M.L.309 delayed by serious hull defect. Estimated time of completion 10 days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0925A/27.)

DEFOE. Sail SARDONYX at best speed to join tug BUSTLER searching for SS. DEFOE damaged and abandoned.
(2) Last position reported by aircraft 51° 00' N 18° 10' W at 0620A/26.

(C. in C. W.A. 1111A/27 to Cdre. Londonderry.) *~~2~~ A786

Detach one escort vessel to join tug BUSTLER searching for DEFOE damaged and abandoned. Last position reported by aircraft 51° 00' N 18° 10' W at 0620A/26. A homing procedure should be carried out in accordance with W A S O 248 if necessary.

(C. in C. W.A. 1524A/27 to BLACK SWAN.)

Have searched a wide area around all positions indicated. No trace of vessel. Will now have to abandon search owing to recurrence of engine defects. Returning towards Clyde.

(BUSTLER 1715/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

Have been detached in accordance with your 1524A/27. My P.C.S. 051° 42' N 015° 34' W, 240°, 12 knots. Maximum endurance 5 days.

(MYOSOTIS 1900A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

GOLDEN CROWN. (?GOLD CROWN.) GOLDEN CROWN is a constructive total loss but the entire hull can be scrapped and all machinery of value recovered from shore. Vessel is extensively damaged but is high and dry 2 hours after high water top spring tides.
2119-b.612. (C.S.V.O. Lyness 1440/27 to A.C.O.S.)

War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

3 Rafts. Have found 2 rafts in 062° 18' N 014° 54' W. No trace of survivors. (KINGSTON AGATE 1505A/27 to A.C.O.S.) Have picked up further raft in 062° 15' N 014° 52' W. (KINGSTON AGATE 1645A/27 to A.C.O.S.)

EMPIRE STOUR. EMPIRE STOUR ex S.C.100 arrived Oban 0815/27 damaged. Expects to be ready to proceed in about 2 days. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1515A/27.)

EMPIRE HARTEBEESTE. Your 1429Z/27. Position 1700 G.M.T. Rathlin Island proceeding Oban landing survivors there at 0600 G.M.T./28. Insufficient life-saving material for survivors. Proceeding then at once for Loch Ewe. Inform Oban to disembark 25 men on arrival. (NORHAUK 1830Z/27.)

LOUISBURG PRESCOTT WOODSTOCK LOUISBURG, PRESCOTT and WOODSTOCK can be taken in hand forthwith in the Humber area for:
(a) Fitting Oerlikons on Mark IV mountings to complete to a total of 6.
(b) Work required to improve firstly R.D.F. and secondly A.S. equipment that can be carried out concurrently with item (a). Commodore Londonderry's 1627/25 refers.
2. The ships are required to be in the Clyde ready for service on 22/10.
3. On completion of refit ships should be sailed for Tobermory for working up practices if time permits or if not direct to Greenock. (D.O.D. (H.) 1857A/27.)

BARFLAKE. Owing to small defects the sailing of BARFLAKE is delayed. (C. in C. Plymouth 2146A/27.)

Shipping and Convoys.

Q.P.14. P.Q.18. Following is PALOMARES 0931/26 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea. Begins. E.T.A. Loch Ewe 1400A/26 in PALOMARES with POZARICA, ALYNBANK, LOTUS, POPPY, DIANELLA, LA MALOUINE, NORTHERN GEM, LORD AUSTIN, Rescue Ship RATHLIN, ZAMALEK and 10 ships of Q.P.14 in company. Owing to shortage of fuel intend to leave convoy off entrance to Loch Ewe with POZARICA, ALYNBANK, LA MALOUINE, POPPY and proceed to Belfast, LA MALOUINE, POPPY being detached for Liverpool and Londonderry as necessary.

Situation as regards remainder of escorts is as follows.

Ship.	Destination.	No. of survivors on board.	Days of fuel remaining.	Days of foodstuffs remaining.
H.M.S. LOTUS	London	8	7	5
DIANELLA	London	11	3	2
NORTHERN GEM	Aberdeen	77	2	Nil
LORD AUSTIN	Grimsby	43	2½	4

/Propose...

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys ~~---T---~~

Q.P.14. Propose that survivors in escorts proceeding to
P.Q.18. Loch Ewe be landed, and ships stored and fuelled
Contd. before proceeding in accordance with C. in C. W.A.
1234A/22. Ends.
(C. in C. W.A. 0245A/27 to Admty.)
My 0952A/25. CAMPFIRE refloated and in harbour.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel 0746A/27.)
Sailed LEINSTER for Clyde in accordance with Admty. 2151A/22
15 knots. E.T.A. 0430/28. Also ZAMALEK 12 knots E.T.A. 1200/28.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1030A/27.)
Destination WINSTON SALEM is altered to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A. 1112A/27 to MARTIN.)
The safe arrival of 27 ships in P.Q.18 and the return of
14 ships in Q.P.14 after such powerful and protracted opposition
is a great achievement which redounds to the credit of all who
planned and took part in the operations. Please convey our
congratulations to Naval, R.A.F. and Merchant Navy personnel
concerned in this spirited defence in such arduous conditions.
The submarine and aircraft patrols, together with the great
flight of the T/B squadrons and the persistent work of the P.R.U.
aircraft, contributed largely to the result.
2. The Prime Minister wishes to associate himself with this
signal.
(1st. S.L. 1113A/27 to C. in C. H.F. A.O.C. C.C.)
Request amended destination WINSTON SALEM to Clyde be passed
to escort and ship named.
(D.T.D. 1158A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
WINSTON SALEM arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1440A/27.)
E.T.A. 1900A/27. Following survivors on board from
EMPIRE BEAUMONT, AFRIKANDER, OLIVER ELLSWORTH, OREGONIAN. Details
A.F.O. 2901/41.
(MARTIN 1510A/27 to A.C.O.S.) *End: Scapa Imp 780*
My 1421/20. Banak, Luostari, Kirkenes, Rovaniemi,
Kemijarvi, Alakurtti Aerodromes attacked on 3 nights when
weather permitted. Over 60 bomber sorties made. Recent
captured German Pilot stated 30 Me.109F type on (?Banak)
aerodrome during raid 15/9.
Eina Bay Ribachi heavily bombed on 22/9 2 Ju.87 brought down.
One Lagg fighter lost during raid on Vaenga same day. 2
(corrupt group) torpedoes dropped Alten Fjord by D.B.3 bombers
on 22/9. No hits claimed.
6 landing craft reported in Kirkenes. Chuka Class submarine
ineffectively attacked by U-Boat off Nordkin. Another Chuka
claims torpedoed patrol vessel sinking not yet confirmed.
No change in land front, but small groups of German deserters
reported.
(S.B.N.O..North Russia 1543A/27.)
Scapa arrivals 1901 OAKLEY, COWDRAY, WINDSOR and R.F.A.
BLUE RANGER.
(A.C.O.S. 1927/27.)

SANDHILL. Intend sailing SANDHILL escorted by VISENDA at
0300/28 for Faroes. E.T.A. 0600/29.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 0930A/27.)

/Meeting...

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War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Meeting procedure. Ref. W.A.C.I's part 110.
Local escorts have experienced difficulty in meeting homeward-bound convoys at night or in low visibility especially when the signalled E.T.A. of the convoy at 55° 35' N 07° 00' W is on D.R. The following procedure is therefore to be used:-
(A) F.O.I.C. Liverpool will inform the S.O. escort of the name of the local escort detailed for Liverpool portion.
(B) If it is estimated that the convoy will be in a position between 07° 00' W and Altacarry in daylight, based on the signalled E.T.A. at 07° 00' W. a daylight R/V will be ordered.
(C) If it is estimated that the convoy will be in this area in dark hours, or in the event of low visibility, the local escorts will proceed to 000° Altacarry 3 miles. As soon as the S.O. escort with the convoy has obtained a good fix he is to communicate position course and speed of the convoy direct to the local escort who will await convoy off Altacarry.
(C. in C. W.A. 1211Z/27 to W.A.G.M. 438 N.)

Convoy O.N.133. YORKTOWN Lifeboat and rafts. One lifeboat and four rafts containing 50 men alive and well within few miles of each other. Position 55° 33' N 18° 57' W. (A/C D.F.3.V 1335/27.) 1335 from aircraft. FOWEY proceeding to rescue. (2) My noon position 051° 17' N 015° 48' W. Speed 7 knots.

(BLACK SWAN 1423A/27.)

Detach one corvette to proceed at best speed to assist one lifeboat and 4 rafts reported by A/C in 55° 33' N 18° 57' W at 1335/27.

(C. in C. W.A. 1449A/27 to C.T.U. 24.1.11.)

My 1111/27 is cancelled. Proceed at best speed to assistance of survivors referred to in my 1449/27 addressed 24.1.11. The corvette is required to return to her convoy as soon as possible. If survivors are not recovered by her your are to continue the search.

(C. in C. W.A. 1506A/27 to SARDONYX.)

Pass through 55° 33' N 18° 57' W where one lifeboat and four rafts were located by aircraft at 1335/27.

(C. in C. W.A. 1544A/27 to SABRE.)

Flame floats by each of four rafts dropping flames and markers every 6 miles bearing 091° from fix 55.05 N 17.10 W.

(A/C DF3.V 1545/27.)

Lifeboat 55° 01' N 17° 06' W course 360°. 3 men raft 55° 05' N 17.10 W. 20 men raft 55° 09' N 17° 12' W. Two 15 men rafts 55° 10' N 17° 08' W.

(A/C DF3.V. 1600/27.)

My 1544/27. Amended position is 055° 05' N 017° 10' W.

(C. in C. W.A. 1642A/27 to SABRE.)

Your 1111A/27. Sailed SARDONYX. ~~2~~ p. 783.

(Cdre. Londonderry 1703A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Tankers...

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- Tankers. Your 2101/26. Request SCOTTISH MUSICIAN, SAN UBALDO and SAN ZOTICO be despatched to U.K. as soon as possible, preferably with cargoes of fuel any S.G. but in ballast if U.S.N. 08 required the fuel.
(D. of Stores 1359A/27 to A.C.I.C.)
- O.N.S. Commencing with O.N.S. 136 Senior Officer escort
convoy with O.N.S. convoys is to report E.T.A. 17° W
reports. on crossing 11° W.
2. Signal is to be prefixed Immediate and addressed to Commodore Londonderry, repeated C. in C. W.A. and Escorts due to sail late to overtake.
(C. in C. W.A. 1547A/27 to Cdre. Londonderry.)
- North Amendment No.80 to M.A.R.I. Cancel Section II
Atlantic. para 14.
Independent Add to Section II para 12 new sub-para 5. Ships
ships. sailing independently for entire voyage to a destination on North American Atlantic seaboard should be given instructions for entering two alternative ports example ship with destination New York should have instructions for entering Boston and Delaware River.
(D.T.D. 1637A/27 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)
- R.U.42. Request route for R.U.42. E.T.D. now 29/9.
(N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1652A/27 to C. in C. W.A.)
- R.U.42. My 2130/26. EMPIRE BELL sank in 062° 18' N
EMPIRE 015° 30' W at 1530A/25. Submarine not sighted.
BELL No escort in company with convoy at time. 27
sunk survivors picked up by LYSAKER IV and landed at
on 25/9. Reykjavik. Following ten are missing, majority
believed killed by explosion instantaneously.
Names.
(A.C.I.C. 1715A/27.)
- W.S.23. Sailed BEAGLE to comply with C. in C. W.A.
1457A/24 para 3.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1946A/27.)

War Diary.27.9.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

P.247. Delayed by head sea. My position 036° 32' N.
002° ? 50' W. speed 7.5 knots.
(P.247 0158A/27 to F.O.C.N.A. Capt. S.8.)
Your 0158 acknowledged. Total bombing restrictions
arranged.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0636A/27 to P.247.)
P.247 arrived.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1400A/27.)

French shipping. Passings 26/9. Westbound 0800 ~~ODJENNE~~ laden
and passengers. ALGERIE full deck cargo
timber. LE DUGUAY TROUIN trawler full.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0917/27.)

LAVORO. Your 1815/26th. Agree route. (2) I assume
ARCOLA. bearings given are true. (3) Ship will be
TAIGETE. sailing from Gibraltar in daylight.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1112A/27 to B.N.A. Madrid (R)
Admty.)

Spanish sailing vessel. My 2262/26th. Instruct master he is to be
in position (C) at the same hour as his
departure from Tenerife 7 days later.
(C.S. Gibraltar 1118A/27 to B.C. Tenerife.)

PARTHIAN. PARTHIAN from 180° Cape de Gata 10 miles at
PROTEUS. 0600A/27th proceed through 038° 52' 002° 58' E.
at 0400A/29 thence 038° 17' 009° 00' E. 150
miles a day.
2. PROTEUS shifting normal wireless watch
to Gibraltar broadcast at 0001 (?29th)
(F.O.C.N.A. 1138A/27 to 8th S/M F.)

ESSO From air sighting ESSO GETTYSBURG in (?035°) 20'
GETTYSBURG. N. (?013°) 50' W. at 1045A today 27th, course
090°. Speed 13 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1204A/27 to JONQUIL.)
Not met. Your 1204A/27th received. My P.C. and S.
(?035°) 012° 13' 090° 14. Returning westward at daylight.
Weather report 4480 2414.
(JONQUIL 1959A/27 to F.O.C.N.A.)

COETLOGAN Bahia arrival 26th p.m.
ST. BRIEUC. (Barcelona 1238/27.)

Group of Arrivals a.m. 27th LINNET, Trawlers SHIANT, EDAY,
Light Craft. INCHMARNOCK, KERRERA, CAVA, RONALDSAY escorting
103 and 114 M.M.S.F. and M.M.S.89, 47, (8 80, 9
RU L)* Salvage vessel KING SALVOR, tug EMPIRE
PAT and Dutch ship ITTERSUM.
(V.A.C.N.A. 1304A/27.) * As received.

/Gibraltar ...

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - contd.Gibraltar
Port Wave.Gibraltar Port Wave is being shifted from
1,579 k/cs to 2,333 k/cs at 1200A/28.
(D.S.D. 1654A/27.)Spanish
beach
control.I have reliable secret evidence that Spanish
Military H.Q. in Algeciras have received
instructions from Madrid that they are to
ensure that no further sabotage of British ships
from Spanish shore by enemy agents shall be
possible. I have further evidence that Spanish
beach control has been considerably strengthened
in the past few days.
(Governor Gibraltar T.O.O. Nil.)

MIRROR.

My 1248/21st. MIRROR reports instructed by
Cable & Wireless Ltd. to repair anchor damage
to 203 one mile San Miguel beach landing
completion delayed by weather.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1838A/27 to Admty.)South Atlantic.

Y.M.S.

Your 1816/10 para 2. This is confirmed.
(C. in C. S.A. 0926C/27 to Admty.)

CARTHAGE.

My 1201Z/25th. CARTHAGE leaving patrol
p.m./27 and returns Freetown.
(R.A.W.Af 1049Z/27 to CARTHAGE (R) CARNARVON
CASTLE, C. in C. S.A. Admty., N.O.I.C.
Ascension.)TREVILLEY
(sunk 12/9)My 1321Z/25th. Survivors state all crew got
away in boats but Master and Chief Engineer
were taken prisoner. Their boat had extra
sail and lost company 19th remaining boat
considered possibly nearing coast. R.A.F. continuing search.
Ship sunk by gunfire at daybreak in 004° 54' S. 007° 40' W.
by S/M at least 300 feet long. 2 guns, 4 inch forward deck,
3 inch after deck, very large square C/T with 6 8-foot booms
sticking out horizontally 2 feet below top of C/T. Gunnery
of S/M very poor. 70 - 80 shots required to sink ship at
1000 yards range. Captain German but crew considered part
Italian. No markings grey C/T and hull, black deck. Shape
of submarine on bow. TREVILLEY not boarded by S/M, C.Bs
presumed destroyed. 4 D.E.M.S. ratings survivors. Details
following in P.L. my 1057Z/27 part 2.
(N.O.I.C. Takoradi 1052Z/27 to Admty., R.A.W.A.)

/U/B distress ...

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27.9.1942.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - contd.U/B
distress.Following read by Freetown and Simonstown
W/Ts:- SSSS de (portion missed) 24° N. 55' S.
21° 51' W. T.O.R. 1105 G.M.T/27.
(Unknown* 1105/27.)

* This portion missed in transmission.

ROBERTS
AMARANTHUS.Sailed from Capetown 0755Z/27 for Pointe Noire
and Freetown. (Route) E.T.A. Pointe Noire
1100A/4/10 shift to W/T organization for Area
P. at 0600A/2/10.
(C. in C. S.A. 1130C/27 to Admty., F.O.I.C.
West Africa, B.N.L.O. Pointe Noire.)*U.S. SS. STEPHEN HOPKINS rec 1/11/42 Nav. Diary p25*W.S.22.
C.M.33
&c.My 1302/16 which has been passed to P.S.T.O.
Egypt. Following is latest position.
(P.S.T.O. Capetown 1145C/27 to D.S.T.)

Wreckage.

U.S. Ship MIRABEAU B. LAMAR sighted 22/9 in
33° 46' S. 03° 50' E. 14 large bales which
might have been rubber or hides. Markings
on bales visible and appeared fresh. 3½ hours
later (? ship) steering 120° struck another
large and similar bale.
(S.O.I.) Capetown 1146C/27 to Admty. (R)
R.A.W.A. B.A.D.)

ORISSA.

From investigations on the spot I do not
consider ORISSA is in fit state to sail with
full crew as requested by F.O.C.R.I.N. Propose
ship should be sailed with Acting Chief P.O. Mahomed Yunus
(? and 10) of the more disaffected ratings removed. These
could (?come) separately by transport.
(2) ORISSA would not then be fighting unit and would be sailing
with convoy (?26).
(3) ORTSA (?ORISSA) will be ready to sail for Durban A.M. 30/9.
(? C. in C. S.A. at East London 1301C/27 to Admty. (R) C. in C.
S.A., N.O.I.C. East London, F.O.C.R.I.N.)
Reply: F.O.C.R.I.N. 0942/28.ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.
ANTHONY.
DUNCAN.Arrival St. Helena 0700 G.M.T/27. Departure
same day 1200.
(General St. Helena 1400Z/27.)*2- p/p 791-792*
Ships from
S. Africa
to U.S.
E.Coast
ports.Admty. 2349/22, para 4. Presume this applies
to ships bound for U.K. who will now be routed
via U.S. east coast ports. Request I may be
informed which ports should be used for
bunkering and supplies.
(C. in C. S.A. 1412C/27 to Admty., (R) B.A.D.
Washington, Connav, R.A.W.A.)

/LACONIA ...

War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

LACONIA. Your 1340/26 (N.T. in W.D.) Dakar, Sept. 26,
rescue by ungraded. Consul informed by Admiral Colligat
ANNAMITE and that Aviso ANNAMITE on escort with Gulf of
GLOIRE. Guinea convoy received S.O.S. from LACONIA,
When ANNAMITE arrived at position she signalled
Dakar for assistance. GLOIRE sailed on 15th.

Rescue work continued 4 days. All survivors put on board
GLOIRE. She fuelled and stored off Dakar. Sailed for
Casablanca arriving 25/9.

(2) 4 Italians landed from GLOIRE for hospital. 1 since died,
3 others being sent Casablanca by air.
(B.A.D. 1415Z/27 to Admty.)

W.R. Note.- R.O. Tangier's 1335/26 refers. *p 762*

TREVILLEY (Br.) TREVILLEY ex O.S.38 for Capetown
(torpedoed) not arrived.
12/9) (C. in C. S.A. 1508C/27.)

p 789

S.L.125. Your 1027Z/26. Concur.
(D.T.D. 1658A/27 to R.A.W.Af.)

ADRIAS, (1) Intend sailing ARMERIA as A/S escort to
ARMERIA, G.S. ADRIAS on reciprocal course to that given
&c. in your 1716A/23rd which is passed to ARMERIA
and G.S. ADRIAS. S. of A. ADRIAS 8 knots.

(2) After R/V in 022° 55' N. 017° 55' W. at about 1200Z/3/10
propose JULIET or CORIOLANUS should take over escort of
ADRIAS to Gibraltar and that ARMERIA should return Freetown
as additional escort to crane lighter.

(3) ARMERIA has been instructed to shift to North Atlantic
W/T organisation at 0001Z/2/10 and ADRIAS to maintain constant
watch on 500 k/cs.

(R.A.W.Af. 1725Z/27)

Reply.- (F.O.C.N.A. 1812/28.)

R.A.T.E. R.A. Training Establishment arrived Durban
27/9 and assumed duty as in Admty. 1921/2.
(R.A.T.E. 1941C/27 to Admty.)

ROYAL Your 0110A/26th and your 1838A/19th.
SOVEREIGN. Intend sailing ROYAL SOVEREIGN and BULKOIL on
about 5/10 escorted by ANTHONY and DUNCAN
routed as follows.

*See previous
page*

A. 013° N. 025° W.

B. 023° N. 040° W.

C. 028° N. 050° W.

D. 033° N. 065° W.

E. 038° N. 073° W.

thence Philadelphia S. of A. 13½ to 14½ knots.

2. GRIFFIN and DECOY from Bathurst to join escort in position A.
3. Ships to fuel from BULKOIL as necessary before reaching
position C.

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War Diary.

27.9.1942
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - contd.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. *contd.* 4. In position C GRIFFIN and DECOY to be detached to proceed to U.K. calling at Ponta Delgada for fuel.
5. BULKOIL to be detached in position C to proceed independently to Curacao.
6. E.T.A. Philadelphia 17/10.
(R.A.W.Af. 2151Z/27 to Admty., (R) C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A., B.A.D. Washington, S.B.N.O. W.A., C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Convoy. P.C. and S. of 2 merchant vessels, 6 destroyers, 38° 48' N. 20° 1' E. 160° 15 knots.
(Malta W/T 0855/b/27.)
Aircraft report 2 merchant ships, 6 D/R 038° 48' 020° 01' 160° 14 knots at 0855B.
(Capt.(S) 10 0937B/27 to S/Ms on patrol (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

PORPOISE. PORPOISE leave Haifa at 1600C/28th on completion of (? A/S) exercises routed through
(1) 032° 41' 032° 42' at 0502/29th.
(2) 032° 41' 024° 29' at 0759 2nd October, thence operate in area T on completion submarine will proceed.
(3) 034° 30' 018° 59' keeping at least 40 miles clear of Cyrenaica. PORPOISE has been instructed to report E.T.A. at (3) and distance run per day when safe to do so. N.O.I.C. Haifa please pass to PORPOISE.
(Capt.(S) 1 0923C/27 to C. in C. Med. (R) No.201 Co-op Group, Subs. on Patrol, Capt.S. 10, PORPOISE, N.O.I.C.)

Sailings from Suez. My 1759/25th. Cancel reference to BELRAY. Insert important ship 28/9 BELPAREIL Port Sudan Bombay.
(F.C.R.S.F. 0943C/27 to Admty.)

NEREUS. *1-174* My 1759/26. When safe to do so report your intentions regarding running on surface during daylight 30/9.
(Capt. S.1 0949C/27 to Greek S/M NEREUS (R) C. in C. Med. 201 Group, S/Ms on patrol, Capt. (S) CORINTHIA.) See also 2329/27.
Cancel my 1759/26 and my 0949/27. Act in accordance with your 2305/26 (N.T. in W.R.) which is acknowledged, well done.
(Capt. S.1 2315C/27 to NEREUS (R) C. in C. Med. etc.)

/Enemy ...

War Diary.27.9.1942
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of 2 medium M/Vs (not exceeding 10,000 tons) 6 destroyers 38.30 N. 20.10 E. 170° 15 knots.
(A/C Squadron Malta Duty J. 1000B/27 to Hal Far.)

P.35. My 2301/26. Estimate you should be about 15 miles west of position given in order to intercept.
(Capt. S. 10 1120B/27 to P.35 (R) Capt.(S) 1, C. in C. Med.)

Cancel my 2301/26th. ^{p. 769}
(Capt. S. 10 2030B/27 to H.M.S. P.35 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt.(S) 1, S.O.(S) Alexandria.)

Black Sea. (1) Naval. (A) Russia. Depot ship LEVOV damaged by air attack on passage Pomcea to Tuapse. Gunboat and minesweeper also damaged off Tuapse.
(2) (A) Russia. Attack on Kerch and Taman harbours. Anapa North and troops at Shapsugneya.
(B) German. Constant R/C and bombing along this coast. Tuapse attacked by 48 aircraft 28/9.
(3) Land fighting. Novorossisk. All enemy attacks broached. Russians marines attacking Shapsugneya from N.W.
Comment. In spite of enemy air activity, Russians continue to send small convoys to Gelendjik where stores are landed in lighters. Sailors from Tuapse today report post in ruins, but motor transport in and through town (?is) normal: enemy constantly bombing road from Tuapse to Sochi but no important bridges have been hit.
(N.L.O. Black Sea 1144C/27 to Admty., Adm. Miles.)

Cositrep 530. Part Two.
1. Night 25/26. Wellingtons, Liberators and Halifaxes co-operated in bombing and mining Tobruk. 65 mines laid in harbour and approaches.
6. R/C Ju.88 destroyed over Gulf Suez.
7. Night 26/27. About 9 Ju.88s bombed and machined gunned Heliopolis Aerodrome, Cairo. Preliminary reports indicate buildings damaged by blast. No successful interceptions. A few enemy aircraft operated Burg El Arab area. No damage reported.
(C. in C. M.E. 1215 G.M.T./27 to W.O.)

Enemy Units. P.C. and S. of enemy, 6 destroyers, 2 M/Vs, IVSP 5020 (indecypherable) course 170°. Speed 15 knots.
(A/C Call G 6 N Duty B, 1410/27 to A/C call 9 N G.)
P.C. and S. of enemy 6 destroyers, 2 M/Vs not exceeding 10,000 tons JVSP 3525 (indecypherable) 170° 18 knots.
(A/C Call G 6 N/B Duty 1450/27.)

/Malta ...

27.9.1942
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Malta Air I.8 27/9. C.S.R. Malta. 26th: 1145 hours
Report. 3 Spitfires made R/C patrol S.E. Sicily.
1535 10 Spitfires up for raid which turned back
before reaching Malta.
1545 2 Spitfires made R/C patrol South Sicily.
Night 26/27. 1805 2 raiders approached Malta at great height,
serious R.D.F. interference. 2 Beaufighters up, but 1 raider
turned back 20 miles N. of Island and other raider dropped bombs
in sea and returned.
27th. 0429, 4 Spitfires made R/C patrol South Sicily.
0535 5 Spitfires up for raids which turned back before reaching
Malta.
(A.H.Q. Malta 1826/27.)

Enemy P.C. and S. of enemy, 1 M/V, 3 destroyers
Units. 36.13 N. 21.10 E. 180° 6 knots.
(A/C using call sign W6FR 2255C/27.)
Following read by Malta W/T. P.C. and S. of enemy, 1
Motor vessel, 2 destroyers 35.52 N. 21.8 E.
(A/C using call sign W6FL 2345/27.)

NEREUS. Cancel my 1759/26 G.S. NEREUS passing through
following position (i) 035° 28' 030° 21' at
see p. 792 1200C/27 034° 20' 032° 50' at 1200C/28 running
on surface during forenoon each day arriving
Beirut search channel 0600C/29.
(Capt. S.1 2329/27 to C. in C. Med., (R) 201
N.C. Group, Capt. Coastal Forces, Capt.(S)
CORINTHIA, N.O.I.C. Palestinian Ports.)

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

B.A. 32. Departure ENTERPRISE, JUMNA, SONAVATI with B.A.32.
(S.O.I. Bombay, 0506Z/27.)
Sailing telegrams.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay, 0540Z/27, 0544Z/27.)

MANXMAN. 0500Z/27th sailed MANXMAN.
(N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 0509Z/27 to C. in C. E.F.,
Admty., etc.)

Japanese Air Units. A.990, 26/9. S.W. Pacific report definite indication part of air unit Sabang moving New Britain. Consider unlikely Japanese will deplete torpedo bomber strength based Sabang unless replacements sent from elsewhere.
(A.H.Q. India, 0552Z/27 to Air Min. etc.)

Persian Gulf Cables. Following received. Combined Signal Committee Mid East (R) C. in C. E.F., F.O.C.R.I.N., P.L.I.C. Baghdad, from S.N.O. Persian Gulf. Bahrein F.A.O. cable broken, position of fault located. Request cable ship may be sent as soon as possible. This link is vital to service communications, service alternative route is Iraq W/T transmitters in Persian Gulf.
T.O.O. 0704Z/25/9. (Ends.)
2. Considered that repair to this cable is of vital importance and should be given highest priority.
(C. in C. E.F., 0835Z/27 to Admty.)

CROMER, CROMARTY, ROMNEY. My 1414/24. Having completed operations CROMER, CROMARTY and ROMNEY are being transferred immediately to your command. (2) In the event of U-Boat attack being transferred to Mozambique Channel I hope it may be possible for you to lend me some of these or other A/S vessels to strengthen my slender A/S forces.
(C. in C. E.F., 0949Z/27 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty., etc.)
Departure 27/9 CHITRAL, CROMER, CROMARTY, ROMNEY.
(F.O.I.C. E.A., 1500Z/27 to Admty.)

ERNE BANK, U/B attack (failed). Following received by Bombay W/T. S/M attack Signal 18.54 N. 68.38 E. torpedo passed astern.
(ERNE BANK, 0954/27 to All stations taking part in Group N.)
(C. in C. E.F., 1116Z/27 to S. & A., E.I.)
Ref. Admty. message A.F. 018° 54' N. 068° 38' E.
(F.O.E.A., 1114Z/27 to B.A.M.S. 7A.)

/Liaison ...

War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Liaison
with U.S.N.

B.A.D. Washington's 1849/18.
I am strongly of opinion I would derive very great value by sending R.A.A.1 to visit Pacific Fleet. He would be accompanied by one of my staff officers.

2. Anticipate absence from E.F. about 2 months.
3. Request your concurrence.
(C. in C. E.F., 1209Z/27 to Admty., (R) R.A.A.E.F.)

Boom and
Net Defence.

Your 0553Z/13.

1. Proposals approved.
2. Arrangements will be made for supply of necessary equipment.
3. Your para. 6, 54 moorings rings are being sent to B.D.O. East Africa at Kilindini marked 4.V.
4. Your para. 7, drawings being despatched.
(D.B.D., 1917A/27 to C. in C. E.F., (R) F.O.E.A., etc.)

BIRMINGHAM.

Your 1912/13 para. 3 (Requesting approx. date for return of BIRMINGHAM to U.K.) April 1943.
(C. in C. E.F., 1934Z/27 to Admty., (R) S.4, C. in C. S.A.)

War Diary.

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies

H.X. 208 R/V H.X. 208 stragglers 1200Z/27 117° 360 miles from position "Fox" and at 1200Z/28 R/V 142° 160 miles from position "George".
(Cominch, 0005/27 to Area 1A (R) Admty).
Cancel R/V for 1200Z/28 in my 0005/27. New R/V at 1600Z/28 168° 210 miles from original position G.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1328/27 to B.A.M.S. Area 1A).

P.555 *See next page (movements Summary)* P.555 departed Bermuda 2200Z/26 en route for Gibraltar. Until 300 miles from Bermuda and within 250 miles Gibraltar proceeding submerged by day surfaces by night. Speed 110 miles per day. Route point (A) 034° 15' N., 054° 45' W.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0043/27 to A.I.G. 314).

U/B C.E.S.F. 2004/26 informs as follows.
Positions. S/M estimate 0800Z/27.
(Comnaveu, 0144/27 to Admty).

PENNMAR, TENNESSEE survivors. *GEORGE M.* 61 survivors from PENNMAR picked up by BIBB at 1155Z/26 in 33.05 N., 57.50 W. Missing from PENNMAR:- (3 names).
SAMUEL D. INGHAM has sighted Boat with 8 survivors from TENNESSEE in 57.58 N., 32.38 W. C.T.U. 24.6.3 (Group omitted) no others thought to be alive. Search continues.
(N.O.B., Iceland, 0300Z/27 to C. in C. W.A.)

U/B Coast watcher sighted S/M 1½ miles off shore in vicinity of Port Aux Basques approx. 0230Z.
(C.O.A.C. 0315Z/27 to C. in C. W.A., E.C. 24 7. Admty).
A.D.C. Port aux Basques reports S/M lurking close between Black Rocks, Burnt Island, and another seen at Briggs Island.
(C.O.A.C., 0353Z/27 to G.B. 7 A).

S/Ms U.S. S/M notice. My 1606/26 (1605/26 intended)
O.3., U.S. S/M O.3., will operate in area 43.30 -
O.4. 43.38 N., 69.30 70.00 W., surfaced and submerged 27/9 1200 to 2100Z with surface escort. This in addition to U.S. S/M O.4.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 0530/27).

U.S. S/M Notice. Daily 28th through Oct. 4th. O's 3 and 4 will operate with surface escort 1200 to 2100Z in area 43.30/43.38 N. 69.30/70 (906) W.
(C. in C. U.S. Fleet, 1904/27).

/Movements...

War Diary.27.9.1942.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.

Movements 1800 G.M.T./27.
Summary.

Ship	Position.	Course	Speed.
S/M P.555	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 63° W.	077°	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
PENELOPE.	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	033°	17
Convoy T.9.	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	053°	9
CARNARVON	08° N. 26° W.	180°	14
CASTLE.			
NEWCASTLE	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° S. 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	305°	18
CHELSEA	60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N. 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W.	230°	15

(D.O.D. (F), 1055Z/27 to Opnav (R) Comnavu).

MARYMAR (reported U/B attack). My 1728/26 to Admty only. No attack developed. MARYMAR fired at mast of sunken ship. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1241R/27 to Admty (R) B.S.N.O. Trinidad)

LACONIA Survivors in GLOIRE. (B.A.D., 1415/27) See South Atlantic.

Ships proceeding through Gut of Canso. Further to my 2009/26. Limitations:

Port	Length	Draught.
Miramichi River	380	21.
Pugwash	325	21.
Wictou	400	24 $\frac{1}{2}$.

(N.S.H.Q., 1558Z/27 to Admty).

Orders to Neutral Shipping. Navy Dept. have issued instructions that all neutral shipping not under British or U.S. Management shall call only at Baltimore and New Orleans on Gulf and Atlantic seaboard for loading and fuelling.

- P.C. and S. to be radioed to Connav 48 hours prior to arrival and after leaving.
- Prior to sailing for U.S. port American Consul to be given list of passengers and crew.
- Neutral shipping not proceeding to U.S. Port advised to stay at least 500 miles from U.S. coastline. (B.A.D., 1611Z/27 to Admty).

U/B Positions. 27/9 estimate and U.S. S/M Notice. (Cominch, 1621/27 1622/27, 1623/27, 1624/27, 1625/27).

U/B O.N.132 D/F bearings at 1441Z/27 indicate U-boat in vicinity O.N.132 convoy may have been reported. (D.D.I.C., 1638A/27 to Escorts O.N.132).

/OLAF...

799

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.- Contd.

OLAF FOSTENES (sunk 18/9). (1) OLAF FOSTENES. (2) Lars Fostenes Haugesnd Norway (3) 0700Z/18 44.56 N., 41.05 W. (4) 2 surfaced 75 yards from life-boat 50 minutes after first attack. (5) 44.56, 41.05 0830Z/18 East. (6) Submerged (7) Ship sank (8) No casualties. (9) Painted dark grey, C/T black appeared new. 3" gun forward, 1 machine gun after part C/T, approx. 150 feet long, 500 tons. No number nor other markings. Both identical. (10) 2 torpedoes, 1 forward starboard side, 1 amidships port side 40 mins. later. (11) C.Bs. thrown overboard in weighted eyeletted bag and seen to sink. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 1730Z/27 to Admty, Cominch).

Sub. attack and sighting summary. (B) AEAS, CRESSINGTON COURT, WINAMAC, SURINAM, 2 torpedoes hit each. TOPA TOPA, 2 torpedoes hit, U.88 type, confirms 2 subs. participating. VARDAAS confirms 2 subs. participating, 50 shells. CALIFORNIA 20 shells. WOENSDRECHT 3 torpedoes hit Ship fired 7 shells. AMAKURA U.45 type. (C) Sub. reported 10.59 N., 65.28 W., 0500Z/25. Shore watcher sighted possible Sub. 47.38 N., 52.37 W. 2215Z/26, Sub. sighted 47.37 N., 52.56 W., 1826Z/26th. H.M.S. STORK, and H.M.S. (?SPEY) (?.) Sub. 55.18 N., 26.40 W. about 1540Z/26. Sub. sighted 47.35 N., 58.(?52) W., 26/27/9. Coast Watcher sighted sub. 47.25 N., 59.10 W., 0230Z/27. C.G.C. 469 sighted periscope 34.32 N. 76.33 W., 0623Z/27. (D) S.C.507 systematic sound contact (?32.)35 N., 79.38 W. 0810 and 1110Z/13. S.C.746 Attack (?on) same area 1245Z/15. (Cominch, 2018/27 to Admty for O.I.C.)

Georgetown Shipping. Admty. 1724/26. In future you are not to suspend sailings without authority from C.C.S.F. or Cominch. N.O.I.C. Trinidad pass to N.O.B. Trinidad. (S.B.N.O.W.A., 2222Z/27 to N.C.S.O. Georgetown. (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Trinidad, B.A.D., N.O.B. Trinidad, C.C.S.F.)

LEONIDAS, CONDYLIS, S.C.101. Request salvage tug to be sent immediately for LEONIDAS CONDYLIS who has lost rudder. Have detailed SHERBROOKE to stand by. BALLOT, LIFLAND (STARPOINT?) not with convoy. Convoy position at 2200Z 056° 41' N., 035° 38' W. Weather Report. (Cdr. Task Unit 24.1.14 2311Z/27 to Connav)

27.9.1942.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

- Situation. Serial No. 248 26/9.
5 Fortresses attacked Rabaul area 1700Z/25 scoring 1 probable 1000 lb. bomb hit on unidentified vessel, 3 possible hits on another unidentified vessel. Reports Buin Faisi area 26/9 indicate 3 heavy cruisers (described 2 Nachi 1 Kako class), 3 light cruisers (1 Sendai, 2 Tenryu class) 12 destroyers 2 large submarines, 4 supply ships, 1 tanker 2 other warships.
(3) Enemy strength Markham Valley area estimated approx. 25000 these disposed mainly Lae area with outposts along Markham Road.
(4) 1 Fortress attacked Buna Aerodrome 26/9. Photographs reveal aerodrome still unserviceable.
(5) Situation Ioribaiwa area unchanged. 3 Bostons attacked enemy positions Ioribaiwa Efogi track 26/9.
(6) 1 Hudson sighted and attacked one 500 ton enemy merchant ship 8° 55' S., 152° 12' E. varying 26/9. 2 direct hits scored by Hudson vessel later strafed by 4 Beaufighters. Vessel completely gutted and abandoned.
(7) 3 aircraft attacked aerodrome Darwin Area early morning 26/9 without effect.
(8) My 0756/26 was Serial No. 247. B.A.D. pass to Opnav. (G.H.Q., S.W.P.A. 0557Z/27 to Admty etc).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions.
(D.D.I.C., 1437A/27, 1441A/27).

28.9.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

TIRPITZ was seen by visual R/C and confirmed by photograph at 1500A today steaming westwards in Ofotfiord at 68° 26' N. 16° 20' E. unescorted.

SARDONYX today picked up 43 survivors of YORKTOWN (in O.N. 133) in 55° 7' N. 17° 28' W.

There was an air raid on Archangel this evening. No damage was caused to Allied ships or personnel.

North Atlantic.

It is reported that Panamanian SS. INAKI was sunk by German aircraft at 1600 today, 85 miles west of Finisterre.

South Atlantic.

All ships for the U.K. from South and West Africa and South America north of the River Plate are to be sailed either to Trinidad for convoy to New York and thence to U.K. or direct to Hampton Roads for bunkers and thence to New York for convoy to U.K. unless of 15 knots or over, or proceeding via Magellan.

The steps which are being taken to search for the Vichy SS. AMIRAL PIERRE are given in telegrams from N.O.I.C. Durban today.

Mediterranean.

During the past week British S/Ms reported sinking two ships of 5000 tons, two of 3000, one of 2000, another small merchant ship and 4 schooners. It is thought that naval and air attacks have strained enemy shipping resources, especially in view of military commitments. Attempts are being made by the enemy to extract shipping from the French.

28.9.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

U-Boats.

GERALDTON at 1818Z and 1847Z today respectively carried out two attacks on strong Asdic contacts in 22° 38' N. 60° 2' E. (off Ras al Hadd, Oman.) An enemy S/M was reported off Calicut today and one off Tanur, 60 miles north of Cochin at 1630Z yesterday.

America and West Indies.

It is reported that SS. PEIPING (Swedish) was torpedoed and sunk in 23° 50' N. 50° 10' W. on 9/9.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet reports a refuelling submarine by D/F in 21° 30' N. 53° 30' W. at 2217Z today.

SS. ALCOA MARINER was torpedoed and sunk at about 0935 G.M.T. today in 8° 57' N. 60° 8' W. (about 80 miles S.E. of Port of Spain.)

Aleutians.

Heavy bombers attacked Kiska harbour yesterday and again today. Six enemy seaplane fighters were shot down, and a submarine and a transport are reported to have been sunk in today's attack. One Allied fighter is missing.

Australia and New Zealand.

Air R/C of the Rabaul area at noon today reported a force of cruisers, seaplane tenders, destroyers and flying boats, together with 14 merchant ships, including 2 tankers.

It is reported that 10 Japanese seaplane carriers are used constantly between home waters and the New Guinea - Solomons area, ferrying aircraft.

28.9.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

North Atlantic dispositions. A.M. 1151/25. Area Iceland, delete 2 destroyers. Area Scapa delete 3 destroyers. Area Clyde add ARGUS, 4 destroyers. Area Liverpool add DESPATCH, DURBAN. (D.O.D.(H) 1236A/28 to C. in C.U.S.Fleet).

Clyde. Request for additional craft. F.O.I.C.Greenock 1736/27, with which I strongly concur. The 3 Flotillas of M.Ls at present allocated to Western Approaches are fully employed on escort duties in connection with operation "Bedlam" and Irish Sea Convoys and also in providing patrols for operation "Knocker" for which only 3 launches are at present available. It is not possible to withdraw any of these craft from these duties without serious dislocation of these essential operations. It is for immediate consideration that at least 1 further Flotilla be allocated to W.A.Command. (C. in C.W.A. 1614/28 to Admty).

Two Eagle Ships for Oban. Request you will nominate two Eagle ships for temporary detached duty sheltered waters West coast Scotland, to be sailed for Oban as soon as possible. If possible one vessel should be oil-fired owing to local coaling difficulties. (D.L.D. 2042A/28 to C. in C.Nore).

EVY
TINNE
GURLIE.
ALICE
MARITANA
C.RISAGER
C.S.MED. My 1819/17. Seven Danish M.F.Vs at Leith have all been released from prize. 4 vessels EVY, TINNE, GURLIE and CHR.S.MED to be dealt with as in Admiralty Message 2332A/4. Remaining three namely ALICE, MARITANA and C.RISAGER will be taken over by D.S.T. (N.O.I.C.Leith 2251A/28).

Defence of U.K.

Richborough A/A defences. Your 1211/20 and my 2000/26/8. Provision of A.A.defence for Richborough is being made in October allotments of Light A.A.guns ex production. These guns should arrive within the next fourteen days. (D.L.D. 2106A/28 to V.A.Dover).

Movements.

WINDSOR. Proceed passing Hoxa at 1145 today to Harwich via swept channels. (R.A.D. 0909A/28 to WINDSOR). My 0909A/28. Sailed. E.T.A. 1202A/29. (R.A.D. 1502/28).

COWDRAY. Proceed passing Switha at 1300 today to Londonderry via Minches and Swept Channels. (R.A.D. 0911/28 to COWDRAY).

/KEPPEL...

War Diary.

28.9.1942.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

KEPPEL.

Scapa arrival 0538 KEPPEL.
Scapa departure 0614. KEPPEL.
(A.C.O.S. 0941/28)
Arrived KEPPEL.
(Cdre. Londonderry 1755A/28).

LOUISBURG
PRESCOTT.
WOODSTOCK.

Intend sailing LOUISBURG, PRESCOTT, and WOODSTOCK from Lough Foyle at 1330A/28 by standard routes and searched channels to Humber. S.O.A. 13 knots E.T.A. 1530A/30. A.M. 1857A/27, refers.
(Cdre. Londonderry 0949A/28).

L.23.

(a) Intend to sail L.23 escorted by BARBARA ROBB at 0800A tomorrow for Eddrachilles Bay Submarine Sanctuary, E.T.A. 1200A same day.
(c) L.23 to exercise independently in the Sanctuary until 1500A/30, returning thence Port Z.D. escorted by BARBARA ROBB, E.T.A. 1900A same day.
(TITANIA 0952A/28 and 2326A/28) (F.O.S. 1647A/28).

O.15.
P.614,
~~P.615.~~
P.615.

O.15 E.T.A. 190° Barra Head 5 miles at 1800A/28.
(2). In view of approach of darkness request you will proceed with P.614 and P.436 so as to R/V with O.15 and JAN VAN GELDER in that vicinity at that time. Subsequently escorting O.15 to Scapa. (Capt.S.3. 0953A/28 to PRESTON NORTH END).

Proceeding with P.614 and P.615. E.T.A. 1645A. S.O.A. 11 knots. PRESTON NORTH END Rendezvousing O.15.
(JAN VAN GELDER 1635A/28).

P.614 P.615 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER Southbound from Barra Head. O.15 escorted PRESTON NORTH END northbound in Minches during dark hours tonight.

(C. in C.W.A. 1648A/28 to KEPPEL, etc). *P.615 intended - there is no P.436

→ LOCUST.

Intend to sail with 12 L.C.Ts. at 2130/29.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1047A/28). See Mining. p. 606

READING.

from Sharners
Intend to sail READING for Londonderry at 0730/2nd. Ship will carry out 3 hours full-power trial between 51 buoy and Flambro' Head and proceed to Methil to land trial party before proceeding to destination.
(C. in C. North 1232A/28).

→ T.L.C.
Group.

My 1614A/24 and 1445A/26. Request both these groups of T.L.C. less L.C.F.6 and 4 may be sailed from Newhaven at 0400/30th by inshore route to pass through Looe at daylight. Groups on arrival to proceed to their respective bases.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1113A/28 to N.O.I.C. Newhaven).

805

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.VESTLAND.
KINALDIE,
DELAWARE.

Your 1913/19 and 1713/29. ¹⁷²⁷ On arrival of A.F.D. xvii, propose that FREEBOOTER tows VESTLAND, NIMBLE tows KINALDIE and SCHEDE tows DELAWARE to Scapa. Escorted respectively by FOXTROT, DRANGEY, ARAB. (A.C.I.C. 1701A/28 to Admty).

BITER,
FARNDALE,
QUALITY.

C. in C.H.F. 2016A/26. Intend sailing BITER escorted by FARNDALE and QUALITY from 090° Pladda 3 at 1130A/30 for Scapa E.T.A. 1500A/1st. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1736A/28).

WAYLAND.

My 1043A/20, 0058A/21, and 1852A/23. Intend to sail WAYLAND from Needles 0800/30 for Plymouth for onward sailing for Clyde, E.T.A.

1800/30.

(2) Routed as in my 1043A/20. Large repair trials on passage.

(3) Escort by two destroyers of 1st D.F. to Plymouth and onward as far the Smalls subject to return of destroyers to Portsmouth before dark 2nd Oct.

(4) Air Escort will be provided. Category One. Codeword "Device" (C. in C. Portsmouth 1903A/28).

ACHATES.

Archangel arrivals. S.B.N.O. North Russia in ACHATES 0500A/28. (S.B.N.O. Archangel 1930A/28).

→ A.F.D. 17.

P.C.S. of A.F.D. 17 and all ships in company at 2000Z/28 060° 41' N. 013° 51' W. 301°, 4. (ARAB. 2040Z/28).

Operations.

ALERT

Cable ship ALERT returned Bangor Bay weather being unsuitable for further operations.

Cancel my 0116A/28. ^{N.T. 1723}
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 0850A/28).

Patrols.

Patrol to-night One A KITTIWAKE, one B. WIDGEON, two QUORN, three ATHERSTONE, 4 BLENCATHRA, 5 COTTESMORE, 6 PYTCHLEY. (C. in C. Nore 0936A/28).

Tonight, M.T.B. 84, 85, 86, 95 patrolling 25' South of Needles.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1150/28).

M.T.Bs 85, 84, 86, 95 patrolling 25s of Needles.

2 M.Ls from Newhaven patrolling vicinity 01 buoy.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1550A/28).

M.L.s 148 (S.O) and 150 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit buoys. E.T.D. 1940, E.T.R. 0630/29. (V.A. Dover 1729A/28).

/Operation E.W.

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. - Contd.

Operation E.W. E.W. para 13 and my 1401/17. If adequate trials have been completed RODNEY is to sail for Scapa 29/9.
(C. in C.H.F. 1247A/28 to RODNEY, TITANIA).

Allied Air Activity.

P.Q.18. Operation E.V. Request details of Russian air
Q.P.14. co-operation actually provided may be signalled.
(C. in C.H.F. 1204A/28 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

Fleet Cancel A.M. 1914A/5.
Air R/C. (D.O.D.(H) 1514A/28 to A.O.C.C.C.).

Enemy Air Activity.

Vaenga Vaenga aerodrome bombed 1950A/28. One Hampden
bombed. and one Russian A/C destroyed on ground.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia 0744A/28).

Mining.

M/S 9. Intend sailing 9th M/S Flotilla (S.O.M/S 9 in
LOCUST SIDMOUTH) and M.L.190 and (193?) at 2100/29
L.C.F.(L) 5. routed Q.Z.A.373, 374, and 375, speed 10 knots to
see p.804. arrive position.
AA.(050° 39' N. 000° 04' W) at 0100/30. Thence
sweep on course 100°, lay lighted Dan buoys between position
BB.(050° 34' N. 000° 04' W.) and position CC.(050° 29' N. 000° 04'
W).
2. Intend sailing A.L.C.T. in LOCUST with 12 landing craft (T)
in company at 2130/29 by same route speed 8½ knots to arrive
position AA at 0215/30 and to pass through buoyed channel to CC
at 0330/30. Thence Newhaven by Q.Z.S. 363, E.T.A.0615/20th.
3. M.S.F.9 will weigh dan-buoy at 0400/30 and proceed best speed
by QZA 363 as far as number 2 buoy (about 0645/30), thence by
inshore route "A" to Spithead, E.T.A. 1000/30.
4. LOCUST will not enter Newhaven but will return in company with
M.S.9.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1047A/28 to N.O.I.C.Newhaven).
Your 1047A/28, para 2. Intend including L.C.F.(L) 5 in this
group).
(A.L.C.T. 1738A/28 to C. in C. Portsmouth).
My 1047/28, para 2. Add L.C.F.5.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1906A/28).

Western Channel Sweep. Swept area extended to line joining 50° 22' 24" N.
03° 09' 12" W. 40° 28' 36" N. 02° 44' 18" W.
Two mines detonated in 50° 25' 36" N. 02° 57' 00" W.
50° 26' 48" N. 02° 52' 00" W.

Anti-sweeping devices encountered. Intend arming sweeps as from
tomorrow. Amend position of second mine detonated yesterday to
read 02° 57' 24" W.
(ELGIN.1747A/28).

/Lyme Bay...

28.9.1942.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining - Contd.

Lyme Bay Sweep. Intend to sail TREVO TERCEIRO, NIGHT HAWK, CONCENTRATOR, BILSDEAN at 0615/29 sweeping route N to Portland E.T.A. 1530 Code word "Ounce V".
2. F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail them back to Dartmouth at 0615/30 sweeping the same route.
3. Request fighter protection.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1956/28 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Plymouth. At 1604/28, one Magnetic Mine exploded by Sweepers in approx. 050°. Breakwater Lighthouse 20 yards. Details.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2002/28 to Admty).

Enemy Intelligence.

REKUM. A.M. 2116A/21. REKUM relocated at Nantes.
(D.D.I.C. 1258A/28).

TIRPITZ. A/PRU Sortie N/630 28/9. Sept. Flight Lieut. Merefield W.40 54 coastal area, C. one both C two Bogen 19 thousand feet at 1500A. TIRPITZ seen steaming Narvik westwards in Ofotfiord at 068° 26' N. 016° 20' E. Bodo. accompanied by one M Class M/S. Two destroyers near Narvik, one steaming westwards, other towards Narvik. Three destroyers in Bogen and boom-protected berth empty. Photographs of TIRPITZ, Bogen, Narvik, Bodo.
(R.A.F. Vaenga Bay 1910C/28 to H.Q.C.C., Admty).
Comment. This appears to be a visual report and confirmation should arrive when photos have been examined. Full operational.

U-Boats.

U-Boats attacked. Following received from A/C C/S NIUB. Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Estimate (?2) hits.
(Iceland W/T 1220/28 to Admty).

Am over enemy S/M in 59° 43' N. 27° 37' W. on surface and observed to submerge, course 340° 10 knots.
(A/C H.L.6C.1400/28).

Following from A/C H.L.6.C. Have attacked enemy, estimate Nil hits.

(Iceland W/T 1402/28 to Admty).

DUNKERY, S.O. Escort U.R.42, reports convoy left Loch Ewe 0900/22. Only other escort was HUGH WALPOLE as ARAB did not sail owing to defects. DUNKERY and HUGH WALPOLE attacked contact in Minches, former proceeded after the convoy leaving HUGH WALPOLE in contact, latter subsequently proceeded though damaged by depth-charges. QUADRILLE was sailed late on 23rd to overtake convoy. Convoy hove to during the night 22nd and again on 23rd and were scattered when EMPIRE BELL was torpedoed about 1430/24. DUNKERY was not then in company. While searching for survivors about 1730 DUNKERY sighted what appeared to be sail of small boat which disappeared about 20 minutes later as

/DUNKERY...

War Diary.28.9.1942
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.U-Boats
attacked.
(contd.)

DUNKERY closed. On reaching approximate position 15 minutes afterwards firm contact was obtained on port bow with strong hydrophonic effect. 2 attacks were carried out but nothing further seen.
(A.C.I.C. 1756A/28 to Admty.)

U-Boats
reported.

By D/F bearings at 1135Z/28 U/B was within 60 miles of 50° 30' N. 26° 00' W, probably en route Bay of Biscay.
(D.D.I.C. 1325A/28 to PENELOPE.)

By D/F at 0950Z/28 boat within 60' of 57° 20' N. 19° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 1403A/28 to Escorts O.N.133.)

By D/F at 0917Z/28 U-Boat within 60' of 60° N. 22° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1432A/28 to A.C.I.C.)

By D/F at 1353Z/28 U-Boat within 90 miles of 50° 30' N. 24° 30' W.

(D.D.I.C. 1557A/28 to PENELOPE, Escorts H.X.208)

By D/F at 1409Z/28 U-Boat within 60' of 49° 30' N. 11° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1733Z/28 to P.51, Convoy "Bucket 2")

Casualties and Defects.

P.C.74.

My 1947A/24. P.C.74 returned to Milford Haven with defects.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0707/28.)

M.G.B.75.
M.G.B.80.

Admiralty's 1644/25. M.G.Bs 75, 80 are both non-operational with one defective engine each. They will be sailed to Felixstowe as soon as new engines are fitted at Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1131A/28 to F.O.I.C. Harwich)

SCIMITAR.

arrived - 2100Z/27.
E.T.A. 2100Z/27. SCIMITAR has number 1 and 5 oil fuel tanks defective.
(VANOC 1233A/28 to Cdre. Londonderry.)

HUGH
WALPOLE.

Arrived your 1630A/27.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1433A/28.)

DUKE OF YORK
RENOWN.

Following arrangements regarding a quick docking for scraping and coating of hulls only of DUKE OF YORK and RENOWN are being made. In both cases it is necessary for ship's staff to afford considerable assistance in coating ships bottoms and no underwater defects will be taken in hand. RENOWN enters basin and docks at about 1800/16th. Undocks and unbasins about 0900/19th. DUKE OF YORK enters basin and docks about noon 21st and undocks and unbasins about 1400/23.
(A.S. Rosyth 1740A/28 to C. in C. H.F.)

/SKATE ...

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War Diary.28.9.1942
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - contd.

SKATE.

My 1034A/27. SKATE undocked.
(Cdre. Londonderry 2345A/28.)Shipping and Convoys.Convoy
O.N.133.
YORKTOWN.My 1642/27. Latest position of rafts is
055° 05' N. 018° 05' W. at 1330A/27.
(C. in C. W.A. 0416A/28 to NAPANEE. Reptd.
SABRE, SARDONYX.)Proceed now to rejoin O.N.133. Report result of search.
(C. in C. W.A. 1409Z/28 to NAPANEE.)
My P.C.S. 055° 00' N. 018° 15' W. 287° 13. No success.
Proceeding rejoin O.N.133. SARDONYX and planes in vicinity.
Very rough sea.(NAPANEE 1501Z/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
11 men recovered from lifeboat in 055° 07' N. 017° 28' W.
Proceeding to search for raft in 055° 05' N. 018° 05' W.
(SARDONYX 1531A/28.)My 1544A/27. 50 survivors were known to be in this area.
Continue search as long as fuel permits.
(C. in C. W.A. 1615A/28 to SABRE.)My 1531. 17 more men recovered from two rafts. Search
continuing.(SARDONYX 1727A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1616/28. E.T.A. 055° 05' 018° 05' at 2230A/28.
Intend sweeping through this position on a course 092°. Have
not sufficient fuel to remain and carry out daylight search.
Have informed SARDONYX of my intentions by R/T.(SABRE 1801A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1531/28. From what ships are survivors.
(C. in C. W.A. 1804A/28 to SARDONYX.)
Your 1804/28. British Merchant ship YORKTOWN.
(SARDONYX 1842A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
3rd raft recovered. Master states all survivors
totalling 43 now on board.(SARDONYX 2047A/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
Well done. Return to base.
(C. in C. W.A. 2235A/28 to SARDONYX.)EMPIRE
HARTEBEEESTE.NORHAUK landed 25 survivors ex EMPIRE HARTEBEEESE
and proceed Loch Ewe.
(N.C.S.O. Oban 0730A/28.)Q.P.14.
TROUBADOUR.Reykjavik arrival TROUBADOUR, LORD MIDDLETON.
(A.C.I.C. 1030A/28.)JAMES J.
MAGUIRE.JAMES J. MAGUIRE under orders to Falmouth
for repairs has defective engines and windlass.
Request tug may be provided to accompany on
passage Milford Haven to Falmouth in convoy
W.P.M. 226, leaving Milford Haven at 0730A/30.
No suitable tug available at Milford Haven.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1241A/28 to Admty.)

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War Diary.28.9.1942
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - contd.

A.T.24. A.T.24. Admiralty 0206A/23.
 1. Convoy consists QUEEN MARY.
 2. Route:- (H) All following positions are
 N. and W. 056° 30' N. 016° 30' W. (Q) 56° 20' 12° 01'.
 (J) 56° 19', 11° 30'. (K) 55° 35' 07° 00' thence Clyde.
 3. Speed of advance 25 knots.
 4. Following are to R/V as arranged by N.O.I.C. Belfast.
 (A) CURAÇOA S.O. from Belfast.
 (B) BEAGLE S.O. of A/S escort, BLYSKAWICA from Clyde.
 (C)*COWDRAY, BRAMHAM, SKATE, SALADIN from Londonderry.
 5. Escort is then to proceed in company to meet A.T.24 in
 position (Q) at 0700Z/2nd. *→ 5.303*
 6. CURAÇOA, BEAGLE, BLYSKAWICA are to escort to Clyde.
 Remainder are to proceed Londonderry on passing.
 7. No risk of weather damage is to be taken. H.M.S. CURAÇOA
 is to use discretion as to reducing speed of convoy or
 detaching destroyers should weather deteriorate.
 8. If it appears probable close escort cannot be provided
 escort is not to proceed position (Q) but is to carry out
 A/S sweep along route ahead A.T.24.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1453Z/28.)

DEFOE. Proceed to base. If BUSTLER is met keep her
 in company.
 (C. in C. W.A. 1517A/28 to MYOSOTIS.)

EROS, Positions at 2200/27. (A) Greek Relief
 CAMELIA, Vessels EROS, CAMELIA and FORMOSA 38° 44' N.
 FORMOSA, 12° 43' E. (B) Gothenburg shipments.
 VASAOLM. Westbound VASAOLM 57° 58' N. 04° 27' E.
 (N.A. Stockholm 1541/28.)

EMPIRE A.M. 2040/21 and A.M. 1218/24. If ready
 MINOTAUR. EMPIRE MINOTAUR and EMPIRE GNOME should be
 EMPIRE GNOME. sailed in company with BARBARIAN and BARFLAKE
 parting company as requisite to fuel at Horta.
 (D.O.D.(H.) 1656A/28 to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

VETERAN. Your 1323A/28. My position 057° 10' N. 029°
 18' W. 1st Group omitted.
 (EXE 1801Z/28 to Admty.)

If fuel permits detach one vessel forthwith to search
 for survivors in an area 30 miles radius of 54° 01' N. 23°
 10' W.
 (C. in C. W.A. 2234A/28 to HESPERUS.)
 Your 2234/28. GENTIAN detailed.
 (HESPERUS 2206Z/28 to C. in C. W.A.)
 Proceed to search for survivors of VETERAN probably
 torpedoed in 54° 34' N. 25° 44' W. a few hours after 0001/26.
 Decode B N 314. Aircraft will co-operate.
 (C. in C. W.A. 2332A/28 to EXE (R) Escorts H.X.208,
 O.N.132, STORK.)

/LLANSTEPHAN ...

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE 2043A/28th Sept.

CUT

TO: A.I.G.136 (negative CONNAV DATE: 28.9.42.
 and Ccm, Western Sea Fron. San Francisco.
 F.O.N.F.
 F.O.I.C. Greenock
 F.O.I.C. Belfast
 F.O.I.C. Liverpool
 Repeated B.A.D. Washington.

NAVAL CODE (X) AND P/L BY T/P.

From: Admiralty.

My 1425/5th July paras. 1 and 2 and cancelled.
 When it is necessary to repeat to Naval Authorities
 diversion signals which have been made to Merchant
 Ships, Ordinary Naval Codes or cyphers are to be used.
 Owing to difficulty of paraphrasing texts of this
 nature the version sent to Naval Authorities should be
 in the following form "following is a repetition of my
 to S.S. Begins (Text) Ends". The T.O.O.
 of this repeated version should be such that it can
 not repetition not readily be associated with the time
 of origin of the original message; e.g. if T.O.O. of
 the original was 1635, the T.O.O. of the repeated
 version should not repetition not be 1636.

2043A/28.
 N.I.D. 10 for D.N.I. (438)

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| A.C.N.S.(T) | # C. in C. Western Approaches |
| N.A.1st S.L. | C. in C. Plymouth |
| Capt. Pim. | A.C.I.C. |
| Ops. (3) | F.O.C.N.A. |
| O.D.(5) | C. in C. S.A. |
| O.I.C.(2) | F.O.I.C. West Africa |
| D. of S. 2A. | S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic |
| D.T.D.(4) | S.O.(I) Jamaica |
| D.T.D.(11) | N.S.H.Q. Ottawa |
| D.T.D.(C) | C.O.A.C. Halifax |
| D. of S.T.(2) | Naval Board, Melbourne |
| I.P.(3) | Naval Board, Wellington |
| D.A./S.W. | Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet |
| W.D. | F.O. Ceylon |
| U.S.N.(3) | F.O.C.R.I.N. |
| D.N.I.(5) | Commodore, Aden. |
| D.S.D.(2) | B.A.D. Washington. |
| D.S.O. | |
| N.I.D.10 (2) | |
| H. Books (2) | |
| H.W.R. (2) | |

War Diary.

28.9.1942
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - contd.

LLANSTEPHAN
CASTLE.

LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE is required to be ready to sail from Clyde on 18/10. She will embark to full capacity at Tail of the Bank on 17/10 and 18/10.
(D.S.T. 2149A/28.)

D.S.33.

Convoy D.S.33 comprising CAMERONIA should be ready to sail Clyde 16/10.
2. Approximately 1500 personnel will embark at Tail of the Bank on 15/10 and 16/10.
(D.S.T. 2150A/28.)

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

- French shipping. Passings 27/9.
Eastbound 1210 MEDJARDA laden deck cargo baskets and barrels. CEVENNES laden covered deck cargo, BRITTIA trawler laden.
(V.A.C.N.A. 0959A/28 to Admty. for M.E.W.)
Gibraltar 2130/27. French minesweeper LE ? GOELAND, Tug TENACE, towing 4 barges westbound.
(S.O.I.) Gib. 1837A/28 to Admty. R.A.W.A. S.O.I. Kingston.)
- P.48. Intend sailing P.48 for working up patrol north of Alboran Island p.m./29.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1036A/28 to C. in C. Med. (R) Admty. F.O.S. V.A. Malta, Capt. S.10.)
- CLYDE. My 1106/25 CLYDE will sail p.m./29 and cross 009° E at 0001/4/10.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1136A/28 to V.A. Malta. (R) Admty. etc)
CLYDE leaves Gibraltar 1500A/29 proceeding through 180° Cape de Gata 10 miles at 0300A/30, 038° 52' 002° 58' E at 0100A/2 038° 17' 009° 00' E at 0001A/4.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1538A/28 to 8 S/M.F.)
- Gibraltar Air Raid 24/9. Ref. my 0942/25. Fragments of bomb recovered on North Mole north arm indicate use larger anti-personnel type than known here. Shrapnel consist of cuttings from $\frac{5}{8}$ inch bar about one inch long. Casing about $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1142/28 to Admty.)
- MALAYA. Intend sailing MALAYA at 0300/29 for exercises and firings east of Gibraltar screened by WESTCOTT, WISHART, LOOKOUT, PENN, PANTHER returning to harbour p.m./29.
2. Intend sailing ?(MALAYA) a.m./30 for exercises and firings east of Gibraltar screened by destroyers in para 1, returning to harbour p.m./30.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1200A/28 to Admty.)
- MINNA, A/C. Sighted one aircraft (?Ju.88) my position 36° 31' N 1° 53' W.
(MINNA 1220A/28 to Gibraltar W/T.)
- LOCH OSKAIG. 1 aeroplane Focke Wulf 220° distant 4 miles course 180° position 315° Espichel 12.
(LOCH OSKAIG 1256A/28 to Gibraltar W/T, SCOTTISH)
1 aeroplane Focke Wulf 270 distant 3 miles course 150° position (?284° Espichel) 15.
(LOCH OSKAIG 1600A/28 to Gibraltar.)
- JONQUIL. Your 1959/27. If not in company return to Gibraltar along tankers route.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1304A/28 to JONQUIL. (R) Admty. COREOPSIS.)

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic - Contd.

MIRROR
LEYLAND. Sailed 1330/28 cable ship MIRROR and escort vessel LEYLAND. E.T.A. Gibraltar p.m./3/10. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1515C/28 to S.O.I. Gib.)

BESSEL
(German) Your 1927/26. Attitude of Minister of Marine is refreshing, as usual, but (VI) is most disappointing in view of your 1652/11. It appears that in fact nothing has been done to prevent the BESSEL repeating her irregular practices. It is quite intolerable that M.F.A. should obstruct every tangible step and we can only regard such obstruction as going back on the assurances in para.2 of Madrid telegram No.95. In cases of this nature where we have definite proof of breaches of neutrality it is clearly the duty of the Spanish Gov. to go beyond mere formal assurances and the taking of some tangible measure to ensure that BESSEL does not again offend is in our view a test of Spanish Government's good faith.
(M. Branch 1701A/28 to N.A. Madrid.)

W.S.23. For C.S.A. W.S.23. H.M. ships will be arriving Ponta Delgada (approx. at time), cruisers, DURBAN p.m.4/10. DESPATCH a.m. 6/10. Destroyers KANARIS and PUCKERIDGE a.m./5. BICESTER and ZETLAND p.m./5. and will require the following each. Request fuel may be expedited as much as possible.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1750A/28 as amended 1604A/29 to Consul, Ponta Delgada.)

CAUDEBEC
French. Arrival 26th Setubal.
(Lisbon 1755/28 to M.W.T.)

ADRIAS
ARMERIA
BORDE Your 1725/27 para (2). Concur, endurance permitting.
(2) JULIET report trawler details (?detailed) to escort BORDE on meeting.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1812A/28 to R.A.W.A. JULIET. (R) Admty. C. in C. S.A. BORDE, ARMERIA, CORIOLANUS.)

H.D.M.Ls. My 1303/30/8. H.D.M.L. 1235 has been substituted for 1091 in 134th Flotilla.
(D.D.I.D. (C.) 2058A/28 to F.O.C.N.A.)

? Pass to Admty. for information. Addressed Admty. Lyness, From Wick Radio. Received at 2327 G.M.T. on 375 K/cs from Gallon Head Radio (Begins) At 2322 DE GDSP (Unread) QRN 32° 26' N longitude 34° remainder unread QRN strength of signals 1/2. (Wick Radio 2327/28 G.M.T.) W.D. Note: Signal letters GDSP = BARON SALTOUN. No ship of this name now in Lloyds.

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.

Attacks on U/Bs. C.A.F.O. 834/41 (A) ARMERIA (B) 2258N/21 (C) 00° 02' S 19° 44' W (D) 39 (E) 0204N/22 and (A) CORINTHIAN (B) 2057Z/26 (C) 7° 22' N 14° 30' W (D) 17 (E) 2205Z in both cases no visible result but presence of U-Boat considered possible.
(R.A.W.A. 1216Z/28 to Admty.)

NIZAM search for AMIRAL PIERRE. Sailed NIZAM to resume patrol in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s 1130/24 paras (4) (5) and (6) (Not to Admty.) C. in C. E.F.'s 1621/23 refers. (?Durban 1300Z/28 to Admty. C. in C. S.A. C. in C. E.F. S.O.(I.) Kilindini. S.O.I. Colombo.)

TREVILLEY. S.O.(I.) Freetown does not appear to be complying with A.M. 2313/3/6.
2. A.M. 1857/13/8 and 1326/16/8 both to S.O.I. Freetown refer.
3. C. in C. S.A. has now reported TREVILLEY overdue vide his 1508/27/9 to S.O.I. Freetown. N.O.I.C. Takoradi's 1321/25/9 refers.
(D.T.D. 1539A/28 to R.A.W.A.)

SUMATRA QUIBERON PARTRIDGE 1. Intend to sail D.S. SUMATRA escorted by QUIBERON and PARTRIDGE from Bathurst at 1500Z/30 for Gibraltar and U.K.
2. Route F. 014° N 019° W.
G. 021° 019° Z 025° 30' 017°.
H. 027° 30' 014°
K. 035° 008°. L. 036° 006° thence Gibraltar, S of A 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ knots.
3. E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. 5/10.
4. D.S. SUMATRA and escorts will shift to North Atlantic W/T organization at 2200Z/1/10.
5. EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA and H.M.S. ORION will be escorted from the Bathurst area to position Z where they will be dispersed to proceed independently.
(?R.A.W.A. 1615Z/28 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty. etc.)

ORISSA. *See p 818* Message 1301/27 address corrupt believed from C. in C. S.A. Action is to be taken in accordance with A.M. 0104/27.
(Admty. 1622A/28 to C. in C. S.A. (R) F.O.C.R.I.N. N.O.I.C. East London.)

MILFORD. Your 1112/26 (reporting completion of refit and intended sailing) Wireless watch should be kept in accordance with 1233/21 R.A.W.A.
(C. in C. S.A. 1719C/28 to MILFORD.)
MILFORD sailed 3-p.m.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1852Z/28 to Admty.)

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

Search for AMIRAL PIERRE. Your 1428/26 para (4). Intend to maintain patrol on approach to Lourenco Marques (a) by 2 destroyers until 2100Z on 30/9 (b) thereafter by one destroyer and one S.A.N.F. Whaler until 0900 on 3/10. (c) thereafter by GENISTA.

2. Search by aircraft of South African Naval Air Force cannot be maintained after p.m., search of 30/9 with aircraft at present available, owing to servicing, and could not recommence before 3/10.

3. Should air search be recommenced 3/10 if no further intelligence is received of Vichy coastal vessels? Observed (a) that it can only be maintained for 5 consecutive days if no trouble whatever is experienced (b) the possibility of local air patrol being denuded.

(N.O.I.C. Durban 1730C/28, 2340C/28 to C. in C. S.A. (R) C. in C. E.F. Admty.)

Shipping routes. A.M. 2349/22. All ships for U.K. from South and West Africa and South America north of River Plate are to be sailed either to Trinidad for convoy to New York and thence to U.K. or direct to Hampton

Roads for bunkers and thence to New York for convoy to U.K. unless- (a) Of 15 knots and over.

(b) Proceeding via Magellan in accordance with A.M. 2330/1.

The decision as to which alternative is selected is governed by para 4 of A.M. 2349/22.

(D.T.D. 1731A/28 to C. in C. S.A. (R) B.A.D. Connav. R.A.W.A.)

Docking in Brazil. If you are considering sending other British Naval vessels to Brazil Dockyards here for repairs it would be well to do so as soon as possible. I understand U.S. Naval ships are scheduled for docking and refit here shortly and opportunities for our ships likely to be more difficult later. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1933Z/28 to Admty.)

CÉPHÉE (French) Dakar 25/9. B.2. CÉPHÉE lying at No.2 Mole. Unloaded and without orders. U.S. Consul suggests developments in Madagascar have changed her plan. (B.A.D. 2109Z/28 to Admty. (R) F.O.C.N.A. R.A.W.A.)

Suspicious tanker. My 2005Z/23. From further investigations it seems probable that tanker was Norwegian GYLFE which is at present at Montevideo. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2151Z/28 to Admty.)

BOREAS BERGENSFIORD CHRISTIAN HUYGENS Vice Consul Matadi states embarkation in BERGENSFIORD ready and troops must embark as no accommodation at Anbarricad where troops are awaiting. Master of BERGENSFIORD does not wish to be escorted by corvette with less speed than 16 knots and would prefer to proceed independently. Intend proceeding with CHRISTIAN HUYGENS at 0901Z tomorrow Tuesday, 2700 troops on board. (BOREAS 2250Z/28 to R.A.W.A. (R) B.N.L.O. W.A.)

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy (1) Reports as follows (Begins)
 Units 1 merchant ship 3 destroyers P.C.S. 036° 13' 021°
 TURBULENT. 10' - (?180°) - 6 at 2255/27. 1 merchant ship
 2 destroyers 035° 52' 021° 08' - 180° - 6, no
 T.O.O. but T.O.R. 55 mins later. No further
 information but probably heading for Benghazi.
 (Capt. S.I. 0023C/28 to TURBULENT (R) C. in C. Med.)
 At 0052 1 merchant ship 4 destroyers 034° 54' N 020° 53' E
 180° 12 knots.
 (V.A. Malta 0612B/28 to S/MS on patrol.)

P.35. 0644/28 (N.T. in W.D.) See Capt. S.I. 0951B/30.
See next page

→ NEREUS Following is a repetition of my 2329C/27 (quoted)
 (Capt. S.I. 0845C/28 to NEREUS.)

Minelaying Your 1910/13. Laying of a deep minefield in
 Bab-el- Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb is both practicable and
 Mandeb. desirable.
 1. Propose (a) Operation be carried out from
 Massawa where there is a Naval Armament Depot.
 There are 100 mines Mark XVII there already.
 (b) GURNA proceed to Suez to unload her stock of Mark XVI mines
 for transport to Haifa and return to Massawa with 450 Mark XVII
 mines. Mines would be ready for issue one month after GURNA
 sails for Suez.
 (c) Remaining 300 mines Mark XVII to be shipped to Massawa from
 Haifa by freight.
 2. Approx. 300 of each length of reel are available at Haifa.
 Request 70 additional reels of depths to be used and replacements
 for stocks expended may be sent in TEVIOTBANK.
 (C. in C. Med. 1652C/28 to Admty. (R) F.O.R.S.C.A.)

ARCA Italian tanker ARCA arrived Istanbul Sept. 17
 ALBARO for Constanza is delayed here, reported B.3.
 CELENO 1. Delay due increased Russian air and S/M
 activity off Constanza.
 2. Plan was for ARCA to return loaded and meet
 off Dardenelles escort bringing up ALBARO CELENO on their next
 trip, this now disorganised. ARCA cannot travel in convoy with
 ?other two as speed only 6 knots.
 N.L.O. (?Dardenelles) informed.
 S.O.I. Med. please pass relevant portion to Malta.
 (S.O.I. Istanbul 1652C/28 to S.O.I. Med. (R) S.I.)

→ Situation → S/M NEREUS reports 1 M/V 1,500 tons and 1 Caique
 Report 80 tons sunk during Aegean Patrol.
 No. 270. (2) Gulf of Suez. SS. EMPIRE PATROL bombed near
 Morysby Shoal 2200/23, 3 attacks by single
 aircraft, no damage or casualties.
 (3) Swedish SS. KARLSHAMN attacked and damaged by aircraft
 torpedo night of 25/26. Ship proceeding to Port Sudan.
 (4) Panamanian tanker YORBA LINDA discharging at Ras Charib
 machine gunned by single Heinkel 111 at 0435/26.

/(5)...

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. conts:-

Situation Report No. 270. Contd. (5) Palestinian schooner sunk by gunfire from submarine west of Tyre night of 25/26. Survivors landed at Saida. (6) My 1130/25 ~~H.M.F.S.~~ EMPIRE PINTAIL arrived Port Sudan 25/9 temporary repairs being carried out. (C. in C. Med. 1748C/28 to Admty.) For addition see 1145C/29.) * *Special Services Yedda.*

Malta Air Report. I.9 28/9. C.S.R. Part 1. 27th. 0900 and 1515 hours, 2 sections of Spitfires made R/C patrols South Sicily. 1815 hours, 1 Spitfire made anti L Boat patrol North Malta. Night 27/28 1755 hours, 1 Beaufighter up saw no enemy aircraft. 28th. 1125 hours, 1 section of Spitfires made R/C patrol south Sicily. 27/9. Visuals 0637 hours, 1 M/V 7000 tons North Cape Geroghambo 14 miles course 333° 5 knots. 0651 hours 2 M/Vs 5000 tons 6 D/Rs 296° Cape Ducato 29 miles course 160° (?15) (?knots). 1315 hours 2 M/Vs 8000 tons 6 D/Rs probably same convoy 250° Cape Kieri 20 miles course 170° 18 knots. Night 27/28 2252 hours, 1 Beaufort attacked convoy now consisting of 1 (?M/V) 5000 tons 4 D/Rs 222° Matapan 120 miles course south 12 knots. 1 torpedo Duplex (?non contact) depth setting 200 feet dropped from 50 feet range 800 yards but owing to poor visibility and dazzle from moon results not observed. (A.H.Q. R.A.F. Med. 1825/28.)

P.35. M/V attacked. 10,000 ton M/V first attacked 1632B/27 in 037° 01' (remainder of message not received.) (P.35 T.O.R. 2052/28 to Capt. S.10. (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1. V.A. Malta. S.O.S. Alexandria.)

P.211. Remain east of 039° 20' 018° 30' until further orders. (Capt. S.10. 2359B/28 to P.211 (R) C. in C. Med. Capt. S.1.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1037C/28th Sept. IN

From: Naval L.O. Black Sea.

Date: 7.10.42.

Recd: 1357.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CYPHER (O.T.P.) BY CABLE~~Addressed: Admiralty, Admiral Miles.~~

1. Naval.
 (a) Russia. ¹⁹Sept. 25th M Class S/M attacked enemy convoy off Rounanian coast sinking ~~one~~ ^{1 M/V} merchant vessel of 2100 tons.

My 1204C/Sept. 25th para. 1 (a). Russians now disclose following. On night Sept. 19th/20th E and R boats landed 100 men 25 Kilometres West Novorossisk. These penetrated into hills. The next night (corrupt group) more were landed. The two parties (a) surrounded small garrison inflicting considerable casualties (b) destroyed one patrol boat and stores and were re-embarked with negligible losses. All vessels returned to Gelendjik.

(NLO Black Sea 1037C/28. ^{to Admiralty, Adm. Miles})
 Advance Copy sent D.C. D.O.D. (H) & D.D.I.C.

1st Lord
 1st S.L. (2)
 4th S.L.
 V.C.M.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F) (2)
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D.O.D. (H) (2)
 D.O.D. (F) (2)
 D.D.I.C. (2)
 D. of P. (2)
 Duty Capt. (2)
 Hd. of M. (30)
 D.N.I. (4)
 I.P. (2)
 D.P.D.
 V.D.
 Ad. Blake.

Recd. in WD. 8.10.1942.

War Diary.

28.9.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

LOSMAR Overdue shipping LOSMAR (U.S) due Colombo 25/9 from Aden not arrived. (S.O.I. Colombo 0421Z/28 to Admty. etc.)

MAUNGANUI. Hospital ship MAUNGANUI sailed for Fremantle p.m. 27/9 E.T.A. 7/10. Patients carried. Requirements. (S.S.T.O. Colombo 0612Z/28 to S.T.O. Fremantle.)

ORISSA
See p 814 C. in C. South Atlantic 1301/27 concurred. (2) Request visit to Durban be omitted if possible or alternatively limited to shortest possible stay. (F.O.C.R.I.N. 0942Z/28 to Admty. (R) C. in C. S.A. etc.)

B.A.32. Sailed from Bombay 27/9 for Suez via Aden, E.T.A. Aden 0300Z/6. ETHIOPIA, NEVASA, EGRA, EL MADINA. Numbers and requirements. (P.S.T.O. India 1138Z/28 to S.S.T.O. Suez.)

Landing Craft Gear. Following from Chief of Combined Operations. S.O. Force "M" 0740/26/9. 3 tons of engine spare gear in 43 cases for landing craft ex "Ironclad" was despatched early July addressed S.N.S.O. Durban. This consignment was re-routed to Freetown in accordance with S.O. Force "F"'s 1822/11/7. Request confirmation that this gear has been received and instructions given for onward routeing to India. (C.C.O. 1816A/28 to C. in C. E.F. etc.) Reply: C. in C. E.F. 0747/30.

U/Bs. Report received of enemy S/M off Tanur, 60 miles North of Cochin encountered at 1630Z/27th. (?Further) report of enemy S/M off Calicut today 28th probably same S/M, graded A.O. (C. in C. E.F. 1855Z/28 to E.I.S.)

GERALDTON, U/B. Carried out 2 attacks on strong Asdic contact at 1818Z and 1847Z, 022° 38' N. 060° 02' E. no visible result. Contact lost following second attack. (?Institute) air R/C over area in daylight. (GERALDTON 1915Z/28 to S.N.O.P.G.)

/"Q" Report ...

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War Diary.

28.9.1942
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - contd.

"Q" Report.

Following has been read Q Q Q Q 32.43 S.
29.00 E. OCEAN VANITY, suspicious.
(Mauritius W/T 2035/28.)

Liaison
with U.S.N.

C. in C. E.F. wishes to send R.A.A. E.F. and
one staff Officer to visit Pacific Fleet.
Request you will ascertain whether this would
be agreeable to Admiral King.
(1st Sea Lord 2242A/28 to B.A.D.)

Ceylon
Harbour
Defences.

Your 1022/9 para 1 approved.
2. Owing to delay in supplies from India and
U.S.A. equipment for booms being supplied as
follows. (3,4 details)
5. Your para 2. Confirmed that JAY can lay the
controlled minefield without base ship with help of laying party
referred to in Admty. letter T. 05998/42 of 8.8.42, and
provided space can be allocated in dockyard for preparation of
mines and loops. JAY has an officer trained in C.M. surveying
duties but some assistance may be necessary for erection of
transits.
6. Your para 3, separate signal will be made.
7. Your para 5, proposal concurred in but in consequence No.1
berth should run 332° from the charted position of "A" buoy in
order to give a clear approach to C.2 berth, the northern end
of Baffle "A" being adjusted as may be necessary.
(D.B.D. approved by A.C.N.S.(F) 2250A/28 to C.O. Ceylon.)

28.9.1942.
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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

QUEEN MARY New York sailed 1400/27.
(N.S.H.Q., 0329/28 to Admty).

GENEVIEVE
LYKES. Torpedoed 1100 G.M.T. today 28/9, position 008°
56' N., 060° 08' W.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0715R/28 to Admty).
Cancel my 0715/28. Attack did not develop.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1432R/28).

*Imp. 822
(2/9) in the R 9
Sighting Summary*

Movements
Summary. 1800 G.M.T./28.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy T.9	34° N. 30° W.	053°	9
CARNARVON			
CASTLE	03° N. 26° W.	180°	14
NEWCASTLE	10° S. 33° W.	307°	18
CHELSEA	56½° N. 42° W.	220°	15
A.T.24	39° N. 58° W.	077°	26¾

(D.O.D. (F) 0950/28 to Opnav (R) Comnavu).

U/B Following received: Am over enemy submarine in
52.23 N., 30.33 W., was sighted on surface and
observed to submerge.
(A/C C/S N1UB 1215).

ST. FRANCIS. C.T.G. No 24.7's 2115/27 (Completion of ST.
FRANCIS on 8/10). *N.T. 2115/27*
(1) Would much prefer to retain ST. FRANCIS in
U.K. to rejoin proper group Task Unit 24.1.11 for
next Westbound assignment O.N. No. 144 about 3/11.
(2) If you concur request (corrupt group) be employed in fitting
H.F/D.F. and type 271 in ST. FRANCIS. Any working up practices
that time will permit will also be appreciated.
(F.O.N.F., 1312Z/28 to C. in C. W.A.)

U/B Shore watchers report submarine sighted 047° 48'
N., 052° 45' W., at 1330/28. heading south.
(C.O.A.C., 1421Z/28 to Admty).

Pacific Directive. J.S.M. 1451Z/28.
(See Australia & New Zealand).

DUC Arrival 28/9.
D'AUMALE (Willemstad, 1524/28 to M.W.T.)
Vichy.

U/B Positions. 28/9. Submarine Estimate and U.S. Submarine
notice.
(Cominch, 1611/28).

28.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.AQUITANIA,
smoke.

Since AQUITANIA is allowed to sail unescorted with large number of troops on board U.S. Authorities are concerned at amount of smoke she makes at high speed.

2. Work was recently carried out at Boston to remedy this trouble. Request you interrogate Master on arrival of ship at Capetown as to whether ship can now steam at high speeds without making smoke, if not, what is highest speed at which smoke will not be made.

(B.A.D., 1731Z/28 to C. in C. S.A., (R) Admty).

Fairmiles at
Kingston.

Your 1623/18. para. A. H.S.D. will be sent at earliest opportunity. Para. B.A.M. 1013A/19 refers. Para. C. A.M. 1933B/2/8 and your 1101P/6/8 refer. Request you will state requirements for minimum maintenance staff.
(D.D.O.D. (C) 1741A/28 to S.B.N.O.W.A.)

U/B
O.N.132*See next page.*

By D/F at 1510Z/28 at least one U-boat still in vicinity O.N.132.
(D.D.I.C., 1750A/28 to Escorts O.N.132).

SKEENA,
suspicious
lifeboat
signals.

SKEENA reports intercept at 0930/26 S O S from lifeboats claimed to be from ESSO WILLIAMSBURG claiming torpedoed 53.30 N., 41. W. while carrying fuel to Iceland. During long exchange of signals for bearings lifeboat asked once for SKEENA's identity which was not disclosed.

Eventually lifeboat claimed to have sighted SKEENA and would fire flare but did not do so explaining later pistol would not work and SKEENA then fired rocket and depth charge but received no acknowledgement nor further signals. SKEENA saw nothing in position indicated and is of opinion that submarine was using lifeboat transmitter and receiver and attempting decoy. Consider such a ruse might well be employed to draw escorts from a convoy or to entice escorts into ambush by U-boat.

(F.O.N.F., 1906Z/28 to N.S.H.Q., for D.N.I. (R) Admty. C.T.F., 24., C. in C. W.A.)

Washops. 99.

Aleutian. Kiska. Considerably increased enemy activity with many large ships in harbour. 3 medium bombers attacked shore installation on

24/9. Extent of damage unknown. On 25/9 9 medium bombers and 28 fighters attacked enemy shipping. 1 cargo ship left burning, 1 float fighter shot down and 6 out of 10 on water destroyed, 2 submarines machine gunned.

(J.S.M., Washington, 1931Z/28 to Admty etc).

Washops.

Solomons Report. (J.S.M. Washington, 2015Z/28).
See Australia.

28.9.1942.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. - Contd.CEPHEE
Dakar.

B.A.D., 2109Z/28. See South Atlantic.

→ PEIPING
(sunk 9/9).Connav serial numbers 27 and 28. PEIPING (S.W.)
torpedoed sunk 15° N., 55° W. 9/9.
(Connav, 2114/28 to Comnav) W.D. Note
Different longitude.

U/B O.N.132.

By D/F at 1933Z/28 at least one U-boat still
in vicinity O.N.132.
See previous page (D.D.I.C., 2205A/28 to Escorts O.N.132).→ Sub. attack
and sighting
summary.Para. A. PEIPING torpedoed and sunk area 15 N.,
50 W. 9/9. OZORIO and LAGES torpedoed 0013 N.
47.45 W., 2330Z/27. Ship possibly GENEVIEVE
LYKES torpedoed 08.56 N., 60.08 W., 1100Z/28.
Attack MARYMAR cancelled. H.M.S. ROTHER attacks
sub on surface about 52.50 N., 30.20 W., 1500Z/27 possibly
damaged. Para. C. P.C. 490 attacks sound contact 11 N., 67.23 W.
0835Z/20 August. C.G. 46022 sights sub. 23.32 N., 80.10 W.
2135Z/27 September. Sub sighted 10.38 N., 66.56 W., 2125Z/27
Sub. reported northbound 04.25 S., 37.45 W., 0300Z/27.
(Cominch, 2214/28 to Admty). ** See p. 820*D.W.1
Oil Ports.Ref. my 2341/15. C.A.F.A.C. reports as result of
increased net protection completed about 20/9
further surveys and actual experience indicate
shipping capacity as follows:-Curacao. Ocean tankers 35, Cargo vessels 7, Small vessels 8.
Aruba. Ocean tankers 17. Above figures are exclusive of Lake
Tankers in both cases.2. Nets have been approved for Amuay Bay (Gulf of Venezuela) as
tanker assembly anchorage also for Puerto de la Cruz.
(B.A.D., 2233Z/28 to Admty).P.Q. Convoys. Butler is enquiring for more news of recent P.Q.
convoy operations for publication and understand
he is soliciting help of Brendon Bracken.Unless there are particular objections of which I am not aware
suggest much of the information in your 2337/26 (repetition of
R.A.D's 1741/24) might now be issued in an Admiralty statement.
It would make good reading on this side.
(B.A.D., 2237Z/28 to Admty). Reply: D.P.D., 1706/29.Liaison
with U.S.N.

Admty. 2242A/28. See East Indies.

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

P. 553 Submarine Notice.
FENNEL. P. 553 escorted by FENNEL departs New London 1100Z /30. Proceed North of Block Island to Cape Cod Canal, 2100Z same date depart Eastern Entrance of Canal at 10 knots, on surface. Pass through position 5 miles 315° from Race Point light about 2315Z/30. Thence pass through 42° 54' N., 65° 32' W. about 2000Z/1/10. Thence 2 miles West of Sambro Light Vessel about 0900Z/2nd. Thence direct to Halifax.
(Cmdr. S/M's Atlantic Flotilla 2312Z/28 to C.E.S.F. 1st U.S. Naval Dist. Boston, and Cominch, who is requested to pass to:- N.S.H.Q., C.O.A.C., F.O.N.F., B.A.D., F.O.S.)

H. X. 207 Average speed 9.4
Uneventful voyage. Good weather until 24th./9 thence some fog and gales. All arrived.
(D.T.D., 2347A/28 to Connav N.S.H.Q.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Movements. Arrival Fremantle 0526Z/27 U.S. Seaplane Tender WILLIAM B. PRESTON. T.O.O. 0815Z/27. U.S. destroyer MUGFORD. Departure Fremantle 0108Z/27 H.M.A.S. BURNIE for Kilindini via Diego Garcia, T.O.O. 2025Z/27 U.S. Des. MUGFORD on patrol.
(A.C.N.B., 0356Z/28 to A.I.G. 115.)

VOYAGER grounded Betano Bay approx. 009° 11' S. 125° 43' E. 23/9 while engaged in land reinforcements for A.I.F. in Timor. VOYAGER subsequently attacked by aircraft but final destruction effected by her own personnel in view of impossibility to salvage. Ship's company returned to Darwin. 7 minor casualties.
(A.C.N.B., 0403Z/28 to ? A.I.G. 115.)

Situation. Digest Serial No. 249. 27/9.
Reports Shortlands Buin Area 27/9 indicate minimum total enemy force operating included 3 heavy cruisers (Two Machi one Kako Class), 3 light cruisers (including one Sendai One Tatsuta class) 12 destroyers, 1 probable minelayer, 1 large unidentified vessel possibly submarine Depot ship or seaplane tender 2 submarines, 1 gunboat, 6 merchant vessels, including 1 tanker. Portion of this force including 2 light cruisers 6 destroyers 1 merchant ship indicated as proceeding off S.E. coast Bougainville towards Kieta during morning but again reported off Buin during evening.

War Diary.28.9.1942.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand. conts.

- Situation Contd.
2. Air R/C reported 1 3-funnel light cruiser 5° 50' S., 153° 25' E., at 2330Z/26, course 270°
1 small merchant vessel and 1 500 ton tug 7° 20' S., 154° E., course 70°.
 3. Other report indicates 7,000 ton transport escorted by destroyer departed Buka passage evening 27/9 and after R/V with destroyer from S.W. All 3 vessels proceeded on westerly course from Buka passage. 1 small vessel remained off Soraken.
 4. One Catalina dropped bombs aerodrome vicinity Buin night 27/9. Runway described as approx. 800 yards long 50 yards wide.
 5. One of 6 Fortresses detailed attack Rabaul Harbour early morning 27/9 scored one direct hit and one near miss on 12/15000 ton merchant ship causing large column black smoke pour from rear and amidships to weight of 300 feet.
 6. One fortress attacked stores and buildings Gona morning 27/9.
 7. 6 Beaufighters and 2 Fortresses attacked enemy positions Buna area 27/9.
 8. No change Ioribaiwa Front.
 9. 7 Bostons bombed and strafed this area morning 27/9. Indications considerable enemy activity increased, number of huts and tents observed Efogi.
 10. Indications small vessel successfully attacked Trobriand Is. Area 26/9 may have been weather reporting vessel.
 11. Darwin Area again attacked night 26/27 by probably 3 enemy bombers, no damage or casualties.
 12. Japanese Unit reported occupied Ainaro 17 miles N.N.E. Beco (Portuguese Timor) morning 25/9.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A., 0731Z/28 to Admty).

Pacific Area. Amendment by U.S. Chiefs of Staff to Directive to C. in C. Pacific Ocean.
(J.S.M., 1451Z/28 to Chiefs of Staff London).
See Lion Copy.

- Washops. 1. U.S. heavy bombers attacked enemy shipping Solomon Islands Faisi Buin Tolonei area 24th. Interception by about 20 enemy fighters, one shot down. Further attack 25th.
2. Indications Japanese are evacuating Cizo, Gilbert Islands.
3. Enemy landing from 3 Warships Bern Islands 25th.
 4. Reported Japanese Commissioner established Tarawa and that Kuria will be occupied shortly.
 5. Tamana and Nonuti probably occupied by enemy.
(J.S.M., 2015Z/28 to Admty etc).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

Approx. positions. (D.D.I.C., 1411A/28 1431A/28).

824A ^{Hand}

Unparaphrased version of a Secret Cypher Telegram not
One Time Table

IZ 1614

TOO 1451Z/28
* TOR 2152A/28

MOST SECRET CYPHER TELEGRAM

From:- J S M Washington

To:- Chiefs of Staff London

JSM 404

28/9/42

Reference JSM 162

Following amendment has been made by U.S. Chiefs of Staff to Directive to the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Ocean area - cancel existing para. 10 (c) and substitute the following. Begins.

" (c) (1) In the exercise of command over armed forces which the New Zealand Government has assigned, or may assign, for the local defence of New Zealand, the New Zealand Chiefs of Staff will be the agency through which such local command is exercised.

(2) In the exercise of command the principles of command as set forth in para. 14 of ABC - 1 are applicable.

(3) With regard to the possible movement of New Zealand forces out of New Zealand territory, the following by the U.S. Chiefs of Staff to the President is self-explanatory - "Proposals of the U.S. Chiefs of Staff (for operations in the Pacific Ocean areas) made to the President as U.S. Commander-in-Chief are subject to review by him from the standpoint of higher political considerations and to reference by him to the Pacific War Council in Washington when

/necessary.

* Held for check and repeat



-2-

necessary. The interests of the Nations whose forces or whose land possessions may be involved in those military operations are further safeguarded by the power each nation retains to refuse the use of its forces for any project which it considers inadvisable". Ends.

2. Covering letter to all recipients of the Directive includes the following statement. Begins.

In accepting the modification as set forth in enclosure (a), (i.e. the amendment contained in para. 1 above), the New Zealand Government pointed out that the following reservations must be borne in mind -

- (a) New Zealand army equipment is of British type.
- (b) They must keep up their Middle East forces.
- (c) They have overseas air force commitments for
 - (1) Training programme in Canada
 - (2) New Zealand squadrons in the U.K.
- (d) Consultation with Prime Minister in New Zealand is required for future movements.

Ends.

T00 1451Z/28

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29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Aircraft reported a tanker, similar to KROSSFONN or ALTMARK at 1333A today in 43° 10' N. 12° 16' W., steering west at 7 to 10 knots. F.O.C.N.A. sailed CHARYBDIS at 2120A to endeavour to intercept and to provide cover for convoy T.10 (5 ships from westward escorted by VIMY and BURDOCK.)

D/F bearings at 2023Z indicated a German surface vessel, probably a blockade runner, probably west of 30° W. on a line bearing Malin Head to south of Greenland.

SUFFOLK, NORFOLK and ORIBI are to sail from Hvalfiord tomorrow as soon as weather permits to intercept the vessel, assuming that she intends to pass through the Denmark Straits. Air R/C is to be provided from Iceland when the weather permits.

Photographic R/C of St. Nazaire, Nantes, La Pallice, Le Verdon, Pauillac and Bordeaux has been asked for at least three times weekly until further notice, to locate movements of tankers and blockade breakers.

There was another air raid on Archangel this evening. No British naval damage is reported.

A Whitley aircraft attacked a U-Boat in the Bay of Biscay at 1211 today; depth charges brought the bow to the surface, and after 30 to 60 seconds the U-Boat sank at an almost vertical angle.

Enemy minelaying is suspected in the Plymouth area last night.

TIRPITZ was not seen in Ofotfiord by photographic R/C at 1300 today (cf. 28/9.)
No naval units were present in Lo Fiord and Foetten Fiord.

C. in C. Home Fleet is pressing for the establishment of controlled minefields at Seidisfiord (Iceland C) before winter weather sets in.

/VETERAN ...

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands - Contd.

VETERAN.

EXE, GENTIAN and aircraft who are searching for survivors of VETERAN (believed torpedoed and sunk with convoy R.B. 1) have found no trace. At 1941Z EXE reported that she and GENTIAN had carried out several attacks on a submarine in 54° 14' N. 23° 5' W. In addition to BOSTON and NEW YORK, a third steamer SOUTHLAND is overdue from convoy R.B.1 and may be the ship reported possibly torpedoed on 25/9.

It is reported that escorts of convoy S.C.100 which has just completed its voyage fuelled from tankers on convoy course at convoy speed on 8 occasions.

O.S. convoys (U.K. to W. Africa with sections for West Indies and south Atlantic ports) are being discontinued temporarily. Ships for west Africa and south Atlantic are to be sailed in O.N. and O.N.S. convoys to North America.

North Atlantic.

CLYDE and a tug towing a B.P.T. back to harbour were unsuccessfully attacked this evening by a single Ju.88, about 10 miles east of Europa Point.

South Atlantic.

Since 4/9 six aircraft sighting reports of U-Boats in the area 14° N. 17° 30' W. have been received. R.A. West Africa is enquiring from the Admiralty whether there is any information pointing to U-Boats fuelling in this area, but the Admiralty do not consider the evidence points to refuelling, though they consider that refuelling could have taken place between 23/9 and 28/9 within 150 miles of 26° N. 24° W.

SS. EMPIRE AVOCET was reported torpedoed at 2249 today in 5° 11' N. 12° 43' W. (Freetown area.) It is reported that at 1100 she had intercepted an incomplete SS from SS BAGON OGILVY, one of whose lifebelts was found in an empty boat on 30/9 in 2° 58' N., 14° 12' W.

/Vichy...

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic - Contd.

Vichy SS. AMIRAL PIERRE was sighted by S.A.A.F. today and intercepted at 1700 by NIZAM patrolling with HOTSPUR in the approaches to Lourenco Marques. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled on first sighting by S.A.A.F. and the vessel could not be saved, and she sank a.m./30 in 26° 4' S. 34° 54' E.

(AMIRAL PIERRE, formerly Greek SS. YIANNIS, was seized by the Vichy French authorities in Madagascar, from where she was now escaping.)

Mediterranean.

A Naval aircraft secured a hit amidships on an Italian destroyer last night in 78° Cape Spartivento 20 miles.

East Indies.

With reference to the suspected U-Boat off Ras al Hadd yesterday, orders were given early this morning that no ship entering or leaving the Gulf of Oman is to pass within 80 miles of Ras al Hadd.

All ships outward-bound from the Persian Gulf were ordered to proceed to Bandar Abbas for convoy.

The following measures are being adopted for the protection of Persian Gulf shipping.

(A) Inward shipping has been routed reasonably near to the Arabian coast to facilitate air patrols.

(B) The present convoy plans (see 8/9) are to be pressed on and convoys given air escort as far as possible.

(C) Catalinas will be despatched to the Gulf of Oman, when routeing will be changed to make the best use of them.

(D) Through escorts to Aden are not to be provided until more escort vessels are available, the Aden portion of the P.A. convoys being dispersed off Ras al Hadd.

/Tanker ...

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies - Contd.

Tanker BADARPUR was reported sinking and is believed to have been torpedoed by a U-Boat at 0930Z today in the Gulf of Oman in 24° 50' N. 58° 10' E. (*Report incorrect, see 16.10.42*)

Operation
"Rose".

S.O. Force M reports that South African troops and a detachment of Royal Marines were landed at Tulear this morning without incident.

A revised scale of defences has been approved for Addu Atoll as an occasional fleet fuelling base.

America and West Indies.

A ship was reported torpedoed in 47° 32' N. 52° 38' W. at 0630 today.

SS. OCEAN VAGABOND detached from H.X. 209 was torpedoed at 2030Z today in 47° 32' N. 52° 38' W. (8 miles east of Cape Spear). She was taken in tow by rescue tugs and arrived at St. Johns N.F. on 30/9.

C. in C. U.S. Fleet reports a refuelling S/M by D/F at 2217Z/28 in the area 21° 30' N. 53° 30' W.

SS. ALIPORE, Alexandria to Trinidad and New York, was torpedoed and sunk at 1450 G.M.T. in 07.09 N. 54.23 W. (about 100 miles N.E. by E. of Paramaribo).

B.R.O. Surinam reports an unknown Brazilian ship sunk at entrance to Marowyne River, from which 8 survivors were landed St. Laurent at 1600 local time today.

829

29.9.1942
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Escorts for
9th S/M
Flotilla.

A.M. 2053/28. In the event of bad weather the B type motor launches cannot carry out escort duties between Dundee and Lerwick. Under these conditions it is requested a more suitable escort may be provided when required. (F.O.S. 1013A/29 to A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth.)

ONSLOW.
Propaganda
visit to
Clyde.

C. in C. H.F. intends to send D.17 in ONSLOW to Clyde, 4th to 7th October inclusive, for propaganda Clydeside workers, this ship having now returned from recent heavy action in escorting Russian convoy. Arrangements are being made for ONSLOW, built at John Browns, Clydebank to lie alongside in that yard or other suitable berth. If no security objection propose that full publicity be given to this visit, with possible civic reception to ship and ship's company if civic authorities agree. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1209A/29 to Admty.)

STRATHNAVER.

STRATHNAVER is to be fitted as L.S. I (L) in Glasgow. Completion date should be not later than 14/10. (D.S.T. 1249A/29.)

Defence of U.K.Four H.D.M.Ls
for Clyde.

Request you will transfer four 72 foot H.D.M.Ls of 105th Flotilla to Clyde as soon as possible for work with Indicator loops. It is hoped to replace these from new constructions in November. (D.L.D. 1346A/29 to C. in C. Nore.)

Damage to
Sleat Boom.

Missing section of Sleat boom has now been replaced and patrol ship consequently withdrawn. N.O.I.C. has been requested to report on damage which it is now understood was not deliberate. (R.A.M. 1622A/29 to Admty.)

Channel Ports
A/A Defences.

A76729/9. As from first light 1/10 light A.A. guns covering the following areas will be free to engage all aircraft approaching from seaward below 1,000 feet without prior recognition. This freedom of action will apply daily from first light to last light. Areas concerned are Deal, Dover, Folkestone, Hythe, Dungeness, Hastings, St. Leonards, Bexhill, Eastbourne, Newhaven, Seaford, Brighton, Hove, Shoreham, Worthing, Littlehampton, Bognor, Chichester, Selsey, Portsmouth, Southampton, Lymington, Isle of Wight, Bournemouth, Poole, Swanage, Weymouth, Portland, Exmouth, Teignmouth, Torquay, Brixham, Dartmouth, Salcombe, Falmouth, Penzance, Marazion. Request you signal immediately all concerned have been warned. (Air Ministry 1910/29.)

War Diary.29.9.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.

RODNEY. RODNEY 1701/28. Request you sail three
L.23. destroyers to R/V with RODNEY off Loch Cairnbawn
at 1730A/29 and escort her to Scapa.
2. Sub. L.23 will be exercising independent~~ly~~ in temporary
Sanctuary between 058° 25' and 058° 14' N. and longitude 005°
30' W. and coast of Scotland.
3. C. in C. W.A. and C. in C. Rosyth are requested to arrange
A/S Air escort for RODNEY.
(C. in C. H.F. 0027A/29 to R.A.D.)
MONTROSE take HOLCOMBE and IMPULSIVE under your orders
and proceed passing Switha at 1230A today to R/V with RODNEY
off Loch Cairnbawn at 1730A/29th and escorting her to Scapa
(R.A.D. H.F. 1019A/29 to MONTROSE.)
My position at 1910 058° 30' N. 005° 17' W., course
010°, 19 knots.
(RODNEY 1910A/29 to MONTROSE.)
Screen not met. E.T.A. Scapa 2250/29.
(RODNEY 1920A/29 to A.C.O.S.)
My P.C.S. 057° 45' N. 006° 34' W., 050°, 24.
(MONTROSE 2000A/29 to RODNEY.)
Scapa arrival RODNEY.
(A.C.O.S. 2342/29.)

O.15. O.15 with PRESTON NORTH END anchored East of
Barra till weather clears.
(F.O.S. 0914A/29 to Admty.)
My 1601/28 and my 0914/29. Amend to read O.15 escorted
by PRESTON NORTH END left vicinity Barra Head 0800/29 through
Minches due Scapa daylight 30th.
(F.O.S. 1259A/29.)
Situation at 2000. O.15, PRESTON NORTH END 58° 22',
05° 35' to Scapa, speed 11.
(C. in C. W.A. 1305A/29.)

ROYAL EAGLE, Your 2052/28. It is considered that ROYAL
ARISTOCRAT EAGLE and ARISTOCRAT are the most suitable ships
for Oban. at present available being oil fired and Diesel
oil respectively.
2. Both ships are paddlers and will not stand a sea of more
than 4 to 5.
3. If weather is suitable they will be sailed south about
tomorrow.
4. It is not considered advisable they should go through the
Pentland Firth at this time of the year.
(C. in C. Nore 1020A/29 to Admty.)
Admiralty 2052/28. Intend to sail ROYAL EAGLE and
ARISTOCRAT to Portsmouth for fuel and onward routing to
Oban. Ships will be sailed to pass Sand Head Buoy 2000/30
and to arrive E.A.5 Float 0630/1.
(C. in C. Nore 1444A/29 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/PENELOPE ...

War Diary.29.9.1942
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - contd.

PENELOPE. PENELOPE at 22 knots routed through 050° 20' N.
WOLVERINE. 020° 20' W. to 180° Bishop 10 miles due 0630A/30.
WOLVERINE routed through 049° 59' N. 013° 10' W.
to 180° Bishop 10 miles, probably due 0630A/30.
WOLVERINE's present position and speed not
known.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1101A/29 to PENELOPE.)

My 0925/22. Cancel positions L, M, N, O. From 180°
The Lizard 8 proceed through (p) 180° Start Point 4.
(q) 050° 17' N. 003° 30' W. (r) 050° 17' N. 003° 00' W.
(s) 050° 27' 30" N. 002° 38' W. then by A.M. Q.Z.S. 293 and 284
to Needles. Paravanes to be run from 180° The Lizard 8.
Codeword "Sapper".

(C. in C. Plymouth 1645A/29 to PENELOPE.)

Your 1101A/29. E.T.A. 180° Bishop 10 miles at 0630A/30.
My S.O.A. is 18 knots. Estimate I will maintain 22 knots
from Bishop Rock if wind remains Westerly. My position
049° 56' N. 010° 57' W.

(WOLVERINE 1930A/29 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 1645/29th amend route and destination as follows.
From 180° The Lizard 8 proceed via A.M. Q.Z.S. 278 to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 2347A/29 to PENELOPE.)

LOCUST. My 1047/28 para 1. Amend to read thence to
M/S 9. sweep on course 180°.
T.L.C.Groups. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1154A/29.)
My 1047/28. Movements postponed 24 hours due
to weather.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 1458A/29 to N.O.I.C.
Newhaven.)

My 1458/29. Request movement arranged for in my 1113/28
may also be postponed for 24 hours.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1521A/29 to N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

Your 1521A/29. Your 1113/28 postponed 24 hours.

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 1725A/29 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

My 1047A/28 and 1113A/28. Intend to cancel movement of
9th M/S Flotilla and carry out movements of both groups of L.C.T.
A.L.C.T in LOCUST with 12 L.C.T. and L.C.F.5 will pass Gate at
2330 today for Newhaven, routed A.M. Q.Z.S. 373, 374, 375 and
363, speed 8½ knots, E.T.A. 0615/30. LOCUST will return by
inshore route. (5) Cancel my 1458A/29 and 1521A/29.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1807A/29 to N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

13 L.C.T.S, E.T.D. Spithead Gate 2330/29, E.T.A. Newhaven
0630/30, outer route. LOCUST acting as escort returning
Portsmouth by inshore route, E.T.A. 1100/30.
(B) 8 L.C.Ts, E.T.D. Newhaven 0400/30, E.T.A. Spithead 0800/30,
inshore route.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1817A/29.)

Your 1807A/29. Intend sailing 8 L.C.T. at 0400/30 for
Portsmouth. Inshore route. Speed be adjusted passing
through Looe at daylight. Request air cover.

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 2020A/29.)

Cancel my 1725A/29.

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 2047/29.)

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. - Contd.

P.614,
P.615. Arrived P.614 and P.615 escorted by JAN VAN GELDER.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1224A/29).

TYNEDALE. On relief by CLEVELAND proceed to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1341A/29 to TYNEDALE).

HOLDERNESS On relief by CLEVELAND, HOLDERNESS is to proceed to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1359A/29 to HOLDERNESS).

MALCOLM,
ACHATES. Request you will sail MALCOLM, ACHATES after refuelling at Kola for Seidis Fjord routed through positions (A) 74° 32' N., 39° 45' E. (B) 75° 27' N., 33° 08' E. (C) 75° 27' N., 13° 22' E. (D) 73° 30' N., 02° 50' E. (E) 70° 36' N., 06° 10' W.
(2) Desired that destroyers should arrive Seidis Fjord by a.m/6
(3) After refuelling Seidis Fjord MALCOLM proceed to Liverpool, ACHATES to Greenock.
(C. in C. H.F., 1419A/29 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

WAYLAND. My 1903/23 para. 3. Destroyers detailed ESKDALE (S.O.) and BLEASDALE.
see p. 835
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1453/29).
Intend sailing WAYLAND at 0730/1st to Greenock escorted by 2 destroyers of 1st D.F. reaching latitude of The Smalls about 0100/2nd where Portsmouth destroyers part company and return Needles by dark. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange onward escort to join before dark 1st October.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1641A/29).

Tanks for
Liverpool. C.C.O. 1635/23. Suitable landing place has been selected. Landing must take place between 4 hours ebb and 4 hours flood tide. It is requested L.C.T.'s may be sailed so as to be off Rock Light, River Mersey to conform. It is also requested I may be informed as early as possible expected dates of arrival of first (?2) craft.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1602A/29 to Cdr. A/C U.S. Patrol Force).

H32 Intend to sail H32 escorted by BLACKFLY from Lough Foyle at 1900A/30, arriving Rothesay 0700A/1.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 1602A/29).

/13th...

29.9.1942
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

13th M/S.F. Request you will now sail two ships of 13th M.S.F. to arrive Milford Haven on 12/10. Remaining ships to arrive Greenock p.m. 15/10. (D.M.S., 1854A/29 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations.

Patrols. Tonight. 11th M.T.B. Flotilla patrolling 15 miles South of St. Albans' Head. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1200A/29).

1. 4 M.T.Bs. patrolling 15 miles south of St. Albans. E.T.D. Needles 1930/29. E.T.A. 0615/30.
2. 3 M.T.Bs. exercising in Weymouth Bay between 1920, and 2120 tonight. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1514A/29).
Sail three M.Ls. as requisite to take up patrol on latitude 49° 55' N., between 3° 40' W., and 4° 00' W. by 2000 today. M.Ls. to return to Plymouth at daylight.
2. Object to intercept E-boats minelaying off Plymouth or attacking P.Q. 225.
3. Code word "Range 7".
4. M.Ls. from Dartmouth will be on patrol south of S.3. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1541/29 to F.O.I.C. Falmouth).
Sail available M.Ls. at 1900 today to take up patrol line 5 miles 180° from patrol S.3., returning to Dartmouth at daylight. M.Ls. to pass through 180° Start 4 on passage to and from patrol.
2. Object to intercept E-boats minelaying or attacking P.W. convoys.
3. Code word "Range 6".
4. M.Ls. from Falmouth will be on patrol S.W. of Prawle Point. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1545/29 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).
M.Ls. 148 and 149 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton and North East Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 1940, E.T.R. 0630/30. (V.A. Dover, 1752A/29).

20th E.G. 20th Escort Group STORK (Senior Officer) leaving O.N.S. 132 to reinforce S.C.102. (C. in C. W.A., 1358A/29).
Attempts to fuel SPEY in good conditions today ? have been unsuccessful. Have ordered SPEY and ROTHER at best speed to Iceland to fuel and rejoin me. My P.C.S. 2002Z/29, 049° 15' N., 034° 50' W., 011° 12 knots. DEPTFORD and TAY in company to join S.C.102 and remain with Convoy till a.m. Sunday. (STORK, 2020Z/29 to C. in C. W.A.)

Allied Air Activity.

Protection for QUEEN MARY. Admiralty 0206A/23. para. 6. Request Fighter Command make such special arrangements for local protection Clyde as may be necessary. Presume Admiralty will make arrangements for smoke screen as hitherto. (Air Ministry, 1030Z/29).

/R/C...

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity - Contd.

R/C of Biscay Ports. Request photographic R/C of St. Nazaire, Nantes, La Pallice, Le Verdon, Panillac and Bordeaux at least three times weekly until further notice to locate movements of tankers and blockade breakers.
(D.O.D. H., 2150A/29 to H.Q.C.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Archangel bombed. Archangel had air raid from 1900 lasting about two hours. Main target was City where incendiaries and few high explosives were dropped and several fires started which are now under control. No damage to Allied ships or personnel.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0737A/29 to Admty).

R.M.L. 526 damaged on 27/9. Following from R.M.L. 526 begins. Report of action a.m. 27/9/42 attacked by 4 F.W.190's in position 165° 35 miles Eddystone. Two main attacks first on beam, second on bow and quarter. Damaged sustained by cannon shell and machine gun fire to engine room, petrol compartment, W/T received, and superstructure. Three ratings wounded. Possible damage to one aircraft, unable to confirm 1300A/28 ends.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1619A/29 to Admty).

Iceland. One enemy flying boat unidentified sighted from SKELJUNGER Dalatangi 065° 17' N., 013° 33' W. course South. attacked. at 1025A/29. At 1052A SKELJUNGER Icelandic Coastal tanker attacked from 50 feet by enemy flying boat with bombs and machine guns 6 miles East of Dalatangi. Superficial damage, no casualties. One 4 engined enemy aircraft flying low circled Shalar 066° 20' N., 014° 43' W. at 1410A and proceeded North.
(N.O.I,C. Iceland, 1701A/29).

Mining.

Lyme Bay. 4th M.F. are to R/V with P.W.225 at seaward end WAYLAND. of A.M. Q.Z.S. 293 at 1500 and sweep ahead along route N as far as Dartbuoy, entering Dartmouth on completion.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1245A/29).

Tomorrow Fourth M/S Flot. is to sail at daylight and sweep route north as far as seaward end of Q.Z.S. 293 and then continue clearance of area in Lyme Bay as in my 1153/17.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1249A/29).

Swept area not appreciably increased. One mine detonated in position 50° 26' 54" N., 02° 50' 18" W. Three mines cut and exploded in positions 50° 25' 42" N., 02° 55' 06" W., 50° 26' 24" N., 02° 51' 30" W., 50° 26' 06" N., 02° 53' 36" W.
(ELGIN, 2309A/29 to C. in C. Plymouth).

/Cancel...

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining--conts--

Lyme Bay. Cancel my 1249/29. M.S.F. 4 is to leave
WAYLAND. Dartmouth at daylight tomorrow and sweep route
Contd. N. turning as necessary to sweep ahead of
WAYLAND escorted by ESKDALE and H.M.S. BLEASDALE
before latter reach 003° W.

M.S.F.4 is then to sweep ahead "Device" on route N. to Dart
Buoy and thence position 192 552 6, "Device" adjusting speed to
conform. "Device" leaves Needles 0800/30 via route N for
Plymouth, speed 13 knots. M.S.F.4 part company after passing
Start Point and proceed to Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2343A/29 to M.S.F.4).

Seidisfiord. A.C.I.C's 1744/27. I stressed the need for
Proposed early improvement of defences at Seidis Fjord
controlled (Iceland) in number 932/H.F. 9255/8 dated 14th
Minefields. July 1942. Air R/C since then must have given
the enemy a good idea of the use which we make
of this anchorage, but no practical improvements
have been made and time has been lost. I do not think that
their Lordships fully appreciate A.C.I.C's difficulties due
to conditions in Iceland, or the assistance which must be
given him. I consider that immediate steps should be taken
to provide necessary assistance and equipment to establish
controlled minefields before winter weather sets in.
(C. in C. H.F., 1415A/29 to Admty).

SCOTT, C. in C. H.F. 1319/29. ^{H.F. 1319} Intend sailing SCOTT
TEDWORTH. from Port Z.A. at 1200/3. to lay this mark about
1800 the same evening, after which it is essential
for her to proceed at nightfall for operation
S.N.3 E. Request you will sail H.M.S. TEDWORTH
for Port Z.A. in time for her to proceed in company.
(R.A.M., 1906/29 to F.O.S.)

Enemy Intelligence.

M/V off A/C reported one medium merchant ship in 042°
Cape Finisterre 01' 012° 16' W., course 270° at 1333.
(F.O.S. 1602A/29 to P.51) (C. in C. Plymouth,
1605A/29).

My 1602/29. Correct position to read 043° 10' 012° 16' speed
7 to 10 knots, tanker type about 4,000 tons, gun aft, painted
grey, no markings, Maier form bow.
(F.O.S., 1923A/29 to P.51) (C. in C. Plymouth, 1931A/29).

Ofofifiord Photographic R/C of Ofofifiord 1445/28 showed
TIRPITZ. TIRPITZ on course W, slow speed, in 68° 26' N.,
16° 40' E. unescorted.
Visual R/Cs of Ofofifiord show (1) at 1400/28
approx. 3 destroyers and 2 large merchant ships in Bogen.
2 destroyers between Bogen and Narvik.
(2) At 1300/29 Approx. 3 destroyers and 2 large merchant ships
in Bogen. TIRPITZ not seen.
(D.D.I.C., 2134A/29).

/Off...

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence - Contd.

Off Guernsey. Aircraft report enemy surface activity position approx. 25 north of Guernsey at 2035/29. (C. in C. Plymouth 2143A/29).

Surface Craft. D/F Bearings at 2023Z indicates German surface vessel, probably blockade runner, probably West of 30° W., on line of bearing Malin Head to S. of Greenland. No fix obtainable. (D.D.I.C., 2238A/29 to C. in C. H.F.)

Lofjord. Foettenfiord. Photographs of Lofjord and Foettenfiord, 1330/29 show no naval units present. (D.D.I.C., 2330A/29).

U-boats.

U-boats attacked. Am over enemy S/M in 59° 5' N., 20° 39' W. Was observed on surface and submerged. Course 250° speed 6 knots. Have attacked with depth charges. (A/C MZIR 0722Z/29).
Am over enemy submarine in 47° 02' N., (?longitude) Submarine observed to submerge on a course 100° Speed 15 knots. (A/C 3PSQ 1216/29).
Have attacked S/M with depth-charges, estimate one hit. (A/C 3PSQ 1218/29).
Am over enemy S/M in 58° 42' N., 21° 34' W. When first sighted S/M was observed to submerge on a course 240° Speed 12 knots. (A/C NLUK 1425/29).
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. (A/C NLUK 1435Z/29).
Am in contact. Have carried out 3 attacks. GENTIAN in company has carried out 2 attacks. My position 54° 14' N., 23° 50' W. Am continuing hunt. (EXE 1941Z/29 and 2359Z/29 to C. in C. W.A.)

U-boats reported. Am over enemy S/M in 46° 04' N., 12° 04' W. (A/C KLMR 1125/29).
Transit aircraft reports sighting U-boat on the surface 047° 15', 007° 50' at 1155. Course and speed unknown. Dived on sight. (F.O.C.N.A., 1928A/29 to Admty).

Navigational.

Wick. Port closed Weather. (R.N.O. Wick, 0847/29).

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.Oiling at
Sea.

Corvette 97 Task Unit No. 24.1.3 fuelled successfully at sea during a period of 4 days from 2 tankers on voyage just completed total of 8 fuellings made. All ships fuelled from alongside on convoy course at convoy speed. Gear used provided by ARGENTIA and LONDONDERRY 2½ inches canvas hose provided most effective. (C.T.U. 24.1.3., 0801Z/29). * 4/2

Casualties & Defects.NASTURTIUM,
WEYBURN,
LUNENBURG.

A.M. 1157/21. NASTURTIUM, WEYBURN, LUNENBURG have been inspected and the following work is necessary. Details.

In view of Londonderry Commitments none of these vessels can be fitted in this port. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry, 1235A/29 to Admty).

WINDSOR.

Departure H.M.R.T. CHAMPION to assist WINDSOR. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1252A/29).

Arrival QUORN, WINDSOR.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1407A/29).

WINDSOR is to be sailed from Harwich as requisite to arrive Tilbury at 1600 tomorrow to make good engine and hull defects.

2. One tug from Harwich is to be sailed in company. F.O.I.C. London is requested to arrange for tug to be in attendance at Tilbury as WINDSOR can only steam on one engine.

(C. in C. Nore, 2110A/29).

C. in C. Nore, 2110/29. Intend sailing WINDSOR and Tug SEAMAN at 0830. S.O.A. 12½ knots.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2254A/29).

WINDSOR has arrived at Harwich with the following major defects. Details.

(Capt. D.16 2332A/29 to C. in C. Nore).

STROVILI.

Greek STROVILI foundered.

(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall, 1555A/29 to Admty).

LEONIDAS,
N. CONDYLIS.

S.C.101. If LEONIDAS N. CONDYLIS has lost rudder and unable proceed Loch Ewe for East Coast, ship should proceed Glasgow.

(D.T.D., 1849A/29 to C.T.U. 24.1.14).

TIGRIS.

A.S. Chatham 1506/24. R.D.F. equipment for TIGRIS will be ready and can be delivered by following dates. Details. Now understood that

fittings of R.D.F. in TIGRIS could be undertaken at Chatham providing the equipment is supplied as stated above and vessel arrives Chatham about 7/10. Work could be completed and vessel ready to sail not later than 3/11. It is important that TIGRIS should be fitted with R.D.F. before sailing for Mediterranean and it is requested very early consideration may be given to a modification being carried out at Chatham and that approval may be given to sail vessel accordingly. (F.O.S., 1938A/29 to Admty).

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Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

Unknown
Vessel.

Following received from Sheigra Radio bearing Distress 227° Class 3.
(Port Patrick Radio, 2316 G.M.T./29).
Following from Gallan Head Radio. Distress D/F bearing 187° grade 3.
(Port Patrick Radio, 2320 G.M.T./29).

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy R.B.1
VETERAN lost.
SOUTHLAND
overdue.

Your 2332A/28. My P.C.S. at 0400Z/29, 055° 18' N. 026° 22' W., 116° 18 knots. Intend to commence search in 054° 34' N., 025° 44' W. and work towards 054° 01' N., 023° 10' W.
(EXE, 0420Z/29 to C. in C. W.A.)

Evidence shows that VETERAN was probably steaming 080° 16 knots from approx. 54° 34' N., 25° 44' W., at 0001A/26. It is possible that she may not have been torpedoed until as late as 0400/26. Search an area between 54° 30' and 53° 30' N., between 21° 01' W., and 22° 40' W. If weather permits aircraft will co-operate. 78 survivors from NEW YORK and BOSTON may have been on board VETERAN.

(C. in C. W.A., 1943A/29 to EXE, GENTIAN).

My position at 1338Z/29, 054° 22' N., 024° 29' W., searching lane 40 miles wide, mean line of advance 110° 5 knots. Nothing sighted. Light air, visibility excellent. Request further air co-operation. Making smoke every 15 mins.

(EXE, 1415Z/29).

I have today interviewed C.O. VANOC who reports he was last in contact VETERAN at 0038Z/26. Latter had picked up about 30 survivors from NEW YORK and was rejoining convoy steering 080° 16 knots. VETERAN has previously recovered about 48 survivors from BOSTON. VETERAN must be considered lost. EXE and GENTIAN assisted by air are searching for survivors. River Steamer SOUTHLAND is also overdue.

(C. in C. W.A. 2213A/29 to Admty Capt. D. Liverpool, H.M.S. VANOC).

S.C.100
MOUNT EVANS.

S.C.100. A.M. 2013A/20/3/42. MOUNT EVANS diversion not received.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 0910A/29).

A.T. 24.
(QUEEN MARY).

My 1453Z/28. For BEAGLE read BULLDOG.
(C. in C. W.A., 0945A/29 to N.O.I.C. Belfast, N.O.I.C. Greenock Cdre. Londonderry H.M.S. CURACOA, QUEEN MARY).

Admty. 0206A/23. para. 6. Request fighter Command make such special arrangements for local protection Clyde as may be necessary Presume Admiralty will made arrangements for smoke screen as hitherto.
(Air Ministry, 1030Z/29 to F.C.)

/C. in C...

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys - cont.

- A.T.24
(QUEEN MARY).
Contd. C. in C. W.A. 1453Z/28. Intend sailing CURACOA 1100Z/1st. R/V for destroyer in position 000° Lough Foyle Buoy 5 miles at 1700Z/1. (N.O.I.C. Belfast, 1209A/29).
- O.N.135. Request at least one tanker be provided in O.N. 135 for fuelling escorts at sea. Estimated requirement three hundred tons. (C.T.U. 24.1.3., 1015/29 to C. in C. W.A.)
- W.S.23. My 1457A (?24th). BEAGLE, WRESTLER are to proceed to Londonderry as convenient to fuel and rejoin at Oversay R/V.
(C. in C. W.A., 1023A/29).
A.M. 1836/16 (amended by 2309/24) 1538/17 1314/25 (amended by 1918/26) and 1657/28. Intend sailing W.S.23 comprising HIGHLAND MONARCH, CAPETOWN CASTLE, EMPRESS OF RUSSIA, MORETON BAY, RIMUTAKA, KINA II, STRAAT, MALAKKA, SILVER SANDAL, ~~PORT JACKSON~~ 1530A/30 for Freetown escorted from Liverpool by DURBAN, DESPATCH, PUCKERIDGE, KANARIS. And in addition from position A 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0700A/1st by QUEEN OF BERMUDA from Clyde, and BEAGLE, WRESTLER, BICESTER, ZETLAND from Lough Foyle. N.O.I.C. Greenock and N.O.I.C. Londonderry are requested to sail ships accordingly. Speed of advance 12½ knots. Code word "Sparrow".
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1132A/29).
Request fighter protection from 1530A/30 to limit of endurance. Details.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1150A/29 to H.Q.F.C.)
Intend sailing QUEEN OF BERMUDA passing Clyde Boom 1930A/30 to R/V in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0700A/1st. Codeword "Sparrow One".
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1756A/29).
- Q.P.14. Request Enquiry may be held to discover why TROUBADOUR. TROUBADOUR and WINSTON SALEM separated from WINSTON SALEM. Q.P.14 observing that they both had ample speed for keeping station. By getting out of touch they not only endangered themselves but also increased the chances for enemy aircraft and U-boats to locate the convoy. The submarine Distress signal made by TROUBADOUR further compromised the route of the convoy.
(C. in C. H.F., 1215A/29 to Admty).
- N.A.16 Convoys N.A.16 and A.T.23 are due U.K. about
A.T.23. 7/10.
2. N.A.16 comprises ATHLONE CASTLE and STIRLING CASTLE for Liverpool, PASTEUR for Tail of the Bank, and AWATEA for Glasgow.
3. A.T.23 comprises ORONTES for Avonmouth, DEMPO for Liverpool, STRATHALLAN for Tail of the Bank, MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE, for Glasgow, and U.S. personnel ships SAMUEL CHASE, THOMAS STONE, LEEDSTOWN and M.T. ship ALMAA for Belfast.
(D.S.T., 1320A/29).

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

Route "O"
cancelled.

My 1701/10. Cancel route O, all shipping is to proceed by route N.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1355A/29).
My 1355/29. Dan buoys are being laid one mile to the south of Route N. All ships are to be warned that route N must be followed as accurately as possible.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1855A/29) Cancelled by C. in C. Plymouth 1655/1.

P.W.225,
W.P.225.

Route N must be followed as accurately as possible owing to suspected minelaying last night, (C. in C. Plymouth, 1401A/29 to Escorts).

YORKTOWN
(Convoy
O.N.133).

Your 1314A/29. My position 2000A/29 will be 055° 26' N., 011° 34' W, suffix, A, course 085° 10 knots (SABRE, 1548A/29 to C. in C. W.A.)
Arrived SARDONYX.
(Cdre. Londonderry, 1850A/29).

LADY OF MANN.

Intend sailing LADY OF MANN to Clyde at 1800/30. Speed 22 knots, E.T.A. 2000/1st. Escorted by Minches by CHIDDINGFOLD. Route. Request air escort and codeword. LADY OF MANN one Naval Officer 10 Army Officers 120 other ranks.
(N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1657A/29 to A.C.O.S.)

BEN-MY-CHREE,
PRINCESS
MAUDE.

BEN-MY-CHREE and PRINCESS MAUDE will be used to transport U.S. troops ex A.T.24 to Belfast, crossing night 3/4.
2. BEN-MY-CHREE will be used to transport about 200 U.S. Troops Belfast to Clyde crossing a.m./4th for embarkation in T.A.24.
3. Request ships be sailed accordingly.
(D.O.D. (H), 1952A/29 and 1255A/1).

Search of
M/Vs
arriving in
U.K.

A.M. 2108A/20/2/42. Amend last para. to read "Thurso (Kirkwall if weather is unsuitable) or Scalloway. Shetlands, for fishing vessels proceeding to East Coast ports".
(D. of L.D., 2125A/29).

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Intelligence. A.M. 1832A/22.
1. No further reliable reports of activities of German or Japanese raiders but at least one German raider considered still to be in South Atlantic.
2. WICHITA (U.S.) overdue at Trinidad since 18/9 from Takoradi. (D.D.I.C. 2018A/29 to A.I.G. 13 etc).

North Atlantic.

SCOTTISH. Lost touch VERA RADCLIFFE 300° Cape Trafalgar 12. He? kept much more to seaward after Cape Trafalgar. ABGAM 4. Weather Report. (SCOTTISH 0302A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.).
My 0302. Vessel in company. (SCOTTISH 0752A/29 to F.O.C.N.A.).

MALAYA My 1200/28. MALAYA and escort have sailed. exercises. (F.O.C.N.A. 0318A/29 to Admty).
Your 1200/28. Approved.
MALAYA is required to join Home Fleet forthwith.
2. You are requested to sail her for Scapa escorted by PENN, PANTHER and LOOKOUT as soon as convenient.
3. Destroyers will return to Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1034A/29 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) C. in C.W.A. C. in C. H.F., MALAYA).
My 0318/29. MALAYA and escort have returned. (F.O.C.N.A.1842A/29 to Admty).

FOLKESTONE FOLKESTONE attacked U-Boat contact which had U/B dived after RDF detection at 2204Z/28 in 019° 40' S.L.123. 019° 58', contact subsequently lost. No attack convoy. No H/F transmission heard on A.S. 1 or 2 or A.W.1. S.L.123 position 0800Z/29 020° 36' N. 019° 49' W. 001° 6½. POTATHISO (?POTARO) reports (?difficulty in) maintaining present low speed and requests permission to proceed independently at 14 knots. Weather report. (PELICAN 0840Z/29 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Your 0840/29th. POTARO is not to leave convoy unless otherwise ordered by Admiralty. (F.O.C.N.A. 2258A/29 to R.A.W.A.F.PELICAN (R) Admty, C. in C. W.A.).

LE TRAIT. Arrived Viana 26th. (French) (Oporto 1027A/29 to M.W.T.).

P.48. P.48 leaves Gibraltar p.m./29 for patrol N. of 36° 20' between 3° 37' W. and 4° 10' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1108A/29 to 8th S.F.).
See next page. My 1036/28 departure 1550. P.48. (F.O.C.N.A. 1626A/29 to C. in C.Med).

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

P.552. Onward route on surface at your discretion through position "A" 40° 01' 12° 30' W. at 1400/4 B. 225° Cape St.Vincent 15 miles at 1800/5 C. 36° 34' 06° 53' at 0600/6th to R/V escort in D. 360° Cape Spartel 5 miles at 1300/6th.
 2. Total bombing restriction arranged 20 miles either side of route from 35 miles ahead to 35 miles astern of estimated position.
 Report if outside bombing restriction and if unable to R/V within 2 hours of time stated. U-Boats have been operating recently near coast between Gibraltar and Lisbon.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1206A/29 to P.552 (R) Admty, etc).

W.S.22. F.O.I.C.Liverpool's 1750/28. Request repeat name of first destroyer spelling corrupt. Ships concerned should be warned not more than three can be in harbour at the same time.
 (N.A.Lisbon 1620A/29 to Admty).

Interception of Spanish Ships. Madrid 264 25/9, to Min E.W. regarding transfer German ship and Admty letter M.05717/42 of 8/6 not to Madrid. Intend sending these ships in if met flying Spanish Naval Reserve flags.
 2. Should they be sent in if flying naval flags?
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1622A/29 to Admiralty (R) B.N.A. Madrid).

French S/Ms. Armed trawler LA HAVRAISE escorting French S/Ms L'AUORE, LA SULTANE, ATALANTE, ARETHUSE and PERLE passed Gibraltar westbound at 5.30 p.m./29.
 (D.O.R. 1136 - no signal in W.D.).

*CLYDE. P.48. *p.841* CLYDE carried out trimming dive about 4 miles east of Gibraltar. Enemy aircraft still in Vicinity. Proceed diving by day.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1736A/29 to P.48 (R) CLYDE).

CHARYBDIS. */H.T. & V.D. but see p.825* F.O.S. 1602/29. Intend sailing CHARYBDIS to endeavour to intercept and provide cover for western convoy escorted by VIMY, BURDOCK.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1820A/29 to Admty (R) F.O.S. etc).
 My 1802/29. Sailed CHARYBDIS. *See also next page of Sus - previous tanky*
 (F.O.C.N.A. 2120A/29 to Admty).

*CLYDE. P.219. ** See next page* Bombing restrictions for CLYDE increased to 60 miles astern of estimated position and for P.219 to cover her whether diving or on surface.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 1940A/29 to 8 S/M F.).

/Suspicious....

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

Suspicious Tanker. At 1333/29 aircraft reported sighting a tanker of about 4,000 tons in 42° 10' N. 12° 16' W. course 270°. 7 to 10 knots, painted grey, no flag or markings, maierform bow, bridge amidships, squat funnel aft, gun aft which fired 6 rounds at aircraft. (D.D.I.C. 2005A/29 to F.O.C.N. A.) (F.O.C.N.A. 2200A/29 to N.A.St)

See previous page - LHMAR1B212

Bombing Restrictions. Request total bombing restrictions in following areas.

Area.	From.	Until.
G.26.	1400/3rd	1800/4th.
G.17	1000/4th	2200/4th.
G.16	1400/4th	1500/5th.
G.15	0700/5th	2000/5th.
G.14	1200/5th	0400/6th.

All times Zones Minus 1.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2140A/29 to Admty, H.Q.C.C.(R) F.O.S.).

CLYDE A/C Attack. At 1652/29. CLYDE was attacked by single JU.88 who subsequently machine gunned CLYNE CASTLE towing BPT back to harbour. Approx position of attack 10 miles east of Europa Point.
2. No damage or casualties in either ship.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2246A/29 to Admty (R) C. in C.Med. etc)

A/C attack. Following received: AAAA 26.20 N. 34.15 W. (unread) CARMEN attacked A/C 2345 G.M.T. (G.L.U. 2359/29).

South Atlantic.

W.S.22. Arrived SHROPSHIRE with W.S.22. (Cdre i/c Durban 0358Z/29 to Admty etc).

CAP EL HANK (French) ? arrived. (Lagos. No.T.O.O./29th to M.W.T.).

MEAD. My 1045/12th. Have been unable to obtain additional labour. Regret date of completion viz. 28/11 cannot be advanced. (C.S.Simonstown 0910C/29, to Admty).

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.

BRIDGEWATER. My 1456A/26. (Ref. Request for Tyne to sail BRIDGEWATER) On completion escort O.S.42 BRIDGEWATER will proceed to Freetown in accordance with A.M. 1922A/11th to BRIDGEWATER only.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1034A/29 to EGRET, FLEETWOOD, PHILANTE, BANFF, BRIDGEWATER).

U/Bs. Following air sighting reports. 1303/28. Transit Hudson. $11^{\circ} 18' N. 17^{\circ} 46' W.$ Periscope wake. 1430/28, Transit Wellington. $14^{\circ} 30' N. 37^{\circ} 53' W.$ Surface U-Boat which dived. 1730/28. Hurricane $14^{\circ} 02' N. 17^{\circ} 05' W.$ 2 surface U-Boats which dived. First and second assessed possible, third reliable.
(R.A.W.A. 1042/29 to Admty).

C.F.5. 1. Intend to sail convoy C.F.5. consisting of RANGITIKI, CASSIA, STAFFORDSHIRE, LARGS BAY, and HAI LEE, escorted by CORFU, WIVERN, AVON VALE, and VELOX at 1900Z/30th.
2. HAI LEE will be detached to proceed Bathurst escorted by ANTELOPE sailing from Bathurst.
3. WIVERN, AVON VALE, and VELOX will have to return to Bathurst to refuel at limit of (?tested) endurance.
4. Unless onward destroyer escort can be provided intend to disperse STAFFORDSHIRE and LARGS BAY to proceed independently after Freetown, destroyer escort leaves convoy.
5. Intended route of convoy C.F.5:- A. $009^{\circ} N. 016^{\circ} W.$ B. $012^{\circ} N. 019^{\circ} W.$ C. $016^{\circ} N. 021^{\circ} W.$ D. $025^{\circ} N. 021^{\circ} W.$ E. $040^{\circ} N. 020^{\circ} W.$ F. $049^{\circ} N. 023^{\circ} W.$ thence as ordered by C. in C.W.A. Estimated S.O.A. 12.8 knots.
6. CORFU will shift to North Atlantic W/T organization at 1500Z/3/10.
(R.A.W.A. 1101Z/29 to Admty (R) F.O.C.N.A. etc).

Fuelling of U/Bs. Since 4/9, 6 aircraft sighting reports of U-Boats in area $14^{\circ} N. 17^{\circ} 30' W.$ have been received and one German U-Boat fixed by D/F within 100 miles of this position on 23rd. Does any information point to U-Boats fuelling in this area?
(R.A.W.A. 1127Z/29 to Admty (R) B.A.D.)
Reply: Admty 1819/30.

K.14. Neth. S/M K.14 returned Simonstown for repairs requiring new cylinder cover for air compressor. Estimated time required 3 weeks.
(C. in C.S.A. 1400C/29 to Admty).

/W.S.22A and B...

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

W.S. 22A and B. Sailing telegram. Escorts, ALCANTARA, RANCHI, DEVONSHIRE.
(N.C.S.O. Capetown 1415C/29 to Admty. etc).

POSTBOY. Sailed POSTBOY to Kilindini routed as in My 0643/11/8.
(2) Wireless watch on 500 K/Cs in single operator periods.
3. S.Ps.held.
(4) Signal letters BDKC.
(5) S. of A. 10 knots, E.T.A. a.m./7/10.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1449Z/29 to Admty etc).

Operation "Volley." Your 1121/23 and my 0608/25. Intend carrying out Operation "Volley" sailing SIRIUS and PHOEBE and mine clearance Flotilla tomorrow 30/9 and carrying out daily air searches between 037° S. and 042° S. and 018° E. and 026° E. from 30/9 to 5/10 inclusive.
2. Above cruisers and mine clearance Flotilla form Force V from a.m./30/9.
(C. in C.S.A. 1553C/29 to Admty).

CROCUS Report P.C.S. and E.T.A.
(R.A.W.A. 1626Z/29 to CROCUS).
Your 1626Z/29th. My P.C. and S.at 1900Z/29.
004.34 S. 027.16 W. 046.10. Onward route direct to Freetown E.T.A. 1600Z/4th. Weather report.
(CROCUS 1905Z/29 to R.A.W.A.).

PARTRIDGE, ANTELOPE, LAFONIA. E.T.A. 0001Z/30. ANTELOPE and SS. LAFONIA in company, request light and permission to enter harbour.
(PARTRIDGE 1730Z/29 to N.O.I.C. Bathurst (R) R.A.W.A.)

Personnel for Takoradi. Your 1041/26 to D. of S.T. CAP PADARAN is considered too slow.
2 Personnel ex AQUITANIA for Takoradi should be embarked in ANTENOR provided she can be escorted.
4. Request report of action proposed.
(D. O.D.(F) 1822A/29 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown).

Dakar R/C. R/C of Dakar at 1707/28 shows RICH^ELIEU in usual berth. 2 "Gallissonniere." Class cruisers, 2 "Fantasque" Class destroyers, JULES VERNE, 7 S/Ms present, with one S/M manoeuvring off Goree. Ref. B.A.D. Washington's 2109Z/28, No.2. Mole was not covered.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1901Z/29 to Admty.)

Movements. Arrival 29th. COPINSAY and U.S. Cruiser CLEVELAND.
(N.O.I.C. Takoradi 1916Z/29 to Admty etc).

/NIZAM....

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

NIZAM,
HOTSPUR,
interception
of
AMIRAL
PIERRE.

My 1532Z/29th (N.T. in W.R.) Seacocks were open and ship abandoned on 1st sighting A/C. Officers ordered to return on board with boarding party which succeeded in closing valves. Broken condenser inlet was 14 feet under water and could not be (?intensively) dealt with. Ship still afloat but making water. Attempts to tow have been abandoned until dawn when further efforts will be made if still afloat. HOTSPUR has been detached to Durban with officers and crew. NIZAM standing by. (NIZAM 1923Z/29 to N.O.I.C. Durban (R) C. in C.E.F. C. in C.S.A.)

O.S.
Convoys.

Pass to N.C.S.Os.
O.S. Convoys are being temporarily discontinued. Ships for West Africa and South Atlantic are to be sailed in O.N.S.138, O.N.139, O.N.S. 142, O.N.143 and thereafter in slow and fast convoys. Coloured route will follow by memorandum. (D.T.D. 2026A/29 to C. in C.W.A.)

*Alternate
(sup 873)*

NEWCASTLE.

C. in C.S.A. 1317B/19 (N.T. in W.R.). Sailing Pernambuco- Bermuda instructions from Comtask 23 at 1100Z/30. Routed through positions. R. 002° 59' S. 030° 01' W. and S. 020° 02' N. 045° 58' W. S. of A. 18 knots. U.S. Authorities (?being) informed by Comtask 23. (NEWCASTLE. 2126Z/29 to Admty etc).

U/B.

Following from AVILA STAR S/M reported in 024° 55' S. 021° 51' W. by unknown merchant ship at 1100 G.M.T./?29 or 27 S/Ms on the surface jamming. (Portsmouth Radio 2201/29 to C. in C.W.A. (R) Admty)

Ship
Torpedoed.

DE VPU Sierre Leone Radio. Addressed GB.3. C.P. X 259 SSSS 5.11 N. 12.43.W. unread torpedoed. (Valentia Radio 2318/29 to Admty).

War Diary.

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy M/V. Following has been read. P.C. and S. of 4 medium (not exceeding 10,000 tons) M/Vs 200° Cape Spartivento 5 miles course 270° 8 knots. (A/C duty 'X' No. 2 Sqdn., 0003/29 to A.H.Q. Malta.) P.C. and S. of 1 enemy M/V 107° Banco 12 miles 210° 12 knots. (A/C of No. 2 Sqdn. duty 'X', 0035/29 to Air H.Q. Malta.)

Enemy Transport, Cargo ship. Source reports 27/9 at 0930 G.M.T. 1 transport about 12,000 tons escorted by 1 Spica class destroyer, 2 M.A.S. and 1 aircraft passed 6 miles off Loryma coming from ?W.N.W. bound (Gr. Mut. ?Rhodes). (Smyrna, 0015/29 to Beirut, (R) D.N.I., S.O.I. Med., S.O.I. Istanbul.) Source reports 28/9 at 0830 G.M.T. 1 cargo ship about 3000 tons half loaded. Passed ?6 miles off Loryma coming from ?W. bound ?Rhodes. (Smyrna, No T.O.O./29 to Beirut, (R) D.N.I., S.O.(I) Med., S.O.(I) Istanbul.)

A.P. 3, A.B. 1. Sailing telegram. (N.C.S.O. Aden, 0603Z/29, 0604Z/29 to Admty., etc.)

Enemy Units P. 211. 1 merchant ship 4 destroyers 037° 56' 015° 42' 090°, 10 knots expected to coast crawl to vicinity Colonne before proceeding eastward during the night. Aircraft expected to attack after dark. (Capt. S.10, 1001B/29 to P.211, (R) C. in C. Med., Capt. S.1.) My 1001/29. Ship was not located by p.m. R/C; if nothing sighted by 0001/30 proceed in execution of previous orders. (Capt. S.10, 1902B/29 to P.211, (R) Capt. S.1, C. in C. Med.)

Cositrep No. 532. Air. 1. Night 27/28. Torpedo aircraft from Malta and Egypt attacked 2 M/Vs of 5000 and 8000 tons respectively in southbound convoy west of Crete. Results unobserved. 2. Wellington mined and bombed Tobruk harbour. Large explosion caused at petrol installations on south shore. (C. in C. M.E., 1021 G.M.T./29.)

ALBARO, CELENO (Italian) My 1652C/28. Reported B.3. ALBARO, CELENO were due sail from Piraeus for Istanbul and Constanza p.m./18. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1108C/29 to S.O.I. Med., etc.)

/ M/V ...

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

M/V sunk by P.35, 27/9. Add to situation report 270, first para. P.35 sank large merchant ship out of convoy of 2 merchant ships escorted by 6 destroyers on southerly course west of Cephalonia. First attacked 1732/27th in 037° 01' N. 020° 23' E. and again at 2330/27th. (C. in C. Med., 1143C/29 to Admty.) See also 0951/30.

Aircraft Repairs. Your 1303/1, C. in C. E.F. 1104/11, C. in C. S.A. 1614/4. Proposals to pool repair facilities for Fayid and Middle East approved, but control of F.A.A. requirements for whole of Africa by Joint Staff at Cairo not approved. 2. Control and pooling of stocks of aircraft stores by Joint Staff in Cairo not approved but no objection to meeting R.A.F. repair requirements at Fayid from Admiralty stocks held at Fayid on understanding that R.A.F. reciprocate. (Hd. of Air Br., 1619A/29 to C. in C. Med., (R) C. in C. E.F., etc.)

Landing Craft. Your 68403 (M.O. 5) 27/9. C. in C. Mediterranean considers C. in C. Eastern Fleet should be asked to provide 12 L.C.A. on completion of Madagascar operations to replace those sent to India. We need all landing craft we can get. (C. in C. M.E., 1635Z/29 to W.O., (R) C. in C. Med., C. in C. India.) *Reply: WD, 10/10/42.*

Malta Air Report. I.11 29/9/1942. 28th. 1504 hours 3 Me.109s crossed coast at 17,000 ft. Possibly to entice our fighters North of Island where 11 Me.109s were patrolling at 27,000 ft. Partial R.D.F. interference. 10 Spitfires intercepted raiders North of Malta but enemy avoided combat and fled. 1615 hours 2 Spitfires made anti E-Boat patrol North Malta but saw nothing. 29th. 0445-0715 hours 2 sections Spitfires made R/C patrols south Sicily. Night 28/29th. 1 Wellington 8 on shipping R/C Messina area found 2201 hours 1 M/V reported 4000 tons 3 E/Vs 055° Spartivento 5 miles course west 9 knots. 4 x 500 lb. G.P. bombs dropped from 3000 ft. 1 bomb burst by stern of M/V (photos 29th show 1 M/V 2000 tons probably same vessel beached off Locri.) 1 Special Swordfish 1 torpedo Swordfish 2 torpedo Albacores despatched to attack found 2359 hours 1 D/R probably Navigatori class 078° Spartivento 20 miles course 238° 20 knots. 2 duplex torpedoes depth setting 16 ft. dropped from 50 ft. range 500 yards 1 hit scored amidships. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1735/29.)

Attack on M/V 2/9, beached. My 1435/3. Ship has now been removed. (V.A. Malta, 1821B/29 to C. in C. Med., (R) Admty.)

/Damage ...

29.9.1942.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Damage to
BOLZANO.

My 1325B/22nd (re photographs Naples 21/9 show
BOLZANO arrived. Large gash starboard side -
foremost funnel displaced.)

There seems no reason to doubt that ship is
Italian Cr. BOLZANO but it is of interest that torpedo for P.44
would have hit port side.

(V.A. Malta, 1836B/29 to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med.)

W.D. Note:- P.44 arrived Malta 19/9.

(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1640B/19.)

Had sunk schooner and small M/V on 17/9.

(C. in C. Med., 1639C/21.)

No signal in W.D. about an attack on BOLZANO.

M/S
Vessels.

Your 2037C/13 (M/S vessels to be fitted with
Type 140.) According to Admiralty Records, of
the 5 local M/S trawlers at Gibraltar, 2 are
already fitted with Type 140. All future

reinforcements will either have A/S gear or Type 140 already
fitted.

2. If you are considering Motor Minesweepers, these will not
take Type 140. Request you will state by name which ships you
have in mind requiring Type 140.

(D.A/S.W., 2120A/29 to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

B.P.56A. Sailing telegram. Escort CLIVE.
(N.C.S.O. Bombay 0136Z/29, 0138Z/29 to Admty.)

Shipping Persian Gulf. B.A.M.S. From S.N.O.P.G. Gulf of Oman - no ship entering or leaving is to pass within 80 miles of Ras al Hadd. Persian Gulf - all ships outward bound proceed Bandar Abbas for convoy. (S.N.O.P.G. 0345/29 to B.A.M.S.)

Operation "Rose" Ultimatum accepted. Ships did not bombard. Occupation now taking place.
(C. in C. E.F. 0624Z/29 to Admty. (R) E.A. Command)
Local Commander accepted W/T ultimatum 0712.

Dropped anchor without incident 0713. White flag 0730.

2. Landed one company Pretoria Reg. and detachment of Royal Marines commencing 0750. W/T station intact 0830, town and barracks occupied 0930.
3. Chef de Region and local administration friendly. Police co-operative. No opposition.
4. Tactical R/C reports several road blocks on road to Tongobory and Ampanato. Main road to Manera apparently clear.
5. Landing of 8 M.T. held up temporarily by fall of tide.
(S.O. Force M 1045C/29 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez for Buttermere and Island Area.)
3 A.F.Vs. 5 lorries, landed.
2. 1 officer, 34 other ranks, prisoners. No other troops in neighbourhood.
3. Tac. R/C reported in my 1045 confirmed road to Manomba also blocked. No troops at Tongobory.
4. 100 regular troops believed left for interior 20/9 towards Sakaraha leaving only 40 militia.
5. Troops believed to have left Ihogy possibly for Fianarantoa.
6. "Rose" population particularly friendly.
7. SS. MARSHAL GALLIENI left "Rose" 10/9.
(S.O. Force M 1614C/29 to C. in C. E.F. (R) Admty. N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez for Island Area. EREBUS for Buttermere.)

"Q" Report OCEAN VANITY. Following has been read by Colombo W/T.
Following received. QQQQ - suspicious vessel
32.42 S 20.00 E, OCEAN VANITY suspicious 2035/28.
T.O.R. 2057/28 de Z S C.
(Mauritius W/T 0818/29.)

TJERK HIDDDES VAN GALEN Your 0842/29 (N.T. in W.R.) not to R.A.D. E.F.
TJERK HIDDDES will be there. I can only release
VAN GALEN if R.A.D. E.F. is available to R/V
with me off Majunga 2/10.
(S.O. Force M 1414Z/29 to C. in C. E.F. (R)
R.A.D. E.F.)

851

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.- Contd.Convoy
Assembly
Port.

Your 1129Z/22/9. Para 2. I appreciate that Gulf of Kutch suffers from these drawbacks but I hope that difficulties are not unsurmountable.

(a) I consider that risk of attack is small and can be accepted.

(b) Boat communication can probably overcome most of the difficulties.

(c) Not intended that ships should remain in Gulf of Kutch for longer than is necessary for assembly of convoy, which should not normally be more than a few days. Emphasized therefore that repair facilities and supplies are not essential.

(d) Understood that weather conditions are suitable for greater part of the year.

2. Gulf of Kutch is preferable to Cochin from an operational point of view for following reasons.

(a) Conveniently situated geographically for assembling shipping from East Africa, India, Ceylon and Australia.

(b) Ships for East Africa bound for Persian Gulf would save some 500 miles by going to Gulf of Kutch rather than Cochin.

(c) By having assembly port as far North as possible on West coast India, A/S escort commitments will be reduced and simplified.

3. If this proposal proves impracticable I can see no other alternative but to use Bombay and accept congestion. Bombay would have many compensating advantages and much of traffic must in any event use that port.

4. I would be glad of your further remarks.

(C. in C. E.F. 1506Z/29 to F.O.C.R.I.N. (R) Admty. etc.)

*Reply:
FOCRIN
0958/30/10.*U/Bs
Gulf of
Oman.

There is evidence of a submarine campaign developing in Gulf of Oman which may necessitate transfer there of (?Catalina) at short notice to work under direction of S.N.O. P.G.

Request (a) 4 A/C be kept in readiness.

(b) The base from which these A/C will operate if required. 222 Group pass to 225 Group. S.N.O. P.G. pass to Air H.Q. Iraq. (C. in C. E.F. 1535Z/29 to 222 Group (R) S.N.O. P.G. etc.)

DRAGON.

Ref. Capt. Supt. Durban's 1117/26 (N.T. in W.R.) Following is repetition of my 0818Z/25 (Begins) Addressed N.O.I.C. Durban (R) DRAGON from C. in C. E.F.

It is intended to sail DRAGON for U.K. after arrival DURBAN about end of October. The minimum necessary refitting work should therefore be done on her at Durban.

This information is not to be divulged except to selected officers. T.O.O. 0818Z/25. (Ends.)

(C. in C. E.F. 1620Z/29 to Admty.)

BADARPUR
sinking.*(Unjustified
Report)*

Following received from GERALDTON addressed S.N.O. Persian Gulf (Begins) BADARPUR reported sinking and lifeboats in water, 024° 50' N 058° 10' E at 0930Z/29. 28 miles from M.O. Am investigating T.O.O. 1200Z/29 (Ends.)

(C. in C. E.F. 1657Z/29 to Admty.) *See Ci CEF 1467A/16/10/42*

/"S"...

War Diary.29.9.1942.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.

"S"
report. Following has been read.
SSSS position 1120 zone time.
81.07 E 9 10 being followed by submarine.
(Addressee undecypherable T.O.R. 1800Z/29.)

?Ship
torpedoed. Vessel reported in 024° (750') N 058° 10' E at
0930Z/29. Probably torpedoed by (?U-Boat)
(C. in C. E.F. 1845Z/29 to S & A E.I. Stn.)

Addu
Atoll. Revised scale of defences.
(W.O. 1900/29 to C. in C. India)
See Lion Copy.

Plan
"Oman" Plan "Oman" has not been adopted for the following
reasons.
(A) It is desired (sic) to introduce an
emergency measure which by taking all available
escort forces would conflict with development of stages two and
three of the convoy plan given in D.C. in C. 0953/2/8 my
0324/7/8 and my 1338/31/8.
(B) Taking into account navigational difficulties and weather
conditions it is unlikely that the scheme would work in practice.
Few inward bound ships would actually be escorted and ships
would be dispersing from BB as other converged on that position
so that trouble would be likely at night or in low visibility.
(C) With the limited air forces available the advantages of the
proposed air patrols would not compensate for the dangers of
routeing by tramlines which would very soon be known to the enemy.
2. Instead of plan "Oman" the following measures are to be
adopted:-
(A) Inward shipping has been routed reasonably near to the
Arabian coast to facilitate air patrols.
(B) Present convoy plans must be pressed on and convoys given
air escort as far as possible.
(C) Catalinas will be despatched to Gulf of Oman when routeing
will be changed to make best use of them.
(D) Through escorts to Aden should not be provided until more
escort vessels are available, the (?Aden) portion being dispersed
off Ras al Hadd.
(C. in C. E.F. 1914Z/29 to S.N.O. P.G. (R) Admty. etc.)
S.N.O. Persian Gulf's 1011Z/24 in 4 parts, 1102Z/24,
1004/24, 1011Z/24, is being passed to you for information.
(C. in C. E.F. 1907Z/29 to Admty.)

MANXMAN. It may be necessary to use MANXMAN to run urgently
needed special foodstuffs to Malta at the end of
October, (A) Request her present programme.
(B) Can she be docked before entering
Mediterranean?
(D.O.D. (F.) Approved A.C.N.S. (F) 1921A/29 to
C. in C. E.F.)

CLAN
CAMERON
A/C attack. Following has been read:- AAAA 27° 20' N 34° 15'
E CLAN CAMERON attacked aircraft.
(Bombay Fort W/T 2343Z/29.)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1990/29th September

CUTV

~~MOST SECRET~~

Date 29.9.42.

To:- C. in C. India.
Rept. G.O.C., Ceylon.

CYPHER.

From The War Office.

IMPORTANT.

68890 Cipher (M.O.12a) 29 Sept.

Following revised scale of defences approved for Addu Atoll.

1. Function. Occasional fleet fuelling base.
2. Scale of attack. In existing circumstances likely to be limited to attacks by one or more armed merchant cruises, submarines and midget submarines, which may be preceded by reconnaissance by aircraft from armed merchant cruisers or submarines.
3. Air Raid Intelligence. One T.R.U. Station - Heratera
One C.O.L. Station
(180 ft. tower) - Gan
4. Aerodrome requirements. Aerodrome Gan Island to be developed for operation two disembarked F.A.A. Squadrons. Fuelling facilities for six flying boats.
5. A.A. Guns. Heavy 4, Light 8.
6. Coast Artillery. Midu - two 6 in.
Gan - two 6 in four 12 pr.
Hitaddu - two 6 in.
Wilingili - one 4 in. two 12 pr.
Kanda Hera - one 12 pr.

One Type 273 Set.
7. Land Defence. Responsibility C. in C. India.
8. Naval Defences. Controlled minefield covering Northern and Southern entrances. Indicator nets Northern entrance. Possibility providing further underwater defences under consideration.
9. Operations Room. Naval operations room with V.H.F. R/T and Homing facilities. Arrangements for initiation air raid warnings and co-ordination shore defences with A.A. P

/of

- 2 -

of ships. Land line to R.D.F. system, controlled Mining Station and Port War Signal Station.

10. Officer Commanding Base
to be appointed by C. in C. Eastern Fleet in consultation C. in C. India.

1900/29.

Rec'd from W.O. 0655/30.

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

W.O.Circulation:-

C.I.G.S., V.C.I.G.S., D.M.O., D.D.M.O.(O), D.P.(2),
M.O.1, 7(a), 7(b), 12. D.S.D., D.D.S.D., S.D.2,
R.A.1, 3, 4, 6, 7. Sigs. 2., D.Q.M.G., Q.(OPS), F.I, W.F.,
H.W.R. Admiralty, A.M.C.S. Air Ministry, Brig. Jacob,
Colonial Office (Lt. Col. Rolleston), India Office (Brig. McCay).

1st Lord	D.A.C.D.
1st S.L.(2)	Air Branch
D.F.S.L.	D. of L.D.(2)
2nd S.L.	D.S.D.
3rd S.L.	D. of S.
4th S.L.	D.G.D.
Vice Contr.	D.A/S.W.
V.C.N.S.	D.B.D.(2)
A.C.N.S.(F)(2)	D.T.S.D.
A.C.N.S.(T)	D.T.D.(2)
A.C.N.S.(W)	D. of P.(Q)
C.N.A.S.	D.N.I.(4)
A.C.N.A.S.	D.T.D.M.
N.A. to A.C.N.S.(T)	I.P.(2)
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.
Nav. Sec.	Admiral Blake
D.O.D.(F)(2)	Admiral Bellairs.
D.O.D.(H)(2)	
D. of P.(2)	
Hd. of M.	
D.D.I.C.(2)	
D.C.(2)	
e.d. D.N.A.D.	

War Diary.

29.9.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Attacks
on U/Bs.

Cominch 282210 informs as follows.
(Commaveu, No T.O.O/29.)
See U-Boat Campaign.

U.S.N.
Dispositions.

Following is Cominch 2219/28 containing changes
in locations as given in Cominch 1411/22 and
constituting Serial 41:
Pacific - NORTH CAROLINA due Pearl Harbour 30/9.
SOUTH DAKOTA at Pearl
SARATOGA " "
NEW ORLEANS " "
RALEIGH " "
DETROIT " "
COPAHEE - Suva
HONOLULU - San Francisco.
Atlantic - MASSACHUSETTS - Norfolk.
COLUMBIA - Norfolk.
INDIANA - Casco Bay
ARKANSAS - Escorting A.T.23.
WICHITA - Chesapeake Bay
MILWAUKEE - Belem.
CINCINNATI - Recife.
(Commaveu 0936/29 to Admty.)

U/B
Positions.

Comeastseafon's 1850/28 informs as follows.
(Commaveu 0937/29 to Admty.)

Movements
Summary.

1800 G.M.T/29.

Ship	Position	Course	Speed
Convoy T.9.	37° N. 26° W.	053°	9
<i>See p. 846</i> NEWCASTLE	Arriving Pernambuco	307°	18
CARNARVON CASTLE	07° N. 26° W.	180°	14
CHELSEA	52° N. 48½° W.	219°	15
A.T. 24.	41½° N. 44° W.	064°	26¾

(D.O.D.(F) 1000Z/29 to Opnav (R) Commaveu.)

U/B.
S.C.102

By D/F at 1012Z/29 U-Boat in vicinity S.C.102.
(D.D.I.C. 1159A/29 to S.C.102.)

A.T. 23.
N.A. 16.

U.S. Battleship ARKANSAS U.S. Destroyers
NIBLACK, PLUNKETT, BENSON, GLEAVES, MAYO, MADISON,
LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES, HUGHES sailed
escorting A.T. 23 and N.A.16.
(S.O.I.) Halifax 1242Z/29 to C. in C. Atlantic
Fleet etc.)

A.T.23, N.A.16 sailing telegram.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1307Z/29 to Admty.)

Sailed A.T.23 in company with N.A.16 escorted by T.F.38
at 1100Z/29 routed in accordance with Connav's 2031/26 S. of A.
14 knots.

(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1357Z/29 to Admty. etc.)

/Shipping ...

War Diary.

29.9.1942
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

Shipping,
N.America.

Your 1637A/27 (re ships sailing independently to North America to be given two alternate ports to enter - N.T. in W.D.) concur. Suggest Sub-Para 5 be entered in Sec. 1 para 7. (Connav 1405/29 to Admty.)

TAMBOUR
(sunk 26/9)

Panamanian TAMBOUR torpedoed sunk 1006Z/26 8.50 N. 59.50 W. Master and 7 men missing presumed drowned, 24 survivors at Trinidad. (S.O.I.) Jamaica 1534R/29 to Admty. etc.)

U/B
Positions.

S/M estimates 29/9 and U.S. submarine notice. (Cominch 1553/29, 1554/29, 1555/29, 1556/29, 1557/29 to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrival 1400Q. U.S. Destroyer BLAKELEY and Dutch Warship JAN VAN BRAKEL and left for Trinidad 1600 Q. (Harbour Master, Barbados 1630/29 to Admty.)

Liaison
with U.S.N.

Admty. 2242/28. Cominch has been informed that you gratefully accept offer outlined in my 1849/18 (not to R.A.A.E.F.) and wish to send R.A.A.E.F. and one Staff Officer to visit

Pacific Fleet. 2. Arrangements for visit will be made when Cdr. Clarke arrives in Washington. C. in C. E.F. pass to R.A.A.E.F. (B.A.D. 1649Z/29 to C. in C. E.F.)

Secrecy of
Messages.

My 2327/23. Navy Dept. make following observations on C B 01618L/42.

(A) Article 3. When correction is issued it is presumed it will be worded so as to indicate that

Western Atlantic Area and Mediterranean Area are not contiguous Areas.

(B) Article 41. Request U.S. Equivalentents to immediate and important may be inserted in brackets. Para 2. Request reply to my 2327/23.

(B.A.D. 1657Z/29 to Admty.) Reply: Admty 1841/4/10.

P.Q.
Convoys.

Your 2237Z/28. Admiralty communique issued 25.9.42 was compiled from details passed to you in Admty. 2337/26 and gives the maximum information it is desired to release. A very

full eye witness account by Reuters' correspondent with the Fleet was released at the same time. It is important that the name and type of carrier should not be published. (D.P.D. Approved V.C.N.S. 1706A/29 to B.A.D.)

/U/B ...

War Diary.29.9.1942
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.U/B
attacked.Aircraft machine gunned and bombed sub. 048°
42' N. 063° 55' W. at 1725/29th.
(C.O.A.C. 1747Z/29 to G.B.7 A.G. and G.B.7A)
See also 0800/30 and 1354/30.Attacks on
S.C.100
20-22/9.

Preliminary investigation of attacks on S.C.100 reveals the following points. At 0858 on 20/9 convoy was steering 053° escorts stationed according to A.C.I. article 130 as follows:-
U.S.S. SPENCER "A", U.S.S. CAMPBELL "B", TRILLIUM "C", LUNENBURG "E", WEYBURN "O", ROSTHERN "M", NASTURTIUM "L", BITTERSWEET and MAYFLOWER visibility distance starboard and port beams respectively. At 0858 BITTERSWEET sighted U-Boat and reported by R/T. SPENCER sent CAMPBELL to hunt and ordered BITTERSWEET to rejoin. At 1111 ROSTHERN obtained A/S contact 000° 1200 yards and turned towards. At 1115 ROSTHERN sighted two electric torpedoes passing down starboard side distance 25 yards. Torpedoes very shallow and could be seen in troughs of waves. Neither reached convoy and a rating reported he saw one explode. A/S conditions perfect and ROSTHERN carried out 7 attacks firing 33 charges without result. At 1121 SS HARTBEEEST number 71 (presumably EMPIRE HARTEBEEESTE) was torpedoed. CAMPBELL and TRILLIUM report on starboard side. Ship sank in six minutes, all crew picked up promptly by RIO VERDE. Captain Heineman S.O. escort consider U-Boat sighted by BITTERSWEET was a decoy and 2nd U-Boat came in through gap left by CAMPBELL when she left to take over hunt. At 1141 BITTERSWEET dropped 10 charges on doubtful contact on starboard quarter. 1123 TRILLIUM did likewise on another contact. Other escorts maintained station. No further incident that day. At 2020 on 22/9 ATHEL SULTAN, Commodore's ship number 51, was torpedoed and sank in 1½ minutes. The weather was stormy with very high seas. A/S conditions hopeless. WEYBURN picked up three survivors astern and believes she saw U-Boat at short range. On closing position nothing found. Operation "Zombie crack" was ordered without result. During this period SS TENNESSEE was torpedoed in unknown circumstances. Believed to be straggling. No further incident that night. Many other sightings and attacks were made during voyage without definite results. On several occasions merchant ships fired rockets and made alarm reports on 500 k/cs but all proved to be false alarms. Full details follow in report of proceedings. (C.T.G. 24.7 1830/29 to D.A/S.W., C. in C. W.A. etc.)

U/B.

Following has been read X80 V6 R R K S/M
48° 42' N., 63° 55' W. at 1727Z/29.
(Halifax W/T T.O.R. 1849/29 to Admty. etc.)

/Title ...

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - contd.

Title of B.R.O. Navy Dept. feel that short title B.R.O. at ports in their area where U.S.R.O. is responsible for routeing is misleading. 2. They would prefer the title of B.N.L.O. which is comparable to U.S.N.L.O. in U.K. ports. As B.N.L.Os in certain U.S.A. Ports are now carrying out liaison duties unconnected with routeing offices it is proposed in order to avoid confusion that B.R.O. should be changed to B.R.L.O. 3. If you agree with (2) above Navy Dept. would conform by changing U.S.N.L.O. to U.S.R.L.O. (B.A.D. 1907Z/29 to Admty.)

U/B. Following is recoded version of 1758/29 (N.T. in W.R.)(begins) WITHERINGTON Q.0080 Q.0285 repeated A.I.G.302 N.O.I.C. Gaspe, from N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B., R.C.A.F. Sydney C.B. report S/M in 048° 42' N. 063° 55' W. at 1732Z/29th, 1758/29 (ends). (N.O.I.C. Sydney C.B. 1933Z/29 to C.T.F. 24 (R) Connav etc.)

OCEAN VAGABOND torpedoes. Following has been received from Georgetown SS OCEAN VAGABOND has been struck by a torpedo on the starboard side. (Halifax W/T 2024Z/29 to C. in C. W.A. etc.) OCEAN VAGABOND torpedoes in position 090° Cape Spear 8 miles at 2030Z/29th. (Georgetown 2107Z/29 to C.O.A.C. (R) C.T.F.24, Connav, Admty., C. in C. W.A., N.S.H.Q., F.O.N.F., C.O.A.C., C.T.G. 24.7.)

Small Craft Engines. Your 1705/25 and F.O.N.F's 2025/26, we would prefer alternative B, but final decision must be left to you after consultation with Navy Dept. You will bear in mind our very urgent need for Hall Scott engines the limited supply of which continues to embarrass us. (D.D.O.D. (C) 2028A/29 to B.A.D.)

Shipping, Colon. Pass to N.C.S.Os. Instructions to Masters of independently routed ships proceeding to Colon should include the following (1) Ships must not approach during dark hours Port is normally closed from 1800 to 0600 local time. (2) Ships must approach passing through position 010° 00' N. 079° 55' W. and thence make good 180° to unlighted buoy B W V S in position 009° 32' 11" N. 079° 55' 15" W. marking outer end of approach channel. (3) On contacting U.S. guard boat ships must stop and embark pilot or receive instructions, care being taken not to drift to southward of guard boat. (4) W/T procedure as in Admiralty notice to mariners 492(T) on 5th March 1942 is not to be employed except in emergency, vide para 6 of notice quoted. (D.T.D. 2038A/29 to F.Os I.C.)

S/M attack ...

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - contd.

S/M attack
& sighting
summary.

→ Para A. Attack GENEVIEVE LYKES cancelled. TAMBOUR torpedoed and sunk 08.50 N. 59.50 W. 1006Z/26. P.B.Y. plane attacks submarine awash 11.36 N. 61.01 W. 0757Z/29. Para.B. Plane attacks submarine on surface 48.42 N. 63.55 W. 1725Z/29.

Para C. Submarine sighted 11.00 N. 59.30 W. 0800Z/29. U.S.S. WINSLOW attacks sound contact and U.S.S. CINCINNATI attacks Radar contact 07.37 S. 34.14 W. 0545Z/29. Shore watcher sights submarine 47.48 N. 52.45 W. 1330Z/28. Shore watcher sights periscope about 47.30 N. 53.00 W. 1040Z/27.

Para D. Panair Plane sights oil slick 11.20 N. 70.40 W. 1730Z/28.

(Cominch 2051/29 as amended 2137/30 to Admty., for O.I.C.)

Ship
torpedoed.

Ship torpedoed in 047° 32' N. 052° 38' W. at 0630/29.
(C.O.A.C. 2058Z/29 to G.B.7A.)

A.S.8.

SS MAURETANIA carrying troops expected ready to sail Norfolk 6/10 for Middle East via Rio de Janeiro and Capetown. Provide protection as required by my 1837/18/6. Ship designated as convoy A.S.8.
(Cominch 2059/29 to C.E.S.F.)

A.T.25.
N.A.17.

My serial 0 0 5 2 4 of 20/6. Convoys A.T.25 and N.A.17 scheduled sailing New York 4/10 cancelled. SS QUEEN ELIZABETH sailing New York for U.K. 5/10 designated as A.T.25 instead of 26. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2100/29 to C.E.S.F. (R) B.A.D. etc.)

U/B
Campaign.

→ Connav serial 29. GENEVIEVE LYKES reported in error serial 28. Ship not attacked. ESSO WILLIAMSBURG believed sunk approx. 053° N. 041° W. 22/9. Now overdue Iceland. PATRICK J. HURLEY serial 14 overdue U.K. since 21/9. CARRIER

Norwegian reported missing convoy O.N.126 in position 053° N. 028° W. on 6/9 still unreported. N.S.H.Q. please confirm. (Connav 2111/29 to Comnavu, S.O.I. Jamaica.)

REGENT,
search for
U/B Depot
Ship.

Your 1359/25 (26 intended) Consider that as Depot Ship will probably operate aircraft REGENT should patrol submerged by day and on surface at night.

(2) Consider it desirable that REGENT should remain in a central position in likely area so that she can act on any information received and be on best position to intercept any U-boat on its way to or from Depot ship.

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.REGENT,
search for
U/B Depot
Ship.
(Contd.)

- (3) Intend therefore that REGENT should leave Bermuda at dawn on day following satisfactory completion of trials and proceed on surface. S. of A. 13 knots, to cross 048° W. at 2200 on third day after sailing, and then to patrol as in (1) in an area 50 miles square with centre 33° 30' N. 046° 30' W.
- (4) Intend REGENT to leave area passing through position 33° 40' N. 045° W. at 0100 on 8th day after leaving Bermuda proceeding thence to Gibraltar.
- (5) Intend REGENT should patrol on surface by day wherever weather is unsuitable for operation of seaplanes.
- (6) Request confirmation that every ship passing through area mentioned in your 1515/24 (1517/24 intended) may be treated as hostile.
- (S.B.N.O.W.A. 2122Z/29 to B.A.D. (R) Admty. etc.)
Replies: B.A.D. 1401Z/1, F.O.S. 1918A/2 D.O.D(F) 1933A/2.)

Oil Ships
for Abadan.

- My 1859/7 para (2).
3. AGWI PRINCE, 14 knots, TARAKAN, 13 knots, and TATRA, 14 knots, have now been loaded with parts Abadan cracking plant.
- (2) They will sail from New York on about 1/10 in convoy to Panama thence independently via Australia and Indian Ocean. They will call at Wellington for fuel and onward routing instructions.
- (3) U.S. Naval Command have been informed by Navy Dept. of extreme importance of these cargoes.
- (4) Pass to Petroleum Division, Ministry Fuel and Power.
(B.A.D. 2215Z/29 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. etc.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Situation.

- Digest serial No.250 28/9.
3 Catalinas attacked aerodrome vicinity Buin night 28/29, many bombs dropped on and around runway, results not observed.
- (2) Reports Buin Shortlands Area 28/9 indicate only 1 probably seaplane tender, 1 merchant ship this area early morning. Major portion of force arrived during day from East Coast Bougainville. Total force indicated this area evening 28/9 included 3 light cruisers (1 Sendai, 2 Tatsuta class), 18 destroyers and gunboats, 1 probable seaplane tender, 7 merchant ships including 1 tanker.
- (3) 1 possibly heavy cruiser reported arriving Buka Passage evening 28/9 from East End. Also indications enemy fighters active Buka aerodrome during day.

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Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia and New Zealand. - conts:-

Situation (4) Fortress R/C Rabaul area noon 28/9 reported
(contd.) 3 possible heavy cruisers, 2 light cruisers,
2 possibly 4 seaplane tenders, 10 destroyers,
14 merchant ships, including 2 tankers, 4 Flying
boats. In addition 1 heavy cruiser reported 6 miles south
Rabaul, 2 7000 ton merchant ships St. Georges Channel, 3
merchant ships with 2 destroyers 03° 55' S. 152° 15' E. course
330°. Several fighters airborne but no interception.
(5) Small destroyer reported off Aitape (85 miles (?Cyn) W.
Wewak) course easterly afternoon 28/9.
(6) 1 Fortress attacked Lae Aerodrome morning 28/9. 4 Bombers
2 Fighters observed in dispersal area YTYS 4 A.A. positions S.E.
side runway.
(7) 3 Beaufighters attacked barges Buna Gona Area and Buna
Kokoda Road morning 28/9. No activity Buna Aerodrome.
(8) 20 Kittihawks and 12 Aircobras engaged bombing and strafing
enemy positions Buna Kokoda Efogi Area including Wairope Bridge
morning 28/9 several fires started building areas.
(9) Allied patrols continue penetration enemy positions
Ioribaiwa Area.
(10) Air R/C Ambon 28/9 reported 1500 ton vessel off Ambon.
(11) Japanese Unit evacuated Ainaro (Portuguese Timor) night
26/27 and believed withdrawn to N.W. Ainaro occupied by
Allied troops 27/9.
B.A.D. Washington pass to Opnav.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0736Z/29 to Admty. etc.)

Gilbert No.354. My telegram of 5/9, No.335. Gilbert
Islands, Islands. Japanese landed Maiana Island a.m./25
enemy Beru and Nonouti Islands a.m./26. Kuria Islands
occupation. reported a.m./28 approach of enemy warships.
Funafuti reported late p.m./27 no contact with
Tamana Islands station all day. If this means
that Tamana now occupied by the enemy, the whole of the Gilbert
Islands now enemy occupation.
(Western Pacific High Commissioner (Sir P. Mitchell) 1725/29
to S. of S. for Colonies.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

U/B positions estimated at 1200Z/29.
(D.D.I.C. 1429A/29, 1446A/29.)

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Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Attacked.Cominch
Report
W/E 27/9.

Cominch's 282210 addressed to Comnavu informs as follows:- This refers to Admty. 1059B/22/7. On 20/9 aircraft attacked submarine twice, 200 miles east of Tobago. After being depth bombed the submarine surfaced and appeared unable to submerge. The plane then attacked with machine gun fire which was returned by submarine. Submarine was last seen listing 20° to port with large amounts of blue smoke issuing from C/T. It was turning in tight circles. Engine trouble then forced the plane to leave the scene. On 22/9 a submarine was attacked by a R.A.F. Hudson in the same locality with four 250 lb. torpex depth charges. After the attack, submarine surfaced and made a 90° turn then stopped and sank with a decided list. About two hours later, oil and debris was observed. On 21/9 a partially surfaced submarine in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was attacked by GEORGIAN. A direct hit by one depth charge was reported. The submarine was brought to surface by the second attack. Before she could be rammed the submarine sank. Thick oil slick over a broad area and blue smoke was observed. On 25/9 a submarine was blown to the surface momentarily by SKEENA in North Atlantic. They were unable to regain contact. For week ending 2400Z/27, 49 attacks were reported.
(Comnavu No T.O.O./29 to Admty.)

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30.9.1942
Wednesday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Several moored mines were detonated in Lyme Bay yesterday and today. The recent minelaying by E-boats in Lyme Bay and lack of suitable forces to counter this activity necessitate a revision of the system of sailing P.W. and W.P. convoys through the area (see C. in C. Plymouth 1951A/30) C. in C. Plymouth asks for a further 8 minesweeping A/S trawlers: he has only 4 in his command at present.

North Atlantic.

MALAYA sailed from Gibraltar this evening, to join the Home Fleet.

South Atlantic.

Survivors of SS QUEBEC CITY have been picked up. It is reported that the ship was torpedoed on 19/9, in 2.12 S., 17.36 W.

SS SIAM II reported that she was torpedoed at 2201 G.M.T. in 3° 5' N. 15° 46' W. (about 360 miles W.S.W. of Freetown.)

SIRIUS and PHOEBE left Simonstown again today for Operation "Volley". *"Victrol" - (Alternative code may be "Volley". See p. 881.)*

Mediterranean.

Torpedo Wellingtons attacked an enemy convoy about 60 miles N. of Tobruk last night and obtained 1 hit on a tanker which caused an explosion followed by fire.

/S.O.(I) ...

War Diary.

30.9.1942
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - contd.

S.O.(I) Istanbul reports that the lack of interruption of Black Sea and Aegean Sea traffic over a long period is encouraging the enemy to use Constanza regularly for oil shipments, and he suggests that the destruction of one of the tankers now there would do much to slow down this traffic: the effect on the crews would be marked.

SS CLAN CAMERON was attacked by torpedo bomber in Red Sea in 27.15 N. 34.13 E. at 0243 without casualties and only slight structural damage.

East Indies.

British SS FOO SHING reported being shelled at 0055 F.G today by a disguised merchant raider in 9° 23' N. 81° 0' E. (close to N.E. coast of Ceylon.)

British SS NEWCHWANG reported a suspicious ship closing her at 1540 G.M.T. today in 25° 20' S. 51° 8' E. (about 200 miles East of Fort Dauphin, Madagascar.)

SS CAMILA reported a suspicious armed merchant vessel at 0100 today about 35 miles W.N.W. of Alleppey (9° 30' N. 76° 19' E. south of Cochin). At 1530Z, in darkness, CAMILA, steering for Colombo, was attacked by a submarine by gunfire and was later abandoned, on fire in 08.01 N. 77.07 E. Master when shown Japanese M/V recognition sheet identified the suspicious ship as YAMAHUKU.MARU.

America and West Indies.

SS OREGON EXPRESS reported being chased by a submarine this evening in 51° 55' N. 39° 2' W. at 1500 local time and in 51° 28' N. 40° 12' W. at 1800 local time.

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ONSLOW. Your 1209/29. I have no objection.
(C. in C. H.F., 0024A/30 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow.)
Your 1209A/29. No Admiralty objection to
publicity and Civic reception.
Press interviews with officers and ratings should be in
accordance with A.F.O. 1795a/40.
All written matter and photographs must be submitted to
Admiralty for censorship, and will not be released until
ONSLOW has sailed.
(D. Press Division, 0155A/30.)

Lerwick. Four M.Ls of 22nd Flotilla are to be sailed as
Reduction soon as weather is suitable for service at Scapa.
of M.Ls. It is intended that this reduction in M.Ls at
Lerwick shall operate throughout the winter
months.
(A.C.O.S., 1243A/30 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick.)

Defence of the U.K.

Oban Cancel my 0953/26.
obstruction. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1243/30 to Admty.)

Movements.

LOCUST. My 1807A/29 para. 2. Sailed.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0012A/30 to N.O.I.C.
Newhaven.)
My 1807/29 para. 4. Arrived 1010A/30.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1022A/30 to N.O.I.C.
Newhaven.)

*WAYLAND, BROKE, BRAZIL. BROKE is to sail p.m.30th to meet WAYLAND before
dark 1st in vicinity Lundy Island and escort
to Clyde.
(2) WAYLAND will be escorted by ESKDALE S.O.,
BLEASDALE, who will part company at the Smalls.
* See p. 864
(C. in C. W.A., 0059A/30.)
A.M. 1313/25. My 0059/30. BROKE is to proceed from
Clyde to Belfast as necessary and is to escort BRAZIL from
Belfast to Liverpool.
(C. in C. W.A., 0107A/30.)
My 1903/28 and 1453/29. Sailed Needles 0755/30.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 0806A/30.)
Admiralty Bath 1855A/24. WAYLAND E.T.A. Greenock 2/10.
(2) A.S.D.G. is requested to inform all concerned when trials
are likely to commence, giving as much warning as possible.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1254A/30.)
Intend sailing HOLDERNESS 1730/30 to meet and escort
WAYLAND till 2359/30, then to Portsmouth. WAYLAND omitting
call to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1549A/30.)

/C. in C. ...

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Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - etc. etc.

WAYLAND, C. in C. Portsmouth's 1903A/28, my 1641A/29, and
 BROKE, C. in C. W.A. 0059A/30.
 BRAZIL. WAYLAND is to (? fuel) without calling Plymouth
 (Contd.) and is to land trial party at Greenock.
 BROKE to R/V WAYLAND escorted by ESKDALE and
 BLEASDALE in 270° The Smalls four at 1130/1st
 and take over escort. On relief ESKDALE and BLEASDALE are to
 return Needles passing through position (j) 180° Start Point 10.
 (k) 050° 10' N. 003° 00' W. (l) 180° Portland Bill 10.
 (m) 180° Portland Bill 3½, thence Q.Z.S. 293 and 284 and using
 codeword "Device One".
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1633A/30.)

TIGRIS, (1) Intend to sail TIGRIS and TRIBUNE escorted
 *TRIBUNE. by WHITE BEAR for Scapa 1900/1st October routed
 *Sump. 866 (A) 091° Sumburgh Head 5 miles.
 (B) 088° Fair Isle 5 miles, thence to Switha
 Gate, E.T.A. 0630A/2.
 2. A.C.O.S. is requested to R/V LOCH MONTEITH at Switha Gate to
 escort TIGRIS to Methil as in Capt. (S) 9 1847/29. *N.T.M. 113.*
 3. On arrival at Switha Gate WHITE BEAR and TRIBUNE proceed to
 Holy Loch by searched channels and the Minches, E.T.A. 1630A/3.
 (S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1003A/30.)
 TIGRIS may be expected to arrive 1735A/1st. My position 062°
 55', 002° 32' E.
 (TIGRIS, 2330A/30 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick.)

PENELOPE, Arrived PENELOPE.
 ASCANIA. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1109A/30.)
 PENELOPE and ASCANIA escorted by TYNEDALE sail from
 Plymouth at 0700/1st to Portsmouth. Codeword
 "Wheel".
 Route by Q.Z.S. (?801) through following positions.
 (2) N.O.I.C. Dartmouth is to sail 4th M/S Flotilla to R/V with
 PENELOPE in 180° Start Point 10 miles at 0915/1st and sweep
 ahead alongside the above route till East 002° 50' 00" W. 4th
 M/S Flotilla are then to proceed to Portland.
 (3) KRAKOWIAK is to leave convoy W.P. 226 and R/V with PENELOPE
 in position (A) at 0915/1st and continue as escort to Portsmouth.
 (4) When "Wheel" meet P.W.226 sailing from Portsmouth a.m.
 tomorrow on the reciprocal route, TYNEDALE is to leave "Wheel"
 and join P.W.226 as escort. ALBRIGHTON is to leave P.W.226
 and escort "Wheel" to Portsmouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1639A/30, 2047A/30, 1319A/1.)

LAMERTON. Sail LAMERTON to Scapa when ready.
 (C. in C. W.A., 1116A/30 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)
 Intend to sail LAMERTON 1200A/1 by normal
 routes for Scapa in accordance with C. in C. W.A.
 1116A/30, E.T.A. 1400A/2.
 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1730A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

/TANGO ...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

TANGO, A/S Trawlers TANGO, STAFNES, and KIRKELLA now
STAFNES, operating with "Knocker" should be returned in
KIRKELLA. convoy to U.K. as soon as practicable. TANGO
and STAFNES to Belfast. KIRKELLA to Liverpool.
(D.A/S.W., 1150A/30 to A.C.I.C.)

O. 15. My 1031/30. ^{11.2.42} Sailed 1314, E.T.A.? 0800/1.
(A.C.O.S., 1412/30.)
(F.O.S., 1656A/30.)

GOLDEN Your 1604/27. Drifters GOLDEN EMBLEM, GUIDING
EMBLEM, LIGHT, and BREME arrived Scapa 31/8 with defects.
GUIDING LIGHT, These were made good by 7/9 since which date
BREME, these drifters have been awaiting suitable
FAIRHAVEN. weather. Drifter FAIRHAVEN arrived Scapa 14/9
also with defects and was ready for sea 29/9.
These 4 drifters will be sailed for Faroes
immediately weather permitting for onward passage to Iceland
escorted by 9th Minesweeping Group or such other as may be
available.
(A.C.O.S., 1601A/30 to A.C.I.C.)

ROYAL EAGLE, Sheerness departure ROYAL EAGLE and ARISTOCRAT
ARISTOCRAT. at 1520. E.T.A. E.A.5 Float 0630/1.
(C. in C. Nore, 1610A/30 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

FIDELITY. Request you will sail FIDELITY for Loch Broom on
completion of trials.
(D.O.D.(H.), 1654A/30 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

H. 32. H.32 escorted by BLACKFLY leave Lough Foyle
1900A/30 for Rothesay.
(C. in C. W.A., 1741A/30 to DANUBE VI.)

L. 23. My 0952/28 para. C. Arrived. ^(Int 2.3. - see p.804)
(TITANIA, 1750A/30.)

P. 228, Intend sailing P. 228 and P. 217 escorted by LA
P. 217. CAPRICIEUSE at 1400A/3 from Holy Loch to position
(A) 360° Bishop Rock 10 miles. E.T.A. 0200A/5.
From (A) P.228 diving by day through (B) 049° 02'
N. 012° 15' W. to (C) 043° 01' N. 012° 14' W. E.T.A. (C)
0200A/9.
From (A) P.217 diving by day through (D) 050° (?44') N. 009° 59'
W. (E) 049° 25' N. 013° 00' W. to (F) 043° 00' N. 013° 01' W.
E.T.A. (F) 0800A/9.
Thence P.228 and P. 217 from (C) and (F) respectively to
Gibraltar as routed by F.O.C.N.A. Gibraltar.
(Capt. S.3, 1757A/30.)

/TRIBUNE ...

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Movements - Contd.

TRIBUNE.

*See p. 864*Arrival TRIBUNE.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 1817A/30.)Coastal
Craft to
Newhaven.The following movements of coastal craft to New-
haven are taking place. Details.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 2130A/30 and 1310A/1.)→ ANSON,
ORIBI.R.A.(D) H.F. is requested to sail 2 destroyers
to arrive Hvalfjord 6/10 and join ANSON screen.
3. V.A. 2 is requested to sail ORIBI for Scapa
on 6/10.
(C. in C. H.F., 2323A/30.)Operations.Interception
of Enemy
Ship.
SUFFOLK,
NORFOLK,
→ ORIBI.Decypher Admiralty 2238/29.
SUFFOLK proceed with NORFOLK at 0830Z/30 to
intercept this vessel assuming she intends to
pass through Denmark Strait. A.C.I.C. is
requested to provide air R/C. Maintain W/T
watch as for area A.
(V.A.2, 0052A/30 to SUFFOLK.)
Your 0852/30. Regret air R/C cannot be under-
taken until weather improves.

(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1027A/30 to V.A. 2.)

My 0052/30. Proceed with NORFOLK and ORIBI to search for
this enemy vessel assuming her normal speed is between 12 and
17 knots. Continue search till dark 2nd. Admiralty A.294
of 8/9/42 may refer.

(V.A.2, 1124A/30 to SUFFOLK.)

My 0052/30. Sailing postponed owing to weather. Ships
are at one hours notice.

(V.A.2, 1126A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

My 1027/30. A Hudson aircraft will carry out patrol
"Mink" from 1740A until 2250A/30.

(A.C.I.C., 1610A/30 to SUFFOLK.)

Patrols.

F.N. and F.S. Convoys.

Harwich additional escorts and corvette patrols,
from 2/10 to 8/10 inclusive. Details.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1014A/30.)

Intend sailing KITTIWAKE at 1400 today for patrol 1A.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1016A/30.)

Intend M.L. 303 and 205 to patrol on lat. 50° 20' N.
between 1° 35' and 2° 10' W. tonight, leaving Weymouth at 1930
and leaving patrol at dawn/1st. Codeword "Pug dog 2". *See next page*

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 1150A/30 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/Available ...

867

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations - conts:-

Patrols. Available M.Ls are to leave Dartmouth at 1845/30
(Contd.) to take up patrol line 6 miles 180° from patrol
S.3, leaving patrol at first light returning
Dartmouth. M.Ls to pass 180° Start Point 4 on
passage to and from patrol.

(2) Object to intercept E-Boats minelaying in Lyme Bay.

(3) Codeword "Sapper".

(4) HOLDERNESS on passage eastward passes North of patrol line
a.m./1st.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 1530A/30 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Tonight M.G.Bs 321, 315, 319, 332 patrol between 050° 10'
N. 000° 20' W. and 050° 10' N. 000° 40' W., returning to
Newhaven.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1615A/30.)

M.Ls 303 and 205 from Weymouth to patrol 15 miles S. of
Anvil Point. E.T.D. 1930/30. E.T.R. 0730/1. *see previous page*
Coastal craft exercising between Portland Bill and St. Albans
Head 1915/30 - 2130/1.

9th M/S.F. and M.Ls 190, 193 Spithead 2340/30 to South of
Newhaven, returning to Spithead a.m./1.

4 M.G.Bs patrolling to south-eastwards, passing E.A.5 Buoy
1930/30 and 0615/1.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1646A/30.)

M.Ls 149 and 150 from Ramsgate patrolling between Dumpton
and N.E. Spit Buoys. E.T.D. 1935. E.T.R. 0630/1.

M.Ls 293 and 140 near C one buoy.

M.G.B. 107, M.T.Bs 38 and 221 from Ramsgate patrolling in
vicinity of Nieuport Bank, and M.G.Bs 13, 6, 7, and 10, at
'V' buoy E.T.D. 2100. E.T.R. 0545/1.

M.Ls 104, 101, 128, and 213 exercising between Dover and Deal.
E.T.D. 2100. E.T.R. 2300.

(V.A. Dover, 1829A/30.)

Patrols tonight.

- (1) 4 M.G.B.s and 4 M.T.Bs vicinity W.J.G. 0550.
- (2) M.L. 146 and 147 at Z.4.
- (3) M.L. 206 and 204 at Z.9.
- (4) M.L. 198 and 201 at Z.12.
- (5) M.L. 456 and 308 at Z.15.
- (6) M.G.Bs 313, 327, and 334 at Z.19.
- (7) M.G.Bs 605, 606, and 610 at Z.22.
- (8) 4 M.G.Bs and 4 M.T.Bs between R.B.15 and R.B.19.

(C. in C. Nore, 1855A/30 and 2027A/30.)

ALERT
in North
Channel.

Cancel my 1605A/26. Operation completed.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1816A/30 to Admty.)

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.

Patrol "Mink". My 1027/30. A Hudson aircraft (corrupt group) carrying out patrol "Mink" from 1740A until 2150A/30.
(A.C.I.C., 1610A/30 to SUFFOLK.)

A/C for Channel. Admty. 2211A/21. It is suggested the 2 Hudsons now based at Thorney Island for operating against enemy shipping might be based Tangmere, as it is most desirable that they should be able to work in closest co-operation with Naval striking force based there.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1901A/30 to H.Q.C.C.)

Test of New Torpedo Sight. Coastal Command Development Unit have produced a new torpedo sight for use in aircraft which incorporates A.S.V. They are anxious to try this against a battleship screened by destroyers in order to discover if the echo from a battleship can be distinguished among those given by the screen.
2. Request you will inform N.O.I.C. Invergordon when such an opportunity will occur.
(D.O.D.(H.), 2018A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy air Activity.

Archangel bombed. Archangel again raided from 1830A till 2150A. Believed to be 23 aircraft dropping incendiaries and H.E. Fires now under control and no damage discerned to British Personnel or material.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 0805A/30.)

Mining.

M.S.N. 3. My 1136/27. Intend sailing BEAUMARIS and PETERHEAD 0700 and myself in FRASERBURGH 0900 to run taut wire to beacon and check position, the 3 ships then remaining in company near area during night. LYME REGIS with ships to sail late p.m. joining me in time to commence sweeping a.m. 1st, continuing until p.m. 2nd, when fuel will be short and ships will return to Port ZA.
(M/S. 15, 0558A/30 to R.A.M.)
2000 situation.
M/F 15th operating in vicinity 59° 40', 05° 50'.
(A.C.O.S., 1540A/30.)
My 0558/30. Several more (? mines) adrift since 26th. Sweeping therefore impossible. All ships will return to Port ZA. LYME REGIS with her group proceeding independently.
(M/S 15, 1803A/30 to R.A.M.)
S.O. 15th M/S's 1803A/30. E.T.A. Port ZA 0900/1st.
(LYME REGIS, 1958A/30 to R.A.M.)

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

- Q.L. 8. Prepare to carry out operation Q.L.8 in position and with mines ordered in my 1836/25/8 on 2/10 or on next night weather is suitable.
(C. in C. Nore, 1250/30 to BEEHIVE.)
- S.N.3 G.M.T. Intend to carry out as follows. Details.
(R.A.M., 0920A/30.)
See Lion Copy.
- Sweep off Ardnamurchan Point. Oropesa trawlers from Stornoway are to carry out a high percentage search of Channel between Ardnamurchan Point and M.5 Buoy along route laid down in C. in C. W.A. 1802B/20/4 as soon as possible.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1514A/30 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)
- Lyme Bay. Moored mines have been destroyed in Lyme Bay as follows:- 29/9/42 -
WAYLAND. (A) one mine detonated in sweep of trawler in approx. 50° 17' N. 03° 16' W.
See bp 8639664
(B) Mines detonated by fleet M/S in 50° 16'42" N. 03° 11'06" W. 30/9/42 -
(A) 6 mines detonated by fleet M/S on a line joining the following positions:- 50° 17'24" N. 03° 07' W.
50° 17'18" N. 03° 11'42" W.
(B) One mine detonated in sweep of trawler in approx. 50° 17'30" N. 03° 08' W.
(C) Two mines cut by fleet M/S in position 50° 16'54" N. 03° 12'06" W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2012A/30.)
4th M.S.F. sailed to comply with your 2343/29.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0756/30 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
- Enemy Intelligence.
- Bogen. A.M. 2134A/29. Photographs do not confirm presence of 3 destroyers in Bogen.
(D.D.I.C., 0850Z/30.)
- Norwegian Coast. It is reported that Norwegian coastal steamers have been secretly instructed not to exceed 0.7 miles from shore when passing Stadt (62° 10' N. 05° 10' E.) Graded B.2.
(D.D.I.C., 1130A/30.)
- Spanish Trawlers. 2 Spanish trawlers in 48° 37' N. 9° 45' W. stationary.
(A/C GL7E, 1733/30.)
- Convoy off Terschelling. One convoy bearing 080° distance one mile position 53° 27' N. 5° 14' E.
(5th M.G.B.F., 2342/30 to Lowestoft.)

869^A

M9

MOST SECRET

0920/30th September

MOST SECRET

IN

From R.A. Minelayers

Date 30.9.42.

R.A.F. CYPHER (BY T/P)

Recd. 1745.

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Rosyth, Repeated H.Q. No. 18 Group, H.Q. No. 14 Group, S.O. Minesweeping Flotilla 15, H.M.S. SCOTT, C. in C. Western Approaches, A.C.O.S., R.A.(D), Air Ministry Whitehall, H.Q.C.C., H.Q.F.C.

Intend to carry out operation S N 3 G.M.T. as follows:-

- (A) Surface mine field from East to West
- (D) First Minelayer Squadron screened by H.M.S. BRIGHTON H.M.S. LANCASTER H.M.S. CHARLESTOWN H.M.S. WELLS.
- (E) Anti-submarine escort is requested when outside the North Minches. Initial rendezvous 090 degs. Butt of Lewis 7 miles at 1000 Monday 5th October.
- (F) From 059 degs. 52' 48" North 006 degs. 32' 12" West to 059 degs. 59' 18" North 007 degs. 14' 42" West.
- (G) 0330 Monday 5th October
- (J) Through position (A) 090 degs. Butt of Lewis 7 miles and (B) 270 degs. Bulsker 2 miles
- (?K) 13 knots
- (I) 1640 Monday 5th October
- (N) Through position 090 degs. Butt of Lewis 10 miles
- (O) and (P) Port ZA 0800 Tuesday 6th October. H.M.S. PORT QUEBEC and H.M.S. BRIGHTON Port ZA after completing H A firing at Scapa
- (R) 1200. 3rd October
- (V) As required for M S N 3
- (W) 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles at 13 knots
- (X) Mark XX II One Star/Mark XVII 3 Star set to 20 feet
- (Y) Full outfit
- (Z) 2 line ships in area B throughout and guard on H D'S.

0920A/30

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D.(H) and D.D.O.D.(M).

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| V.C.N.S. | D.O.D.(F) (2). | |
| A.C.N.S.(H). | D.D.I.C.(2). | |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | D.M.S. | D.D.O.D.(M). |
| Captain Pim. | D.A/S.W. | Admiral Blake |
| Duty Captain (2). | D. of P.(2). | W.D. |
| D.O.D.(H) (2). | I.P.(2). | Head of M. |

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.U-Boats.U-Boats
attacked.

My 1059/22/7. R.A.D. considers that there were four very promising attacks on U-Boats by the Escorts of P.Q.18 and two by those with Q.P.14. Swordfish from AVENGER co-operated with destroyers

on two of these occasions.

2. A good example of long distance air attack was a Liberator from Iceland who attacked a U-Boat in 52.33 N. 30.33 W. estimated two hits.

3. STORK and SPEY whilst operating as a "Killer Group" with O.N. 132 carried out six attacks on a U-Boat 26/9/42. Next day ROTHER of the same group attacked a U-Boat and the U-Boat disappeared in the middle of a pattern set at 50 feet stern first at an angle of 75°. ROTHER also claims one hit.

4. A Catalina carried out a very promising attack to the North of Iceland (C).

(D.A/S.W., 0143A/30 to Cominch.)

At 1211/29 a Whitley A/C on A/S patrol in the Bay of Biscay sighted a wake 10 miles distant on the port beam. A/C dived to 2,000 ft. and wake was seen to be caused by a U-Boat travelling at speed on the surface on an easterly course. The Whitley immediately altered course to starboard to get in to position astern of U-Boat and dived to attack. Although our A/C was approaching up sun, the U-Boat apparently failed to observe it for some time, and part of the stern was still above water at the time of release of depth charges. 4 of these were dropped from 50 feet along track of U-Boat and rear Gunner saw the first two explosions right on the swirl, and the remaining two forward of swirl along track of U-Boat. No alteration in course was observed on the part of the U-Boat while diving but, as the Whitley circled away to port, a considerable portion of the forepart of the U-Boat re-appeared at a very steep angle above the surface of the water. An object was also seen a little distance aft, possibly the top of the conning tower. Bow of U-Boat stayed on the surface for about half to one minute, and rear Gunner opened fire on second run over, firing about 1,000 rounds before it finally slid backwards under the surface at angle described by R.G. as almost vertical. A patch of froth was seen above the spot where the bow disappeared.

(H.Q.B.C., 1145A/30.)

U-Boats
reported.

D/F bearings at 2039Z/29 indicate U-Boat may be in vicinity of convoy.

(D.D.I.C., 0300A/30 to Escorts S.L. 122.)

Am over enemy submarine in 48° 37' N. 9° 45' W.

3 enemy aircraft.

(A/C M3NC, 1025/30 to 19 Group.)

Remaining near position of submarine, course 080°.

(A/C M3NC, 1036/30 to 19 Group.)

Am over enemy S/M in 43° 44' N. 12° 16' W. Periscope sighted was on a course 070°, speed 3 knots.

(A/C 3PSP, 1215/30.)

Aircraft reported U-Boat 1200A/30 in 46° 35' N. 15° 57' W. course 250°.

(D.D.I.C., 1250A/30 to S.L. 122.)

Am over enemy submarine in 46.16 N. 9.35 W.

(A/C 5NTF, T.O.R. 1617.)

/Am ...

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats - conts:-

U-Boats reported. (Contd.)
Am over enemy sub in 46° 50' N. 9° 27' W. Sub on surface and observed to submerge, course 080°, speed 5 knots.
(A/C 9UMS, 1700/30.)
Submarine submerged. No depth charges dropped. Waiting.
(A/C 9UMS, 1720/30.)

Navigational.

Wick. Wick harbour open.
(R.N.O. Wick, 0805/30.)

Technical.

Oiling at sea. Comtask Unit 24.1.3's 0801/29. Request report containing following information:-
(a) Quantity of fuel delivered to each escort.
(b) Temperature of oil.
(c) Tons per hour pumped.
(d) Names of oilers used.
(e) Method of oiling adopted.
(f) General details of operation and any other useful data, i.e. method of tow and relative positions of ships.
(D.T.D., 1230A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

Casualties and Defects.

COURONNE. Immingham departure H.M. Tug SABINE at 0735 to assist H.M.T. COURONNE anchored with engine defect in 344° Cromer 14 miles.
(F.O. Humber, 0740A/30.)

WINDSOR. Departure WINDSOR assisted by SEAMAN. E.T.A. Tilbury 1500.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0856A/30.)
Tilbury arrival WINDSOR.
(F.O.I.C. London, 1520A/30.)

M.T.B. 90. M.T.B. 90 arrived Poole starboard engine out of action, centre engine defective. Request instructions.
(N.O.I.C. Poole, 1830/30.)

LORD MIDDLETON. N.C.S.O. Iceland's 1751/29. LORD MIDDLETON returned with defects.
(A.C.I.C., 1845A/30.)

TIGRIS. F.O.S. 1836/29 and 1938/29. TIGRIS can be taken in hand at Chatham forthwith.
(D.O.D.(H), 1957A/30 to F.O.S.)

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30.9.1942.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects - Contd.

M.G.B. 76. My 1759. ^{N.T.R. 113} M.G.B. 76 returned to harbour.
Engine failed.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 2117A/30.)

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 208. Loch Ewe ships are to proceed independently from
position Z.
(C. in C. W.A., 0931A/30 to C.T.U. 24.1.16.)

W.P. 225. VAN BRAKEL overdue.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 0947/30 to C. in C.
Plymouth.)

Convoy Intend detaching CAMPANULA at daylight 1st to
R.B. 1. fuel Lough Foyle and thence to South Shields..
VETERAN. Commodore Londonderry is requested to make
necessary charts for east coast available in
duty oiler for CAMPANULA.
(HESPERUS, 1012Z/30.)

H.X. 208. Your 1012Z/30.
(1) Chart not available at Londonderry.
(2) On completion of escort CAMPANULA is to proceed to Greenock
for fuel and onward routing to South Shields.
(C. in C. W.A., 1736A/30 to HESPERUS.)
Your 1943A/29th. My P.C.S. at 1000Z/30, 053° 40' N. 021°
25' W. 270°, 14 knots. Aircraft sighted heading 315° but not
identified. Visibility poor. Overcast with drizzle, wind
S.W. 3. Searching area specified from southward. GENTIAN
in company.
(EXE, 1041Z/30 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1041/30.

Search is to be continued until further orders. Aircraft will
assist tomorrow weather permitting. After covering area
referred to in my 1943/29 recommend investigation in area to
W. and S.W. of this area. GENTIAN should return to harbour
when P.L.E. is reached. Report anticipated time that this
will be necessary.

(C. in C. W.A., 1457A/30 to EXE.)
Your 1457A/30. Anticipate GENTIAN will reach her P.L.E.
a.m./2nd.

(EXE, 1648Z/30 to C. in C. W.A.)
Three Fortress aircraft take off from Ballykelly 0900A/1
to make a parallel track sweep over area.
(C. in C. W.A., 1931A/30 to EXE.)

Convoy Arrived SABRE.
O.N.133. (Cdre. Londonderry, 1102A/30.)
YORKTOWN.

/EROS ...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.EROS,
CAMELIA,
FORMOSA,
VASAHOLM.

Following were position 2200/29 Greek relief vessels EROS, CAMELIA and FORMOSA 37° 49' N. 04° 03' E. Gothenburg shipments. Westbound. VASAHOLM 61° 59' N. 03° 35' W. (N.A. Stockholm, 1141/30.)

K.X. 1.

Intend sailing SAN ADOLFO, BLAIRESK, MACBRAE, EDENCrag, OPORTO, and PACIFIC escorted by JURA, ROUSAY, RUSKHOLM, and STRONSAY passing Clyde boom 1500A/2 to R/V with STARWORT, PENTSTEMON, and ROSE from Londonderry in 270° Oversay 6 miles at 0800A/3 thence in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1307A/25.

2. IBIS will sail to overtake convoy on completion of calibration. Expect to overtake not later than dawn 4th Oct. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1156A/30.)

O.S. Convoys. My 2026/29. Amend to read thereafter in alternate slow and fast convoys. (D.T.D., 1326A/30 to C. in C. W.A.)

ESSO
WILLIAMSBURG.

Have you any news of ESSO WILLIAMSBURG (U.S.) due Reykjavik 25/9 from Aruba. (D.T.D., 1454A/30 to S.O.I. Iceland.) Your 1454/30. Not arrived. No information as to whereabouts. (S.O.(I.) Iceland, 2107A/30 to Admt.)

OLIGARCH.

Your 1912/15/8. Request report date R.F.A. OLIGARCH is expected to sail in oil ballast to relieve MURENA. (D. of Stores, 1457A/30 to C. in C. H.F.)

B.B. Convoys. Consequent on present special commitments it is anticipated that from time to time only one A/S trawler from Belfast will be available for B.B. and reciprocal convoys. Request your concurrence that this reduction will be acceptable. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1512A/30 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 1512/30. Concur. (C. in C. W.A., 1905A/30 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

W.S. 23.

My 1132/29. Negative SILVERSANDAL sailed. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1630A/30.)

/Routes ...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Routes "N", "P", and "O". My 1355/29th. Route "N" is cancelled.
 (2) Following route "P" will be established across Lyme Bay between Dartmouth and Portland and is to be used by all shipping as from 2359/1st.
 (3) East and West bound traffic use the same route.
 (4) Route "P" from seaward end of A.M.Q.Z.S. 174 (Dart Buoy) through position -
 (L) 050° 23'30" N. 003° 10'00" W.
 (M) 050° 29'30" N. 002° 45'00" W.
 (N) Seaward end of A.M. Q.Z.S. 293.
 (5) Dan buoy will be laid 1 mile to south of this route at approximately 4 mile intervals.
 (6) Route "O" is re-established and is only to be used after obtaining permission from C. in C. Plymouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1713/30.)

Liverpool.

A.M. 811A of 1959/4/3/1941.

Authorities and ships are not in all cases observing orders laid down in this message.

Request that A.M. 811A of 4/3/1941 may be cancelled and the following promulgated in lieu thereof. Begins. Port of Liverpool including swept channel is closed from half an hour after sunset until sunrise. Since there are no lights in swept channels, and only sufficient lighting in Queens and Crosby Channel for use in extreme emergency, vessels bound for Liverpool are to enter seaward end of swept channel in sufficient time to pass rock before dark. With exception of H.M. Ships with S.A. gear, all vesels when East of 4° W. are to proceed at a speed through the water not exceeding 9 knots. Except by special permission anchorage at the bar is prohibited. Ends.
 (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1836/30 to Admty.)

O.S. 42.

ROTHER's 1222/30. ^{/R.T. 11/13} Defects not repairable at sea. PHILANTE returning to Londonderry. RABY CASTLE straggler may be returning with engine defect. BANFF, EGRET with convoy.
 (EGRET, 1950A/30.)

P.W. and W.P.
 Convoys in
 Lyme Bay.

Recent minelaying by E-Boats in Lyme Bay and the lack of suitable forces to counter this activity necessitated a revision of the system of sailing P.W. and W.P. convoys through this area.

It is intended (A) to sail convoys through Lyme Bay by day only (B) to sweep ahead of these convoys with mine-sweeping A/S trawlers.

(2) There are only 4 minesweeping A/S trawlers at present in Plymouth Command, a further 8 are urgently required and it is requested these may be allocated, the only alternative being to use fleet sweepers, which is not desirable.

(3) It will be necessary for all westbound convoys to spend a night in Portland and the trawlers remaining available will be (? arranged accordingly) to provide escort for convoys between Portsmouth and Portland and vice versa. It is therefore (? requested) trawlers from Portsmouth may carry out this duty.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 1951A/30 and 1043A/2 to Admty.)

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

- D.S. 33. Convoy D.S. 33 consisting of CAMERONIA carrying
S.D. 33. 1500 personnel will leave p.m. 16th October for
Reykjavik.
2. She will return as S.D. 33.
(D.O.D.(H), 2250A/30.)
- A.T. 23. A.M. 1903/26. Amend destinations of transports
as follows:-
EXCELLER to Belfast.
DEMPO to Liverpool.
ORONTES to Avonmouth.
2. Amend speed of advance to read 14 knots.
3. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to arrange escort
for ORONTES from North Channel to Avonmouth.
(D.O.D.(H), 2256A/30.)
- W.S. 23. On reaching Oversay R/V DURBAN, DESPATCH, QUEEN
OF BERMUDA and convoy are to proceed to Belfast.
PUCKERIDGE, KANARIS are to be detached to
Londonderry as convenient.
BEAGLE, WRESTLER, BICESTER, ZETLAND are to
remain at Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., 2332A/30.)

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Suspicious Tanker. My 2005/29. Further report shows that Tanker may be of Altmark Class.
 (D.D.I.C., 0127A/30 to*CHARYBDIS, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Plymouth H.Q.C.C., F.O.S.)
 My 0127/30. Photographs show tanker to be similar to Krossfonn type not Altmark class.
 (D.D.I.C., 0945A/30 to*CHARYBDIS, (R) F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. Plymouth H.Q.C.C., F.O.(S)). (F.O.C.N.A., 1747A/30 to S. and A. N.A.)
** see next page.*

SCOTTISH A/S Sweep. Anti submarine sweep coastwise Lisbon to Cezimbra. My position 035° 38° N., 9° W. 14'.
 (SCOTTISH, 0925A/30 to LOCH OSKAIG (R) F.O.C.N.A.)
 Your 1112A/28 para. 2. Weather report 1856 8539, sea 66. Submit unsuitable for vessel.
 2. My 1651A/28. No improvements. Condition very bad at 8 knots and over.
 (SCOTTISH, 1156A/30 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) LOCH OSKAIG)

LE TRAIT French. Departure Viana 1835A/29 for Casablanca.
 (Oporto, 1047A/30 to M.W.T.)

ST. NECTAN. Your 1616A/29 (N.T. in W.R.) Sea 56 wind south 7 overcast heavy rainfall squall. Consider heavy weather may prevent ships sailing. My position estimated West of Cadiz.
 (ST. NECTAN, 1300A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)
 My 1300. Your 1447. Consider weather may render Huelva bar impassable for ships and R/V difficult. Visibility 2 miles, weather freshening.
 (ST. NECTAN, 1630A/30 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MALAYA, PENN, PANTHER, LOOKOUT. A.M. 1034/29. Intend sailing MALAYA escorted by PENN, PANTHER, LOOKOUT at 2100/30 for Scapa routed through F. 36.01, 06.01 G. 36.20 10.01 H. 38.27, 15.02 J. 42.30, 18.30 K. 45.01 18.30 S. of A 16½ knots.
 2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to signal onward route from position K.
 3. Passengers embarked as follows - MALAYA 36 Officers 350 ratings 15 cot cases, destroyers each 6 Officers 20 ratings. The above include R.A.F. Army and Merchant Navy.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1304A/30 to Admty. etc).
 My 1200/28 para. 2 MAIDSTONE (MALAYA intended) and escort sailed 0900 and returned to Harbour 1300.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 1434A/30 to Admty).
 My 1304/30. Sailed MALAYA, PENN, PANTHER, LOOKOUT.
 (F.O.C.N.A., 2114A/30 to Admty etc).

/INAKI...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. - Contd.INAKI
(sunk 28/9).

9 survivors landed Vigo from Panamanian SS. INAKI sunk by German aircraft 28/9 1600 in position 85 miles West of Finisterre. (R.O. Vigo, 1526/30 to Admty).

P.212.

Intend sailing Sub. P.212 for Malta p.m./2nd to pass 009° E. E.T.A. 038° 01' N., at 0330A/7th. 2. P.212 1 periscope stores and mail for Capt. (S) 10. 3. Last signal concerning route N.O.I.C. Malta's 05, (sic) 22/9. (F.O.C.N.A., 1540A/30 to V.A. Malta).

X.K.1

Intend to sail Convoy X.K.1 2/10 Codeword "Onion". (F.O.C.N.A., 1550A/30 to Admty (R) C. in C. W.A.)

French
Destroyers.

3 (?French) Destroyers left Algiers on night 28th (?destination unknown). 2. These Destroyers were previously believed to have been in (?Toulon). (F.O.C.N.A., 1810A/30 to 8th S.F.)

CHARYBDIS.

See previous page.

My P.C. and S. are 037° 11' 013° 42' 283° 14. Speed limited by sea. Weather report. (CHARYBDIS, 2000/30 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) Admty).

P.51

Your 1734/25 (N.T. in W.R.) In position A dived by day, hove to by night. Expect to make good 40 miles in 24 hours E.T.A. R/V will be signalled. Weather. (P.51, 2130A/30 to F.O.C.N.A. (R) F.O.S. S.8).

PATHFINDER.

Amend time of arrival 0900A/1. Weather report. (PATHFINDER, 2230Z/30 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Cable Repair
by Spanish
Gunboat.Following received from B.N.A. Madrid (begins) In September 1941 America (?International) Telephone Company asked MIRROR to repair broken cable between Algeciras and Ceuta. It was not considered expedient to agree as while cable remained broken we could intercept communications by W/T (?MIRROR) was accordingly too busy to be available. Company have now obtained permission for Spanish coastal gunboat *VAD KERT to repair cable if she can start at once. New cable to be used is in E.T.C. Yard at Gibraltar and consists of 1.04 3 nautical miles? deep sea cable and 3? 82 ? intermediate cable. Telephone Company asks that (A) They can remove Cable (which is their property) (B)*VAD KERT can enter Gibraltar to collect it (C) If American Engineering Company and Spanish employees can be granted visas to enter Gibraltar in connection with removal of cable. *UAD QUERT in *Ten* - (C.B.1815)

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic

Cable Repair by Spanish Gunboat. Contd. It seems difficult to refuse or to postpone repairs any longer but there may be over-riding considerations against granting permission asked. Grateful for early reply as to what you and Governor decide. H.M. Charge D'Affaires concurs. T.O.O. 1853/28 (Ends).

2. It would seem we have no valid excuse for further postponing repairs consequently unless otherwise ordered by 5/10 intend undertake transport of cable to Algeciras by lighter. Total weight cable involved probably under 4 tons.

3. If however it is desired further to obstruct laying of this cable request instructions what delaying tactics should be pursued.

4. Governor concurs.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2246A/30 to Admty (R) N.A. Madrid). Reply M. Branch 2346A/2.

South Atlantic.

EMPIRE
AVOCET
torpedoed.

Following received from Portrush Radio.
At 2334 G.M.T. (begins) SSSS was from V P U (ends)
2340 G.M.T. (Begins) G B 3 V V P U O - P - X
229 - SSSS 5.11 N., 12.43 W. G O C D Torpedoed
T.O.R. 2249 2317.
(Wick Radio, 0044/30 to A.C.O.S.)

British ship EMPIRE AVOCET torpedoed in 005° 11' N., 012° (243') W. at 2249/29.

(S.O.(I) Freetown 1514Z/30 to Admty. (R) C. in C. South Atlantic, S.O.(I) Montevideo).

SHROPSHIRE,
WESTERNLAND.

Sailed (A) SHROPSHIRE escorting (B) SS. WESTERNLAND to Capetown by route R.5. S. of A. 13 knots. E.T.A. 0900Z/3.
(Cdre. Durban, 0521Z/30 to Admty etc).

AMIRAL
PIERRE
(intercepted
29/9).

AMIRAL PIERRE sunk in 026° 04' S., 034° 54' E. E.T.A. Durban 0500Z/1.
(NIZAM 0930Z/30 to N.O.I.C. Durban (R) C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A.)

Vichy ship AMIRAL PIERRE sighted by S.A.A.F. was intercepted by NIZAM 1700/29. Crew abandoned ship and scuttled. Ship sunk this morning in 026° 04' S., 034° 54' E. Officers and crew taken to Durban in HOTSPUR consist of Captain and 10 Officers 8 civilians and 56 native crew.

2. If publicity is to be given request it may be done now. My 1428/26 paras. 4 and 5 refer.

3. Search for other craft is being discontinued for the present. (C. in C. S.A., 1547C/30 to Admty (R) C. in C. E.F., Com. I/C Durban).

Arrived HOTSPUR. N.O.I.C. Durban, 1123Z/30 to Admty etc).

War Diary.

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Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

- W.S. 22 Capetown departures 1700C/29 RANGHI, ALCANTARA escort of convoy W.S. 22. (C. in C. S.A., 1009C/30 to Admty C. in C. E.F., etc).
- NARKUNDA Following for Master NARKUNDA (Begins). Do instructions imply can break W/T silence to transmit any official message from Swiss Delegate NARKUNDA. Wireless reply direct ship. Parfitt (Ends). (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1030/30 to Admty).
- ALEXANDER H. U.S. Ship ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS confirm SSSS STEPHENS message transmitted from 016° 20' S., 023° 26' W. U/B and Raft on 16/9. Reports. (2) 22/9 in 029° 07' S., 001° 16' W. same vessel sighted large Buff coloured raft of type used in British Merchant Ships with about 3 weeks' marine growth showing. Food cask intact but was unable to make out name of ship. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1036C/30 to Admty etc).
- Co-operation R.A.W.A. 1855/17. Concur. The proposed adjust- with U.S.N. ment of strategic areas should be advantageous to both sides. (C. in C. S.A., 1044C/30 to Admty (R) R.A. West Africa).
- Movements. Arrival a.m./30 Neth. Cruiser SUMATRA and QUIBERON, PARTRIDGE escorting LAFONIA. (N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1210Z/30 to R.A.W.A. (R) C. in C. S.A., Admty). *See next page*
- Enemy Unit. D/F bearing at 0143Z/30 indicates a possible German surface unit in approx. 003° N., 015° W. (C. in C. S.A., 1245C/30 to ROYAL SOVEREIGN, DUNCAN, ANTHONY, Netherlands S/M K.14, SOUTHERN GEM (R) Admty R.A.W.A.)
- Your 1245/30. On all available evidence it is considered clear that this transmission was from U-boat. (D.D.I.C., 1805A/30 to C. in C. S.A.) Ref. Admty. Message A.F.03.50 N., 15.46 W. (R.A.W.A., 2200/30 to All British Merchant Ships in Area 3A).

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.

BRUYERE
(sunk
23/9). British ship BRUYERE torpedoed sunk at 2145/23/9
in 4° 55' N., 17° 16' W. U-boat 740 tons German
type. 25 survivors picked up. 2 boats with 22
men still adrift.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1417Z/30 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A.)

MERCATOR. Request confirmation that text of your 1344A/13 and
0044A/18 (both passed to B.N.L.O. W.A.) has been
communicated to Belgian Authority Leopoldville
MERCATOR has now been visited by my Sqdn. Eng.
Off. and arrangement for getting ship to Freetown can commence
forthwith but B.N.L.O.W.A. states no action can be taken without
sanction of Leopoldville authority. Request further signal
regarding MERCATOR be repeated to B.N.L.O.W.A.
(R.A.W.A., 1424Z/30 to Admty (R) B.N.L.O. W.A.)

AMERICAN
LEADER. Have you any news of AMERICAN LEADER (U.S.) due
Punta Arenas 22/9 from Capetown?
(D.T.D., 1704A/30 to S.O.(I) Montevideo).
Your 1704A/30. Ship has not arrived Punta
Arenas.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2145Z/30 to Admty).

Personnel for Takoradi. Personnel will be accommodated in camp pending
arrival of ANTENOR about 14/10 and escort
will be arranged by C. in C. S.A. Your 1822/29.
CAP PADARAN now storing at Capetown and instruc-
tions are requested as to destination so that
ship may embark any West Coast personnel waiting
oncarriage.
(P.S.T.O. Capetown, 1716C/30 to D.S.T.)

SUMATRA,
QUIBERON,
PARTRIDGE. Departure 1700Z/30 Neth. Cruiser SUMATRA escorted
by QUIBERON and PARTRIDGE in accordance with
R.A.W.A's 1615/28. PARTRIDGE requests berth
alongside under crane at Gibraltar for 2 after
guns defective in training.
See previous page
(N.O.I.C. Bathurst 1750Z/30 to R.A.W.A. F.O.C.N.A.
(R) C. in C. W.A., Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

QUEBEC CITY
(torpedoed
19/9). British ship QUEBEC CITY torpedoed 19/9 position
not yet known. 21 survivors picked up.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1753Z/30 to Admty (R) C. in C.
S.A.)

Fuelling of
U/Bs. R.A. West Africa's 1127/29. The six aircraft
sightings referred to spread over nearly four
weeks are not considered indicative of any
refuelling near 14° 00' N., 17° 30' W. nor at
Dakar. S/Ms sighted on 28th may have been French.
Admiralty D/F at 0533Z/23 was within 120 miles of 11° 00' N.
17° 00' W.

/Dispositions...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic - Contd.Fuelling of
U/Bs Contd.

Dispositions estimated today between Cape Verdes and Cape Palmas as follows. One patrolling W. or S.W. Cape Verde Islands since D/F 0247Z/27. One moving S.W. from Cape Verde Islands since D/F 1840Z/27. One D/Fd. 0301Z/30 within 120 miles of 05° 00' N., 13° 00' W. is considered on all evidence to be not a raider but a U-boat which torpedoed an unknown ship at 2249Z/29.

It is considered that refuelling could have taken place between 23/9 and 28/9 within 150 miles of 26° 00' N., 24° 00' W. A.M. 1441A/27 refers.

(D.D.I.C., 1819A/30 to R.A.W.A., C. in C. S.A., (R) B.A.D.)

EMPRESS OF
JAPAN.

Your route is amended. Steer for new A. 17° N., 29° 10' W., to new B. 20° N., 27° W., to new C. 30° N., 27° W., to new D. 39° N., 22° 30' W., to new E (752°) N., 21° W., to new F. 55° N., 13° W. thence to U.

(R.A.W.A., 1843/30 to EMPRESS OF JAPAN).

AQUITANIA.

Ref. B.A.D.'s 1731Z/28 request that if AQUITANIA is still unable to steam at high speeds without making smoke reasons be obtained from Master when ship arrives Capetown and reported Admiralty.

(D.T.D., 1945A/30 to C. in C. S.A. (R) B.A.D.)

Reply: CinESA, 0701C/17/10.

GLENIFFER.

Essential for SS. GLENIFFER to call at Freetown to make good repairs to condenser and steering gear. Request independent route for her before dispersing tomorrow. Expected speed 11 knots.

(ROCHESTER, 2031A/30 to Admty (R) R.A.W.A. etc).

SIAM II
torpedoed.

Intercept 2201 G.M.T. de VPU SSSS De. GNWJ (SIAM II) 03.25 N., 15.46 W. Am torpedoed. (Portishead Radio, 2200 G.M.T./30 to Admty).

Op.
"Volley".

Simonstown departure 30/9 SIRIUS and PHOEBE for operation "Vitriol". (Alternative decode may be "Volley".)

(C. in C. S.A., 2331C/30 to Admty).

War Diary.

30.9.1942
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- LIEBENFELS (German) Your 1925/20 being passed to F.O. Red Sea Force and C. in C. Med. LIEBENFELS seized in prize 30/9 1942. Affidavits and documents despatched by air mail. (C.C.O. Massawa 0754Z/30 to Admty. (R) F.O.C. Red Sea Force, C. in C. Med.)
- CARMEN A/C attack. Intercept 2354 G.M.T. on 500 k/cs. A A A A 27° 20' N. 34° 15' W. Part unread. CARMEN attack aircraft. Message being broadcast. (North Foreland Radio 0054/30.)
- P.35, M/V attacked 27/9. Admty. 0214/30 (Requesting P.35's 0644/28 be passed to F.O.(S)) Following received addressed Capt.(S) 10 (R) C. in C. Med., Capt.(S) 1, V.A. Malta, S.O.S. Alexandria from P.35. 10,000 ton Merchant ship first attacked 1632B/27 in 037° 01' 020° 23' and again torpedoed 2230B/27 possibly sank just before daylight. 2 torpedoes remain. Returning to base by reverse route usual R/V 1201B/1/10. T.O.O. 0644/28 (ends). (Capt. S. 10 0951B/30 to F.O.S.) See also 1727/3.
- Cositrep No.533. 3. Air. Night 28/29. Malta aircraft claim near miss with bombs on M/V off Cape Spartivento. A ship of different tonnage seen beached following day. Destroyer hit with torpedo. Wellingtons bombing Tobruk claim near misses on shipping. One ship believed set on fire. Other fires started near jetties and patrol installations. Bostons bombed landing grounds Daba area starting fires. (C. in C. M.E. 1005 G.M.T./30.)
- P.44 to attack M/V. Investigation position 038° 14' 016° 16' where R/C shows merchant ship aground after air attack night 28/29. If opportunity offers, torpedo her to prevent salvage. (Capt. S. 10 1012B/30 to P.44 (R) C. in C. Med. S.1.)
After carrying out my 1012/30 return to N.E. end of your area for 48 hours. (Capt. S. 10 1835B/30 to P.44.)
- PARTHIAN (1) Proceed through Q B B 255 during daylight
* P.46. 2/10 to arrive position E about 0300B following
UNA day. S A M (A) Nil. (B) 0600B/3. (C) U L
P.42. (D) 1115B/3. (E) Marsamxett. (F) Nil.
(2) P.46 will leave 037° 16' 013° 01' dawn
{ Summary P/S.} 2/10 and proceed at 80 feet to position B.
S.S.T. communication to be attempted during
the day.
(3) UNA and P.42 will be approaching Malta from westward and south respectively to arrive a.m. 4/10. (V.A. Malta 1015B/30 to PARTHIAN.)

War Diary.30.9.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - contd.

Bi-weekly Night 25/26 7 Liberators, 8 Wellingtons laid
Opsum No.60. 65 mines in Tobruk Harbour and Approaches.
9 Halifaxes, 27 Wellingtons bombed docks and
defences to cover operation. Bombs burst on
waterfront and jetties and straddled A/A gun positions. 1
searchlight extinguished. 1 A.S.V. 6 Torpedo Wellingtons
offensive R/C for Southbound enemy shipping North of Tobruk.
1 M/V, 5 destroyers located about 90 miles North of Bomba,
course South, but fleeting sightings only obtained by torpedo
aircraft owing to thick haze and effective smoke screen and
no attacks possible.

Night 26/27. 23 Wellingtons bombed shipping and harbour
installations at Tobruk, bombs bursting along waterfront in
main jetty area and near petrol installations N.W. of Harbour.
Further 2 Wellingtons located several ships about 20 miles
N.W. of harbour and bombed 3 medium M/Vs claiming a near miss
1 followed by smoke. Also machinegunned a suspected cruiser.
1 Wellington bombed enemy camp west of Tobruk with unobserved
results. 6 Torpedo Wellingtons despatched to attack a M/V
of 3/5000 tons with 4 destroyers reported by R/C Baltimore
previous evening stationary 20 miles North of Tobruk could
not find and returned.

About 9 enemy aircraft believed Ju.88s bombed and machine gunned
Heliopolis aerodrome causing slight damage to buildings through
blast. (casualties) 10 Beaufighters up but no successful
interceptions. About 7 enemy aircraft operated south west of
Alexandria some bombs dropped Burg El Arab area but no damage
reported. 6 Beaufighters up sighted no enemy aircraft.

27/9. At dusk 6 B.24s bombed shipping in Benghazi Harbour.
2 hits claimed. 7 Liberators bombing shortly after midnight
claim hits on Outer Mole and 1 hit either on Mole or converted
wreck alongside. Latter followed by explosion and smoke.

Night 27/28. 11 Wellingtons laid 22 mines in Tobruk harbour and
approaches. 7 Halifaxes. 17 Wellingtons bombed objectives
in vicinity to cover operation. Large explosion caused on
petrol installations on south shore. Many bursts among A.A.
gun positions and searchlights. 1 ship or wreck seen burning
but not claimed. 1 A.S.V. Liberator, 1 A.S.V. 2 Torpedo
Wellingtons despatched to attack southbound shipping reported
previous day off West coast Greece by R/C from Malta. 1 M/V
8000/10000 tons, 4 destroyers located about 32 miles south
Sapienza Island course south at 8/10 knots. Each Wellington
released 1 torpedo with unobserved results. Malta C.S.R.
for 28/9 contains details Malta strike. 4 enemy aircraft
believed He.111s operated over Gulf of Suez probably laying
mines. 10 Beaufighters up. 1 He.111 shot down in flames.

Night 28/29 September. 33 Wellingtons bombed shipping and
harbour installations Tobruk. Near misses claimed on shipping
at harbour entrance. Last Wellington to leave target reports
fire this area. 2 good fires started near petrol installations
N.W. of harbour. 1 fire at main jetties. Haze rendered
identification of targets difficult.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1126Z/30.)

ALBARO
CELENO.
(Italian)My 1652C/28. ALBARO CELENO arrived Istanbul.
(2) Long period over which no success against
Black Sea Aegean Sea traffic is encouraging

/Axis ...

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War Diary.30.9.1942
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - conts. -ALBARO
CELENO.
(Italian)
(contd.)

Axis to use Constanza regularly for oil shipments. Submitted that destruction of 1 of tankers now here would do much to slow down this traffic. Effect on crews would be marked. Have repeated above to N.L.O. Black Sea. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1142C/30 to S.O.(I) Med. (R) S.l, Beirut, D.N.I.)

Turkish
Ferry
Boats.

Following is a repetition of my 1609/30 to C. in C. Med. (begins) Following from Admiral Kelly. Your 1139/25 (N.T. in W.D.) Marshal and Minister of Communications agree to retention of DARICA. Latter draws attention to fact that he had arranged for this ship to load the Turkey boom gear at Beirut and to lay the same on arrival. Other arrangements on our part will now be necessary for this work. If these ferry boats are so invaluable suggest we should build 2 for ourselves as Turkish supply will be no longer available. (Ends.) (N.A. Ankara 1613C/30 to Admty.)

Turkey.

Situation. Discussion with Marshal Cakmak. From Adm. Kelly. (N.A. Angora 1622C/30 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Malta Air
Report.

I.14, 30/9. Part 1. 29/9. 0912 hrs, 30 plus Me.109s approached Malta at height, of which 15 crossed coast, partial R.D.F. interference, 18 Spitfires intercepted 8 Me.109s North of Island but raiders had height advantage avoided combat and returned. 1145 hrs. 5 Spitfires made R/C Patrol (South?) Sicily. 1410 hrs. High flying Me.109s approached Malta. Partial R.D.F. interference. 8 Spitfires intercepted over Island but enemy had height advantage and withdrew after inconclusive combats. 1505 hrs. 5 Spitfires up for raids which turned back before reaching Malta. 1545 and 1605 hrs. (2?) Sections of Spitfires made R/C patrols South Sicily. Night 29/30. 1856 hrs. 1 raider approached at great height, partial R.D.F. interference, 2 Beaufighters up but raider dropped bombs in sea 10 miles North of Island and returned. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1845/30.)

Dummy
P/S.

P.211 has 4 dummy periscopes on board and intend distributing them in Adriatic North of 42° unless cancelled by you. *P.46 will embark 2, to be jettisoned South of Naples and near Stromboli. (2) They are most realistic but do not sink after setting period. (Capt. S. 10 2306B/30 to C. in C. Med. (R) Capt.(S) 1, P.211.) *See p.882.

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

MOST SECRET.

IN.
1622C/30th September.

From N.A. Angora.

Date 30.9.42.

Rec'd. 2333.

Inter Departmental Cypher (O.T.T.) by CORRECTION
Cable. & RECIRC.

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean.
AIDAC.

Following from Admiral Kelly. Discussed War with Marshal Cakmak who considers that "Our" situation more satisfactory than last year. Axis have attacked in Russia Libya and Far East and all offensives have been held up; it is now allies turn to attack. Even should Stalingrad fall, season is too far advanced for new operations on large scale and complete penetration of Caucasus area by available winter routes unlikely.

2. He does not consider any immediate menace to Turkish Neutrality which would be threatened when Caucasus passed to German hands and Black Sea became a German lake. Great pressure is now being put on Bulgaria to send troop against Russia; at present they refuse but Bulgarians offer to send Bulgarian troops to relieve Italians in Greece to free them for eastern front. Matter not yet settled. Goering with strong committee now sitting to draw up plan for 1943 to replace that which failed in 1942.

3. Small troubles on Russian frontier caused equally by both sides but Russians being shot if wrong always insist they are right. Since arrival of new Turkish Ambassador in Moscow matters have run more smoothly. Less trouble on Iranian frontier due to northward move of Russian troops and arrival of small Persian force.

4. No arms have been received from Germany. Marshal considers all talk and nothing more and supply would only be received if Germans had big victory.

5. Germans have never officially discussed disposal of Russian Fleet, confining themselves to "Ballots Dessai".

6. Discussion 31st August use of (?Turkish) fleet in event of entering war: If Russian fleet still in being Turks would work with them; failing the Russians, submarines and small craft would work in sea as long as Turkey controls straits. Asked if any intention of making small depots in Black Sea he intended to do so at Samsun, where there is rail, and possibly at Sinope. I promised question of some form of protection would be considered but its use would only be possible in fine weather seasons. He has already sent some C.M.B. types to Samsun and one other anchorage for patrol work.

7. He is satisfied that military, A.I., and Coast Defences for protection of Zongomydak and Karabuk are sufficient to protect them from raids in force. No large scale operations are possible on Black Sea Coast in winter months. Should European shore of straits fall into hands of enemy, naval vessels would withdraw to Smyrna and Iskanderun or further.

8. Thrace harvest was bad and on south shore considered (?inappreciable) otherwise good, peasant hoarding of past 600 years is still feared. Negotiations for French and Swedish substitutes still proceeding but French ask too much.

9. Japanese Admirals saw nobody and nothing as far as Turks concerned.

10. He knew the facts too well to support Raudeivall suggestion that we were not doing enough for Turkey.

11. He was slightly worried about India but Turkish sympathies are entirely with Mahommedan and Sikh Section of the community and from Turk's view with us.

1622C/30.

Advance Copy. D.N.I.

D.B.

1st Lord
 1st S.L.(2)
 D.F.S.L.
 4th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(F)(2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D.O.D.(F)(2)
 D.D.I.C.(2)
 D. of P.(2)
 D.C.(2)
 Head of M.
 D.N.I.(4)
 D. of P.(Q)
 I.P.(2)
 D.P.D.
 W.D.
 Admiral Blake

War Diary.

30.9.1942
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - contd.

NEBOJSCA.

Your 1246/26 and your 1256/26. NEBOJSCA is to carry petrol to Malta for the present. Decision as to A/S training submarine at Kilindini will be made later.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 2341A/30 to C. in C. Med. (R)
C. in C. E.F. etc.)

Instructions in A.M. 0024/22 are to be considered as deferred pending further orders.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 2348A/30 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.F.,
F.O.C.R.I.N.)

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

FOO SHING
"Q" Report.

Following received QQQQ 9.23 N. 81.00 E.VPBY
(FOO SHING) Gunned.
(FOO SHING 0055 FG/30).

SIRSA
sabotage.

SIRSA arrival 1600 G.M.T./29th, fire in number
5 hold suspected sabotage.
(N.C.S.O.Cochin 0406Z/30 to Admty (R).S.O.(I)
Bombay S.O.(I) Colombo).
Arrival 29th SIRSA put back on fire.
(N.C.S.O. Cochin 1156Z/30 to M.W.T. D.C. in C.E.F. etc).

MANXMAN

Admty 1921/29. Can MANXMAN be docked Massawa
or Suez. Durban is very congested and docking
there entails 3000 miles additional steaming.
(C. in C.E.F. 0621Z/30 to C. in C.Med (R) Admty).

Ref. A.M. 1921/29.

It is presumed that operation will be carried out in Eastern
Mediterranean.

(C. in C.E.F. 1929Z/30 to Admty (R) C. in C.Med)
Reply: Yes. (D.O.D.(F) 1040A/1)

HARESFIELD.

Ref. S.O.(I) Bombay's 0546/23, further report
received from N.O.I.C.Karachi in which Chief
Officer states that owing to darkness and poor
visibility he cannot personally vouch for jettisoning of C.Bs
and ship sinking, but is reasonably certain of both these
events.
(C. in C.E.F. 0725Z/30 to Admty).

C.M.32 B.

Sailing telegram.
(N.C.S.O. Kilindini 0733Z/30 to Admty).

Landing
Craft
Gear.

Admty 1816/28.* Further replacement of shore gear
for landing craft has become an urgent operational
necessity. List is being forwarded to Admty by
special air mail.
(C. in C.E.F. 0747Z/30 to Admty (R) S.O. Force M.
Cdre R.I.N. for Salsette, ALBATROSS for S.M.O.
Landing).
* Spare gear for landing craft to Durban.

Situation.

Intelligence for fortnight ending 27/9. U/B
sightings off French Somaliland, etc.
(G.O.C. in C.E.Africa 0900 G.M.T./30)
See Lion Copy.

Sitrep
Madagascar.

1.Landing at Tulear 29/9 effected by S.A.Tps and
Royal Marines. No incidents and no opposition.
Chef de Region and local administration friendly.
W/T Station and barracks intact.
2. R/C reports several rd. blocks on rds, to Tongobory and
Ampanihy. Rd. to Manera reported clear. Falling tide
delaying disembarkation of M.T.
(G.O.C. in C.E.A. 1050/30 to 12 Div. Central Area (R) W.O.).
/Landing.....

MOST SECRET

0900, G.M.T., /30 September.

MOST SECRETMESSAGEIN

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

Date: 1.10.42.

Recd. 0425

CYPHER

Addressed: War Office.

IMPORTANT

075732 1/5445 cipher 30 Sept.

For M.I.3.

Intelligence for fortnight ending 27th September.

French Somaliland. Following sightings submarines reported 13 September 0600 hours British ship sunk by submarine 12 (or 52 degs.) 48' N. 50 degs. 50' E. 17 September about 0600 hours and again between 1330 and 1700 hours near coast 8 miles east Berbera. 17 Sept. 1120 hours Ocean going submarine about 240 miles E.N.E. of (?) Mukalla lat. 15 degs. 01' N. long. 52 degs. 4' E. moving southward at 15 knots. 19 Sept. 1140 hours submarine position 12 degs. 02' N., 46 degs. 06' E., heading west and submerging. 24 Sept. 1300 hours submarine and attendant vessel 9 miles west Bender Kassim. Since beginning of month 15 sightings or incidents submarines of which 6 in area Berbera Aden and 9 in mouth Gulf. Submarines number at least two and identified as Japanese. While probably concentrating this area to co-operate with Axis Egyptian offensive no evidence of aid from Jibuti. Recent nocturnal visits Moucha Island near Jibuti suspicious but air recce. revealed nothing. Presence Dhows off Island further suggests innocence and that Island may be entrepot for Yemen trade. Latter trade recently recovered momentum since arrival Gold Jibuti. Present Madagascar operations causing resignation rather than apprehension numerous husbands Jibuti advising wives Madagascar seek repatriation France rather than Jibuti. This may indicate belief that Jibuti conditions likely deteriorate further and settlement with us unlikely. Recent frontier meeting sought by Antoine with fighting French officer, probably to gain information or intentions vis-a-vis Jibuti, and play friendly. Estimated European food stocks will be exhausted by February next after which monotonous avitaminous diet. Portuguese East Africa. Submarine reported sighted off Mozambique about 1200 (or 1500) hours 4 September. Few such incidents now reported as compared June July blitz. Axis apparently taking some interest military installations Lindi area and railways Rhodesia and Nyasaland-Beira. Signs. Portuguese intend enlarge and train native army with Metropolitan troops. Also improving defences coastal areas apparently against jungle fighter by removing crops along roads and concentrating dumps inland. Change from Mozambique Coy. to Lisbon Administration believed may react against our interests but this off set by coolness recent welcome to Machado as representative Metropolitan Govt. and interests.

Madagascar/.....

Madagascar. French Units. Tananarive area were renamed after arrival Senegalese ex Jibuti and our attack Diego. 1 and 4 Bns. R.M.M. became including reservists 1 2 and 3 Bns. De Marche. 1 and 2 Bns. Reported withdrawn from Tananarive to South prior our entry capital. 3 Bn. provided opposition along Majunga-Tananarive road having two coys. severely handled. Remainder this battalion believed withdrawn Antsirabe via Arivonimamo. Further Bn. ex Tanatave also reported withdrawn southward from Tananarive after 17 September. Estimated order battle south of Tananarive therefore 1 and 2 Bn. De Marche. Remnants 3 Bn. De Marche. Remnants 3 Bn. De Marche. Bn. Ex Tanatave. 1 & 2 Bns. R.M.M. original garrison of south with H.O. Fianarantsoa. 4 to 6 field guns. Indications reliable source that withdrawal southwards had begun by 21 Sep. and that Fianarantsoa already then reinforced. This tends confirm belief that serious defence of Tananarive never intended but plan was to withdraw and continue resistance in south. Policy of obstacles rather than demolitions bears this out. Also Fianarantsoa reported to have been chosen as alternative seat Govt. if our offensive renewed after Diego Suarez and this may still be plan. Strong indications that Annet at Fianarantsoa on 22 September but that later he may have moved elsewhere in S. Madagascar

Ethiopia. Fighting took place between Somali ex-Askaris and Kenya police at Gamadda east of Moyale on 9 Sept. and between same bands and tribesmen at Banissa in our territory on 13 September. These well-organised outlaws potentially one battalion strong and serving under their ex N.C.O.'s reported in control area between river Dawa Parma and Kenya frontier East Moyale. They are influenced by Axis propaganda and if unchecked might develop serious unrest along Somali Abyssinian racial frontier.

0900G.M.T./30

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

Recd. in War Registry at 0705/2.

1st Lord
1st S.L.(2)

D.F.C.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(T)

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

A.C.N.S.(W)

Sec.

P.A.S.(S)

N.A. 1st S.L.

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

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

D. of P.(2)

D.N.I.(4)

D.D.I.C.(2)

D. of P.(Q)

D.C.(2)

D.S.L.

Ad. Blain

Circulation by War Office to:-

M.O.L., 5B., 11.

M.I.2., 3., 3a., 3b., (JIC)

I.P.L.

Admiralty (War Registry)

A.M.C.S. (Air Ministry)

C.C.O.(2)

D.P.D.

D.N.I.(4)

Hd. of M.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

D.A./S.W.

Capt. Wharton

Ad. Osborne

D.T.D.(4)

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Landing
Craft
for India.

For D. of S.T. Following is summary arrangements and requirements for shipping landing craft back India.

- 1. Total to be shipped L.C.A. 20, L.C.S. 3, L.C.P. 12. L.C.M.16.
- 2. To go from Madagascar to Bombay with 29th Brigade. In DUNERA and LANNER 6 L.C.A. and 2 L.C.P. each. In GASCONY 4 L.C.M and OCEAN VIKING 2 L.C.M.
- 3. Requiring shipment from Durban to Bombay, ready to leave early October one L.C.S. 3 L.C.P., 9 L.C.M. My 0846/29 and my 0759/30 refer.
- 4. Requiring shipment from Kilindini to Bombay, ready to leave about 9/10 8 L.C.A. and 4 L.C.P. ex EMPIRE PRIDE. My 0915Z/30 refers. Also 1 L.C.M. ex CHARLTON HALL.
- 5. Remaining balance requiring shipment from Tamatave to Bombay. Ready to leave with 29th Brigade, 2 L.C.S., 1 L.C.P.
- 6. Earliest possible shipment is requested for craft mentioned in paras 3,4, 5.
(C. in C.E.F. 1141Z/30 to Admty (R) Armindia etc).

Madagascar
Operation
"Rose."

Stores landed. 2. Aerodrome 1200 yards by 400 yards obstructed but ready for use 3/10.
3. Patrol sent to St. Augustin 29/9 encountered small detachment who fled.

Sakahara.

4. Armoured car patrol proceeded 30/9, towards position 5 miles beyond Vineta as Tac R reported further obstructions. Further local patrol ordered.

- 5. 1 80 mm. mountain gun, 1 wireless set 1500 gallons petrol and further 8 prisoners captured.
- 6. Army W/T communication with Majunga satisfactory.
- 7. Acute shortage of clothing, rice and flour.
(S.O. Force M. 1421Z/30 to C. in C.E.F. (R) Admty).

NEWCHWANG
"Q" Report.

QQQQ GDYQ.
S.S. NEWCHWANG 25.20 S. 51.08 E, Suspicious ship closing.
(Simonstown 1540.G.M.T./30 to Whitehall, Colombo, Kilindini).

O.23.

On. 9/9 Dutch S/M O.23 attacked Southbound merchant ship 3-4,000 tons in 007.30 S. 098.03.E. with guns forward and aft, 2 torpedoes fired but missed, and attack possible on 2,000 ton merchant ship sighted off Sabang on 13th. Publication in press not desired.
(C. in C.E.F. 1937Z/30 to Admty).

/New....

888

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

New Aircraft
UNICORN
ILLUSTRIOUS. Your 1715/25. No definite date can yet be given in respect of either Barracuda or Firefly.
2. Position in regard to these types is as follows:
Barracuda. Not yet cleared for operational use but expected to be cleared shortly. We expect to send some out in UNICORN. Unlikely that it will be feasible to form squadrons in ILLUSTRIOUS with sufficient reserves to back them until April at earliest.
Firefly. Prototype crashed at end of June this year resulting in delay in clearing it for operational use. Investigation revealed no error in design and trials proceeding. It should be cleared shortly and we expect some 15 off production this year. Not practicable yet to forecast a date for re-arming ILLUSTRIOUS with this aircraft but it will certainly be later than Barracuda.
(D.N.A.D. Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 2015A/30 to R.A.A.E.F.(R) C. in C. E.F. etc).

Defiant
Aircraft. Your 1546Z/3/9.(N.T. in W.D.) Air Ministry are providing a "Defiant" aircraft for R.A.F and Army A.A. requirements in India Command. They appreciate urgency of requirement. Difficulty is in getting aircraft out quickly. Details of arrangements in hand for establishing A.A.C.Us in India will be communicated shortly. Appreciate existing Naval target towing facilities are very limited and cannot be expected to meet the requirements of the other Services. Concur that Swordfish cannot be loaned. Regarding Fulmars, see my 1328/1/9.
(Hd. of Air Branch, Approved by C.N.A.S. 2252A/30 to C. in C.E.F.)

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

OCEAN VAGABOND (torpedoed 29/9.) GEORGETOWN's 2107/29 (N.T. in W.D.) OCEAN VAGABOND afloat and now being towed in by rescue tugs. GEORGETOWN, CAMROSE, COBALT, MIDLAND and 2 Fairmiles were on spot without delay and are continuing search aided by aircraft.

(C.C.N.F. 0018Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. Admty. C.T.24.etc.) OCEAN VAGABOND ex H.X. 209 torpedoed, arrived in tow. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 1145Z/30 to Admty. (R) N.S.H.Q. Connav. C.T.F. 24. C.O.A.C.)

U/B positions. Following is C.E.S.F. 1845/29. S/M estimate 0800Q/30. (Connaveu 0200/30 to Admty.)

ALCOA MARINER. Torpedoed 28/9 0935 G.M.T. 008° 57' N 060° 08' W. Master states all books were in weighted bag and went down with ship, depth of water 10 to 12 fathoms. (B.R.O. Georgetown 0735/30 to Admty.)

Air report. U/B attacked. A.345 30/9 operations, times G.M.T. (B) A/S patrols 18 sorties. One sighting position 48.45 N 63.50 at 1723 attack carried out U-Boat bracketed by four D/Cs severe damage or possible kill indicated. (H.Q. E.A.C. 0800/30.) See also 1354/30.

Convoy C.P.1. Arrived. (B.R.O. Cristobal 1014R/30 to Admty. etc.)

PAVLA aground. Sailed ZWARTE ZEE escorted by U.S.P.C. 81 to assist SS. PAVLA reported aground in 010° 30' N 060° 59'W. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1022Q/30 to Admty.)

Movements summary. 1800 G.M.T./30.

Ship.	Position.	Course.	Speed.
MILFORD.	20° S 36° W.	030°	11
CARNARVON CASTLE.	08° S 26° W.	180°	14
A.T.24.	46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N 31° W.	046°	26 $\frac{3}{4}$
A.T.23.	45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° N 53° W.	085°	14

(D.O.D. (F.) 1045Z/30 to Opnav (R) Connaveu.)

ARENA. Have you any news of ARENA which sailed Key West 6/9 (tanker message) for New York.? (D.T.D. 1128Z/30 to Connav.) Reply: 1354/1.

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War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

R.B.1. In view of experiences of R.B.1. Merchant
VIRGINIA Shipping Mission presume VIRGINIA LEE will not
LEE. be sailed this season.
(B.A.D. 1341Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. (R) F.O.N.F. Admty.)
B.A.D. 1341/30. Intention was to sail VIRGINIA
LEE escorted by THIRLMERE to Iceland a.m. 1/10. Ship will be
held here pending further orders.
(F.O.N.F. 1457Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D. Admty.)
Your 1341/30. F.O.N.F. reported VIRGINIA LEE ready to sail
30/9 for Iceland escorted by THIRLMERE.
(N.S.H.Q. 2117Z/30 to B.A.D. (R) F.O.N.F. Admty.)
F.O.N.F.'s 1457/30. M.S.M. have just cabled Ministry London
suggesting that in view of late date ship should be held until
Spring unless need is very urgent. Suggest you defer decision
until Ministry have had time to discuss this with Admty.
(B.A.D. 2141Z/30 to N.S.H.Q. (R) F.O.N.F. Admty.)

A/C My 1947Z/29 (1747/29 intended?) Aircraft flying
attack at 5000 feet sighted U-Boat on starboard beam
on U/B. fully surfaced 4 miles away. 1 attack carried out,
4 depth charges set to 25 feet spaced 40 feet apart
dropped from 50 feet. At time of attack U-Boat
deck under water but C/T still visible. Charges exploded round
hull and close ahead of C/T. U-Boat blown to surface and
stopped then settled slow by stern disappearing 30 seconds later
slightly down by stern. No evidence of destruction. U-Boat was
740 tons class painted dark grey. N.O.I.C. Sydney's (C.B.)
1745Z/29 (N.T. in W.D.) refers to this attack.
(C.O.A.C. 1354Z/30 to C.T.24. (R) N.O.I.C. Gaspe, Connav. Admty.
C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. F.O.N.F. C.T.24.7.)

U/B S/M estimate 30/9 and U.S. S/M Notice.
positions. (C. in C. U.S. Fleet 1557/30, 1558/30, 1559/30,
1600/30, 1601/30.)

Brazilian B.R.O. Surinam reports unknown Brazilian ship
ship sunk. sunk at entrance Marowyne River, 8 survivors
landed St. Laurent 1600 local time 29th.
(S.O.I. Kingston 1632R/30 to Admty. etc.)

Boom Your 1637/16/7 and 1507/16/9 do not give us
Defence sufficient information to present a clear cut
Depots. case to the Americans. Request you will furnish
us with (A) Further detailed information.
(B) A statement as to exactly what you want the
U.S. to contribute.
(B.A.D. 1653Z/30 to Admty.)

U/B. Aircraft reported possible S/M sighted at 1448/30
in 046° 36' N 062° (14' or 204') W.
(C.O.A.C. 1658Z/30 to G.B.7A (R) C.T.F.24 etc.)

VIBRAN. VIBRAN (Nor.) due Halifax 27/9 from U.K. has not
arrived.
(?N.S.H.Q. 1909Z/30 to Admty. Connav. C.O.A.C.
F.O.N.F.)

/OREGON...

War Diary.30
39.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.OREGON
EXPRESS
U/B

AAA. Received 1719 G.M.T. SSSS de VIVI (BNZN, OREGON EXPRESS). 51.55 N 39.02 W at 1500 local time being chased by sub. de VAR (St. John N.B.) (C.O.A.C. 1920Z/30 to C.T.F.24. (R) Admty. etc.) Following received from Belle Isle at 2119Z/30 OREGON EXPRESS SSSS 51.28 N 40.12 W at 1800 local time. (C.O.A.C. 2211Z/30 to C.T.F.24. (R) Connnav. Admty. etc.)

S.C.103.

C.T.U. 24.1.5 in FIREDRAKE plus RIPLEY (H.F./D.F.) SUNFLOWER, ALISMA, LOOSESTRIFE and PINK designated escort convoy S.C.103. Escort joins at Westcomp.

To C.T.U. 24.1.5 by hand.

(C.T. 24 2005/30 to C. in C. U.S. Fleet. C & R (R) C.T.U. 24.1.5. C.T.U. 24.18.5. C.T.G. 24.6. C.C.N.F. C.T.G.24.7. Admty. C. in C. W.A. N.S.H.Q. C.O.A.C.)

Wreck.

Wreck with 2 masts projecting out of water reported 30/9 00.13 N 41.51 W. (Connnav 2015/30 to All U.S. Warships (R) Admty.)

B.Y.M.S.

1034/7/5 and C. in C. A.W.I. 1326/2/6.

Experience to date has indicated that it would be preferable for B.Y.M.S. to conduct the whole of their working up in U.S.A. consequent on the fact that considerable maintenance and provision of spares is necessary. In addition it is found possible to work to these vessels while they are waiting delivery of certain items of equipment. Great difficulty is anticipated in providing Jamaica with spares, both on account of scarcity of these and transportation. Unofficial enquiries have indicated that U.S. authorities would welcome this proposal. Any personnel already sent out could be made use of at working up ports in U.S.A. but no additional base staff is at present required as maintenance will be carried out at U.S. Naval Establishments. If this proposal is approved an official application will be made to U.S. authorities for their concurrence.

(B.A.D. 2101Z/30 to Admty.)

Sub.
attack
and
sighting
summary.

Para A. PEIPING later into position 23° 50' N 50° 10' W 9/9. ALCOA MARINER torpedoed and sunk 08.57 N 60.08 W 0947Z/28. OCEAN VAGABOND torpedoed 47.32 N 52.38 W 2030Z/29. Navy plane attacks sub. 59.43 N 27.37 W 1400Z/28. R.A.F. plane attacks sub. 52.23 N 30.33 W 1215Z/28.

Para B. OZORIOH cancelled. OREGON EXPRESS chased by sub. 51.55 N 39.02 W 1800Z/30. Plane attacks sub. on surface 48.42 N 63.5 W about 1725Z/19. Plane sights sub. 10.10 N 56.35 W 1705Z/30.

Para C. U.S.S. COURAGE attacks sound contact 18.40 N 74.47 W 1235Z/25/8. Attack on contact 0545Z/29/9. My 2051/29 read 07.37 S. Sub. sighted 47.35 N 58.58 W 26/9. P.C. attacks sound contact 20.05 N 73.37 W 0430Z/30.

Para D. P.C. 470 attacks sound contact 10.36 N 79.17 W 0900Z/30. (Cominch 2137/30 to Admty.)

/Tankers...

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.

Tankers Amast 3280. Refer Amast 3115 (1811/15 - N.T. in Caribbean. W.D.) Comcarib has reacted satisfactorily to Navy Dept's approach regarding Puerto La Cruz loadings.

2. Nets have been requisitioned and will be laid down.
3. Meanwhile Comcarib will provide escort from Curacao Puerto La Cruz to wait and return to Curacao with loaded tankers.
4. At present indication is monthly group is limit of ability but anticipate this will improve.
5. Group could be escorted from Curacao 12/10. (British Merchant Shipping Mission Washington, via Sparks, New York T.H.I. 2138/30 to Shipminder, London.)

Convoy 1235/18. When change of cycle to 8 days occurs Cycles. plan being considered to sail alternate 10 and 8 knot convoys Trinidad - Guantanamo - New York Northbound only. This requires following:

A.S. first S.C. Convoy in new cycle. 6 days after last one in present cycle. B.S. first H.X. in new cycle 10 days after last in present cycle. C succeeding convoys each type to sail at 8 day intervals. This will cause S.C. Convoys to sail 2 days before H.X. Request your concurrence.

(C. in C. U.S. Fleet 2140/30 to Admty. N.S.H.Q. (R) B.A.D.

C.J.S.W. Commander All Sea Frontiers, Atlantic, C.T.24.

C. in C. U.S. Atlantic Fleet, C.O.A.C. F.O.N.F. C. in C. W.A.)

Movement Ref. my 2036/8 and subsequent signals. Do you of tankers. anticipate any development of your 2359/9 para 2 which would appear to offer solution of persisting troubles?

2. B.R.O. Curacao 1150/29 reports following tankers ready to proceed Puerto La Cruz with no prospect of movement (tanker message) for next few days. TARIA since 21st. DEAN EMERY and GLITRE since 24th, BRITISH INDUSTRY since 28th.

3. EVITA due Curacao today is also for Puerto La Cruz. (D.T.D. 2147A/30 to B.A.D. S.B.N.O. W.A.)

Reply: B.A.D. 1831/1.

A.T.25. Convoy A.T.25 comprising SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH carrying U.S. troops will leave New York on 5/10 for Clyde unescorted.

2. Connav is requested to route ship so as to R/V in 10° W at daylight on 10/10.

3. C. in C. W.A. is requested to
 - (a) provide route from R/V to Clyde.
 - (b) sail CURACOA to provide escort from R/V.
 - (c) sail six destroyers to provide A/S escort or sweep according to weather conditions.

4. H.Q.F.C. is requested to arrange maximum fighter escort and to arrange that fighters are sighted from time to time. Fighter protection codeword "Mutual".

5. QUEEN ELIZABETH is expected to arrive Clyde p.m. 10/10. Further orders for her sailing will be promulgated.

6. Air Ministry is requested to arrange for special protection whilst at anchorage in accordance with A.M. 1045/18/4.

7. Connav pass to C.E.S.F. (D.O.D. (H.) 2259A/30 to C. in C. W.A. C.E.S.F. Connav. Air Ministry etc.)

/GEORGE...

893

War Diary.30.9.1942.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies - Contd.GEO. FOX
ELLIOTT.
GREGORY.
sunk.

Navy Dept on 30/9 issued the following statement-
At about noon on August 8 a Japanese torpedo-
plane crashed into and set on fire the U.S.S.
GEO. FOX ELLIOTT (a naval transport formerly
the SS. CITY OF LOS ANGELES) during a torpedo
attack. Burning petrol started fires which could
not be extinguished, and the GEO. FOX ELLIOTT was abandoned and
destroyed. There were few casualties. The next of kin of those
lost have been notified.
The U.S.S. GREGORY (a small auxiliary transport) was recently
sunk by enemy gunfire off Guadalcanal. Most of her personnel
were saved and next of kin of those lost have been notified.
(The Times 1.10.1942.)

Australia and New Zealand.Gilbert
Islands.

Maori number 30. Gilbert Islands Kuria and
Tamana believed occupied 27/9. Nonouti not
heard since 25/9.
(N.Z.N.B. 0511Z/30 to Admty. D.C. in C. E.F.
F.O. Colombo. A.C.N.B. C. in C. Pacific.
Comsopac. Comsouwespac. Comairsopac, Cominch,
Port Director Fiji, S.O.I. Calao. B.A.D.)

Situation.

Serial No. 251. 29/9.

Reports from Buin Faisi to Lei Harbour Area. 29/9
inconclusive due poor visibility. 2 light
cruisers 12 destroyers 1 tanker 3 supply ships reported off Buin
early morning.

(2) 2 vessels possibly heavy cruisers reported entered Queen
Carola Harbour afternoon 28/9. Later reports indicate one of
these vessels observed off Eastern entrance Buka Passage same
evening. 1 destroyer 1 possible Seaplane tender (Chitose type)
reported arriving Buka Passage same afternoon. Sightings
morning 29/9 indicate only 1 large vessel Queen Carola Harbour,
2 destroyers vicinity Buka Passage.

(3) Photographs Buka Passage Aerodrome 28/9 indicate 5 medium
bombers 10 fighters.

(4) Photographic R/C Kavieng Area morning 29/9 reveals 2 probable
seaplane tenders, 1 7000 ton merchant ship Steffen Strait. One
4000 tons M/V 1 small vessel Kavieng Harbour.

(5) 1 Fortress bombed Salamaua Aerodrome afternoon 29/9 while
2 Fortresses attacked barges and A.A. positions Buna destroying
6 barges and one A.A. position damaging another.

(6) 2 Bostons attacked enemy camps Menari (18 miles South
Kokoda) 29/9.

(7) Ioribaiwa Ridge captured by Allied troops 28/9 had following
enveloping movements around both enemy flanks. Our forces
consolidating new positions and patrols maintaining penetration
enemy positions. Much enemy stores and equipment captured.

(8) Single enemy bomber attacked Betano (Portuguese Timor) 28/9.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 0653Z/30 to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.

30.9.1942.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

U-Boat positions estimated at 1200Z/30.
(D.D.I.C. 1450A/30, 1451A/30.)