

HOME COMMAND SIGNALS

From 1st July 1945 the War Diary for Home Commands was discontinued.

Important signals in Home Commands have been retained, and these have been numbered, listed and indexed monthly, and bound (see volumes - Home Command Signals).



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

- ~~HOME COMMANDS~~ - ~~Policy~~  
(Classification by subjects where inclusion in an operational area is impracticable).
- Defence of United Kingdom
  - Operations
    - North Sea (from 58° N. to Dungeness - Griz Nez)
    - Channel (between Dungeness - Gris Nez, 48° 30' N. and 6° W.)
    - West Coast France (to 48° 30' N., and 5° W).
    - Western Approaches (West of above between 40° and 58° N. to 30° W).
    - Norway (to 80 miles off shore between 58° and 70° N).
    - Northern Waters (north of 58° N. outside "Norway").
    - Baltic (eastward of the Skaw).
  - Enemy Intelligence
  - Navigational
  - Port Facilities
  - Casualties
  - Movements (of H.M. Ships)
  - ~~Shipping and Convoys.~~
- FOREIGN STATIONS  
(Classification by stations).
- North Atlantic
  - South Atlantic
  - 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) (23rd February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1st September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1st September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot) (1st March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21st June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1st July 1941, No. 222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13th September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.



ADM 199

2321



War Diary for Home Commands will be discontinued as  
from today, July 1st, 1945.



1.7.1945  
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

C.T.F. 122. / 1. C.T.F. 122 is dissolved as from today.

Movement. 2. SUFFREN (French cruiser) sailed from Bizerta for Diego Suarez with relief troops for the garrison.

Far East and Australia.

Malaya. 3. U.S. N. aircraft bombed Kuantan shipyard (Malaya) and scored hits among 15 small coastal freighters.

Borneo. 4. Preceded by heavy naval bombardment by cruisers and destroyers and close support of rocket ships co-ordinated with heavy air strikes, elements of the 7th A.I.F. division landed on beaches just east of Balikpapan. Initial waves had no opposition but subsequently light fire received on beach and by off lying ships. No casualties to troops or ships during landing. Beachhead was secured and troops advanced to a depth of 2500 yards where stiffening resistance reported.

China. 5. U.S.N. aircraft attacked destroyed two luggers at Haitan Island (N. Formosa St.) and damaged two coastal freighters off Samah (Hainan.)

Japan. 6. (a) U.S. Blue submarines sank a further 5 ships and damaged an escort in Japanese waters.  
Ryukyus. (b) U.S. Task Force 31 dissolved today. T.F. 99 assumed local defence functions.



War Diary.

1.7.1945  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Movement. Intend to sail ENTERPRISE to Portsmouth at 1200B July 2nd. (2) Route.  
(3) S.O.A. 17 knots. (4) E.T.A. 0900B July 5th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 011054B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
Departure 1518B/1st. SILVIO and SAXIFRAGE for Plymouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 011742B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Submarine for B.P.F. H.M. submarine SCORCHER arrived.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 011758B to Admty.)

Movement. Departures July 1st 0810 ROTHER for Malta 1230  
L.S.T. 3024 and 3021 for Port Said L.S.E.(L.C.)  
51 for Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 011806B to V.A.Malta.)

Fleet minesweeper. MAMELUKE arrived Ponta Delgada 1915Z/1st.  
(2) Intend sailing her after fuelling 1100Z  
E.T.A. Angra 1830Z/2nd.  
(C.S.A. Ponta Delgada 012145Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)



War Diary

1.7.1945

SundayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanFast  
minelayers  
for B.P.F.

Proceed with MANXMAN at 1600B July 2nd to Port Said. S. of A. 25 knots adjust to arrive daylight 4th.

(4) Admty.'s 121449 not to all refers.  
(V.A. Malta, 011144 to APOLLO.)

Subject: Sailing of MANXMAN for Gibraltar and Mediterranean for short work up before being joined by APOLLO and sailing for Ceylon and B.P.F.

Destroyers  
for U.K.

My 301517 not to D.22.

CATTERICK will sail in company with KELVIN to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K.  
(V.A. Malta, 011302, to KELVIN.)MIRROR  
cable  
ship

Cancel my 261712\* June. Request you sail MIRROR Westward in accordance with instructions in A.M. 281514 June to F.O.G.M.A. only.

(C. in C. Med., 011702B to F.O.G.M.A.)

\* Cable repairs - MIRROR.

PALOMARES  
fighter  
direction  
ship

Intend to enter Palomares under tow for transit to Port Said. Investigation here suggests misalignment of pump itself and is beyond the capacity of repair facilities at Suez. Roca Port Said is requested to signal estimated further delay to ship after inspection. My 240715C, June not to all, refers.

(N.O.I.C. Suez, 011915C to Admty.)

Levant  
Sitrep to  
1900 hours  
30th June.

056419. GO/26256 cipher 1st July.

One. Aleppo. GO 25723 of 29th June. Armenian community picketed approaches to Mussy Barracks to prevent further Armenians enlisting.

Unarmed TS from barracks to interfere with pickets and captured two Armenians. Brit. Gd. now on barracks and Armenians released. 30th June joint

deputation Christian and Moslem notables representing all communities in the town visited H.B.M. Consul and Brit. Comd. North Syria. Stated there was danger of Moslem - Christian clashes unless Brit. stopped.

(a) French recruiting T.S. from Christians.

(b) Continued free circulation French Offrs. in town.

(2) East Syria. Derbissiye, night 28/29 June small Franco/Syrian clash. Reported casualties killed, civilian one;

wounded, civilian one; French soldier, one. British intervention quietened situation. Tribes not involved. Mohafez Deir Ez Zor reinforcing Jezireh with 200 Gendarmes.

(3) Lattikia. 29th June British replaced French Troops on hill dominating town. GO 18825 of 5th June refers. Situation now easier.

(4) Beirut. 200 Railway strikers arrived from Rayak by train to demonstrate. British Armoured cars picketed station but no disturbances occurred. Situation well handled by Gendarmerie and strikers returned Rayak.

(5) Railway situation. Strike now over and work resumed 30th June.

(C. in C. M.E., 012010C, to W.O. etc.)



1.7.1945  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Refits in  
S.Africa.

Your 251635 June, ROEBUCK and ESKIMO mid August.  
ROTHERHAM and ROCKET mid October.  
(C. in C. E.I. Station, 010341 to C. in C. S.A.)

Movements.

Arrived BULOLO, KING SALVOR.  
Departed CLEOPATRA, L.S.E. 2, L.S.T. 382, 164  
and 165.  
(Com. Aden, 011709Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

1.7.1945.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

re  
BALLINDERRY  
modifications.

Regret that, owing to requirements for refits and adjustments of complements of ships preparing for Far East, proposal in your 291438 June cannot be approved.  
(A.C.N.S. (F) 011334B to S.B.N.O. W.At.)

Far East and Australia.

CAP DES  
PALMES.

Departure Fremantle 0800H/1st July F.S. CAP DES PALMES for Tamatave Madagascar calling at Mauritius if necessary for fuel. E.T.A. Tamatave 0900Z/12th July.  
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle 010415Z to C. in C. E.I.)



2.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Adriatic

1. ARIES (Fleet minesweeper) was mined about 18 miles S.W. of Trieste during sweeping operations. She is being towed to Trieste by two other ships of 19th M/S Flotilla. One man was killed and two are missing.

East Indies

Burma

2. Spitfires of Tactical Air Force destroyed 8 and damaged 21 river craft on the Sittang river.

Movement

3. NIGERIA (C.S.5) with AMEER, EMPEROR, 3 destroyers and the 6th Minesweeping Flotilla sailed from Trincomalee to the eastward.

Far East and Australia

Malaya

4. U.S. Liberators sank three small coastal freighters and probably destroyed by burning seven other similar coasters near Kuantan (N.E. coast of Malaya).

Borneo

5(a). Good ground progress reported from Balikpapan from beachhead. Some shelling of beaches experienced during this morning. Naval surface units and Escort Carriers continue support.  
(b) On north-west coast elements of 9th A.I.F. division supported by rocket firing craft off shore attacking enemy positions, reached positions  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles N.E. of Beaufort - Jesselton Railway.

Japan

6(a) Between yesterday and today 532 Super Fortresses attacked urban areas on Kyushu and Honshu namely at Kumamoto, Kure Ube (East of Shimonoseki) and Shimonoseki. General conflagrations were observed.



2.7.1945  
Monday

· War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

Japan  
(Contd.)

3312 tons of bombs were dropped.

(b) U.S. planes laid mines off S.W. coast of Korea and sank 2 ships, one being a submarine chaser.

(c) Between yesterday and today 24 Super Fortresses laid approximately 129 tons of sea mines in the Shimonoseki Straits and off Nanao and Fushiki (Honshu.).



2.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Submarines  
for Greece

Intend to sail UPSTART (S.O.) and UNTIRING at  
0900B/3 to Malta.  
S. of A. 10 knots. E.T.A. 1300B July 7th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 021059B to V.A.M.)

CONSBRO  
B.D.Vessel

Your 301707B\*June not to all addresses. Request  
CONSBRO be sailed to Plymouth and date of  
departure from Gibraltar and E.T.A. Plymouth be  
reported to Admty.  
(D. of B.D., 021123B to F.O.G.M.A.)  
\* CONSBRO ready for sea 3rd July.

S/M  
for B.P.F.

Intend to sail SCORCHER at 1600B July 3rd to Malta  
for onward routing to Far East.  
(3) S. of A. 10 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 2200B July 7th.  
(F.O.G.M.A. 021419B to V.A.M.)

Cruiser  
trooping

DEVONSHIRE passed Gibraltar 0400B 2nd bound  
Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 021807B, to F.O.L.E.M.)

Destroyer  
for E.I.

E.T.A. 2030B/3rd.  
(2) C. in C. Plymouth's 301626B June para.2  
should read 3rd July.  
(CALPE, 022005 to F.O.G.M.A.)

MAMELUKE  
F.Ms.

Departures.  
MAMELUKE 2105Z 2nd July routed through -(route)  
(2) E.T.A. Plymouth 1600Z/6th.  
(S.B.N.O. Azores, 022351Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

2.7.1945.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Levant  
Sitrep to  
1900 hours  
1st July.

(1) Aleppo. Night 30th June/1st July 2 bombs  
thrown French Political Officers' Mess. No cas.  
Town and district otherwise quiet.

(2) Tell Kallakh midway Homs and coast. French  
report locals attacked post consisting one TS,  
Inf. Coy. 1st July. Coy. Comd. deserted.  
Patrol Brit. arm'd. C's. from Homs and Sec.

French Inf. from Tripoli investigating.

(3) 30th June Brit. estimate TS. desertions - Offrs. 142, O.Rs.  
5,731. This represents one quarter total str. Approx. 48  
Offrs. 1,455 O.Rs. believed joined gendarmerie.  
(C. in C. M.E., 021105C to W.O.)



2.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movement.

Arrived at 0900/2nd M.R. 1 escorted by LOSSIE.  
(N.C.S.O. Rangoon 021202Z to Admty.)

Submarine  
for B.P.F.

Departing TAPIR.  
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 021645Z to Admty.)



2.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

MARINER. Departures Halifax 2000Z/2nd MARINER E.T.A. Ponta Delgada p.m. 8th July "Chop" 0800Z/5th.  
(2) On arrival Ponta Delgada request MARINER be fuelled and sailed to U.K. as directed by Admty. (C. in C. C.N.A., 022059 to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

Movement. Departures p.m. July 2nd MARINER to U.K. (C.O.P. Halifax 022145Z to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

Blue Summary Ryukyus. T.F. 31 dissolved. T.F. 99 assumed  
1.7.45. local defence functions. T.A.F. continued Ryukyu neutralisation shot down 1 Nell.  
Empire area. F.A.W. 1 planes sank 2 small ships, damaged 1 in Yellow Sea, escorted 7 T.A.F. P.47s  
in Hangchow Bay strike by 36 F.4Us attacked Chiran Airfield. 142 P.51s attacked Hamamatsu. 12 planes of same mission hit Hamasima seaplane base, destroying 1 hangar, 1 S.C.L., 4 S.D., damaging 4 S.D., 1 D Minesweeper, 1 sea tug, 2 luggers. 1 Pilot recovered by submarine. Blue submarine rescued 11th member of crew of Dumbo down in East China Sea. Other Blue submarines sank 1 schooner, 4 unidentified ships. Damaged 1 escort. 2 B.24s hit Marcus.  
(Cincpac. Adv. H.Q., 020904 to 3rd Fleet.)

Digest 1258, (1) Preceded by heavy naval bombardment by  
1.7.45. cruisers destroyers and close support gunboats and rocket ships co-ordinating with accurate and heavy air strikes elements 7th A.I.F. Division landed on beaches just east of Balikpapan, Assault Echelon arrived area without incident and landing proceeded according to schedule. Initial waves had nil opposition but subsequently light fire received on beach and by ships off shore but nil casualties suffered to troops or ships during landing operations. 3 Mile Beachhead secured and troops advanced inland to depth of 2,500 yards where stiffening resistance reported.  
(2) Night 29th June three pairs P.T. boats illuminated Seppinggan Manggar Beach and rocketed mortared and strafed various targets there.  
(6) Allied submarine contacted four unidentified ships 65 miles northeast Kangean Islands course 20° afternoon apparently heading towards Makassar Straits contact lost at dusk when ships changed course to westerly.



2.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Digest 1258  
1.7.45.  
(Contd.)

(8) From Clark Field planes damaged two small coastal freighters eastbound off Samah (Rainan) and destroyed two luggers at Yaiton in northern Formosa Strait.

(9) Fleet Air Wing planes from Nalawan attacked two laden power barges towing three sailing craft off southwest coast Makassar destroying both barges and two sailing vessels dropped two Napalms on Kuantan (Malaya) shipyards amongst 15 coastal freighter boats about 30 coasters observed anchored off Kuantan.

(10) 5th Air Force Operations. During 30th June one Liberator on weather R/C bombed Mako Naval base in Pescadores, two Mitchells hit radar station on Erchow Island off Hongkong.

(12) On northwest Borneo 9th A.I.F. Division patrols pushed out north, east and south from Beaufort without enemy contact but small party Japs. estimated at 50 strong engaged 3 miles southwest of Miri.

(15) Two 13th Air Force Liberators bombed Saebi seaplane base on Kangean Islands (East Java Sea) 29th June.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 020906Z to Admty.)



3.7.1945.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Far East and Australia

Borneo.

1. Naval surface units and escort carriers continued to support the Seventh A.I.F. Division at Balikpapan who continue to make rapid gains practically unopposed. Some enemy artillery fire experienced on landing beaches during day.

Pacific.

2. The U.S. destroyer MURRAY intercepted a Japanese hospital ship the TAKASAGO MARU in 23° 56' N., 164° 48' E. at 0730 today. A thorough search revealed no grounds for detaining her and she was allowed to continue voyage to Wake Island to evacuate sick and wounded to Muroran.

3.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

Air/Sea Rescue. Have been relieved by KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE in Air/Sea Rescue position 19.  
(2) E.T.A. 2000B/5th July.  
(SPIRAEA, 030351B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Movements. Intend to sail MANCHESTER CITY and SPEY in company at 2000B July 3rd to Falmouth and Dartmouth respectively.  
(3) S. of A.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  knots.  
(4) E.T.A. MANCHESTER CITY 2100B July 8th at Falmouth. SPEY 0100B July 9th at Dartmouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 031218B to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
See 042315B. *(See also below)*

Destroyers for E.I. Arrived LEDBURY, TETCOTT.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 031231B to Admty.)

Escort Carrier for E.I. Entered your command at 1500B, my P.C.S. at 1500 043° N., 010° 26' W., 181°, 17½ knots.  
(SEARCHER, 031522B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Submarines for Greeks. Departed 1055/3rd H.M. Submarines UPSTART, UNTIRING for Malta.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 031919 to V.A.M.)

S/M for B.P.F. Departed SCORCHER at 1600B/3rd for Malta.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 031921B to V.A.M.)

Movements. Departed MANCHESTER CITY to Falmouth. SPEY to Dartmouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 032018B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Destroyer for E.I. Arrived 2100B/3rd CALPE.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 032102B to C. in C. Plymouth.)



3.7.1945.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

ARCTURUS,  
Minesweeper  
- repairs.

Your 081229B June. Mine damage to ARCTURUS. Vessel docked for survey. Main repairs required are as follows, etc. Time required approximately 8 weeks. Suitable dock available approximately 10/7. Instructions requested. (C.S. Taranto, 030952B to C. in C. Med.)

Sitrep.  
621.

ARIES has been damaged by mining during sweeping operation off Istrian coast. She is being towed to Trieste. Three casualties. (C. in C. Med., 031947B.)

Levant  
Sitrep to  
1900 hours  
2nd July.

056935. GO/26819 cipher 3rd July.

(1) Aleppo. Night 1/2 July two grenades thrown at house of French Offr. No damage or cas. 2 July French Delegee has agreed to confine himself to own home.

(2) East Syria. Reported gendarmes tribes clash near Ras El Ain. Gendarmes cas. killed two wounded four. No further details. French believed still obtaining Christian recruits for TS.

(3) Tell Kalakh. GO/126434 of 2 July. Situation reported easier though 1,000 armed men in town refuse disperse. French grn. may have to be evac.

(4) Turkey. Turks concerned over problem disposal French and Syrian refugees whose personal safety in danger on return to Syria. Now agreed French authys. in Syria to propose to Turks through M.A. Ankara that all refugees should be returned and handed over to (?Brit.) for disposal.

(C. in C. M.E., 032010C to W.O.)

3.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Corvette for U.K. Intend to sail LINARIA from Colombo 6th July for Aden through (route) en route U.K. My 271049 June not to all refers. (C. in C. E.I., 030241Z to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

F.S.DUMONT D'URVILLE DUMONT D'URVILLE arrived St. Pauls Island 30th June and left 2nd July. My 200550 June refers. (2) Pass to Marine Paris. (C. in C. E.I., 030620Z to Admty.)

SUFFOLK (Cruiser) Intend sailing SUFFOLK 0330Z 6th July from Colombo to Suez for onward routeing to U.K. (2) Approximate programme

Arrive	Place	Leave
p.m.19th	Gibraltar	a.m.20th
	U.K.	22nd

(3) Request destination in U.K. (C. in C. 030637Z to Admty.)

Movements Arrived H.M.S. TOPLAND departed H.M.S. BULOLO. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 031507Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

3. 7. 1945  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PRINCE ROBERT Departing Esquimalt 0500 G.M.T. 5th July.  
for B.P.F. A. H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT Aux. Anti-Aircraft ship  
for San Francisco California, E.T.A. 2200 G.M.T.  
6th July for onward routeing.  
D. Nil.  
(C.O.P.C., 031658Z to C.W.S.F., C. in C. B.P.F.)

Agadir  
AGADIR.

It is confirmed that Cominch and Admiral Fenard  
have been informed that evidently agreement was  
reached in Paris regarding extent to which  
facilitates should be provided. A.M. 301450  
refers.  
(B.A.D., 032031Z to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

Submarines A.M. 172315 June para. 4.  
B.P.F. Com. Submarines S.W. Pacific Force (7th Fleet)  
confirms that situation remains unchanged and  
that deployment of 4th S/F and 8th S/F is  
required to remain as at present.  
(2) Admiralty pass to F.O. Submarine.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 030709Z to Admty.)

Blue Summary Empire Area. Okinawa based T.A.F. planes  
2nd. continued Ryukyu neutralization. F.A.W. 1  
planes sank 1 S.A.S. 1 S.C., damaged 1 S.D.  
dropped mines off southwest coast Korea. On 1st  
sank 3 S.D. From 25 June through 1 July F.A.W.  
planes sank 15230 tons shipping. Damaged 9510 tons.  
B.29s. 28 mined Fushiki and Nanao Harbours and He Uaki  
anchorage. On night 1st 89 bombed Ube Urban area visually  
and by radar from 10,000 feet. 150 struck Kure by radar from  
10,000 feet. 154 hit Kumamoto by radar from 10,500 feet. 100  
bombed Shimonoseki visually and by radar from 7,000 to 15,000  
feet.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv., H.Q., 030810Z to 3rd Fleet, etc.)

Digest 1259 (1) At Balikpapan ground progress reported very  
2.7.45. satisfactory. Elements 7th A.I.F. Division  
(extract.) moving eastwards from beachhead reached Sepinggan  
airstrip which was badly cratered, other elements  
going west reached Sepoeloh behind Klandasen  
finding same lightly held only, advance inland  
progressing, but meeting stiff resistance. Some shelling of  
landing beaches experienced during morning. Over 300 Jap. dead  
counted to date, our casualties light. Naval surface units and  
escort carriers continue support, also land based planes, P.T.  
boats sighted one Jap. speed boat off Balikpapan night 1st July,  
but speed boat escaped.

/(2)....



War Diary.

3.7.1945  
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

- Digest 1259, (2) Direct air support for Balikpapan landing  
2.7.45. 1st July involved 64 Liberators, 2 Mitchells,  
(extract.) 14 Lightnings, using about 150 tons bombs  
(Contd.) including Napalms.  
(4) 5th Air Force operations night 1st July one  
Liberator raided Canton starting large fuel fire  
and two others hit shipping in river at Shanghai  
sinking one medium freighter transport plus one of two luggers  
attacked.  
(5) On Luzon heavy rains prevented further ground progress  
in Kiangnan area. On Mindanao stubborn enemy resistance  
encountered west of Kigangay.  
(7) 27 F.A.W. Liberators or Privateers conducted usual searches  
from Clark Mindoro and Palawan during day. One small  
coastal freighter damaged by straffing at Haiphong, one motor  
launch sunk three small coastal freighters probably destroyed  
by burning and seven similar coasters damaged near Kuantan on  
northeast coast Malaya.  
(9) On northwest Borneo elements 9th A.I.F. Division reached  
positions  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Beaufort-Jesselton Railway  
supported by rocket firing craft off shore attacking enemy  
positions.  
(10) R.A.A.F. operations not reported elsewhere.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 030824Z to Admty.)

Fleet Train A.M. 291719 being passed to V.A.(Q) and R.A.F.T.  
Water refers. Large water freighters original  
Freighters. estimate was for four vide my 050604 Feb. para. 3B.  
This was reduced to a bare minimum of three in my  
120747 June para. 3F.  
(2) The latter figure of three allows no margin  
for damage or refits. It is also now confirmed that future  
operations will require continuous transport of water over  
considerable distances and allocation of a further water  
freighter is consequently requested.  
(3) It is desirable that ship should be available on the  
station by early Oct. cleaning being carried out in U.K. if  
possible in view of work required in Australia on other three  
water freighters.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 031008Z to Admty.)



19

4.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Burma. / 1. Six Liberators laid sea mines off Meklong (40' S.W. of Rangoon) Prachuab, Girikhan and Jumbhorn.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo. / 2. Attacks by aircraft round Borneo coast resulted in 1 river steamer, 1 small coastal vessel sunk, 2 coasters damaged, 4 set on fire in shipyard at Pontianik, 2 small coasters were set on fire Kuching and 3 ships damaged at Bandjermasin.

China. / 3. U.S. aircraft attacked convoy off mouth of Yangtze river damaging 2 destroyers, one patrol craft and a torpedo boat.

Moluccas. / 4. P.T. boats co-operating with R.A.A.F. Spitfires from Morotai attacked targets northern Halmahera destroying one camouflaged barge.

Japan. 5. (a) U.S. aircraft sank two cargo vessels and damaged another off west coast of Kyushu and destroyed 3 float planes in Fukuoka Harbour.

S/M activities. (b) U.S. Submarines report sinking 9 small ships including 6 picket boats and probably sinking a medium merchant vessel and damaging a large merchant and a submarine chaser today.  
(c) Night 3/4 July 480 U.S. Super Fortresses attacked urban areas of Takamatsu, Kochi and Tokushima (all Shikoku Island) and Himeji (24' N.W. of Kobe). Large fires were started at Tokushima. 3351 tons of bombs were dropped.



4.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

Home and Abroad.

European  
Theatre  
Naval  
Commands.

When the Supreme Command, Allied Expeditionary Force, is dissolved, the Allied Naval Command, Expeditionary Force, will automatically be terminated.

(2) Admiral Sir Harold Burrough, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., will assume the post of British Naval Commander in Chief, Germany (short title B.N.C.

in C.G.) In this capacity he will be responsible to Field Marshal Montgomery for Naval operations, disarmament and control in the British zone of occupation. He will also be Chief British Naval Representative in the Allied Control Commission.

(3) The S.H.A.E.F. Missions to liberated Allied countries will also be terminated and naval arrangements in these countries will be as follows:-

(a) Flag Officer, Denmark, will be operationally responsible to British Naval Commander in Chief, Germany, but in other matters responsible direct to Admiralty.

(b) S.B.N.O. Norway, Holland and Belgium, will in all matters be responsible direct to Admiralty. Technical control of Brussels Naval Signals Centre will, however, remain with British Naval Commander in Chief, Germany.

(c) Captain Wharton, British Naval Representative in S.H.A.E.F. Mission to France, will join the staff of Naval Attache, Paris, who will be responsible in all matters direct to Admiralty. S.N.O.B.O.P.F. will be responsible to Naval Attache, Paris.

(d) Existing administrative arrangements will continue until further notice.

(e) Specialist advice for S.B.N.Os. on communications, salvage, ship repairs and port repair parties will for the time being continue to be provided as necessary by the staff of British Naval Commander in Chief, Germany.

(4) Command of all U.S. Naval Forces assigned to occupation duties or to support the U.S. Army in the European Theatre of operations will be exercised by Comnavforger under operational control of Commanding General, U.S.A.E.T.O.

(1st S.L., 040319B, A Message Home and Abroad 21A.)



War Diary.

4.7.1945  
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Re U.S.S.R. F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 301847B June delayed 24  
Y.M.S. 455 hours.  
(S.O.), 453, (FORTE 040927B to F.O.G.M.A.)  
456, 464, 465,  
466 to Gib.

Frigate for Intend to sail LOCH RUTHVEN at 1200B July 5th  
E.I. to Port Said.  
(3) Speed 14 knots, E.T.A. 1700Z/11th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 041423B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

ENCHANTER E.T.A. (?Easy) Head 1400/5.  
rescue tug (2) Reference F.O.G.M.A.'s 041030B (N.T. in W.D.)  
A.F.D. 68. (not to all). Re shortening of tow rope,  
ENCHANTER unable to comply owing to absence of  
towing bollards.  
(VELETA? 041531B to F.O.G.M.A.)

CALPE Departed 1140/4th for Malta CALPE.  
destroyer (F.O.G.M.A., 041722B to V.A. Malta.)  
for E.I.

Landing Weather permitting intend to sail L.C.H.315 (S.O.)  
Craft for L.C.I.(L) 108, 113, 170, 186, 251, 253, 264,  
U.K. 290, 294, 297, 308 and 314 escorted by RUBY and  
VIVIANA at 1800B July 5 to Falmouth.  
(2) S.O.A. 9 knots or better.  
(7) S.O. has been instructed to report E.T.A.  
at least 12 hours before arrival.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 041745B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Destroyers. Arrived 1400/4 from Malta KELVIN and CATTERICK.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 041758 to Admty.)

German S.Ss. B.N.A. Madrid's 232127B (N.T. in W.D.) Ministry  
of War Transport will provide British crews for  
LUCY ESSBERGER, THALIA and BESSEL.  
(2) LUCY ESSBERGER may be required for service in  
the Mediterranean. She and THALIA should be seized in prize  
at Gibraltar.  
(3) THALIA and BESSEL should be sailed to Falmouth latter for  
seizure in prize on arrival.  
(4) German merchant seamen should be sent to Methil for  
repatriation.  
(5) White Ensign should be hoisted on boarding as protection  
against commercial claims.  
(Hd. of M.I., 041906B to F.O.G.M.A.)

MANCHESTER My 031218B. Destination of MANCHESTER CITY is  
CITY. now Tail of the Bank.  
(2) E.T.A. 0500B July 11th. A.M. 041701B\* not to  
all addressees refers.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 042315B to C. in C. Plymouth.)  
\* MANCHESTER CITY for reconditioning at Clyde.



4.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

POLAR V. Intend to sail GENISTA in company with MARGUERITE  
towing POLAR V ~~Las Palmas~~ 1200Z/5th July toward  
Casablanca calling at Las Palmas for water.  
(2) Standard northbound.  
(3) Speed 6 knots.  
(5) E.T.A. Las Palmas a.m. 11th July Casablanca p.m. 17th July.  
(Comar Dakar 041700Z to F.O.G.M.A.)



War Diary4.7.1945  
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanABERCROMBIE  
(Monitor)

Proposed programme in ABERCROMBIE's number 65/341 dated 24th June, 1945 to F.O.L.E.M. only is retarded by 8 days. It is expected, therefore, that ship will now arrive off Ras El Kanayis range a.m. July 20th for 8 days' work up at Alexandria before proceeding to Ceylon.  
(V.A. Malta, 041037 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Corvette  
for U.K.

On completion of compass adjustment a.m. 5th July intend to sail VERBENA to Malta for onward routing U.K.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 041255C to V.A.M.)

Frigate  
(River)  
for E.I.

Intend to sail ROTHER at 0800B 5th July to Port Said.  
(3) S. of A. 13½ knots. E.T.A. 0900C 8th.  
(V.A. Malta, 041745 to F.O.L.E.M., S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Ships  
destined  
for E.I.  
or B.P.F.  
E.T.A.  
Malta.

A.M. 312224 May. Cancel July and August.  
Following is revised forecast:-  
July: ARIADNE, ARMADA, 6 Hunts, 3 Bays, 3 A.A. Sloops.  
August: \*GLASGOW, \*JAMAICA, HOGUE, CAMPERDOWN, TRAFALGAR, 6 Hunts, 3 Bays, 4 A.A. Sloops.  
September: OCEAN, NORFOLK, \*CHAPLET, 7 Hunts, 2 Bays, 2 A.A. Sloops.  
\* May be later.

(2) Hunts include those refitting in Med. and completing during appropriate months.  
(D.O.D.(F), 041845B to V.A. Malta.) *See 311822A*

S/Ms  
for  
B.P.F.

Sailed TURPIN, SPUR and SCOTSMAN to Aden for onward routing to Trincomalee.  
(2) E.T.A. 0600z/9. S. of A., 12 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 042015C to Admty.)

PIERRE  
GIBault  
mined and  
aground  
23.6.45

Your 041857 (N.T. in W.R.). It is essential that MINDFUL stand by PIERRE GIBault if she is not to become a total loss. Salvage Officer estimates that she will be in a fit condition to tow to Piraeas by first light, Friday, 6th July if weather conditions are suitable.  
(MINDFUL, 042200B to ?).

4.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Cable repair ship. 29 Bahrein July 4th STORE BORDISKE.  
(N.C.S.O. Bahrein 040800Z to Admty.)

Monabs. Consider Monabs for Shackel must be shipped direct to destination and every effort made to load units operationally completed. This will demand training before leaving U.K. A.M. 291407 June refers.  
(C. in C. E.I., 041027Z to Admty.)

Escorts for transports. Two cruisers cannot be spared simultaneously for escort of STRATHAIRD and STIRLING CASTLE your 010056 June and 211919 Feb. refer.  
(2) Sailing of STIRLING CASTLE must therefore be delayed about 10 days to enable escort of STRATHAIRD to transfer to the former after refuelling at Fremantle.  
(C. in C. E.I., 041119Z to Admty.)

QUEEN ELIZABETH (S.S.) Intend sail QUEEN ELIZABETH a.m. 17th July from Colombo to Aden for U.K.  
for U.K. (2) Approx. programme.

Place	Arrival	Departure.
Aden	a.m. 23rd July	Night 23/24 July
Suez	a.m. 27th July and transit Canal.	
Port Said	p.m. 27th July	p.m. 28th July.
Gibraltar	a.m. 3rd August	a.m. 4th August.
U.K.	7th August.	

(3) QUEEN ELIZABETH intends full power trials after leaving Gibraltar.

(4) Request destination in U.K.  
(C. in C. E.I.S., 041157Z to Admty.)

TOTLAND (cutter) Intend to sail TOTLAND at 1000Z/5th to Suez for onward routeing to U.K.  
for U.K. (2) E.T.A. 0900Z/9th S.O.A. 14 knots.  
(Com. Aden, 041406Z to N.O.I.C. Suez.)



4.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

BERRY HEAD,  
Escort  
Maintenance  
Ship.

Intend sailing BERRY HEAD to San Francisco 9th July to complete with fuel and for onward routeing by C.W.S.F. Admiralty's 251155 March not to C.O.P.C. refers.  
(C.O.P.C., 041712Z to N.S.H.Q., Admty., etc.)

Far East and Australia

Fleet  
Train.  
Internal  
administra-  
tion of.  
Appointment  
of Cdre.

Experience with the existing Fleet Train shows that the day to day local administration is too much for the present staff and swamps the machine to the detriment of long range policy. This situation is likely to deteriorate as the Fleet Train builds up to its expected total of 120-150 ships and vessels.  
(2) It has already been necessary to detach and reorganise the Fleet Air Arm support as a separate sub-command under a Commodore Air Train.

(3) I have now approved that the greater part of the internal administration of the Fleet Train should be taken over by an authorised Second in Command and it is considered that the Officer holding this appointment should be of the rank of Commodore Second Class.

(4) No suitable Captain is available locally and it is therefore requested that an Officer be appointed by Admiralty to arrive Sydney early August. The ship in which he will fly his broad pennant will be communicated later.

(5) To a certain extent the staff of Commodore Fleet Train will be provided from the existing administrative staff of R.A.F.T. but certain additional Officers will be required. V.A.(Q) is requested to report to Admiralty after consultation with R.A.F.T. what Officers will be required additional to those available on the station.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 040120 to Admty.) *See 212230A + 010607Z Aug.*

Types of  
bombs for  
B.P.F.

(2) Offer in para. 2 is appreciated. Request supply may be made first opportunity.

(3) V.A.Q's 300539 not to B.A.D. gives scale of supply for 100 pound G.P. and cluster.

(4) Request shipments as at 2A of 500 pounds A.N.M.76 may proceed in addition to Mark 7 and

variants pending review of situation in two months time.

(5) Understood A.N.M.76 is incendiary bomb but details are lacking. Request full information including fuizing particulars.

(6) Proposed supply of 100 pound A.S. bombs as interim measure most acceptable.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 040213Z to Admty.) *See 020137Z August.*

/Re ...



4.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

*X this probably refers  
to event of 9 May 45 not  
4.4.45, the day she*

FOREIGN STATIONS *arrived  
in Manus.*

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Re strikes  
of B.P.F.  
against  
Sakishima  
Islands.

*X* Subject concurrence C. in C. B.P.F. propose making following press release as of 1000 G.M.T. Sunday 8th July, 1945. It can now be revealed that during recent strikes by ships of the British Pacific Fleet against the Sakishima Islands, Fleet Carriers bore the brunt of the attacks of the Kamakaze Corps. Though the majority of the attacks failed 5 suicide pilots succeeded in diving their aircraft on the decks of carriers. INDEFATIGABLE was hit twice the same day, another carrier was hit twice on successive days. VICTORIOUS was also hit during these attacks although the ships bear the scar of the explosions and fires caused by the suicide aircraft not one of the three ships suffered more than minor damage nor were they obliged to withdraw from the action. In each case the damage control and fire fighting parties were able to clear the flight deck so that aircraft were taking off and landing on within a very short time. In one case the flight deck was in use 20 minutes after the suicider had crashed. The operations of the British Task Force were not affected in any way by these incidents and it remained at full strength throughout. In addition to these five hits there were three near misses. In two cases Kamakaze aircraft actually touched the decks of carriers but were carried by their own momentum over the side and exploded harmlessly in the sea. A third suicider tipped the superstructure of one fleet carrier but dived right across the ship above the flight deck and crashed into the sea. The Japanese paid a heavy price in aircraft and pilots for the minor damage of these British ships. In all more than 140 Japanese aircraft were destroyed or damaged during the operations. In these attacks and in all other forms of enemy action the British Pacific Fleet lost 70 men killed and 34 seriously wounded. Only one of the British Task Force was rendered inoperative throughout the two months of strikes against these Japanese Islands. The ship concerned was H.M. destroyer ULSTER.

New Subject. C. in C. B.P.F. is requested to signal all addressees concurrence or rejection this release. Addressees are requested to take action accordingly. If concurred in no further despatch will be originated by C. in C. Pac. Advance Headquarters.

(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 040229 to Admty.)

PRINCE  
ROBERT,  
Auxiliary  
A/A ship.

C.O.P.C. 031658. Request H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT be onward routed to Pearl Harbour.  
(2) Request ship report state of working up from San Francisco.  
(3) Destination after Pearl Harbour dependent on para. 2.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 040522Z to C.W.S.F.)

Blue  
Summary  
3rd.

Empire area. Neutralization Ryukyu Retto continued by planes of T.A.F. 26 P.47s. hit Kanoya airfield. 2nd/3rd F.A.W.1 planes sank 2 SDs, 3 small craft. F.A.W.18 planes probably sank 1 SD and damaged 1 SD. 39 B.29s. attacked



War Diary.4.7.1945.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and AustraliaBlue  
Summary  
3rd.  
(Contd.)

Maruzen Oil Refinery Shimotsu (Osaka) by radar from 15,000 to 16,900 feet. Nil airborne opposition flak heavy meagre inaccurate. Photos show damage from missions 29th to Moji totalled .32 square miles destroyed or 28.8 per cent of built up area of city. Nobeuka suffered .51 square miles or 36 per cent of built up area destroyed. Sasebo had .41 square miles or 17.9 per cent of built up area destroyed from Shimonoseki Mission show .51 square miles or 36 per cent of built up area destroyed. MURRAY (DD 576) at 1930M (-12) intercepted Japanese hospital ship TAKASAGO MARU at 23.56 N., 164.48 E. Reported thorough search revealed no grounds for detaining ship and allowed her to continue voyage to Wake Island from which her captain said she was to evacuate sick and wounded to Muroran. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 040545Z to all commands.)

Digest  
1260,  
3rd July.  
(Extract)

- (1) Seventh A.I.F. Division continued to make rapid gains Balikpapan practically unopposed. Balikpapan Town Area captured an entire Kwandassan Peninsula including signal hill and Pont Oil Refinery in our hands. Advancing east from beachhead forward elements reached Batakan Besar village approximately 3 miles from Manopar. Some enemy artillery fire experienced on landing beaches during day but nil damage suffered. Naval surface units and escort carriers continued to provide support during day.
- (2) Additional 22 Liberators (R.A.A.F.) participated in Pae landing bombing Balikpapan 1st July dropping estimated 44 tons of bombs. 13th Div. provided direct support Balikpapan area. 2nd July with 29 Liberators, 13 Lightnings with 71 tons bombs including some Napalms also indirect support with 8 Lightnings cratering Tawao strip and 3 Libs. bombing Bandjermasin area airfields.
- (4) 5th Air Force operations during day involved: 48 Mustangs operating from Okinawa Rweyt West Coast Kyushu destroying 3 float-planes Fukuolt Harbour.
- (5) 2 Navy Mariners from Lingayen searched Formosa Straits and south-east China Coast night 2nd probable motor launch straffed off Mako and 2 junks, 10 barges damaged near Wuseu Island off Amoy.
- (6) Usual Fleet Air Wing searches conducted during day: 2 schooners at Kuching slightly damaged but large waterside warehouse demolished there: one trawler damaged off Indo-China Coast.
- (8) Photos Hispang (Indo-China) 30th June show one submarine chaser, 2 small tankers, 7 coastal freighters all under 500 tons each, 7 river steamers averaging about 300 tons each, 7 tugs, approximately 300 barges, junks or fishing boats and a 300 foot floating dry-dock.
- (9) On Luzon some gains made in Kiangan - Bontoc area against stiff resistance and despite torrential rains. On Mindanao strong enemy opposition continues Nimawe - Talomo Trial.
- (10) In Brunei Bay area elements 9th Air Division advanced further mile and half along Beaufort to Jesselton railway line meeting some opposition.
- (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 040830Z to Admty.)



27A

CONFIDENTIAL.

IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

\*(NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad ("O.T.P.") are excepted from this rule.)

041036Z/July

From: C. in C. B.P.F.

Date: 11.7.45.

Recd: 2240.

C.C.M. 5 SERVICES P & I AREA GEN (CONF) BY W/T

Addressed: Britpacflt. (205P), Admiralty.

Escort Vessels have been allocated for administrative purposes as follows:

*ent-rush  
B.P.F.*

(A) 31st Escort Flotilla PHEASANT (S.O. Short Title EF 31)  
CRANE, WHIMBREL, WOODCOCK, REEPOLE, AVON, PARRETS, FINLHORN.

(B) 32nd Escort Flotilla HILFORD (S.O. Short Title EF 32)  
FLYM, DERG, USK, BARLE, ODZANI.

041036Z

Note: This signal is referred to in C. in C. B.P.F.'s 041040 which states that term "Escort Flotilla" is to denote Administrative allocation to Escort Groups as opposed to Operational allocation of Escort Vessels to Task Groups.

1st S.L. (3)  
D.F.S.L. (2)  
Contr.  
4th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
Sec.  
D. of P. (3)  
D. of P. (Q) (3)  
O.D. (6)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (2)  
O.D.8.  
Mails  
Movts.  
D.A./S.W.  
D.A./U.D.  
D.T.S.D.  
O.I.C. (2)  
Ad. Blake (4)  
W.D.



4.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

ULSTER,  
destroyer.

ULSTER departed Pearl 1800Z/4th. S.O.A. 16  
knots. Route Carl. E.T.A. San Diego 1600Z/  
10th.  
(Comhawseafron, 042101Z to Comwestseafron.)

5.7.1945  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

North Atlantic.

Movement.

1. GLOIRE (French cruiser) and TIGRE arrived Casablanca from Cherbourg and sailed again with the Sultan of Morocco on board next day for Bizerta.

East Indies.

Andaman Sea.

2. The 6th Minesweeping Flotilla began to sweep the enemy moored minefield off Car Nicobar (Nicobar Islands) today. They were supported by NIGERIA (C.S.5), AMEER, EMPEROR and 3 destroyers. The operation continues.

Submarine operations.

3. (a) H.M. submarine TRIDENT on her 1st Far East patrol on 2nd June north of Malacca St. sank one junk of 15 tons by demolition. On 12th June damaged grounded aircraft and control tower during bombardment Lhokseumawe airfield (about 110 miles E.S.E. of Sabang). On 18th June in vicinity of Batu Islands (west coast of Sumatra) destroyed one landing craft by gunfire.  
(b) VIVID on her 1st Far East patrol from 17th to 21st June carried out air sea rescue duties during operation "Balsam" in lower Malacca St. On 22nd June sank one 30 ton junk by demolition.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo.

4. (a) Elements of 7th A.I.F. Division landed unopposed at Cape Penadjam across Balikpapan Bay from Town at midday. Cruiser and destroyer bombardment preceded landing.  
(b) U.S. Liberators patrolling Makassar Straits attacked shipping at Bandjermasin. One coastal freighter sunk, one left sinking and a small coaster damaged.

/China...



5. 7. 1945  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

China.

5. U.S. planes sank two submarine chasers and damaged two trawlers in Hangchow Bay (south of Yangtze.)

Japan.

6. U.S. planes sank 3 small merchant ships and damaged 3 others in Japanese waters.

War Diary.5.7.1945.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

ONTARIO, cruiser. Amend E.T.A. 1930. Request I may be sailed as soon as convenient for Malta to arrive a.m./8th July.  
(ONTARIO, 050940Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

U.S.S.R. Y.M.S. F.O.I.C. Falmouth's 301847B June and my 040927B now sailed.  
(FORTE, 050955B to F.O.G.M.A.)

OCEANWAY, L.S.D. Arrived from Portsmouth OCEANWAY with L.C.G.(M) 106, 117, 121 embarked.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051811B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)  
Departed 1810B/5 OCEANWAY for Messina.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051801B to HAMILCAR.)

GATINEAU, destroyer. Portuguese authorities were not notified of visit H.M. Canadian Ship GATINEAU to Ponta Delgada. F.O. in charge Greenock's 031215B and 031305B refers.  
Request attention of those concerned be once again drawn to distinction between Lazaretto and other ports Azores.  
(H.M. Consul General Azores, 051625Z to Admty.)

Sultan of Morocco. Intend sail F.S. GLOIRE and TIGRE at 061200A to Bizerte.  
(2) 20 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 081100A.  
(Commorseafron, 051653A to F.O.G.M.A.)

BARFAIR, B.D. Vessel. Arrivals TANATSIDE from Portsmouth, BARFAIR from Greenock.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051803B to Admty.)

Frigate for E.I. Departure 1227/5th LOCH RUTHVEN for Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051805 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

A.F.D. 68. Arrived A.F.D. 68 in tow of ENCHANTER escorted by VELETA from Falmouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051807 to FORTE, Admty.)

Destroyers. Departures 1608B/5 KELVIN, CATTERICK for Dartmouth and Plymouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051809B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

A.S.R. Arrived SPIRAEA from position 19, passed Gibraltar 1545 F.S. LA CAPRICIEUSE bound Toulon.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051813B to Admty.)

/VELETA ...



5.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic - Contd.

VELETA. Intend to sail VELETA at 1200B July 6th to Plymouth.  
(3) S. of A. 10 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 2359B July 10th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 051824B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Re destination landing craft. Your 260935B\* June amended by C. in C. Plymouth's 011224B<sup>7</sup> arrived.  
(FORTE, 052144B to F.O.G.M.A.)  
\* Intended sailing L.C.G. 4, 8, 12, 14, 19, 20. L.C.T.(R) 359, 367, 425, 448 and 481.  
7 Destination of all craft amended to Falmouth.

F. ships. Warships 5th July. Arrived F.S. GLOIRE and F.S. TIGRE from Cherbourg.  
(Commorcosfron, 052304A to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

S.A. Air Force Coastal Command reduction. On the conclusion of the war with Germany the South African Air Force Coastal Command was reduced to one squadron of Venturas and one squadron of Catalinas.  
(2) The Catalina squadron has now been replaced by a squadron of Sunderlands which it is understood will be transferred to a more active theatre shortly.  
(3) No objection is seen to the removal of the Sunderlands leaving only the Ventura Squadron available for operational duties if required. This squadron can be moved at reasonably short notice to cover the South and East Coast of the Union up to Portuguese East African border.  
(4) It is pointed out however that with the substitution of Sunderlands for the original Catalinas and the probable transfer of the Sunderlands no suitable long range aircraft will be available for the regular meteorological flights from Saldanha Bay and the occasional flights from Durban.  
(5) The attention of the South African Air Force Authorities has been drawn to the desirability of maintaining these meteorological flights but with no satisfactory result.  
(C. in C. S.A., 051207B to Admty.)

Frigates KALE and AWE available for manning by S.A.N.F. Noted your 221125 June. No further crews are yet available.  
(C. in C. S.A., 051720B to C. in C. E.I.)  
*Sia 260832 Z.*



5.7.1945  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Re VETCH  
corvette  
(location of) Your 041641. Attention is invited to F.O.G.M.A.'s  
291742 June. Ship was sailed to Gibraltar for  
onward routeing to U.K. Intend to take no  
further action on your 020928.  
(Malta C.C.O., 050824 to Admty.)

Working up  
of destroyers  
at Malta. Your 061721 June. It is not desired to lay down  
exact length of work up periods. This must  
depend on factors such as weather, newness of  
ship and ship's company, or extent to which  
complement has been adjusted before leaving U.K.  
Object is to get ships to their stations in an  
efficient state as quickly as possible.  
(2) In cases of operational necessity, Admiralty will order  
dates which must be kept, but generally ships should be sailed  
for their stations as soon as V.A. Malta considers that they  
are fit to go.  
(3) All newly-commissioned ships will have had a preliminary  
shake-down period at home. Escort vessels will also have done  
A/S training at Tobermory, but it is not practicable to arrange  
this for Fleet destroyers.  
(V.C.N.S., 051409B to C. in C. Med.) *see 251804A. ?*

Boom Defence  
Vessel. Intend to sail QUANNET at 1600B July 6th to  
Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K. C. in C.  
Med's 192055 (?) refers.  
(2) Basic westbound route S.O.A. 7 knots, E.T.A.  
p.m. 11th.  
(V.A. Malta 051501 to F.O.G.M.A.)

ARIADNE  
fast  
minelayer. ARIADNE's programme is as follows:  
Sail U.K. 17th July. Arrive Gibraltar p.m. 19th  
July. Sail Gibraltar a.m. 20th July. Arrive  
Malta a.m. 22nd July.  
(2) Up to 14 days are allowed for work up at  
Malta.  
(3) On completion of work up C. in C. Mediterranean is  
requested to sail ARIADNE for Ceylon and for onward routeing  
to Australia or as required by C. in C. B.P.F. ARIADNE has  
spare gear for class embarked for subsequent deposit at Sydney.  
A.M. 181057 June not to all refers.  
(A.C.N.S.(F) 051705B to C. in C. Med., C. in C. B.P.F.)

Fast  
minelayers. Departure APOLLO, MANXMAN.  
(N.O. Suez, 051811C to Admty., N.O.I.C. Aden.)

S/M for U.K. Arrival RORQUAL.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez 052158C to Admty.)



War Diary.5.7.1945.  
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies.A/S Base  
ship.

HAITAN can no longer be usefully employed owing to her slow speed, high coal consumption and poor accommodation facilities. Request arrangements may be made for vessel to be returned trade.

(C. in C. E.I., 050543Z to Admty.) *see 261144A -  
r 110 437Z Sep.*

Destroyers.

Is it intended that PALADIN should return U.K. when PETARD joins East Indies Fleet. A.M. 022004 December refers.

(C. in C. E.I.S., 050743Z to Admty.)

21 A/C  
Squadron.

Intend that EMPRESS will form part of the 21st Aircraft Carrier Squadron from 8th July.

(F.O. Air E.I., 051201Z to A.C. Squadron 21,  
(R) Admty.)S/M  
operations.

H.M. S/M TRIDENT first Far East patrol 2nd June north Malacca Straits by demolition sank one junk of 15 tons. 2nd to 6th June carried out special operation unsuccessful. 12th June damaged one grounded aircraft and control tower during bombardment Lhokseumawe airfield. 16th to 18th June carried out special operation unsuccessfully. 18th June vicinity Batu Islands destroyed one landing craft by gunfire.

H.M.S. VIVID first Far East patrol. 17th to 21st June carried out air/sea rescue duties for Operation "Balsam" in lower Malacca Strait. 22nd June sank one 30 ton junk by demolition.  
(C. in C. E.I., 051234Z to Admty.)

Cutter.

Departed TOTLAND.

(N.O.I.C. Aden, 051504Z to Admty., F.O.L.E.M., etc.)

AMERICA & WEST INDIES.QU'APPELLE,  
destroyer.

Departure Halifax 2359Z/5th July H.M.C.S.

QU'APPELLE at 15 knots for Greenock routed, etc.  
(3) When ready 15th July request QU'APPELLE with personnel embarked be sailed for Halifax.

(C. in C. C.N.A., 052359Z to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

War Diary

5.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies cont:

PRINCE ROBERT  
Auxiliary  
A/A ship  
for B.P.F.      H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT departed Esquimalt July 5th for San Francisco. Route in accordance with sailing orders. S. of A. 20 knots. E.T.A. San Francisco. 2200 G.M.T. 6th July. (N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 050507Z to H.S.H.Q.)

OLNA  
Fleet  
attendant  
Tanker(Fast)      July 2nd OLNA departed Balboa for Eniwetok. E.T.A. July 22nd. Speed 16 knots. (Compaseafon, 051923 to Cominch.)

Far East and Australia

ULSTER      Following received from ULSTER.  
"Commander in Chief British Pacific Fleet 130731 June. Endurance is 3,400 miles. Intend fuelling at Bermuda. Estimate arrive U.K. early August.  
(B.N.L.O. Pearl Harbour, 050331, to Admty., Com. in Charge, Bermuda.)

Blue  
Summary 4th      Empire Area. T.A.F. continued Ryukyu Retto neutralization. 2 Privateers attacked convoy off Mouth of Yangtze River damaging 2 DD, 1 PC and 1 TB. On 3rd F.A.W. 1 plane shot down, 1 Tojo and probably destroyed 1. Sank 2 SD damaged 3, 48 P.41s. in sweep up western coast Kyushu destroyed 3 float planes in Fukuoka Harbour. B.29s. in night attacks 28 mined Shomonoseki Straits, Funakawm and Maizuru. Blue submarines report sinking 6 picket boats, 1 small AK, 2 small AO, 3 trawlers. Probably sinking 1 medium AK, damaging 1 large AK probably damaging 1 submarine chaser.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv., 050814 to all commands concerned.)

Digest  
1261,  
4th July.  
(Extract)      19 Balikpapan area elements 7th A.I.F. Division advancing northeast\* along coast to Manggar airfield early afternoon against light opposition but experienced considerable enemy artillery fire eastward of strip: strong Jap opposition due north of beachhead overcome during day: patrols operating northwards from Balikpapan town passed through Baroe east and Baroe west villages unopposed. 1 cruiser, 2 destroyers provided supporting fire for advance on Manggar airfield. Nil enemy air or sea activity during period.  
(2) Air support for Balikpapan land operations provided 3rd July by 13th Air Force: 23 Liberators dropping 52 tons bombs

/provided ...



5.7.1945.

Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest  
1261,  
4th July.  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)

provided direct support: 5 Liberators bombed Bandjermasin area airdromes and 6 Liberators cratered runways south Celebes airfields. (8) 22 Saw Privateers or Liberators in attacks around Borneo coast resulted in 1 river steamer, 1 small coastal fighter sunk, 2 coasters damaged and shipyard containing 4 coasters set on fire all at Pontianik where 12 other small craft seen:

2 small coasters set on fire Kuching: 1 coaster damaged of 4 seen, 1 large barge set on fire, 1 river steamer strafed all at Bandjermasin.

(9) 2 13th Air Force patrol liberators bombed Donggala on north Celebes, also attacked small craft and rollingstock at Kandjermasin destroying unidentified craft and causing considerable damage.

(10) Active patrolling and gradual expansion of land positions continues Gengoal Brunei Bay - Miri Area with negligible enemy contacts.

(13) Other R.A.A.F. operations involve: 4 Spitfires from Morotai strafed and destroyed 5 small craft during sweep north Halmerera 2nd.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 050958Z to Admty.)

Movements

Arrival 4th Tawi-Tawi H.M.A.S. STUART, ~~DARWIN~~ Darwin, R.N.N.S. <sup>ASRANG</sup> CRIJNSSEN. Departure 4th Medang H.M.A.S. BUNBURY for Langemak.  
(A.C.N.B. Melbourne, 051232Z to Admty.)

# SECRET OUT

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\* NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad ("O.T.P.") are excepted from this rule).

050035B/July.

DATE: 5.7.45.

To: V. A. (Q) B.P.F.  
Info: C. in C. B.P.F.  
R. A. F. T.  
A. C. N. B.  
N. Z. N. B.  
P. S. T. O. (I).

C. C. M. NAVAL GEN.

From D. of S. T.

*SONTAY.*

*NRD*

Your 280221/June not to P.S.T.O. (I) noted. The ship which we are considering for this service is the SONTAY at present on trooping service in the Indian Ocean. She is of 8917 G.R.T. total trooping capacity 1242 speed 11/11 knots and is oil burning.

- 2. She has no refrigerated cargo space other than her normal storerooms.
- 3. She could be ready to sail from India for Australia at the end of July/early August.
- 4. Request your remarks and advise as to the minimum range for fuel and water which will be required.

050035B, see 100635Z.

Received in War Registry 0810/18.

Circulated by D. of S. T. internally and to Admiralty.

- A. C. N. S. (H).
- A. C. N. S. (F).
- D. C. (2).
- O. D. (6).
- D. C. O. D. (7).
- D. T. D. (4).
- D. T. D. (C) (2).
- M. (3).
- Mails.
- D. of S. (3).
- W. D.
- Ad. Blake.
- U. S. N. (3).
- O. I. C. (2).

A. S.  
DEC.



6.7.1945  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Malay  
Peninsula.

1. Two Liberators and a Sunderland sank one 120 ft. coaster and damaged seven other coasters off the east coast of the Kra Isthmus.

Movement.

2. SUFFOLK (cruiser) sailed from Colombo for Aden.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo.

3. The beachhead at Panadgan near Balikpapan has been consolidated. One light cruiser and two destroyers engaged enemy batteries northeast of Manggar intermittently during the day.

China.

4. Night 5/6 Navy Mariners from Lingayan attacked 20 junks off S.W. coast St. Johns Island (S. of Hongkong). Two were sunk and a third damaged.

Japan.

5. (a) Fleet Air Wing planes sank 2 ships off Saishuto.  
(b) Over 500 U.S. Super Fortresses attacked urban areas of Chiba, Akashi, Shimizu and Kofu and the Maruzen oil refinery at Shimotsui (all on Honshu.)

B.P.F.

6. T.F. 37 less INDEFATIGABLE left Manus today to join the 3rd Fleet in air attacks on the Japanese empire. INDEFATIGABLE will rejoin T.F. 37 during replenishment period. (110809Z.)

War Diary6.7.1945  
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

GATINEAU Destroyer GATINEAU sailed Ponta Delgada 1930Z/5th in accordance with F.O.I.C. Greenock, 301203\* para. 2. E.T.A. Halifax 10th July. (N.O.I.C. Horta, 061005Z, to Admty.)  
\* Para. 2 S.B.N.O. Horta requested sail GATINEAU to Halifax.

Destroyer for B.P.F. (3) S. of A. 18 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 0500B July 9th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 061023B to V.A.M.)

Fleet minesweepers (1) Departure Azores MILLTOWN, FORT WILLIAM, BLAIRMORE, 1845Z 4th, speed of advance 11 knots, E.T.A. Plymouth 9th July. Routed through (route) (S.B.N.O. Azores, 061200Z to Admty.)

Destroyer for B.P.F. Intend to sail TALYBONT at 1400B July 7th to Malta.  
(3) S. of A. 15 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 0800 July 10th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 061215B to V.A.M.)

U.S. landing craft for U.S.A. Intend sail U.S.S. L.S.T.211, C.T.U.125.10.27 embarked with L.S.T.74, 141, 210 at 1800/6 to 37.00 N. 65.00 W. for O/R U.S.A. destination assigned by C. in C. Lant. (2) 9 knots.  
(C.M.S.F., 061314Z to C. in C. Lant.)

GLOIRE and TIGRE My 051653A sailed 1300A/06.  
(C.M.S.F., 061335A to F.O.G.M.A.)

Destroyer (Hunt) Intend to sail TANATSIDE at 0800B July 7th to Taranto.  
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits through the Bizerta war channel.  
(3) S. of A. 13 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 1100B 11th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 061415B to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Movement Departed 1226/6 VELETA for Plymouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 061810B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

AVONVALE, destroyer for B.P.F. Departure 1850B June AVONVALE.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 061906B to V.A. Malta.)



6.7.1945  
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Ships  
for U.K.

Intend sailing:

- (a) On 10th WYE who has been relieved <sup>by FAL</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~Parl.~~  
(b) On the 11th AMARANTHUS who has been  
relieved by LAUNCESTON CASTLE and PORCHESTER  
CASTLE.

All to U.K. Request destinations. A.M.292231B  
May refers.

(F.O.C.W.A.F., 061741Z to Admty.)

Amended by 071727Z.

ABERDEEN  
sloop

A.M. 292231 May and 091129 June, neither to all.  
Future employment of ABERDEEN is under consider-  
ation which may entail her reducing to C. and M.  
in the Mediterranean.

(2) On release from air/sea rescue duties  
ABERDEEN should be sailed for Gibraltar to come under the orders  
of F.O.G.M.A. pending further instructions from Admiralty.  
(D.O.D.(F), Approved A.C.N.S.(F) 061945B to F.O.C.W.Af.)  
See 091217Z.

War Diary.6.7.1945.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanFleet Mine-  
sweepers.

Request that on completion of repairs TRUE LOVE and SKIPJACK be sailed direct Trieste to discharge spare M/S. gear. (SYLVIA, 061028 to V.A.M.)

A.F.D. 69.

A.F.D.69 towed by MARAUDER arrived Malta anticipate sailing to Port Said a.m. July 8th. (V.A. Malta, 061221 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Movements.

Port Said July 6th 1945. Arrivals RORQUAL. Departures DEVONSHIRE, PETARD, ASSISTANCE, I.S. FORTUNALE, R.F.A. BUCCINUM. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 061815C to Admty.)

CROCUS,  
corvette.E.T.A. Oran 1800B/7th.  
(CROCUS, 061845B to Comar Oran.)Levant  
Sitrep to  
0900 hours  
6th July.

(1) Latakia. 1800 hours 5th July incidents occurred after French car had run over and killed local child. Three TS wounded in ensuing melee. Shortly after French Tps. started firing indiscriminately into town from Bks. and roof of French H.Q. 10 mortar bombs and a number of rifle grenades also fired. French Offrs. unable exercise control. Firing continued sporadically until 2030 hours. First report cas. killed ten incl. three TS wounded forty-five incl. eight TS. Brit. Tps. occupied all Qalaa Hill and roof French H.Q. All French Tps. ordered to Bks. Curfew imposed by Mohafez and town quiet night 5/6 July.

(2) Aleppo. Night 4/5 grenade thrown into garden Greek Catholic banker slightly injuring his wife and son. 5 July some Christian shops closed in protest. Later reopened result of appeal by Mohafez.

(3) Abou Ed Douhour 30 miles south of Aleppo. Brit. Armd. C. patrol remaining in area after minor clash 4 July result dispute Sheikhs Hadidyine and Abu Sherabiyyin tribes. (C. in C. M.E., 062000C to W.O.)



6.7.1945.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

ANSON (programme) ANSON sail from Trincomalee at 0730FG/7th July for oiling exercises.  
 (2) VENGEANCE take COLOSSUS, TYRIAN, TUSCAN under her orders and sail from Trincomalee at 0815FG/7th July and join ANSON.  
 (3) When exercise completed ANSON proceed with ships in para. 2 under her orders to R/V with A.C.11 in VENERABLE and then as ordered by A.C.11. A.C.11 290621 June refers. (S.N.O.V. Trincomalee, 060530Z to ANSON, VENGEANCE, COLOSSUS, TYRIAN, TUSCAN, A.C.11, VENERABLE, C. in C. E.I., etc.)

Mortar fire by Japanese, increase of.

C.O.H.Q. 1949 cipher 6th July.  
 Operational reports Pacific indicate increasing use by Japanese of mortar fire as means of defence against assault and difficulty location and neutralisation during early stages before Army counter mortar organisation landed and deployed. Examination shows radar only practical means of location result trials with Army type radar in L.C.G.(M) give probable accuracy of 100 yards at limit of 4,000 yards from craft, with craft beached. Less accurate craft anchored and little value if much movement. Installation can probably be carried out this country to allow one craft per Flotilla equipped and on station by October, if firm requirement. Mounting simple and only limitation to craft one gun immobilised when radar being operated. Request you confirm if requirement as matter of urgency. Copy of report follows fast air mail. (C.C.O., 061250B to S.A.C.S.E.A.)

Ocean Air/  
 Sea Rescue  
 Arabian Sea  
 and Bay of  
 Bengal.

Can a reply now be made to A.M. 281911 and 291846.  
 (A.C.N.S.(F), 061758B to C. in C. E.I., Air Ministry.)

6. 7. 1945  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Movement. Departure p.m. July 5th H.M.C.S. QU'APPELLE to U.K.  
(C.O.P. Halifax 060007Z to Admty.)

Frigates. H.M.C. ships LONGUEUIL KOKANEE and COATICOOK arrived Esquimalt 0400Z July 6th 1945.  
(N.O.I.C. Esquimalt 060408Z to N.S.H.Q.)

SUMAR, examination service vessel. SUMAR depart point K Bermuda 1830/07 for New York at 10.5 knots. E.T.A. Z 0530/10.  
(N.O.B. Bermuda 061449 to Com. 3, N.S.H.Q., etc.)

BERRYHEAD (escort maintenance ship) Departing Esquimalt 1500 G.M.T. 9th July.  
A. BERRYHEAD escort maintenance vessel.  
B. San Francisco California E.T.A. 0200 G.M.T. 13th July for onward routing to Pacific.  
(C.O.P.C., 061804Z to C.W.S.F., C. in C. B.P.F.)

Agadir. Cominch has received information confirming that it is not now necessary to move the two French V.P.B. Squadrons from Agadir. He accordingly withdraws his request passed to Admiralty in my 112021 June and repeated to all addressed in A.M. 150603 June. C. in C. Med. pass to Comnavnav., Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.  
(B.A.D. Washington 062151 to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

Air services for B.P.F. Air services across the Indian Ocean as far as is known here, the intention is to establish the following weekly schedules by early August, Quantas Two Lancastrians, Four Liberators, R.A.F. Four Liberators, rising to Four, Four and Six respectively by October.

(2) I attach very great importance to avoiding any delay in providing the above services, as at present mails and passengers are subject to delay by lack of aircraft between Colombo and Perth and the requirements are constantly growing with the increase of the Fleet. Request all possible action be taken to adhere or to accelerate the programme.

(3) F.O. Ceylon's 050712 is pertinent.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 060611Z to Admty.)



6.7.1945  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia. - Contd.

Blue  
Summary 5th.

Empire Area. 103 F.A.W. 1 planes sank one small A.K., 1 S.D., damaged 2 S.D. (sic). F.A.W. 18 planes destroyed 1 S.D., damaged 2 S.D. F.A.W. 1 Privateers over Korea damaged one power house, one radio station, two lighthouses. Sank 1 F.T.D. south of Saishuto. Sank 2 S.C. damaged two trawlers Hangchow Bay. Enemy hospital ship TAKASAGO MARU intercepted on departure from Wake. MURRAY (D.D. 576) reported ship had 974 bona fide patients. 14 men wounded. Rest suffering malnutrition. 15% tubercular. No Allied personnel aboard. Destination believed by MURRAY to be Yokosuka. Allowed to proceed. At 2200/5 m (-12) position 20.03 N. 166.09 E. course 330 speed 15. At 1125/6 m (-12) position 22.52 N. 164.20 E. same course and speed. A.S.W. operations instituted 50 miles E.S.E. of Eniwetok. 17 B.29s bombed Moen Truk. (C. in C. Pac. Adv., 060737 to 3rd Fleet, C. in C. B.P.F.)

Digest 1262  
5.7.45,  
(extract.)

Para. 1. Elements 7th A.I.F. Division landed unopposed at Cape Penadjam across Balikpapan Bay from town at midday in shore to shore over water movement. Cruiser/destroyer bombardment proceeded landing. Little other change Balikpapan land situation.

(6) Usual searches from Waark Field by F.A.W. Liberators (?and) Privateers conducted during day over southeast China coast and Formosa with following results. One Lugger left burning 1 Junk fired near Hoko in Pescadores, 6 Luggers heading for shore off east coast Hainan attacked and one was sunk.

(12) Pair P.T. boats co-operating with R.A.A.F. Spitfires all from Morotai attacked targets northern Halmahera 4th July destroying one possible camouflaged barge near Galela. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 060800Z to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrival 5th <sup>Langemak,</sup> ~~LANGEMAK~~, H.M.A.S. BUNBURY.  
Departure 4th route via Morotai H.M.A.S. BATHURST  
for Leyte, 5th <sup>Langemak</sup> ~~LANGEMAK~~, H.M.A.S. BUNBURY for  
Milne Bay, Sydney, BROOME for Townsville. Motor  
supply lighter 705 commissioned at Sydney.  
(A.C.N.B. Melbourne 061309Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

7.7.1945  
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

Yugoslavia. 1. C. in C. Med. is withdrawing B.N.L.O. at Split at request of Belgrade. It is reported Yugoslavs on coast as being very uncivil and unco-operative.

East Indies.

Andaman Sea. 2. Bombardment and air strike was carried out on Nancowry (central Nicobars) today in heavy rain squalls causing fires and explosions in naval point camp area. Two coasters left on fire. Two of our aircraft were lost, one pilot saved. (111001Z.)  
*of Collier*

Movement. 3. ANSON, VENGEANCE, VENERABLE and COLOSSUS left Trincomalee for Fremantle.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo. 4. (a) In Balikpapan area the Australian troops are meeting stiff enemy resistance. N.E. of Manggar Japanese artillery positions were bombarded by coastal destroyer force.  
(b) During daylight today P.T. boats from Zamboanga shelled Jap. concentration. P.T. boat in the haven at Cape Aru\* where 300 armed Japs. are reported to have arrived recently with about 12 speed boats. \* North Borneo.

Moluccas. 5. Five P.T. Boats from Morotai attacked small craft Bataan Islands at daylight this morning destroying 19 small craft (canoes or Prahus.)

Solomon Islands 6. Sohana Island in the Buka Passage (N. Solomon Islands) was bombarded by an R.A.N. frigate.



7.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Movement. Intend sail NORWICH CITY, ?HERTFORDSHIRE, COVENTRY CITY at 1000A/8 to Gibraltar.  
(4) E.T.A. 0900B/9.  
(Gib. W/T., 071114A.)

SS. BESSEL (German) German ship BESSEL has today been shifted to Rios Naval Station.  
(R.O. Vigo, 071538 to S.O.(I) Gib.)

Cable ship MIRROR. Sail at 1000B/8th July. Repair Port Curnow/Gibraltar number 3 and Lisbon/Gibraltar number 1 cables.  
(2) Proceed through northern half of Strait to carry out repairs in positions - (J) 31° 56' N. 09° 23' W., and (K) 38° 28' N. 09° 23' W.  
(3) S. of A. 7½ knots.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 071658B to MIRROR.)

Movements. Departures - 0812/7th TANATSIDE for Taranto. 1410B/7th TALYBONT. 1745B/7th BARFAIR for Malta. Arrival - H.M.T. KINGSTON CRYSTAL from Malta, passed Gibraltar 2315/6th. F.S. GLOIRE and TIGRE bound Bizerta.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 071808B to Admty.)

South Atlantic

Frigate for E.I. H.M.S.A.S. NATAL arrived.  
(C. in C. S.A., 071055Z to Admty.)

A.S. Rescue Stations. Intend sailing 1100Z/9th.  
(A) LAUNCESTON CASTLE to relieve COWSLIP on A.S.R. Station 21.  
(B) PORCHESTER CASTLE to relieve DITTANY on A.S.R. Station 22, both ships patrol 11th to 21st. Ships relieved to return Freetown.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 071247Z to Comsolant, DITTANY, COWSLIP.)

Weekly state W.Af. Stn. 7th July. Dakar - LOBELIA. Dakar area - PEVENSEY CASTLE, MARGUERITE, GENISTA. Cape Verde area - KENILWORTH CASTLE. Freetown - ABERDEEN, AMARANTHUS, WYE, FAL, PORCHESTER CASTLE, LAUNCESTON CASTLE. Freetown area - DITTANY, COWSLIP. Lagos - DOVEY.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 071248Z to Admty.)

/Sailing ...

7.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

Sailing of  
WYE,  
ABERDEEN and  
AMARANTHUS.

My 061741Z not to all.  
Delete all reference to ABERDEEN who will now  
be sailed to Gibraltar on the 11th to comply  
with A.M. 061945B(N.T. in W.D.) not to all.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 071727Z.)



7.7.1945  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Destroyer for E.I. Alexandria 6th July arrival# PETARD.  
 (F.O.L.E.M., 071015C to Admty.)

F.S. SUFFREN. It appears probable SUFFREN F.S. will return to Levant area about 30th July. F.O.L.E.M. reports visit to Beirut is still undesirable. A.M. 071410 June not to N.A. Paris refers. Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.  
 (C. in C. Med., 071037 to Admty.)

U.S.S. GENERAL <sup>WILLIAM</sup> F. HASE Intend to sail U.S.S. GENERAL ~~W.~~ F. HASE at 1000/7th to Norfolk.  
 WILLIAM F. HASE. (2) Routed Q.B.C. 960 basic westbound route to 308 thence direct to 227 thence basic westbound route and ocean route as in C. in C. Med.'s 061149 not to all.  
 (3) Speed 17 knots, ship to report E.T.A. Straits of Gibraltar direct to F.O.G.M.A., E.T.A. destination direct to P.D. Norfolk.  
 (5) S.Ps. carried CCBP 0101 S.P. 02547, 02350, 02380, U.S. class Three Pacific.  
 (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 071151C to B.A.D. Washington, F.O.G.M.A., etc.)

Yugoslavia B.N.L.O Split (withdrawal of.) I have received demand from authorities in Belgrade for withdrawal of B.N.L.O's at Split with which I am complying. The only representative I shall have in Yugoslavia in future will be British Naval Representative Belgrade.  
 Yugoslavs are being very unco-operative and uncivil on the coast and withdrawal of B.N.L.O's together with S.T.O. and movement officer who are also returning to Italy may make it difficult to continue sailings of Allied merchant ships to Yugoslav ports until more reasonable attitude is assumed.  
 (C. in C. Med., 071215B to Admty.)

A.F.D. 69. Intend to sail A.F.D. 69 in tow MARAUDER escorted by FALK at 0800B July 9th to Port Said weather permitting.  
 (2) S.O.A. 5½ knots.  
 (3) It would be appreciated if F.O.L.E.M. could arrange for relief escort to take over during daylight 12th as FALK is urgently required for further escort duty. C. in C. Med. 281128 refers.  
 (4) On relief FALK return to Malta by basic westbound route.  
 (V.A. Malta, 071215B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements. Port Said July 8th arrivals U.S.S. GENERAL <sup>WILLIAM F.</sup> HASE, EMPRESS OF SCOTLAND. <sup>WILLIAM F.</sup>  
 Departures U.S.S. GENERAL HASE, M.F.Vs. 1525, 1147, EMPRESS OF SCOTLAND.  
 (S.N.O.R.S.C.A. 071647C to Admty.)



48

7.7.1945

Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

ASSISTANCE  
Aux. repair  
ship for  
B.P.F.

Sailed ASSISTANCE 0730C/7 to Aden for onward  
routeing.  
(2) E.T.A. 0300Z/13, S.O.A. 10 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez 071829C to Admty.)

ONTARIO  
(cruiser)  
(on passage)

E.T.A. 0730Z tomorrow Sunday 8th July.  
(ONTARIO 072110Z to V.A.M.)

A.F.D. 27  
for E.I.

A.S. Alexandria 201729 June (not to V.A. Malta.)  
Request you will provide from station resources  
a general service runner crew for A.F.D. 27  
consisting of one officer and not more than 20  
ratings.

(4) Dock operating crew of S.R.R. (D) ratings should arrive  
from U.K. before the 15th August.  
D. of M., 072224B to C. in C. Med.) See 112359B.

## Movements.

Arrivals M.T.B. 420, M.Ls. 337, 308, 299, 451,  
456, 461, 340, 478, UPSTART, UNTIRING, SCORCHER,  
ORION.  
Sailings L.S.Ts. 3035, 3036, Fleet Tender 25,  
L.C.Hs. 282, 240, L.C.Is. 119, 184, 247, 254,  
260, 274, 280, 292, 316, 318.  
(V.A. Malta, 072330 to Admty.)



7.7.1945.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

Convoy K.R.15. Arrived at 0235Z/7th July convoy K.R.15 escorted by H.M.S. LOCHY. (N.C.S.O. Rangoon, 070532Z to Admty., C. in C. E.I.S.)

Merchant vessels to carry lights, etc. As from 7th July merchant ships proceed undarkened and with navigation lights at full brilliancy when west of a line joining the following positions:  
(A) Burma coast at lat. 019° N. (B) 019° N. 090° E. (C) Equator 090° E. (D) 012° S. 100° E. (E) North-west Cape (022° S. 114° E. approx.)

(2) H.M. Ships and S/Ms. may conform when on passage and not employed on specific operations or exercises. (C. in C. E.I., 070937 to all S.Os.)

RICHELIEU (French battleship) Following is intended programme for F.S. RICHELIEU. 7th July leave Trincomalee. 12th July arrive Diego Suarez. a.m./15th July leave Diego Suarez. a.m./18th July arrive Durban for docking 19th July. C. in C. S.A. 221156 not to all, refers.

(2) B.S.3 requested to sail RICHELIEU accordingly.  
(3) Admiralty is requested to inform French Authorities. (Colombo C.C.O., 071104Z to Admty.)

Movements. Arrived D.S. ZWAARDFISCH, NEBB, SWONA, LYDIARD, CHERRYLEAF, SIGFRA. Departed WIZARD. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 071623 to Admty.)

Movement. Arrived L.S.Ts. 199 and 157. Departed ANSON, VENGEANCE, COLOSSUS, TUSCAN, TYRIAN. (N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, 071721Z to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)

Fast minelayers. Amend my E.T.A. Aden to 1430C/8th. MANXMAN in company. (APOLLO, 072048C to Cdre. Aden.)

7.7.1945  
SaturdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

Aircrew survivors rescue St. Johns Newfoundland 6th July. Arrivals SASKATCHEWAN recalled. Departures H.M.R.T. TENACITY to Sydney N.B. with H.C.329 in tow. SASKATCHEWAN to rescue aircrew survivors. (F.O.N.F., 070235Z to Admty.)

Agadir Re 151430B June. Cominch request to move two French V.P.B. Squadrons from Agadir during army redeployment is cancelled. (Comnaveu, 071323 to Admty.)

TRUCULENT Submarine When ready for sea about 12th July depart New London for U.K. (Comeastseafon, 071401Z to Comsublant pass to TRUCULENT)

French submarines Employment in anti-submarine training schools of French S/MS ARGO, ANTIOPE, AMAZONE and ORPHEE has been terminated as of one July, 1945. Cinclant sail ANTIOPE and AMAZONE when ready to Oran via Bermuda and Horta. Prior similarly sailing ARGO instal original deck torpedo tube platforms not stored at Nyd Phila. Upon arrival Horta operational Cominch passes from U.S. to British. (Cominch, 071642Z to Cinclant, Comnavnaw.)

Movement <sup>SUMAR</sup> SUBAR departed Bermuda 1630Z for New York. (S.B.N.O. W.A. Bermuda, 071903Z to Admty, B.A.D.)

Far East and Australia

Re movements ARUNDEL, CASTLE, ORONTES, ANDES and STIRLING CASTLE. My 230359 June. In view of escort difficulties C. in C. E.I., 041119 to N.Z.N.B. only refers, the vessel conveying New Zealand Personnel to Middle East cannot be sailed from Fremantle before about 20th August. (2) We estimate that this would involve about ten days' delay in the departure of STIRLING CASTLE from Fremantle. Therefore, in order to reduce the loss of ship's time to the minimum it is intended that ANDES should lift the New Zealand personnel to the Middle East and STIRLING CASTLE should proceed to the U.K. via Bombay as in para. 1 of my 230359 June. (3) Request you confirm your agreement to this proposal in which case para. 2 of my 230359 June will apply to ANDES in lieu of STIRLING CASTLE. (4) Precise date of sailing of ANDES from Fremantle will be signalled later, and is dependent upon sailing date of STRATHAIRD from the U.K.



7.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Re movements (5) Agreed. N.Z.N.B. please pass to C.G.S.  
ARUNDEL New Zealand.  
CASTLE, (D. of S.T., 070148B to N.Z.N.B.)  
ORONTES, *reply. 170204Z.*  
ANDES and  
STIRLING  
CASTLE.  
(Contd.)

Cincpac Empire Area. Neutralization Ryyukyi Retto  
Blue continued. F.A.W.1 planes sank 1 FTC, 1 FTD off  
Summary Saishuto. Exploded gas dump ashore. On 5th  
6th. sank 2 SD, damaged 1. 4 P.B.J. damaged 4  
unidentified ships off Honshu. Port strike  
photos show following damage to Empire Cities.  
Kure. Entire heart of city destroyed. Total  
1.5 square miles or 46 per cent of built up area.  
Okayama. 2.13 square miles or 63 per cent destroyed.  
Himeji. Damage totals 1.12 square miles or 58 per cent.  
Tokushima. 1.7 square miles or 76 per cent destroyed.  
Kochi. 92 square miles or 48 per cent.  
Kumanoto. 8 square miles or 16 per cent.  
Ube. 42 square miles or 23 per cent.  
Blue submarine bombarded ammunition dump, barracks and barge  
station at Chelukan Bay Island of Bali. A.S.W. operations  
initiated at submarine contact 11.22 N., 160.29 E. 8 P.51  
sorties Chichi Jima. On 5th 8 B.24s. hit Kataoka Naval Base,  
Chimushu.  
(C. in C. Adv. H.Q., 070728 to all commands in combat area.)

Operation Com. 7th Fleet wishes to recast the operation  
for cutting by XE craft referred to in my 220119 June (not  
cables from to all) on the following lines:  
Singapore, (A) Cut cable out of Singapore at Cape Saint  
etc. Jacques and Hong Kong on 31st July or 12th  
"Sabre" August.  
(B) Simultaneously to attack heavy cruisers in  
Johore Strait.  
(2) The allocation of BONAVENTURE and her XE craft to Com. 7th  
Fleet for the above operations has been approved by Cominch.  
(3) Request you will signal your concurrence or otherwise to  
Com. 7th Fleet direct.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 070747 to S.A.C.S.E.A., (R) Admty.) *See 280/312*

Digest (1) Elements Seventh A.I.F. Division pushing  
1263, north-east from Balikpapan Torf reached position.  
6th July. one mile from Mount Batoehampar. Beachhead at  
(Extract) Panadjan consolidated. Enemy batteries north-  
east of Manggar still active and were worked over  
by one light cruiser, two destroyers intermittently  
during day.  
(2) Air support for Panadjan landing 5th July involved 17  
Liberators dropping 37½ tons mixed bombs behind beachhead.  
Another identical force dropped similar bomb load on top guns  
north-east of Manggar that day.

7.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest  
1263,  
6th July.  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)

(4) Night 5th July two Navy Mariners from Lingayen attacked about 20 junks heading south off south-west coast Saint Johns Island: two were sunk and third left listing.

(5) Same night one Liberator bombed plant at Canton and another attacked coaling wharf Mako causing large explosion followed by fires.

Three Dominators unloaded 30 half tonners on Tokio Seaplane Station midday. 31 Mustangs from Okinawa were prevented by weather from West Coast Kyushu Scepp and attacked railroad installations Kagoshima Bay.

(7) Two 13th Air Force Liberators patrolled Makassar Strait 5th July and attacked shipping Bandjermasin: one Coastal freighter sunk, another one left sinking and one smaller coaster damaged.

(8) Supported by 67 Kittyhawks, 15 Spitfires 5th July, all R.A.A.F. from Labuan, Ninth A.I.F. Division resumed advance north along Jong Zemung - Jesselton railway and south-west from Miri.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 070900Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

8.7.1945  
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

Movement.

1. GLOIRE (French cruiser) with the Sultan of Morocco on board arrived at Bizerta from Casablanca.

East Indies.

Movement.

2. French battleship RICHELIEU sailed from Trincomalee for Diego Suarez and Durban.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo.

3. (a) In Balikpapan area strong enemy resistance continues N.E. of Manggar. Japanese gun positions in this area bombarded by one heavy cruiser during day. Advances were made westward from Panadian beachhead against little opposition. (b) U.S. aircraft destroyed three small coastal freighters near Kuchung Sarawak.

Indo-China.

4. Aircraft left one freighter transport sinking near Kuingshad (Hainan). One small coastal freighter and eight barges were all damaged near Cape Padaran.

China Seas.

5. Dutch submarine O.19 went aground on the Ladd Reef in lat. 8° 40' N. 111° 40' E. (mid China Sea about 220' S.E. of Cape Padaran.) U.S. submarine COD closed her to remove the crew. C.T.F. 71 is investigating salvage possibilities later. COD is attempting to tow her off.

Japan.

6. (a) U.S. submarines are reported to have sunk 1 (F.T.C.) two submarine chasers and 1 small cargo boat and 4 small craft. (b) Fleet Air Wing I planes sank 2 submarine chasers and 2 luggers. (c) Fleet Air Wing 18 planes sank 1 submarine chaser and 2 luggers off Oboe Shima. (d) During month June Fleet Air Wing 18 sank 16300 tons of enemy shipping and damaged a further 11150 tons.

8.7.1945.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.F.D. 68. Intend sail 1500B/9th July ENCHANTER towing  
A.F.D. 68 escorted by BERGAMOT to Port Said.  
(5) On relief BERGAMOT is to return Gibraltar.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 081205B to V.A.M.)

South Atlantic

SS. overdue. B.L.B.J. AGIOI VICTORES due Durban 3rd July  
from Aden, not yet arrived.  
(C. in C. S.A., 080951B to Admty.)

WYE,  
frigate. Intend sailing WYE 1300Z/10th July to Gibraltar,  
speed 14, E.T.A. 1200Z/16th.  
(2) Request on routeing to U.K. Final  
destination unknown. A.M. 292231B May (not  
to all) refers.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 081137Z to F.O.G.M.A.)  
See 090947Z.

Brazilian  
cruiser  
BAHIA  
lost. OMAHA departed Recife 081833Z to search area  
00.57 S., long. 31.53 W. for survivors Brazilian  
cruiser BAHIA.  
(Comsolant, 082153 to F.O.C.W.Af.)  
See 091240Z.



8.7.1945  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Destroyers  
for E.I.

FARNDALE take CALPE under your orders and sail  
at 1200B July 10th to Alexandria.  
(2) S.O.A. 15 knots adjusted to arrive 0700C/13.  
(V.A. Malta, 081252B to FARNDALE.)

Levant  
Sitrep to  
1900 hrs.  
7 July.

(1) Latakia G.O. 27692 6 Jul. Now ascertained  
child accident incorrect. Trouble started  
through French car knocking local off cycle  
without injury. Morning 7 Jul. some French tps.  
broke barracks and one shot by civ. Mohafez  
persuaded approx. 2000 armed men approaching  
town to return to Jisr Ech Chougour after  
interception by Brit. inf. coy. Town closed and quiet but  
uneasy.  
(2) Hama. Night 6/7 Jul. small French det. deserted. No  
French tps. now left in Hama.  
(3) Damascus. Orderly procession commemorating victims recent  
disturbances held without incident 7 Jul.  
(C. in C. M.E., 081940C to W.O.)

DEVONSHIRE  
cruiser  
trooping.

Sailed DEVONSHIRE 1800C/18 to Aden for onward  
routeing. Ship will require to remain at Aden  
only long enough to fuel.  
(2) E.T.A. 0700Z/11, S.O.A. 20.5 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez 082143C to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrivals F.S. GLOIRE, TIGRE, BARFLEUR.  
Departures H.D.M.L 1247, 1273.  
Arrivals and departures H.M. L.C.I. 274 and 240.  
(Comar Bizerta 082310 to Admty.)



56

8.7.1945  
SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

E.I.F. (A) Battleships QUEEN ELIZABETH at Trincomalee, NELSON at Colombo RICHELIEU on passage Trincomalee to Diego Suarez ANSON (B.P.F.) on passage Trincomalee to Fremantle.  
 disposition signal No.159. (B) Aircraft carriers VENERABLE (B.P.F.) VENGEANCE (B.P.F.) COLOSSUS (B.P.F.) on passage Ceylon to Fremantle GLORY (B.P.F.) on passage Suez to Colombo HUNTER, ATTACKER at Colombo SHAH, BEGUM, KHEDIVE, EMPRESS at Trincomalee STALKER on passage Cochin to Trincomalee. AMNEER, EMPEROR at sea operation ~~Colombo~~, ACTIVITY left Station.  
 Operation "Collie". (C) 8 inch cruisers. SUSSEX at Colombo LONDON at Simonstown refitting SUFFOLK on passage Colombo to Aden CUMBERLAND at Trincomalee.  
 (D) 6 inch and 5.25 cruisers. CLEOPATRA at Colombo ROYALIST, PHOEBE, CEYLON at Trincomalee, NIGERIA at sea operation "Collie".  
 (C. in C. E.I. 080424Z to Admty.)

A.S.R. Escort vessels for A.S.R. duties a.m. 281911 June and 291846 June refer.  
 duties (2) Total requirements for escort duty confirmed as in para. 4 and 5 of my 050539 March i.e. 30 new Escort vessels. escorts plus 20 of escorts at present on station and 18 Hunts.  
 (3) Excluding Hunts overall figure of 50 will be reached early Sept. if reinforcement programme in a.m. 051543 is adhered to taking into account wastage as in my 080351 May. Dates by which vessels can be made available depend directly on arrival of reinforcements from U.K.  
 (4) It will then and not before be possible to start transferring vessels to A.S.O. at the same rate as reinforcements arrive from home and to improve slightly on dates given in para. 3 of a.m. 281911 June.  
 (5) In this connection reinforcements due at mid-August and early Sept. should on no account be delayed. Nominations have been received here for nine only of the 16 due here by mid-August Hunts excluded.  
 (C. in C. E.I.S. 080726Z to Admty.) See 100111B to A.M.)

See 260330.

L.S.H.(L). H.M.S. BULOLO.  
 (F.O.Bombay, 081343Z to Admty.)

D.S. Intend to sail D.S. ZWAARDFISCH at 1430Z/9th to ZWAARDFISCH. Suez for onward routeing to U.K. reporting daily position as in 879A.  
 (N.O.I.C.Aden, 081603 to N.O.I.C.Suez)

F.S. Intend to sail F.S. SUFFREN at 0230Z/9th to SUFFREN. Diego Suarez for onward routeing to Colombo and Trincomalee thereafter returning Med. as instructed by C. in C. E.I. in accordance with A.L. Med's 191244 (not to all).

- (3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 0400Z/13 S. of A. 20 knots.  
 (4) Liaison Officer carried.  
 (N.O.I.C. Aden, 081631 to C. in C. E.I.)

/Movements...



8.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

Movements. Arrived APOLLO, MANXMAN, ASSIDUOUS, F.S. SUFFREN,  
L.S.T. 346, 385.  
Departed MANXMAN.  
(Com. Aden, 081801 to F.O.L.E.M. etc.)

8.7.1945  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Fleet  
minesweeper.

Arrival a.m. 8th July MINSTREL from Toronto.  
(C.O.P. Halifax 081105Z to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

S/M O.19  
ashore.

Regret to report Dutch submarine O.19 ashore on Ladd Reef 08° 40' N. 111° 40' E. mid China Sea (220 miles S.E. of Cape Padaran. American submarine COD closing to remove crew. Salvage possibility exists and C.T.F. 71 is investigating. (S/M 4, 080306Z to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 090403Z and 091204Z.

Digest 1264  
7.7.45  
(extract.)

(1) In Balikpapan area 7th A.I.F. Division meeting stiff enemy resistance including ineffective counter attacks northeast of Manggar where active Jap. artillery positions bombarded by coastal destroyer force. Advance continues northwards from Balikpapan town and Baroehoeloe village occupied. Dutch troops crossed Soemksr River against enemy fire and occupied Peninsula in north bank.  
(5) 5th Air Force Operations. Dawn night 6th July 1 Liberator bombed Mako Coaling Wharf and another 1 raided Hahan Arms Plant at Canton with generally unobserved results: single Jap. fighter attacked Liberator over Canton without effect during day 24 Liberators bombed Maturama Airfield.  
(8) During daylight three P.T. boats from Zamboanga shelled Jap. concentration P.T. boat haven at Cape Aru where some 300 armed Japs. reported to have arrived recently together with about twelve speed boats results undetermined.  
(10) R.A.A.F. Liberator from Darwin searched Flores Sea midday with negative results: attacked and sank two sailing craft along north coast Flores Island.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 080832Z to Admty.)



9.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

North Atlantic.

Movement. / 1. "Appian" Flight M arrived Gibraltar from Falmouth.

South Atlantic.

BAHIA  
Braz. light  
cruiser lost. / 2. Brazilian light cruiser BAHIA is reported lost due to explosion in after magazine (about 470 miles N.E. of Recife). It is understood there are only 21 survivors.

Far East and Australia.

Borneo. / 3. In Balikpapan area elements of 7th A.I.F. Divisions captured ridge north of Manggar. Strip during today following naval gunfire. Naval support involved one heavy cruiser, 1 destroyer. An unopposed shore to shore landing was achieved at Cape Djinabora (upper reaches of Balikpapan Bay 4 miles northwest of Penadjam.)

Philippines. / 4. On Mindanao units of the 24th American Division landed unopposed at Dadjangas in north-west corner of Sarangani Bay.

War Diary

9.7.1945  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S. Rescue Station. Intend sail ACTIVE 1630B/9th July at 20 knots to A.S.R. Station 20 to provide beacon on 480 K/cs. (2) my 081635B refers. (3) ACTIVE will return Gib. on completion repairs to 4 T Transmitter in HADLEIGH CASTLE. (F.O.G.M.A.091136 to Admty. / 4 T transmitter set out of action. *See F.O.G.M.A. 091945B below*)

MARINER. H.M.S. MARINER arrived Horta 2330Z/7th and departed Angra 1139Z/9th having called at Ponta Delgada for fuel. (A) (B) To Plymouth. S. of A. 13 knots E.T.A. 0600Z/13. (S.B.N.O.Azores, 091417Z Admiralty.)

Frigate for E.I. Intend to sail LOCH LOMOND at 1400B/July 10th to Port Said. (3) Speed 10 knots. E.T.A. 0500B/July 16th. (F.O.G.M.A. 091556B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. etc.)

Cable ship. Arrived cable ship ST. MARGARETS. (F.O.G.M.A.091831B to Cdre. i/c Southend etc.)

Appian Flight M. Arrived Appian Flight M escorted by PORCHER, GRENADIER, BOMBARDIER.C. in C. Plymouth 301653 (not to all) refers. (F.O.G.M.A.091835B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Air Sea Rescue Force, Corvette. Arrived CAISTOR CASTLE. (F.O.G.M.A.091837B to Admty.)

A.F.D. 68. Departures for Port Said 1240/9 L.S.T. 3036 1515/9 A.F.D. 68 in tow of ENCHANTER escorted by BERGAMOT. (F.O.G.M.A.091839B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

CHARON (tug). Dep. 0400/9th CHARON to Lisbon 0610/9th INKPEN to R/V CHARON off Lisbon thence escort to U.K. (F.O.Gib. 091843B to Admty.)

Movements. Arrivals NORWICH CITY, COVENTRY CITY, HERTFORDSHIRE from Casablanca. CROCUS, NIMBLE, from Oran. Departures ACTIVE to position 20 at 1850/9. (F.O.G.M.A. 091945B to Admty. etc.)

/Movements...



War Diary9.7.1945  
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic - Contd.

Movements. Arrived M.F.V's 1010, 1560, 1113, 1148, 1171, 1512, 1526, 1540, 1056 escorted by SAPPER and LANCER.  
(2) 1056, 1540 arrived defective.  
(F.O.G.M.A.091947B to C. in C. Plymouth)

South Atlantic

WYE. My 081137Z. Destination Portsmouth.  
(F.O.C.W.Af090947Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

A.S.R. DITTANY equator 012 degs. 11' on A.S.R. patrol  
PORCHESTER CASTLE 007 degs. 35' 014 degs. 15' to  
relieve DITTANY on A.S.R. duties 12 knots FAL off  
Freetown to Ascension 11 knots.  
(F.O.C.W.af. 091101Z to S. in Area W.AE )

Sloop and Corvette. (1) Intend sailing ABERDEEN, AMARANTHUS 1300Z/11th  
to Gibraltar speed 10 E.T.A. p.m. 19th ABERDEEN  
detaches Dakar E.T.A. 1200Z/13th rejoins same day.  
(2) Request AMARANTHUS on routed to Chatham.  
ABERDEEN to comply with A.M.061945B.  
(F.O.C.W.Af. 091217Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

BAHIA Report received via U.S. source that Brazilian  
(Brazilian Light Cruiser BAHIA has been lost, due to explosion  
light of after magazine, it is understood that there  
cruiser) are only 21 survivors.  
lost. (B.N.S.O. Rio de Janeiro, 091240Z to Admty. for  
D.N.I.)

JED JED to Diego Suarez and onward routing to Colombo.  
(Frigate). (2) S. of A. 14 knots.  
(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1400Z/14th.  
(Cdre. Durban, 091401Z to Admty.)

9.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

A.F.D.69  
in tow of  
MARAUDER

My 071215 sailed.  
(V.A.M. 090855B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Levant  
Sitrep  
1900 hours  
8th July.

330463. G.O.28360 cipher 9 July.  
(1) Lattakia. Shops closed and town quiet.  
(2) Hama. G.O.28155 of 8 July. One French offr.  
and 10 TS from Tripoli have replaced caretaker  
party which deserted 6th July.  
(3) Transfer TS. No marked reactions yet in  
most towns Syria and Lebanon. One view is that  
T.S. desertions already so high that it will not make much  
difference. Interpreted in other quarters to mean that  
French tps. will leave Syria. No indication yet gen. reaction  
among T.S. personnel.  
(C. in C. M.E. 091845C to W.O. etc.)



9.7.1945

Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

DUNCANSEY HEAD. Request date of arrival of DUNCANSEY HEAD.  
(C. in C. E.I., 090741Z.)

DUSK (trawler.) Your 292044 May. Can decision of further employment of DUSK now be given please.  
(Com. E.A., 090823 to Admty.)

Re M.F. 801 GRYFEVALE. Reference C.S. Ceylon's 070705Z to Admiralty Bath request these parts be supplied at high priority and despatched by air.

(2) In addition three main and three auxiliary boiler feed check valves are required. These valves have been condemned by Lloyds who have withdrawn certificate of seaworthiness. Owners have details of valves fitted.

(3) Parts in para. 1 and 2 required in Colombo by end July latest to enable ship to be used for "Zipper" and "Mailfist".

(4) If para. 3 cannot be complied with an additional 10,000 ton water tanker will be required to be available loaded at Trincomalee by end of August. This is in addition to tankers referred to in my 281016Z May and my 010357Z.

(C. in C. E.I., 091339Z to Admty.)

Note. C.S. Ceylon's 070705 was marked to D. of D. Bath for action.

Movements. Arrived submarines TURPIN, SCOTSMAN and SPUR, IMHOFF, SEKSERN. Departed APOLLO, F.S. SUFFREN, D. S/M ZWAARDFISCH, ASSIDUOUS.  
(Com. Aden 091620Z to Admty.)

R class frigates for E.I. Departures EVENLODE (1)  
L.S.T. 337 (2)  
M.F.V. 1117 (S.O.) (3)  
1059 (4)  
1129 (5)  
1141 (6)  
1147 (7)  
1525 (8)

(F.O.I.C. Suez 091726C to Admty., Com. Aden.)

64

9.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

BERRYHEAD  
(Escort  
maintenance  
ship)

BERRY HEAD departed Esquimalt 1515Z July 9th  
for San Francisco. S. of A. 10 knots. E.T.A.  
San Francisco 0200Z July 13th.  
(N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 091708Z to N.S.H.Q.)

French  
A/S Training  
submarines

About 12th July sail F.N.S. ANTIOPE, F.N.S.  
AMAZONE to Oran via Bermuda and Horta.  
About 11th July sail F.N.S. ARGO to Nyd Phila  
for installation torpedo tubes platforms.  
Comsubland will sail ARGO from Phila to Oran.  
(Comsubland, 091934 to Comsubdiv. 73.)

Far East and Australia

Dutch S/M  
O.19 ashore

My 080306\*. COD in touch with O.19 reported  
damaged. COD will attempt to tow off if  
practicable, no other salvage units organised yet  
vessel requires refit and do not intend pressing  
for salvage effort in view of risk involved to  
salvage units. F.O. S/M pass to B.D.Z.  
(S/M 4 090403Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)  
\* Regret to report Dutch submarine O.19 ashore  
on Ladd Reef.

Personal. Your 080306 and 090403 following.

- (1) (Corrupt group) have been made.
- (2) Netherlands S/Ms in Eastern Area in general are under  
Operational Control Commander Task Force 71 and attached British  
Flotilla for administration.
- (3) Commander T.F.71 who is in immediate touch with situation  
will take necessary action and inform inter-allied authorities  
concerned as required.
- (4) Further signal concerning O.19 should not be made .  
Acknowledge.
- (5) C. in C. B.P.F. must consider whether any action should be  
taken with Netherlands authorities, observing B.S.O. Colombo has  
not been informed.  
(S/M 8, 091204Z to S/M 4.)

Digest  
1265  
8.7.1945  
(Extract)

- (4) Two Navy Mariners from Linganen searched  
Formosa Straits night 7th July with negative  
results: 1 bombed Wuseu Island off Amoy.
- (5) 20 Liberators or Privateers patrolled Formosa  
shore, South East China and Indo-China Coast down  
to Saigon . Also North West Coast Borneo during  
day. One small freighter transport left burning  
and sinking, one motor launch damaged, all by strafing near  
Kuingsmad (Hainan): Barracks in Bescadores bombed. Three small

/Coastal...



9.7.1945  
MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Digest coastal freighters destroyed near Kuching and one  
1265 small coastal freighter and eight barges all  
8.7.1945 damaged near Cape Padaran. One barge destroyed,  
(Extract) one lugger damaged, all near Quinhow.  
(Contd.) (6) Four Navy Mariners searched Makassar Strait  
including convoy cover during day. Three were  
negative, fourth sank one motor boat at Donggala,  
sank one Schooner at Cape Mandar and fired one  
Schooner near Pare Pare (all Western Celebes).  
(7) In Balikpapan area strong enemy resistance continues  
N.E. of Manggar. Japanese gun positions this area bombarded by  
one heavy Cruiser during day. Advances made Westward from  
Panadjan Beachhead and northwards from Soember River by air and  
Dutch troops against little opposition. Minesweeping continues  
Balikpapan Harbour and four mines swept during day. Two small  
ships lost as result of hitting mines with few casualties.  
(8) 6th July two more Liberators bombed Bandjermasin after  
conducting negative shipping search Southern Borneo and third  
damaged two Schooners off southern Celebes. Planes all 13th  
Air Force.  
(12) Five P.T. boats from Morotai attacked small craft Bataan  
Islands daylight 7th July destroying 19 canoes or Prahus.  
(14) R.A.N. frigate bombarded Japanese on Sohana Island in Buka  
Passage 7th July.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 090826 to Admty.)

Blue Empire Area. T.A.F. continued Ryukyu Retto strikes  
Summary 110 I.W.O. Mustangs attacked Hyakurigahara and  
8th Tokorozawa airfields at noon, damaged one 250 foot  
vessel. F.A.W. one planes sank 2 S.Cs., 2 luggers  
Damaged 6 luggers, 1 trawler, 2 S.D. Escorted  
8 P.47s which sank one F.T.C. off Sasebo.  
F.A.W.18, planes sank 1 S.C. off Oboe Shima and one lugger.  
7th Bomcom Headquarters opened at Yontan Okinawa.  
Blue submarines sank 1 F.T.C., 2 S.C.S., 1 S.D., 4 small craft.  
A.S.W. Operations instituted at 14.32 N. 149.08 E.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 090906 to Admty.)

Work up ' In view of the good training services now available  
for ships at Jervis Bay, my 090906Z to Admty. only refers,  
joining I would like ships joining the B.P.F. to complete  
B.P.F. their working up there after calling at Sydney  
where they can obtain fleet doctrine at first hand.  
(2) It is desired that ships should, on passage,  
take full advantage of facilities available at  
each port of call in order that the ship's battle-worthiness may  
be built up during the passage and gear thoroughly tested.  
It will not, therefore, be necessary in future for any day to  
be prolonged to the extent of a full working up period.  
(3) It is not intended that alteration should be made to  
programmes already framed. Request, however, that future  
programmes may accord with the above policy.  
(4) Very great advantages will accrue if ships can make the  
passage out in company.  
(5) Admiralty pass C. in C. H.F.  
(C. in B.P.F., 090906Z to Admty.) Su 251804A



10.7.1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

South Atlantic.

German  
submarine  
surrender.

M 530

1. A German 700 ton U-Boat number unknown, arrived at Mar del Plata (south of Buenos Aires) today. All her guns are reported damaged. All persons on board have been taken ashore in naval custody.

East Indies.

Siam.

2. A Liberator laid sea mines in the Bangkok area.

America & West Indies.

Movement.

3. ULSTER (destroyer) arrived San Diego.

Far East and Australia.

Japan.

4. (a) U.S. aircraft mined Shimonoseki Straits and Niigata and Tushika, 168 tons of mines were laid.  
(b) Early this morning U.S. aircraft bombed Pendai, Sakai, Wayayama, Gifu and the Utsube River refinery Yokkaichi. A total of 3888 tons were dropped.  
(c) U.S. submarines sank one large patrol craft and 3 other craft and damaged two patrol craft and one small.  
(d) On 9/10th a further report shows that a total of 536 Super Fortresses dropped 3468 tons of bombs on the five targets on Honshu, a further six U.S. Super Fortresses attacked other targets.



10. 7. 1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Cable ship. Intend to sail SAINT MARGARETS at 1800B/10th July to Port Said.  
(3) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. 0900B July 18th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 100947B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)  
*(See F.O.G.M.A. 10181513. k/rw.)*

Landing Craft. Intend to sail L.S.Ts. 3009 (S.O.), and 3007 at 1800B July 10th to Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101055B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Requesting escort to collect German THALIA and LUCY ESSBERGER. Am ready to act in accordance with A.M. 211855B (N.T. in W.D.) June.  
(2) In view of B.N.A. Madrid's 091827B July request confirmation that action should be taken as originally directed.  
(3) Arrangement would be made to transfer the 43 U-Boat personnel to an H.M. ship.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101309B to Admty.)

A/S trawlers Intend to sail NORWICH CITY (S.O.), COVENTRY CITY, HERTFORDSHIRE at 1200B/11th June to Plymouth.  
(2) Speed 9 knots E.T.A. 1200B/16th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101323B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

L.S.Ts. for U.S.A. Arrivals July 9th ST. WISTAN from Casablanca July 10th. Passed Gibraltar westbound T.U. 125 10 28 comprising U.S. L.S.T. 265, 32, 177, 387, 551 at 1145/10th.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101538B to Admty.)

Air Sea Rescue Service. Arrived LANCASTER CASTLE.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101540B to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

MALINES. Your 081653 (N.T. in W.D.) repeated to B.N.A. Lisbon. Request INKPEN may escort tow to Clyde as MALINES is not fit to stand heavy weather.  
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon 101612B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Russian Y.M.S. Sailed Gib. 1800B/10th July Russian Y.M.S. 455, 453, 456, 464, 465, 466 for Istanbul stopping at Malta for fuel only. (3) S.O.A. 10 knots.  
(7) B.N.L.O. is in Y.M.S. 455.  
(F.O.G.M.A. 101809B to V.A. Malta.)

Frigate for E.I. Sailed 1405/10 LOCH LOMOND 1810/10, cable ship ST. MARGARETS for Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 101815B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

10.7.1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

German S/M  
surrender.

(U.530)

Argentine D.N.I. has stated that he has an unof-  
ficial report that a German submarine has  
surrendered at Mar del Plata. Will give more  
details later.

(S.O.(I) Buenos Aires 101330Z to Admty (for  
D.N.I.))

German submarine's number not yet known arrived Mar del Plata  
0500 O.M.T. today 10th July. All persons on board have been  
taken ashore in naval custody.

Argentine naval authorities are searching ship for possible  
time bombs.

Name of Captain Otto Wermouth. Tonnage 700 crew 54. No  
munitions, one damaged torpedo. All guns damaged.

(B.N.A. Buenos Aires 101433Z to Admty, B.A.D.) See 112134B  
and 121415Z.



War Diary10.7.1945  
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

- Craft transferred to French Your 271547. Request more details identification of craft transferred. (Head of M.I., 100216B to C. in C. Mediterranean)
- Fleet tenders to be re-allocated Request you sail F.T.11,12 & 13 to Alexandria for survey and tropical station programme to comply with C. in C. Med.'s 221040B (N.T. in W.D.) June and Admiralty's 072043B June. (F.O.L.E.M., 101727C to S.B.N.O.Greece.)
- Levant Sitrep to 1900 hours 9th July. (1) Aleppo. Night 8/9 July sporadic shooting in area Vanniere Barracks. Afternoon 9th July 100 Alouitep T.S. broke open armoury in Mussy Barracks and deserted with arms including nine M.G.S. British troops collected arms from one party 26 men, but unable round up second party who had scattered. 1715 - 1800 hours 9th July exchange of fire between Gendarmes and C.N.V.S. outside Freres Maristes Monastery and French soldiers inside building. Monastery houses French families approximately 40 French soldiers and believed also French Political Officers. Both sides disobeyed British orders to cease fire and Gendarmes also ignored orders Chef de Gendarmerie and Chef de Police who were present. Cause of incident and Casualties not yet known but include one British soldier killed.
- (2) Lattakia. Night 8/9 July 52 French women and children evacuated to Beirut. Town now partially open and quiet.
- (3) Damascus. 7th July was celebrated as day of National Mourning. G.O.28155 of 8th July para. 3 refers. British with agreement French Delegee refused allow two French journalists to circulate in town during demonstrations that evening. Full facilities for visiting town in British vehicles have now been given.
- (4) Tribal. British patrol broke up Jubbour Tribe raid on Kurds in area north of Hassetche. No casualties.
- (5) T.S. before announcement of transfer French had been classifying T.S. into three categories. G.O. 24840 of 26th June para. 5 refers. Those wishing (a) to remain T.S. (b) to be discharged, (c) to be taken on French regular terms of service known as Avenantaire. French state classification will continue but no action will be taken to enlish Avenantaires.
- (6) T.S. desertions 6/8 July, Officers nil, O.R. 190. Total to 8th July, Officers 150, O.R. 5,918. (C. in C. M.E. 101925C to W.O.)



10.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Air/Sea Rescue. C. in C. E.I. 080726.  
C. in C. East Indies has been informed that it is desired that he will make available 12 old escorts for air/sea rescue duties forthwith.  
(D.O.D.(F) Approved V.C.N.S. 100111B to Air Min.)

French National Day. On Sat. 14th July, being the National Day for France, H.M. Ships in Harbour with French Naval Units are to dress ships with masthead flags from colours to sunset. French National Flag at the main.  
(C. in C. E.I. 100519Z to all S.O.S.etc.)

E.I. and B.P.F. S/Ms policy. Intend H.M.S/Ms SCOTSMAN and SPUR join Second Submaine Flotilla A.M.172315 June para. 3 refers.  
(C. in C. E.I. 101041Z to Admty.)

Fleet Train E.I. Subject to final approval by Cabinet which it is hoped will be given in few days Fleet Train will be increased as below.  
(2) Numbers allocated are final and your planning of future operations must be based on the assumption that no more will be provided in addition to those shown in Q.B.106 except for those referred to in para. 5 below.  
(3) The following additional ships are allocated to East Indies Fleet Train -  
(A) 1 NSIS (AKS). (B) 6 VSIS (AF). (C) 2 NSCs (AKC)  
(D) 1 Crane ship (AB).  
Note: (i) (A) and (B) are 10,000 ton ships.  
(ii) (C) are Pacific Type Coasters of 5,600 d.w.t. Speed 11 knots, endurance 10,500 miles.  
(iii) (D) Details will be signalled when known.  
(4) Dates of arrival of all above ships on station will be signalled as soon as known.  
(5) The provision of 4 further large ships will be considered in Sept. 1945. It is intended that they should be 3 VSIS (AF) and 1 NSIS (AKS) which may be required for post "Zipper/Mailfist" operations. Request your remarks in due course.  
(6) Until the additional VSIS (AF) arrive on station M.W.T. will provide corresponding refrigerated shipping space. Request you will report your phased requirements so that M.W.T. can allocate the necessary shipping.  
(D. of P.(Q) 101235B to C. in C. E.I. info: C. in C. B.F.)

Reinforce-ments for East Indies Escort Force. The following is the estimated programme for the 19 Hunts and 27 Frigates nominated as reinforcements for the East Indies Escort Force. A.M. 051532/June not to all refers.  
(A) Now on passage and expected to be on station by end July or early August:  
4 Hunts. FARNDALE (S.O.) BLEASEDALE, CALPE, CHIDDINGFOLD.  
8 Frigates DART, EVENLODE, ROTHER, LOCH KATRINE, LOCH QUOICH, LOCH RUTHVEN, LOCH LOMOND, LOCH GORM.  
(B) E.T.A. before end August:



10.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Reinforce- 11 Frigates INVER, NESS, TAY, LOCH ACHRAY,  
ments for LOCH CRAGGIE, LOCH FYNE, LOCH GLENDHU, LOCH INSH,  
East Indies LOCH MORE, LOCH SCAVAIG, LOCH TARBERT.  
Escort (C) E.T.A. before end Sept.  
Force. 4 Hunts EXMOOR (S.O) CROOME (M), ZETLAND (M),  
(Contd.) OAKLEY (M).  
8 Frigates LOCH ECK, LOCH KILLISPORT, GOOD HOPE,  
NATAL, TRANSVAAL, CALDER, DUCKWORTH, ESSINGTON.  
The three S.A.N.F. Frigates have left U.K. and are  
proceeding via South Africa for additional modifications to  
ventilation and leave.  
(D) E.T.A. before end Oct.  
6 Hunts LEDBURY (M), TANATSIDE (M), TETCOTT (M), WHEATLAND (M),  
BLANKNEY (S), MIDDLETON (S).  
(E) E.T.A. before end Nov.  
5 Hunts. ALBRIGHTON, CATTERICK (S), LAMERTON (S),  
LAUDERDALE (S), WILTON (S).  
(2) Ships marked (M) in (C) and (D) are now refitting in the  
Mediterranean and will join E.I. on completion except WHEATLAND  
which must first return to U.K. for leave and adjustment of  
complement.  
Ships marked (S) in (D) and (E) will refit in South Africa and  
join E.I. on completion.  
(3) All ships are urgently required on East Indies Station and  
in particular those in (A) (B) and (C), It is requested  
that C's in C. concerned will make every endeavour to ensure  
ships arriving on station by dates indicated.  
(D.O.D.(F) Approved A.C.N.S.(F), 101354B to C. in C. E.I.,  
C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Med., C. in C. S.A.)

S/Ms for Departed S/M TURPIN, SCOTSMAN, SPUR, L.S.T. 346  
B.P.F. etc. and 385.  
(Com. Aden, 101604 F.O.L.E.M., C. in C. E.I. etc.)

10.7.1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Destroyer. Arrival p.m. 9th July H.M.C.S. GATINEAU from U.K.  
(Com. Halifax 100031 to N.S.H.Q.)

F. Mine-sweeper. Arrival a.m. 10th July MICHAEL from Quebec.  
(C.C.P. Halifax 100922Z to Admty.)

Weather reports. Effective immediately and until further notice. Westbound vessels passing through area between 39° N. to 49° N. and 43° W. to 56° W. are instructed to report in plain language every 8 hours calling N.I.D.K. on 468 k/cs giving P.C.S. water and air temperature, visibility, wind and sea conditions. (D.T.D. 101445Z to B.A.M.S. Areas 1A, 1B.)

ULSTER (destroyer) Arrived ULSTER 1430Z.  
(B.N.L.O. San Diego 101726 to B.A.M.S.O. Washington.)

DUNCANSBY HEAD. Request you will inform C. in C. E.I. of E.D.A. in Ceylon of DUNCANSBY HEAD.  
(2) C. in C. E.I. 090741 to Admiralty only refers. (D.O.D.(F) 101844B to B.A.T.M.)

Operational naval units Pacific. Cominch 102146Z to Admty.  
See Lion Copy.

Far East and Australia.

Movements. Arrivals 9th Townsville BROOME, H.M.A.S. BUNBURY. Departures 9th Sydney (N.S.W.) H.M.A.S. BATAAN, WARRAMUNGA for Manus, Morotai H.M.A.S. STUART for Mios Woendi.  
(N.B. Melbourne 100433Z to Admty.)

Digest 1266 9.7.45 (extract). (1) Balikpapan area, elements 7th Air Division captured ridge north of Manggar strip during day following naval gunfire, artillery and air preparation, 16 prisoners taken, naval support involved - one heavy cruiser, one destroyer. Progress made along Samarinda Road against some opposition including mines. Unopposed shore to shore landing achieved at Cape Djinabora, (upper reaches Balikpapan Bay, four miles northwest of Penadjam.)  
(4) On northwest Borneo patrols of 9th A.I.F. Division advancing up Beaufort Jesselton Railway reached Bongawan (16 miles N.E. of Beaufort) without contact. Patrols out from Miri progressed 9 miles to southwest and returned without contact.



**TOP SECRET**

**IN**

**WARNING:** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

*Operational Naval units*

*Pacific*

102146Z/July

Date 11.7.45  
Rocd.0628

From COMINCH

C.C.M.(NAVAL) C. in C. Sec. by T/P

Addressed Admiralty  
Repeated COMNAVEA

Pacific Summary 21. Operational Naval units.

South East Pacific. 5 D.D.s. Pacific Coast.  
 NEW JERSEY RANGER SALERNO BAY TAKANIS BAY BOGUE KWAJALEIN  
 COMMENCEMENT BAY WHITE PLAINS PUGET SOUND CAPABLE CARD  
 ATHELING MINNEAPOLIS BILOXI. 56 D.D.s. Enroute U.S.3 D.D.s.  
 En route Pearl.  
 SITKOH BAY WAKE ISLAND BOUGAINVILLE SHIPLEY BAY  
 CAPE ESPERANCE BALTIMORE 3 D.D.s.

North Pacific.  
 RICHMOND CONCORD TRENTON 5 D.D.s

Central Pacific.  
 TENNESSEE CALIFORNIA NEVADA MASSACHUSETTS INDIANA  
 SOUTH DAKOTA ALABAMA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WISCONSIN  
 MISSOURI KING GEORGE V DUKE OF YORK BENNINGTON HANCOCK  
 LEXINGTON RANDOLPH ESSEX TICONDEROGA YORKTOWN SHANGRI-LA  
 BON HOMME RICHARD IMPLACABLE FORMIDABLE VICTORIOUS  
 BELLEAU WOOD SAN JACINTO MONTEREY BATAAN INDEPENDENCE  
 COWPENS MANILA BAY STEAMER BAY from Admiralty Islands  
 HOLLANDIA THETIS BAY SARGENT BAY FANSHAW BAY LUNGA POINT  
 ANXIO CHENANGO NATOMA BAY CASABLANCA MUNDA BRETON  
 KASSAN BAY CAPE GLOUCESTER MAKIN ISLAND MAKASSAR STRAIT  
 PRINCE WILLIAM BARNES KITKUN BAY HOGGATT BAY SHAMROCK  
 BAY NEHENTA BAY SAN FRANCISCO TUSCALOOSA WICHITA  
 CHESTER QUINCY CHICAGO EURYALUS NEWFOUNDLAND SWIFTSURE  
 ACHILLES UGANDA BLACK PRINCE GAMBIA ARGONAUT DETRIOT  
 VICKSBURG ST. LOUIS TOPEKA ATLANTA DAYTON SAN JUAN  
 OKLAHOMA CITY AMSTERDAM PASAGENA SPRINGFIELD  
 ASTORIA WILKES BARRE TUCSON OAKLAND FLINT SAN DIEGO  
 170 D.D.s.

At Pearl.  
SARATOGA INTREPID WASP KALININ BAY VELLA GULF CORE  
CORREGIDOR BOSTON ST. PAUL 22 D.D.s.

South Pacific.

One D.D.

Southwest Pacific.

TEXAS NEW MEXICO COLORADO MISSISSIPPI ARKANSAS IDAHO  
 WEST VIRGINIA INDEFATIGABLE ALASKA GUAM SUWANNEE GILBERT  
 ISLANDS BLOCK ISLAND LONG ISLAND Santee NASSAU ARBITER  
 RULER STRIKER SPEAKER CHASER SLINGER SALT LAKE CITY PORTLAND  
 NEW ORLEANS SHROPSHIRE MONTPELIER DENVER CLEVELAND  
 COLUMBIA NASHVILLE PHOENIX MOBILE HOBART TROMP 48 D.D.s.

Non operational at Sea.

En route Pearl. One D.D. En route U.S. None.

102146Z

V.C.N.S.	D.O.D.(H)(4)	D.S.O.	Hd. of M.(2)
A.C.N.S.(F)	D.O.D.(F)(2)	D.D.I.C.(2)	W.D.
D.Map Room	D.C.(2)	D.N.I.(4)	Ad. Blake C.W.R.



War Diary.10.7.1945  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia.

Digest 1266 (5) On Mindanao R.C.T. of 24th Division landed  
9.7.45 unopposed at Dadjangas in northwest corner of  
(extract.) Sarangani Bay. Guerilla forces are moving  
(Contd.) overland in this direction from Malalw on  
western shores Davao Gulf.  
(10) Other R.A.A.F. Operations, 8th July 2  
Liberators on searches from Darwin, one was  
negative other shot up three schooners on Tiger Islands off  
southern Celebes destroying at least one. 9th June Liberator  
from Morotai and two from Darwin saw nothing, one Liberator  
from Darwin saw CHIDORI class torpedo boat off north coast  
Imor course southwest at 17 - 20 knots.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 100940Z to Admty.)

St. Pauls Here is Landforces 100930K to Sacsea Indo C.  
Island. in C. Ceylon; C. in C. E.I.F. Alfsea Adv. Alfsea,  
Sacsea, ~~INDIA~~, Air Ministry, Whitehall,  
Air H.Q. East Africa Comd Pass Dechief Pretoria,  
A.C.N.B. C. in C. S.A. Admiralty Troopers.

3832/QG. Your Sac 13482/Mov TN of 261111Z. Will accept  
commitment maintenance St. Paul Island personnel. Arrange  
H.Q. Ceylon submit demands to Landforces. Charges will be  
raised against U.K. Assume necessary diversion of shipping  
will be arranged with Ministry of War Transport.  
(Melbourne C.C.O., 101110Z to C. in C.E.I.F.)

Fleet Train Subject to final approval by Cabinet which it is  
B.P.F. hoped will be given in few days Fleet Train will  
be increased as below.  
(2) Numbers allocated are final and your planning  
of future operations must be based on the  
assumption that only the following will be provided in addition  
to those shown in Q(B) 106 and that no more ships of these types  
will be forthcoming. (C. in C. B.P.F. 120747 June not to all  
refers.)  
(3) The following additional ships are allocated to Pacific  
Fleet - (A) 2 V.S.I.S. (A.F.)  
(B) 1 AIRIS (A.K.V.) (C) 3 N.S.Cs. (A.K.C.) (D) 11 A.S.I.S.  
and A.S.C., (A.E. and A.E.C.) (E) 2 Vegetable Carriers (A.F.  
special). (F) 1 Crane ship (A.B.)  
Notes: (i) (A) and (B) will be 10,000 ton ships.  
(ii) (C) will be Baltic type coasters of 3000 dwt. speed 11  
knots.\* (iii) (D) will be Pacific type coasters of 5,600 dwt.  
speed 11 knots, endurance 10,500 miles. Six will be fitted for  
ammunitioning at sea (A.M. 261750 not to all refers).  
(iv) (E) These ships are ERIN and EROS, 6,000 dwt. 17 knots,  
endurance 10,600 miles and should be available on station in Oct.  
(v) (F) Details will be signalled when known.  
(4) Dates of arrival of all these ships will be signalled as  
soon as known.  
(5) Until the 2 new V.S.I.S.(A.F.) arrive on station M.W.T.  
will provide corresponding refrigerated shipping space.  
Request you will report your phased requirements so that M.W.T.  
can allocate necessary shipping.  
(6) Accommodation ships and tanker requirements for B.P.F. will  
be subject of separate signals.  
(D. of P. 101236B to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 080216Z Aug.  
\* Endurance 5,500 miles.

/L.S.I.(L)(s.)...



# SECRET

73A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

100635Z July

Date 11.7.45

From V.A. (Q)

Recd. 1950

GEN. CCM

To:- D. of S.T.

Info:- R.A.F.T., C. in C. B.P.F., NXN, B.P.S.T.O. I.

ONTA  
Your 050035. Fuel and water required to cover minimum range steaming of 28 days at 11 knots and five days port consumption. Vessel's turn round from Australia would be every 42 days to carry approximately 675 personnel. Fuel and water would only be supplied at Australian ports for round voyage.

100638Z

Rec'd in W.R. 0810/18

Circulated by D. of S.T. to  
D. of S.T. Depts. and Admiralty

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (F)

D.C. (2)

O.D. (6)

D.C.O.D. (7)

D.T.D. (4)

D.T.D. (C) (3)

M. (3)

Mails

D. of S. (3)

W.D.

Admiral Blake

U.S.N. (3)

O.I.C. (2)

10.7.1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

L.S.I. (Ls)  
and L.S.H.  
for Assault  
Force.

EMPIRE SPEARHEAD, GLENEARN and LOTHIAN are required to form part of the Third Assault Force early in 1946.

(2) EMPIRE SPEARHEAD is to be sailed for U.K. so as to arrive by 1st Sept. 1945 for refit and completion as L.S.I. (L)

(3) Request you will report what defects must be made good and length of refit, if any, which will be necessary for GLENEARN and LOTHIAN before joining Third Assault Force. A further signal will then be made as to the date when you should release these two and what provision will be made to replace them.

(Controller 101643B to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 110652Z.

*See 190503Z.*

*06753Z Aug.*



11.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

General.

1. With the termination of Combined Command and the dissolution of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force at midnight on 13/14th, the title A.N.C.X.F. will be changed to B.N.C. in C.G.

(Page 20)

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Andaman Sea.

2. Operation "Collie" is completed. The 6th M/S Flotilla operating off Car Nicobar from the 5th to 10th July swept up 167 moored mines all to the east of the island. These operations were covered by air strikes from AMEER and EMPEROR and bombardment by NIGERIA (C.S.5) ROEBUCK, VIGILANT and ESKIMO of shore batteries. Radar stations were put out of action. Four of our aircraft were shot down, pilots all saved. 141236Z

Sumatra.

3. 24 Hellcats bombed and strafed installations at Kota Raja and Llonga airfields (North Sumatra). No aircraft were seen there or at Sabang. One Jap. plane shot down in combat, one Hellcat shot down, pilot rescued.

Far East and Australia.

Moluccas.

4. P.T. boats destroyed 11 prahus off west coast of Halmahera.

China Seas.

5. Dutch submarine S/M O.19 aground on Ladd Reef has been abandoned and destroyed.

Indo-China.

6. (a) U.S. F.A.W. planes sank a submarine chaser and damaged two small cargo boats.

Borneo.

(b) U.S. R/C aircraft set fire to a motor boat off Sanchan Island (Canton) destroyed a small coastal freighter and two barges and damaged one medium and two small coastal freighters between Saigon and Quinhon and N. of Kuching a small coastal freighter was destroyed and another probably.

11. 7. 1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

- Formosa. 7. Eight U.S. Mitchells sank 9 fishing craft and damaged 20 other small craft off East and West coasts of Formosa.
- Japan. 8. (a) Since arrival at Okinawa of Fleet Air Wing I, planes have sunk 159 seagoing ships totalling 145,850 tons and damaged 194 totalling 138980 tons. They have also destroyed 41 enemy planes and damaged 29.  
(b) Blue submarines sank one destroyer or large escort and two large junks and a diesel trawler in Jap. waters.  
Enemy submarine contacts were made in 41° 34' N. 142° 04' E. 16° N. 127° E. 10° 30' N. 130° E.



11.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Air Sea Rescue Posn. 20. My 101951A HADLEIGH CASTLE has resumed all duties. ACTIVE E.T.A. Gibraltar 1400B/12th. (ACTIVE 110915A to F.O.G.M.A.)

Submarine TRADEWIND. Intend to sail TRADEWIND at 0930B on July 12th to Portsmouth. (3) Speed  $10\frac{1}{2}$  knots, E.T.A. a.m. July 17th. (F.O.G.M.A., 111030B to C. in C. Portsmouth.) (See F.O.G.M.A. 111807B below.)

A/S trawlers. Intend to sail RUMBA (S.O.) SPHENE and SARABANDE at 1500B July 11th to Plymouth. (3) Speed 10 knots E.T.A. a.m. 16th July. (F.O.G.M.A., 111130B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

German ships. Intend destroyer VERITY proceed Cadiz to take over German M/ships LUCY and ESSBERGER and THALIA. (Reference A.M. 102210 repeated B.N.A. Madrid only refers.)

(2) Request following arrangements be made with Spanish authorities.

(3) VERITY will arrive 0800B/13th July, requiring pilot, and berth along if possible.

(4) 2 armed guards of 14 men each will require transport from VERITY to German ships.

(5) As soon as armed guards are on board M/ships - but not before - German merchant crews should be embarked with orders to raise steam forthwith.

(6) 43 U-Boat personnel should be placed on board VERITY who would then return to Gibraltar.

(7) When ships are ready to proceed, they will R/V with corvette CROCUS outside territorial waters and sail to Gibraltar. (F.O.G.M.A., 111534B to B.N.A. Madrid, Admty.) See 121111B.

Submarine. Arrived H.M. S/M TRADEWIND. (F.O.G.M.A., 111807B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

L.Cs. on passage. 12 L.C.T.(R) in 2 flights are involved. Is formula in your 101649 (N.T. in W.D.) sufficiently elastic to cover call to await favourable weather forecast of 48 hours high confidence for crossing of bay, observing that danger to craft in rough weather is considerable? (Hd. of M.I 112308B to N.A. Lisbon.) See 131211B.

11.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Air Sea rescue Stn. Assumed A.S.R. 21 COWSLIP proceeding Freetown. (LAUNCESTON CASTLE, 110715Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

A.S.R. 22. Have been relieved on station 22 by PORTCHESTER CASTLE. (DITANY 111044Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

A.S.R. Intend sailing DITTANY and COWSLIP who have been relieved by KENILWORTH CASTLE and PEVENSEY CASTLE to U.K. 15th July. Request destinations A.M. 292231B June refers. (F.O.C.W.Af., 111521Z to Admty.)

Movement. Intend to sail STELLA POLARIS at 0800Z/12th July by coastal route to Capetown, S.O.A. 8½ knots. (N.O.I.C. East London 111641B to Admty.)

BAHIA Following for Minister of Marine from First Lord.  
Braz. cruiser Begins:- On behalf of the Board of Admiralty and  
(loss of.) the Officers and men of the Royal Navy may I express our deep regret at the unfortunate loss of the light Brazilian cruiser BAHIA and our sincere sympathy with the Brazilian Navy and relatives of the gallant crew who have lost their lives. Brendan Bracken. Ends.  
(1st Lord 111721B to B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro.)  
Arrival 11th July Brazilian light cruiser RIO GRANDE DO SUL with survivors ex Brazilian light cruiser BAHIA.  
(R.O. Pernambuco 111815Z to Admty.)



11.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Re: Future When may proposals in accordance with para. 7.  
of C.F. of A.M.132339/June be expected.  
craft in (Hd. of M. 11, 110503B to C. in C. Med.)  
Mediterranean. / N.T. in W.D.

TOTLAND Intend to sail TOTLAND at 1800/11th by basic west-  
(Cutter) bound route to position 227 for onward routing  
for U.K. by V.A.M. to Gibraltar for U.K.  
(2) Speed 13 knots. Ship to report E.T.A.  
direct V.A.M.  
(F.O.R.S.C.A. 111253C to F.O.G.M.A.)

Levant (1) Aleppo. Sporadic firing during night 9/10th  
Sitrep July in Areas Hussy and Vanniere and Turkish Bks.  
to 1900 hrs. Alaouite Gds on delegation Freres - Maristes  
10th July. buildings and Franciscan Convent relieved by  
other French Tps without incident. Ref. our  
GO/28696 of 10th July/. Brit. soldier killed  
by stray bullet while walking to N.A.F.F.I. on

9th July.  
(2) Lattakia. Situation much improved. Most shops open.  
(3) Bannias midway Lattakia Tartous. 9 July 2016 hrs. bomb  
fired from unknown source. French opened M.G. and mortar fire  
at 2020 hrs. and continued 20 minutes. OG Gendarmerie ordered  
French cease fire. French complied. Cas Civa killed 2 wounded  
3. One Brit. Armd. C sent from Lattakia. Situation quiet  
10 July.  
(4) N.E. Syria. Derik. With French agreement 76 men 25 Lt.  
Sqn. being disarmed and released from service.  
(C. in C. M.E. 111305C to W.O.)

Dodecanese Leros. 454 German PW sailed for Mideast 10 July.  
Sitrep all Infm.  
as at (C. in C. M.E. 111915C to A.F.H.Q.)  
111800C.

A.F.D. 27. A.M. 072224 (not to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. or B.S.O. Nile).  
Request arrangements be made for full complement  
of A.F.D.27 including both dock and runner crews,  
to be victualled on modified form of general  
messing (Vide A.F.O. 5746/44) during passage and for supplies of  
provisions. etc.  
(D. of V. 112359B to C. in C. Med.)

11.7.1945

WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesSUFFOLK  
(cruiser).Sailed SUFFOLK at 0400Z/11th to Suez for onward routing to U.K. E.T.A. Suez 2100Z/13th.  
(Comdr. Aden, 110636Z to N.O.I.C. Suez)*(See below)*

French ships.

As F.S. SUFFREN and F.S. RICHELIEU will meet at Diego Suarez 13th July, request information whether visit of SUFFREN F.S. to Ceylon 17th now necessary.

(2) If essential SUFFREN F.S. should be routed to Colombo via one and half degs. Channel.

(3) If visit to Ceylon unnecessary request you sail SUFFREN F.S. when ready to Aden for onward routing to Med.

(4) Admiralty pass to Marine Paris.

(C. in C. E.I. 110914Z to Comar, Diego Suarez.)

Operation  
"Collie".

Operation "Collie" completed.

Forces 61 and 62 arrive Trincomalee 14th July.

(2) Sixth M/S Flotilla operated off Car Nicobar 5th to 10th July swept 167 moored mines all to east of Island.

(3) Force 62 covered sweepers by air strikes and bombardments of airfields and shore batteries. Four of our aircraft shot down by accurate flak. All pilots recovered close inshore by ships and Walrus aircraft who were met by ineffective machine gunfire. No other enemy reaction. All craft seen rendered unseaworthy, buildings set on fire, Radar Stations put out of action. D/F Apparatus apparently hit.

(4) Enemy observed to be obstructing aerodrome runways by stakes.

(5) Bombardment and air strike carried out on Nancowry 7th July, in heavy rain squalls, causing fires and explosions Naval Point Camp Area. Two coasters left on fire. Two Hellcats shot down, one pilot recovered.

(6) 24 Hellcats bombed and strafed installations at Kotaraja and Longa Airfields 11th July. No aircraft seen on either airfield nor at Sabang. One Dinah shot down in air combat. One Hellcat shot down by flak, pilot rescued.

(C. in C. E.I. 111001Z to Admty.)

As received.

Movements.

Arrived H.M.S. SUFFOLK, H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE departed H.M.S. DEVONSHIRE, H.M.S. SUFFOLK, R.F.A. CHERRYLEAF.

(N.O.I.C. Aden, 111618Z to Admty.)



War Diary.11.7.1945  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.EMPRESS OF  
AUSTRALIA.

EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA code number B.1 speed 16½ knots sailed from the U.K. on 7th July with 137 officers and 2851 other ranks total 2988 R.A.F. personnel and 100 tons d.w. tentage and 62 tons d.w. comports total 162 tons d.w. on board for "Shield". E.T.A. Cristobal is 0800 G.M.T. 19th July.  
 (2) A.M. 220148 June not to last two refers regarding onward routing of this vessel from the Panama.  
 (3) Agreed.  
 (D. of S.T., 110558B to B.A.D. Washington.)

LA GRANDIERE  
Fr. ship.

Comsopac 190431. Not to all refers. Compaseafron route French sloop LA GRANDIERE canal zone to Norfolk where ship will embark personnel and material C.E.S.F. sail LA GRANDIERE onward to La Ciotat when loading completed. Above routing requested by French Naval Mission in U.S.  
 (Cominch 111830Z to Compaseafron.)  
 Admiral Fenard has informed B.A.D. and Cominch "In the plan for repairs of French ships submitted to C. in C. Mediterranean the refitting of LA GRANDIERE is planned at Lorient instead of La Ciotat Yards."  
 (2) Admiral Fenard states that this alteration is in consequence of the liberation of the French Atlantic Harbours and the intention to reserve La Ciotat for merchant ships.  
 (3) Reference Comsopac 190431 June (Not to C. in C. Med.) LA GRANDIERE will be calling at Norfolk en route Balbao to France. Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.  
 (B.A.D. Washington 112221Z to Admty.)

German U/B  
(surrender)  
U. 530

N.A. Buenos Aires' 101433. Presume Cominch will take the initiative in this matter, particularly to secure early removal of crew to U.S.A. or Germany. It is considered desirable to ascertain -  
 (a) whether C.O. was aware of and disregarded surrender orders with view to trial for breach of surrender terms,  
 (b) whether C.O. thinks any other U-Boats are following the same course,  
 (c) approximate details of cruise since leaving port and any incidents or attacks.  
 (2) You should inform Cominch that we contemplate turning over C.O. and other officers of U.1277, which scuttled off Portugal, to Control Commission for trial.  
 (3) N.A. Buenos Aires is requested to give every assistance to his U.S. colleague and report any information obtained.  
 (V.C.N.S., 112134B to B.A.D.) *See 171945Z (South Atlantic).*

TRUCULENT  
for U.K.

British submarine TRUCULENT unescorted New London to Holy Loch departs Point A lat. 40.30 N. long. 71.03 W. 2023/12th July. Z times proceeds at 12 knots.  
 (Comsublant 112206Z to Com. 1, Com. 3, C. in C.W.A.)



11.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East & Australia.

QUILLIAM  
destroyer  
for U.K.

When ready for sea about 15th July request QUILLIAM  
be sailed for U.K. via Funafuti, Pearl Harbour,  
San Diego and Panama Canal.

(2) Ship has temporary collision damage repairs  
and can only anchor in emergency. Radio  
Honolulu pass to C. in C. Pac. Pearl.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 110112Z to F.O.I.C. Sydney.)

Blue Summary  
9th.

Empire area. 42 B.24s bombed Omura airfield  
Kyushu. 105 Iwo based P.51s attacked Nagoya  
and Osaka airfields destroying 12 enemy planes.  
Probably destroying four and damaging ten in air.  
Destroying four and damaging one on ground  
damaging buildings at Hamamitsu Itami Yashiro. Flak moderate  
inaccurate to accurate. One Mustang lost five damaged. F.A.W.  
18 planes damaged one F.T.B., one picket boat F.A.W. one planes  
sank four S.Ds. one lugger. Damaged two S.D. one F.T. two  
small craft. 1 enemy float plane. Damaged two Korean phosphate  
plants 1 lighthouse one radio station. ?Since arrived Okinawa  
F.A.W. 1 planes have sunk 159 seagoing ships totalling 145850  
tons. Damaged 194 totalling 138980 tons destroyed 41 enemy  
planes. Damaged 29.

Blue submarine sank 2 junks in Yellow Sea.

(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 110238 to All commands interested.)

Dispositions  
B.P.F.

C. in C. B.P.F. 110248 to Admty.  
See Lion Copy.

EMPIRE  
SPEARHEAD  
L.S.I. (L)

Your 101643. Propose to retain landing craft  
from EMPIRE SPEARHEAD and their crews.  
(2) Is this acceptable.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 110652Z to Admty.)  
Reply 130024B.

Operations  
B.P.F.

T.F. 37, less INDEFATIGABLE and 2 D.D. (my 270235  
June refers) left Manus on 6th July to join Com.  
3rd Fleet in air attacks on the Japanese Empire.  
These operations will be carried out in close co-  
operation with T.F. 38, and are expected to  
include bombardments of the mainland by battleship and possibly  
six inch cruisers.

(2) T.F. 38 began striking on 10th July and will continue alone  
until 15th when it will be joined by T.F. 37.

(3) The first combined strike will be against Tokyo on the 16th  
of July, with a full replenishment at sea of all forces on about  
19th and 20th July.

(4) INDEFATIGABLE was delayed in Sydney with air compressor  
defects which rendered flight deck imoperative, and will join  
T.F. 37 during this replenishment.

(5) Strikes are planned to continue until about 10th August,  
but may well be extended if the going is good.

(6) Three tanker groups have sailed from Manus to replenish  
T.F. 37. Four C.V.Es. will transfer replacement aircraft to the



War Diary.11.7.1945  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia.

Operations C.V.Es. at sea and one C.V.E. will provide C.A.P.  
B.P.F. and F.R.U. in the service area. One A.E. and 2  
(Contd.) A.F. are included in the support units.  
(7) Tankers will reload at Eniwetok and rejoin  
the Fleet, withdrawing to Manus only when they  
are no longer required for further replenishments.  
(8) TYNE, with four ships of the Fleet train will be temporarily  
based at Eniwetok to assist in the maintenance of the tankers  
and their escorts. A fourth tanker group will form at Eniwetok  
with new arrivals.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 110809Z to Admty.) *see 230826 Z*

Blue Summary Third Fleet. Preliminary reports from first  
10th. three of seven strikes by planes against Tokyo  
airfields. Only 9 enemy planes airborne in  
target area. Snooping Frances and Dinah splashed  
by Force Cap. 72 enemy planes destroyed and 80  
damaged on ground. 1 F 4 U four T.B.M. lost but three Avenger  
crews rescued. No damage our surface ships.  
B. 296 28 mined Shimonoseki Straits Niigata and Fushika. In  
early morning attacks 123 bombed Sendai Urban Area. 115 Sakai.  
108 Wayayama. 129 Gifu. 61 Utsube River Oil Refinery  
Yokkaichi. Seven bombed targets of opportunity. Total 3888.2  
tons dropped visually and by radar from 10000 to 16250 feet.  
Enemy airborne opposition slight. Flak medium and heavy eager  
to intense inaccurate. One plane crashed on take off with minor  
injury one man. One plane abandoned between Saipan and Rota.  
Entire crew rescued. Photos of Kofu show 1.3 square miles or  
64% built up area damaged from Mission 7th July.  
Empire Area. 99 Iwo based P.5ls attacked Kobe Osake Area.  
Shot down one Val. Destroyed 13 planes and damaged four on  
ground. Damage ground installations at Hanshin Nishinomiya and  
Kawanishi aircraft factory. Destroyed one S.C.S. two small  
craft. Flak moderate to intense inaccurate to accurate. Three  
P.5ls lost and four damaged. Blue submarine rescued one pilot.  
Dumbo rescued one. F.A.W. one planes damaged three S.D.  
R.A.D.M. J Perry relieved R.A.D.M. J.D. Price as Comfairwing one  
and C.T.G. 30.5. Fifth of P.5ls weathered out of Kyushu. One  
pilot down. 62 T.A.F. B.25s escorted by 48 F 4 Us attacked  
Ronchi. One B.25 missing one F 4 U pilot killed one rescued.  
43 B.24s 112 P.47s hit targets in Ryukyu Retto. Six P.47s down  
one pilot rescued.  
Serdiv 104 moved to Buckner Bay.  
Blue submarines sank one large P.C. and one A.O. two small craft.  
Damage two P.C. one small craft. Dutch submarine on Ladd Reef  
abandoned and destroyed. Comdesdiv 108 after taking TAKASAGO  
MARU under escort released her at 24.57 N. 150.05 E. 1000 I 10th  
with instructions to proceed direct Yokosuka. Minesweeping area  
Juneau continuing with about 1/3 of area covered. Force snooped  
on 5th. 1 Dinah shot down 6th. A.S.W. operations off Apra  
Harbour Guam.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. (H.Q.) 110837.)

/Enemy...



11.7.1945  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Enemy air strength.

Nil change estimate of enemy air strength for 12th July. Op. Intel. 124.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 110838 to C.T.F. 93, etc.)

Re Eagle Farm airfield.

Para. 3 my 270547 June. Mr. Drakeford's report is not forthcoming but I have been informed by Mr. Forde that he has made representation to General MacArthur informing him of B.P.F. urgent need at Eagle Farm.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 110907Z to Admty.)

PRINCE ROBERT Aux. A/A ship

C. in C. B.P.F. 040522. Have done brief work up but request one week at Pearl Harbour to carry out further H.A. and L.A. shoots and to complete long range radar height calibration. Expect to sail from San Francisco Thursday, 19th July.  
(PRINCE ROBERT 112228 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Visit of Parliamentary Sec. to E.I. and Pacific Areas.

It is desired to make provisional arrangements for a visit by the Parliamentary Secretary to the East Indies and Pacific areas and Washington.  
(2) Lord Bruntisfield would probably be accompanied by a Captain R.N.  
(3) Approx. itinerary would be to leave U.K. about 25th August, spend a few days in East Indies before proceeding to Australia thence home through U.S.A.

- (4) Your views as to programmes are requested.
- (5) Decision cannot be taken until result of election is known on 26th July, and no definite commitments can be made before this.
- (6) For planning purposes, Parliamentary Secretary does not wish to be out of the U.K. for more than 8 - 10 weeks, including 7 - 10 days for private visits in U.S.A.

Add (V.C.N.S. 112337B.) See 17/113 Z (E.Indus) + (23/1442 E.1)



EA.  
84A

**TOP SECRET**

**IN**

**WARNING :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

From: G. in C. B.P.F.

110248/July.

Date 12.7.45.

Recd: 0425

Naval Cypher (XD) by W/T.

Addressed: Admiralty A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., N.S.H.Q.,  
Ottawa., V.A.(C) B.P.F. C. in C.E.I.  
B.A.D. Washington F.O.I.C. Sydney

Disposition signal number 20. Changes  
since my 040801

(a) At Sea POA. KING GEORGE V., VICTORIOUS FORMIDABLE  
IMPLACABLE STRIKER RULER ARBITER BLACK PRINCE  
EURYALUS ACHILLES GAMBIA UGANDA NEWFOUNDLAND QUALITY  
QUADRANT QUIBERON QUICKMATCH NAPIER NIZAM NEPAL  
BARFLEUR TROUBRIDGE TENACIOUS TERMAGENT TERPSICHORE  
TEAZER GRENVILLE UNDINE ULYSSES URANIA UNDAUNTED  
URCHIN CRANE PARRETT WHYALLA IPSWICH LAUNCESTON AASE  
MAERSK WEAZEL CEDARDALE CARELIA ROBERT MAERSK  
GLENARTNEY

(b) At Manus. SPEAKER TYNE WRANGLER KELANTAN BENDIGO  
ARBUTUS MAUNGANUI

(c) At sea bound Manus. INDEFATIGABLE. WAKEFUL  
GLENEARN AORANGI SERBOL BONAVENTURE.

(d) At Milne Bay. GOULBURN TAMWORTH SALVESTOR  
SALVICTOR AFD18 defects LARIAT.

(e) At Brisbane. CHASER QUEENBOROUGH UNICORN BOSPHORUS  
EMPIRE CREST.

(f) At sea bound Brisbane FERNMOOR KALGOORLIE.

(g) At Sydney. BERMUDA LOTHIAN damaged QUILLIAM

(h) At sea bound Sydney. RESOURCE GERUSALEMME GUDRUN  
MAERSK SAN ANDRES.

(j) At Auckland refit WESSEX.

(k) At sea bound Fremantle. ANSON VENERABLE VENGEANCE  
COLOSSUS TYRLAN TUSCAN.

(l) At sea bound Darwin amend to read BYMS 2064 and 2153

(m) At Leyte OXFORDSHIRE.

110248

1st Lord  
1st S.L.(3)  
D.F.S.L.(2)  
Cont.  
Vice Cont.  
Vice Cont.(Air)  
4th S.L.  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
A.C.N.S.(UT)(2)  
A.C.N.S.(W)  
A.C.N.S.(A)(2)  
D.O.D.(H)(4)  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D. of P.(2)  
D. of P.(Q)(3)  
Hd. of M.(2)  
N.A.Mails  
N.A. 2nd S.L.(OD)  
D.M.S.  
D A/S W

D.T.S.D.  
D.C.O.D.(4)  
D.C.O.P.(2)  
Hd. of Air Br.  
D.N.A.O.  
D.A.E.  
D.A.M.R.  
D.A.C.R.(2)  
D.N.A.R.(3)  
D.A.W.T.  
C.W.R.  
D. of S.(3)  
Ad.Blake  
W.D.  
D.G.D.  
Hd. of S.W.R.(3) ) Bath (4)  
Hd. of P. ) by courier

IN

BIGOT MOST SECRET

~~CANCELLED~~



War Diary

12.7.1945  
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic.

U-Boat  
surrender.  
U.530.

1. The S/M surrendered at Buenos Aires is U.530 with a crew of 54 including 3 executive officers and 2 engineers.

Movement.

2. LONDON sailed from Simonstown to Trincomalee.

East Indies

Transfer  
of Flag.

3. Flag of Senior Officer 3rd B.S. was transferred from QUEEN ELIZABETH to NELSON to-day.

Far East and Australia

Borneo.

4(a) 18 U.S. Liberators and 3 U.S.N. Mariners attacked and sank one coastal freighter and damaged two small coasters near Kuching.  
(b) Minesweeping in the Jupeau? area has been half completed. A total of 152 moored mines having been swept. 130911.

Philippines.

5. An unopposed minor scale landing was effected to-day at Palanan Bay on east coast of Luzon following bombardment by light naval units. Palanan Town was captured against slight opposition.

Japan and  
Korea  
(sea mining).

6(a) 11/12 July, 27 U.S. Super Fortresses laid 142 tons of sea mines off Maizuru, (55° N. of Osaka) Rashin (N.E. Korea), Fusan (S.E. Korea) and in the Shimonoseki Straits.  
(b) A Blue Submarine sank 16 schooners and one tug averaging 300 tons off west coast of Korea and another sank three other small vessels in Japanese waters. 130911.

12.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Movements.

7. KING GEORGE V (B.S.1), VICTORIOUS, FORMIDABLE, IMPLACABLE, STRIKER (A.C.30), RULER, ARBITER, BLACK PRINCE, EURYALUS, H.M.N.Z.S. ACHILLES, GAMBIA, H.M.C.S. UGANDA, NEWFOUNDLAND (C.S.4) and 19 destroyers have sailed from Manus on operations.

INDEFATIGABLE left Sydney for Manus.

BERMUDA (C.S.2) arrived Sydney from Fremantle.



12.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Destroyers for B.P.F. and E.I. Intend to sail BICESTER (S.O) and CHIDDINGFOLD at 1800B July 12th to Malta.  
(3) S. 14 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. 1800B July, 15th.  
(F.O.G.M.A.120813B to V.A.M. etc.)

Re: taking over German ships. Your 111534/. I am proceeding to Cadiz and will make necessary arrangements and will make every effort to ensure that crews of THALIA and LUCY ESSBERGER embark but it is a 50/50 chance.  
(B.N.A.Madrid, 12111B (?)) F.O.G.M.A.)  
/ Intend destroyer H.M.S. VERITY proceed Cadiz to take over German M/Ships LUCY ESSEBERGER and THALIA.

S/M. Sailed 0950/12th H.M.S/M TRADEWIND for Portsmouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A.121303B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Frigates for E.I. Arrived LOCH QUOICH, LOCH KATRINE.  
(F.O.G.M.A.121714B to Com. (D) W.A.)

Fleet minesweepers. On arrival at Horta MARVEL, MICHAEL, MINSTREL and ROMOLA should be sailed to Plymouth for onward routeing to Granton for inspection.  
E.T.A. should be reported to C. in C. Plymouth.  
(D.M.S. 121839B to S.B.N.O Azores.)

South Atlantic

Re: loss of BAHIA.  
(Brazilian Cruiser). Loss Brazilian Light Cruiser BAHIA with heavy casualties is a serious matter to Brazil and is receiving much publicity. Consider it warrants provision of Wreath and Representative or subscription to public fund when and if suitable occasion arises. Request approval. C.B. 3000 (44 Appendix 6 para. (6) refers).  
(B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 121205Z/Admty. D.N.I.)  
APP 180245A.

German U-B. 530 (surrender of) My 101330/.  
(2) S/M is U.530 with crew of 54 including 3 executive officers and 2 engineers.  
(3) All log books records instruments and ammunition reported jettisoned except 1 remaining torpedowhich has been damaged.



12.7.1945  
ThursdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSSouth Atlantic

German U-B. 530 (surrender of). (Contd.)

(4) Radio is in full working order.  
 (5) Reported (A) Vessel was in North Atlantic when news received of cessation of hostilities.  
 (B) Proceeded to Argentina to surrender as unaware country had declared war.  
 (C) Left Hamburg 19th Feb. with food for 180 days and 19 metric tons fuel thereafter proceeded Kristiansand, North Sea and North Atlantic.  
 (D) Made no sightings or sinkings of any description.  
 (E) On arrival had 6 tons fuel remaining but food supplies in concentrated form seemed plentiful.  
 (6) B.N.A. Buenos Aires will be reporting fully direct to Admty. and is co-operating with U.S. Naval Attache as indicated in Admiralty 112134 to B.A.D.  
 (S.O.(I) Buenos Aires, 121415Z to Admty. for D.N.I.)  
 / Surrender of German S/M.  
 / Removal of crew of German S/M to U.S.A.)

Following ascertained before receipt. Your 112134.

*\* actually Kiel*

Commanding officer of U.530 stated to Argentine Authorities he left Hamburg 19th February called Kristiansand then operated a short time in North Sea before proceeding vicinity of New York. He gave no other details of his movements and said that he had thrown all documents referring to them overboard. He denied that he had made any attacks or had sighted any ship on his way South. He denied that he had carried passengers or cargo or had communicated with shore. He states that he came to Argentina because he did not know she was at war with Germany. So far he has not said whether or when he knew of the order to surrender. He surrendered his ship to the Argentine Government in a written act. He did not hoist the black flag on approaching harbour.

Above is the result of desultory questioning by Argentine authorities. Formal interrogation which includes questioning proposed by U.S. Naval Attache and myself will commence to-day. Attitude of Argentine Navy co-operative but I consider too lenient. U.S. Naval Attache is pressing for their treatment as pirates.

Foregoing information obtained when assistant Naval Attache and S.O.(I) visited ship a.m. 11th. Argentine D.N.I. requested copy of our rules for treatment of prisoners of war and asked for past history of C.O. which please air mail. I am giving him data on page 343 of C.B. 1815 (October, 1944). May I give him relevant information on subsequent pages. I hope in return to get copies of interrogations and subsequent investigations.

(B.N.A. Buenos Aires, 121710Z to Admty.) See 151331A.

181305Z. + 181745Z (A+W.I).

Corvettes.

On return to U.K. <sup>in</sup> ~~last~~ July DITTANY and COWSLIP will reduce to reserve.

(2) First destination in U.K. is Chatham.  
 (D.O.D.(H), 122236B to F.O.C.W.Af.)



War Diary

12.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Movements.

Port Said July 12th.  
Arrivals OCEANWAY. Departures OCEANWAY,  
L.S.T.3021 with L.C.T. 2478 embarked.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. 121545C to Admty.)

BEARN  
French A/C.

Your 291217B June not to all refers.  
(2) After docking at Gibraltar as scheduled BEARN  
will be sailed to Oran via Toulon. Chains,  
anchor, hawsepipe, and D.G. coil to be loaded at  
Toulon.

- (3) Fitting of the above four items will be done in Oran.  
(4) Comar Oran is requested to carry out work as quickly as port  
facilities make it possible. C.T.G.124.3 pass to Marine Paris.  
(Almed, 121700B to C. in C. Med.)

Syria.

All quiet at Tartous. Unless situation alters  
overnight intend returning ~~BARBARA~~ tomorrow 13th  
July. E.T.A.1103C. ~~Latakia.~~  
(MUSKETEER, 122018C to F.O.L.E.M.)

War Diary

12.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Transfer  
of Flag  
3rd B.S.

Flag of Senior Officer 3rd B.S. transferred  
from H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH to H.M.S. NELSON 12th  
July, 1945.  
(F.O. 3rd Battle Sqd. 121137Z to Admty.)



12.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Movement. 11th July Arrivals PENETANG ex search for R.C.A.F. lifeboat. Departures nil.  
(F.O.N.F. 120235Z to Admty.)

Atlantic Routes. Requests have been received from Steamship companies operating in North Atlantic to sail on Tracks Fox and George.  
(2) In view of abnormal ice season off Newfoundland will be grateful for comment and recommendation from Ice Patrol as to when tracks Fox and George can be made effective.  
(D.T.D.121752B to Cominch (C. and R.))

F.M. Departure Halifax 1900Z/12th July, MARVEL route  
sweeper for speed and W/T as my 022059 July. E.T.A. Ponta  
U.K. Delgada p.m. 18th July.  
(S.C.N.O. Halifax, 122249Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

Far East and Australia

B.P.F. Administrative Division of B.P.F. Cruisers will  
Cruisers be as follows:-  
Administrative A. Second cruiser Squadron BELFAST Flagship,  
Division. BERMUDA standby Flagship GLASGOW, GAMBIA, ACHILLES,  
BLACK PRINCE, EURYALUS.  
B. Fourth cruiser Squadron SWIFTSURE flagship  
NEWFOUNDLAND standby Flagship JAMAICA, ONTARIO,  
UGANDA, ARGONAUT, CLEOPATRA.  
(2) Dates on which this organisation will come into force will be promulgated later in the meanwhile all cruisers except BERMUDA will remain under administration of C.S.4.  
(C. in C. B.P.F.120446Z to Admty.)

Operations Empire area. 155 2nd Marair, Wing F4U's 8 T.B.M.'s  
for 11th. attacked Myazaki Airfield and town Kyushu. 3  
F.4U's ditched but pilots reported rescued.  
132 F.4U's 24 T.B.M. hit targets in northern  
Myukyu Retto. 1 T.B.M. missing. Few one planes  
sank one S.C.S. damaged two S.D. Few 18 planes damaged one  
picket boat. Hazy photos show damage Akashi City to date totals,  
.75 square miles or 43.5 per cent of total built up area.  
34 Iwo based P.51 attacked Chichi Jima. Four 11th A.F. B.24's  
attacked Shimushu in Kuriles.  
Blue Submarines sank one D.D. or large escort. Two large Junks.  
Damaged one diesel trawler.  
Enemy submarine contacts attacked at 41.34 N. 142.04 E. 16 N.  
127 E. and 10.30 N. 130 E.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 120620 to Adcomphibspacsuboroom and  
Depcom 20.)

12.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

- Digest (1) Two Quartets Mitchells searched Formosa waters, 9 fishing boats sunk and about 20 small craft damaged at Gosei Wharf. During early hours one Liberator bombed storage area Howan Island off Canton and one other Liberator hit shipyard at Mako.
- (2) Two Navy Mariners from Lingayen patrolled Southern Approaches Formosa Straits night 10th July. Only sightings were 10 Junks off Hong Kong which were damaged by bombs and some six large Junks in Hai How Harbour whereof two were damaged by strafing.
- (3) FAW Liberators and Privateers patrolled usual sectors from Clark Field, Mindoro and Palawan during day. Three motor boats strafed off Senchau Island (Canton) leaving one burning. One small coastal freighter, two barges destroyed, one medium freighter transport seriously damaged by three bomb hits and two small coastal freighters more lightly damaged all off Indo-China coast between Saigon and Quenhon. One empty barge, one small schooner, strafed at Natuna Island. One small coastal freighter destroyed, another similar vessel probably destroyed, just north of Kuching, where nine unfinished coastal frighter hulls were strafed in apparently abandoned shipyard.
- (4) In Balikpapan area 7th AIF Division continued advance along coastal (?road) Balikpapan-Tamarinda reaching position four miles past Jatggar. Strong enemy opposition encountered east of ?Avx Batoehampar.
- (5) Advancing north from Brunei Bay elements 9th AIF Division proceeded 4½ miles past Kimanis without opposition. Patrols from Miri have operated over 25 miles to southeast without contact.
- (6) R.A.A.F. operations - 10th July. Two Liberators conducted searches Banda and Flores seas and one attacked two Schooners off southcoast Celebes.
- (7) Surface escort vessels reported one submarine contact 280 miles northeast San Bernardino Strait and another contact 300 miles east Leyte Gulf during day.
- (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 120830Z to Admty.)



Distribution of this message is to be limited  
to those officers who are concerned with its contents.

F.E. ✓ A  
92A  
IN

# TOP SECRET

**Warning :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

FROM: Brairat Melbourne DATE: 13.7.45  
CYPHER  
Recirc. A.M.C.S. 28th July '45  
Authy. D.D.O. (A).

ADDRESSED: Air Ministry Whitehall,  
INFO: R.A.A.F. H.Qrs. Melbourne.

MS 11486 BAM/166 July 12

For A.M.S.O. and A.C.A.S.(P)

From Grice.

Reference R.A.A.F. H.Qrs. signal L223 July 3  
on subject of disbandment of 618 Squadron it is  
clear from paras. (D) and (E) that R.A.A.F. has no  
use for 25 Mark IV aircraft and only a limited  
use for Unit equipment and spares. I have discussed  
situation with A. Cdr. Pearce M.A.P. representative  
in Australia and believe following suggestions for  
disposal of MK IV aircraft and Unit equipment and  
spares may be useful.

1. Retain 2 aircraft and necessary spares in  
Australia for use by A/Cdre. Pearce, and  
U.K. Liaison Staff.
2. Offer balance to R.N.Z.A.F. for non-operational  
purposes.

120600Z

✓ Not identified in War Registry.

Recd. in War Reg. 29th July

1st Lord  
1st S.L.(3)  
D.F.S.L.  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(H)  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
A.C.N.S.(W)  
A.C.N.S.(A)(2)  
Vice Contr. Air  
P.A.S.(S)  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
D.O.D.(H)(4)  
D.C.  
D.N.I.  
D. of P.(2)  
D. of P.(C)(3)

D.C.O.D.(4) Circulated by Air Min.  
Hd. of M.(2) to Air Min.departs.  
W.D. Admiralty, O.H.Q.  
Ad. Blake R.A.A.F. M.A.P.  
D.N.A.O.(2)  
D.A.W.T.  
Hd. of Air  
C.C.L.S.

War Diary

13.7.1945  
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

North Atlantic

Moroccan Sea Frontier. 1. The Moroccan Sea Frontier is to be disestablished on the 1st August.

East Indies

Burma. 2. A landing party in ship's boat from H.M.S. TEST on the Tenasserim coast was fired on at close range to-day. Casualties three killed and five wounded.

Movements. 3. RICHELIEU (French Battleship) arrived Diego Suarez from Trincomalee. NIGERIA, AMEER and EMPEROR arrived Trincomalee from operations off Car Nicobar.

Far East and Australia

China. 4. U.S. Aircraft sank a freighter transport and a small freighter off Amoy.

Formosa. 5. U.S. Aircraft sank two coasters and a lugger near Kiirun.

Japan. 6(a) Blue Submarines sank one submarine chaser and 10 small craft. 140933.  
(b) Planes of the Fleet Airwings 18 and 1 sank one S/M-chaser, 4 small vessels and damaged one large and three small vessels.  
(c) 12/13 July over 500 U.S. Super Fortresses attacked urban areas of Utsunomiya (55' N.11' E. of Tokyo), Ichinomiya (15' N.N.W. of Nagoya), Tsuruga (55' N.W. of Nagoya) and Uwajima (W.coast of Shikoku and also the petroleum centre of Kawasaki (10' S. of Tokyo)  
Fighter opposition slight, A/A fire was meagre and inaccurate. A total of 3,250 tons of bombs was dropped.  
(d) 4 11th Air Force planes attacked shipping in the Kuriles.





13.7.1945  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

HIND A/A sloop. On completion of refit request you will give HIND a short work up at Alexandria on completion of which she should be sailed to join B.P.F. (C. in C. Med., 131058B to F.O.L.E.M.) Intend to sail HIND to join B.P.F. on completion of refit and short work up about 1st August 1945. (2) C. in C. Med. 131058 July not to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. and Capt. L refers. (F.O.L.E.M., 132027C to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Submarine for Greeks. UNTIRING sails from Malta at 0930B/14th July routed through etc. (2) Speed 10 knots. (Capt. S.1 131143B to S.B.N.O. Greece.)

AMETHYST A.A.sloop# for B.P.F. Intend to sail AMETHYST at 1600B July 14 to Alexandria for Boiler Cleaning. My 060907 and your 061929 neither to all refer. (2) Speed of Advance 15 knots adjusted to arrive daylight 17. (V.A.M., 131156A to F.O.L.E.M.)

RETRIEVER Cable Ship Request RETRIEVER may examine, renew as requisite and replace the fixed A/S defence cable systems, (Loops and H.D.As.) at Alexandria your 111859 July not to Admty. (2) Minesweeping of the area in which RETRIEVER is required to work should be carried out as necessary. Your 051821 (N.T. in W.D.) para 2 June to C. in C. Med. refers. (3) Work should be progressed as rapidly as possible. (C. in C. Mediterranean, 131551B to S.N.O.P.G.)

BLLENHEIM Escort base ship Request reply to my 221410 June. (C. in C. Med., 131810 to Admty.)

Levant Sitrep to 1900 hrs. 12th July. (1) Aleppo. 40 French families from Freres Maristes Buildings evacuated to Franciscan Convent outside town. Evacuation troops from Mussy (or Muwsy) to Vanniere Barracks proceeding. No incidents 11 and 12 July. (2) Raqqa. Night 10/11 July some firing at French Barracks. Cause unknown. 20 townspeople arrested and curfew imposed on orders Kaimakam. (3) GO/29280 of 12th July para. 7. Chtaura meeting held 12th July. Syrians raised question future of States nationals on regular French terms of service but no agreement reached. Reported measure agreement on dates of transfer TS. Progress considered as good as could be expected. Further meeting 16th July. All informed. (C. in C. M.E. 131905C to W.O.)

Frigate for E.I. Sailed LOCH RUTHVEN 131900C to Aden for onward routeing. (2) E.T.A. 1500Z/17th. S. of A. 14 knots. (N.O.I.C. Suez to 131917C to Aden.)

/Movements...



13.7.1945  
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Movements  
for F.E.

Arrived and sailed LOCH LOMOND. Sailed  
ROSARIO, FALK, NADA, L.C.H.75, L.C.Q.487, L.C.Ts.  
910, 919, 1215, 1223, 1245, 1251, 1252, 1275,  
1301, 1302, 1211, 1225, 1219, 1315, 1316, 1298,  
1142, 1310, M.F.Vs. 1096, 1130, 1509 and  
submarine SCORCHER.  
(V.A.M. 132223 to Admty.)

War Diary

13.7.1945  
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Movement.

Arrived French Battleship RICHELIEU.  
(B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez 130541Z to Admty.)

F.S. DUMONT  
DURVILLE.

Intend to sail F.S. DUMONT DURVILLE from Colombo  
18th July for Aden enroute La Ciotat or as  
directed by Admiralty to refit.  
(C. in-C. E.I. 130641Z to N.O.I.C.Aden.)

Movement.

Arrived French Cr. SUFFREN. Admiralty pass to N.A.  
Paris.  
(B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 131245Z to Almed)

M/S  
build-up.

A.M. 251843/May.(N.T. in W.D.), it is intended to  
complete M/S build-up by sailing:  
(a) 181st and 182nd B.Y.M.S. Flotillas during  
August.  
(b) 11th M.S.F. during Oct.  
(c) 3rd M.S.F. (new construction ALGERINES)  
during November.  
(D.M.S. (Appd. V.C.N.S.) 131517B to C. in C. E.I.)



97A ~~53~~

# CONFIDENTIAL.

IN

**WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.**

**\* (NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad ("O.T.P.") are excepted from this rule.)**

121429Z/July

From. S.B.N.O. W.A.

Date: 13.7.45.

Recd: 0515

Naval Code (X) by W/T

To. Admiralty.

A.M. 022310.

Owing to strategic situation of this Station reductions resulting from progress of war with Germans have been progressing steadily since 1944 and actual reductions since V.E. Day do not fairly reflect the position. Following information (?follows) Para Five of A.M. but refers to services and functions discontinued during last six months though most have been effected within last three months.

*Army  
Down  
of  
Western  
Atlantic  
Base*

(A) Trinidad... Closed.. M.L. Base, A/S F.D. DEMS Base, Examination Service, B.R.L.O. and S.O.(I) Offices T.R.N.V.R. Headquarters, M/S and A/S Patrols ceased, Boom Defences being dismantled, several Base Organisations E.G. Engineering, A.O.S.S. Cypher closed or reduced.

Bermuda... Closed.. M.L. Base Examination Service, DEMS, Base Cypher Staff halved, other Base organisation reduced.

Jamaica... H.M.S. MORGAN paid off, closed M.L. Base, Examination Service, H/F D/F Station closed, DEMS, M/U Patrols ceased, Armanent and Naval Stores Depots being withdrawn. Only remaining services B.R.O. R.N.O. and S.O.(I). Elsewhere on station... Staffs of B.R.O's and B.R.O. Base reduced and posts closed down or amalgamated. G2 H/F D/F closed.

(F) Trinidad... R.N.A.S. Piargo to be closed. R.N.V.R. to be reduced. Contraband Control Base to be closed. Certain Auxiliary Vessels still to be disposed of. H.M.S. BENBOW to pay off.

Impediments... (1) Uncertainty as to future of and/or disposal of services, craft, stores etc. released.

(2) Lack of shipping to return those released to U.K. Completion date entirely dependent upon one and two above.

Bermuda and Jamaica... Nil. Except disposal H.M.S. SUMAR still awaited. Elsewhere... B.R.O. Posts at Georgetown (B.G) and St. Lucia and R.N.O. Barbados to be closed. Impediment U.S.N. policy on which date completion depends.

(C) Nil.

121429Z

Note:- The former signal quoted had a limited distribution. The extended circulation on this signal was made after consultation with M. Branch.

/Circulation overleaf.

1st Lord.  
 1st S.L.(3)  
 D.F.S.L.  
 2nd S.L.  
 3rd S.L.  
 V. Contr.  
 4th S.L.  
 5th S.L.  
 V.C.N.S.  
 A.C.N.S.(H)  
 A.C.N.S.(F)  
 A.C.N.S.(UT)(2)  
 A.C.N.S.(A)(2)  
 A.C.N.S.(W)  
 Fin. Secy.  
 Parl. Secy.  
 Secy.  
 Civil Lord.  
 Contr.(MSR)  
 V. Contr.(Air)  
 Nav. Secy.  
 Dep. Secy.  
 U.S.(L)  
 P.A.S.(S)  
 P.A.S.(N.P)  
 P.A.S.(PR)  
 D. of E.  
 D. of P.(3)  
 Air. Br.  
 M.(6) (MO6144/45)  
 D.D.O.D.(C)(2)  
 C.F.M.D.(2)  
 D.A/S.W.  
 D.A/U.D.  
 D.A/S.M.  
 D.T.D.(6)  
 D. of L.D.(2)  
 D.N.I.(5)  
 O.I.C.(2)  
 D.S.D.9 (2)  
 N.A.2.S.L.(2)  
 C.W.(2)  
 A.C.R.  
 D.M.S.  
 D.M.S. Cit.  
 O.D.(6)  
 A.C.N.P.(4)  
 D. of M.  
 N.  
 D.G.S.  
 D.G.D.(2)  
 D.A.S.(L)  
 D.N.O.  
 D. of S.(3)  
 D. of V.(3)  
 C.E.I.  
 D.N.A.O.(2)

D.A.C.R.(3)  
 D.A.M.R.(2)  
 D.A.E.(4)  
 D.N.A.R.(3)  
 D.A.W.T.  
 N.A.2nd S.L.(Air)(2)  
 D.S.V.P.(3)  
 A.O.S.W  
 D.E.W.D.(3)  
 O.D.8.  
 N.A.2nd S.L.(O.D)  
 Ad. Blake  
 D. of S.T.(15)  
 D.T.S.D.  
 D.T.M.(2)  
 D.R.E.(3)  
 W.D.  
 D.C.(2)  
 D. of P.(Q)(3)  
 D.B.D.(2)  
 E.in C.  
 D.57.O.D.  
 D.S.D.(2)  
 N.I.D.10.(3)  
 Dep.Contr.(3)  
 D. of V.  
 D.A/S.M.(2)  
 D.T.M.  
 C.I.N.O.(2)  
 D.R.E.(2)  
 D.(4)  
 E.in C.(4)  
 C.E.in C.  
 D.A.S.(4)  
 D.N.O.(4)  
 D. of S.  
 S.W.R.(6)

) Bath (35)



War Diary

13.7.1945  
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

RESTIGOUCHE  
Destroyer

Departure Halifax 2359Z 12th July H.M.C.S. RESTIGOUCHE at 15 knots for Greenock routed. (3) Personnel have been embarked in H.M.C.S. RESTIGOUCHE for passage to U.K. (4) When ready 22nd July request H.M.C.S. RESTIGOUCHE with personnel embarked be sailed for Halifax. (C. in C. C.N.A., 130032Z to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

EASTVIEW  
Frigate

July 12th H.M.C.S. EASTVIEW departed Balboa for Esquimalt via San Diego. Speed 14 knots, E.T.A. San Diego July 21st. (Compaseafon, 131714 to Admty.)

Moroccan  
Sea  
Frontier

Date of disestablishment of Moroccan Sea frontier 1st August. My 231951\* June refers. Admty. pass to N.A. Paris. (B.A.D. Washington, 131733Z to Admty.)\*Concerns Cominch proposals to disestablish at an early date the Moroccan sea frontier.

ROMOLA?  
for U.K.

Departure Halifax 1900Z 13th July. H.M.S. ROMULA? for Ponta Delgada. E.T.A. Ponta Delgada p.m. 19th July. (2) On arrival Ponta Delgada request ROMOLA be fuelled and sailed to U.K. or as directed by Admiralty. (S.C.N.O. Halifax N.S., 131900Z to S.B.N.O. Azores)

DUNCANSBY  
HEAD

E.D.S. DUNCANSBY HEAD from Esquimalt is 12th September. Admiralty's 101844B refers. (C.O.P.C., 132333Z to C. in C. E.I.)

Far East and Australia

L.Cs. in  
EMPIRE  
SPEARHEAD

Your 110652. Approved to retain landing craft, but regret crews must return to U.K. in EMPIRE SPEARHEAD. (D.C.O.D., Approved A.C.N.S.(F), 130024B to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 150351Z.

Digest  
1269  
12.7.45  
(Extract)

32 Mustangs from Okinawa completed Kyushu sweep, meeting nil enemy airborne planes but thoroughly strafing one coastal freighter and 13 small boats along East coast. (4) On Southern Mindanao Buayan airstrips at head Sarangani Bay secured: Advanced elements for 11 miles inland from Da Jangas, reporting negligible enemy contacts.



99

13.7.1945  
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Digest (6) A Navy Mariner effectively strafed 15 Junks  
1269 off Swatow.  
12.7.45 (7) Fleet Air Wing planes (18 Liberators of  
(Extract) Privateers, 3 Mariners) searched usual sectors  
(Contd.) from Clarkefield Mindoro, one coaling freighter  
bombed and sunk, two smaller coasters damaged  
near Kuching. Liberators sank one junk off  
Tainan, another junk damaged off Takao.

(8) Three Lightnings attacked Trombol Airdrome (Chungking)  
11th July firing one grounded plane probably already unserviceable  
and setting one coastal freighter alight in river. Other  
7th A.F. operations 11th July involved 17 Mitchells, 2 Lightnings  
providing direct ground support Balikpapan, (corrupt group).  
Liberators bombing Japanese pocket of resistance in Central  
Negros Mountains, 2 Liberators supporting Tennessee and Gulf of  
Bone bombed 12 schooners at Watrivnq destroying one damaging  
remainder.

(9) On northwest Borneo elements 9th A.I.F. Division occupied  
Papar village (17 miles from Jesselton) after overcoming some  
opposition.

(10) Elements 7th A.I.F. Division in Balikpapan area continued  
drive northeast along coastal road towards Samarinda reaching  
position six miles northeast Manggar without enemy contact  
Strong enemy resistance continues east of Batoehampar: these  
positions given thorough artillery working over during day.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 130830Z to Admty.)

Blue 64 May 2 F.4 Us escorted Feaf\* B.25s on Kyushu  
Summary Strike. F.W. one planes destroyed one SDog  
12th North of Shanghai. Attacked railroads and  
Commences factories on East Coast of Kyushu. Made low  
level bombing runs against shipping at dimmed  
out Shanghai encountering nil A.A. night of  
11/12. Dumbo rescued 6 Crewmen of B.25 Missing  
on 10th and taxied 150 miles to E.Shima. 11 sorties Chichi  
Jima.

Blue Submarine reports sinking 16 Schooners averaging 300 tons  
and one tug off West Coast Korea. Other sank 2 small Acking  
one small AOboc one AMike B rescued 6 army fliers South of  
Ormsa. Attacked enemy Submarine south of Kyushu.  
Minesweeping area Juepan about half completed. Total of  
152 moored mines swept. 21 floaters sighted up.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 130911 to Depcom. 20 etc.)  
\*As received.

B.P.F. A.M. 111909 April, paragraph 1. 10th M.S.F.  
(ships for) will sail for Pacific in September.  
(D.M.S., Approved, V.C.N.S., 131527B to C. in C.  
B.P.F.)



14.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic

- West Africa  
Takoradi (1) The Naval establishment at Takoradi will close down on 20th July with the exception of the N.C.S. Organisation and the B.D./Vs.
- Movement (2) PURSUER sailed from Durban for Trincomalee.

East Indies

- Andaman Sea  
*Collier* (3) Air strikes were carried out by aircraft from AMEER, EMPEROR, and bombardments by NIGERIA (C.S.5), ROEBUCK, VIGILANT, and ESKIMO at ~~Nankowry (Sumatra)~~ *(Nidhan Is)* on 7th July.
- Malacca Straits (4) H.M. Submarines have sunk one 200 to 300 ton coaster, one landing craft and a few junks in the Malacca Straits and obtained hits by gunfire on a 900 ton submarine tender.
- Movement (5) MANXMAN and APOLLO (Fast Minelayers) arrived Colombo from Aden.
- Borneo (6) Patrol vessels from Balikpapan strafed the radar station on Balabalagan Island (Maccassar Straits).

Far East and Australia

- Indo China (7) Aircraft of Fleet Air Wing sank a small coastal freighter and a motor launch off Saigon.
- Japan (8) a. Carrier borne aircraft of the U.S. Third Fleet destroyed 2 train ferries at sea, 11 small cargo vessels and 5 small craft, one train ferry, 19 miscellaneous craft, 2 destroyer escorts and 5 small craft were damaged. Dock facilities were damaged at Hakodate (Southern Hokkaido). U.S. warships bombarded Kamaisi (northern Honshu) demolishing a steel mill and damaging coke ovens.

101

14.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

Japan  
(Contd.)

(8)b. F.A.W.1 planes sank one small cargo boat and damaged 1 and 3 schooners off West Coast Korea. F.A.W. 18 planes sank 14 small craft and damaged one cargo boat and 6 small vessels off South Honshu.

(c) Today surface forces of the 3rd U.S. Fleet bombarded Kamaishi (about 240' N.N.E. of Tokyo.)

(d) Blue submarine sank one submarine, one schooner in Japanese waters.

(e) T.F.32 and 39 returned to Buckner Bay for replenishment.



14.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Movement H.M.S. VERITY arrived 2208/13 from Cadiz.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 141242B to Admty.)

Re German ships Glad to report that German merchant ships all German personnel have been successfully taken over and have left Cadiz.  
(B.N.A. Madrid, 141256B to Admty.)

H.M. Trawlers Three H.M. Trawlers in position 41.57 N. 09.35 W. at 0800Z/14th July.  
(2) Two broken down in tow of third have been instructed proceed to Vigo.  
(3) Request you arrange tug to meet and assist.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 14 1323B to B.C. Vigo.)

Disregard stowaway.  
(2) Proceed to assistance of HERFORDSHIRE towing NORWICH CITY and COVENTRY CITY in position 41.57 N. 09.35 W. at 0800Z 14th July proceeding to Vigo at slow speed.  
(3) Report progress and situation.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 141607 to INKPEN).

A.S.R. stations etc. Arrived I/S LEGIONARIO from Algiers.  
Departed 1745/14 LEGIONARIO for Malta.  
LANCASTER CASTLE, CAISTOR CASTLE 2030/14 to position 19 and 20 respectively.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 142035B to Admty.)

L.Cs. for U.K. Sailed 0800B/14th. L.C.H.282 (S.O.) and 240, L.C.Is. (L) 119, 184, 247, 254, 260, 274, 280, 292, 316 and 318 to Plymouth escorted by PORCHER (S.O.) BOMBARDIER and GRENADIER.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 142043 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

South Atlantic

Takoradi / Naval Establishment at Takoradi will formally close down 20th July with the exception of N.C.S. organisation and B.D.Vs.  
All Naval correspondence and signals should be addressed to F.O.C. W.A.(Freetown) after that date.  
My 071228 to Admiralty only.  
(F.O.C.W.A., 140904Z to All S. Os. etc.) My 051725 re allocation of officers. Amend date for Takoradi to read 21st July.

Corvettes Intend sailing DITTANY, COWSLIP 1300Z 16th July 10 knots E.T.A. Gibraltar A.M. 25th July, F.O.G.M.A. is requested to on route ships to Chatham.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 141209Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

/Re...

War Diary

14.7.1945  
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

Re loss  
of  
Brazilian  
Cruiser

Following is translation of reply from Brazilian Minister of Marine to message from First Lord contained in your 111721B begins. The Brazilian Navy still suffering under the pain of the tragic loss of the Cruiser BAHIA and her gallant crew receives with special comfort the sincere manifestations of sorrow of their comrades in his Majesty's Navy. In the name of the Navy and of the families of the victims I thank Your Excellency The Board of Admiralty and British Officers and Men for the kind message of condolence. Ends.

(2) First Lord's message appeared in Brazilian Press in Portuguese.

(B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 141715 to Admty.)



14.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Cruiser for U.K. Arrival H.M.S. SUFFOLK.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 140115C to Admty.)

Dodecanese Military Govt. GO/29782 cipher 14 July.  
Dodecanese Sitrep.  
Rhodes. WEF 12 May D.O.C.A.O. assumed responsibility of Military Government Dodecanese as Chief Administrator in rank of Brigadier.  
(C. in C. M.E. 141115C to A.F.H.Q.)

Destroyer for B.P.A. Intend to sail H.M.S. EGGESFORD at about 0001 July 16th on completion of exercises to Alexandria.  
(2) S. of A. 15 knots E.T.A. 0800/18th.  
(V.A.M. 141116 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Movements. Alexandria July 13th 1945.  
Arrivals JERVIS (mails Alexandria) FARNDALE, CALPE, LIDDESDALE, M.L. 356, L.C.T's 585, 549, 538, 536, 556, 614, 551, 542, 601, 581, 595 (all mails as at present).  
Departures nil.  
(F.O.L.E.M. 141216C to Admty.)

Landing Craft in Mediterranean, disposal. In a paper being put up by the Supreme Allied Commander Mediterranean he is requesting the retention in this Theatre of Seven L.S.T.(2) including the Three Greek L.S.T. and Four L.C.I.(L) in order to retain a small amphibious lift to ensure the Army the necessary mobility for use in an emergency.

(2) The antagonisms aroused by the European War are such that it appears likely that the Military Authorities will be faced with a considerable security problem in the Mediterranean area for some time to come. As the size of the armed forces in this Theatre is reduced by redeployment. The amount of shipping employed on internal Mediterranean sailings, and hence available in an emergency for use as M.T. shipping, will correspondingly be reduced. In addition alongside berths suitable for unloading M.T. shipping are not available in the Mediterranean Harbours. It is evident therefore that we are in danger of losing our flexibility in the transport of reinforcements in an emergency and that we may reach a stage in which we cannot make effective use of our military reserves.

(3) It is appreciated that it would not be possible to keep the Four British L.S.T. in a fully manned state. It would be planned to maintain permanent skeleton crews on board of two Officers and 22 Men, the crews being completed in emergency within 8 days from station shore based personnel and crews of ships refitting. In view of the small reserve of Naval manpower in the Mediterranean it might prove necessary to call upon the Army authorities to assist with men to carry out some of the less skilled duties on the upper deck and to act as guns crews.

(4) If S.A.C.M.E.D.S. proposals are approved the Two remaining

/L.C.T....

14.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Landing  
Craft in  
Mediterranean,  
disposal.  
(Contd.)

L.C.T.(3) Flotillas could be paid off into  
Pool Reserve in the Mediterranean in the near  
future of the remaining L.C.I.(L) a proposal  
has already been made that Four should be  
transferred to the R.H.N. the balance would be  
sailed to U.K.  
(C. in C. Med., 141222Z to Admty.) See 161223B.

*4-202314 A AUGUST  
7051138A-001.*

S/M.

Arrival D.S. ZWAARDFISCH.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 142015C to Admty.)



War Diary

14.7.1945  
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Situation Report No.22. *collee* (1) Nicobar Islands continuing operation in para. 1 Sitrep No.21 6th M/S Flotilla operated off Car Nicobar for 6 days and swept 167 enemy moored mines all to East of Islands. Remainder of Force carried out air strikes and bombardments including Mancowry 7th July and Cotaraja and Lhonga airfields 11th July. No aircraft seen on either airfield. One Dinah shot down in air combat. Total of seven Hellcats shot down by flak all pilots except one rescued. (2) Tenasserim Coast. Landing party in ships boat from H.M.S. TEST fired on at close range at Tavoy Point 13th July. Casualties three killed five wounded. (3) Submarines have sunk one 200 to 300 ton Coaster one landing craft and a few junks in Malacca Straits and obtained hits by gunfire on a 900 ton Submarine Tender. (C. in C. E.I. 141236Z to Admty.)

Fast minelayers. Colombo 14th arrival MANXMAN, APOLLO, SANSOVINO departure L.C.I. 310. (F.O. Ceylon, 141254Z to Admty.)

Aux. Repair Ship for B.P.F. Departure ASSISTANCE. (N.O.I.C.Aden, 141521Z to Admty.)

War Diary

14.7.1945  
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

- Collision. In collision with derelict destroyed 24 Dense fog. Position 3 miles 225 degs. true from Hen and Chickens Light Vessel.  
(WINDING GULF, 140211Z to Admty.)  
Yes, rammed abaft engine room starboard side in danger of sinking.  
(WINDING GULF, 140215 to Admty.)  
Am proceeding toward Cape Cod Canal visibility improving bow damaged not leaking badly controlled leak.  
(WINDING GULF, 140235 to Admty.)
- Movement H.M.C.S. MATANE arrived Esquimalt 1404Z July 14th 1945. Com. 13 pass to N.W.S.E.C.  
(N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 141416Z to N.S.H.Q.)
- A/S Training S/M. When ready 16th July sail H.M.S. UNITED to New London via Long Island Sound. Provide rotational escort.  
(Comeastseafon, 141559 to Com.4)
- Re: DUNCANSBY HEAD. 101844 ship should arrive about end of September.  
(B.A.T.M. 141619Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)

Far East and Australia

- Digest 1270, 13.7.45. (Extract)
- (1) 20 Liberators unloaded 67 tons mixed bombs Sus Harbour Boat Basin on North-eastern Formosa. Several small craft on fire.
- (2) Fleet Air Wings sent Liberators, Privateers attacked Kuantan shipyards, hitting about 10 sheds housing hulls, with 8 bombs, causing terrific blaze.
- (3) Unopposed minor scale landing effected at Palanan Bay on east coast Luzon, 12th July, following bombardment by light naval units. Philippine army units captured Palanan 2 town. Further gains made in Bonto-Kiangon area, against slight enemy opposition.
- (4) In Balikpapan area, advanced elements 7th Air Division reached Amborawang village (6 miles from Sambodja) on Balikpapan-Samarinda coastal road, without enemy contact. Enemy resistance continues east of Batoehampar on inland road to Samarinda. Water (?) patrol in Balikpapan Bay discovered abandoned seaplane base, complete with demolished A/C and photographic equipment. At Manggar, patrols found 32 manually operated torpedoes.



War Diary14.7.1945  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and AustraliaDigest  
1270,  
13.7.45.  
(Extract).  
(Contd.)

(5) Little change Brunei Bay-Miri Land situation: Nil contact in northward expansion, but enemy in undetermined strength contacted by patrol 3 miles southwest of Miri. Air support provided from Labuan as reported later.

(6) 13th Air Force operations 12th July:  
1 Liberator raided Bandjer Massin, straffing and damaging one small coastal freighter, 1 lugger.

(9) P.T. Boats destroyed, 11 Prahus off West Coast Halmahera 11th July.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 140914Z to Admty.)

Opintel  
127 starts.  
Jap. air  
strength  
etc.

(A) Com. Avgrp China says reliable Chinese source reports Japanese recently moved 60 small armed amphibious vehicles to Shanghai from Dairen. 20 small patrol craft manned by Japanese Marines and armed only with machine guns patrol sea vicinity of Chefoo 37.32 N. 121.24 E.

(B) Japanese air strength daily estimate as of 15th July. Hokkaido Kuriles Area. 75 fighters.

20 single bombers, 100 twin bombers, 110 R/C. 305 total combat types. Principal concentrations. Fighters. Shapporo 25. Chitose 20. Twin bombers, Bihoro 30, Mixutani 25, Obihiro Hachinoe Misawa 15 each. R/C and single bombers widely scattered. Nil allowance made for destruction result current operations.

(C) Tokyo area. 835 fighters, 195 single bombers. 210 twin bombers, 130 R/C, 1370 total combat types. Distribution by Basen. Fighters, Tsukuba 80, Atsugi 70, Hyakurigahara 60, Kashiwa 55, Shimodate Yatabe 50 each, Imba 40. Matsuko Mobara Narimasu Tokorozawa 35 each. Sagvmo Katori 30 each. Kasumigaura Konoike Koriyama Shiroy Yaixu 25 each. Nasuno Yokosuka Ccofu 20 each. Osawa 15. Kiryulkisaraxu Mito South 10 each. Single bombers. Hyakurigahara 50, Mobara 45, Kisabalu 40, Katori 25, Kasumigaura Miyakawa 15 each. Tateyama 5, Twin bombers. Matsushima Kumagaya 50 each. Kiryu 25, Tsukuba West 20. Sakato 15, Hokoda Kisaraxu Nasuno Tokorozawa 10 each. Kasumigaura Konoike 5 each. R/C Kashima 40, Kisaraxu 20, Ohofu Ookosuja 15 each. Kitaura Kodama Shimoshixu 10 each. Atsugi Hokoda 5 each. Only partial adjustments made Tokyo figures losses due carrier strike.

(D) Nagoya Osaka Area. 420 fighters, 140 single bombers. 155 twin bombers, 255 R/C, 970 total. Principal concentrations. Fighters Itami 80, Hanshin 65, Komaki 60, Meiji 55, Kiyosu 30, Akenogahara 25, Minato Nishinomiya Takamatsu 20 each. Kannonji 15. Single bombers. Yonago 55 Meiji 40, Tokushima 15, Twin bombers, Miho 60, Komatsu 40, Yokaichi 15. R/C Kowa 80 Fukuyama 45, Takuma and Suta jointly 45. Komatsu 20.

(E) Kure Kyushu Area. 675 fighters, 90 single bombers, 100 twin bombers, 210 R/C, 1075 total. Principal concentrations. Fighters Omura 90, Tsuiki 70, Iwakuni 60, Iwakawa Matsuyama West 50 each. Ashiya 45, Oxuki Usa 40 each. Miyakonojo Bofu 35 each. Chiran Metatsubara 30 each. Tomitaka 25, Kanoya East 20. Single bombers Ronchi Usa 30 each. Kokubu 20. Twin bombers Aragawa 35, Kumamoto 25, R/C Sasebo 50 Goryo 25, Genkai Itaxuke Kanoya Matsuyama West 15 each. Note current estimate Miyaxaki is nil.

/(F) ...



War Diary

14.7.1945  
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Opintel  
127 starts.  
Jap air  
strength  
etc.  
(Contd.)

(F) Formosa Sakishima 105 fighters, 10 single bombers 70 twin bombers 40 R/C 225 total. Fighters principally at Heito Taichu Toyehara.  
(G) Korea 275 fighters 10 single bombers, 75 twin bombers, 135 R/C 495 total. Principal concentrations. Fighters Suigen 60, Kimpo 45, Keijo 40, Genxan Fusan 25 each. Siugishu Heijo 20 each. Twin bombers Onseiri 25, Heijo 20, R/C Onseiri Kaiundai Shisen 20 each. Taikyu 15.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 140920 to C.T.F. 93, C.T.F.94, A.F.21 etc.)

Blue Summary  
13th.

FAW one plane sank one S.D. in Nishi Suidog.  
FAW 18 planes sank one SD. or S.C.S. three fishing boats. Damaged one F.T.D. three fishing boats.  
37 two based P.51's struck Chichi Jima. Four P.51's lost. Three pilots rescued. Eight P.47's two B.25's hit Moen Truk, on 12th 36.  
FAW two F 4 U's 11 FEAF P.47's attacked shore installations Sato Misaki Kyushu. 32 FEAF P.51's swept south-eastern Kyushu. Four 11th A.F.B. 25's and five B.24's attacked Kuriles targets. First alerts Okinawa in six days. Five or six bombs dropped near airfield Ie Shima. V.F.(N) splashed one Sally.  
Night of 12th and 13th 111 B 29's struck Utsunomiya. 123 Ichinomiya. 90 Tsuruga., 107 Uwajima, 52 Kawasaki Petroleum Centre. Ten targets of opportunity. Visually and by Radar from 9400 to 15,000 feet. Encountered nil airborne opposition except for slight opposition at Kawasaki. Flak meagre and inaccurate. Two aircraft lost one missing. 13 crewmen rescued. 37 landed at Iwojima. Night of 11th and 12th 25 B 29's mined Raayin and Fusan Korea. Shimonoseki Straits and Maixuru.  
Blue S/M reports rescuing ten third fleet airmen. Others sank one S.V.S. five oil barges one lugger one schooner two junks one tug.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 140933 to Comphibspac, Subordcom and Depcom 20)  
/ as received.

A.M.S.  
vessels  
alterations  
etc.

(1) A.M.S. Vessels. In order to provide compensation for the fitting of:  
A. Rocket Flare Projectors.  
B. Loran Equipment.  
C. Depth Charge Communications and Depth Charge Pattern Control.  
D. V H/F R/T Equipment types S.C.R. 522 and

D.R. 106.

E. Replace awnings.  
It is proposed to remove the following items from A.A.S. Vessels.  
A. M.D. D/F Equipment.  
B. Bullet proof Bridge Canopy. C. Non-skid composition on Weather Decks.  
D. Linoleum and Corticene Deck Coverings throughout.  
E. Replace 140 gallon Sanitary Tank by 50 gallon tank.  
(2) Removal of M.F. D/F Equipment has been approved vide your message 091413Z/ June.  
(3) Request your remarks and recommendations for Royal Navy A.M.S. Vessels.  
(A.C.N.B. 140949 to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 150215Z.  
/ Not identified by War Registry.



15.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

- Moluccas. 1. During the last three days P.T. boats operating from Morotai on West Coast of Celebes destroyed 20 small craft mostly prahus.
- China. 2. Night 14/15 July Navy Mariners sank a landing craft 30 miles S.E. of Mako. Shot up a group of 25 Junks and another of 12 off Hongkong, Macao Coast.
- Japan. 3(a) To-day and yesterday aircraft from the U.S. fast Carrier force attacked targets on and round the mainland of Japan. Sank 16 ships including two destroyer escorts totalling 12000 tons, damaged nine other ships including a destroyer totalling 12000 tons. Destroyed 23 locomotives and damaged 3. During yesterday a total of 48 ships and barges were sunk totalling 41000 tons, including 5 of seven train ferries and 24 ships were damaged totalling 43000 tons including two ferries, 4 frigates.  
(b) Units of U.S. 3rd Fleet bombarded Muroran on the south coast of Hokkaido. Heavy smoke hampered damage assessments but steel works, chemical works, coal liquifaction oil storage tanks are reported heavily damaged. There was no opposition.  
(c) Aircraft of the 7th air force operating from Okinawa set a tug on fire and damaged five small craft off Western Kyushu.  
(d) U.S. Submarines sank a I Class Submarine and a small escort.

15.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SUFFOLK  
(Cruiser) Request confirmation that port of arrival in U.K. will be Sheerness.  
(2) If this is so anticipated E.T.A. is 1300A Monday 23rd July.  
(SUFFOLK, 150910Z to Admty.)

Trawlers  
for U.K. I have spoken to S.O.NORWICH CITY who is reporting to you by W/T.  
All arrangements made for effecting repairs starting tomorrow and ships will be sailed when ready.  
Admty. pass to C. in C. Plymouth.  
(B.N.A. Madrid, 151146B to F.O.G.M.A.)

German  
ships Arrived 0915/15 CROCUS and 2 German Merchant Ships from Cadiz.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 151147B to Admty.)  
Arrived Gibraltar 1000B 15th July THALIA and LUCY ESSBERGER.  
(2) All German service and merchant personnel have been transferred ashore at Gibraltar pending onward passage to Methil (A.M. 041906 July paragraph 4).  
(3) Both ships have naval personnel on board under the white ensign awaiting decision by prize court. M. of W.T. will then take over.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 151218B to Admty.)

Movements Departures 0925/15 L.S.T.358 to Clyde 1430/15. ST. WISTAN to Plymouth (amend my 141235 not to all accordingly).  
(F.O.G.M.A., 151940B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Ponta  
Delgada N.C. Service post at Ponta Delgada will be closed as from 17th July. B.N.A. Lisbon please pass to N.C.S.O.  
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 151229Z to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

Re U-boat  
530 45 of crew removed to Buenos Aires. 9 including officers remain Mar del Plata. Interrogations continuing. So far they are fairly satisfactory.  
(B.N.A. Buenos Aires, 151300Z to Admty.)  
C.O.I.S. B.A.D. 131917Z (N.T. in W.D.)  
C. D.3074 must not be shown to Argentine authorities. O.U.5316 may be shown and should give all necessary information.  
Information in C.B.1815 October 1944, page 343 and subsequent pages relative to 740 tonners may also be shown.  
Past history of C.O. is being forwarded by air as soon as possible.  
Your 121710Z para. 3 refers.  
(N.I.D.(1) for D.N.I., 151331A to B.N.A. Buenos Aires.)



War Diary

15.7.1945  
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Russian Y.M.S's. Intend sailing Russian Y.M.S.455, 453, 456, 464, 465, 466 at 1030B/15th for Istanbul.  
(3) S. of A. 10 knots E.T.A.  
(5) Approaches to intermediate port have been supplied.  
(6) B.N.L.O. Sub. Lieut. E.R. Sands R.N.V.R. in Y.M.S.455 to disembark at Istanbul. No visa held.  
(7) Request Russian Naval attache be informed of arrival.  
(V.A. Malta, 150916B to F.O.L.E.M.)

Tugs When BUSY completes repairs 19th July, F.O.G.M.A. is requested to sail her to Naples to relieve PROSPEROUS who should then be sailed by N.O.I.C. Naples to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K. (C. in C. Med., 151111B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Movements Arrivals 15th July, OCEANWAY.  
Departures OCEANWAY, MINUET, M.T.B.408.  
(S.N.O.E.Sy. 151551 to Admty.)

ARIADNE fast mine-layer Cancel A.M. 051705 July not to all.  
(2) ARIADNE is embarking 30 tons of urgent Radar Stores which are required at Sydney by 15th August  
(3) Ship will sail from U.K. on 18th July or as soon as stores are embarked.  
(4) Request you will onward route at best speed weather conditions will allow.  
(D.D.O.M.(M), Approved D.O.D.(F), 151602A to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I., F.O.G.M.A.)

Movements Arrivals BICESTER, CHIDDINGFOLD, M.F.V.1517  
F.T.25, M.T.B.408.  
Departures VERBENA, EGGESFORD, L.S.T.352.  
(V.A. Malta, 152331 to Admty.)

15.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Changes in Signal number 160.  
East Indies (a) QUEEN ELIZABETH at Colombo.  
Fleet NELSON at Trincomalee.  
Disposition. RICHELIEU at Diego Suarez.  
ANSON (B.P.F.) left Station.  
(b) EMPEROR at Trincomalee.  
AMEER at Madras.  
SEARCHER on passage Suez to Cochin.  
KHEDIVE STALKER at Coconada.  
GLORY (B.P.F.) on passage Colombo to Trincomalee.  
VENERABLE (B.P.F.)  
VENGEANCE (B.P.F.)  
COLOSSUS (B.P.F.) left Station.  
PURSUER on passage Durban to Trincomalee.  
(c) SUSSEX at Trincomalee.  
LONDON on passage Simonstown to Trincomalee.  
DEVONSHIRE on passage Aden to Colombo.  
SUFFOLK left station.  
(d) NIGERIA at Trincomalee.  
PHOEBE at Coconada.  
CLEOPATRA on passage Trincomalee to Mandapam.  
(C. in C. E.I. 150537Z to Admty.)

JED. Sailed H.M.S. JED for Colombo routed through: etc.  
(B) E.T.A. 0100Z/22nd.  
(B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 150733Z to Admty.)

C. in C.E.I. Sailed H.M.S. CLEOPATRA, wearing Flag of C. in C.  
E.I. H.M.S. THRASHER. Arrived and departed  
H.M.S. PRINSES BEATRIX.  
(N.O.I.C, Trincomalee, 151636Z to Admty.)



15.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

ULSTER  
destroyer

H.M.S. ULSTER San Diego. 2 Z July 15th. 17.5  
Coastal. Balboa, via Salina Cruz. E.T.A.  
Salina Cruz 16 Z 19th. Departs 1 Z 20th for  
Balboa. E.T.A. 22. Z 22nd.  
(U.S.R.O., San Diego, 150156 to Comwesseafron,  
Compassafron.)

Atlantic  
routeing

In view improvement ice conditions request you  
will, until otherwise instructed, route U.S.  
controlled westbound troopships and merchant  
ships to conform to Track B. passing through 41°  
30' N. at 47° 00' W. North Atlantic Track

Agreement (vide charts 2058B and 2058C) from 10° W.

(2) Eastbound vessels will continue on Track A. passing through  
39.30 N. at 47.00 W. for one week to permit clearance present  
westbound traffic then to proceed through 40.30 N. at 47.00 W.

(3) A.M. 161719B June para. 1 is, therefore, cancelled.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 remaining in force.

((D.T.D., 151526A to A.I.G.12, C.T.F.124.)

Far East and Australia

EMPIRE  
CREST

EMPIRE CREST is being converted to water  
freighter at Brisbane and will be completed mid-  
August my 150759 June para. 4 refers.  
(C. in C. C.B.P.C., 150104Z to Admty.)

A.M.S.  
Vessels  
allocations

Request you will reply to A.C.N.B. 140949\* para. 3  
after consultation with C.E.F., B.P.F. if  
necessary.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 150215Z to V.A.(Q)).

\* Requesting remarks and recommendations for R.N.  
A.M.S. Vessels.

EMPIRE  
SPEARHEAD

Your 132256\*(N.T. in W.D.). Request EMPIRE  
SPEARHEAD be sailed for U.K. via Pearl Harbour  
and Panama.

(2) Approved to retain 8 landing craft but crews  
ex. Force. Return in ship Admiralty 130024,

refers.

(3) Request passage programme of ship be signalled for diversion  
of mails. My 150129 refers.

(5) Radio Honolulu pass to C. in C. Pac. Pearl.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 150351Z to R.A.F.T.)

\*Approval to retain landing craft from EMPIRE SPEARHEAD but crews  
to return U.K.



War Diary15.7.1945  
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

Floating Transit storage B.P.F. A.M. 101236 and your 220825 June. Considered desirable to clear up the position regarding replacement ship for MARUDU referred to in para. 6 of my 221010 May as a separate subject. (2) MARUDU is already proving far too small for the duties for which she is required, and transit commitments and requirements of additional storage space in the forward area are increasing rapidly. (3) Consider, therefore, that early provision of a large Naval Store Depot Ship of about 8,000 tons is absolutely essential, as, if one is not forthcoming it will be necessary permanently to immobilise at least two Naval Store Carriers for these duties. This would be highly uneconomical in staff and ships and would reduce the capabilities of the Naval Store Carrier service in the Pacific generally. (4) If a special ship is being provided it is requested that a suitable space may be fitted out as a return store in addition to the requirements stated in para. 3 of C. in C.'s 220825 June. (5) V.A.(Q) number 521/8013 of 6th July also refers. In this connection accommodation would only be required for the staff enumerated in my 091247 April as it will now be possible to accommodate the balance in Commodore Fleet Train's H.Q. Ship. (R.A.F.T., 150536Z to C. in C. B.P.F.) 082357 August

Blue summary 14th Weather hampered 3rd Fleet N. Honshu Hokkaido plane strikes on first day of attack which continues on 15th. Obihiro only field not completely closed in. Partial report of planes destroyed on ground at Matsushima Misawa and Matsuda totals 24. Damaged 62. Splashed 1 Snopper 85 miles from force. Destroyed 2 train ferries at sea, 10 small AK. 1 ODD, 2 Picket boats. Damaged 1 train ferry, 4 medium AO, 1 medium AP, 5 medium AK, 8 small AK, 2 DE, 1 PC, 1 tug, 1 lugger. 27 locomotives destroyed and railroad yards rolling stock and dock facilities damaged at Hakodate and in Southern Hokkaido. At noon T.U. 34.8.1 bombarded Kamaishi for 2 hours demolishing steel mill. Damaging coke ovens, 1 plane crashed in harbour. Crudiv 17 and 6 DD began fast anti-shipping sweep along coast between 39 N. and 40 N.W. of 144 E. Final report of Tokyo/10th 1160 combat sorties dropped 454 tons bombs. Fired 1648 rockets. 109 planes destroyed on ground. 231 damaged. Field installations at 14 airfields damaged. Factory buildings freight train power house and highway bridge destroyed. 1 small AK, 2 small craft sunk. 2 small craft damaged. Our combat losses, 5 fighters, 5 torpedo bombers, 7 pilots, 6 crewmen. 9 B.29s bombed Marcus. F.A.W.1 planes sank 1 S.D. damaged 1 S.D. 3 schooners off W. coast Korea. F.A.W.18 planes sank 14 small craft. Damaged 1 SD 6 small craft off S. Honshu. T.A.F. Ryukyus terminated. T.G. 92.2 consists of M.A.W.2 less units assigned F.A.W.1. Army units report to F.E.A.F. From 7th April to 13th July 625 airborne enemy planes destroyed by T.A.F. 496 by M.A.W.2. 129 by A.A. F. planes. 29 planes probably destroyed. 9 ships destroyed. 37 damaged. On 13th 4 11th A.F. B.25s attacked Kuriles shipping. 1 B.25 shot down, 1 damaged. Photos show .01 sq. miles or .008% of Ichinomiya destroyed in attack by B.29s night 12/13th. 1.93 sq. miles or 74% of Gifu built up area destroyed following bombing 9/10. Blue S/Ms sank 1 S/M, 1 schooner, T.F. 32 and 39 returned to Buckner Bay for replenishment. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 150559 to All commands.)



16.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

North Atlantic

Moroccan  
Sea  
Frontier.

1. Cdr. U.S. Naval forces in North African waters has proposed to Cominch with concurrence of C. in C. Mediterranean that on disestablishment of Moroccan Sea Frontier on August 1st operation of ex-U.S. ships now under Commorseafron and under lease-lend to French should be turned over to Comar Casablanca. Ships would remain under general operational control of C. in C. Mediterranean.

Mediterranean

Movements.

2. SMITER and TRUMPETER (Escort Carriers) arrived Port Said from Gibraltar and left again for Suez.

America and West Indies

Movement.

3. PUNCHER (Deck Landing Trainer) arrived Norfolk, Virginia from Halifax.

Far East and Australia

Java Seas.

4. Blue submarine sank one OTO I Class Torpedo Boat. (180213)

Borneo.

5(a) A destroyer and two landing craft gunboats bombarded Japanese positions in the upper reaches of Balikpapan Bay destroying three gun emplacements and four barges.

/(b) ...

16.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Far East and Australia

- Borneo. (Contd.) (b) Night 15th/16th July an enemy motor launch towing 5 prahus and a motor boat were engaged by shore fire in upper reaches of Balikpapan Bay. One motor boat was sunk and the largest prahu gutted.
- China. 6. Night 15th/16th Two U.S. Mariners attacked approximately 60 junks off St. John's Island (south of Hong Kong) sinking or damaging the majority.
- Japan. 7(a) 15th/16th July 70 U.S. Super-Fortresses bombed the Nippon Oil Company plant at Kudamatsu (Honshu). There was no opposition. Results were good to excellent.  
(b) Fleet Air Wing 18 planes sank a coastal patrol boat, 3 small vessels and damaged two small craft off the Izu Islands (south of Yokohama).  
(c) Night 15th/16th U.S. B.29s. mined Rashim, Fusan, Niigata, Naoutbu, Gensan and Konan (Korea).
- Pacific. 8(a) A Japanese submarine was sunk by surface forces in 34° N., 151° E. (about 540' east of Japan).  
(b) American submarines sank a gunboat and one small escort vessel.
- Changes of title. 9. Changes of title of 29th June have been amended as follows: Vice-Admiral Bernard Rawlings becomes Vice-Admiral second in command British Pacific Fleet, short title V.A.B.P.F. Rear-Admiral C.S. Daniel becomes Rear-Admiral Commanding 1st Battle Squadron, short title B.S.1. These are to take effect at 0900K/17th July (2300 G.M.T. today).



16.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

WYE  
(Frigate) Intend to sail WYE at 2000B/16th July to  
Portsmouth.  
(3) Speed 14 knots. E.T.A. 1000B/20th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A.161101 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

French repatriates. Leixos arrival p.m. 15th French patrol vessels  
ABBE DES GRANCES, AVENIR DU PAYS, BERNARD JEAN  
and LOUIS IRENE with French repatriates from  
Casablanca.  
Calling to take water.  
(R.O. Oporto, 161128B to S.O.(I) Gib.)

LOCH GORM E.T.A. 1500Z/18. Request ship may be D.G.  
Frigate for ranged at Gibraltar.  
E.I. (LOCH GORM, 161148Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

NORWICH Work on NORWICH CITY and COVENTRY CITY progressing  
CITY well, should be ready for sea approx. 20th.  
(Trawler) (2) RUMBA and SARABANDE sailed from Vigo p.m.  
to-day.  
(NORWICH CITY, 161640 to F.O.G.M.A. etc.)

Re: German Your 211131, June and Admiralty's 150320.  
A/C rescue Ships are available, request at least 48 hours  
ships. notice of arrival of H.M. Ships.  
(B.N.A. Madrid, 161745B to Admty.)  
Anticipated dates sailing of rescue ships IMMELMANN  
and RICHTOHOFEN and 3 Air Rescue boats German  
Naval Tanker BROSEN and FRISIA and MAX ALBRECHT  
to U.K.

SUFFOLK Intend to leave Gibraltar 2100A/19th July.  
(cruiser) E.T.A. Liverpool Bar Light Ship 1400A/22nd July.  
(2) If Security considerations permit request time  
and place of arrival may be announced so that  
relatives and friends may meet the ship.  
(3) As arrival of H.M.S. SUFFOLK in Liverpool will mark the end  
of a full commission in Far East. Request all possible facilities  
may be afforded to relatives and friends wishing to meet the ship  
on berthing on Sunday 22nd July.  
(4) Admiralty's 141514 refers.  
(SUFFOLK, 161805Z to Admty. etc.) See 190200A.

16.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Whalers  
ex M/S.

Sailed H.M.S. LEVANTER (S.O) BUTTERMERE and  
HINNOY coastal to Capetown.  
(2) S. of A. 10 knots.  
(3) E.T.A. 1500Z/July 19th.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 161623Z to Admty.)

U-Boat 530  
(Surrender)

U.S. Naval Attache and I interviewed Chief of  
Naval Staff this morning. Argentine seem  
inclined to anticipate (?any) strong demand by  
U.S. and Great Britain for transfer of S/M and  
crew by themselves making an offer to do this.  
I expect an announcement tomorrow.  
(B.N.A. B.A. 161827Z to Admty.)



War Diary16.7.1945  
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

ABERCROMBIE (Monitor) Intend to sail H.M.S. ABERCROMBIE at 1800B/17th to arrive off Ras El Kanay Is. range at 1200B/20th. (2) S. of A. 11 knots. (V.A.M. 161032 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Landing craft in Med. disposal. Reference para. 4 of C. in C. Med's 141222 July the 4 L.C.I.(large) which it is proposed should be transferred to the R.H.N. are in addition to the 4 L.C.I.(large) referred to in para. 1. (C. in C. Med. 161223B to Admty.)

Ships for B.P.F. Programme. Following is proposed programme for BELFAST and destroyers in order that ships may have maximum time on passage in company. Para. 4 of C. in C. B.P.F. 090906Z not to all refers. (A) BELFAST. Sail from Malta a.m. July 24th so as to arrive on bombardment range a.m. 26th. Leave range so as to arrive Port Said first light 27th for transit of Canal that day. Leave Suez July 28th for Aden. (B) BLEASDALE and COWDRAY. These ships require boiler cleaning before leaving the Mediterranean. Intend to sail them to arrive Alexandria first light 22nd for stores and boiler clean and it is requested that every endeavour may be made for them to join BELFAST at Suez by the 28th. If necessary BELFAST will wait for them. (C) EGGESFORD. If arrangements have not already been made for her to proceed in company request you will hold her at Alexandria until departure of BLEASDALE and COWDRAY, opportunity being taken to boiler clean her. (2) Admiralty are requested to direct mails for ships in address accordingly, last mail for BELFAST to arrive Malta on July 23rd. My 091038 refers. Admiralty's acknowledgement requested. (3) You are requested to confirm that arrangements in para. 1 can be made. (V.A.M. 161256B to F.O.L.E.M. ) See 182014C) / Ships joining B.P.F. to complete their working up at Jervis Bay after calling at Sydney.

Moroccan Sea Frontier. B.A.D. Washington 231951 June and 131733 July (not to F.O.G.M.A.) Comnavnaw has proposed to Cominch with my concurrence that on disestablishment of Moroccan Sea frontier on 1st August operation of ex U.S. Ships now under Commorseafron and on lease-lend to French should be turned over to Comar Casablanca. Ships would remain under my general operational control. (C. in C. Med. 161800B to Admty.) Approved by 191044B.

/Levant ...

War Diary

16.7.1945  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Levant GO/30443 cipher 16 July.  
Sitrep (1) Qamichliye. Afternoon 14 July French fired  
to 1900 hours from Fort towards town wounding four Gendarmes and  
15th July. one Civ. British occupied two French Posts in  
Fort and firing stopped.  
(2) Kessab. RD Latakia - Antioch. 15 July.  
Frontier Offr. and Surete and remainder TS Grn

Evac.

(3) TS desertions from 9 - 15 Jul. incl. Offrs. 6 OR 547, total  
to 15 Jul. Offrs. 156s, OR 6,465.  
(4) Transfer TS. Following Chtaura meeting GO. 29626 of 13 July,  
refers. Sub-Committee has been sitting. Agreed all barracks  
definitely property of Syrians to be handed over 20 July.  
Of these many temporarily occupied by Brit. Gds. Hand over  
majority TS 26 July. French will control services and Adm. until  
States Governments can accept responsibility. Syrians dispute  
French proposal to retain Comd. TS for 45 days. GO.27903  
of 7th July refers. Future of Avenantaires still under dis-  
cussions. GO 28696 of 10 July para. 5 refers.  
(C. in C. M.E. 162050C to W.O.)

DART Sailed DART 1800C/16 to Aden for onward routeing.  
Frigate (2) E.T.A. 1800/20. S. of A. 14 knots.  
for E.I. (N.O.I.C. Suez, 162225C to Admty.)



16.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Convoy R.K.18. Arrived at 1800Z/15th convoy KR.18 escorted by H.M.S LULWORTH.  
 (N.C.S.O. Rangoon, 160102Z to Admty. amended by 170056)

St. Pauls Island. S.A.C. 16206/Q Ops. Your 3832/QG T.O.O. 100930 July not to all. Grateful for your acceptance of commitment for maintenance St. Paul Island personnel. Question of diverting shipping will be taken up with Ministry of War Transport when plan has been considered in more detail.  
 (S.A.C.S.E.A. 160335Z to Land Forces, Melbourne)

RICHELIEU. Sailed French Battleship RICHELIEU routed in accordance with S.N.O.(A) Trincomalee's 070621 not to Naval Attache Paris (?to) Durban 1200Z July 19th.  
 (B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 1606Q1Z to C. in C. S.A.)

Convoy O.W.8. Expect U.S.S. GENERAL <sup>EDGAR</sup> K.T. COLLINS and GENERAL M.M. PATRICK will sail from Fremantle 21st July for Calcutta as Convoy O.W.8.  
 (2) Route to 100 degs. E. by C.S.W.P.S.F. thence through positions (K) 15 degs. 51' S. 098 degs. 57' E. (L) 09 degs. 42' S. 093 degs. 00' E. (M) 00 degs. 11' N. 086 degs. 03' E. (N) 19 degs. 59' N. 087 degs. 40' E. Thence to Calcutta.  
 (3) S.N.O.A. Trincomalee is requested to sail Destroyer nominated by Com. (D) to R/V with convoy in position (M) - 00 degs. 11' N. 086 degs. 03' E. at 1000Z/27th July.  
 (4) Convoy and escort are to set watch on 4740 K/cs for 12 hours before R/V for intercommunication.  
 (5) N.O.I.C. Fremantle and S.N.O.A.(T) are requested to confirm and repeat back date time and position of R/V in para. 3.  
 (6) B.A.D. Washington advise C.N.O.  
 (C. in C. E. Indies, 160639Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle etc.)

Calcutta, entry to Port. No Naval objection to neutral vessel entering Calcutta but consider S.A.C. or F.O.C.R.I.N. may wish to remark. P.S.T.O.(I)'s 121253 (D) not to all refers.  
 (C. in C. E.I. 160847 to P.S.T.O.(I))

F.S. DUMONT D'URVILLE. F.S. DUMONT D'URVILLE A.M. 151339/ refers. Intend to proceed with programme in my 120802 as ship is in poor condition and requires repairs beyond facilities of this station. It is also most desirable for the welfare of the ships company that ship should return to French in the near future.  
 (C. in C. E.I. 161215Z to Admty.)  
 \* DUMONT D'URVILLE is not expected to refit till Dec. at Farient.

/ Movements ...

War Diary

16.7.1945  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

Movements.

Arrived GLORY, WIZARD, AMEER, SANSOVINO,  
H.M.I.S. CAUVERY, H.M.I.S. PUNJAB, H.M.I.S. DECCAN.  
Sailed BEGUM.  
Arrived and departed H.M.S. OKAPI.  
(N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, 161652Z to Admty.)

M.F.801  
GRYFEVALE.

Air freight is being arranged for parts referred  
to in para. 1 of your 091339. Despatch details  
follow.  
(2) It is hoped to despatch 3 Main and 3 Auxiliary  
boiler feed check valves by end of this week,  
but information requested in D. of S.T. 132306 to  
D.S.T.O. Ceylon is urgently awaited.  
(Director of Plans, 161801A to C. in C. E.I.)  
See 211901A.



16.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

DUNCANSBY  
HEAD.

A.M. 101844. Ship should arrive about end of September.  
(B.A.T.M. Ottawa, 161503Z to C. in C. E.I.)

54242206Z

Controls,  
Censorship  
etc.  
Japanese  
War.

United States Chiefs of Staff have replied as follows (C.C.S. 735/4). Begins:  
The United States Chief of Staff have considered the views of the British Chiefs of Staff outlined in C.C.S. 735/3 (C.O.S.(W) 863).

(2) Though the mails of European-Latin American surface routes are considered to continue to endanger our combined war effort by providing an uncontrolled channel for communication of valuable military information to the enemy, the United States Chiefs of Staff do not consider that the value of such control from a military standpoint justifies indefinite enforcement of existing measures, in view of the number of personnel and amount of material required.

(3) However, the Navicert system and related means of control of communications between the European neutrals and Latin America are of importance to certain non-military agencies of the United States and British Governments. Thus, the Safehaven project is dependent in large measure on the existence of such controls; their continuance will materially assist in successful accomplishment of this project.

(4) In addition, these measures constitute almost the only effective means of controlling trade and communications with persons and firms on the proclaimed statutory lists. It is felt that discontinuance of present control procedures at VE-day plus 90, as proposed will seriously prejudice the accomplishment of the objectives of these programmes, but that continuance for a reasonable period beyond that date will enable the responsible authorities to institute effective substitute measures.

(5) In view of the fact that the subject now appears to be of primary importance to non-military agencies of the two Governments, it is considered that the matter should be dealt with on a governmental rather than on a military level. Accordingly, the United States Chief of Staff have presented the above considerations to the departments and agencies concerned with the recommendation that they take such action as may be appropriate in collaboration with the corresponding Ministries or offices of the British Government. Ends.

(J.S.M. Washington, 161541Z to A.M.S.S.O.)

LA  
GRANDIERE  
(French  
sloop).

R.D.O. Paris pass info. Naval France.  
Cancel my despatch 111830. Route French sloop LA GRANDIERE Canal Zone to Lorient via Guadeloupe (Pointe a Pitre) and Martinique (Fort de (Tqjnce?)) for three day call at each port. French Navmis in U.S. has requested above new routeing.  
(Cominch, 161812Z to Compaseafron.)



124A

RESTRICTED.

IN

WARNING.—This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

*Recd. in  
W.D. 25/7/45*

From : Cominch C. & R.

1617532/July.

Date : 24.7.45.

Reed. 0620

MERSIGS (36) BY T/P

Addressed : B.A.M.S. Areas 2A, 2B, 4 & 8.

In non-combat areas submarines may now be encountered sailing unescorted and will be considered friendly. When on ocean passage they will normally proceed on the surface but may dive for short periods for exercise. On the surface submarines will normally burn navigation lights by night and will fly their national ensigns by day. Training both surface and submerged may be expected in vicinity of submarine bases.

161753Z

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- O.D. (6)
- D. (2)
- D.S.O.
- O.I.C.
- D.A./S.W.
- D.A./U.D.

- D.N.I. (5)
- D.G.D. (2)
- D.S.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (2)
- D.T.D. (0)
- Hydrog. (2)
- U.S.N. (3)
- W.D.
- M (2)

A.11  
E.C.



War Diary.

16.7.1945.  
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies - Contd.

L.S.T.3515. Routed through, etc. H.M.S. L.S.T.3515 departed Cristobal 152300 for Plymouth, England. E.T.A. 2000 August 1st. Times Z. S. of A. 11 knots.  
(Compaseafon, 161950 to Admty.)

Far East and Australia .

4th and 8th S/M. Flotillas. Weekly situation report 4th and 8th Submarine Flotillas, 16th July.

<u>Submarine</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Departs area</u>
SUPREME	Siam Gulf	17th July
TRENCHANT	Java Sea	18th July
THULE	Java Sea	7th August
STUBBORN	Java Sea	18th August
O.21	Java Sea	2nd August
TUDOR	Java Sea	1st August

(2) On passage to base Subic - SEASCOUT, SIDON. Fremantle O.24 from Parbol. TOTEM, TAPIR, TURPIN from United Kingdom.  
(3) Subic. SPARK, STYGIAN, SPEARHEAD, SELENE, SOLENT, SLEUTH, SEANYMPH. Fremantle. TERRAPIN, TROUP, TIPTOE, THOROUGH, TACITURN, TAURUS.  
(S/M.8, 160416 to Admty.)

EMPIRE Your 150351, para. 3. 15th July leave Manus.  
SPEARHEAD. 28th July arrive Pearsa. 15th August (approx.) arrive Panama. All dates west longitude.  
(R.A.F.T., 160545Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Opintel 129. Opintel 129.  
Para. (A) Nil change estimate of enemy air strength for 17th July.  
Para. (B) Escape and evasion information as of 16th July. 1000 Japu Linhai 28.50 N., 121.06 E. Same at Haimen 28.38 N., 121.23 E. Approximately 65 entrenched enemy defenders with automatic weapons on Langchi Island 26.04 N., 119.35 E. Area around Chapu 30.37 N., 121.07 E. and Pinghu 30.40 N., 121.04 E. unsafe due Jap large scale defence Maneu Ersak.  
Para. (C) Sightings as reported by B.29s. 52 vessels anchored along shores of Ise Wan Honshu at 0539K 15th K(-10). On 13th/14th July two large ships at 33.15 N., 132.15 E. About 15 ships outside Shimonoseki Straits. 13 ships anchored at 34.10 N., 130.50 E. Nine small ships in Shimabara Bay Kyushula. Following are radar sightings. 1 large ship 34.20 N., 133.15 E. Five large ships 32.40 N., 130.25 E. 15 small ships 33.10 N., 130.15 E. 2 small ships 36.10 N., 133.05 E.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 160816 to C.T.F.73, 93, 94, C. in C. B.P.F., etc.)

/Changes ...



16.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Changes in Title, B.P.F. Amend my 290049\* June as follows:  
(A) Vice-Admiral Bernard Rawlings becomes Vice-Admiral second in command British Pacific Fleet. Short title V.A.B.P.F. Add -  
(C) Rear-Admiral C.S. Daniel becomes Rear-Admiral commanding First Battle Squadron. Short title B.S.1. Above in effect 0900K Tuesday 17th July. Radio Guam and Honolulu pass to C. in C. Pacific (Adv.) and (Rear). (C. in C. B.P.F., 160836Z to C. in C. Pac. (Adv.) etc., Admty.)  
\* Changes of administration titles in B.P.F.

Digest 1272, 15th July. (Extract) (1) Navy Mariners from Tawi Tawi saw 1 destroyer, 2 destroyer escorts, 100 miles south-west of Makassar course easterly at 15 knots when first seen about midday. Force shadowed? for 35 minutes and last seen circling in same general area.

(2) 7th Air Force operations from Okinawa follow: 24 Liberators bombed Usa airdrome on north-east coast Kyushu causing fires in revetment areas. 37 Mitchells dropped 51 tons frags Tomitaka airdrome on eastern Kyushu.

25? more Liberators failed to reach Kyushu and bombed various targets in Amami and Osumi groups including Wan airdrome on Kikai Island.

Total 102 Thunderbolts escorted bombers and meeting nil opposition came down to straf setting tug afire besides damaging 3 barges after under tow off western Kyushu.

(3) 5th Air Force provided lifeguard cover off western Kyushu with 8 Okinawa-based Mustangs which shot up Kumamoto airdrome destroying 1 fighter about to take off. Other 5th Air Force operations were all from Philippines bases Psus: Prior dawn 1 Liberator bombed Mako boat yards and another 1 Liberator raided Canton industrial targets.

13 Liberators bombed Canton arms factory midday and 1 other hit Tien Ho airdrome meeting nil aerial opposition.

12 Mustangs swept west coast Formosa destroying 1 warehouse damaging several buildings vicinity Takao without interception. 6 Mitchells, 101 Lightnings, 54 Mustangs provided support for Luzon ground forces.

(4) 2 Navy Mariners searched south-east China Coast and Formosa Straits night 14th-15th with following results - one medium landing craft sunk 30 miles south-east of Sako: accurate and damaging machine gunfire received from small coaster near Muko. One group of 25 junks and another of 12 junks severely shot up off Hong Kong Manao Coast.

(5) Fleet Air Wing daylight searches involved 19 Liberators or Privateers from Clark and Mindoro, also 3 Mariners from Papawan due unserviceability strip there. One small freighter transport observed at Kiirun. One coastal freighter sighted at Hong Kong. Sunken dry-dock at Heiphong. Negative shipping searches south China Sea but one fighter destroyed on ground at Phanrang. Reference attacks on ships vicinity Saigon 14th July reported in Digest 1271 (not received in War Registry) para. 3, later report state that small coastal freighter was definitely sunk and one motor launch was also sunk.



127

16.7.1945.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and AustraliaDigest  
1272,  
15th July.  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)

(6) On Mindanao, elements 24th Division advancing northwards from Sarangani Bay joined other U.S. Army Forces advancing south from Lake Buluan along Highway 5.

(7) Little change in land situation Luzon, North Borneo.

(8) P.T. operations: Night 13th/14th one pair boats from Balikpapan destroyed 4 sailing vessels near Cape Mandar on west coast Celebes and strafed Balabalangan Island Radar Station. Daylight 14th 2 boats from Balikpapan again heavily strafed Balabalangan Radar Station from close range while co-operative Mariner dropped bombs on Island. Night 14th one pair boats from Morotai destroyed native small craft northern Halmahera.

(9) 13th Air Force operations 14th July involved 23 Liberators dropping 57 tons bombs on runway Limboeng airdrome in Makassar area. 12 Liberators attacking again pocket of resistance in hills central Negros: one Liberator bombed Macanget strip in northern Celebes. 2 Liberators after conducting negative shipping search Bone Gulf bombed buildings at Sindjai on south Celebes.

(11) Responsibility air operations in North Solomons and Admiralty Islands passed by R.A.A.F. Command A.A.F. 15th July. Operations 14th July involved Marine Mitchells and R.N. A.F. Corsairs Venturas thus: 4 Mitchells raided Kavien before dawn. During daylight 4 Corsairs patrolled New Ireland. 4 Venturas, 4 Corsairs attacked opportune targets Gazelle Peninsula and 68 Corsairs provided support land forces on Bougainville. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 160950Z to Admty.)

Blue  
Summary  
for 15th.

3rd Fleet surface units bombarded Muroran, Hokkaido. Met nil airborne nor surface opposition. No damage our forces. Nippon steel plant, open hearth furnace, coke ovens, store-houses at Wandishi Iron Works, Chemical plant, coal liquefaction plant, gasoline and storage tanks and water front installations reported heavily damaged. Heavy smoke hampered damage assessments. Early reports of air strikes indicate nil airborne opposition. Weather closed in most fields. Destroyed 4 enemy planes on ground. Damaged 1. Destroyed 1 large AK, 1 medium AK, 3 small AK, 2 DE, 1 PC, 1 tug, 6 small craft. Totalling 12,000 tons. Damaged 4 medium AK, 3 small AK, 1 DD, 1 tug, totalling 12,000 tons. Destroyed 23 locomotives. Damaged 3. Reported large fires at Nemuro and Shibetsu. Revised totals for attacks on 14th. Over 600 sorties flown. Only 2 airborne Bettys seen 1 of which shot down, 1 damaged. Nil change total planes destroyed or damaged on ground. Sank 23 ships, 25 barges totalling 41,000 tons including 5 of 7 train ferries, 4 medium AK, 10 small AK, 1 odd, 1 DE, 2 picket boats. Damaged 24 ships, 3 luggers, totalling 43,000 tons including 2 ferries, 1 large AK, 10 medium AK, 4 medium AO, 1 medium AP, 4 frigates, 1 PC, 1 tug. Destroyed 30 locomotives. Damaged 16. Large part of Kushire burned out. 9 planes lost. Blue submarines rescued 3 pilots 2 aircrewmembers. 47 MAW 2 F4Us. attacked Kishira airfield Kyushu. F.A.W. 18 planes destroyed 1 net tender. Damaged 3 trawlers

/Suruga ...



16.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Blue summary for 15th. (Contd.)  
Suruga Wan South Honshu. 101 Iwo-based Mustangs struck Nagoya airfields at noon. Shot down 4 enemy planes. Probably destroyed 1. Damaged 2. On ground destroyed 9, probably destroyed 3, damaged 18. Destroyed 2 locomotives. Damaged ? . Damaged air installations  
4 SD and 4 unidentified vessels. Slight airborne oppositions. Flak destroyed 3 P.51, 8 P.51 hit Chichi Jima. 15 B.29s. attacked Truk. 30 B.29s. night of 13/14 mined Seishin Masan-Rejusi Shimonoseki Straits and Fukuoka. On 14th 15 F.A.W.1 Privateers attacking Korean targets sank 1 SCS, 3 SD, damaged 3 SCS, 4 SD, 1 tug. Destroyed 3 locomotives. Damaged 2. Closed 1 tunnel. Destroyed 1 railroad bridge. Damaged miscellaneous railroad installations. Oil refinery. Blue submarines sank 1 I-class submarine, 1 small escort, 2 luggers, 1 sampan.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 161516Z to all commands interested in Opintel reports.)



17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Italy  
Changes in  
Command.

1. F.O.T.A.L.I. will strike his flag at sunset on Tuesday 24th July. At 1200B that day C. in C. Med. will assume direct operational control of areas. The administrative control of areas and F.O.T.A.L.I.'s duties, vis a vis the Italian Navy will be assumed by Rear Admiral G.L. Warren with headquarters in Rome at the same time without further orders. R.A. Warren will retain his present functions as head of Naval Sub-commission, Allied Commission and will be known as F.O. Italy and Liaison with short title F.O.I.L.

SS. JOHN H.  
HAMMOND  
mined.

2. SS. JOHN H. HAMMOND (U.S. 7,198 tons) mined at 9.33 p.m. 12 miles North of Elba. Her engine room was flooded. Ship was abandoned. Since reported being salvaged by tugs operating in conjunction with minesweepers as ship is in minefield.

Italy.

3. H.M. Rescue Tug ATHLETE was mined off Leghorn at 7.15 a.m. Three of her crew are missing.

East Indies

Burma.

4. A Comdr.R.N. has been appointed to H.M.S. GOMBROON in command and as Commander of the Burma Coast Escort force (short title C.B.C.E.F.) He is responsible for administration and maintenance of B.C.E.F. as directed by Capt. E.I. Escorts.

Movements.

5. APOLLO and MANXMAN (fast minelayers) sailed from Colombo to join the B.P.F.  
DEVONSHIRE sailed from Colombo to Sydney.  
QUEEN ELIZABETH sailed from Colombo for Aden.

War Diary

17.7.1945  
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

Borneo.

6. U.S. Liberators sank one coastal freighter and set fire to another off Samarinda (East Borneo).

Japan.

7(a) U.S. Army A/C from Okinawa bombed a 10,000 ton freighter off the Amani Islands (130' N.N.E. of Okinawa) 12 direct hits were scored and the ship was left on fire and believed to be aground, a nearby jetty and a dump were also hit.  
(b) KING GEORGE V (V.A.B.P.F.) and units of B.P.F. in conjunction with the U.S. 3rd Fleet bombarded the Hitadu area (60' N.E. of Tokyo).  
(c) 16/17 July, approx. 450 U.S. Super Fortresses attacked the urban areas of Numazu and Hiratsuka (102 and 33 m. S.W. of Tokyo), Kuwana (15 m. S.W. of Nagoya) and Oita (N.E. Kyushu) a total of 3,321 tons of incendiary bombs were dropped.



17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.F.D. 67 Intend to sail 0800B 18 July. FLAUNT towing A.F.D. 67 escorted by JONQUIL to Port Said.  
 (3) Speed 5 knots or (?Faster).  
 (5) On relief JONQUIL is to return to Gibraltar. (F.O.G.M.A., 171008B to V.A.M.)

PORCHER<sup>1</sup>  
 A/S Trawler In view of gale warning am proceeding to Ferrol for shelter. 292 and 254 broken down and in tow. Position at 1015A. 043° 50' N. 008° 58' W. Request you will inform Authorities concerned. (PORCHER, 171020A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

S/M RORQUAL My position, 037° 27' N. 001° 32' E. Unable to sink foreign floating mine in position 037° 38' N. 005° 52' E. at 1700Z 16th. E.T.A. 1400Z/18th. (RORQUAL, 171101Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

German ship  
 BESSEL When and where may I expect British crew for BESSEL?  
 (2) H.M.S. carrying armed guards can be sailed at short notice.  
 (3) A.M. 222131 June and 041906 July refers. (F.O. Gibraltar, 171114B to Admty.)

L.Cs. for  
 U.K. PEG sailed at 0800B 17th July SAPPER (S.O.) LANCER and H.M.S. KINGSTON CRYSTAL escorting L.C.T.(R)s 452, 464, 447, 423, 366 and 362 to Plymouth.  
 (2) Route etc.  
 (3) Speed 8 knots or better. E.T.A. will be given by S.O.(E) at least 12 hours before arrival and will include a statement of ships in company.  
 (F.O.G.M.A., 171124B to C. in C. Plymouth, amended by 181743B.)

Re German  
 ships in  
 Spanish  
 ports.  
 Escorts  
 for. N.A. Madrid's 161745\* July and A.M. 181632B+ June neither to all. Intend to sail Escorts at 0800A on Friday 20th July as follows:  
 (a) H.M.S. HOLMES to Ferrol.  
 (b) H.M.S. NARBROUGH to Bilbao.  
 (c) H.M.S. COSBY to Pasajes. E.T.A. approx. 24 hrs. later.  
 (2) Admiralty is requested to arrange for Royal Marine Guards as given in paragraph (1) of my 031801B+ and for Merchant Navy steaming parties to embark at Plymouth p.m. 19th July. It is further requested that details of these latter parties may be confirmed by signal. (C. in C. Plymouth, 171552A to N.A. Madrid.)  
 \*German aircraft rescue ships available for sailing. Request at least 48 hours' notice of arrival.  
 + Sailing of German air rescue boats to United Kingdom.

/Destroyers...

132

17.7.1945  
TuesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic - Contd.

Destroyers for E.I.  
BLANKNEY,  
MIDDLETON. Intend to sail ships addressed at 1000B 18th July to Dakar for O/R to Freetown and Simonstown. (2) Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. 1700B 22nd July. (F.O.G.M.A., 171554 to Com. Dakar and F.O.C.W.Af.)

Movements Arrived BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON from Plymouth. ENCHANTRESS from Portsmouth. (F.O.G.M.A., 171704B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

A.S.R.20 Following received from CAISTOR CASTLE D.A.S.R. position 20 begins type 86 M. broken down request you inform authorities concerned that aircraft should contact station 20 142200 kcs. 171751Z. Ends. (F.O.G.M.A., 172154B to C.M.S.F.)

South Atlantic

Frigate for E.I. Simonstown departure 0900Z 17th July. H.M.S. KALE for Colombo calling Mauritius for fuel. My 111432 refers. (2) Route. S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. Port Louis 0600Z 24th July. E.T.A. Colombo 0600Z 30th July 4. (C. in C.S.A., 171112B to Admty., C. in C.E.I.)

TRANSVAAL (Frigate) Intend sailing TRANSVAAL to Saldanha Bay at 1800Z 17th July speed 15 E.T.A. 0900Z/26th. (F.O.C.W.Af., 171320Z to C. in C.S.A.)

A.S.R. duties Intend sailing 1100Z 19th July. (a) PEVENSEY CASTLE to relieve LAUNCESTON CASTLE on A.S.R. Station 21. (b) KENILWORTH CASTLE to relieve PORTCHESTER CASTLE on A.S.R. Station 22.

Both ships patrol 21st to 31st ships relieved to return Freetown. (F.O.C.W.Af., 171321 to LAUNCESTON CASTLE, PORTCHESTER CASTLE, Com. 4th Fleet).

BALLINDERRY Request you retain BALLINDERRY pending further instructions recalling her if she has already sailed. Acknowledge. (S.B.N.O.W.At., 171915Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

/U.530...



17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

U.530  
Statement  
by C.O.

Further to my 121710 on further interrogation  
Capt. stated:

- (2) He left Kiel on 19th February left  
Christiansand 3rd March after completing fuel  
to 225 tons. Passed North of British Isles to  
take up appointed station in North Atlantic.
- (3) Toward end May he was approximately 1000 miles E.N.E. of  
Puerta Rico and apparently within his operational zone.
- (4) He had received the surrender signal on 10th May and following  
days but considered it a trick.
- (5) On date withheld he passed between St. Pauls Rocks and  
Fernando de Noronha. Kept 200 miles away from Brazil coast  
sighted Trinidad Island daily run approximately 120 miles.  
Sighted Punta Mogotes light near Mar del Plata 0600 G.M.T. 9th July  
lay off until dawn 10th July.
- (6) He belongs to 33rd Flotilla.
- (7) He stated that he had rendered engines useless. Argentine  
Naval Authorities stated appears considerably damaged.  
(B.N.A. Buenos Aires, 171945Z to Admty.)

War Diary17.7.1945  
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanSUFFOLK  
(cruiser).

Intend sailing SUFFOLK at 1000B/17th July to Gibraltar.  
 (2) S. of A. 19 knots, E.T.A. Europa Point 1400B/19th.  
 (V.A.M. 170801 to F.O.G.M.A.)

Movements.

(H.M.S. SUFFOLK 37.02 11.29 basic westbound route to Gibraltar 19 knots.  
 (2) ABERCROMBIE 36.10 14.48 by basic eastbound route to Alexandria 11 knots.  
 (3) Appian Flight (M) consisting of one LCHQ 1 LCH 1 LCT (E) 13 LCT's 36.35 12.32 basic eastbound route to Malta 8 knots.  
 (4) Secret movement summary 2001/17 positions North and East.  
 (V.A. Malta, 171209 to Admty, C. in C. Med.)

Italy,  
Changes in  
Command.

F.O.T.A.L.I. will strike his Flag at sunset on Tuesday 24th July. At 1200B/24th July C. in C. Med. will assume direct operational control of the area bounded, on the west by a line from (A) The Franco/Italian frontier to (B) position 3 miles 360 degs. from Cape Carse light, thence until a line 3 miles to seaward of the east coast of Corsica to (C) Lavezzi Rock in position 041 degs. 15' 009 degs. 15' to (D) position 041 degs. 26' 008 degs. 28' to (E) position 040 degs. 50' 007 degs. 30' to (F) 038 degs. 51' 007 degs. 30' to (G) position 038 degs. 00' 007 degs. 55'.  
 On the south by a line from (G) to (H) position 038 degs. 51' 010 degs. 00'.  
 Thence along parallel of 038 degs. 51' N. to the Italian Coast thence (J) thence to Cap Colonne (K) and through (L) position 036 degs. 23' 019 degs. 00' to position (M) 040 degs. 00' 019 degs. 20' and (all positions N. & E. unless otherwise indicated), to the Albanian coast in lat. 040 degs. 00' N. position (N).

(2) The administrative control of the area in para. one and F.O.T.A.L.I.'s duties vis a vis the Italian Navy will be assumed by Rear Admiral G.L. Warren with H.Q. in Rome at 1200B/24th July without further orders.

(3) R.A. Warren will retain his present functions as head of Naval Sub-Commission Allied Commission, and will be known as F.O. Italy and Liaison with the short title of F.O.I.L. He will relinquish his present function of S.B.N.O. Rome, a R.N.O. being appointed in lieu.

(4) Italian warships will be divided into 2 Operational categories: Category A, which will consist of all battleships and of those specified cruisers, destroyers and S/Ms who are employed on training and transport duties with the R.N. These will be under the direct operational control of C. in C. Med. Category B consisting of all ships not specifically included in the above be under the operational control of F.O.I.L. subject to having the direction of C. in C. Med.)

(5) For information the following British Naval Shore Authorities are at present in above area. Some of these will shortly be closed down or reduced in status. Comdre. Supt. Taranto. N.O's i/c Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Pola, Trieste, Venice, Ancona, Taranto. R.N.O's Rome, Bari, Brindisi, (?Castellamare).



War Diary

17.7.1945  
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Italy,  
Changes in  
Command.  
(Contd.)

- (6) (A) F.O.I.L's officers are on the second floor of number 6 Via Lucullo, Rome.  
(B) Admiral Warren's functions as Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission will be carried out as before from the H.Q. of the Allied Commission Via Vittoria Veneto, Rome. 6th Floor.  
(C) The R.N.O. offices in Piazza Es; R.A. Rome.  
(7) Communication organization remained unchanged.  
(C. in C. Med. 171540B to Med. Stn.)

Minesweeping. Your 131551. Area to be swept is approx. 80 sq. miles as Q.B.Y. 73 is still in force. It is estimated five months would be required for total clearance assuming allocation of four M.M.S. for

this duty.

- (2) Monthly minesweeping report for Alexandria for Oct. 1943 stated that all suspected areas in vicinity of Alexandria had been cleared but no records are held of actual areas swept. Last known minelaying raid occurred in June, 1942.  
(3) BULLFINCH carried out repairs and relaying in parts of this area in April, 1944 without previous sweeping.  
(4) In view of the above propose that RETRIEVER be employed in the area without further sweeping.  
(F.O.L.E.M. 171813 to C. in C. Med.)  
Request RETRIEVER may examine, renew as requisite and replace A/S defence cable systems.

Rescue Tug  
ATHLETE

mined and sunk. (R) F.O.T.A.L.I., N.O.I.C. Genoa from N.O.I.C. Leghorn H.M.R.T. ATHLETE mined in approx. position 43.35 N. 10 degs. 15 12 E. at 170715B Q.B.B. 527.

- (2) Has been closed. Request promulgation 170839. Ends.  
(171845B to Admty.)

Regret to report sinking by mine of H.M.R.T. ATHLETE in approx. position 43.35 N. 10 degs. 15' E. at 0715B to-day Tuesday 17th July.

(F.O.T.A.L.I. 172229 to Admty. etc.)

JOHN H.  
HAMMOND  
(Mined.)

Following received 21382 500 K/cs Type A.1 bearing 084 degs. Class 1 GONIO A begins S.O.S. from KYTU (JOHN H. HAMMOND U.S.) 12 miles North of Elba believe hit a mine from BFBL (STANHILL British) Ends. Acknowledge by Niton Radio.  
(Nitron Radio, 172139A to Admiral Portsmouth)

Intercept 2130Z 500 K/cs. Type A 2 begins.  
S.O.S. KYTU. We have hit a mine 12 miles North of Elba engine room filling rapidly and abandoning ship. At 2133 KYTU (SS. JOHN H. HAMMOND) am abandoning ship now. Acknowledged by LANDSEND RADIO. (Lands End Radio, 172233A to Admty, London) (See 211804B) <sup>Lands End Radio</sup>

Movements.

Arrived NADA, ENCHANTER and A.F.D. 68 L.S.T. 304, DUCA D'AOSTA, <sup>two step</sup> LEGIONARIO L.C.Q. 382, L.C.G. (M) 117, 121, 106, sailed ABERCROMBIE. Arrived and sailed SUFFOLK.  
(V.A. Malta, 172330 to Admty.)



17.7.1945.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Comdr. Burma Coast Escort Force. Cdr. Ormsby R.N. has been appointed GOMBROON in command and as Cdr. Burma Coast Escort Force (short title C.B.C.E.F.)  
(2) He is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the B.C.E.F. as directed by Capt. E.I. Escorts.  
(3) Sloops based on Rangoon but not specifically allocated to the B.C.E.F. are maintained (?and) administered by C.B.C.E.F. as directed by Capt. E.I. Escorts. They are operated by N.O.I.C. Rangoon under the direction of C. in C. E.I.  
(C. in C. E.I., 170533 to all S.Os. Ships Estabs. etc.)

Arrangements for Parl. Sec. to visit East Indies. Your 112337 (Far East and Australia). Following programme is proposed. D-day arrive Bombay for 3 days, D plus 3 arrive Cochin for one day, D plus 4 arrive Colombo for 3 days including one day at Trincomalee, D plus 7 leave Colombo for Australia.  
(C. in C. E.I., 171113Z to Admty.)

BERRY BEACHY HEAD, Escort Maintenance Ship. Request present whereabouts of BERRY BEACHY HEAD. (D.O.D.(E), 171135A to C. in C. E.I.)  
Reply: 180614Z.

Small tankers for E.I. and Operation "Zipper". Small tanker position List No.23. Nos. 45, 46, 47 are allocated to S.E.A.C. but are still being retained in Mediterranean with date of departure uncertain.  
(2) Non-arrival of these small tankers will affect supply to the detriment of Operation "Zipper".  
(C. in C. E.I., 171200Z to Admty.) *see 201101A.*

Singapore. Aircraft R/C report. Following shipping reported seen Singapore. 0330/17th July by P.R. aircraft from Cocos. Five merchant vessels approximately 400 feet at Commercial Dock. Five naval craft approximately 350 feet (including two possible cruisers) in river off naval dock.  
(C. in C. E.I., 171245 to Admty.)

Movements. Arrived LOCH RUTHVEN, SANDRAY, GONDWANA. Departed LOCH RUTHVEN to Colombo.  
(Com. Aden, 171618Z to Admty.)

Movement (C.S.5). PRINSES BEATRIX arrived. Sailed PERSIAN, SAMSOVINO, NIGERIA wearing flag of F.O. 5th C.S., CEYLON, GOZO, MELITA, POSTILLION, PELORUS, LENNOX, IMMERSAY, LINGAY.  
(N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, 171721Z to Admty.)

Movements. Colombo 17th arrivals nil. Departures APOLLO, MANXMAN, DEVONSHIRE, QUEEN ELIZABETH, VIRGINIA.  
(F.O. Ceylon, 172359Z to Admty.)



17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

LA GRANDIERE. Confirmed that LA GRANDIERE will now be refitted at Lorient.  
(2) Request ship may be sailed accordingly.  
Your 112221 and Cominch, 111830 not to B.A.D. refer.  
(Hd. of M.I. 170403A to B.A.D. Wash.)  
Admiral Fenard has informed B.A.D. and Cominch that LA GRANDIERE is not now required to call at Norfolk on route to France but he has requested Cominch that she be routed from Balboa via La Guadeloupe and La Martinique to Lorient spending three days in each port.  
(2) My 112221 para. 3 a.m. 170403 para. 2 refer. Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.  
(B.A.D. Wash. 171911Z to Admty.)

ULSTER San Pedro, sailed 15th July H.M.S. ULSTER for destroyer. Balboa.  
(N.S.H.Q., 170441Z to Admty.)

Fleet Departure Halifax 2000Z/17th H.M.S. MINSTREL  
Minesweepers (S.O), MICHAEL at 13 knots for Ponta Delgada  
for U.K. routed. MINSTREL and H.M.S. MICHAEL to be fuelled and sailed to U.K. or as directed by Admiralty.  
(Capt. Halifax, 171901Z to S.B.N.O. Azores)

SS. overdue. Request information location RICHARD HENRY LEE overdue New York.  
(Comtenthflt C. & R. 171954 to Admty.)

Far East and Australia

EMPIRE (D) Manus. (E) 1730K/16th July. East longitude.  
SPEARHEAD (F) 12.5 knots.  
for U.K. (G) ANTHONY to E.A. thence MH, TEAL, MALLARD.  
(H) Pearl Harbour. (I) 1400W 28th July, West Longitude.  
(J) 18th July.  
(L) Pearl is requested to arrange onward routing to Panama.  
(C.T.F.112, 170006Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

/Re ...

17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Re: movements, Para. 3 of your 070148. Proposal appreciated of Transports. but regret that no decision re movement of N.Z. personnel in Far East will be made in time to utilise either ANDES or STIRLING CASTLE without causing unacceptable delay to vessel concerned.

(2) Will inform you when decision has been reached but suggest that meantime you will consider possibility of allocating for this move troopship scheduled to return Prisoners of War to New Zealand in the near future.

(3) Request future programme for ANDES may be signalled. (N.Z.N.B. 170204Z to D. of S.T.)

B.P.F. For information.  
Fuelling Following received from C.T.F. 37 "Fuelling even  
Scarcity of without H.M.S. INDEFATIGABLE and three destroyers  
Tankers. is only being completed in time thanks to Com.  
3rd Fleet's 24 hour strike postponement. With  
the fleet well down in oil three tankers with many  
of the usual old troubles are not enough and  
taking all daylight hours for 2½ days to complete the job if  
moderate weather".

(2) This emphasizes the acute position as regards tankers. (C. in C. B.P.F. 170214Z to Admty.)

Sailings D. of S.T. 170241A to A.C.N.B.  
to Australia See Lion Copy.  
and New  
Zealand.

Blue Two based Mustangs on mission Tommagoya airfields  
Summary for at noon encountered 74 enemy fighters at altitudes  
16th, up to 15,000 feet. Shot down 24. Probably  
Para. 96. shot down three. Lost one Mustang over target.  
One operational loss. Three Mustangs damaged.  
Flak heavy moderate inaccurate. Blue S/M rescued  
one pilot. 60 20th. A.F. B.29's bombed

Nippon Oil Co., Kudamatsu by radar from 10,000 to 11,000 feet  
night of 15/16. Three bombed targets of Opportunity nil air-  
borne opposition. Flak heavy meager inaccurate. Eight  
F.E.A.F. P.51's shot down one G over Kumamoto airfield  
Kyushu. F.A.W. 18 planes sank coastal patrol boat LII SUIDO,  
Sank one lighter one tug one junk and damaged two small craft  
Izu Islands. Night of 15/16 six F.A.W. one Privateers in  
Shanghai sweep bombed oil plant shipping and harbour installations  
Intense medium and light F.S.A.D. damaged three planes.  
Four enemy night fighters encountered.  
Orange S/M sunk by A.S.W. Operations near 34 N. 151 E.  
Blue S/Ms sank 1300 1 gunboat one small escort one schooner one  
lugger.

(C.in C.Pac.Adv.H.Q. 170526 to Depcom 20)



Distribution of this message is to be limited to those officers who are concerned with its contents.

138A

# TOP SECRET

# OUT

**Warning :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad : "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

To: A.C.N.B.  
C. in C.E.I.  
Info: N.Z.N.B.  
P.S.T.O.I.  
P.S.T.O. Mediterranean  
P.S.T.O.M.E.  
B.A.D.

170241A/July.

Date 17.7.45.

*Sailing's to Auckland & New Zealand.*

Naval Cypher (X) & O.T.P. by T/K

From: Director of Sea Transport.

IMPORTANT.

The following is our planned schedule of sailings to Australia and New Zealand: -

<u>Ship</u>	<u>East of Suez Capacity</u>	<u>Sailing date from U.K.</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Destination</u>
MALOJA	3689	July 24th	Suez	Sydney
STRATHAIRD	3791	July 23rd	Suez	New Zealand
RANGITIKI	1212	July 26th	Panama	New Zealand & Sydney
ORION	4713	Aug. 4th.	Panama	New Zealand & Sydney
STRATHMORE	4028	Mid.Aug.	Suez	New Zealand
OTRANTO	3935	Mid.Aug	Suez	Sydney
DOMINION				
MONARCH	3378	2nd half August	Panama	New Zealand & Sydney

2. Ships will embark personnel of all services to capacity in U.K. except STRATHAIRD and STRATHMORE, which will embark New Zealand Army personnel to capacity in the Middle East.

3. STRATHAIRD will disembark the following personnel in the Mediterranean: -

- (a) 500 at Algiers
- (b) 1850 at Malta
- (c) 900 in the Middle East

Her E.T.A. at Aden is about 6th August, and her speed 19 knots. She should call at Colombo for her oil and water for stability purposes.

4. As escort will be required for STRATHMORE in addition to/....



to STRATHAIRD and ANDES (D of S.T's 070148 refers),  
C. in C.E.I. is requested to indicate dates by which  
ANDES and STRATHMORE are required at Fremantle and  
Aden respectively.

5. A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B. are requested to state  
their estimated requirements in cabin and troopdeck  
for service personnel and priority civilians to the  
U.K. in vessels in para 1 majority of which will  
return to U.K. via Middle East calling at Bombay if  
so required by P.S.T.O.I.

6. Agreed.

170241A.

For Dir. of Sea  
Transport. Extn. 2134.

A.C.N.S.(H)  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
D.C.(2)  
D.O.D.(H) (4)  
D.O.D.(F) (2)  
D.T.D.(4)  
D.T.D.(C)  
D of S.T.(6)  
Hd of M (3)  
Ad. Blake.  
W.D.



139

17.7.1945  
TuesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

Enemy air strength and dispositions etc. (Opintel 130).  
C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 170701 94, C.T.F. 73 and C. in C. B.P.F.  
See Lion Copy.

Digest 1273 16.7.45 Extract.  
(1) Two ships described as destroyers seen by search plane morning 80 miles Southeast of Makassar-course 220 degs. speed 15 knots.  
(4) Two Navy mariners searching from Lingayen sighted over 100 junks or small craft in four group between Saint Johns Island and Amoy night 15th. Largest group consisted of about 60 closely massed junks off Saint Johns Island. Bombing and strafing runs made with considerable effect sinking or severely damaging majority of vessels.  
(5) Fleet Air Wing liberators or mariners covered usual search sectors from Clark Mindoro and Palawan during daylight. Two small coastal freighters 1 motor launch near Kuching all strafed and damaged. One lugger several barges at Quinhon attacked and damaged. Photos Hong Kong 15th show one large escort vessel, one small tanker, nine small coastal freighters varying from 70 to 1300 ton each, one L.S.M. three river steamers and 20 small craft at Victoria and Kowloon Wharves.  
(6) At Luzon strong enemy opposition continues vicinity Mankayan Down and has necessitated temporary withdrawal Phillipine Army Units from that town. Elements Sixth Division continued northward drive along highway four to positions 4½ miles North of Kiangan.  
(7) In Balikpapan area some progress made in enveloping movement around enemy delaying positions east of Batoehampar but otherwise little change land situation. One destroyer two landing craft gunboats bombarded Jap positions upper reaches Balikpapan Bay destroying three gun emplacements four barges. Sepiuison Strip operations for Spitfires and Transport planes.  
(8) P.T. boats operating from Morotai on west coast Celebes sweep 13/14th and 15th July destroyed 20 small craft majority Prahus.  
(10) R.A.A.F. operations during day: 6 Liberators bombed A/A positions Hatetabako and nine spitfires attacked other targets of opportunity northern Halmahera. One liberator from Morotai and two from Darwin searched sea areas, one bombed Sidate Strip another attacked one lugger off Flores Island leaving same sinking. 12 Kittyhawks were weathered out from Balikpapan support missions: 30 Beauforts supported Wewak ground forces: two Beauforts attacked targets vicinity Sorong in northwest New Guinea.  
(11) Delayed R.A.A.F. reports: 31 Kittyhawks 12 Spitfires provided support for ground operations general Brunei Bay area 14th. Targets included Ranau, Jesselton, Tenom and Bintul. Eight kittyhawks hit Lahau Datu drome and other Darvel Bay objectives 15th.  
(12) On 15th July 24 Marine Mitchells attacked Jap. personnel areas Gazulle Peninsula and 72 R.N.Z.A.F. Corsairs bombed strafed Jap. positions Bougainville on ground support missions. (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 171016Z to Admty.)

/Movements ...



# SECRET

IN  
139A

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

*Enemy Air Strength etc.*

170701/July

From C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q.

Date 18.7.45.

Recd. 2020

C. in C. (5 SERVICES) GEN. S. BY T/P

To: C.T.F. 73, 94, C. in C. B.P.F., CGUSASTAF, Com. 20th A.F.F., TGEFCE, Comdrs. 3rd Fleet, Commargilsarea, Comphibspac, A.C. 1. B.P.F., Photo Grp. 2, C. in C. S.W.Pa. All Carriers 3rd Fleet, Com. A.A.F. S.W.Pa. 7th Fleet Com.  
Info: C. in C. Pac. Pearl, Com. 7th Fleet, Comairpac, Comsubpac, Airpacsubcomford, C.N.O. Comgenusafchila, 5th, 7th, 13th A.A.F., Admiralty London.

IMPORTANT

This is Opintel 130.

(A) Comgen China reports Chinese occupation Wungtao Island 27 50 North 121 09 East confirmed. 2,000 Japanese landed Nantien Island 29 08 North 121 56 East. 300 arrived Shihpu 29 15 North 121 56 East from Wenchow Area.

(B) Visual sightings reported by B.29's 15th July.  
7 M.V. near Oura 34 24 North 130 58 East course 225.  
7 large ships Hagi and 3 small vessels near Kogusha 34 10 North 130 56 East at 0030Z (CGT repetition CGT).  
1 large ship Sukumo Wan 32 56 North 132 44 East and 14 ships at 32 59 North 132 30 East at 1513Z. 1 ship on fire drifting Suruga Wan 34 50 North 138 27 East at 0309Z. 1 ship Ube Harbour 33 57 North 131 14 East at 1407Z.

Following sightings by radar. 5 ships 33 59 North 131 52 East and about 6 ships Suo Nada 33 38 North 131 (corrupt group) East at 1538Z. 2 ships 32 57 North 132 03 East. 3 ships 32 50 North 133 20 East at 1538Z. 20 ships inland sea near Tadotsu 34 18 North 133 45 East at 1520Z.

(C) Enemy air strength estimate as of 18th July. Nil allowance made for wastage caused operations 17th July. Hokkaido Kuriles Area. 80 fighters, 40 single bombers, 100 twin bombers, 110 Recce., 330 total combat types. Main concentrations. Fighters. Sapporo 20, Chitose 25. Single bombers. Misawa 20. Twin bombers. Bihoro 30, Mizutani 25 (corrupt groups). *MISAWA, CHITOSE, HACHINOHE, 15 each, Recce*

*Scattered widely.*  
(D) Tokyo Area. 865 fighters, 205 single bombers, 225 twin bombers, 120 Recce., 1415 total. Distribution by bases. Fighters. Hyakurigahara 100, Tsukuba 80, Atsugi 70, Kashiwa, Sagami, Yatabe, 50 each, Shimodate 45, Tokorobapa 40, Koriyama, Mobara 35 each, Imba, Katori, Mafusudo, Narimasu (corrupt groups) 30 each, Chofu 25, Kasumigaura 20. Konoike, Nasuno, Osawa, Yokosuka 15 each, Kiryu Mito South 10 each, Kisarazu 5.

*\* SHIROI, YAIZU*  
Single bombers/.....



Single bombers. Hyakurigahara, Mobara 50 each, <sup>Ki</sup> ~~Zuki~~ Kisarazu 40, Katori 35, Kasumigahara 15, Mayakawa 10, Tateyama 5. ●  
Twin Bombers. Matsushima 60, Kumagaya 45, Kiryu 25, Tokorozawa Tsukuba West 40 each, (?Nashit) 15, Sakato, <sup>HOK</sup> Hopoda, Kisarazu 10 each, Kasumigaura, Konoike, 5 each.  
Recce. ~~Kashima~~ 25, Kisarazu 20, Shimoshizu, Yokusuka 15 each, Atsugi, Chofu, Kitaura, Kodama 10 each, Hokoda 5. ●

(E) Nagoya Osaka Area. 430 fighters, 160 single bombers, 150 twin bombers, 260 Recce, 1000 total. Distribution by bases  
Fighters Itami 80, Hanshin 65, Komaki 60, Meiji 55, Kiyosu 35, Akenogahara Shinomiya 25 each, Minate, Takamatsu 20 each, Kannonji 15, Kagamigahara, Kameyama, Sano 10 each.  
Single bombers. Yonago 70, Meiji 30, Kannonji, Nagoya East 15 each, Tikushima, Suzuka 10 each, Komats (2 Gps. missing).  
Twin bombers. Miho 65, Komatsu 40, Yokaichi 15, Hamamatsu Maisumoto, Toyohashi 10 each. <sup>→ KOMATSU, MIHO, 52</sup>  
Recce. Kowa 75, Fukuyama 50, Takuma and Suta jointly 45, Komatsu 20, Hamamatsu, Maizuru, Otsu, Nagoya East 10 each, Hanshin, Komatsushima, Kushimoto, Miho, Nanao, Niigata 5 each.

(F) Kure Kyushu Area. 675 fighters, 80 single bombers, 105 twin bombers, 235 Recce., 1095 total. Distribution by base.  
Fighters. Tsuiki 90, Xsomura 85, Ozuki Iwakawa 50 each, Ashiya, Usa, Mat, Uyama West 45 each, Chiran, Iwakuni, Petatsubara Miyakonojo 40 each, Bofu 35, Tomitaki 20, Kancya East 15, Itazuke, Kagoshima 10 each, Byu Kanoya Tojimbara 5 each.  
Single bombers. Ronchi 30, Usa 25, Kushira 15, Kokubu 10.  
Twin bombers. Aragawa 35, Kumamoto 25, Kumanoshe 15, Oita Chiran 10 each, Itazuke Omura 5 each.  
Recce. Sysebo 50, Gorxo 25, Matsuyama West 20, Genkai Itaxuki 15 each, Chiran Hakata, Kanoya, Kure, Metatsubara, Miyanonojo, Tachiarai, Ushine 10 each, Ashiya Gannasu, Ibusuki, Kagoshima, Seaki, Saishu 5 each.

(G) Formosa. 115 fighters, 10 single bombers, 75 twin bombers, 40 Recce., 240 total.  
Fighters mainly at Taihoku, Tainjv, Giran Kagi, Taichugtoyohara Hento.  
Twin bombers mainly Tajhoku Kapi, Heito and Heito North.

(H) Korea. 275 fighters, 10 single bombers, 55 twin bombers, 140 Recce., 480 total. Principal concentrations.  
Fighters. Suigen 60, Kimpo 45, Keijo 40, Fusan Genxan 25 each, Heijo Shixgisvu 20 each.  
Twin bombers. Ovseiri 20.  
Recce. Shisen Kaiundai Onseiri 20 each, Taikyu 15.

170701.

Note:- <sup>Amended 21.7.45</sup> Corrupt Groups being obtained.

Circulation overleaf/.....

# SECRET

139B  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

-3-

1st S.L. (3)  
D.F.S.L.  
4th S.L.  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
D. Map Room  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.  
O.D. (6)  
O.I.C. (3)  
D.N.I. (7) (and for D.N.L.O. (2))  
M. (63) and for A.M. (35)  
C.C.L.S.  
W.D.  
Admiral Blake  
C.V.R.  
D.N.O.R.  
Hydrog.  
D.D.O.D. (C) (2)  
C.N.I. (2)  
D.A.W.T.  
D.M.S.  
D.M.S. Citadel

NC  
(78)

ara



17.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia. - Contd.

Movements. Arrivals 16th Hollandia, H.M.A.S. MANOORA, Madang H.M.S. BROOME, Manus, H.M.A.S. KANIMBLA. Departures 16th Madang H.M.S. BROOME for Hollandia Milne Bay, H.M.A.S. STUART for Sydney (N.S.W.) Morotai, H.M.A.S. ARARAT for Hollandia 17th (?Darwin) H.M.A.S. KAPUNDA for Morotai routed West of New Guinea. (A.C.N.B. 171241Z to C. in C. E.I. N.Z.N.B.)

Opintel 2U. Para. A. Interpron two studies from 20th 131. JP photos 16 July meantime 0931 K (minus 10). Re: Toyko Three Tokyo area airfields. area airfields. Yokosuka 35.19 N. 139.39 E. 85%. Total 95 planes. 7 twin 31 single west side of field. 12 twin three single southwest corner. Three twin four single southeast Hangar area. Seven twin three single northeast corner. Two twin 23 single on field. Yokohama 6 35.24 N. 139.38 E. complete. Two Emily one Mavis on Apron. Tomoika SS 35.23 N. 139.38 E. complete. One four engine Seaplane in damaged Hangar. Para. B. 90.17 (/ Corrupt groups) and (?200) Japan Aircraft Co. Tomioka. No damage observed Ishikawajima (Northwest portion of target indicated on Interpron 28 x 8 No.186.287A. In Japan A/C portion 7% structural damage. 6% superficial damage. 3% removed. No change in aiming points. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 171804 to C.T.F. 93, C.T.F. 94)

141

18.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Far East and Australia

- Borneo. 1. U.S. reconnaissance aircraft sank one small coastal freighter and damaged another near Kuching.
- China. 2. 48 U.S. Liberators, 62 U.S. Mitchells and 44 U.S. Invaders escorted by 54 U.S. Thunderbolts dropped over 130 tons of bombs on airfields at Tinghai, Tachang, Kiangwan and Woosung (all in Shanghai area). 9 enemy aircraft destroyed on ground. Fires were started in dispersal areas.
- Japan. 3(a) Since commissioning on 4th May aircraft of Fleet Air Wing 18 have sunk 141 vessels totalling 34,000 tons and damaged 221 totalling 48,000 tons destroyed 22 enemy planes and damaged 26.  
(b) F.A.W.1 planes since arrival Okinawa have sunk 174 seagoing ships totalling 147,000 tons damaged 212 totalling 141,920 tons.  
(c) In the aircraft attacks made by U.S. Carrier Force around the mainland of Japan on the 14th and 15th the final score is now reported to be 140 vessels sunk totalling 71,000 tons and 235 damaged totalling 88,000 tons - 84 locomotives were destroyed and 45 others damaged. 37 aircraft were destroyed on the ground and 45 damaged.  
(d) The British and American Fleets continued their attack on Japan today and yesterday. Bad weather hampered operations. A number of small craft were sunk or damaged.  
(e) Tonight cruisers and destroyers bombarded enemy positions at entrance to Tokyo bay and carried out an anti-shipping sweep.  
(f) Carrier-borne aircraft attacked enemy shipping off Yokosuka this afternoon.
- Japan,  
sea mining. (g) 17th/18th July 27 U.S. Super-Fortresses laid sea mines in the Shimonoseki Straits off Seishin (N.E. Korea), Nanao and Fushiki (Honshu). A total of 179 tons of sea mines was dropped.



18.7.1945  
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

Destroyers Sailed 1030/18 MIDDLETON, BLANKNEY to Dakar.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 181151B to Com. Dakar.)

A.F.D.67 Sailed 0815/18, A.F.D.67, local escort JONQUIL  
in tow of FLAUNT to Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 181159B to V.A.M.)

Destroyers CAESAR and CAVENDISH E.T.A. 0700A tomorrow  
Thursday.  
(Capt. D(6) 181545A to F.O.G.M.A.)

ROMOLA Your 180728Z. E.T.A. 2300Z/19th. Request  
F. M/Sweeper services of medical officer at Angra or Ponta  
to U.K. Delgada.  
(ROMOLA, 181620Z to Azores.)

Movements Arrived HADLEIGH CASTLE from position 20.  
VERBENA from Malta.  
BERGAMOT from the East.  
TOTLAND from Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 181641B to Admty.)

LOCH Intend to sail LOCH GORM at 1100B 19th July to  
GORM Port Said.  
Frigate (2) Route as same navigation permits through the  
for E.I. Bizerta War Channel thence by channels to  
destination.  
(3) Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. 2000B 24th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 181713B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movement Arrived H.M. S/M RORQUAL.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 181727B to V.A.M.)

Re My 051901 is repeated herewith:  
Destroyers Your 171510 refers.  
for Far To: C. in Cs. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rosyth,  
East Mediterranean.  
Info. C. in C. H.F., Com. (D) H.F., V.A.M., C. in  
C. E.I., C. in C. B.P.F.  
From Admiralty.

On completion of refits destroyers of the 2nd and 6th D.Fs. will  
be sailed from their refitting ports to E.I. Station, and B.P.F.  
respectively via the Mediterranean. A.M.170100 not to all refers.  
(2) C. in Cs. of refitting are requested to include 3 or 4 days  
H.A. practices in trials programmes with the object of ensuring  
the correct functioning of material.  
(3) C. in C. Med. is requested to arrange work-up for ZENITH  
and 2 or 3 days' practices for remaining destroyers while in  
Mediterranean. 051901.  
(Admiralty, 181835A to F.O.G.M.A.)

18.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

- BAHIA,  
Loss of Reasonable expenditure in provision of a wreath and your attendance as Admiralty representative approved.  
(2) Your 121205 July\* refers.  
(Hd. of M., Approved 4th Sea Lord, 180245A to B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro).  
Loss of Brazilian Light Cruiser BAHIA Provision of wreath etc.
- Corvette Sailed H.M.S. ROCKROSE through (route), thence Diego Suarez for fuel and onward routeing to Colombo.  
(2) S. of A. 12 knots.  
(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1200Z/24th July.  
(S.O.R.N.E. Durban, 180521Z to Admty.)
- Corvettes With H.M.S. MARGUERITE in company towing POLARIS. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1200Z 22nd July.  
(GENISTA, 180915Z to F.O.G.M.A.)
- BILLOW  
(Whaler) BILLOW today was taken over by M.W.T.R. for reconditioning for trade A.M. 111750\* April refers. (Commodore Durban, 181202 to Admty.)  
\* Referring to the reconditioning of whalecatchers ready to be handed over to M.W.T.
- U.530 Argentine Government decree places at disposal of Governments of Great Britain and U.S.A. S/M U.530 its crew, and copy of interrogations and investigations.  
(2) Widespread rumours that two more submarines were recently in vicinity of Cape San Antonio are not in any way confirmed by Naval Authorities sea and air patrol is being maintained along coast.  
(Buenos Aires, 181305Z to Admty.) *See also page 148.*
- VIOLET  
corvette Intend sailing H.M.S. VIOLET at 0700Z/19th July by coastal route to Durban, S. of A. 11 knots, E.T.A. 0700Z/20th July.  
(N.O.I.C. East London, 181443 to Admty.)



18.7.1945  
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

12th L.S.T. Flotilla. Sailed 12th L.S.T. Flotilla with S.O. in L.S.T. 324 and L.S.Ts. 9, 160, 303, 321, 405, 408, 419 at 1900C/17 to Aden for onward routing.  
 (2) E.T.A. 0300Z/23. S. of A. 10 knots.  
 (5) Flotilla is quite operational and has no commitment at Aden. S.O. requests N.O.I.C. Aden to send sailing orders and recognition signals from 28th July OFF\* to 324.  
 (6) N.O.I.C. Aden is further requested to arrange a Sleeve target shoot on leaving Aden.  
 (N.O.I.C. Suez, 180833C to Aden.) \* As received.

Movements Alexandria July 17th 1945.  
 Arrivals:- STAFFA, PRINCE DE LIEGE, JENNET, M.L.863, AMETHYST.  
 Departures:- FARNDALE, CALPE.  
 (F.O.L.E.M. 1809 26C to Admty.)

COWDRAY, BLEASDALE Hunts Intend to sail COWDRAY (S.O.) and BLEASDALE at 0700B July 20 to Alexandria.  
 (V.A.M. 181209B to F.O.L.E.M.)  
 for B.P.F. and E.I.

Escorts Intend to sail BLACK SWAN (S.O.) and WIDEMOUTH BAY for B.P.F. at 2000B July 19th to Rye A.M. 231543 May and C. in C. Med.'s 171008 June refer.  
 (2) S. of A. 15 knots adjusted to arrive daylight (?22nd).  
 (V.A.M., 181224B to F.O.L.E.M.)

SS. JOHN H. HAMMOND (mined) (1) JOHN H. HAMMOND sailed on route U from Naples to Leghorn struck a mine at 2342B on Tuesday 17th July in approximate position 098° Porto Capraia 11 miles.  
 (2) Ship was abandoned but is still afloat and drifting to south eastward salvage is being attempted, tugs being swept in from Q.B.B. 421 by small minesweeping force.  
 (3) Survivors have been picked up.  
 (F.O.T.A.L.I., 181246B to Aden.)

Movements Port Said July 18th 1945.  
 Arrivals: ST. MARGARET\$, SCORCHER, FARNDALE, CALPE, OCEANWAY, L.S.Ts. 3009, 3007.  
 Departures: OCEANWAY, FARNDALE, CALPE, LOCH LOMOND, M.F.Vs. 1543, 1170, 1538, 1558, 1054, 1060, 1088, 1118, 1109, 1123, 1541, 1140, 1137, 1125.  
 (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 181747C to Admty.)

/Levant...



18.7.1945  
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Levant  
Sitrep  
to 1900 hrs.  
17th July. GO/31154 cipher 18 July. 332454.  
(1) East Syria. 16 July Brit. Mil. Comd. met Sheikhs and Heads of Communities from North Jezireh. All promised support Syrian Govt. and Brit. Authorities and no independent tribal action. TS confinement of bks for own safety now strictly enforced.  
(2) Transfer TS. Sub-Committee met 16 July. Question of Avenantaires shelved pending French decision on number they require. GO. 29626 of 13 July para. 3 refers. Handover of bks. and Tps. discussed and later with Anglo-French Joint Staff States responsible feeding Tps after 31 July.  
(3) Unconfirmed report that French will hand over free of charge adequate equipment for total force of 12,000 men for both States also bk. stores. Additional requirements will be available by purchase.  
(C. in C. M.E. 181925C to W.O.)

Ships for  
B.P.F. Intend to sail BELFAST from Suez for Aden 28th July with BLEASDALE, COWDRAY, EGGESFORD and PETARD, in company V.A.M. 161256 refers.  
(2) In view of HUNTS endurance and prevailing monsoon conditions intend to route them from Aden to Bombay parting company from BELFAST as necessary.  
(F.O.L.E.M. 182014C to C. in C. E.I.)

Levant  
Sitrep  
to 1900 hrs.  
18 July. (1) Beirut. 0410 hrs. 18 July two home made bombs exploded near buildings Sisters of Charity. No damage or cas.  
(2) Damascus. Reported Ministers of Interior and Justice offered resignation. Not known whether either resignation accepted.  
(3) East Syria. Court of Inquiry into Quamich-  
liye shooting met 17 June. G.O. 30443 of 16 July refers.  
(C. in C. M.E. 182025C to W.O.)

LOCH LOMOND Sailed LOCH LOMOND 18 1800C to Aden for onward  
Frigate routeing.  
for E.I. (2) E.T.A. 22 0900Z. S. of A. 15 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 182115C to Admty.)

Situation (1) H.M. Rescue Tug ATHLETE has been mined and  
Report sunk in Northern Approach to Leghorn. One Of-  
No.621. ficer and 2 Ratings are missing believed killed  
and there are 6 Hospital cases.  
(2) SS. JOHN H. HAMMOND hit a mine North of Elba  
but is reported still afloat. Salvage is being  
attempted by Tugs operating in conjunction with M/S's as ship is  
in minefield.  
(C. in C. Med. 182300B to F.O.L.E.M.)

/Landing ...



18.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Landing  
Craft.

Arrivals PROVIDENCE, M.T.Bs 419, 421, 422 L.C.H.  
(Q) 537, L.C.H.100, L.C.T.(E), 306 L.C.Ts. 1101,  
1212, 1218, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1300, 1317,  
1362, 1364, 745, 1363.  
Sailings L.S.T. 3024, L.S.T.304.  
(V.A. Malta, 182331 to Admt.)

Bi-weekly  
report of  
Sea Transport  
ships.

(1) Following refers to O50105B from Admiralty  
to C. in C. Med. repeated Ministry of War Trans-  
port Rep's Med. and M.E. and O80556B from Admt.  
to C. in C. Med. adding a Para. 4 from which the  
following is an extract. Begins:-  
D. of S.T. however still requires bi-weekly  
reports of Sea Transport Ship's but not of ships  
on commercial service. Ends.

(2) This message was the outcome of full discussions here and  
confines S.T.O's future action on Article 78 of Wartime Instruc-  
tions to S.T.Os. and on my 142044B April to Ships on Sea Trans-  
port Service so far as ports in your areas are concerned.  
P.S.T.O. Mediterranean has already taken appropriate action -  
his 101555B to S.S.T.Os etc. but not to Middle East refers.

(3) Following is from Ministry of War Transport to Ministry of  
War Transports Representatives. Begins:  
In view of foregoing, request you will in future give us early  
advice by signal of any indications that congestion is likely to  
occur and in any given port and if the congestion actually  
occurs keep us fully posted. Ends.

(D. of S.T. 182333A to P.S.T.O. Med. M.E., M. of W.T.Rep.Med.)

18.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Convoy  
W.O.8.

Convoy W.O. 8 arrived escorted by H.M.S. PENN.  
(Com. Trincomalee, 180558Z to C. in C. E.I.)

BERRY  
BEACHY  
HEAD  
Escort Main-  
tenance ship.

BERRY  
BEACHY HEAD on route from Darwin to Colombo  
E.T.A. a.m. 31st your 171135 refers. Position  
at 2000Z/18th in vicinity of 019 degs. S. 117  
degs. E.  
(C. in C. E.I. 180614Z to Admty.)

H.D.M.L.  
Flotillas.

In accordance with CC.F.E.I.S. Letter No. C.F. 48/O  
10th July propose to combine 121st, 122nd and  
130th H.D.M.L. Flotillas now comprising total of  
11 GLENIFFER engined boats into one Flotilla to  
be known as 121st Flotilla. Request your  
concurrence.  
(F.O.C.R.I.N. 180729Z to Admty.) Concur 200003A.

S/M  
SCOTSMAN.

My 101041 in view of S/M 8's. 150824 N.T. in W.D.  
intend SCOTSMAN join 8th Flotilla. A.M.  
112315 June para three refers.  
(C. in C. E.I. 180929 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

CAP. DES  
PALMES.

CAP DES PALMES F.S. sailed from Tamatave  
0300Z (?18th) July. E.T.A. Diego Suarez  
1100Z/19th.  
(B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 181411 to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrivals: REDOUBT, PENN, MOORMAN.  
Departures: LIGHTFOOT, ROYALIST wearing flag of  
A.C.21 H.M.S/M SHALIMAR, SEADOG and TAPIR.  
(N.O.I.C. Trincomalee, 181625Z to Admty.)



18.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U.530 Alusna Buenos Aires 17, 23, 23. Assume custody of U.530 and crew for passage to United States plus report of Argentine Naval Investigation. Arrange deliver report and crew to us earliest for purpose further interrogation. Deliver U-boat to Trinidad. O.N.I. Interrogator Lt. C.R. White, U.S.N.R. proceeding immediately by air to Buenos Aires to report Comsolant for preliminary screening of crew. B.A.D. concurs. Alusna Buenos Aires keep American Ambassador fully informed. Alusna Buenos Aires and B.A.D. have info. (Cominch, 181745Z to C. in C. Lant.)  
Following received by B.A.D. from H.M. Consul Buenos Aires. Begins. Argentine Government decree places at disposal of Governments of Great Britain and U.S.A. Submarine U.530, its crew and copy of interrogations and investigations.  
(2) Widespread rumours that two more submarines were recently in vicinity of Cape San Antonio are not in any way confirmed by Naval Authorities. Sea and air patrol being maintained along coast. Ends.  
(B.A.D., 182127Z to Admty.) See 201831Z.

Movement H.M.C.S. RUNNYMEDE arrived Esquimalt 1930Z July 18th 1945. Com (Third Fleet) pass to N.W.S.E.C. (N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 181939Z to N.S.H.Q.)

Operational (Cominch, 181915 to Admty.)  
Naval Units See Lion Copy.  
Pacific.  
Summary 22.

Far East and Australia

Blue Carrier planes of third fleet attacked targets in summary 17th Tokyo area. Task units 34.8.2 and 37.1.6 including KING GEORGE V bombarded Hitachi Area North Coast of Honshu. Final report of T.F.38 strikes on 15th. 966 combat sorties flown in unfavourable weather. No airborne opposition. Operations summary for 14th and 15th reports 140 ships sunk totalling 71,000 tons. Includes six train ferries, one O.D.D., two D.E. 235 ships damaged totalling 88,000 tons. Includes three train ferries seven D.E. or P.G. one Chidori class T.B. Destroyed 37 aircraft on ground. Damaged 45, destroyed 84 locomotives damaged 45. Damaged industrial and communications targets North Honshu and Hokkaido.  
F.A.W. one planes sank one trawler. Damaged five S.D.1, S.C.L.1 tug. F.A.W. eighteen planes damaged one fishing boat at Haha Jima night B.B.Js. damaged one repair vessel in Eagoshimv Kaiwan and one ship in Suo Nada. F.A.W. one planes since arrival Okinawa sank 174 seagoingships totalling 147,000 tons damaged 212 totalling 141,920 tons, F.A.W.18 since commissioning on 4th May sank 141 vessels totalling 34,000 tons. Damaged 221 totalling 48,000 tons. Destroyed 22 enemy planes. Damaged 26.



**TOP SECRET**

**IN**

**WARNING:** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*NOTE: Messages shown as having been received in a Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

From COMINCH

Date 19. 7. 45.

Received 0515

P/L by D/R

Addressed Admiralty  
Info COMNAVEU

CR No. 8834

Pacific Summary No.22. Operational Naval Units.

Southeast Pacific. 5 DD.

Pacific Coast. NEW JERSEY RANGER ATHELING COMMENCEMENT  
BAY SAGINAW BAY TAKVNIS BAY CORE PUGET SOUND INDIANAPOLIS  
PENSACOLA MINNEAPOLIS BILOZI SANTA FE MIAMI 14 DD.

Enroute U.S. BRETON KALININ BAY NASSAU BOUGAINVILLE  
SHIPLEY BAY.

Enroute Pearl. BARNES SHAMROCK BAY PRINCE WILLIAM  
WHITE PLAINS 3 DD.

North Pacific. RICHMOND CONCORD TRENTON 5 DD.

Central Pacific. TENNESSEE CALIFORNIA NEVADA MASSACHUSETTS  
INDIANA SOUTH DAKOTA ALABAMA NORTH CAROLINA IOWA WISCONSIN  
MISSOURI KING GEORGE V DUKE OF YORK GUAM ALASKA BENNINGTON  
HANCOCK LEXINGTON RANDOLPH ESSEX YORKTOWN SHANGRI LA BON  
HOMME RICHARD WASP TICONDEROGA IMPLACABLE FORMIDABLE  
VICTORIOUS BELLEAU WOOD SAN JACINTO MONTEREY BATTAN COWPENS  
INDEPENDENCE ANZIO STEAMER BAY ROI ADMIRALTY ISLANDS HOLLANTIA  
THEFTIS BAY MUNDA FANSHAW BAY LUNGA POINT SANTEE CAPE GLOUCESTER  
BOGUE KASAAN BAY VELLA GULF MAKASSAR STRAIT LONG ISLAND  
KITKUN BAY HOGGATT BAY NEHENTA BAY CHENANGO SARGENT BAY  
NATOMA BAY MANILA BAY WICHITA CHESTER SALT LAKE CITY CHICAGO  
QUINCY ST PAUL BOSTON ACHILLES NEWFOUNDLAND UGANDA BLACK  
PRINCE GAMBLA ARGONAUT EURYALUS TUCSON DETROIT ST LOUIS  
TOPEKA ATLANTA DAYTON SAN JUAN CASABLANCA OKLAHOMA CITY  
AMSTERDAM OAKLAND PASADENA SPRINGFIELD ASTORIA WILKESBARRE  
FLINT SAN DIEGO DENVER MONTPELIER CLEVELAND COLUMBIA DULUTH  
VICKSBURG 178 DD.

At Pearl. PENNSYLVANIA SARATOGA INTREPID ANTIETAM  
CABOT SAVO ISLAND TRIPOLI KWAJALEIN COPAHEE CARD MARCUS  
ISLAND CAPE ESPERANCE WAKE ISLAND ALTAMAHA BALTIMORE  
CORREGIDOR 23 DD.

South Pacific. 1 DD.

Southwest Pacific. TEXAS NEW MEXICO COLORADO  
MISSISSIPPI ARKANSAS IDAHO WEST VIRGINIA INDEFATIGABLE  
SUWANEE GILBERT ISLANDS BLOCK ISLAND MAKIN ISLAND ARBITER  
RULER SPEAKER STRIKER SLINGER CHASER PORTLAND NEW ORLEANS

/SAN FRANCISCO



- 2 -

SAN FRANCISCO TUSCALOOSA SHROPSHIRE NASHVILLE PHOENIX  
MOBILE HOBART TRUMP BERMUDA 36 DD.

Non operational at sea.

Enroute Pearl. None.

Enroute U.S. 2 DD.

181915

Advance copies sent D.C.  
and D.O.D.(F)

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
D.Map Room  
D.O.D.(H)(4)  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D.N.I.(4)  
Hd. of M.(2)  
W.D.  
Ad.Blake  
C.W.R.

en  
112

IN

SECRET

~~CANCELLED~~

BIGOT-MOTTLED

149

18.7.1945  
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Blue summary 17th. (Contd.) 48 M.A.W. 2 Corsairs attacked Miyakminjo. Corsairs and Avengers neutralized Ryukyusx on 16th 48 M.A.W. 2 Corsairs damaged 10 small ships at Aburatsu Kyushu, 1 Corsair missing. On 16th F.E.A.F. put 70 P.51s 156 P47s, 34 A.26s, 36 B.25s 6 B.24s and 2 snoopers over Kyushu damaging one locomotive 2 trains, 8 bridges also warehouse buildings and docks. Destroyed 1 fishing craft. Damaged 2 S.C 2 barges, 4 fishing craft, Bombed Oyoto and airfields at Miyazaki and Usa. 1 P.47 ditched. B.29 missions. Night of 16/17th. 119 bombed Numazu. 127 bombed Oita. 90 Kuwana. 124 hit Atsuka. 2 bombed opportunity targets. Altitudes 10,500 to 12,000 flak all types meagre inaccurate. Nil to weak airborne opposition. 23 B.29s landed 2. None lost. Night of 15/16 27 B.29s mined Rashin, Fusan, Niigata, Naoetbu, Genzan and Konan. Blue submarine sank OTORI class torpedo boat Java Sea on 16th. (C. in C. Pacific, Adv. H.Q., 180213 to Admty.)

Opintel 132 Para. A. Estimate of enemy air strength for 19 July. Nil. Change. Para. B. B.29 ship sightings. 1 ship by Radar at 33.40 N. 132.25 E. at 161730Z G.C.T. 2 by Radar at 34.40 N. 139.30 E. at 161500Z. Night 15th in Hiuchi Nada 2 by Radar at 34.09 N. 133.27 E. In Harima Nada 1 visually at 34.25 N. 134.35 E. 6 by Radar at 34.39 N. 134.33 E. 1 by Radar at 34.33 N. 134.26 E. 4 at 34.45 N. 134.45 E. In Osaka Wan 1 at Kobe. Three by Radar at 34.35 N. 135.20 E. Off Kyoga Misaki 5 by Radar at 35.57 N. 135.25 E. Near Jixo Saki 1 at 35.32 N. 133.18 E. 20 small A.K. by Radar at Tokushima 34.04 N. 134.39 E. (C. in C. Pacific Adv. H.Q., 180820 to Comgen 20th A.F. etc.)

Digest 1274 17.7.45 (Extract) (2) 5th A.F. Missions from Okinawa involved:- 15 Mustangs bombed lone 10,000 ton freighter at Amami-Onisland with quarter tonners during morning scoring five direct hits and five near misses leaving ship listing and on fire: nearby jetty and dump were also hit. Eight hours later another 7 Mustangs attacked same ship again with quarter tonners claiming seven direct hits three near misses: ship still burning from earlier attack and believed aground. 15 Mustangs attacked six small boats off Point Tosaki (S.E. Kyushu): all were rendered unserviceable by bombing and straffing. Eight Mustangs swept Kyushu straffing several small craft with unobserved results. (3) 7th Air Force operations from Okinawa: 50 Thunderbolts escorting bombers to Shanghai also carried bombs and 16 bombed Tinguai air strip, 16 bombed straffed small craft off Taishan Island with unobserved effect except near bomb misses, 18 bombed buildings on island in same vicinity. 31 Thunderbolts bombed railroad tunnels near Kagoshima (south Kyushu) sealing at least two: Two Liberators bombed Tomitaka and Byu Airdromes (Kyushu) prior dawn.

/(4)...



War Diary18.7.1945  
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

- Digest  
1274  
17.7.1945  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)
- (4) Two Navy Mariners from Lingayen searched south east China coast night 16th. Only few junks or luggers seen from Hainan to Amoy: One large junk sunk and four similar craft damaged by bombing strafing attacks.
- (8) On north western Borneo element 9th A.I.F. Division advancing up Baram River reached Marudi (30 miles south of Seria) without enemy contact.
- (9) In Balikpapan area, elements 7th A.I.F. Division advanced 5 miles west from Amborawang to positions within one mile of inland road from Balikpapan to Samarindai in movement to envelop Japanese delaying positions east of Batoehampar which continue to hold up eastward drive along this road. Strong enemy counter attack against Nei contingent at Soengaiwain pumping station (nine miles north of Balikpapan town) night 16th was repulsed.
- (10) Night 15th July an enemy motor launch towing 5 Prahus also one motor boat engaged by shore fire upper reaches Balikpapan Bay. On motor boat sunk and largest Prahu gutted.
- (11) 13th A.F. Operations 16th involved only negative searches for destroyer force off south west Celebes: one searching Lib. bombed Watimione in Gulf of Bone.
- (12) One P.T. boat with landing craft gunboats from Morotai destroyed four beached canoes northern Halmahera 16th July. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 180918Z to Admty.)

- Disposition Changes since my 110248:  
signal  
number 21
- (a) At sea POA, INDEFATIGABLE, SPEAKER, ARGONAUT, NORMAN, WRANGLER, WAKEFUL, PLYM, EAGLESDALE, TJITJAEENGKA, ARBUTUS, CORONDA.
- (b) At Subic OXFORDSHIRE.
- (c) At sea bound Subic BONAVENTURE, JAARSTROOM.
- (d) At Eniwetok crane defects AASE, MAERSK,
- (e) At Sea bound Eniwetok TYNE, ODZANI, BALLARAT, BURNIE, KELANTAN, GERALDTON, BROWN RANGER, BACCHUS, FORT WRANGEL.
- (f) At Manus CHASER, QUEENBOROUGH, FLAMBOROUGH HEAD, BARBAIN, GLENEARN, AORANGI, SERBOL, EDNA, FORT LANGLEY.
- (g) At sea bound Manus GOULBURN, TOOWOOMBA, CESSNOCK, TAMWORTH, UNICORN, SEVEN SISTERS, GERUSALEMME, FORT COLVILLE, FORT EDMONTON, SALVICTOR.
- (h) At Townsville LEONIAN BARTHORPE.
- (j) At Brisbane FERNMOOR refit KALGOORLIE.
- (k) At Sydney WAGER, WHELP, VIRTUE, RESOURCE refit LOTHIAN, BOSPHOROUS.
- (l) At Sea bound Sydney ANSON, VENERABLE, VENGEANCE, COLOSSUS, TUSCAN, TYRIAN.
- (m) At sea bound Auckland VOX, LISMORE.
- (n) At Sea bound Fremantle MANXMAN, APOLLO.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 180952 to Admty.)

Fleet Train Requirements The 11 Pacific Coasters referred to in A.M. 261750 June represent all the ships likely to become available as ammunition ships or carriers. These are building on the West Coast of America and six will be brought to England for fitting out as A.S.I.S. and for ammunitioning at sea.

/They...

18.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Fleet Train  
Requirements  
(Contd.)

They will then embark ammunition and bombs for Pacific reserves and replenishments, so reducing normal freight for about two months.

Para. 2. Under consideration to send remaining five ships from America to Sydney where they can receive freights sent direct to Australia or load from shore stocks and be used as carriers to and from Fleet Bases. Doubtful whether fitting out as A.E. can be done in America or Canada and information is accordingly requested whether they can be received as they are and be fitted out after arrival.

Alternatively in view of urgency they might be used without any fitting except such as required for normal securing of cargo.

Para. 3. The ships will have Lascar crews on board will be fully tropicalized and carry full defensive armament and D.E.M.S. Ratings.

Para. 4 Request your early remarks.

(D.A.S.B., 182100A to V.A. (Q) B.P.F.) *see 271307Z + 290129Z*



19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

North Atlantic

Movement.

1(a) SUFFOLK arrived Gibraltar from Port Said and sailed again for Liverpool.  
(b) BEARN (French carrier) sailed from Casablanca for Gibraltar and arrived there next day.

East Indies

Operations.

2. B.S.3 with NELSON, SUSSEX, EMPRESS, AMEER, four destroyers and five minesweepers of 7th M/S. Flotilla with DECCAN and PUNJAB as attached danlayers, left Trincomalee today to carry out minesweeping operations with bombardments and air strikes.

Submarine activities.

3(a) H.M. S/M. STATESMAN on her eighth Far East patrol reports that on 24th June off Bati Islands she damaged a submarine tender - the KOMOMASHI. Action was broken off owing to M.T.B. intervention. On the 26th June off Diamond Point (N.E. Sumatra) sank a 20 ton junk by gunfire.  
(b) H.M. S/M. TORBAY on her 4th Far East patrol from 25th to 28th June in the southern Malacca Straits sank by demolition two 15 ton junks and by gunfire a 250 ton coaster. From 2nd to 6th July one special operation was carried out successfully.

SS. LUXMI on fire.

4. LUXMI (Br. 4148 tons) reported badly on fire and beached outside the harbour of Madras at 1600. Fire fighting continues.

Movements.

5. RICHELIEU arrived Durban from Diego Suarez.

19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

- Malaya. 6. 23 U.S.N. Liberators attacked 12 small coastal freighters and a schooner near Kuantan (E. Malaya).
- China. 7. On the night 18th/19th U.S. Mariners sank 3 large sea trucks off Hong Kong. 15 junks and one large sloop were strafed off St. Johns Island.
- Borneo. 8. 24 Lightnings hit the suicide boat base near Sandakan (north Borneo) firing one lugger.
- Moluccas. 9. Tonight P.T. Boats from Morotai destroyed a heavily laden barge leaving hideout at Katana (N.E. Halmahera).
- Solomon Islands. 10. A R.A.N. Frigate bombarded Japanese gun positions on Sohaña Island (Buka Passage, N. Bougainville).
- Japan. 11(a) Night of 18th/19th July U.S. light cruisers and destroyers carried out anti-shipping sweeps in waters approaching Tokyo Bay. Com. 3rd Fleet intends to continue these sweeps at every opportunity. (230826Z)  
(b) Night 18th/19th July about 9 Jap planes were involved in 6 raids on Okinawa. Two torpedo bombers were shot down by naval gunfire.  
(c) 18th/19th July 31 U.S. Super-Fortresses laid sea mines off Kobe and the west coast of Honshu, in Suruga and Wakasa Bays (Honshu) and between Gensan and Lonan (Korea). A total of 189 tons was dropped.  
(d) Fleet Air Wing planes sank 7 merchant vessels off west central Korea and damaged two more. Off Saiki damaged a merchant vessel and a submarine chaser. (200354).



19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SUFFOLK, cruiser. Your 161805 paras. 2 and 3. Press notice is being issued and facilities arranged. (Hd. of M.II, 190200A to SUFFOLK.)

Re German ships. C. in C. Plymouth's 181207\* Ship's will be met by pilots who will have instructions to take them in to anchor conveniently for transfer of crews and/or guard. I shall be at Ferrol. My Assistant Naval Attache at Pasajes and Consul General at Bilbao.

Consul Vigo has been instructed similarly in case of H.M.S. WILTON which will presumably sail immediately after transferring tow party. (B.N.A. Madrid, 191122B to Admty.)  
\* Request brief instructions for H.M. Ships on arrival be signalled.

Destroyers for Far East. Intend to sail CAVENDISH 0900B tomorrow Friday for? Malta. E.T.A. 1100B/22nd July.  
(2) CAVENDISH required four days working up mainly HA and at least one LA (?shoot) also one period with submarine.  
(3) CAESAR will remain at Gibraltar for refitting of pom-poms and small defects requiring about four days. Ship will join CAVENDISH at Malta for onward passage. (F.O.G.M.A., 191146B to V.A.M.)

L.Cs. for U.K. Your 171124. Landing craft entered Lisbon 2300/18th, sailed 1030/19th. (N.A. Lisbon, 191211B to F.O.G.M.A.)

SUFFOLK (cruiser) Intend to sail SUFFOLK 2000B/19th July by direct route and current swept channels to Liverpool. (2) Speed 21 knots. E.T.A. Bar Light Vessel 0730A/22nd July. (F.O.G.M.A., 191454B to SUFFOLK.)

FRISKY (tug) Intend to sail H.M. Tug FRISKY 2100B/19th July to Vigo (A.M. 151704Z and my 160926B refer). (2) Speed 11 knots. E.T.A. 0700B/22nd July. (4) Instructions in para. 2 of Admiralty message have been passed FRISKY. (F.O.G.M.A., 191554B to Admty., B.N.A. Madrid.)

TOTLAND (cutter) Sailed 1050/19 H.M.S. TOTLAND for Chatham. (F.O.G.M.A., 191602B to C. in C. Nore.)

Corvette for U.K. Intend to sail AMARANTHUS at 0900B/20th July to Chatham (Admiralty's 081814B not to all, refers). (F.O.G.M.A., 191612B to C. in C. Nore.)

War Diary.

19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic - Contd.

<sup>L</sup>  
BALINDERRY,  
frigate. Sailed 1040/19th <sup>L</sup>BALINDERRY for Bermuda calling  
at Horta Q.J.B.17, C.213, E.205, F.54, H (C) 223.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 191626B to S.B.N.O.W.At.)

Dutch  
dredger Sailed 1030/19th H.M.R.T. HENGIST towing Dutch  
for Dredger GELDERLAND escorted by VERBENA to  
Walcheren. Plymouth Q.Z.S.842, X.1670, Y.642, L.77, H (C) 51.  
Admiralty's 051131 May (not to all) refers.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 191642 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Destroyers. Arrived H.M.S. CAVENDISH, H.M.S. CAESAR.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 191634B to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Movements Sailed 1045/19th LOCH GORM, 1815/19th ENCHANTRESS  
for F.E. for Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 191758B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

S/M Sailed 2015B/19th H.M. S/M. RORQUAL to Portsmouth.  
RORQUAL. (F.O.G.M.A., 192036B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

South Atlantic

RICHELIEU. Arrived F.S. RICHELIEU.  
(2) Admiralty please pass to Marine Paris.  
(Cdre. R.N.E. Durban, 191012Z to Admty.)

Whalers. Arrived H.M.S. SAHRA and H.M.S. SATSA.  
(Cdre. i/c. Durban, 191150Z to Admty.)

Sloop. Sailed SHOREHAM to Diego Suarez for fuel and  
onward routeing to Colombo.  
(2) S.O.A. 11 knots.  
(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1200Z/25th July.  
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 191433Z to Admty.)



19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Reporting of Movements. The following instruction on reporting of warship movements are to be brought into force on July 24th. M.S.G.O.57 and M.S.O.24 will be amended to comply.

(2) "Intend to sail" signals are to be addressed to the Naval Authorities at Port of destination repeated F.O/S. of the area or areas in which movements take place. The number of information addressees additional to the above is to be kept to essential minimum and C. in C. Med. (except so far as the area under his operational control is concerned) is not to be included in the "information" addressees unless the movement has a special significance. FOIL is to be included in the address of all signals concerning the movement of Italian warships.

(3) F.Os. of areas are to make the following 2 summarizing signals.

(A) Major warship summary. Part 1. Movements of all major warships in last 24 hours, giving arrivals, departures and estimated positions of ships at sea.

Part 2. Intend future movements (summary of "Intend to sail" signals).

(B) Minor warship summary. Parts 1 and 2 as in 3 (A).

(4) (A) Major warship summary to include Fleet minesweepers and above, to be graded Confidential or Secret as applicable and to be addressed:

Part 1 to Admiralty, C. in C. Med., Flag Officers adjacent areas. Part 2 to C. in C. Med. and Flag Officers of adjacent areas.

(B) Minor warship summary to include ships below Fleet minesweepers. To be addressed as in (4) (A) except Admiralty is not to be included.

(5) Movement summaries in accordance with M.S.G.O.57 are to be discontinued.

(6) New subject: Amend time of decommissioning in 751B to read 26th July.

(C. in C. Med., 190941B to Med. Stn.)  
See 221706A.

Re disestablishment Moroccan Sea Frontier. Cominch has approved Comnavnaw's proposal. My 161800 refers. (C. in C. Med., 191044B to Admty.)

D. S/M. Intend to sail ZWAARDFISCH D.S. at approximately 1600C/20th through position, etc. for onward routing by V.A.M. to Gibraltar.

ZWAARDFISCH. (6) Ship requests direct routing to and 3 days stay Gibraltar.

(7) Diving trials will be carried out on passage commencing 1000C/21st.

(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 191147C to V.A.M.)

Movement. (1) BLACK SWAN, WIDEMOUTH BAY sails from Malta 2000/19 by basic eastbound route to Alex. 15 knots. (V.A.M., 191150 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

/Movement ...

War Diary.

19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Movement.

Departures FARNDALE, CALPE, M.F.V.1170, 1118,  
1140, 1088, 1125, 1054, 1060, 1123, 1137, 1541.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 191835C to Admt.)



19.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

S/M  
Activites.

H.M.S/M STATESMAN eight Far East Patrol, 24th June off Bati Islands damaged by gunfire S/M tender KOKOHASHI. Action broken off due intervention M.T.B.

26th June. Off Diamond Point sank 20 ton junk by gunfire.

H.M. S/M TORBAY 4th Far East patrol. 25th to 28th June vicinity Southern Malacca Strait by demolition sank two 15 ton junks, by gunfire, sank 250 ton coaster.

2nd to 6th July one special operation carried out successfully. (C. in C. E.I. 190541Z to Admty.)

F.C. SUFFREN.

Reference C. in C. E.I. 110914. Visit of F.C. SUFFREN to Colombo now unnecessary.

Following is expected programme for F.C. SUFFREN

Arrive	Place	Leave.
-	Diego Suarez	22nd
23rd	Tamatave	28th
29th	Diego Suarez	-

Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.

(B.N.L.O.Diego Suarez, 191405Z to Admty.)

SS. LUXMI  
on fire.

LUXMI badly on fire 1600/19th in No.2 and 3 holds. Unable to cope with fire in harbour without serious risk of ship capsizing and fouling oil berths. Ship beached outside harbour at 1830. Fire fighting continues.

(N.O.I.C. Madras, 191602Z to F.O.C.R.I.N. Admty.)

M.F.80th  
GRYFEVALE.

S.A.C.S.E.A.'s 191055 not to S.N.S.O. Ceylon items mentioned in para. 1 of A.M. 161801 (not to all) being flown to S.N.S.O. Ceylon in 6 packages F.C.B.114665/1 and 2 F.C.B.114770/1 and 2 and F.C.B. 114835/1 and 2. Flight details follow.

(D. of S. 211901A to C. in C. E.I.)



War Diary

19.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Movement. H.M.S. GVA II departs Bermuda sea buoy 191300  
*Boom Gate Vessel.* via Point etc. thence Ponta Delgada for onward  
routing to Falmouth.  
(N.O.B. Bermuda, 191230 to S.B.N.O. Azores)

Operations C.R. No. 8926.  
Pacific. Strike results 17/18 July. T.F.38 sank 1 picket  
boat, 2 small craft damaged, 3 small craft 7 lug-  
gers destroyed 4 float planes damaged 5 others.  
Hangars, railroads, factories, radio stations hit  
in Mito-Taira area. T.F.37 destroyed 16 planes on ground sank  
1 junk damaged 2 cargo ships 1 junk, 6 fishing vessels boom  
defence vessel and barge. Hangars, railroads, barracks hit in  
Sendai-Niigata area. Joint strike made on combat N.T. ships  
Yokosuka area against heavy A/A fire results unknown afternoon  
18 July. Cruisers and destroyers bombarding enemy positions  
Nojima Saki Sagami Nada and conducting anti-shipping sweep  
night of 18 July. Bad weather hampered operations both days.  
(Cominch, 191447 to Commaveu)

Far East and Australia

QUILLIAM (1) Departed Sydney 0030Z/19th July QUILLIAM for  
Destroyer. Suva. E.T.A. 2200Z/24th C. in C. B.P.F. 110112/  
130518 (both not to all) refers.  
(3) S. of A. 13 knots.  
(6) Comsopac is requested to route QUILLIAM to  
Panama via Funafuti Pearl Harbour San Diego.  
(7) QUILLIAM has temporary collision damage repairs and can only  
anchor in emergency.  
Radio Honolulu pass C. in C. Pac. Pearl and Comhawsaefron.  
(F.O.I.C. Sydney, 190110Z to C. In C. B.P.F.)  
Request QUILLIAM be sailed for U.K.

Blue Summary Weather limited T.F.38 to two afternoon strikes  
18th. one sweep against shipping Yokosuka. Encountered  
intense flak. Primary targets hit but smoke  
prevented assessment. Seven airmen reported  
down in Tokyo area. T.G.35.4 in sweep entrance  
Sagami Nada and Ixu Islands found no shipping bombarded Nojima  
Saki. On 17th weather limited aerial attacks Tokyo area.  
Minor damage inflicted on shipping and ground installations.  
One picket boat, two small craft sunk. Ten small craft damaged.  
In Mito area two locomotives, one hangar destroyed. Three  
locomotives and ground installations damaged. Four float planes  
destroyed. Five damaged, three T.F.38 fighters lost. T.F.37  
planes operating north of T.F.38 destroyed 13 enemy planes on  
ground. Damaged three at Niigata Matsushima and Masua.  
Destroyed three locomotives and damaged ground installations.  
Sank one Junk. Damaged one S.B., one S.C., one Boom Defence  
vessel, eight small craft. Three planes lost but all pilots  
rescued.



160

19.7.1945  
ThursdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Blue Summary 15 FEAF P.51's attacked Miyazaki Kyushu. 22  
18th. P.51's attacked shipping Ryukyu Retto.  
(Contd.) Damaged 10,000 ton A.K. Eight P.51's swept  
Kyushi. FAW one plane damaged F.T.C. Tsushima  
Straits. Sank two luggers and damaged two others  
off Shantung Peninsula. Dumbo rescue seven AAF  
airmen East China Sea FAW 18 planes sank one S.D. off Daio Zaki  
two F.T.C. in Ise Wan. 142 P.51's attacked Chichi Jima.  
11 B.29's hit Marcus. Night of 17th/18th 27 B.29's laid 226  
mines at Shimonoseki Seishin and Fushiki - Nanao. On 17th  
six B.29's attacked Chichi Jima. Four B.25's attacked shipping  
in Kuriles. Two planes forced to head for neutral territory  
for emergency landings.  
Blue S/MS rescued one AAF flier S.E. of Kyushu. One Marine  
flyer in Colnett Strait. Three Third Fleet flyers south off  
Tokyo.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. 190306 to Comgen etc.)

L.S.I.(Ls)  
and L.S.H.  
for Assault  
Force.

Admiralty's 101643 para. 3. Defects and refit  
to LOTHIAN can be dealt with in Australia.  
A separate report on GLENEARN will be signalled  
shortly.

(2) Essential functions which can only be carried  
out by the replacements for these ships are as  
follows:

(A) To accommodate between them 77 Officers and 1205 ratings,  
in addition to their ships companies and communication ratings,  
the number being the balance of R.A.F.Ts requirements, set out  
in appendix 6 to F.T.4306 dated the 11th of June, 1945, after  
allowing for accommodation provided by AORANGI.

(B) We provide transport for minor landing craft when operations  
require a move from one advanced anchorage to another. This  
has already occurred more than once and is certain to occur  
again in the future as much carrying capacity as possible is  
required for this.

(C) To maintain these minor landing craft and other harbour  
craft at the advanced anchorage. For this the ability  
to hoist at least six L.C.As each is needed.

(3) It is also most desirable that one of these should be fitted  
and manned as a base W/T ship since

(A) R.A.F.T. must not be tied to one advanced anchorage by  
virtue of his being in MONTCLARE. This need is particularly  
apparent when the Fleet advanced anchorage is being moved and  
a leapfrog type of movement has to take place.

(B) Signal traffic to and from the advanced areas is increasing  
rapidly and may reach three times its present volume.

To operate this successfully, one ship is required to do the  
receiving and one the transmitting the outline requirement of  
this base W/T ship will be the subject of a separate signal.

(4) These ships should also fulfil the following requirements.

(A) Must be oil burning.

(B) Should be capable of nine knots.

(C) Must be suitable for accommodation in the Tropics.

(D) If possible should be self supporting with regard to water.

(C. in C. B.P.F. 190503Z to Admty.)



19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Opintel 133. Para. (A) Nil change estimate enemy air strength for 20th July.  
 Para. (B) F.A.W.1 plane reports staggered mine-field from Beppu Town south-east to Hanase Sake between 5 and 10 fathom curves. Observed when plane attempted landing in Lee of Kaimon take 31.10 N., 130.32 E. HO 2187.  
 Para. (C) Comavgrp. China reports presence of several hundred small suicide boats at Raffles Island 30.45 N., 122.27 E. Shihtao 36.53 N., 122.25 E. site of small naval station. Camnavgrp. China considers reliable Chinese report small enemy naval base at Senhouse Island 30.40 N., 122.34 E. shelter for 10,000 tons shipping there.  
 Para. (D) Comgen. China says rapid fortification Wei-hai-wei area 37.31 N., 122.06 E. indicated by Chinese reports. Enemy still occupies Sharp Peak Weitow Pukong Island Mouth of Miu River (Foochow).  
 Para. (E) Refer B29/90.30-657A Kure Naval Arsenal on 22nd June. Post raid photos lacking but strike photos shew heavy damage probable.  
 Para. (F) B.29 ship sightings. On 18th one ship visually anchored off Kudamatsu. 20 by Radar Shimonoseki Straits. Six by Radar Ise Wan. Two by Radar 34.55 N., 136.50 E. on 17th. 15 visually at 34.23 N., 131.12 E. Seven at 34.10 N., 130.55 E. at 172030Z (G.C.T.)  
 (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 190753 to C.T.F. 73.)

Digest  
1275,  
18th July.  
(Extract)

(1) Aircraft reports three destroyers heading north-west up Yangtze River towards Shanghai midday.  
 (3) During search of south-east China Coast night 17th by two Navy Mariners one small freighter transport off north-west coast Hainan was straddled with two eight ton bombs, causing explosions, could not be found when plane circled back and considered probably sunk. 25 junks off Amoy well straffed, two others off Hong Kong and more near Saint Johns Island all straffed.  
 (4) F.A.W. planes from Clark, Mindoro and Palawan searched usual sea sectors covering Formosa, south-east China Coast and south China Sea. One small coastal freighter sunk and one other similar vessel damaged at Kuchin, another one small coaster under repair near Quinhon damaged by straffing but otherwise only few small craft seen. Report from additional Privateer searches from Palawan 17th over North Java Sea. Four small coastal freighters, one dredger and twelve luggers seen at Bandjermasin, one coaster left burning and other craft straffed without serious damage.  
 (5) On Luzon strong enemy opposition continues vicinity Nankayan but enemy resistance to northward advance along Highway 11 apparently decreasing. Field reports indicate 2,000 Japs preparing defence positions south-east of Mankayan. Patrol boats landed recce party on Batan Island off northern Luzon 17th.  
 (6) On north-west Borneo, 9th A.I.F. Division patrols probing northward along Beaufort-Jesselton railway reached point three and one half miles past Papct without contact.  
 (7) In Balikpapan area elements 7th A.I.F. Division occupied Sambodja unopposed. Otherwise nil change reported.



19.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest (8) P.T. Boats from Morotai sank collapsible  
1275, barge off north-east Halmahera night 17th and  
18th July. from Balikpapan strafed Ronggaya supply base on  
(Extract) north-western Celebes night 16th.  
Contd. (9) Additional 13th Air Force operations 17th  
July: 21 Liberators strafed 15 schooners off  
south-west Celebes and saw through hole in  
clouds two possible small warships off Pomelaa.  
2 Liberators searching Qahakan River (East Borneo) bombed  
strafed 12 small coastal freighter vicinity Samarinda, sinking  
one and leaving second burning and listing.  
(12) Islands operations 17th July: 13 Mitchells, 8 Corsairs  
raided New Ireland, including night raid Kavieng, 12 Mitchells  
attacked objectives Gazelle Pyainsufus including Vuvbkanau Drome  
and 47 Corsairs provided support Bougainville ground troops.  
Corsairs were R.N.Z.A.F. and Mitchells U.S.M.C.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 190912Z to Admty.)

S/Ms. for (A) Submarines leave U.K.:  
B.P.F., etc. August - TIRELESS, TIJGERHAAI, SANGUINE, SEA  
DEVIL, TRUNCHEON.  
September - SAGA.  
October - TALENT, SPRINGER, TALLY-HO,  
TRUCULENT (fitted S.J.A.)  
November - TEMPLAR, TANTIVY, ASTUTE.  
December - AURIGA, SENESMAL, STOIC, SEA ROVER. AMPHION. TEREDO?  
(B) Due in U.K. for refit: *Late Sept SEANYHOB*  
Early October - STYGIAN, TERRAPIN, TUDOR. *Late Oct. STYGIAN, STATESMAN,*  
Early November - STATESMAN. *TRIDENT (by*  
Early December - SUBTLE. *(disposal)*  
Late December - SPARK, TRENCHANT, THOROUGH.  
Early January - SHALIMAR, THULE.  
Early February - SUPREME, TIPTOE.  
Early April - TRUMP, SEASCOUT, SELENE, SCYTHIAN.  
My 091914 March refers.  
(2) Intend following should be withdrawn from operations as  
shown and proceed to U.K. for scrapping or reserve unless cir-  
cumstances warrant earlier withdrawal - THRASHER December,  
\*TRIDENT, TORBAY January, SEADOG March.  
(F.O.S/M., 191911A to C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. E.I.)  
\* See 210401 (East Indies). *Amended by 091920 A. August.*

20.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Movement. 1. ARIADNE (fast minelayer) sailed from Gibraltar to Malta.

Far East and Australia

Sumatra. 2. 4 R.A.A.F. Catalinas laid sea mines in the Bangka Straits (off S.E. Sumatra).

Malaya. 3. U.S.N. Liberators and Privateers possibly destroyed five coastal freighters in Trenggam Shipyards (Malaya).

Borneo. 4(a) A U.S. destroyer escort bombarded Miri (Sarawak) in support of ground offensive.  
(b) U.S. Liberators sank a coastal freighter and one barge at Kuching (Sarawak).

Philippines. 5. Elements of 24th U.S. Infantry Division from Mindanao landed on Balut Island (south of Sarangani Bay) for reconnaissance purposes.

Moluccas. 6. Tonight P.T. Boats from Morotai sank a barge laden with petrol and ammunition N.E. of Halmahera capturing 2 prisoners and quantity of documents.

Solomons. 7. R.A.N. Frigate bombarded Jap gun positions eastern entrance of Buka Passage (N. Bougainville) (220916Z)

Japan. 8(a) 553 U.S. Super-Fortresses bombed urban areas of Fukui (65' N.W. of Nagoya), Hitachi (70' N.E. of Tokyo), Choshi (60' E. of Tokyo) and Ozazaki (S.E. of Nagoya) and the Nippon Oil factory at Osaka. 2 U.S. Fortresses missing. A total of 3,530 tons of bombs were dropped (624 tons on the Nippon Oil factory).  
(b) Night 19th/20th 27 Flying Fortresses mined Maizuru, Myazu, Niigata and Shimonoseki Straits (all Honshu) and Gensan, Lonan (Korea).  
(c) U.S. submarines sank two tankers and 4 small vessels and damaged one escorted ship.

/Movements ...



20.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Movements.

9(a) ANSON, VENERABLE, VENGEANCE and COLOSSUS  
left Fremantle for Sydney.  
(b) TROMP (Dutch cruiser) arrived Manus from  
Morotai.

War Diary.

20.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

ARIADNE (fast minelayer) (2) Propose to sail 2100A today Friday. E.T.A. Malta 0700A Sunday 22nd. S. of A. 28 knots. (ARIADNE, 200800Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

Movements. Sailed 0940/20 AMARANTHUS to Chatham, Q.Z.S.842, X.1670, Y.645, L.77, H (C) 52. Sailed 1220/20th L.S.T.352 to Greenock. (F.O.G.M.A., 201327B to C. in C. Nore.)

Movement. H.M.S. MARVEL arrived Ponta Delgada 2000Z/18th, and departed 1400/19th in accordance with S.C.N.O. Halifax's 131900Z. (2) S. of A. 14 knots, E.T.A. destination 1200Z/23rd. (S.B.N.O. Azores, 201958Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)

HOLMES (Frigate) E.T.A. Ferrol 2130 tomorrow Saturday. (HOLMES, 202143 to B.N.A. Madrid.)

Movements. Sailed 0945/20th CAVENDISH, 2220/20th ARIADNE, 2020/20th MYNGS to Malta. (F.O.G.M.A., 202225B to V.A.M.)

South Atlantic

Corvette. H.M.S. VIOLET arrived. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 200605Z to Admty.)

CHARLOCK (Corvette) for E.I. CHARLOCK. Intend sailing 1600Z/21st July speed 12. E.T.A. Capetown p.m./1st August. S.L. W/T organisation 1200Z/26th. (F.O.C.W.Af., 201159Z to C. in C. S.A.)



War Diary.20.7.1945.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanSS. JOHN W.  
HAMMOND  
damaged by  
mine.My 181246. JOHN<sup>H.</sup>HAMMOND has now been towed  
to Piombino.  
(F.O.T.A.L.I., 200904B to Admty.)French  
sloops.Marine Paris agree programme for French sloop  
DUMONT D'URVILLE as contained C. in C. E.I.  
120802. They state ship will be useful for  
Admiral Med. but that majority of crew must be  
given early relief as they have many years abroad.(2) It is confidently hoped that date of refit of French sloop  
DUMONT D'URVILLE will be advanced.(3) In meantime Marine Paris emphasise that French sloop M/S.  
ANNAMITE, French Sloop M/S. GAZELLE are due to leave Toulon for  
Diego Suarez early September and while under orders of Comar  
Madagascar they are available for operational employment by  
C. in C. E.I. as and when required.(4) Reference A.M. 151339 not to C. in C. Med. Fleet refers.  
(B.N.A. Paris, 201404 to Admty.)Re Arab  
disturbances  
in North  
Africa.H.Q. Med. Allied Air Force, 201600B to R.A.F.  
Mission to France.  
See Lion Copy.Re crew for  
A.F.D. 27.Request you will signal how many S.R.R.(D) will  
be sent under para. 4 of Admiralty message  
072224.  
(A.S.L., 201649C to Admty.)Re Soviet  
request.Request has been received from Soviet  
Representative to Allied Commission Italy for  
statement showing ships now in Allied hands as  
result of occupation of Northern Italian ports.  
Request Admiralty view before referring to  
Sacmed.  
(C. in C. Med., 201827B to Admty.) *See 280124A.*

L.Cs.

Departures L.S.T. 315 (1) 1021 (2) M.F.Vs. 1543  
(3) 1558 (4).  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 201935 to Admty.)

# SECRET

166A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

201600B/July.

From. H.Q. Med. Allied. Air Force. Date. 21.7.45.

Recd. 1616.

CYPHER.

*Re Arab disturbances in*

To. Royal Air Force Mission to Franco. *N. Africa*  
Info. Air Ministry, Whitehall Air H.Q. Malta.

WX 42210.

A. 475.      20th July 1945.

1. Should there be a recurrence of Arab disturbances in North Africa question rises concerning security of Royal Air Force property. Since withdrawal of British Army the R.A.F. are not in a position adequately to protect their interests. Colonel Battistelli for General Weiss has given a firm assurance that French Forces would be made available to reinforce British Forces whenever they might be required. With a view to this request you ask French Authorities to give approval to French Commanding General in North Africa for these measures to be taken should necessity arise.

2. In view of difficulties of co-ordination between R.A.F. North Africa and Air H.Q. Malta, which became apparent during May risings it is considered that Falls Algiers should be responsible to 218 Group Algiers in addition to you. It is felt in this fashion there will be closer co-operation.

3. Now that the functions for which 1/9 FAF Squadron and FAF Sector Regnaia were placed under R.A.F. control have ceased consider operational control should be handed back to French. This need not preclude R.A.F. from offering advice and assistance to these units in training and their aircraft safety organisation which is now their main operational function. May we have your comments.

201600B.

Received in War Registry 0750/22.  
Circulated by Air Min. to Internal Depts. and  
War Office, Foreign Office, Admiralty.

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

P.A.S. (L).

O.D. (6).

D.C. (2).

D. of P. (3).

M. (2).

Air.

D.N.A.O. (2).

C.O.L.S.

W.D.

62.

d.k.



20.7.1945  
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

H.D.M.L. Your 180729. Concur.  
Flotillas. (D.D.O.D.(C), 200003A to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

A.F.D.35. Concur in proposals in A.M. 222345 June for A.F.D. 35.  
(2) Accommodation for workmen mentioned in Para. 4 of Message will be given consideration as soon as this is possible.  
(C. in C. E.I. 200456Z/Amiralty)

Tankers For Chairman Estac. Refer your 171021 and C. in C.  
for E.I. E.I. 171200 to Admiralty and M.W.T. Position Nos. 45, 46 and 47 in small tanker position list No.23 has now clarified and all three ships should sail in time for arrival in your area second half August.  
(2) Refer your para. 3 estimated arrivals on station are as follows:  
By mid August - EMPIRE BELGRAVE.  
Mid to end August - EMPIRE FAUN, EMPIRE HARP, EMPIRE COPPICE, TARASCON, HERMES.  
End August - mid Sept. - TANCRED, TARANTELLA, AGATHA, EMPIRE GAWAIN, EMPIRE HARBOUR, EMPIRE ARROW, EMPIRE CAMPDEN.  
Mid Sept. - end Sept. - TARAUCA, TANDORA, EMPIRE TEGALTA, EMPIRE ORKNEY, BORUS.  
Some allowance should however be made for slip in calculating your requirements of large tankers to cover deficiency in small tankers.  
(3) For your information HERMES is a clean tanker of 5,000 tons owned by Anglo Saxon while EMPIRE GAWAIN and EMPIRE HARBOUR are clean steam tankers of the 850 tons class.  
(M.O.W.T. London, 201101A to S.A.C.S.E.A. and C. in C. E.F.)

F.S. Although F.S. SUFFREN is not now required to  
SUFFREN. proceed to Ceylon with stores French Military Mission Kandy desires ship to embark 80 Military hospital cases from Colombo and Calcutta for return to France if possible. Party is ready now and no objection can be seen to such an arrangement. My 110914 not to French Mission refers.  
(C. in C. E.I. 201111Z to Marine Paris, Admty.)

Rangoon To assist our future planning request report on  
draft of maximum length and draft of troopships that can  
troopships. safely be embarked and disembarked at Rangoon.  
(2) For your information we expect to be short of light draft ships for lifts from U.K. to Rangoon as so many of this type are already in or en route to Indian Ocean.  
(D. of S.T. 202309A to P.S.T.O.I.)



20.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

ULSTER Destination in U.K. for ULSTER is Chatham.  
(destroyer) (D.O.D.(F), 201633A to ULSTER, S.B.N.O.W.At.)

U. 530. Reference contents of A.M. 112134, Cominch has replied as follows:  
"The terms of surrender signed with the recent German Government make specific provision for the surrender of the German U-Boat Fleet. The German Government agreed to order all "U-Boats at sea" to follow strictly the instructions for proceeding to Allied ports from the present areas as set forth in a companion message. These instructions set forth the areas and routes for U-Boats surrendering, including Area F, the North and South Atlantic. None of the points to which they are directed to proceed are in or near Argentine waters. It is considered therefore that this German submarine by surrendering at Mar del Plata, Argentina violated the terms of the surrender agreement with Germany.  
(2) "It is understood that the submarine has been at sea since February 19, 1945 and the Navy Department is informed from reasonable sources that it has engaged in operations against Allied shipping.  
(3) "The Navy department considers it highly desirable that the crew of the German submarine be thoroughly questioned to determine not only whether the submarine participated in the evacuation of any war criminal but also whether its personnel themselves perpetrated any war crimes. It is further considered that this crew could be better and more thoroughly processed in this regard in the United States rather than in Argentina.  
(4) "In view of the foregoing, the Secretary of the Navy has addressed a letter to the Secretary of State, requesting that the Department of State make appropriate representations to the Argentina Government to effect the turn-over of the personnel of this U-Boat to representatives of the United States Navy as soon as possible in order that they may be brought to the United States for questioning and appropriate disposition.  
(5) "As soon as the Commanding Officer and crew of this submarine have been interrogated, and the answers to the questions asked in your letter have been obtained, I shall communicate with you further on the subject.  
(6) "The United States Navy appreciates the assistance rendered by the British Naval Attache at Buenos Aires in this matter".  
Ends.  
(2) Reference para. 4 of the above quoted letter action has already been taken vide B.A.D's 182127 and Cominch's 181745.  
(B.A.D., 201831Z to Admty.)

Far East and Australia

MULL OF 0031Z/20th Pilot Bruce boarded H.M.S. MULL OF  
GALLOWAY, GALLOWAY. E.T.A. Goodes Island 0500Z/21st.  
Motor Craft C.T.U. 11.5.6 160738Z (N.T. in W.R.) refers.  
Maintenance (N.O.I.C. Moresby, 200047Z to C.S.W.P.S.F.)  
Ship. /Blue ...



20.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Blue summary 19th. 92 2 P.51s. attacked airfields power installations and factories Nagoya area at 0930K (-10). Shot down 9 enemy planes. Damaged one. Destroyed 2 on ground. Damaged 5. Damaged ground installations at Kagamigahara and Osaka. Damaged 1 unidentified vessel. Slight airborne opposition. 1 P.51 lost. 8 P.51s. hit Chichi Jima on 18th 61 FEAF \* P.51s. attacked southern Kyushu communications and ground installations. F.A.W. \* 18 planes damaged 1 SD off Shiono Misaki. Night PBJs \* damaged one large AK, 1 patrol vessel off Shikoku. Night of 18th/19th MAW \* two F 4 US splashed 2 Jills, 1 Zeke during 6 small enemy Ryukyu raids to bring MAW \* two total of enemy planes splashed since 7th April 500. On 18th 8 MAW \* two F 4 US swept China Coast, Hangchow Bay area. FAW \* one planes sank 7 SD off west central Korea. Damaged 2. Off Saeki damaged one SD, 1 submarine chaser. 164 carrier plane sorties Wake in training strike by WASP (CV.18). Nil combat or operational losses. Blue submarines sank one junk. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 200354 to Comgen.)  
\* As received.

Distilling plant for ships in F.E. 9 - 200 tons per day and 4 - 100 tons per day distilling plants for ships will become available in U.K. between August and January next. (2) INVELLA is being fitted with additional plant to give her a total distilling capacity of 400 tons per day before sailing for E.I. (3) Request you will state whether additional plants, which would be shipped from U.K. could be fitted by local resources to STAGPOOL, GRYFEVALE, and/or any other ships now on station. Details of the arrangement of additional plant in INVELLA can be supplied for guidance if required. (Depy. Controller, 200742A to C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. E.I.)

Digest 1276, 19th July. (Extract) (2) Okinawa Air Operations 18th July: 48 Liberators, 62 Mitchells, 44 Invaders escorted by 54 Thunderbolts dropped about 3,000 incendiaries on Shanghai Airdromes including Tinghai, Tachang, Kiangwan and Woosung: 9 parked planes destroyed plus other fires started in revetment and dispersal areas.

2 Liberators bombed Tomitaka Airdrome on eastern Kyushu. 19 Mustangs attacked railroad installations around Kagoshima. 3 Thunderbolts hit installations on Io Island off southern Kyushu. 16 Mustangs attacked large freighter, apparently in good condition, at Amami - Inland scoring two hits, three near misses with quarter tonners. (3) Mitchells attacking Shanghai 18th July reported nearly 60 planes, half fighters, half bombers, on one unidentified airdrome south of Shanghai: 7 destroyers, 15 freighters, 4 flak ships near Shanghai. (4) Night 18th/19th July probably 9 enemy planes involved in 6 raids on Okinawa. Navy claims two torpedo bombers shot down. (5) In Luzon, Philippine army forces retook Mankayan after some still fighting.

7 stat



War Diary.

20.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest  
1276,  
19th July.  
(Extract)  
Contd.

- (6) 23 F.A.W. Libs. or Privateers searched Formosa, south-east China Coast and south China Sea as usual during day. Off north-east coast Malaya, convoy of one destroyer, two medium freighters, four small coastal freighters (all stack aft type) sighted 60 miles east of Kota Baru course 30°, speed 8 knots: 3 single engine bombers, 4 fighters covered convoy and made ineffective passes at observing Liberator.  
12 small coastal freighters, 1 schooner and shipyards at Kuantan well straffed. 2 camouflaged coasters at Kuching straffed.  
(7) 3 Mariners conducting special search Nahuna Islands 18th found only one derelict freighter transport there: this ship was bombed and set on fire.  
(8) On Borneo active patrolling continues both in Brunei and Balikpapan areas without material change in general situation.  
(9) Peetees 19th July with Kittyhawks co-operation damaged 1 small craft near Jesselton. Other Peetees from Balikpapan previous night destroyed 1 sailing craft off west coast Celebes.  
(10) 13th Air Force operations 18th July follow:  
2 Liberators damaged 1 small coastal freighter and 15 small river boats at Samarinda.  
3 Liberators hit Saeobi float-plane base, Kangean Islands.  
(11) R.A.A.F. Operations 18th July: Recce Liberator over western Azores Sea straffed 1 barge at Lomblem:  
2 Night Cats bombed Dilli and Moa Island:  
8 Kittyhawks from Tarakan support Balikpapan ground forces while 14 Kittyhawks searched for suicide boats and attacked coastal craft? south of Balikpapan.  
19th July: 1 Liberator bombed Tanamon, northern Celebes, one other attacked small craft Flores Island.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 200840Z to Admty.)  
\* Verification requested.



War Diary

21.7.1945  
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Italy

1. SS. JOHN H. HAMMOND (Am. 7198 tons) mined north of Elba on 17th has been towed out of minefield and has reached Piombino.

Far East and Australia

Java Seas

2. U.S. Submarine sunk a submarine chaser and a lugger in Kombal Bay north of Lombok Strait (Sunda Islands).

Indo China

3(a) 2 U.S.N. Liberators attacked shipping in and outside Hatien harbour (French Indo China). One medium freighter, two coastal freighters and one barge were sunk and another medium freighter damaged.

(b) U.S.N. aircraft damaged a 75 ft. raft and three launches near Haiphong (French Indo China) and damaged a lugger at Panjang Is. (S.W. of Hatien).

China

4. 20/21 July - Two U.S. Mariners damaged seven large junks S.W. of Hongkong and set on fire a large tug S.W. of Macao and attacked a concentration of small craft near Amoy sinking a lugger.

Eastern Archipelago

5. A R.A.A.F. Liberator destroyed 2 barges and a raft near Alor Island (N. of Timor)

Japan

6(a)  
20/21st July - All Task Forces replenished in vicinity of 31° N. 151° E. This was a change of plan involving a quick transfer of our logistic support groups to a position 300 miles to southward. 230826Z.

(b) Blue Submarines sank 2 small merchant and one unidentified vessel off Korea.

(c) F.A.W.18 Planes sank a submarine chaser and one small craft at Shikime Shima.

(d) F.A.W.1 Planes probably sunk a Japanese submarine 75 miles East of Tokuno.

21.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

BRISSENDEN  
(destroyer)  
for B.P.F.      Countering heavy weather, E.T.A. now 1630A.  
(BRISSENDEN, 211044A to F.O.G.M.A.)

Transfer  
at Spanish  
ports.      Transfer completed.      E.T.A. destination amended  
to 1830.  
(HOLMES, 211105A to Plymouth C.C.O., Brit. Naval  
Attache Madrid.)

ITHURIEL,  
Accommodation  
ship  
Gibraltar.      When on passage to U.K. request H.M.R.T.  
PROSPEROUS be used to tow ITHURIEL to Wards  
Yard Inverkeithing.  
(D.O.D.(H), 211115A to F.O.G.M.A., C. in C.  
Med.)      *See 011018B Aug*

Movements.      E.T.A. Horta 0901Z/23.  
(BALLINDERRY, 211236Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

LOCH MORE,  
frigate  
for E.I.      E.T.A. 0700Z Sunday 22nd July.  
(LOCH MORE, 211511A to F.O.G.M.A.)

Ships for  
B.P.F.  
and E.I.      Intend to sail BRISSENDEN (S.O.) to Malta and  
INVER to Port Said at 0900B/22 July.  
(3) S. of A. 15 knots.  
(4) E.T.A. BRISSENDEN at Malta 0500B/25th July.  
INVER at Port Said p.m./27th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 211922B to V.A.M.)

MERMAID,  
A/A Sloop  
for B.P.F.      Sailed 2015B/21st MERMAID to Port Said.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 212030B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., V.A.M.)  
My 211246, part one for destination read Malta.  
(2) MERMAID will signal E.T.A.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 212248B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)  
\* Not identified in War Reg.



21.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

A/A Sloops Intend to sail HART, ALACRITY and ERNE at 0700B  
for B.P.F. July 22nd to Alexandria.  
(2) S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 1500B/24th.  
(V.A.M., 211053 to F.O.L.E.M.)

BELFAST F.O.L.E.M. 182014 not to C.S.2. Following is  
(cruiser) programme for BELFAST.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leave</u>
-	Malta	p.m. July 24th
0800C/26th	Alex. Bombardment Range	p.m./26th.
Daylight 27th	Port Said	O/A
p.m./27th	Suez	p.m./28th.
a.m. July 31st	Aden	p.m./31st.
p.m. Aug. 5th	Colombo	-

(2) PETARD to remain in company with BELFAST to Colombo, BLEASDALE, COWDRAY and EGGESFORD to Aden then proceeding Bombay in accordance with F.O.L.E.M. 182014.

(4) F.O.L.E.M. pass to destroyers.  
(V.A.M., 211212 to C. in C. E.I., C.S.2.)

Situation Reference number 621, para. 2. Ship has been  
Report safely towed out of minefield preceded by  
No. 622. minesweepers and is now at Piombino.  
Re SS. JOHN (C. in C. Med., 211804B to F.O.L.E.M., F.O.T.A.L.I.  
H. HAMMOND etc.)  
mined.

Italian Para. 4 and 5, Med. Stn. 752. Following is  
warships. present category (A) ships. All battleships.  
Operational Cruisers (EMANUELE FILBERTO, DUCA D'AOSTA), (Italian  
control of cruiser) (POMPEO MAGNO), (ATTILIO REGOLO),  
F.O.T.A.L.I. destroyers LEGYBARIS, <sup>ALFREDO</sup> ORIANI, <sup>MITO</sup> FABRIZI, S/M  
FRATELLI BANDIERA, <sup>LEGIONARIO</sup>

All other Italian warships are in category (B).  
(C. in C. Med., 211819B Med. Stn. 766B, Admty.)

Cable ship Sailed H.M. Cable Ship ST. MARGARETS at 210700C  
for Sydney to Aden for onward routing.  
(N.S.W.) (2) E.T.A. 260500Z. S. of A. 11 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 211920C to Admty.)

Levant (1) Homs and Hama. GO 31756 of 20th July. Brit.  
Sitrep. to action against these pilferers has met with  
1900 hours approval of gendarmes and locals.  
20th July. (2) Latakia. 19th July Brit. tps. arrested  
five men raiding corn dump on dock side and rec.  
large quantity corn.  
(C. in C. M.E., 211950C to W.O.)

174

War Diary.21.7.1945.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesS/M  
TRIDENT.

F.O. Submarine's 191911\*, para. 2. In view of poor condition of water services and external tubes firing gear propose TRIDENT returns to United Kingdom after (?this) patrol sailing early September.

(S/M.(2), 210401 to C. in C. E.I.)

See 231117A.

\* S/Ms. to proceed U.K. for scrapping or reserve.

Victualling  
store  
issuing  
ships.

A.M. 101235.

(2) Assume that V.S.I.S. FORT Y referred to in Q.B.106 is the PARK class V.S.I.S. mentioned in A.M. 302221 April. If so this gives a total of 10 ships already on this Station or expected, to which six more ships are being added in accordance with para.3(B), making a total of 16

ships including two combined N.S./V.S.I.S. Request confirmation.

(3) It is confirmed that a further three V.S.I.S. will be required for post "Zipper" operations and to cope with the numbers forecast in A.M. 180355 May.

(4) Para. six until sufficient additional V.S.I.S. arrive on the Station requirement is not only for refrigerated space but for full facilities given by V.S.I.S. Assuming that all 10 V.S.I.S. previously allocated and referred to in para. 2 above become available between now and early September, requirements prior to arrival of first six additional V.S.I.S. are:

(A) a similar ship to replace INDOMENEUS to arrive early September, and

(B) a further similar replacement in November.

(C) an additional temporary ship stored to 60,000 men/months in October, making a total of 2 on the Station from October to the end of the year.

(5) Para. 3(B) it is assumed that the six V.S.I.S. referred to will arrive before the end of 1945 and that the further three V.S.I.S. referred to in para. 5 will arrive early 1946.

(6) A separate signal will be made about Naval Store ships.

(C. in C. E.I., 211207Z to Admt.) Amended by 241249Z.



175

War Diary21.7.1945  
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies.

Movement. Arrival p.m. July 20th, H.M.C.S. QU'APPELLE from U.K.  
(C.O.P. Halifax, 210215Z to N.S.H.Q.)

Far East and Australia

Blue Summary 20th. Nine Iwo P.51's attacked Nagoya Osaka airfields at noon. Destroyed one enemy plane. Probably destroyed one and damaged six, all on ground. Attacked air installations factories and small craft at Okasaki, Meiji, Kamtxaki, Oitsl, and Makawa. Moderate inaccurate to accurate flak downed two Mustangs. One Mustang lost operationally. Very few enemy A/C observed at Nagoya fields. Nine Iwo P.51's attacked Chichi Mima. Night PBJs, damaged one Coastal Vessel off Southeast Kyushu. FAW 18 planes damaged one small F.T.C. off Honshu. FAW 1 and FEAF Operations curtailed by weather. Night of 10th three alerts Okinawa area. Three enemy planes crashed in area doing only minor damage vicinity Chimu airfield. 11 survivors from one B.25 and one B.24 on Kurales Mission down in neutral territory on 17th reported safe. 4 survivors of recent plane crash over Shanghai reported with friendly Chinese. Night of 19th/20th 27 B.29's mined Maizuru Miyazu, Niigata, Gensan Konas and Shimonoseki Straits. 125 B.29's attacked Fukujburban area. 126 Hitachi. 88 Chosi. 122 Okasaki. 82 Nippon Oil Refinery. Four targets of opportunity. Visually and by Radar from 10500 to 15600 feet. Nil enemy airborne opposition. Flak meagre to moderate inaccurate to accurate. Two B.29's lost five survivors rescued. One missing. Blue S/Ms reported sinking two oil laden AK one Schooner three sea trucks. Damaging one escorted ship.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 210232 to Admiralty)

S/M SEANYMPH. My 150824 (N.T. in W.D.) not to C. in C. E.I.S. SEANYMPH temporary repairs have been carried out by U.S. S/M tender ANTHEDON. Forward living space over No.1 battery has been stripped and temporary accommodation provided adequate for passage to refitting yard. No.1 battery is neutralised and disconnected. Temporary wiring carried out for essential electrical services.  
(2) Anticipate SEANYMPH will be ready to sail for refitting yard about 1st August. Ship will be capable of diving in an emergency on the one remaining battery.  
(3) As ship will be due for refit early 1946 consider that repairs at Sydney even if practicable would be uneconomical and that ship should go to U.K. for repair.  
(4) Sunda Strait passage is impracticable, alternative routes to U.K. are (a) via Jomard passage, Torres Strait, Darwin Ceylon, Aden and Suez.  
(b) via Pearl Harbour and Panama. Distances approx. the same 14,000 miles.

/ (5) ...



21.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

S/M SEANYMPH.  
(Contd.)

(5) For (a) Passage with escort or in convoy would presumably be necessary to Darwin then unescorted.  
(b) Escort would be required in approaches to ports of call and local areas. Consubsevenflt has been consulted and states that any necessary escorts could be arranged.

(6) Request acknowledgement and early instructions re sailing vessel.

(7) My 150824 paras. 4 and 8. Board has been held. Report will be forwarded.  
(S/M 8, 210448 to C. in C. B.P.F.) reply 240829.

Movements.

Arrival 20th Brisbane H.M.A.S. WESTRAKIA.  
Darwin H.M.A.S. KATOOMBA. Morotai H.M.A.S. KAPUNDA. Manus ~~Tromp~~ D.S. Madang, H.M.A.S. ARARAT. Sydney (N.S.W.) H.M.A.S. STUART.  
21st Darwin H.M.A.S. BATHURST. Manus H.M.A.S. DIAMANTIA, H.M.A.S. KANIMBLA. Balikpapan, H.M.A.S. LATROBE.  
Morotai H.M.S. BROOME.  
Departure 20th Morotai H.M.A.S. MILDURA for Tarakan, H.M.A.S. STAWELL for Balikpapan.  
(Melbourne, 210727 to Admty.)

Opintel 135 (Japanese air strength) Etc. C. in C. Pac. Adv. 210745 to C.T.F. 94, Comtwent A.F.)  
See Lion Copy.

S/M TERRAPIN.

Intend sailing TERRAPIN 1700 H.23 July for Aden and U.K. Your 200618 refers.  
(S/M/4, 210811Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)  
TERRAPIN anticipated departure Fremantle 23rd July Aden 13th August Port Said 24th August Gibraltar 3rd Sept.  
(S/M.4, 210903 to Admty.)

Digest 1277 20.7.1945 (Extract)

(1) Okinawa based Missions of 5th and 7th Air Force cancelled due weather.

(2) The usual Liberator and Privateer sea searches south China Sea were made with results that 1 Liberator possibly destroyed 5 small coastal Freighters in Trenganu Shipyards. One Junk was damaged off Cape Fuki North of Kiirun.

(3) Night 18th/19th July, 2 Mariners patrolled sea lanes off China Coast, 1 succeeded in sinking 3 of 5 large sea trucks off Hong Kong while other strafed 15 Junks and 1 large Sloop off Saint Johns Island: On following night only target for similar searches was 1 large Junk off Hong Kong.

(4) On Luzon elements 6th Infantry Division driving North along highway 4 reached Banaue within 4 miles of Guerilla Force advancing South from Bontoc.



177

21.7.1945  
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest  
1277  
20.7.1945  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)

(5) On Mindanao elements 24th Infantry Division landed unopposed on Balut Island (South of Sarangani Bay) for reconnaissance purposes.  
(6) In Balikpapan Area Dutch Troops cleared and occupied Village 2 miles N.W. of Sambodja.  
Nil other material changes Borneo land situation.  
24 Lightnings hit suicide boat hideout near Sandakan firing 1 Lugger.

2 Liberators after negative search of sea lanes bombed Radar Station near Samarinda: 2 other search Liberators bombed Limboeng in Celebes.

(8) One Pair P.T. Boats from Morotai night 19th destroyed 1 heavily laden Barge leaving hideout Katana on Northeast Halmahera. Following night another pair P.T's sank gas and ammo. laden Barge same area capturing 2 prisoners and barge quantity documents.

(9) 3 Liberators from Darwin and 1 from Morotai searched sea lanes: 1 bombed Tanamen, 2 strafed 3 sailing craft 1 Motor Launch off Southern Celebes.

(11) 1 R.A.N. Frigate bombarded Sohona Island (Buka Passage) 19th July.

(G.H.Q. S.W. P.A. 210830Z to Admty.)

JAMAICA  
(cruiser)

JAMAICA will complete to full complement and be ready to sail from U.K. about 15th August.

(2) Present intention is that she should have 18 days work up at Malta arriving Sydney, ready for service about 4th October.

(3) In view of forthcoming operations would you prefer ship to proceed direct to Sydney arriving there about 15th Sept. only partially worked up.

(D.O.D. (F), Approved V.C.N.S. 212050A to C. in C. B.P.F.) *See 2802352*

Re: Fleet  
Train  
Appt. of  
Commodore.

Since provision of Staff additional to those available on the station will present considerable difficulty, V.A.(Q)'s report will be awaited before reply is made to your 040120.

(Admty, V.C.N.S. 212230A to C. in C. B.P.F.)

*See 0106072 August.*



# SECRET

177A

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

*Opintel 135*  
*Japanese Air Strength etc.*

210745/July

FROM: C. in C. Pac. Adv.

Date: 21.7.45  
Recd. 2130

CCM 5 SERV'S AREA S BY CABLE

ADDRESSED: CTF 94, Comtwentieth A.F., Comgenisastaf,  
Comphotogroup Two.

REPEATED: Comsubpac, Airpacsubcomford.

IMPORTANT

Opening Opintel 135.

(A) B29 ship sightings 19th/20th. Six visually at 31 10 North 136 45 East at 1345Z/19. (GCT). Two visually at 34 37 North 137 50 East at 1600Z/19. 10 by Radar 34 38 North 138 05 East. Seven at Oboe-Shima 34 44 North 139 24 East. Three at 35 09 North 140 23 East. One west of Miyake Shima two M.L.W. Six by Radar Kogisuido 33 54 North 134 48 East at 1427Z/19. Four by Radar in Harima Nada. Two by Radar 33 05 North 134 31 East. Six off Hino Misaki 35 26 North 132 36 East. At Kure Naval Base two Cruisers one B.B. 15 D.D. five large M.V.

(B) Comnavgrp China reports American civilian P.O.W. in Shanghai for three years says many A.A. guns grand stands International Race Course. Large underground ammo. storage AOPA 1000 yards northwest (N.W) of race course.

(C) Estimate Japanese air strength as of 22nd July Hovvaido Kuriles Area. 80 fighters. 50 single bombers, 65 twin bombers, 100 recce. 295 total combat types. Principal concentrations. Fighters. Sapporo Chitose 25 each. Kajaoka (?15). Single Bombers. Misawa 20. Bihoro Nemuro 10 each. Twin Bombers. Bihoro 20. Vychinoe Obihiyo Misawa 15 each. Recce scattered.

(D) Tokyo Area. 865 fighters. 240 single bombers, 235 Twin Bombers, 110 recce. 145 DDO KVHAX. Principal concentrations. Fighters. Hyakurimahara 90. Itsugi 70, Utukuba 65. Kashiwo Sagam 55 each. Yatabe 50. Shimodateal Tokoroxawa 45 each. Yaixu Mobara Narimas 35 each. Chofu Imba Matsudo Shirol 30 each. Ksaumigaura Katori Koriyama Takahagi 20 each. Konoike Nasunffosawa Yokosuka 15 each. Single Bombers. Hyakurigahara 100. Kamgyi Kisaraxu 40 each. Kobara 30. Kasuxigxura 15. Twin Bombers. Matsushima 80. Kumpgaya 45. Kiryu 25, Tokorpxawa Tsukuba West 20 each. Nasuno 15. Recce. Kisaraxu 20. Kashima Shimoshixu Jokosuka 15 each.

(E) Nagoya Osaka Area. 460 Fighters. 140 Single Bombers, 170 Twin bombers. 270 Recce, 1040 Total. Distribution by Bases. Fighters. Itami 80. Komakio (?70) Eanshin 65, Meiji 55, Kiyosu 30 Akenogaharayh Nishinomiya 25 each. Kameyama Minato Takamatsu 20 each. Tambaichi 15. Ragamigahara Kakogafa Sano 10 each Kannonji 5. Single Bombers, Dayonago 50, Miho 25, Suxuka Nagoyapsast 20 each. Kannonji Tokushima 10 each. Komatsu 5. Twin Bombers. Miho 70. Komatsu 35, Matsumoto 20, Yokaiichi 15. Hamamatsu Mikuni Yoyohashi 10 each. Recce. Kowa 75, Hukuyama 50. Takuma and Suta jointly 45. Komatsu 15 Hamamatsu Maixuru Nakanaumi (near Miho) Ostu Yumyqci Gou each 10.

Hanshin.....



Hanshin Komatsushiv Kushimoto Miho Tanao 5 each.

(F) Kure Kyushu Area. 715 Fighters 55 Single bombers, 95 Twin bombers, 270 recce. 1135 total. Distribution by Bases. Fighters. Tsuiki 105, Omura 80, Matsuyama West 70, Iwakawa Oxuki Kau 50 each. Ashiya 45, Chiran Iwakuni Metatsubara Miyakonojo 40 each. Bofu 35, Kanooi 20, Tomitaka 15, Enlgyxuke Kikuclx 10 each. Byu Tojimbara Kanoya East 5 each. Single Bombers. YSA 25. Ronchi Kokubi Kushira (?10) each. Twin Bombers. Aragawa 30, Kumamoto 25, Kumanosho 15, Chiran Oita 10 each, Itaxuke five, Recce. Sasebo 50, Genkai Goryo 25 each. Oura Matsuyama Fest 20 each. Saeki Ijaxuke 15 each. Chiran Hakata Kanoya Kure Metatsubaga Miyakonojo Tachirai 10 each. Saishu Ushine Kagoshimacvah Ibusuki Gannosu Ashiya 5 each.

(G) Formosa. 155 Fighters. 10 Single Bombers. 70 Twin Bombers, 40 Recce. 275 Total. Fighters mainly at Okaseki Toyohara Heito Taichy Taien Kagisgiran. Twin Bombers. Heito Kagi Taihoku Taihoku Heito North.

(H) Korea. 240 fighters. 10 single bombers. 65 twin bombers. 145 recce. 460 total. Principal concentrations. Fighters. Suigen 50. Kimpo 45, Vunxan Keijo 30 each. Swaxan 25 RDQPE / Shinyypshu 20 each. Twin bombers. Onseiri 40. Sentoku Genxan 20 each. Recce. Onseiri Kaiunoyi Shisen Chinakai 20 each. Taikyū 15.

210745.

Advance copy: D.C. O.D. O.I.C.

✓ as received.

1st S.L. (3)

D.F.S.L.

4th S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (H)

A.C.N.S. (F)

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

A.C.N.S. (W)

D. Map Room

D.C. (2)

D.S.C.

O.D. (6)

O.I.C. (3)

D.N.I. (7) (& for D.N.L.O. (2)

M. (63) & for A.M. (35)

C.C.L.S.

W.D.

Admiral Blake

C.W.R.

E.N.C.R.

Hydrog.

D.P.O.D. (C) (2)

C.N.I. (2)

D.A.W.T.

D.M.S.

D.M.S. Citadel.

22.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Movement. 1(a) ARIADNE (fast minelayer) arrived Malta from Gibraltar and sailed again for Port Said.  
(b) ABERCROMBIE (monitor) arrived Alexandria from Malta.

East Indies

Movement. 2. SUFFREN (French Cruiser) left Diego Suarez for Tamatave (Madagascar).

Far East and Australia

Malaya and Gulf of Siam. 3. U.S. Submarines sank 1 submarine-chaser and six junks in the Singapore area and 5 small craft in Gulf of Siam.

China. 4. U.S. Aircraft attacked Shanghai shipping and docks with 250 aircraft blowing up a destroyer. Damaged one destroyer escort, 2 patrol craft 4 other vessels and many small craft.

Japan. 5(a) Surface craft of U.S. 3rd Fleet sank 2 cargo vessels and probably sank another.  
(b) U.S. S/MS sank 2 merchant vessels off Honshu.  
(c) FAW one planes destroyed 1 merchant ship and 6 barges.  
(d) P. 51 planes damaged 8 Submarine chasers and 3 merchant vessels.  
(e) Photographs of Yokosuka show the Battleship NAGATO superstructure damaged and one destroyer next to her sunk. One cable and seven motor torpedo boats destroyed.



22.7.1945.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

LOCH MORE. Intend to sail LOCH MORE at 2000B/22nd July, to Port Said.  
(3) Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. 0500B/28th July.  
(7) LOCH MORE acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 221027B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Tug  
FRISKY. Your 192056B\*. H.M. Tug FRISKY arrived 0800B/  
22nd July.  
F.O.G.M.A. please pass to C. in C. Med.  
(R.O. Vigo, 221054B to F.O.G.M.A.)  
\* H.M. Tug FRISKY from Taranto.

L.S.T.3502. Intend to sail L.S.T.3502 at 2000B/22nd July to  
Port Said.  
(3) Speed 9 knots, E.T.A. p.m./31st July.  
(6) L.S.T.3502 acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 221509B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., L.S.T.  
3502.)

ROMOLA,  
F.M.S. Following repeats my 212358Z ROMOLA arrived  
Ponta Delgada 0830Z/20th and sailed 0800Z/21st  
in accordance with S.C.N.O. Halifax's 131900Z.  
S. of A. 12 knots, E.T.A. Plymouth 1200Z/25th.  
(S.B.N.O. Azores, 221920Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Movement. Arrived Dutch S/M. 0.23, H.M.S. LOCH MORE.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 222003B to S/M. 3.)

South Atlantic

PEVENSEY  
CASTLE,  
A.S.R. Have taken over A.S.R. Station 21.  
(PEVENSEY CASTLE, 220723 to F.O.C.W.Af.)

22.7.1945.  
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanARIADNE  
(fast  
minelayer)Intend to sail ARIADNE at 1845B July 22nd to  
Port Said.  
(2) S. of A. 28 knots. E.T.A. 0500B/24th.  
(6) ARIADNE acknowledge and comply.  
(V.A.M., 220935B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)Levant  
Sitrep. to  
1900 Hours  
21st July.333177. GO/32136 cipher 22 July.  
(1) Hassatche. Night 20/21 July French GD on  
house French Offr. opened fire killing one  
TJFF soldier wounding two Civs. GD replaced  
by Brit. and Brit. Rfts. sent Hassatche.  
Investigations proceeding.  
(2) Elsewhere Syria and Lebanon - N.T.R.  
(C. in C. M.E., 221140C to W.O.)Local  
operation  
controls.Within the area defined in Med. Stn. message 752B  
the following authorities will assume local  
operational control as follows:On the west coast of Italy. N.O.I.C. Leghorn -  
the area north of latitude (036°) 40' N.  
N.O.I.C. Naples - the area south of latitude

042° 40' N.

On the east coast Bayonne, Italy. N.O.I.C. Taranto - the  
area south of latitude 042° 00' N. N.O.I.C. Trieste - the  
area north of latitude 042° 00' N.(2) As it is intended that F.O.I.L. should exercise operational  
control of (?class) B Italian warships through the Italian  
Ministry of Marine, the following procedure for effecting  
movements of such ships will be adopted -(A) in case of Italian control, the Ministry of Marine will  
signal through Italian channels to the Italian N.Os. i/c.  
concerned, the orders required to comply with F.O.I.L's  
intentions.(B) An "Intend to sail signal" which will include the purpose  
for which the voyage is being made - will be made by F.O.I.L.(?to) C. in C. and the British N.Os. i/c. of the areas in which  
the ports of departure and destination are situated.(C) In British controlled ports, the British N.Os. i/c. will  
give the actual sailing orders.

(C. in C. Med., 221205B Med. Stn. 767B.)

BRECON,  
destroyer  
for B.P.F.Intend to sail BRECON at 0800 July 23rd to  
Alexandria.  
Para. 2. S. of A. 15 knots, E.T.A. 1600/25.  
Para. 7. BRECON acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(V.A. Malta, 221221B to F.O.L.E.M.)Reporting of  
movements.Request Admiralty may continue to be included in  
addressees of signal giving movements of minor  
war vessels. Your 190941, para. 4(b) refers.  
(Admty., 221706A to C. in O. Med.)

/Landing ...



War Diary.

22.7.1945.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Landing  
craft.

Sailed L.S.T. 3035 (S.O.) with L.C.T. 2399  
embarked, in company with L.S.Ts. 3036 and 3007  
at 220615C to Aden.  
(2) E.T.A. Aden 270800, S. of A. 11 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 221955C to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrived CAVENDISH, MYNGS, L.C.T. 322, M.T.B.423,  
M.F.Vs. 1010, 1055, 1113, 1171, 1173, 1148, 1540,  
156.  
Arrived and sailed ARIADNE.  
Sailed HART, ERNE.  
(V.A. Malta, 222108 to Admty.)

22.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Situation Report No.23. (1) Andaman Sea. B.S.3 with NELSON, SUSSEX, EMPRESS, AMEER, four destroyers and five Minesweepers of 7th M/S Flotilla with DECCAN and PUNJAB as attached danlayers left Trincomalee 19th July to carry out minesweeping operation with bombardments and air strikes.

(2) Tenasserim Coast. Reference Sitrep No.22 para.2. H.M.S. TEST returned to Tavoy Point 15th July and bombarded observation post and estimated gun position. No return fire or enemy seen.

(3) Malacca Straits. H.M.S/M TORBAY and STATESMAN have sunk by gunfire three country craft and one 900 coaster. (C. in C. E.I. 220658 to Admty.)

Transfer of flag. The Flag of Rear Admiral Martin C.B.E., D.S.O. is to be transferred from H.M.S. LARGS to H.M.S. BULOLO at 0800 on 23rd July. (F.O.(Force W). 220816Z to BULOLO, LARGS)

Movements for F.E. Arrived LOCH LOMOND, FARNDALE, CALPE. Departed L.S.T. 3021 with L.C.T. 2478 embarked. Request mails to Bombay. (Com. Aden, 221707Z to Admty.)



22.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

OTTAWA  
 destroyer Departure a.m. 22nd July.  
 H.M.C.S. OTTAWA to Newfoundland for onward  
 routing to U.K.  
 (C.O.P. Halifax, 220359Z to N.S.H.Q.)

Far East and Australia

Opintel 136 C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 220248Z to C.T.F.73, 94,  
 Enemy air 95, C. in C. B.P.F.  
 strength See Lion Copy.

Blue F.A.W.18 planes damaged one building and  
 summary attacked ground installations Yiyake Shima.  
 21st Sank one S.C.S., one small craft at Shikine Shima.  
 12 2 P.51s hit Chichi Jimi. 11 B.29s bombed  
 Moen Truk. Two B.29s bombed Marcus. 8 11th A.F.  
 Liberators bombed Matsuwa airfield Kuriles.  
 Radm. A.E. Montgomery relieved Radm. G.D. Murray as  
 Comairpac.

Blue submarines sank 2 S.D., one unidentified vessels off  
 Korea. One subchaser, one tug in Kombal Bay North of Lombok  
 Strait. A.S.W. operation instituted at 10.34, 132.47.  
 (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 220728 to all concerned.)

Digest 1278 (1) Okinawa based aircraft were again stopped by  
 21.7.45 weather.  
 (Extract) (2) Navy A/C covered the usual search plan  
 finding customary small craft at Formosa, Hainan  
 and China Coast anchorages: one A/C damaged 75  
 ft. lubber raft and three launches vicinity

Haiphong while another upset 20 Japanese making a boat crossing  
 on river north of Swatow. Special Navy searches went to Gulf  
 of Siam night 20th - 21st July and located one destroyer escort  
 anchored at Small Island 20 miles south of Hatien, one patrol  
 craft three small freighters anchored Hatien harbour, the coastal  
 freighter was accurately strafed outside the Harbour. Following  
 day 2 special R/C Liberators found 2 medium stack aft freighters,  
 one coastal freighter, one unidentified small vessel in Inner  
 Hatien Harbour while 2 coastal freighters, one towing a barge,  
 were outside. Attacked one merchantman which was sunk, another  
 damaged. Coastal freighters with barge exploded and sank, the  
 other was thoroughly strafed. This convoy effectively harassed  
 during 18th and 19th by Allied Submarines.

(3) Two Privateers searched Singapore area but Johore Strait cloud  
 covered. However noted 100 small craft town Harbour and one  
 probable destroyer, 2 medium merchantmen, one (corrupt group)  
 unidentified vessel and several coastal freighters in general area.  
 At Bintan Island just South of Singapore many signs of recent

/activity...



# SECRET

183A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.  
(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

220248Z July.

Date 23.7.1945

From C in C. Pac. ADV. HQ

Recd.0017

C.C.M. (5 SERVICES) AREA GEN. SECRET BY T/P

Addressed C.T.F.73, C.T.F.94, C.T.F.95, C. in C.B.P.F.,  
Comgen 20th A.F., All T.F. and T.G. Comdrs. ThirdFlt.,  
Commargilsarea, Comphibspac, AC One B.P.F., Photo Grp,Two,  
C. in C. S.W.P.A., All carriers ThirdFlt,  
Comgenusastaf, Comaafswpa, Comgen Seventh Fltcom,  
Info. C. in C. Pac, Pearl, Conseventhfl, Conairpac,  
Consubpac, Airpacsubcomfod, C.N.O., Comgenusaf,  
China, Congens 5th, 13th AAF, ABC, AGAM, Admiralty  
London.

IMPORTANT.

*Enemy air strength*

OPINTEL 136 begins.

- A. Change estimate enemy air strength for 23rd July.  
B. Interpron two reports from 20 AF photos north Honshu 20th July. Acromi complete coverage one MV operational 5000 tons. Same - KO 40-32 North 141-34 East complete 15 small craft sunk or damaged in harbor. Misawa airfield 40 - 42 - 30 North 141 - 22 East complete. Total serviceable aircraft 70. Twin engine one Peggy one Sally one Nell one Tabby 15 unidentified. Single engine three Kate one Val one Pine seven Willow 38 unidentified. Two twin 21 single SW dispersal. Five Twin N dispersal. 10 Twin 23 single on field two twin six single S of hangars. Hachinoe airfield 40 - 33 North 141 - 28 East coverage of E dispersal only. Seven twin 33 single unidentified.  
C. From UD - 3 photos 17th July KYUSHU 90.43 - 2194 Komaru - Gawa railroad bridge 32 - 08 North 130 - 32 East two spans destroyed one damaged. Miyaxaki 31 - 53 North 131 - 27 East 90 per cent. One Betty one unidentified twin SW dispersal. Nittagahara 32 - 06 North 131 - 26 East dispersal areas not covered. One twin engine. Sadohatp 32 - 04 - 30 North 131 - 21 East complete. Unidentified 8 single E dispersal four single N. Karasehara 32 - 13 North 131 - 33 East coverage SE half. None serviceable.

220248Z

1st. S. L. (3)  
D. F. S. L.  
4th. S. L.  
5th. S. L.  
V. C. N. S.  
A. C. N. S. (H)  
A. C. N. S. (F)  
A. C. N. S. (A) (2)  
A. C. N. S. (W)  
D. Map Room  
D. C. (2)  
D. S. O.  
O. D. (6)  
O. I. C. (3)  
D. N. I. (7) (& for D. N. L. O. (2))  
M. (63) and for A. M. (35)

~~C. C. L. S.  
W. D.  
Ad. Blake.  
C. W. R.  
D. N. O. R.  
Hydrog.  
D. D. O. D. (C) (2)  
C. N. I. (2)  
D. A. W. T.  
D. M. S.  
D. M. S. (Cit.)~~

A43/EK



22.7.1945  
SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and AustraliaDigest 1278  
21.7.45  
(Extract)  
(Contd.)

recent activity, shipbuilding and warehousing noted as well as up to 20 coastal freighters. Navy Liberators strafed shipyards, three coastal freighters and six luggers at Banjarmasin but noted nil activity. Another searchplane damaged one lugger at Panjang Island about 120 miles West of Hatien.

- (4) Two Mariners had busy night 20th - 21st: one damaged seven large Junks southwest of Hongkong also left stopped and completely ablaze, one large sea-going tug 45 miles southwest of Macao: other located much small boat, barge and junk traffic Amoy area, strafed 36 targets, sinking one Lugger.
- (6) On Mindanao, Balut Island occupation proceeded without opposition: In Eastern Borneo 7th A.I.F. Division pushed 6½ miles from Sambodja to Coast of Faroe while only minor contacts reported from aggressive patrols in other sectors.
- (7) On 20th 1 pair Morotai P.Ts. destroyed on Cano at Northwest Halmahera while another pair boats from Balikpapan patrolled Koetai Delta 60 miles north, destroying huts in area and damaging 1 Barge. One U.S. Destroyer Escort bombarding Miri area in support of ground offensive.
- (8) 6 Dutch Kittyhawks from Biak attacked suspected Japanese concentrations southern Geelvinck Bay.
- (9) R.A.A.F. Operations 20th July: 29 Beauforts attacked Japanese positions Wewak Area in support of ground forces: 26 Kittyhawks, 4 Spitfires attacked small craft and personnel areas Sandakan and Labuk Bay while Light Kittyhawks provided direct support Balikpapan ground forces. All Labuan Missions cancelled due weather. 2 Spitfires conducted Barge sweep Northern Halmahera. 1 Liberator from Morotai and 2 from Darwin searched usual sea areas; 1 bombed and strafed Ketch off southeast Celebes, 2nd destroyed 2 barges, 1 raft near Alor Island. 19 Beauforts hit Japanese positions Wewak area supporting Australian Troops there.
- (11) R.A.N. frigate bombarded Japanese gun positions Eastern entrance Buka Passage 20th July.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 220916Z to Admty. etc.)

23.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

East Indies

Transfer  
of Flag,  
Force W.

1. The flag of Rear-Admiral Martin, C.B.E.,  
D.S.O. transferred from H.M.S. LARGS to H.M.S.  
BULOLO at 0800.

Movement.

2. QUEEN ELIZABETH arrived at Aden and sailed  
again for Suez.

America and West Indies

Movement.

3. TRACKER (Ferry carrier) sailed from Cristobal  
(C.Z.) for Norfolk (Va.)

Far East and Australia

China  
Coast.

4. Night 22nd/23rd U.S. aircraft shipping sweep  
off the China Coast near Wenchow damaged 10  
small craft.

N. China  
and Japan.

5. U.S. planes sank two merchant vessels and  
damaged another off Shiyoasaki. Damaged two  
off Shantung Peninsula.

Japan  
operations.

6(a) 22nd/23rd July U.S. destroyers carried out  
further anti-shipping sweeps in Tokyo Bay.  
(b) Task Forces 37 and 38 proceeded in a south-  
westerly direction for about 600 miles. Both  
forces are due to turn to the N.W. today for air  
strikes against Kyushu scheduled for dawn  
tomorrow.  
(c) Night of 22nd/23rd U.S. aircraft mined  
Shimonoseki Straits and Fusan Masan (Korea).  
(d) F.A.W.18 planes sank 1 submarine chaser and  
4 small vessels. Damaged two submarine chasers.  
(e) An American submarine landed a shore party  
which blew up railroad train on east coast of  
Karafuto (Sakhalin Island).  
(f) Blue submarine shelled Kushkaki lighthouse  
off south tip of Kyushu.



23.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.F.D. 67 Have been relieved from escort of A.F.D.67 by H.M.S. KLO. Am returning Gibraltar. A.F.D.67 P.C. and S. at 0800 July 23rd, 037° 27' N. 007° 45' E. 098° 5½ knots.  
(JONQUIL, 230815B to F.O.G.M.A.)

BERWICK (Cruiser) trooping C. in C. Portsmouth's 191830 not to all. Proceed as safe navigation permits through (route), thence approach channel to destination.  
(2) Report your E.T.A. 24 hours in advance to V.A.M.  
(4) BERWICK acknowledge.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 230852B to BERWICK.)

Dutch S/M 23. Intend to sail D.S./M.O.23 at 2000B 23rd July to Malta.  
(2) Route L and current approach channel.  
(3) Speed 9 knots until 2000B 24th July then 13 knots E.T.A. 0800B 27th July.  
(4) W/T watch on Gibraltar broadcast shifting to Malta broadcast at 1200B 26th July. O.23 is to report her position at noon daily.  
(5) O.23 acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(6) S.3 191147A not to all refers.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 231152B to V.A.M. to O.23.)

MIRROR (Cable ship) Sail at 1200B 24th July to Lisbon.  
(3) Speed 9 knots E.T.A. 2000B 25th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 231604B to MIRROR.)

Movement Arrive GENISTA, MARGUERITE towing POLAR V from Las Palmas.  
(F.O.G.M.A. 231646B to R.O. Las Palmas.)

WILTON destroyer for E.I. Sailed from Vigo 1800A E.T.A. Gibraltar 0900A 25th July.  
F.O.G.M.A. pass to B.N.A. Madrid.  
(WILTON, 231805A to Admty.)

South Atlantic

RAPID destroyer Departure 1030B July 23rd RAPID for Durban route R 10 S. of A. 20 knots E.T.A. 0630B 25th/7  
(C. in C. S.A. 231046B to Admty.)

/VIOLET...

War Diary

23.7.1945  
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

VIOLET  
Corvette

Sailed VIOLET through (route) and eastbound to Diego Suarez for fuel and onward routing to Colombo.

(2) S. of A. 11 knots.

(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1530Z/29th July  
(N.O.I.C. Durban 231608Z to Admty.)



23.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

L.S.D.s.  
Collision.

H.M.S. HIGHWAY collided with me at 1225 F.G. 23rd July while at anchor off number 3 Hastings mooring. Superficial damage sustained. Full report follows.  
(LARGS, 230655Z to Admty.)

GRYFEVALE.

Additional plant cannot be fitted in GRYFEVALE. Station resources will not permit these extra plants being fitted in any ships at present on station.  
Your 200742 para. 3 refers.  
(C. in C. E.I. 231114Z to Admty.)

S/M  
TRIDENT  
for U.K.

S/M 2 210401. Subject to concurrence of C. in C. E.I. propose this be approved. Para. 1(b) and 2 of my 051816 June refer.  
(F.O.S/M, 231117A to Admty.)

Movements.

Arrived QUEEN ELIZABETH.  
L.S.T's 324 9 160 L.S.T's 303, 321, 405, 408, 419  
Departed LOCH LOMOND, QUEEN ELIZABETH, FARNDALE, CALPE, BOMBAY, BENGAL, KONKAN, CARNATIC.  
L.S.Ts. 324, 160, 303, 321, 405, 408, 419.  
(Com. Aden, 231826 to C. in C. H.F.)

Tankers for  
E.I.

Your 171200. Situation in Mediterranean has improved and the three small tankers should arrive on your station in the second half of August.  
(2) War Office cipher 61213 addressed S.A.C.S.E.A T.O.O. 201101 July refers.  
(Director of Plans, (Q), 232213A to C. in C. E.I.)



189

War Diary23.7.1945  
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

A/S Training S/M. Arrival Auckland H.M.S. VOX escorted by H.M.A.S. LISMORE.  
(N.Z.N.B. 230130Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Blue Summary 22nd. Desron 61 of 3rd Fleet reports encountering four ships and sinking one medium A.K. one small A.K. Probably sinking one medium A.K. Damaging one escort five miles west of Najima Saki in night sweep into Sagami Nada. Desdiv 113 reports nil contacts in Ogasawara Gunto sweep. Bombarded Omura Towu Chichi Jima. On afternoon of 18th T.F. 38 flew 592 sorties Tokyo area. Photos Yokosuka show BB NAGATO superstructure damaged one DD next to NAGATO sunk. One cable layer three small A.K. seven M.T.B. destroyed. One O.D.D. one flak ship six small craft damaged. 30 enemy A/C destroyed and 42 damaged on ground. Three locomotives destroyed four damaged. 16 hangars ground installations and communications damaged. 12 of our A/C lost to A.A. 12 pilots 10 aircrewmen lost. T.F. 37 planes flew 51 sorties against airfields north Tokyo area. Destroyed 13 planes and damaged 25 on ground. Damaged 24 junks hangars and ground installations. Two V.F. lost in combat. Pilots rescued. 105 Iwo P.51's hit Osaka airfields. Shot down one of four airborne enemy planes. Destroyed one Emily on water. Destroyed seven locomotives and damaged eight S.C. two S.D. one large A.K. Damaged 20 railroad cars three power plants air and ground installations. One P.51 lost to A.A. Blue S/M rescued pilot. FAW 18 planes destroyed one SD six barges. Probably destroyed two (?DS) in Sagami Nada. One PB four Y reported ditched north of Iwo. FAW one planes rescued seven survivors of Privateer ditched off Yangtze Cape. On 21st probably sank one Orange S/M 75 miles east of Tokunv. Sank one SD and damaged two in Tsushima Straits. Damaged one FTB near Fusan. 26 Guam based P.47's attacked Moen Truk. One P.47 destroyed by A.A. Comgen 10 reports unidentified plane over Buckner Bay dropped bomb or torpedo which damaged MARATHON (APA 200). Flooded two holds but ship unloaded and damage under control. T.F. 92 bombarded southeast coast Paramushiro. Blue S/M sank 2 SD off east coast Honshu. One SC six junks Singapore area. Five small craft Gulf of Siam.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 230454 to Comgen 20th A.F. etc.)

BERRY HEAD  
Esc. Maint.  
Ship.

BERRY HEAD 200108 passed to V.A.(Q).  
Departure of ship from Pearl should not be delayed on this account.  
(2) V.A.(Q) is requested to investigate possibility of flying Medical Officer to Pearl by 29th or if not practicable to arrange for him to join on arrival BERRY HEAD at Brisbane.  
(C. in C. B.P.F. 230807 to V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

B.P.F.O.Rep.  
No.15.

(1) Heavy weather delayed programme in para. 3 of my 110809 not to all by 24 hours. On 17th and 18th July Brit. Pac. Flt. operated to the northward to T.F.38 and was luckier with the weather.  
(2) Results. 17th July. 13 Enemy planes

/destroyed ...



190

23.7.1945  
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

B.P.F. destroyed on ground. Three damaged on ground.  
 O.Rep No.15 Destroyed three locomotives and damaged ground  
 (Contd.) installations. Sank one Junk. Damaged one S.B.,  
 one S.C., one Boom Defence vessel, 8 small craft,  
 three planes lost but all pilots rescued. Summary  
 p.m. 18th July. 51 Combat sorties without any  
 personnel losses against airfields North Tokyo area. Three  
 planes destroyed on ground and 25 damaged on airfields. 24  
 Junks damaged. Hangars and installations, railways, freight  
 cars well strafed and rocketted. Two planes lost in combat and  
 2 operationally.  
 (3) Night 18th/19th July. As the main force retired United  
 States Light Cruisers and Destroyers carried out anti-shipping  
 sweeps in the waters approaching Tokyo Bay. Com. 3rd Fleet intend  
 to continue these sweeps at every opportunity.  
 (4) 20th/21st July. All Task Forces replenished in vicinity 31  
 degs. N. 151 degs. E. This was a change of plan involving a  
 quick transfer of our logistic support groups to a position 300  
 miles to the South.  
 (5) 22nd/23rd July. United States Destroyers carried out  
 further sweeps as in para. 3 above. Task Forces 37 and 38 pro-  
 ceeded south westerly for about 600 miles. Both forces are due  
 to turn to the northwestward p.m. 23rd for air strikes against  
 Kyushu scheduled for dawn 24th.  
 (C. in C. B.P.F. 230826Z to Admty.)  
 My 110809 and O.R. No.15. Com. 3rd Fleet's present  
 intention is to remain in the general area south of Honshu,  
 throwing in air strikes from different directions against targets  
 ranging from Sasebo to Tokyo. This phase is planned to continue  
 till 2nd August and may include heavy ship bombardment of  
 southern Kyushu before the Force retires.  
 (2) Task Forces will replenish on 26th to 27th July and again on  
 31st July to 1st August in the vicinity of 28 degs. N. 138 degs.  
 E. Our logistic support groups are now converging on this area  
 from the northeast (a transfer of over 700 miles from previous  
 replenishment position) from Eniwetok and from Manus.  
 (3) The Force will refuel again on 5th August some 600 miles to  
 the northeast of the position in para. 2 prior to final strikes  
 against either North Honshu and Hokkaido or against Tokyo on the  
 7th and 8th August.  
 (4) Weather has been bad and is liable to change this plan at any  
 stage of the operations.

S/M TERRAPIN. Departure TERRAPIN 0900Z/23rd July in accordance  
 Comsub Seventh Fleet Rearons 211058 not to all.  
 (3) Holds S.P's in accordance with E.I.C.O.1302  
 para. 2.  
 (S/M.4, 230902Z to C. in C. E.I.S.)

Destroyer. Arrived Suva file time H.M.S. QUILLIAM.  
 (C.A.N.F. Fiji, 232230Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

24.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

East Indies

Malaya.

1. H.M. Minesweeper SQUIRREL mined during a supported M/S operation ("Livery") off west coast Siam, She was later sunk by gunfire from ships of the forces. There were 115 survivors including all officers. (page 233)  
*(Puket, Salang Island, Malayan Peninsula).*

Far East and Australia

China.

2. 120 B.24s, bombed Kangwan airdrome, Shanghai. 86 U.S. aircraft attacked Yangtse shipping damaging one patrol craft and 3 F.T.Ds.

Japan.

3(a) Units of U.S. 3rd Fleet and destroyers swept mouth of Kii Suido, bombarded Kushimoto seaplane base. T.F. 38 reports on shipping strike Kure two battleships of the ISE class and two heavy cruisers AOBA and TONE and one carrier UNRYU hit. T.F. 37 reports one submarine chaser and seven small craft sunk. One carrier and two other vessels damaged.  
(b) 441 U.S. Super-Fortresses bombed aircraft and industrial plants in the Osaka-Nagoya and Tokyo areas. Results at Osaka excellent. There was no fighter opposition and nil to intense A/A fire.  
(c) F.A.W. 1 planes sank one submarine chaser and one SCL and damaged 2 other small ships.



24.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

**Movement.** MINSTREL (S.O.) and MICHAEL arrived Ponta Delgada 0900Z/23rd departed 0600Z/24th routed as in my 212358Z.  
(3) S. of A. 13 knots. E.T.A. Plymouth 1300Z/28th.  
(S.B.N.O. Azores, 240952Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)

**NORSEMAN,** cable ship. Sail at 1600B/25th through northern half of Straits and as safe navigation permits to position (L) 47.20 N., 07.03 W. thence as necessary through (?D) positions north and west) (M) 49.56, 05.47. (N) 49.49, 06.12. (O) 47.54, 09.23. (P) 45.20, 11.30.  
(2) Speed of advance 10 knots, E.T.A. position (L) 0800B/28th July.  
(5) NORSEMAN is to report the commencement and completion of each repair to C. in C. Plymouth.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 240953B to NORSEMAN.)

**POLAR V.** Intend to sail GENISTA (S.O.) escorting MARGUERITE towing POLAR V at 1100B/25th July to Plymouth for onward routeing of corvettes to Chatham (A.M. 051840B, not to all, refers).  
(2) Admiralty is requested to signal destination of POLAR V to GENISTA.  
(4) Speed 5 knots in good weather. E.T.A. p.m./3rd August.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 241105B to GENISTA, MARGUERITE.)

**Destroyers for E.I. and B.P.F.** Arrived LAMERTON and STEVENSTONE.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 241215B to Com. i/c. Sheerness.)

**STEVENSTONE,** destroyer for B.P.F. Intend to sail STEVENSTONE at 1700B/25th July to Malta.  
STEVENSTONE acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 241513B to V.A.M., STEVENSTONE.)

**German Prisoners.** HOLMES and tanker MAX ALBRECHT with 155 German prisoners left Ferrol midday July 24th.  
(Corunna, 241600B to Admiralty.)

**CAESAR (D.6),** destroyer. Departure 1800/24 CAESAR to Malta.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 241833B to V.A. Malta.)

**MIRROR.** Sailed 1308/24th Cable ship MIRROR bound Lisbon.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 241841B to Admty.)

24.7.1945.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic - Contd.

U. 760. Your 161704A. U.760 was formally handed over by Spanish authorities yesterday July 23rd and is expected to be ready to leave in tow of FRISKY p.m. July 26th.  
(B.N.A. Madrid, 242012B to Admt.)

Dutch Sailed 2030/23rd Dutch S/M. O.23 bound Malta.  
S/M. O.23. (F.O.G.M.A., 232036B to V.A.M.)

South Atlantic

U. 530. Informed from United States source 2 American aeroplanes will refuel Montevideo this week on passage to Argentina carrying American crew for German S/M. U.530 now in Mar del Plata. Planes will return to U.S. carrying German S/M. crew as prisoners.  
(N.A. Montevideo, 242013Z to Admt. for D.N.I.)



War Diary

24.7.1945  
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Cositrep  
Number 18  
Part 1.

Ground to 2000B hours 23rd July.

1. Eighth Army. Five Corps. Move into Syria continued according to plan. Own troops reached general line Ehrenhausen E.2194 Leibnitz Z.1600 - Grax B.86 - Leoben B.5593. Patrols to Yugoslav border found no signs of Yugoslav troops in area so far evacuated by Russians.
2. Fifth Army. Nothing to report.
3. Two District. 6 S.A. Armoured Division now being relieved of frontier guard duties along the Swiss border between D.2622 eastwards. E.2540 by the Cremona and Mantova Groups. Also being relieved in Val Daosta area by 2 Med. Regiment 7 Agra.
4. Greece. Evacuation of Germans from Crete now completed. (A.F.H.Q., 241110B to W.O.)

H.M. Ships  
calling  
Malta  
from F.E.

It would help the working up staff to acquire the latest information and procedures if H.M. Ships returning to United Kingdom from East Indies and British Pacific Fleets were to call at Malta. A few hours anchored in daylight outside the breakwater would be sufficient.

(2) A case in point would be H.M.S. QUEEN

ELIZABETH. N.O.I.C Aden's 231558\* refers.  
(V.A. Malta, 241432B to C. in C. Med.)

\* Sailed QUEEN ELIZABETH in accordance with C. in C.E.I. Stn. 041157.

Ex.German  
Midget  
S/Ms.

Premar III has informed me of his intention to move one of the two ex-German midget submarines now at Paris to Toulon by navigable inland waterways.

(2) This submarine will be employed temporarily in Toulon for S/M listening exercises.

(B.N.A. Paris, 241657B to C. in C. Med.)

Movements

Port Said 24th July.

Arrivals ARIADNE, OCEANWAY, L.S.T. 304, LOCH GORM, M.F.A. BUCCINUM.

Departures ARIADNE, OCEANWAY, S/M SCORCHER, L.S.T. 3024 F.S. ELAN.

(S.N.R.S.A., 241827C to Admiralty.)

NORFOLK  
Cruiser

C. in C. Plymouth 191536\* E.T.A. 1600B at Breakwater.

(NORFOLK, 241954A to V.A.M.)

\* Intend to sail NORFOLK 1530/21st to Malta.



24.7.1945  
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

F.S. SUFFREN French cruiser SUFFREN arrived Tamatave 0500Z/23  
Admiralty pass to N.A. Paris.  
(B.N.L.O. Diego Suez, 240841 to Admty.)

Victualling Word after first V.S.I.S. in para. two of  
store Issue C. in C. E.I.'s 211207 should read Fort Y.  
ships V.A.(Q) B.P.F.'s 230354 to Colombo C.C.O.  
refers.  
(Colombo C.C.O. 241249Z to Admty. C. in C.  
B.P.F.)

KALE Sailed H.M.S. KALE in accordance with C. in C.  
Frigate S. Atlantic's 171112.  
(N.O.I.C. Mauritius, 241301Z to Admty.)

Transports We are planning the following sailings from  
Sailings to the U.K. to arrive at their destinations in  
E.I. Sept. East of Suez capacities given are  
approximate:-  
(a) To Bombay August 15/25 STRATHNAVER 3300,  
CANTON 2000, ORBITA, 2000 JOHAN DE WITT 1900.  
(b) To Bombay August 26/early Sept.  
JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT 3000, LLANGIBBY CASTLE 1400, CARTHAGE  
2000 total as per (a) and (b) above 15600.  
(c) To Ceylon QUEEN OF BERMUDA August 15th and MOOLTAN about  
August 24th 3500 our 180159 para. 8 refers.  
(d) To Rangoon CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS second half August 2800  
subject to your reply to 202309A, to P.S.T.O. India only.  
(2) STRATHNAVER will be fitted to carry 450 wounded on her  
return voyage to U.K.  
(3) ORBITA and LLANGIBBY CASTLE will be fitted to carry 300  
wounded each and will remain in the Indian Ocean thereby  
releasing an equivalent lift for return to the U.K.  
(4) HIGHLAND PRINCESS 1750 is planned to embark in West Africa  
in mid August for India.  
(5) Request your comments on foregoing together with estimate  
of lift you will require in ships returning from Australia  
and calling during Sept. at Bombay.  
(6) Agreed.  
(D. of S.T. 241938A to P.S.T.O.I.)



196

24.7.1945.  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Boom  
defences,  
W. Indies.

U.S. Authorities now intend to lift and dispose of A/T baffle at Barbados as this is U.S.A. material. Completion of British net recovery programme can therefore be advanced to mid-Sept. Consider B.D.O. West Indies organisation can then be wound up.

(2) Request disposal of BASUTO.  
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad, 241135Q to S.B.N.O.W.At.)

ULSTER,  
destroyer.

H.M.S. ULSTER departed Cristobal 24th. E.T.A. Bermuda 28th, speed 17 knots.  
(Compasseron, 241644 to Admty.)

Pacific  
Summary  
No. 23.  
Operational  
Naval Units.

(Cominch, 241750Z to Admty.)  
See Lion Copy.

DUNCANSBY  
HEAD.

A.M. 201143A\* and my 161503. It is now confirmed that ship will not be able to sail before about 12th September partly owing to storing difficulties.  
(B.A.T.M., Ottawa, 242206Z to C. in C. E.I.)  
\* Requesting confirmation expected date of arrival of DUNCANSBY HEAD in Ceylon.

Far East and Australia

23rd July  
Blue  
Summary.

68 B.29s. bombed Ube coal liquification plant in early morning by radar from 12900.  
23 B.29s. mined Shimonoseki Straits Wkshin and Fusan Masan night 22nd/23rd. 11 bombed Marcus. Photos show total damage to Akashi is 1.03? square miles or 59 per cent built up area.

To Oita is .555 square miles or 25.2 per cent.

To Uwajima 14 square miles or 16 per cent.

At least 20 per cent storage tanks 10 per cent refinery units destroyed at Nippon Oil Company Kydamatsu plant.

418 planes sank one SD and damaged one off Shioyaosaki. 41 planes sank one SD 300 tons. Damaged two off Shantung Peninsula.

222 P.51s. hit Chichi Jima. One lost, a pilot rescued.

4 B.24 Snoopers of 11th Bomb Group bombed Mlho by radar.

Night 22/23 shipping sweep China Coast near Wenchow by T.F.95 was negative except shaking or damaging of 10 small craft.

/On ...



197

24.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

23rd July  
Blue  
summary.  
(Contd.)

On 22nd 5th F. and 7th F. attacked Shanghai shipping and docks with 37 B.25, 81 P.51, 140 P.47 report sunk one F.T.C. Exploded one DD. Damaged one DE, one SD, 3 B, 3 C, 1 T.A., 2 P.C. many small craft. No interception on A/A. Blue submarine landed shore party which blew up railroad train on east coast Karafuto. On 18th sank SHIMUSHU class P.F. Laperouse Strait. Northern Marianas Expeditionary Force has established U.S. Administration (corrupt group) Agrihan and Alamagan. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 240347 to Comgen.)

Hunt  
destroyers  
for B.P.F.  
allocations.

A.M. 132053 June, para. 2. Confirmed that 12 Hunts can be usefully employed in B.P.F. (C. in C. B.P.F., 240803Z to Admty., Info. C. in C.E.I.)

Visit of  
C. in C.  
B.P.F. to  
C. in C.  
Pac. at  
Guam.

Following programme intended for my visit to C. in C. Pac. at Guam. My 070241 not to all refers.  
31st July H.M.S. DUKE OF YORK leaves Sydney.  
4th August C. in C. Brit. Pac. Fleet and staff leave Sydney by air.  
5th August DUKE OF YORK arrives Manus.  
5th August C. in C. Brit. Pac. Fleet arrives Manus and embarks in DUKE OF YORK.  
6th August C. in C. Brit. Pac. Fleet leaves Manus in DUKE OF YORK E.T.A. Guam a.m./9th August.  
11th August C. in C. Brit. Pac. Fleet leaves Guam in DUKE OF YORK E.T.A. Manus a.m./14th August.  
16th August approximately C. in C. Brit. Pac. Fleet leaves Manus by air for Sydney.  
(2) WHELP and WAGER accompany DUKE OF YORK throughout.  
(3) Request ships may be sailed accordingly.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 240823Z to C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., etc.)

Re  
SEANYMPH  
repairs.

S.M.8 210448 which F.O.S/M please pass to Admty. Concur in para. 3 and request approval for this course.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 240828Z to Admty.)  
Your 210448 passed to C.S;W.P.S.F. and R.A.F.T. in view British S/M facilities available prefer route in your para. 4(a) accepting possible delay in departure from Ceylon to avoid tail end S.W. monsoon.  
(2) Concur that ship should be escorted as proposed in your para. 5.  
(3) B.P.F. escort not available until mid-August at Manus or correspondingly later at Subic.  
(4) Request you investigate with U.S. authorities possibility of escorted passage to Manus to arrive mid-August.  
(5) Movements after Manus depend on Admiralty reply to my 240828 not to all.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 240829 to S/M.8.)



Distribution of this message is to be limited  
to those officers who are concerned with its contents.

51-5000 A W.1  
197A

**TOP SECRET**

**IN**

**Warning :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

241750z /July

Date: 24.7.45.  
Rocd: 2350

From: COMINCH

CCM (NAVAL GEN S) BY T/P

Addressed Admiralty  
Info COMNAVEU

Pacific Summary No. 23. Operational Naval Units.

Southeast Pacific. 2 DD.

Pacific Coast. RANGER COMMENCEMENT BAY SHIPLEY BAY TAKANIS  
BAY KADASHAN BAY CORE PUGET SOUND MIAMI PENSACOLA SANTA FE 12 DD.

Enroute U.S. NASSAU SANI ISLAND BRETON SHAMROCK BAY 4 DD.

Enroute Miami. NEW JERSEY SAGINAW BAY LONG ISLAND N. TOM.  
BAY ATHELING BILOXI 2 DD.

North Pacific. RICHMOND CONCORD TRENTON 5 DD.

Central Pacific. TENNESSEE CALIFORNIA NEVADA  
MASSACHUSETTS INDIANA SOUTH DAKOTA ALABAMA NORTH CAROLINA  
IOWA WISCONSIN MISSOURI KING GEORGE V ALASKA GUAM WASP  
BENNINGTON HANCOCK LEXINGTON RANDOLPH ESSEX TICONDEROGA  
YORKTOWN SHANGRI LA ?NGN HOMME RICHARD IMPREACABLE FORMIDABLE  
VICTORIOUS INDEFATIGABLE STEAMER BAY ROI ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
HOLLANDIA THETIS BAY MUNDA FANSHAW BAY LUCCA POINT. SANTEE  
CAPE GLOUCESTER ANZIO CARD BOGUE MARCUS ISLAND WHITE PLAINS  
KASAAN BAY MAKASSAR STRAIT VELLA GULF CASABLANCA KITRUM BAY  
HOGGATT BAY NEHENTA BAY CHENANCO SARGENT BAY MANTELA BAY  
STRIKER RULER ARBITER BELLEAU WOOD SAN JACINTO MONTELSY  
BATAAN INDEPENDENCE COWPENS WICHITA CHESTER SALT LAKE CITY  
CHICAGO QUINCY ST PAUL BOSTON INDIANAPOLIS TUCSON DETROIT  
ST LOUIS AMSTERDAM SAN JUAN TOPEKA ATLANTA DAYTON OKLAHOMA  
CITY DULUTH OAKLAND PASADENA SPRINGFIELD ASTORIA WIEKEN BARRY  
FLINT SAN DIEGO DENVER MONTPELIER CLEVELAND COLUMBIA VICKSBURG  
NEWFOUNDLAND ACHILLES UGANDA BLACK PRINCE GAMBIA EURYALUS  
172 DD.

At Pearl. PENNSYLVANIA SARATOGA INTREPID ANTIETAM CADOT  
TRIPOLI MINNEAPOLIS PRINCE WILLIAM CAPE ESPERANCE WAKE ISLAND  
ALTAMAHA CORREGIDOR BARNES SITKOH BAY 26 DD.

South Pacific. One DD.

Southwest Pacific. TEXAS NEW MEXICO COLORADO MISSISSIPPI  
ARKANSAS IDAHO WEST VIRGINIA DUKE OF YORK INDOMITABLE SUWANEE  
GILBERT ISLANDS BLOCK ISLAND MAKIN ISLAND CHASER SPEAKER

/SLINGER

- 2 -

SLINGER VENERABLE VENGEANCE COLOSSUS KWAJALEIN COPAHEE PORTLAND  
NEW ORLEANS SAN FRANCISCO TUSCALOOSA SHROPSHIRE NASHVILLE  
PHOENIX MOBILE HOBART ARGONAUT TROMP BERMUDA 43 DD.

Non operational at Sea.

Enroute Pearl. one DD.

Enroute U.S. one DD.

241750Z

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
D.Map Room  
D.O.D.(H)(4)  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D.N.I.(4)  
Hd. of M.(2)  
W.D.  
Ad.Blake  
C.W.R.



198

25.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

S/M  
UNTIRING,  
transfer to  
Greek Navy.

1. H.M. Submarine UNTIRING was transferred to Royal Hellenic Navy and renamed XIFIAS at 1000.

East Indies

SS. LUXMI.

2. The SS. LUXMI which caught fire and was beached near Madras on the 19th July has been refloated and entered harbour.

Movements.

3. SUFFREN (French cruiser) left Tamatave for Diego Suarez.  
PURSUER (Assault carrier) arrived Colombo from Durban.

Far East and Australia

Japan.

4(a) Yesterday aircraft of B.P.F. attacked targets in the inland sea from Kure in the west to Kobe in the east. Today the same area was attacked by aircraft of the British and American fleets.  
(b) Yesterday American cruisers and destroyers bombarded coastal areas of southern Honshu in the vicinity of Kushimoto. The targets included a seaplane base, a landing field and a radio station. The bombardment was continued today.  
(c) Incomplete reports of the air strike on shipping at Kure yesterday show that 2 battleships of the ISE class, 3 cruisers and 1 aircraft carrier were hit.  
(d) Today aircraft of B.P.F. sank 10 and sank or damaged 30 more small craft in combat sorties. 7 enemy craft were damaged on the ground.  
(e) The final report of the strike by aircraft of the B.P.F. on the inland sea yesterday gives the following figures: 1 escort carrier, 1 cargo ship and 1 junk probably sunk. 1 destroyer, 1 train ferry, 9 cargo ships and 40 small craft damaged. 21 aircraft were destroyed and 57 damaged on the ground.

/(f) ...

War Diary.

25.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia

Japan.  
(Contd.)

- (f) The final figures of the strike by U.S. Third Fleet aircraft yesterday are given as 4 cargo ships, 1 tanker and 6 small craft sunk. 2 battleships, 3 aircraft carriers, 2 escort carriers, 1 light carrier, 3 heavy cruisers, 2 light cruisers, 2 destroyers, 1 midget submarine and 10 cargo ships damaged. 18 aircraft were shot down, 21 destroyed and 53 damaged on the ground.
- (g) F.A.W.1 planes sank 1 escort in the Ushima Straits.
- (h) F.A.W.18 planes sank 3 and damaged 5 small craft Sagami Nada.
- (i) Anti-submarine operations are continuing in vicinity of 19° 20' N., 126° 42' E. Destroyer escort UNDERHILL (DE.682) was sunk while attempting to ram enemy submarine yesterday in lat. 22° 09' N., 139° 09' E.
- (j) Yesterday 77 U.S. Super-Fortresses bombed the Kawanishi aircraft plant near Osaka. 412 tons of bombs were dropped.
- (k) In the attack yesterday on the industrial plants and an arsenal in the Osaka, Nagoya and Tokyo areas a total of 3,076 tons of bombs were dropped.

Movement.

5. VINDEX (Ferry carrier) sailed from Trincomalee for Sydney.



War Diary.25.7.1945.  
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

Ships for Far East. Owing to early completion of consumption trial and in order to have tank referred to in my 242200 ready for inspection a.m./27th July intend to adjust speed and route to arrive Gibraltar 1600A/26th July, H.M.S. LOCH CRAGGIE in company.  
(2) My P.C. and S. at 1200A 039° 48' N., 010° 23' W., 180°, 10 knots increasing to 17 knots at 2000A July 28th.  
(MAGPIE, 251220A to F.O.G.M.A.)

WILTON, Arrived H.M.S. WILTON from Vigo.  
destroyer. (F.O.G.M.A., 251236B to B.C. Vigo.)

Destroyers Intend to sail LAMERTON (S.O.) and WILTON at  
for E.I. 0900B/26th July to Dakar for onward routing to Freetown and Simonstown, A.M. 120127 not to all refers.  
(2) Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. 2000B/30th July.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 251514B to Comar Dakar.)

Frigate Arrived LOCH GLENDHU from Greenock.  
for E.I. (F.O.G.M.A., 251628B to C. in C. W.A.)

Movement. Arrived DITTANY, COWSLIP. Departed 1650/25th  
GENISTA escorting MARGUERITE towing POLAR V  
Q.Z.S.851, X.1671, Y.647, L.80, H (C) 61.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 251704B to F.O.C.W.Af., C. in C. Plymouth.)

STEVENSTONE, Left 1715B/25 STEVENSTONE bound Malta.  
destroyer Alex. C.C.O. pass to Port Said C.C.O.  
for B.P.F. (F.O.G.M.A., 251922B to V.A.M.)

25.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Re: ships  
from F.E.  
calling at  
Malta.

V.A.M. 241432 being passed, request you will  
arrange whenever convenient, F.O.L.E.M. pass to  
S.N.O.R.S.C.A. with the reference.  
(C. in C. Med, 250948B to F.O.L.E.M.)

F.S. GLOIRE  
H.H. Bey  
of Tunisia.

(1) Intend to sail F.S. GLOIRE from Bizerta to  
Saint Nazaire as soon as she is over with the  
duty of transporting H.H. The Bey of Tunisia.  
(2) Ship will report to Comar Saint Nazaire for  
refit - my letter 344 FNM 1/9 July 18th refers.  
(3) Request approval.  
(4) Admiralty pass to C.T.G.124.3 PREMAR III  
pass to A.L. Fourth DC.  
(Almed, 251047B to C. in C. Med.)

Reporting  
of Warships  
movements.

Reference Mediterranean Station's message 758B  
(C. in C. Mediterranean 190941) the words  
"Except Admiralty is not to be included" should  
be deleted in para. 4B.  
(2) C. in C. Mediterranean 241111 communication  
was Mediterranean Station 769B.  
(C. in C. Med. 251107B to Med. Stn.)

German SS.  
LIPARI. .

Gibraltar 187 Proximol 5.  
Departure Cartagena 25th July 8 hours H.M.S. VERITY  
with German Steamer LIPARI for Gibraltar.  
(Cartagena, 251130B to Admty, B.N.A. Madrid)

S/M UNTIRING  
transfer to  
Greek Navy.

UNTIRING was transferred to Royal Hellenic Navy at  
1000 on 25th July and renamed XIFIAS.  
(S.B.N.O. Greece, 251221 to F.O.L.E.M. C. In C.  
Med.)

Appian Flight  
M.

Appian Flight M. intend to sail L.C.H.Q. 537 (S.O)  
L.C.T.(I) (E) 306, L.C.T.(I) 1101, 1212, 1218, 1293  
1294, 1295, 1296, 1300, 1317, 1362, 1363, 1364,  
745, 1297, 1258, 743, at 0900B July 26th to  
Port Said.

M.F.V. 1010, 1171, 1113, 1026, 1548, 1108, 1090, 1131, 1107, 1138  
and 1055 will sail in company.

H.M.S. KLO will act as escort.

(2) S. of A. 7 knots. E.T.A. a.m. August 1st.

Ship	Callsign July	Callsign August.
L.C.Q. 537	6 NQD	6 XEZ
L.C.T. (E) 306	5 VKS	5 GFS
L.C.T. 1101	6 NSM	6 XKU
L.C.T. 1212	5 EAE	5 CNI
L.C.T. 1218	5 EOG	5 CIH
L.C.T. 1293	5 EOL	5 CIE
L.C.T. 1294	6 ZQW	6 SEL
M.F.V. 1113	6 PBR	6 FRF

(V.A.M. 251252 to F.O.R.S.C.A.)

/Re: ...



25.7.1945

Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Re: **M.**African Signal A.475 from Headquarters Mediterranean Air Force. Allied Air Force dated 20th July (From Royal Air Force Mission France from Forbes to for Action Air Ministry Whitehall). As paras. 1 and 2 are essentially of a political nature request that we should receive your instructions on the matter. For para. 3 suggest that Operational Control Squadron 1/9 and Reghaia Sector be handed back to French.  
(R.A.F.M. (France), 251505Z to A.M. Whitehall)

Italy Proposal under consideration that all surplus  
Surplus fixed assets and stores in Italy should be  
Stores transferred to Italian Government without charge.  
Transfer of Total value would be included in ultimate  
financial settlement in connection with peace  
treaty.

General Crawford of Ministry of Supply and Sir Eric Speed of War Office are expected to proceed Italy towards end of July to put proposal to Allied Commission who would be invited to undertake negotiations with Italian Government. It is emphasized that only stores etc. surplus to global requirements will be transferred. Accordingly it will be necessary to report details of local naval surpluses to Admiralty so that consideration may be given to moving those required elsewhere. Further details will be furnished when available.  
(A.O.S.D. Ext. 234, 251657A to C. in C. Med.)

25.7.1945  
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Staff for  
Commodore  
Fleet  
Train.

Report on additional Officers required for staff of Commodore Fleet Train will be forwarded by V.A.Q. at an early date, A.M. 212230/ refers. (2) Meanwhile it is requested that the Officer referred to in para. 4 of my 040120/ may be flown out as soon as possible in advance of any Staff Officers it may be possible to send later. C.O.F.T. with Officers now available is urgently required to make a start with the organisation. (C. in C. B.P.F. 250445Z to Admty.)  
/ Concerns provision of staff.  
/ Concerns existing Fleet Train. No suitable Captain available and it is requested an Officer be appointed to arrive Sydney early August.

Operation  
"Livery"  
SQUIRREL  
mined and  
sunk.

B.S.3 reports H.M.S. SQUIRREL mined 24th July during operation "Livery" and sunk by own gunfire 2½ hours later after taking heavy list. (2) About 115 survivors including all officers transferred to other ships. About 20 injured. No next of kin informed as details of casualties not yet known. (C. in C. E.I. 250636Z to Admty)

F.S. SUFFREN.

French Cruiser SUFFREN sailed from Tamatave 0700 July 25th E.T.A Diego Suarez 0400C July 26th. (B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 250855Z to Admty.)

INSECT  
class  
Gunboats.

It is anticipated that APHIS, SCARAB and COCK-CHAFER should be ready to leave Taranto about end Sept. and could arrive Aden by mid-Oct. C.S. Taranto 172018 not to all refers. (2) Vessels have insufficient endurance to reach Bombay direct and will require to refuel on passage. (3) Request you will concert arrangements for passage with C. in C. Mediterranean. (D.O.D. (F) Apprd. V.C.N.S. 251228A to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med. etc.)

Corvette.

(1) Sailed JASMINE 251300Z to Durban my 230842Z refers. (2) Ship sailed in accordance with C. in C. E.I.S. 301148Z not to Admiralty refers. (C. in C. E.A. 251401Z to C. in C. E.I.S.)



25.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Blue summary 24th. Cludiv 17 and 7 DD of Desron 53 Third Fleet swept mouth of Kii Suido. Bombed Kushimoto seaplane base - Shionomisaki landing field and radio station at Uwamo Hanto. T.F.38 incomplete reports of shipping strike Kure lists two BB-XCV ISE class, CA AOBA, CA TONE, CLOYODO, (sic) CHIYODA,\* one CV UNRYU hit. Eight enemy planes shot down. Three of which near force. Eleven destroyed and 20 damaged on ground. Incomplete reports T.F.37 indicate one SC, seven small craft sunk. One KOBE type CVE damaged Shido Wan. One FB, one FOM damaged. 12 planes destroyed and 13 damaged on ground. Blue submarines report rescuing seven airmen. B.29s. of 20th A.F. attacked Nagoya Osaka area in daylight visually and by radar from 16,000 to 21,000 feet. 59 hit Mitsubishi aircraft plant. 60 Nakajim aircraft plant Handa. 43 Aichi aircraft plant Eitoku. 36 Tsu naval aircraft works. 82 Sumitomo light metal industry Osaka. 76 Kawanishi Aircraft Co. Takaraxuka. 31 Osaka arsenal. 99 Kuwana area. 16 bombed targets of opportunity. One B.29 lost, three missing. Nil airborne opposition. Flak heavy, meagre to moderate, inaccurate to accurate except at Landfall Osaka area where it was very accurate. From photos 25 July Numaxu Urban area damaged to date 1.2 square miles or 89.5 per cent of built up area. 81 two P.51s. attacked Nagoya area at noon. Nil airborne opposition. Six enemy planes damaged on ground. Communications facilities factories and rolling stock damaged. One locomotive destroyed. Two SD damaged Suruga Wan. 120 F.E.A.F. B.24s. bombed Kangwan airdrome Shanghai by radar. Nil A/A. 54 P.47s., 32 P.51s. attacked Yangtze shipping damaging one PG, three F.Td., one unidentified vessels. 44 M.A.W. two F.4Us. escorted F.A.W.1 photo mission over Kyushu. F.A.W.1 planes sank one SCS, one SCL. Damaged one SCL, one SD. Two 11th A.F. B.24s. bombed Kurabu airfield Parymushiro. On 23rd F.A.W.18 planes sank one SCS, two SD, two diesel sea trucks. Damaged two SCS. Splashed one Topsy one Tojo. Probably damaged one Oscar. Blue submarine made rocket attack of Shiritori, Karafuto. One Blue submarine shelled Kushkaki lighthouse off south tip of Kyushu. A.S.W. operations instituted at 19.20 N., 126.42 E. Comphlseafrom estimated three submarines in vicinity. A.S.W. operations instituted 180 miles west of En Wetoj. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 250458 to all commands interested.)

\* CHIYODA  
SUNK 25.10.44.

Opintel 139. Estimate Enemy Air Strength. (C. in C. Pac. Adv., 250703 to C.T.F.94, Com. Twentieth Flt.) See Lion Copy.

Ships working up for B.P.F. at Malta. C. in C. B.P.F. 090906\*. Facilities and technical assistance for working up are being provided at Malta on a scale which should ensure that minimum time is required.



# SECRET

204A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

250703/July.

From: C. in C. Pac. Adv.

Date: 25.7.45.

Recd: 2353.

C.C.M. (Naval) 5 Ser. Sec. Gen. by Cable.

To: CTF 94, Com Twentieth A.F., COMGENUSASTAF, Photogrp, Two  
Have Action, COMSUBPAC Air, PACSUBCOMFORD have info.  
Info: R.D.O. Wash., pass info. C.N.O.

IMPORTANT.

OPINTEL 139, para.A, Nil change, estimate of enemy air strength 26th July. Para.B. From 20th A.F. Photos. 23rd July Interpron Two says Suzuka Airfield 34 - 51 North, 136 - 7 35 East, 50 per cent. coverage five single engine planes along taxiway to modification plant. Two nine two single on field. Para. C. From photos 23rd July. 90.30 - 657A Kure Naval Arsenal heavily damaged. Only Northeast corner of plant considered a target. Refer Interpron Two 186.350A aiming point (4.5-2.1) remains. All others cancelled. 90.20 - 197 at Suta Factory of Nagoya Arsenal structural damage 12 per cent. Superficial six per cent. Cleared 31 per cent. Removed one per cent. Large buildings still considered good targets. Para. D. From photos 22nd July Osaka Area. 90.25 - 1745 Kawanishi Machine shop structural damage 14 per cent. Superficial seven per cent. Cleared 21 per cent. No change in aiming point or target status. 90.25 - 1547 Kawasaki Aircraft Co. Akashi structural 47 per cent. Superficial 29 per cent. Cleared 12 per cent. Not considered a target. Para.E. From C.V. - 9 Photos 10th July Tokio Area. 90.17 - 2015 Japan International Aircraft Co. Hiratsuka Plant area affected to date. Removed 8 per cent. Roof removed 7 per cent. No change in aiming points or target status. 90.17 - 1336 Hiratsuka Naval Arsenal coverage 30 per cent. No damage observed. R.D.O. Okinawa pass action PhotoGrp. One and info CG 7th A.F. R.D.O. Manila pass action C. in C. S.W.Pa. and info. to ComSeventhFlt.

250703.

1st S.L. (3).	D.N.I. (7) (& for D.N.L.O.(2)).
D.F.S.L.	M.(63) & for A.M. (35).
4th S.L.	C.C.L.S.
5th S.L.	W.D.
V.C.N.S.	Ad. Block.
A.C.N.S. (H).	C.W.R.
A.C.N.S. (F).	D.N.C.R.
A.C.N.S. (A) (2).	Hydrog.
A.C.N.S. (W).	D.D.C.D.(C) (2).
D. Map Room.	C.N.I. (2).
D.C.(2).	D.A.W.T.
FMA. D.S.C.	D.M.S.
(A10). O.D.(6).	D.M.S. (Cit.).
C.I.C. (3).	D.N.A.C.



25.7.1945.  
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Ships  
working up  
for B.P.F.  
at Malta.  
(Contd.)

(2) It is therefore considered that the present arrangements by which ships work up at Malta should stand. It is important that no ship should pass Malta until her equipment is in working order, moreover ships will then be in a state to obtain full value from the long sea passage from Malta to the Pacific.

(3) In deciding, however, when ships are fit to be sailed to the Pacific, (A.M. 051409) to C. in C. Med. and V.A.M. refers) V.A.M. should take into account the wishes of C. in C. British Pacific Fleet that final stages of work up should be carried out at Jervis Bay.

(4) A.M. 051409 is being passed to C. in C. British Pacific Fleet.

(V.C.N.S., 251804A to C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. Med., V.A.M.)

\* Training facilities at Jervis Bay.

QUILLIAM.

Sailed Suva file time in accordance F.O.I.C. Sydney 190110Z, QUILLIAM. Holds routeing Funafuti thence Pearl Harbour, E.T.A. Funafuti 0300Z/28. Speed 13.  
(C.A.N.F. Fiji, 252305Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

26.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

East Indies

Submarine  
 Operations  
 (Sumatra and  
 Malacca  
 Straits.)

1(a) S/M VIGOROUS on her 1st Far East Patrol on 16th July bombarded a beached coaster and the main pier at Ulee Lhoe (Sumatra) observing 25 and 40 hits respectively.  
 (b) S/M SIBYL on her 2nd Far East Patrol on the 9th July in the Port Dickson Approaches attacked an 800 ton coaster and tug by gunfire and torpedoes. Later in same vicinity sank a 70 ton junk by gunfire. From the 14th to 19th in vicinity of Berham and Panel river sank 7 country craft totalling 450 tons and also damaged a 150 ton schooner off Jumpul Bank.

Operation  
 "Livery".

2(a) The first minesweeping operation has been completed off Puket Island. 19 mines were swept in first two days.  
 (b) Successful air strikes were made over Kraa Isthmus by carrier borne aircraft. 4 small ships were strafed in Singra area 15 locomotives being put out of action.

Operation  
 "Livery"  
 VESTAL  
 sunk.

3(a) Carriers with H.M.S. NELSON in company were attacked at 0900 by a small number of enemy aircraft. One shot down in flames by AMEER's gunfire. No damage or casualties sustained.  
 (b) During attack by suicide aircraft today, H.M. Minesweeper VESTAL was sunk. Survivors included the C.O., 7 officers and 87 ratings who were taken on board NELSON. SUSSEX was holed above the waterline.  
 (c) Airfield at Songei Patani was attacked by 7 Hellcats. 6 enemy aircraft destroyed.

*\* First suicide attack on any unit of East Indies Fleet  
 (M. 09220/45)*

Far East and Australia

Submarine  
 operations  
 Gulf of Siam.

4(a) S/M SUPREME on her 2nd Patrol in S.W. Pacific on 30th June attacked a small convoy in 11° 07' N. 101° 40' E. On 1st July following the same convoy attacked 2 submarine chasers and two small freighters at anchor in Koh Kut anchorage (11° 43' N. 102° 33' E.)  
 (b) American submarine sank a submarine chaser in Gulf of Siam on the 10th July.



War Diary

26.7.1945  
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia - Contd.

- Borneo (5) P.T. boats from Brunei bombarded Jesselton. Other P.T. boats captured enemy troops in Prahu off Laroe Island.
- Moluccas (6) Night of 25/26 July, 2 P.T. boats from Morotai destroyed 3 prahus off Miti island, northern Halmaheras.
- Japan 7(a) Night of 25/26 U.S. aircraft mined Deishin, Fusan, Nanao, Fushiki and Shimonoseki Straits.  
(b) U.S. Blue Submarine sank a junk and schooner in the Paisho Strait.
- Movement (8) ANSON, VENERABLE, VENGEANCE and COLOSSUS arrived Sydney from Fremantle.  
UNICORN arrived Manus.





War Diary

26.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Movement

Request you arrange for SIRIUS to visit Pola about July 30th for a few days.  
(2) On return of SIRIUS to Trieste CLEVELAND is to be sailed to Pola.  
(C. in C. Med., 261048B to SIRIUS, N.O.I.C. Trieste.)

ABERDEEN  
(Sloop)

A.M. 061945. ABERDEEN is to be placed in Dockyard Control in the Mediterranean and ship's company returned to U.K.  
(D.O.D.(F), Approved V.C.N.S., 261331A to C. in C. Med.)

Ships for  
E.I.

Port Said July 26th. Arrivals HART, BLACK SWAN, ERNE, AMETHYST, WIDEMOUTH BAY.  
Departures LOCH GORM, ENCHANTRESS, L.S.T.304, HART, BLACK SWAN, ERNE, AMETHYST, WIDEMOUTH BAY.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 261541C to Admty., F.O.L.E.M.)



26.7.1945  
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Close support of landings. Your 041007 June. Considerable time and labour would be required to prepare L.C.F. for service in Far East which would seriously delay other types of landing craft destined for your Station.

(2) It is considered that the short effective range of Bofors and Oerlikons and the inaccuracy of the latter, together with the size and lack of manoeuvrability of craft, restricts the usefulness of L.C.F. as fire support craft.

(3) Provision of Rocket and Gun craft should better meet your requirements for close supporting fire. M.L. Gunboats considered more suitable for defence of anchorage against small surface craft.

(4) Your para. 3. Use of L.C.S.(M) to replace Infantry's own supporting weapons still considered most desirable in final stages of run in.

(Head of M. Br.II, approved V.C.N.S., 260143A to C. in C. E.I.S.)

Escort vessels etc. Requirements on E.I. Station. A.M. 092347 July implies that the requirement for about 20 slow escorts for duty in Rear Areas stated in paragraph 5 of my 050539 March has been overlooked.

(2) Paragraph 3 of my 231912 May and my 021131\* June referred only to reinforcements required from U.K. as it was intended to employ escorts already on the station for duties as in paragraph

one above.

(3) Since receipt of A.M. 051532 June and in order to comply with paragraph 7 thereof it has been the intention eventually to allocate for this purpose 13 Frigates and 2 R.I.N. Corvettes now on the station 2 French Sloops and 3 French Rivers.

(4) This explains paragraph 3 of my 080726+.

(5) It is not, therefore, intended to send escorts home until after the overall total of 50 excluding Hunts and A.S.R. ships is reached unless worn out beyond station repair capability. (C. in C. E.I., 260330 to Admty.)

\* Requirements remain at 30 escorts and 18 Hunts.

† List of reinforcements.

+ Escort vessels for A.S.R. duties.

Air/Sea Rescue Service E.I. Ocean Air/Sea Rescue meeting held in accordance with A.M. 131700\*.

(2) Regarding para. 1 A.M. 281911 June A.C.S.E.A. point out:

(a) Western half of Arabian Sea is not in their command.

(b) Their first priority is Cocos which is not in area quoted.

(3) 8 vessels are required for A.C.S.E.A. Command including Cocos leaving 4 to be disposed in Western Arabian Sea as Air Ministry may propose. Vessels to be disposed in pairs to allow for refitting and maintenance. Request this be raised with Air Ministry.

(4) Cocos. Stationing of corvettes there necessitates fuelling facilities. Intend allocating BELGOL as Base Tanker there.



War Diary

26.7.1945  
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Air/Sea Rescue Service E.I. (Contd.) (5) Temporarily a long range frigate has been sent to Cocos to remain until limit of endurance from Colombo. (C. in C. E.I., 260332Z to Admty.) \* Request C. in C.E.I. will arrange direct with A.C.S.E.A. for institution of Air/Sea rescue services required. *See 10 10 242 Aug.*

BARNET (B.D.Vessel) Sailed BARNET in accordance with my 251414. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 260739Z to R.N.O. Port Sudan.)

Frigates manning by S.A.N.F. In view of your 051720. Is it intended that further Frigates will be manned at a later date by S.A.N.F.? (2) Do not anticipate that any further Frigates eligible for S.A.N.F. manning will be due for refit in S.A. for several months. (C. in C. E.I., 260832Z to C. in C. S.A.)

Visit of Parliament Secretary to East Indies and Pacific areas. Proposed programme for your 112337. Bombay 2 days, Cochin 1 day, Ceylon 4 days. (C. in C. E.I. 261144Z to Admty.)

A/S Base ship Your 050543. Future employment of HAITAN on naval service elsewhere under consideration. (Hd. of M.II, 261144A to C. in C. E.I.) *See 1104372 Sep.*

Submarine operations VIGOROUS SIBYL. H.M.S./M. VIGOROUS first Far East Patrol 16th July bombarded beached coaster and main pier at (Ulee Lhoe corrupt group, as received) observing 25 and 40 hits respectively. H.M.S./M SIBYL second Far East Patrol 9th in Port Dickson Approaches attacked 800 ton coaster and tug by gunfire and torpedoes missed destroyed coaster by gunfire and damaged tug which beached. Later same vicinity sank 70 ton Junk by gunfire. 14th to 19th July vicinity Berham River and Panel River by gunfire sank 7 country craft totalling 450 tons also damaged 150 ton schooner by gunfire off Jumpul Bank. (C. in C.E.I., 261301Z to Admty., (R) S.M.2, 4, 8.)

"Livery" Sitrep No.3 Carriers with NELSON in company attacked 0900/26th July by small number of enemy aircraft. One probable Lily shot down in flames by gunfire from AMEER during probable suicide dive. One bomb dropped astern of AMEER. No damage or casualties. Portion undecypherable. (3) Survivors of VESTAL including injured (corrupt groups) transferred to NELSON. Further signal will be made. (4) Airfield at Sungei Patani attacked by 7 Hellcats. 5 Oscars,



War Diary26.7.1945  
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies"Livery"  
Sitrep  
No. 3  
(Contd.)

1 Sally destroyed. 2 Dakotas, 1 Zero, 1 Smok(er?), 1 Dinah, 1 Oscar hit.  
 (5) 3 Locomotives hit at Dhungsong Junction. Camouflaged stationary locomotive 15 miles S. of Dhungsong with (corrupt group) work on them and 2 (corrupt groups) locomotives 20 miles south of (corrupt groups) attacked. 1 Hellcat from EMPRESS flew into ground at Dhungsong Junction pilot presumed killed.

(6) 3 bombs hit in camp at Hua Toei.  
 (7) Clearance of area (semi-completed?). Sitrep number 2 paragraph 1 ST U contact confirmed and area partly swept.  
 (8) EMPRESS catapult defective and only semi-operational due to foaming in oil system. AMEER catapult completely out of action.  
 (S.O. Force 63, 261339Z to C. in C.E.I.)

LINARIA  
Corvette  
for U.K.

Intend to sail LINARIA at 0300Z 27th to Suez for onward routing to United Kingdom to comply with C. in C.E.I. 030241 (not to all).  
 (2) E.T.A. 0400Z 1st August. S. of A. 11 knots.  
 (Com. Aden, 261603Z to N.O.I.C. Suez.)

F.S.SUFFREN  
to embark  
hospital  
cases from  
Colombo and  
Calcutta  
for return  
to France.

Marine Paris have no objection to proposals in your 201111 on condition that only sick personnel are involved and request that you issue necessary orders.  
 (2) Admiralty have no objection.  
 (3) N.A. Paris pass to Marine Paris.  
 (4) B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez pass to F.S. RICHELIEU and F.S. SUFFREN.  
 (D.O.D.(F), 262109Z to C. in C.E.I.)



26.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

M/S. for  
Soviet.

Soviet Naval Staff ask that minesweepers now being taken over at Halifax may be routed in groups of two or three ships via St. Johns, Ferrol, Gibraltar, Malta to Istanbul where they will receive onward routing instructions.

(2) They also request British Liaison Officer for each group if possible.

(3) They also request that ships may be fuelled at some point between Gibraltar and Malta.

(Adm. Egerton, 260950A to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)  
See 291600A.

C.T.G. 21.3,  
ex British  
FLOWER  
class.

When ready about 1st August C.T.G. 21.3 proceed in TENACITY with SURPRISE, READY, IMPULSE, FURY, COURAGE, TEMPTRESS, RESTLESS, SAUCY, SPRY to U.K. via Argentinia for fuel in accordance Cincant \*241525Z not to all, (N.T. in W.D.) (Comdeslant, 261731Z to F.A.O. B.O.S., etc.)  
\* C.T.G. 21.3 hereby constituted.

Far East and Australia

S/M  
SEANYMPH.

My 210448 and your 240828.  
SEANYMPH will be ready to sail on 29th July, and in view of congestion alongside with supply ship also present, and typhoon season prevailing, her early departure is most desirable.

Request destination and route may be communicated.  
(S/M.8, 260034Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

SUPREME,  
submarine  
operations.

(1) Summary of 5th War Patrol and second in Sovespac by SUPREME (Lt.-Cdr. T.E. Barlow, R.N.)  
(2) 1143/30th June 11.07, 101.40 missed 2 small escorted freight southbound in ballast with 6 torpedoes set to 6 feet which ran under.  
Ineffective counter-attack.

(3) 1416/1st July 11.43, 102.33 after following same convoy into Koh Kut anchorage attacked 2 submarine chasers and 2 small freighters at anchor. Return fire hot and prompt from all ships and a shore battery. Forced SUPREME to withdraw after 5 hits on submarine chaser. Ineffective counter-attack by 23 charges (followed?).

(4) 1930/13th July 11.12, 99.35 sank northbound lugger 60 tons by gunfire.

(5) 1440/14th July 1042, 99.91 sank 40 ton tug and lighter southbound by gunfire.



26.7.1945.  
Thursday.

War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

SUPREME,  
submarine  
operations.  
(Contd.)

- (6) 1052/15th July 10.18, 99.14 sank northbound 500 ton coaster carrying oil by gunfire.  
(7) 1203/15th July 10.16, 99.18 sank 2 southbound coasters of 300 and 500 tons by gunfire.  
(8) This was a strenuous and well conducted patrol of three days. SUPREME arrived Subic 25th July.  
(9) All times I, all positions north and east.  
(S/M.8, 260302Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Blue  
Summary  
25th.

Weather prevented heavy strikes by T.F.38 planes on primary targets. 18 enemy planes destroyed and about 20 damaged on ground at targets of opportunity. One more shot down over Force. (BBXCV ISE \*) hit again. T.F.38 reports for 24th total of 18 enemy planes shot down. 21 destroyed and 53 damaged on ground. BBQEV HYUGA, CA TONE, CL KUMA class, CV AMAGI and one DD, heavily damaged. BBXCE HYUGA (BBXVE ISE \*), CA AOBA, CL OYODO, CV KASURAGI, AG SETTSU and one DD. damaged. BB HARUNA, CV HULL, ASO CVL HOSHO, OCA slightly damaged and two rocket hits on CVE KAIYO. One medium AK, three small AK, one medium AK, 6 small craft sunk. Three medium AK, 7 small AK, many small craft damaged. Nine locomotives destroyed, 5 damaged. Numerous ground installations damaged. T.F.37 on 24th. Destroyed 21 planes and damaged 57 on ground. Sank one medium AK, 4 small AK, 5 small craft, 1 KOBE type L now reported probably sunk. Damaged one ODD, one SCS, one ? train ferry, 2 large AK, 3 medium AK, 4 small AK, 41 small craft. 2 ships on slipways. Damaged numerous air and ground installations. Lost 8 planes by A/A, 11 operationally. Blue submarines on 25th report recovering 5 T.F.38 and 31 37 flyers in addition to 7 reported rescued on 24th. F.A.W.1 Dumbos rescued four T.F.38 airmen. F.A.W.1 planes sank 1 escort Ushima Straits. On 24th two Privateers mission from West Kova patrols. On 25th F.A.W.18 sank 3, damaged five small craft Sagami Nada. Night PBJ damaged unidentified vessel Sagami Nada. B.15 hit B.17 reported missing. One F.E.D.F. B.24 reported down returning from Kyushu strike. 20th A.F. photos show total damage to date Sendai Urban area 1.26 square miles or 27.8% of built up area. Choshi to date .408 square miles or 36.4%. Blue submarine report sinking one ODD off south tip Palawan. Bombarding and firing rockets at factories Koshiyt and Chirie on Karafuto and sank seven diesel sampans. A.S.W. operations continuing vicinity 19.20 N. 126.42 E. where UNDERHILL (DE.682) was sunk while attempting to ram enemy submarine on 24th A.S.W. at definite contact 22.09 N., 139.09 E. 7th Fitercom info. via R.D.O. Iwo Jima. S.A.C.S.E.A. (S.U.S.N.O. S.E.A.C.) for info. Comgenusaf China info. via R.D.O. Hoekwan.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 260451 to Comgen. 20th.)  
\* As received.

/Task ...



26.7.1945.

Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

Task Group 111.2  
(Ships forming)

The following ships of B.P.F. are assigned Task Group number 111.2: VENERABLE, VENGEANCE, COLOSSUS, INDOMITABLE, ANSON, SWIFTSURE, BERMUDA, PRINCE ROBERT, TYRIAN, TUSCAN, KEMPENFELT, URSA, and WHIRLWIND, TUMULT.  
(2) A.C.11 N.S., C.T.G. 111.2 in INDOMITABLE (Rear-Admiral Harcourt).  
(3) Effective 0001K/20th August, but may be used locally for training purposes prior to this date.  
(4) Following ships are expected to join above Task Group by 26th August: DUKE OF YORK, ARGONAUT, WHELP, WAGER, WAKEFUL, WRANGLER and possibly TUMULT.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 260750Z to V.A.B.P.F., A.C.1., etc.)

*amended by 070517Z Aug.*

Digest  
1282,  
25th July.  
(Extract).

7th Air Force: 1 Liberator bombed Otake Airdrome, south Honshu; another hit docks area Fusan, Korea. 20 Liberators hit Tsmiki Airdrome north-east Kyushu starting large fires and explosions:  
(3) Navy Mariners, Privateers attacked and destroyed one lugger, one damaged, observation tower exploded and buildings burned at Hausui Bay, north-west Hainan: Formosa searcher damaged four luggers in southern Pescadores; destroyed one lugger, burned two others at Tyukyu Island off south-west Formosa while another aircraft destroyed one and damaged another of five fishing vessels at same small island. One plane from Mindoro damaged one power boat, three barges at Tourane and shot up rolling stock in French Indo-China. One lugger loaded with ammo. towing two barges towards Kuantan Harbour heavily strafed; lugger destroyed. Three small coastal freighters (including one already beached) and one tug towing laden barge attacked in separate positions vicinity Trengganu; barge destroyed, one coaster fired and probably destroyed, second coaster and tug also fired, third coaster damaged. 4 small coastal freighters strafed and damaged at Pontianak.  
(4) Two of above Navy planes joined two Army Liberators and conducted detailed photo recce Singapore escorted by 8 Lightnings. Two known heavy cruisers still at same anchorages, one east other west of naval base in Johore Straits. Tanker observed entering Johore Straits through opened submarine net, one large unidentified ship seen anchored west of Blakadremati Island but nil other shipping of consequence seen.  
(6) Notes on ground situation: On Luzon strong resistance encountered by Philippine Army Forces attempting advance south on Highway 11: on east Borneo 7th A.I.F. Division advanced another mile north on inland highway against opposition.  
(7) Afternoon 24th July, three enemy submarines contacted some 250 miles east-north-east of northern Luzon; intensive (?Jasasa) operations proceeding.  
(9) Islands area on 24th July Merlon 90 R.N.Z.A.F. Corsairs attacked opportune barges on Bougainville Island while 8 Corsairs patrolled north-east coast New Ireland and previous night two U.S. M.C. Mitchells hit Kavieng.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 261000 to Admty.)



War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Movements.

1. BELFAST, cruiser arrived Port Said from Alexandria and left for Suez.  
QUEEN ELIZABETH left Suez for Port Said.

America and West Indies

Movement.

2. TRACKER (Ferry carrier) arrived Norfolk from the Canal Zone.

Far East and Australia

Sumatra.

3. 26th/27th July four R.A.A.F. Catalinas laid sea mines in the Bangka Strait (off S.E. Sumatra).

S. China Sea.

4. Mariners and aircraft of Fleet Air Wing operated in Formosa and south China Sea area and in the Macassar Strait destroying 15 small craft and damaging 16. They also bombed a wireless station and bridges between Tourane and Quinhon and attacked shipyards at Chukai (Malaya).

Japan.

- 5(a) Today and yesterday Task Forces 37 and 38 replenished south of Honshu - preparatory to returning to attack the Kure - Kobe area at dawn tomorrow. (290410Z)
- (b) 26th/27th July 349 Super-Fortresses attacked the urban areas of Matsuyama (N.W. Shikoku) and Tokuyama (S. Honshu) and Omuta dropping 2101 tons of bombs. Fires were started at Matsuyama and in the dock area of and city of Tokuyama.
- (c) 64 U.S. Liberators dropped 177 tons of bombs on marshalling yards etc. at Kagoshima (Kyushu) escorting fighters attacked shipping in Kagoshima Bay damaging 2 small vessels, set on fire a coaster, forced a lugger to beach and damaged five new coasters in dry dock and 152 U.S. Thunderbolts with 14 Mustangs attacked railway installations on Kyushu and left 3 transports smoking in Kagoshima Bay.

/Movement ...



War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Movement.

6. UGANDA left the B.P.F. battle area for Eniwetok and Esquimalt.

War Diary.27.7.1945.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

- LOCH CRAGGIE, frigate for E.I. Intend to sail LOCH CRAGGIE at 2000B/27th July to Port Said.  
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 0900B/2nd August.  
(6) LOCH CRAGGIE acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 271042A to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
- LOCH GLENDHU, frigate for E.I. Stn. Intend to sail LOCH GLENDHU at 1300B/28th July to Port Said (A.M. (1?1229B)\*) not to all, refers.  
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 0600B/3rd August.  
(7) Alexandria C.C.O. pass to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (F.O.G.M.A., 271226B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
- Hull repair ship for B.P.F. Intend to sail DULLISK COVE at 0800B/28th July to Port Said.  
(2) Route basic eastbound.  
(3) Speed 10 knots, E.T.A. p.m./5th August. (F.O.G.M.A., 271602B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
- German ship BESSEL (taking over). Intend to sail destroyer ACTIVE at 2000B/28th July and corvette DITTANY at 0800B/28th July to Vigo, the former carrying Merchant Navy crew to take over German merchant vessel BESSEL, A.M. 041906 July.  
(2) ACTIVE E.T.A. Vigo 0800B/30th July.  
(3) After embarking German crew (Madrid's 041946 July) ACTIVE will return to Gibraltar.  
(4) DITTANY will enter Vigo after ACTIVE has left and when ready will escort BESSEL to Falmouth.  
(5) B.N.A. Madrid is requested to arrange -  
(a) Transport for crew of 25 to BESSEL.  
(b) Embarkation of German personnel in ACTIVE.  
(6) N.O.I.C. Falmouth is requested to onward route DITTANY to Chatham, A.M. 122236 July not to all, refers.  
(7) Armed guard is not being sent but Naval Officer will sail in BESSEL wearing the White Ensign (Madrid's 242003 July to F.O.G.M.A.)  
(F.O.G.M.A., 271648 to Admty.)

Movements.

- Reference Med. Station message 758B.  
A. (1) July 27th arrivals DULLISK COVE, L.S.T. 3507, Dutch submarine ZWAARDFISCH. Departures L.S.T. 3017. 2000/27th positions at sea  
CASSANDRA 44° 40', 09° 52' southbound 15. L.S.T. 3010 38° 21', 09° 53' southbound 10. L.S.T. 3001 37° 21', 09° 55' southbound 9. L.S.T. 3017 35° 44', 03° 17' basic eastbound 10. L.S.T. 3507 sails 2000 basic eastbound 9. French submarine ORPHEE westbound through Straits.  
A. (2) ZWAARDFISCH p.m./28th to Port Said. DULLISK COVE a.m./28th to Port Said. ACTIVE p.m./28th to Vigo. LOCH GLENDHU p.m./28th to Port Said. LOCH CRAGGIE a.m./28th to Port Said. (F.O.G.M.A., 272202B to Admty.)



27.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

SS. FORT  
NOTTINGHAM  
(damaged)

FORT NOTTINGHAM for U.K. loaded manganese struck submerged object at 2000Z/26 believed pinnacle rock three miles 135° Achowa Point. Numbers 1, 3 and 7 tanks leaking. Returned Takoradi 0400Z/27 for survey. Situation disclosed no seagoing tug available here for requirements outside.  
(N.C.S.O. Takoradi, 271105Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

RICHELIEU.

Request expected date of departure RICHELIEU from Durban to rejoin East Indies Station.  
(D.O.D.(F), 271623A to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.)

SS. MERCATOR.

Belgian Captain has arrived for MERCATOR with one Engineer and one other officer. He is unable to obtain a crew and wishes to take ship to mouth of Congo River. He considers ship not fit for passage under own power. Intend to tow ship with tugs GROWLER and REWARD on passage to Cape with skeleton British crew and turn her over to Belgian Authorities in Congo.

(2) It is suggested that some obligation rests to get her back to Congo where she was taken over. It is considered this should not delay tugs more than 48 hours on passage.

A.M. 092059\* and 242048 refer.

(F.O.C.W.Af., 271730Z to Admty.)

\* Request MERCATOR be handed over to S.S.T.O. Freetown - N.T. in W.D.

War Diary.27.7.1945.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Movements, Sail LOOKOUT a.m. July 28th to Malta.  
destroyers. On arrival Malta, ship should change feed  
water. On completion V.A.M. is requested to  
sail LOOKOUT to relieve MUSKETEER in Levant.  
(3) F.O.L.E.M. is requested to sail MUSKETEER  
on relief to Malta to join Capt. (D) 3.  
(C. in C. Med., 270928B to MARNE.)

OCEANWAY. Following embarked in OCEANWAY, L.C.M. (3) 1020,  
1042 (two craft). L.C.A. 36, 53, 57, 86, 89, 90,  
95, 96, 98, 1235 (ten craft). L.C.P.(R) 627,  
659, 666, 687, 697, 695, 696, 734, 736, 737,  
739, 740, 744, 810, 816, 831, 842, 845, 908, 917, 956, 1031,  
1034 (23 craft). A.M. 120055B June and C. in C. Med. 171136B  
June\* neither to all, refer.  
(HAMILCAR, 270940B to C. in C. Med.)  
\* Craft to be shipped to India.

Destroyer Intend to sail MYNGS (D.2) at 1700B July 28th  
for E.I. to Alexandria. My 251606 not to all, refers.  
(2) S. of A. 20 knots, E.T.A. 0900C/30th.  
(V.A.M., 271141B to F.O.L.E.M.)

Destroyer Intend to sail WHEATLAND at 1000B July 28th to  
for U.K. Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K. C. in C.  
Med. 261148 not to all, refers.  
(2) S. of A. 15 knots, E.T.A. first light 31st.  
(V.A.M., 271225B to F.O.G.M.A.)

UPSTART, H.M.S. UPSTART sails from Malta 0930B/28th  
submarine, July routed through etc.  
for Greek (2) Speed 10 knots.  
Navy. (Capt. (S) 1, 271627B to C. in C. Med.)

15th Cruiser (A) C.S.15 in ORION to proceed Levant about  
Squadron July 30th and R/V ARETHUSA.  
programme. (B) ORION and ARETHUSA remain in company for  
seven to 10 days after which ARETHUSA proceeds  
Malta.  
(C) About end of August ARETHUSA to relieve  
SIRIUS in northern Adriatic.  
(D) AJAX to relieve ORION in Levant also at end of August.  
(2) Flag Officers addressed requested to sail ships concerned  
to implement (A) and (B) above.  
(3) Further signals will be made regarding (C) and (D) on  
which comments on C.S.15 are requested.  
(C. in C. Med., 271758B to C.S.15, V.A.M., F.O.L.E.M.)  
See 280931.

/Levant ...



27.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Levant 334503 GO/33697 cipher 27th July.  
Sitrep. to (1) Damascus. 25th July Syrian President  
1900 hours called meeting of Christian leaders and assured  
26th July. them their status in Moslem society. Later he  
instructed that speeches advocating Moslem  
Christian goodwill should be made in mosques  
27th July.  
(2) Official date transfer TS. 1 August but unlikely will be  
completed in Jezireh for 2 or 3 weeks. French withdrawing all  
political reps. including Delegee from East Syria. These will  
be replaced by 4 special officers de Mission at Hassetche  
Qamichliye Deir Ez Zor and Palmyra to watch French interests  
including aerodromes. All military aviation will also be  
withdrawn from East Syria. Civil Air Service personnel will  
be left to run routine services Palmyra Deir Ez Zor Hassetche.  
(C. in C. M.E., 271935C to W.O.)

Ships for Sailed HART (S.O.), ERNE, BLACKSWAN, WIDEMOUTH  
F.E. BAY, AMETHYST, LOCH GORM and ENCHANTRESS at  
1030C/27 to Aden.  
(2) E.T.A. 0700Z/31, speed of advance 15 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 272327C to Admty.)

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

- C.S.5. Departure CEYLON wearing flag of C.S.5, E.T.A. Colombo 0930Z/29th. (F.O. Bombay, 270754Z to Admty.)
- F.S. SUFFREN. Sailed French cruiser SUFFREN to Colombo via 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>o</sup> Channel thence direct. E.T.A. 0830Z Thurs. 2nd. S. of A. 15 knots. (B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez, 270807 to Admty.)

Escort of N.Z. and U.S. troops. Escort of N.Z. and U.S. troops in East Indies Station. The present situation is that all merchant shipping, other than ships carrying N.Z. and U.S. troops are unescorted. Proceed undarkened and burn navigation lights anywhere except in the North Eastern operational area of the station - para. 4 of my 031101\* July, and my 040447/ July refer.

- (2) His Majesty's ships on ocean passage conform with the above, except when engaged on specific operations, exercising or when escorting troopships.
- (3) The above relaxations reduce delays to shipping, and the discomfort of tropical travel, and also decrease Marine risks.
- (4) The risk from enemy action is now negligible.
- (5) U.S. troopships now run between Indian East Coast ports and Aden, and are escorted in the Bay of Bengal by destroyers based on Ceylon.
- (6) N.Z. troopships run between Red Sea and Australia, and are given cruiser escort from Aden to Fremantle.
- (7) Relaxations of para. 1 and 2 are not applied to escorted ships or their escorts.
- (8) The number of destroyers and cruisers which can be spared from operations for escort of troopships, will not meet future programme, and delays in movements of troopships carrying U.S. and N.Z. troops will very soon be inevitable.
- (9) The employment of destroyers and cruisers in the above manner is very wasteful of war effort. The discomfort of travelling in darkened state through the tropics is quite unnecessary, and the victims will soon make public the fact.
- (10) Request immediate reconsideration of this matter.
- (11) A.M. 211919 Feb. and B.A.D. Washington 282141 Feb. refer. (C. in C. E.I., 270817Z to Admty.)

See 311939A.

\* Restriction on number carried without escort.

/ M.E.I.R.I. amendment 131. Para. (4) all merchant shipping in Indian Ocean to proceed undarkened and with steaming lights at full brillancy.

Corvette Sailed LINARIA in accordance with my 261603  
for U.K. holds latest Q messages.  
(Com. Aden, 270906Z to N.O.I.C. Suez.)

/VESTAL ...



War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

VESTAL sunk. B.S.3 report VESTAL sunk by suicide aircraft 26th July during Operation "Livery".  
(2) Survivors transferred to NELSON number C.O. plus 7 officers, 87 ratings. Stanley May, Asst. Cook C/MX.536782 and W. French, Stoker first class P/KX.710345 killed. Seven seriously injured.  
(3) No next of kin informed as further details of casualties not yet known.  
(C. in C. E.I., 270921Z to Admty.)

Operation "Livery". Operation "Livery" completed. Force 63 returning Trincomalee.  
(2) First priority M/S area cleared. 19 mines swept in first 2 days.  
(3) SQUIRREL mined forward 24th July and sunk by own gunfire 2½ hours later, my 250636 refers.  
(4) Successful air strikes and reconnaissance made over Kraa Isthmus. 5 small ships strafed Singora area. 15 locomotives put out of action between Bandon and Dhung Song. 3 bomb hits in camp at Huatoei. One Hellcat lost at Dhung Song was our only air loss.  
(5) Airfield at Songei Patani attacked 26th July by 7 Hellcats. 6 enemy A/C destroyed, 3 left burning, 2 hit.  
(6) Carrier and NELSON attacked a.m./26th by a few enemy A/C. One shot down in flames by AMEER during probable suicide dive. No damage or casualties.  
(7) SUSSEX and M/Ss. attacked by suicide A/C p.m./26th, VESTAL sunk. My 270921 refers. SUSSEX holed above waterline efficiency not affected.  
(8) Signals quoted not to all addressees.  
(C. in C. E.I., 270924Z to Admty.)

A.F.D. 35. A.F.D.35, Admiralty signal 222345B June.  
(1) End sections will be ready to leave Bombay on 1st December and centre section on 31st December but all electrical work will not be completed.  
(2) The following personnel will travel in end sections.  
(A) Officers 6 which includes dockmaster, navigation officers and contractors supervisors.  
(B) Gun crews 8. (C) Lascars 17. (D) Domestic 10.  
(E) S.R.R.D. 22. (F) Signalmen 3. (G) Contractors workmen (G.E.C.) 30 total 96.  
(3) On arrival Trincomalee guns crews, Lascars, domestics, signalmen, navigating officers and dockmaster return to Bombay for centre section.  
(4) Centre sections during tow total will be 121 additions being 4 contractors supervisors (G.E.C.) one S.R.R.D. and 20 contractors workmen.  
(5) Letter follows by fast air mail showing how personnel are accommodated during tow.  
(D.G.S.R. Bombay, 270945Z to Admty.)

War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

F.S. DUMONT  
D'URVILLE.

Intend to sail F.S. DUMONT D'URVILLE at 0200Z/  
28th to Djibouti, my 271020 refers. Thence  
proceed a.m./29th to Suez for onward routeing,  
C. in C. E.I. 13764 refers (neither signal to  
all addressees). E.T.A. Djibouti 1400Z/28th,

E.T.A. Suez 0300Z/3rd August. S. of A. 11.5 knots.  
(Com. Aden, 271018Z to Comar Djibouti.)

Movement.

Arrived ARIADNE, LOCH KATRINE, LOCH QUOICH,  
L.S.Ts. 3035, 3036, 3007.  
Departed ARIADNE, LINARIA, L.S.Ts. 315, 1021 and  
9, ST. MARGARETS.  
(Com. Aden, 271601Z to Admty.)



War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Turn round  
of troop-  
ships.

To expedite turnaround troopships destined Marseilles the following instructions will be passed to Commanding Officers or Masters.  
(A) U.S. Navy ships such as A.Ps., A.K.As. and others maintaining naval communications should signal amended E.T.A. if this differs by more than five hours from that given in departure signal. This amending signal should be made at least four days before arrival at destination and should be passed via radio Gibraltar (call sign GYU) with instructions to pass to Comar Marseilles using SHA. 259 and SP.2489 message to be encrypted in C.C.M.  
(B) U.S. Army Transports should signal E.T.A. destination Radio Gibraltar in accordance with Pharos para. 5(D).  
(Cominch (C. and R.), 271850Z to C.E.S.F.)

QU'APPELLE,  
destroyer.

C. in C. C.N.A. 261920. Departed St. Johns Nfld., H.M.C.S. QU'APPELLE 1930Z/27th July for Greenock route, speed, communications as in my 231150, E.T.A. (B) p.m./31st July.  
(F.O.N.F., 271944Z to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Far East and Australia

C. in C.  
B.P.F.  
programme.

I intend following programme.  
(A) Leave Sydney by air 4th August.  
(B) Arrives Manus 5th August.  
(C) Leave Manus in DUKE OF YORK 6th August.  
(D) Arrive Guam for conference with Admiral Nimitz and presentation of G.C.B. 9th August.  
(E) Leave Guam 11th August.  
(F) Arrive Manus 14th.  
(G) Leave by air for Sydney about 16th August.  
(2) DUKE OF YORK leaves Sydney for Manus 31st July with Captain Wheeler S.U.S.N.L.O. and some British Staff Officers.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 270216Z to C. in C. E.I., S.A.C.S.E.A., B.A.D.)

26th July  
Blue  
Summary.

F.A.W.18 planes sank one SD, Sagami Nada. Damaged Shingu-Udono railroad tunnel, two small craft same area. 9 PBJs. scored rocket hits on two coastal cargo ships.  
Night 25th/26th 29 B.29s. mined Deishin, Fusan, Nanao, Fushiki and Shimonoseki Straits. 76 bombed Hayama and Mitsubishi oil refineries Kawasaki from 16,600 by radar. 3 bombed opportunity targets. One B.29 missing. No air opposition. A.A. heavy, moderate to intense inaccurate to accurate. 8 B.29s. bombed Truk.



War Diary.

27.7.1945.  
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

26th July  
Blue  
Summary.  
(Contd.)

Two Fifth A.F. Kyushu missions cancelled due weather. 4, 94 Bomgroup B.24s. bombed Omura. Blue submarines sank SCs. and submarine chaser Gulf of Siam on 10th. Beached and burned two tugs Java Sea on 25th. Sank large ore laden junk off Lingga on 19th. Burned lumber mill boat building yard and 35 sampans southern Kuriles. Rescued one more U.S. airmen, one more British. Damage reported by 20 A.A.F. from 25th July photos. Utsonomiya 0.88 square miles or 78.2 per cent built up area. Hitachi 1.04 square miles or 41.9 per cent. Kawasaki petroleum centre 27.6 per cent of roof area and 4.6 per cent tank storage area. 26th July photos. Oksaki 0.65 square miles or 68 per cent built up area.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 270355 to Admty.)

Submarine  
SEANYMPH.

Your 260034Z, not to R.A.F.T. No objection to SEANYMPH arriving Manus earlier than mid-August providing escort can be arranged. My 240829Z not to R.A.F.T., paras. 3 and 4 refers.  
(2) R.A.F.T. will be requested to arrange for berthing and accommodation in AORANGI at Manus.  
(3) Admiralty pass to F.O.S/M.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 270556Z to S/M.8.)

Opintel 141. (A) For 28th July nil change estimate of enemy air strength.  
(B) Blue submarine states survivors of enemy tug volunteered information two Japanese manned German submarines at Soerabaja have made short runs out of harbour.  
(C) From 20th A.F. photos 23rd July Nobeoka targets afternoon two reports 90.33-P 587, Asahi Bemberg Rayon plant removed one per cent since July.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 270800Z to C.T.F.73, 94, 95, A.C.1, B.P.F.)

Trooper.

Intend DEVONSHIRE leave Sydney for U.K. via Fremantle and Colombo earliest practicable after (A) adjustment of complement, my 270835Z not to all, refers.  
(B) essential maintenance.  
(3) F.O.I.C. Sydney please sail ship accordingly.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 270837Z to F.O.I.C. Sydney.)

Digest  
1283,  
26th July.  
(Extract)

(1) Three Lib. Snoopers from Okinawa found destroyers and merchant ships in Suo Sea (Inland Sea). Separate attacks results in sizeable and one small freighter transport sunk: near misses one destroyer and one medium freighter transport. Two freighters intercepted one hit without damage either side. Another Lib. Snoopers to Korea



27.7.1945.  
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and AustraliaDigest  
1283,  
26th July.  
Extract.  
(Contd.)

picked up convoy one destroyer, two destroyer escorts, another one large transport and one unidentified ship heading west out of Choses Strait; one quarter ton direct hit on transport caused explosion, later the vessel could not be located. Twenty-five Mitchells of 5th Air Force on shipping search to Korea found three large coasters, one possible medium freighter transport, one submarine chaser and one or two luggers in Tsu Tsu Bay on south tip Tsu inland; 83 quarter tonners plus strafing sank all vessels except submarine chaser which was left in flames. One Mitchell lost probable to A/A and five damaged.

(2) Most 7th A.F. missions cancelled. Two snooping Libs. bombed airdrome by Inland Sea. One weather Lib. bombed Fusan docks, Korea; another bombed Hmami Island in northern Ryukyus.

(4) Photos of Singapore on 25th July show total 50 aircraft (35 fighters, 5 single engine planes, 10 twin engine planes) on Tengah, Tebrau and Seletar airdromes; one flying boat, 4 float-planes at Seletar seaplane base. Landing strip at Johore Bahru was obstructed.

(7) Navy search planes covered search plan found fewer targets than usual and nil new sightings at usual anchorages.

Following attacks made:

Mindoro planes damaged one barge Saigon area otherwise hit railroads and bridges French Indo-China; Palawan plane saw one lugger and attacked lumber yards at Pontianak, west Borneo; Another plane stopped one landing barge and set afire one schooner on west coast Celebes; One plane went to Anambas Island, south China Sea attacked radar station; Separate planes from Luzon attacked small craft Swatow damaged one junk Pescadores and two trucks Kiungshagnbuuj\* Hainan; Mariners strafed 3 large junks Luvchow Peninsula area and 30 large junks, each with 20 men aboard in Hong Kong area.

Night 25th/26th July P.Ts. operated following areas:

Pair Morotai boats destroyed 3 prahus off Miti Island, northern Halmaheras, during day: night demolished fronts of warehouses Tidore Island, western Halmaheras, also destroyed 5 prahus, 3 outriggers in area. Boats from Brunie, Borneo strafed Jesselton while another pair from Tarakan captured 3 enemy troops in prahu off Laroe Island. Nil attacks by other patrols.

(9) Other R.A.A.F. operations: July 25th: One Catalina searched Sawoe sea prior dawn strafing several small craft: 6 Liberators dropped 18 tons of 300 pounders on Makawsanarea airdromes: One Liberator bombed fuel tanks Manado airdrome: 8 Kittyhawks shot up installations Tabauiw and Celen repeat Oelin\* airdromes near Bandjermasin on south-east Borneo: 2 Spitfires conducted coastal sweep north Halmahera: 17 Beauforts bombed strafed Jap positions Wewak area supporting ground forces: 2 Cats. patrolled Sawoe Sea including Lores and Soemba Islands after dark with negative results and bombed several small craft.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 270840Z to Admty.)

\* As received.

/Fleet ...



War Diary.27.7.1945.  
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

Fleet Train A.M. 182100 July and V.A.(Q) 220221 July re requirements. Pacific coasters.  
(2) Priority of requirements for these vessels is as follows:  
(A) At least three ships properly fitted and loaded in accordance with para. 5 of V.A.(Q) 200827 July to be available in Forward Area by third week of October, 1945.  
(B) 3 ships fitted and loaded for re-arming at sea as in para. 3 of V.A.(Q) signal to be available in Forward Area by end of November, 1945.  
(C) Remainder as soon as possible afterwards priority being given to remaining 3 for re-arming at sea.  
(3) Essential all 11 ships be properly fitted for service as A.S.I.S. Owing to their greater capacity these ships required for use as A.S.I.S. not carriers. Augmentation of carriers will be arranged later by reallocation of smaller existing A.Es. some of which are less than half capacity of Pacific coasters.  
(4) The provision of ships as in 2(A) is vital as only 5 small ships are now available for harbour replenishment of greatly enlarged Fleet.  
(R.A.F.T., 271307Z to V.A.(Q))

M.O. for Your 230807. Medical Officers appointed BERRY HEAD. BERRY HEAD are expected to take passage 1/8/45 by sea (C.W. Lists 19/7/45 and 20/7/45 refer).  
(M.D.G., 272037A to C. in C. B.P.F.)



28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Mediterranean. 1. F.O.L.E.M. intends to close down N.D. depot at Alexandria on 1st August, that at Port Said about the middle of August.

Far East and Australia

Japan.

2(a) Aircraft of the B.P.F. (T.G.57) attacked the area from Kure to Kobe (inland sea). One destroyer, 12 merchant ships and 17 junks were sunk. 3 merchant ships and 2 luggers probably sunk. One submarine, 3 destroyers or destroyer escorts, 11 smaller ships and many small craft were destroyed. Ground targets damaged included port installations and shipyards.

(b) American aircraft of 5th and 7th Air Force from Okinawa attacking ships at Kure reported 3 or 4 hits on battleship HARUNA, 3 direct hits and 8 near misses on an aircraft carrier. Mustangs dive-bombed shipping at Sasebo scoring hits on an aircraft carrier and on a destroyer or light cruiser. 14 small craft were also sunk or damaged off southern Kyushu.

(c) U.S. 3rd Fleet reports that pre-strike photographs of battleship HYUGA previously reported seriously damaged shows her resting on bottom and partly underwater. Further damage is reported to the aircraft carrier KAIYO, heavy cruiser AOBA, light cruiser OYODO and heavy damage to the battleships HARUNA and ISE and heavy cruiser TONE. Three merchant vessels sunk and 4 destroyers, 1 destroyer escort and 5 other vessels damaged.

(d) Fleet Air Wing 18 planes sank a small merchant ship and damaged one and ground installations at Myake Island. Sank 9 small craft near Sandai.

(e) Fleet Air Wing 1 planes sank a small merchant vessel and damaged a submarine chaser in the Tolshima Strait. Yesterday sank a transport and damaged a submarine chaser near Urusan, Korea and docks and warehouses at Chefao.

(f) Night 27th/28th 27 B.29s. mined Shimonoseki Straits, Nada, Wakasa Wan and Niigata along the west coast of Honshu.

Submarine operations.

3. U.S. anti-submarine operations are continuing in 10° 26' N., 131° E. after sighting and sonar contact (about 360' East of Philippines).

230

28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

L.C.Ts. My 241735. 6 L.C.T.(R) will sail at 0830/29.  
E.T.A. Gibraltar 1830B/3rd August.  
(HAMILCAR, 281327B to F.O.G.M.A.)

RUBY,  
A/S.T. Intend to sail RUBY at 2000B/28th July to  
Plymouth.  
(3) Speed 10 knots, E.T.A. a.m./2nd August.  
(6) RUBY acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 281449B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Frigates  
for B.P.F. Sailed ST. BRIDES BAY and ST. AUSTEL BAY.  
(C. in C. Plymouth, 282303A to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

Programme  
intended  
for RANEE. A.M. 241557. It is not expected that 881  
Squadron will be fully trained until October 13.  
If urgently required however Squadron could be  
ready for embarkation by October 1st.  
(C. in C. S.A., 281003B to Admty., (R) C. in C.  
B.P.F.)  
See 310755Z (Far East and Australia)

Destroyers. Sailed VOLAGE and RAPID routed as follows, etc.  
(2) S. of A. 19 knots.  
(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 0330Z/1st August.  
(Cdre. i/c. R.N.E. Durban, 281306Z to Admty.,  
C. in C. E.I.)



28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Re Soviet request. Statement of ships in Allied hands N. Italy. Your 201827. Policy is to provide information to the Russians only upon reciprocal basis and it is accordingly the established practice to centralise all exchanges of information in London.  
(2) You should therefore inform Soviet representative that Soviet request should be made in London through Soviet Mission.  
(3) Admiralty are not yet in a position to provide the information. Admiralty message 192214 refers.  
(P.A.S.(L), 280124A to C. in C. Med., Nav. Sub. Rome.)

Re movements of cruisers. Your 271758 intend ORION to sail from Malta p.m./1st August on completion 2 days exercise with AJAX, already arranged.  
(2) Concur para. (C) and (D).  
(3) It is desired that SIRIUS should visit Alex. (before leaving) the station to collect essential refit stores.  
(F.O. 15th C.S., 280931 to C. in C. Med.)

N.D. Depots, closing down of. S.N.D's 40/1/1 of 24th May, para. 2 - all stores have been transferred.  
(2) Intend to close down N.D. depot Alex. 1st August when Lt. F.W. Slaughter, R.N.V.R. is available for disposal.  
(3) Intend to close down N.D. depot Port Said about middle of August when remaining nets have been dumped. Lt. H.L. Neale, R.N.V.R. and five ratings being retained until then.  
(4) N.D. depot Adabiya closed down 2nd July and personnel disposed of.  
(5) When N.D. depot Port Said has been closed down Commander A.R. Hair, R.N.R. (Rtd.) (at present sick) and Lt. G. Fryer, R.N.R. (acting N.D.O. Levant) are available for disposal.  
(6) N.D.O. Levant and S.N.O.R.S.C.A. signal age and service groups of officers named.  
(F.O.L.E.M., 281213C to C. in C. Med.)

Ships for E.I. and B.P.F. Sailed BELFAST with BLEASDALE, COWDRAY, EGGESFORD at 281900C to Aden for fuelling and onward routeing.  
(2) E.T.A. 31st 0800Z, S. of A. 20 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 281929C to Admty.)

Movements. Port Said July 28th.  
Arrivals QUEEN ELIZABETH, BERWICK, COWDRAY, BLEASDALE, LOCH MORE, I.S. ANIMOSO, M.F.A. ARGO.  
Departures COWDRAY, BLEASDALE, I.S. ANIMOSO, M.F.V.1111.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 282037C to Admty.)



28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

B.D.Vs. Reallocation of Bar Vessels East Africa and Aden. In view of requirements stated in A.L. B.D.O. 269/45 dated 12th June, 1945 and C.S. Kilindini's yard letter number 187 dated 14th July intend BARON should remain at Aden and BARRICADE at Kilindini until further notice. Intend to leave BARRIER in East Africa for the present and reallocate her later.  
(C. in C. E.I., 280215Z to Admty., etc.)

Communique Intend issuing following communique for Operation "Livery" 1230 G.M.T./30th July.  
for  
Operation Guns of the aircraft carrier AMEER on July 26th "Livery". destroyed Japanese aircraft making suicide attack British E.I. Fleet. The aircraft was diving toward carrier and was shot down in flames before reaching its target.

AMEER (Capt. P.D.H.R. Pelly, D.S.O., R.N.) was part of a task force consisting of heavy unit, aircraft carrier and escorts supporting M/Ss. taking part continued M/S operation between 24th and 26th July off west coast of the Malay Isthmus to north of Malacca Strait.

In force which was under flag of V.A. H.T.C. Walker, C.B., R.N. were destroyers ROTHERHAM (Capt. H.W. Biggs, D.S.O. and bar, R.N.) and PALADIN (Lt. H.R. Hewlett, R.N.) and the 7th M/S. Flotilla with R.I.N. danlayers including H.M.I.S. PUNJAB. During M/S operations on the 24th one of our sweepers struck a mine and later had to be sunk by our own gunfire. There was a small number of casualties. Next of kin are being informed. Carrier-borne aircraft attacked enemy installations, airfields, railways, troop concentrations and shipping. Military installations and columns of motor transport were bombed and machine-gunned. (15) railway engines were destroyed or badly damaged and numerous trucks derailed. Our aircraft also demolished railway installations at an important junction and disorganised traffic. One 150 foot steamer alongside a jetty was repeatedly hit by bombs and left burning and derelict. Two hundred ton schooners were left sinking and three small merchant ships, one landing craft, 7 junks and 4 small harbour craft strafed. In many cases our pilots saw the crews abandoning their ships. In a bombing and strafing run on seaplane bases and airfields our aircraft started fires and destroyed enemy aircraft on the ground, damaging 5 others. The task force bombarded an enemy seaplane base. During later stages of these operations intermittent air attacks were made on the Fleet. Three aircraft were shot down by ship's gunfire. (C. in C. E.I. Stn., 280855Z to Admty., F.O. 3rd B.S.)

My 280855. Your proposed communique has been amplified to include reference to suicide attack and loss of one ship by mine while sweeping. If no objection signalled by Admty. to my 280855, your 271245 (N.T. in W.D.) may be amended as necessary.

(C. in C. E.I.S., 280905Z to S.O. Force 63.)

/Sitrep. ...



233

28.7.1945.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies - Contd.

- Sitrep.  
No. 24.
- (1) Andaman Sea Force, in para. 1 Sitrep number 23 operated off Phuket 24th to 26th July. Mined area which was first objective was cleared 24 mines swept. SQUIRREL mined and sunk later by own gunfire. 115 survivors including all officers.
- (2) During strikes over Kaa Isthmus by Hellcats 3 small ships destroyed, 11 others strafed, 15 locomotives put out of action. 8 enemy aircraft destroyed on ground and 5 damaged at Sungei Patani airfield. 1 Hellcat lost.
- (3) Force attacked by suicide aircraft 26th July, one shot down by AMEER. VESTAL set on fire and sunk later by own forces, 8 officers, 87 ratings rescued. SUSSEX hit and sustained hull damaged above waterline. Efficiency not impaired.
- (4) Tenasserim Coast. TEST picked up boat with seven Burmese escaped from Port Blair who reported deaths from starvation among inhabitants.
- (5) Submarines. SWBYL sank one 1,800 ton coaster and nine country craft totalling 770 tons in Lower Malacca Strait. (C. in C. E.I., 281011Z to S.A.C.S.E.A.)

S/M My position 1200C/28th July 015° 00' N., 042°  
SCORCHER 00' E., course 146°, S. of A. 13½ knots. E.T.A.  
for B.P.F. Aden 0800C/29th July.  
(SCORCHER, 281201C to C. in C. E.I.)

Movement. Arrived L.S.T.(1) 3009.  
Departed DUMONT D'URVILLE, LOCH KATRINE, LOCH  
QUOICH, R.F.S. ORANGELEAF.  
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 281443Z to N.O.I.C. Suez.)

28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Destroyer for U.K. ULSTER arrived Bermuda.  
(S.B.N.O.W.At., 281205Z to Admty., B.A.D.)

L.S.T.3510. Departure H.M. L.S.T.(3) 3510 1600Z today Saturday 28th via Cabot Strait to Sydney N.S. to fuel thence to Clyde routed through 42.00 N., 55.00 W., 40.35, 47.00 thence Great Circle to 55.35, 07.00 and route K to destination. Speed 12, E.T.A. Sydney Monday July 30th 1800Z.  
(N.O.I.C. Quebec, 281546Z to N.O.I.C. Sydney, N.S.)

S/M AMPHION It is desired that H.M. S/M. AMPHION shall endurance carry out first-of-class endurance trials under trials. arctic and tropical conditions.

(2) The arctic trials will be carried out in Denmark Strait and it is proposed that the S/M should proceed to carry out tropical trials in an area off the mouth of the Orinoco River. This has been chosen because of the considerable variation in the density of water in that area.

(3) The following are approximate dates of the trials:

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leave</u>
14th September	Holy Loch.	10th September
	Patrol in Denmark Strait	21st September
29th September	Bermuda	29th September
3rd October	Patrol area to seaward of line joining -	17th October
	09° 10' N., 60° 20' W.	
	08° 25' N., 58° 55' W.	
	06° 30' N., 57° 01' W.	

28th October Holy Loch  
(4) War patrol routine will be carried out in Patrol Areas and call at Bermuda will only be for fuel and mail in order that a rigorous test of all machinery, equipment and habitability may be made. A medical officer will be carried.

(5) Request you obtain concurrence of Cominch to this proposal.  
(A.C.N.S.(H), 282345A to B.A.D. Washington, Comnavu.)

Far East and Australia

Fleet Train: Appointment of Cdre. A Captain will be appointed as Commodore Fleet Train and sent as soon as he can be made available but no guarantee can be given that any staff officers will be sent later. Your 040120 and 250445 refer.  
(V.C.N.S., 280141A to C. in C.B.P.F.)



235

War Diary.28.7.1945.  
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.Telegraph  
cables,  
cutting of.  
Operation.

(Subroc)

Operations by XE craft my 070747Z July refers  
SPARK, STYGIAN, SPEARHEAD from Brunei and  
SELENE from Subic all with an XE craft in tow  
sailed for operations 27th July.(2) XE craft in tow SPARK and STYGIAN objective  
enemy cruisers at Singapore reported 25th July  
in positions 01° 28'15" N., 103° 48'56" E. and  
01° 27'33" N., 103° 50'57" E. respectively.(3) XE craft with SPEARHEAD and SELENE objective to cut  
telegraph cables off Cape St. Jacques and Hong Kong respectively.

(4) D-day for all operations 31st July.

(5) Admiralty pass to F.O.S/M.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 280131Z to Admty., S.A.C.S.E.A., C. in C.  
E.I.)

See 050146 &amp; 051135

Blue  
summary  
for 27th.F.A.W.18 Liberator sank one picket boat Tanabv  
Wan. Sank two small craft damaged two near  
Miho. Damaged one FTD north of Shiowa Saki.  
F.A.W.1 Privateer on 26th sank 4 SD, two small  
craft, damaged one SCL, shot down two of seven  
attacking Tojos in Tsushima Straits. Sank two

FTD, one SD Kaishu Wan. Damaged SD Saishu Strait.

V.-Adm. John H. Hoyver relieved V.-Adm. John H. Towers as  
Deputy C. in C. Pac.

Seven B.24s. 11th A.F. dropped incendiaries on Kataok.

Night 26th/27th 127 B.29s. hit Matsuyama. 99 hit R.R. Grass  
Omuta.On 25th 8 tracer torpedo planes attacked 3rd Fleet at dusk.  
3 shot down by T.F.37 one by T.F.38. T.F.38 flew 655 combat  
sorties. Shot down 15 enemy planes over target and two Myrt  
snoopers. Destroyed 61, damaged 68 planes on ground. 10  
planes, five pilots were combat and seven planes one pilot  
operational losses. 175 combat sorties by T.F.37 which damaged  
seven aircraft on ground. Sunk 1 SD, 1 SC, eight small craft.  
Sunk or damaged one FTB, three FTC, one FTD, three SAS, 3 SB,  
2 SC, 1 SCS, 5 SD, 11 small craft. Lost two aircraft in  
combat, three operationally. Ground installations and  
communications extensively damaged by both forces.Revised damage to shipping resulting from T.F.38 strikes 24th  
and 25th. Seriously damaged BB ISE class, CV AMAGI, unidenti-  
fied BV at Nishinomi, China. CA AOBA, CL OYODO, CL KUMA class,  
two DD and AG SETTSU. Moderate damage to BB ISE class, CV  
KATSURAGI, two DD and one APD. Slight damage to BB HAUNA,  
CVL HOSHIO, CVE KAIYO, CV HULL, ASO, 1 OSA, 2 DEs, 2 SS and AG  
OUJI. Sank one SAI, one SAS, 4 SCL, two SCS, two FTC, one FTD,  
51 small craft. Damaged one SAI, 5 SAS, one SBL, two SBS,  
4 SCS, 1 FTB, eight DTC, three FTD, 94 small craft.Revised T.F.38 report for 24th shows 13 enemy planes shot down  
40 destroyed, 80 damaged on ground. 32 planes, 20 pilots, 15  
crew lost in combat. 17 planes, 4 pilots, 23 operationally.  
1,363 combat sorties.5th A.F. Con. 26th. 3 B.24s. sank one FTB and one FTD in Suo  
Nada. 25 B.25s. sank convoy of three SCL, one unidentified  
ship, two small crafts south of Tsushima.A.S.W. operations at 12.46 N., 165.50 E. On 23rd Blue submarine  
sank schooner in Java Sea.S.A.C.S.E.A. (S.U.S.N.O., S.E.A.C.) gets info R.D.O. Manila  
pass info. C. in C. S.W.P.A. and Com. 7th Fleet.

(C. in C. Pac. Adv., 280222 to Admty., etc.)

/JAMAICA ...



28.7.1945.  
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

JAMAICA, Your 212050. Prefer work up in Mediterranean.  
cruiser. (2) This would enable ship to be routed to  
operations without calling at Sydney should  
this become necessary.

(3) Request ship be informed in above sense.  
My 260823 June will be particularly applicable in the event  
envisaged in para. 2 above.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 280235Z to Admty.)

Transfer I intend to transfer my flag to INDOMITABLE  
of flag. on Sunday 12th August.  
(A.C.11, 280321 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Opintel 142. (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 280633 to C.T.F.73,  
Enemy air 94, 95, etc.)  
strength, etc. (See Lion Copy).

Digest (2) Navy Mariners destroyed 300 ton coastal  
1284, freighter near Kiirun; destroyed two luggers  
27th July. and damaged six coasters, two tugs, one lugger  
at Suo; six beached luggers burned up Ryutyu  
Island off Takao but otherwise only few luggers  
seen around Formosa shores. Sank 100 ton  
river boat docked up Canton River. Damaged three trucks,  
one bus at Swatow by strafing. Sank 50 ton river launch and  
20 ton landing craft off Hong Kong. Usual small ships present  
Hainan harbours and Haiphong; crane on dock at Hoihow destroyed  
by bomb. One large trawler probably sunk by bombs Quinhon,  
about five barges strafed at Tourane. Four coasters at  
Chucal (Malaya) bombed and strafed with undetermined damage,  
four shipyards at Chukai containing three coasters bombed and  
left burning fiercely; one schooner probably destroyed, another  
damaged near Trengganu. Three small freighters or coasters  
destroyed, two coaster hulls damaged at Bandjermasin.

(3) 13th Air Force operations 26th July: Two Liberators bombed  
Waterpok in Bone Gulf and strafed some 30 small craft near  
Mauovcar.

(6) In Balikpapan area Netherlands Forces advanced three miles  
north from Sambodia along coastal road without contact but enemy  
resistance continues astride inland highway delaying advance of  
7th A.I.F. Amphibious patrols outer waters of Balikpapan  
Bay reached Ment Wir.

(7) R.A.A.F. operations: 26th July 28 Kittyhawks, 8 Spitfires,  
1 Mosquito, 2 Beaufighters supported ground forces north-west  
Borneo hitting Keningau area, Niri area and subs. 11 Kitty-  
hawks, 4 Spitfires hit south-east Borneo airdromes of Valin  
and Tabanio and also Kotaboroe on Laut Island.

22 Kittyhawks, 8 Spitfires provided ground support north-west  
Borneo attacking targets south of Miri: 3 Spits. searched  
Balikpapan Bay and destroyed five small craft.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 280822 to Admty.)



28.7.1945.  
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia - Contd.

T.F. 74.

Com. 7th Fleet re-encyphers his Top Secret  
281952 for Info. S.A.C.S.E.A., A.C.S.E.A.  
VVN JHJH.

"To cover movement of T.F.74 composed of  
friendly cruisers and destroyers departing Subic 290300 item  
for South China Sea routed via 11.25 N., 113.50 E. and 05.00  
N., 106.45 E. Request immediate promulgation of zone noting  
quote effective immediately and until further notice joint  
zone is established in water area between lat. 13.30 N. and  
equator and between longs. 101.30 E. and 117.00 E."  
(Com. 7th Fleet, 282240 to Cinafpac.)

# SECRET

237A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

280633/July.

From, C. in C. Pac. ADV H.Q.

Date, 29.7.45

Recd. 0041.

Correction, C.C.M. (5 Services) area Secret. by T/P.

To, CTF 73, CTF 94 CTF 95, ACONEBPF 7th FITCOM Com 20th AF  
C. in C. B.P.F. Comargilsaroca ATFC and TGC 3rd Fleet.  
Comphibspac. All Carriers 3rd Fleet. Comonusastaf  
Photogrp two, C. in C. S.W.P.A. Comaafswpa. C.T.G.  
99.2 and Photogrp 1 get action via R.D.O. Okinawa.  
Info. COMAF 7. C. in C. Pac. Pearl H.Q. Com 7th Fleet.  
Comairpac. Comsubpac. Iairpacsubcomford. C.N.O.  
C.G. 5th. 13th AF Admiralty. London. C.T.G. 95.2 KK 2U.

IMPORTANT.

(Beginning part, 1 OPINTEL 142.

- (a) 14th AF estimate Jap air strength 27th July.  
Shanghai Hangkow 50 Bombers, 75 Fighters. Hankow 5 and 5.  
Nanking 5 and 20. North China 10 and 50.
- (b) Correct target number Ebetsu airfield 6th amendment.  
AIC Japanese airfields 3rd July is 2928.
- (c) B 29 ship sightings 26th July. About 35 vessels  
anchored in harbour east coast of Honshu at 37 - 03 North  
141 - 00 East.
- (d) From 20th AF Photos 24th July North Honshu and Hokkaido  
interpron two reports. Shipping Hakodate Harbour 41 - 47 North  
140 - 43 East complete 1 a.m. in drydock. 1 train ferry sunk.  
3 train ferries all appear damaged 1 of those in drydock and  
1 may be beached. 14 MV operational total 45500 tons.  
1 MV building 2300 tons. 1 MV outfitting 870 tons.  
Miyake harbour 40 - 33 North 141 - 59 East complete 1 MV  
total 870 tons. Kamaishi Harbour 39 - 18 North 141 - 53 East  
complete 3 MV operational total 10000 tons.  
1 MV possibly damaged 6600 tons. Aomori harbour 40 - 51 North 140-  
44 East 75%. 1 MV operational 1000 tons.
- (e) 9 airfields North Honshu and Hokkaido total  
serviceable 239. Hachinohe 40 - 33 North 141 - 28 East complete.  
Total 57. 2 Francos 19 single 16 dummies Northeast dispersal.  
21 Francos 2 Betty 2 Irving 1 Tabby 1 Twin 1 Willow 9 single  
12 Dummies south dispersal. 1 Trainer on field.  
Misawa 40 - 42 - 30 North 141 - 22 East complete. Total  
71. 1 Rita. Twins 19 Betty 5 Francos 2 Tabby 1 Irving 1 Pogy  
1 Nell. Singles 13 Val 10 Judy 7 Grace 1 Zeke 1 Kate 11 Trainers  
28 unidentified. Location 9 Twin 28 single on field.  
4 Twin 36 single 1 4 south dispersal. 10 twin 6 single North  
dispersal. 7 single East dispersal. Atsushima 38 - 24 North  
141 - 13 East 90%. Total 63. Twins 13 Betty 5 Nell 35 Francos  
9 unidentified. 1 Pine. Location 26 Twin on field. 24 twin  
south dispersal. 11 twin 1 single southeast dispersal.  
1 twin northeast dispersal.

/Noshiro.



Noshiro 40 - 13 - 30 North 140 - 03 East 50%. 5 twin 3 single  
south dispersal. 1 twin 5 single on field.  
Hakodate 41 - 46 North 140 - 46 - 75%. 2 Trainers on field.  
Muroran 42 - 22 North 141 - 00 - 30 East complete 1 single south  
dispersal. Sapporo North 43 - 05 - 30 North 141 - 20 East  
complete 1 Spruce on road East of field.  
Asahigawa 43 - 47 - 30 North 142 - 22 East complete none repeat  
none. Matsuyama 43 - 07 North 141 - 31 - 30 East complete none.

280633.

Note. Previously circulated incomplete.

1st. S.L. (3).  
D.F.S.L.  
4th S.L.  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H).  
A.C.N.S. (F).  
A.C.N.S. (A) (2).  
A.C.N.S. (W).  
D. Map Rm.  
D.C. (2).  
D.S.O.  
O.D. (6).  
O.I.C. (3).  
D.N.I. (7) (& for  
D.N.L.O. (2) )  
M. (63) & for A.M. (35).  
C.C.L.S.  
W.D.  
J.D. Blake.  
C.W.R.  
D.N.O.R.  
Hydrog.  
D.D.J.D. (C) (2).  
C.N.I. (2).  
D.A.W.T.  
D.M.S.  
D.M.S. Cit.  
d.k.

29.7.1945.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Far East and Australia

Japan.

1. British and U.S. warships carried out a bombardment of Hamamatsu (S. coast of Honshu). British force included KING GEORGE V, NEWFOUNDLAND and destroyers. Bombardment reported very successful.

Japan.

2(a) 28th/29th 558 Super-Fortresses attacked urban areas and an oil refinery on Honshu and Shikoku. Approximately 3,226 tons of bombs was dropped. Large fires were started.  
(b) A further report from the 3rd U.S. Fleet based on photographs of the attack by U.S. aircraft on Japanese shipping at Kure and N.W. Kyushu yesterday shews the battleship HYUGA capsized and 3 submarines sunk, the battleship HARUNA beached and burning. A tremendous explosion on an UNRYU class aircraft carrier is also reported by pilots.



29.7.1945.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

MAGPIE,  
A/A sloop  
for B.P.F.

MAGPIE delayed by hull defects necessitating  
docking Gibraltar until 1st August approx.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 291948B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

American  
transport  
(signal  
unanswered)

Add to my 292226B passed west to east 29th  
1530 MALOJA Port Said 3rd 1730 unknown American  
transport vessel asked her name but would not  
answer Gibraltar signal station.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 292232B to Almed., V.A. Malta.)

South Atlantic

AWE,  
frigate.

Simonstown departure AWE 1315 July 29th for  
Colombo routed as follows. (Route).  
(2) S. of A. 15 knots, E.T.A. Diego Suarez  
2150B August 4th.  
(C. in C. S.A., 291351B to Admty.)

240

29.7.1945.  
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

5th Minesweeping Flotilla. Your 281133. WELFARE, SYLVIA, TRUELOVE, HASCOSAY, KINTYRE in company. WESTRAY, SHEPPEY expected shortly. STORMCLOUD being sailed for Alexandria p.m. today.  
(S.O. M/S. 5th Flot., 290948 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Transfer to Greek Minister of shipping corvettes. Is there any special reason for the increase from five to six Corvettes. Your 281121 and para. 2 A.M. 282338 June refer.  
(C. in C. Med., 290941B to S.B.N.O. Greece.)  
Your 281214B. In consequence of S.B.N.O. Greece's 281121 corvette as substitute for SOLLUM will be sought elsewhere.  
(2) Admiralty are anxious to dispose of surplus corvettes and no objection is seen to increase referred to in your 290941.  
(Hd. of M.I., 292224A to C. in C. Med.) \* 111305 Aug.

Levant Sitrep. to 1900 hours 28th July. (1) Homs/Hama. 27th July Emir Abed head of Mawali Tribe arrested on authority Mohafez for interfering with work of Mira. Arrest carried out jointly by Syrians and British.  
(2) Damascus. WEF 25th July civ. air service resumed from Mezze airfield.  
(3) French wish to surrender as from 1 August powers of their military courts to try cases of Syrians and Lebanese accused of offence against British military.  
(C. in C. M.E., 291240C to W.O.)

SS. EMPIRE VALOUR (aground) EMPIRE VALOUR reported aground entering Gulf of Salonika. Understand lightening is in progress to assist refloating, full report will follow.  
(M.P.S.T.O. Med., 291316 to D. of S.T.)

QUEEN ELIZABETH. Intend to sail QUEEN ELIZABETH at 0700/29th to Malta for onward routeing to Gibraltar for U.K.  
C. in C. E.I.'s 041157 refers.  
(3) Speed 17½ knots, E.T.A. 1400/31st.  
(7) Request anchor berth outside Grand Harbour. F.O.L.E.M.'s 261216 July refers.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 292019C to V.A.M., F.O.G.M.A.)



War Diary.

29.7.1945.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

P 374.

Basing of  
2 sloops  
on Rangoon  
for patrol  
in Andaman  
Sea.

Cancel my 151214 June. Sloops have been  
withdrawn from patrol.  
(2) Further signal will be made should patrols  
by ships of B.C.E.F. be required.  
(3) My 211301 not to all addressees refers.  
(C. in C. E.I., 290619Z to Admty.)

V.S.I.S.

Victualling Store Issuing Ships. Your 211207  
July.

(2) Your para. 2. FORT Y in Q.B.106/44 is  
FORT EDMONTON and may not reach you before  
November (A.M. 211545 refers). It is confirmed that your  
total of 16 ships is correct.  
(3) Your para. 4. M.W.T. has been asked to meet your require-  
ments (A), (B) and (C).  
(4) Your para. 5. These are not safe assumptions. Probable  
dates of arrival will be sent as soon as they can reasonably  
be estimated. The temporary issuing ship scheme will probably  
have to continue until well into 1946.  
(4th S.L., 291222A to C. in C. E.I.)

29.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

French  
A/S Training  
S/MS.

Your 281500 not to all. If AMAZONE unable proceed without assistance, return her to Bermuda for repairs, and subsequent onward routing. What is status ANTIOPE?  
(C. in C. Lant, 290524Z to N.O.B. Bermuda)  
Return FNS AMAZONE to Bermuda. Fuel ANTIOPE if necessary. ANTIOPE to proceed independently.  
(N.O.B. Bermuda, 291220 to U.S.S. KIOWA.)

MARMION V.

Arrived a.m. July 29th. H.M.S. MARMION from Quebec.  
(C.O.P. Halifax, 291010Z to Admty.)

Escort  
requirements  
for B.P.F.

C. in C. B.P.F.'s provisional estimate of escort requirements are for 44 by mid-September and 76 by mid-October.  
(2) Probable availabilities are 55 by end of Sept. and 78 by end of Oct. of which some will be away refitting, and these totals include the

Australian minesweepers.

(3) C. in C. therefore requests every endeavour be made to keep to forecast dates and if possible to improve on Oct. arrivals, particularly R.C.N. Frigates.

(D.O.D.(F), Approved V.C.N.S. 291122A to N.S.H.Q., C. in C. B.P.F. See 312041Z)

Minesweepers  
for Soviet.

Admiral Egerton's 260950 Para. 2. Information requested whether services required of Russian speaking Liaison Officers from Admiralty.  
(2) If so, three Officers could be made available to join minesweepers at Falmouth.  
(N.I.D.(16), 291600A to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.) *See 28203Z Aug.*

Far East and Australia

Fleet Train  
requirements  
Pacific  
Coasters.

Availability of Pacific Coasters in your 182100/ may influence ability to compete with planned operations.

(2) Request very early information of completion dates on West Coast of America of first 6 vessels and approximate dates for retaining 5.  
(C. in C. B.P.F. 290129Z to Admty.)

See 310545 and 012005A August. Pacific coasters likely to become available as ammo. ships or carriers

PRINCE  
ROBERT  
Auxiliary  
(A/A ship).

H.M.C.S. PRINCE ROBERT departed Pearl 23 hours Z. 28th S.O.A. 15 knots. E.T.A. Sydney 10.  
(C.M.S.F. 290140 to Comsowespac.)

/B.P.F....



243

29.7.1945  
SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

B.P.F. (1) Details of damage to naval units shipping air  
Op. Rep. installations and other targets in the Kure-Kobe  
No.16. area inflicted on 24/25th July by T.F.37 and  
T.F.38 fully covered by press and C. in C.  
P.O.A.Communicues. Following from intercepted  
signals.

(2) 24th July. T.F.37. 21 aircraft destroyed and 57 damaged  
on ground. We lost eight planes to flak and 11 operationally,  
nine pilots and three crewmen.

(3) 25th July. Heavy strikes of primary targets weathered out.  
Nevertheless T.F.37 flew 175 combat sorties, T.F. 38 655.  
Enemy attempted dusk torpedo attack by two groups of four A/C.  
Both raids intercepted. Three planes smashed by T.F.37 one by  
T.F.38. British planes also damaged seven enemy A/C on the  
ground. Our losses two aircraft in combat three operationally.

(4) 26th, 27th July. Task forces replenished South of Honshu,  
returning to attack the Kure-Kobe area at dawn 28th. British  
T.U. consisting KING GEORGE V and 3 DD expected to make co-  
ordinated bombardment of Hamamatsu and on Honshu 29th July.

(5) Dumbom A/C and Lifeguard submarines doing fine work.  
Information received shows four of our pilots already rescued.  
(C. in C. B.P.F. 290410Z to Admty.) See 310730Z.

28th July 3rd Fleet reports first 3 strikes of T.F.38.  
Blue Prestrike photos of BB. **HYUGA** previously reported  
Summary. seriously damaged show her resting on bottom and  
partly underwater. Pilots report further damage  
to C.V.E. **KAIYO** C.A. **AOBA**, C.L. **OYODO** heavy damage  
to B.B. **HARUNA**, B.B. **ISE**, C.A. **TOME**. 3 S.S.  
sunk, damaged 4, D.D. 2, D.E.1, S.A.S. 2, F.T.D. 1, F.T.A. 1,  
T.A.1, unidentified vessel. Shot down 1 Jill near force and  
18 fighters. Destroyed 75, damaged 56 planes on ground. 12  
U.S., 3 British carrier airmen reported rescued.  
F.A.W.18 Privateers sank 1 S.D., damaged 1 S.D. and ground in-  
stallations at Miyake Island. Sank 9 small craft near Sendai.  
F.A.W. 1 privateers sank 1 S.D., damaged 1 S.C.S. Tolshima Straits.  
Damaged large schooner near Gunzan. On 27th sank 1 F.T.C.,  
damaged 1 S.C.S. near Urusan Korea. Damaged 1 S.D. near Tomitaka  
and 1 lugger, docks and warehouses at Chefoo. P.B.Ms. damaged  
buildings and small craft Miyako evacuated 7 Army aviators from  
Taichow Bay.  
134 Iwo P.51's attacked Tokyo area airfields.  
Destroyed 1 enemy plane on ground plus 3 probables and damaged 12.  
Destroyed 10 locomotives, damaged communication facilities and  
air installations. No airborne enemy aircraft. 7 Mustangs  
lost 5 (?of them) to flak 3 pilots rescued.  
Night 27/28. Task Group 95.2 swept area east Oake Oeghai. 1  
fishing boat sunk. No other contacts. 27 B.29s mined Shimon-  
seki Straits, Bingv Nada, Wakasa Wan and Niigata. 2 B.29s  
missing.

/20th ...



29.7.1945  
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

28th July 20th A.F. reports from photos of 28th July.  
 Blue Mitsubishi oil refinery. Damage concentrated  
 Summary. south and central part includes destruction or  
 (Contd.) damage of 32 percent original storage tank capacity  
 2 Iso Octane unit Wesphalt loading unit. Hayama  
 Petroleum Co. damage is to south east part includ-  
 ing 36 percent storage tank 26 percent intermediate  
 tank original capacity destroyed or damaged. 27th July  
 photos. .77 SQ MI or 68 percent Tsuruga burned.  
 .63 SQ (?MI) .84? percent Kuwana. .238 SQ MI TSU repeat TSU  
 destroyed by explosive bombs.  
 A.S.W. operations in progress 10 Wash 26 North 131 East after  
 sighting and Sonar contact. On 26th Blue S/M sank Junk and  
 Schooner Paisho Strait.  
 Some outstanding air/sea rescues 24/28th July. Pilot picked up  
 after 5½ hours in water within 5 miles of Kobe. Dumbo  
 rescued pilot down in Inland sea then landed Sasros Bight near  
 Ashizuri Saki and rescued his two escorts who were out of gas.  
 Dumbo who picked up two pilots in Japan sea off Miho successfully  
 landed in 3rd Fleet Station when gas ran out. After saving 2  
 carried pilots rescue plane picked up 5 B.29 aviators in Inland  
 Sea. One Dumbo picked up total of 12, including crew of  
 another Dumbo.  
 (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 29044 Z to Manila PI (R.A.D.) C.N.O.)

Opintel 143 (C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q. 290528 to C.T.F. 73,  
 Enemy 94095, C. in C. B.P.F.)  
 air strength. See Lion Copy.

Digest (1) Japan shipping and airfields targets for  
 1285 Okinawa A/C of 5th and 7th Airforce. 80  
 28.7.45 Liberators hit, Ships at Kure and report 3 or 4  
 Extract. hits on Battleship HARUNA, 3 direct hits and 8  
 near misses on AOLE Carrier; nil interception yet  
 reported; 21 Mustangs dive-bombed shipping at  
 Sasebo scoring direct hit on one destroyer or light  
 cruiser, hit and 2 near misses on an escort carrier; 1 Mustang was  
 lost; 24 Mitchells covered by 46 Mustangs swept inland sea  
 destroying 2 small Coasters and 1 S/M-chaser, nil interception.  
 Kyushu Airdromes including Kanoya Tachira and Metatsubara hit by  
 157 Thunderbolts, 64 invaders, 70 Mitchells on 5 strikes; 6 A/C  
 destroyed on ground, 4 probably destroyed; many fires and  
 explosions started and much damage done to installations also one  
 small coaster damaged off an airstrip. 4 Mustangs swept Fusan  
 Area, Korea destroying 2 Flying Boats and 1 Coaster. 3 Predawn  
 Liberator Snoopers found 2 small convoys in Tsushima Straits,  
 off Southwest Korea and probably sank 1 Coaster; 1 Liberator is  
 missing.  
 (2) Okinawa on 27th July some 304 Offensive Sorties flown mainly  
 against Kyushu communications, details follow; 64 Liberators es-  
 corted by 50 Mustangs dropped 198 tons on marshalling yards and  
 nearby industrial targets at Kagoshima, 152 Thunderbolts, 14 Mus-  
 tangs hit Kyushu Railroad installations and left smoking 3 Trans-  
 ports in Kagoshima Bay; 1 Thunderbolt was lost to A/A, after  
 escorting the Liberators, 50 Mustangs strafed shipping in  
 Kagoshima Bay damaging 1 small freighter transport, 1 small ship  
 towing Barges burned 1 coaster, beached 1 lugger, hit 5 new coasters  
 in drydock also strafed 1 non-operational destroyer, 1 coaster



War Diary.

29.7.1945.  
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Digest  
1285,  
28th July.  
Extract.  
(Contd.)

and 2 small freighter transports. 24 Mitchells swept south-west coast Kyushu for ships; sank 1 lugger, damaged 2 coasters and another slightly. 1 Mitchell lost (by?) own bomb explosion. Predawn Snoopers operated as detailed; 2 Liberators along south-west Korea bombed for unobserved results 1 coaster off Tsu Island. 1 fighter intercepted; 2 Liberators on inland

sea followed by 2 fighters but not engaged, attacked results unobserved 1 medium freighter, 1 lugger and small craft. Another Liberator Snoopers bombed Izum Airfield.

(4) Navy Search planes made normal coverage with nil unusual sighting on any section. Attacks follow: along south-west coast Formosa, 1 junk sunk, 3 junks damaged and another damaged at Ryukyu Island: Another searcher exploded 7 of light trucks near Fort Bayard, Luichow Peninsula: 14 planes from Mindoro but nil targets found and Quinhon dock area bombed and railroad bridges near Hong Kong. Privateer from Palawan sank 1 coaster and 1 barge off Makarsar, south-west Celebes. Previous night Mariner went to China Coast and thoroughly worked over 75 junks off Hualing Island.

(5) R.M.A.F. operations 27th July: 4 Catalinas mined Banka Straits before dawn. Small craft at Kalabahi bombed by Catalinas. 26 Kittyhawks provided support Balikpapan ground forces also strafed small craft around Bay and motor transport while another 11 Kittyhawks attacked (hostile?) village on Pensiangan Island from Keningau.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 290942Z to Admty.)



# SECRET

245A  
IN

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

290528/July

From: C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q.

Date 30.7.45

Recd 1121

C.C.M. (5 SERVS) (P & I) AREA SEC BY T/P

To: C.T.F. 73 94 95, C. in C. B.P.F., Comgent 20th A.F.  
All TF and RG Comdrs 3rd Flt Commargils Area  
Comphibspac A.C. One B.P.F. Photogrp Two, C. in C.  
S.W.P.A. All Carriers 3rd Flt Comgenusastaf  
Commaf.S.W.P.A. Comgenseventhfitcom (via RDO Iwojima)  
C.T.G. 95.2., R.D.O. Okinawa pass action to C.T.G. 99.2

Info: Comgen 7th AAF and Cominterpron One, Cincpac Pearl  
who passes info to Comairpac. Comsubaac Airpacsubcomford  
C.N.O. rpt C.N.O. Comgenusaf China Comgens 5th 13th  
A.A.F. Comseventhflt Admiralty London Cominterpron two.

## IMPORTANT

Opintel 143.

Para.A. From 20th AF photos 25th July Interpron two reports shipping Yokohama harbour complete. One Mac inoperational. One DD outfitting. Two PF outfitting. Two midget SS. One L.S.M. 9 M.V. operational total 33200 tons. 4 M.V. outfitting total 24500 tons. Four M.V. building total 20800 tons. Two M.V. repairing total 2800 tons.

Para.B. From 20th AF photos 28th July Central Honshu 10 airfields total 342 planes Nagano 36-3(?) North 138 - 13 East complete one twin seven single on field. 35 single Southeast dispersal. 41 single Northwest dispersal. Utoonmiyn South (S) 36-31 North 139 - 53 East 90% 16 single on field. 12 single North dispersal. One twin 31 single West dispersal. Shimodate 36 - 16 North 139 - 57 East 90% 18 single on field. 21 single on roads Northwest. Five single on roads Southeast. Konoike 35 - 55 - 30 North 140 - 41 East complete 20 single Northeast dispersal. Seven single South dispersal. 9 dummies on field. Ueda 36 - 24 North 138 - 14 East complete 9 twin 23 single on field Nishinomiya 34 - 43 North 135 - 22 East complete four twin 26 single on field. Naruto 35 - 34 North 140 - 25 East complete seven single on field. 19 single Southeast dispersal. Katori 35 - 44 North 140 - 37 East complete one twin four single on field. 12 single Northwest dispersal. Itami 34 - 47 North 135 - 26 East 10% three twin nine single on field. Oitsu 34 - 42 North 137 - 22 East complete one twin on field.

Para.C. 26th July Haneda 35 - 33 North 139 - 46 East complete. 6 Tabby four twin seven single on field.

Para.D. 25th July 8 airfields Central Honshu total 280 planes. Koriyama 37 - 22 North 140 - 24 East complete. Two Frances. Singles one Judy one Jack two XEKE? 15 Jean three Pine 13 Willow 51 unidentified. Two twin 69 single on field. 17 single in hangar area. Kashumigaura 36 - 02 North 140 - 12 East 50%. Three? Tabby three twin 35 single on field. 8 Tabby 11 twin West dispersal. 8 single North dispersal. Kashumigaura SS none. Kvuhumi? 36 - 17 North 139 - 24 East 80% 5 Francis 14 single on field. 22 single West dispersal. One twin eight

/ single .....



single at aircraft plant. Mito South (S) 36 - 20 North 140 - 29 East. 95% 1 single on field. 6 twin 5 single East dispersal. 9 single Northeast dispersal. 1 twin 8 single on road Northwest. Matsudo 35 - 47 North 139 - 58 East 40% 15 single on field. 31 single West dispersal. Fujisawa 35 - 21 North 139 - 28 East complete 4 single East dispersal. 7 single in ravine 1.5 miles and one single on field one mile Northeast. Mito 36 - 23 North 140 - 35 - 30 East 70% 2 twin 4 single on field.

E. P.47 North aircraft will operate from Iwo Jima for period beginning 1st August.

290528

Advance copy: D.C. O.D.

1st S.L. (3)  
D.F.S.L.  
4th S.L.  
5th S.L.  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S. (H)  
A.C.N.S. (F)  
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)  
A.C.N.S. (W)  
D. Map Room  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.  
O.D. (6)  
O.I.C. (3)  
D.N.I. (7) (& for D.N.L.O. (2))  
M. (63) & for A.M. (35)  
C.C.L.S.  
W.D.  
Admiral Blake  
C.W.R.  
D.N.O.R.  
Hydrog.  
D.D.O.D. (C) (2)  
C.N.I. (2)  
D.A.W.T.  
D.M.S.  
D.M.S. Citadel.

(A15)

30.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

North Atlantic

Moroccan  
Sea  
Frontier.

1. On 1st August the Moroccan Sea Frontier will be abolished. In its place Moroccan Task Group (Task Group 125.2) will be constituted. H.Q. of C.T.G. 125.2 will be Port Lyautey. G.H.Q. U.S.N. activities will be U.S. Naval Liaison Casablanca. U.S. Naval Liaison W. Africa and Naval air facility Dakar. Comar Casa will operate ships at Casablanca under general control C. in C. Meditn.

South Atlantic

Lagos.

2. H.M.S. ASTRAEA naval establishment at Lagos will close down on 8th August.

East Indies

Movement.

3. NELSON (B.S.3), SUSSEX, EMPRESS, AMEER and destroyers arrived Trincomalee from operations off Puket Island.

America and West Indies

Movement.

4. TRACKER (carrier) left Norfolk (Va.) for New York.



30.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Far East and Australia

Eastern  
Archipelago.

5. P.T. Boats landed Australian Recce party Arubo Island (Makassar Straits). No Japanese were encountered but huts for garrison of estimated 25 men destroyed and radio sets demolished.

Japan.

6(a) T.G.37 (B.P.F.) aircraft attacked targets in the Eastern Honshu area probably sinking several small craft and damaging 3 destroyers, 4 destroyer escorts, an armed trawler and various smaller ships.

(b) Aircraft from 3rd U.S. Fleet attacked east Honshu and damaged two cargo vessels and a converted carrier at Kobe. Damaged 3 destroyer escorts, 2 other vessels and a submarine chaser at Maizuru. In Sagami Wan (southern Honshu) destroyed 2 midget submarines and one patrol craft and damaged destroyer escort, two patrol craft and submarine chaser. (310432)

(c) Aircraft from B.P.F. (T.G.37) damaged 3 destroyers, 4 destroyer escorts and 7 miscellaneous craft near Maizuru (north-west Honshu).

(d) F.A.W.1 planes sank a submarine chaser and 2 small cargo vessels and damaged small cargo vessels and a large schooner in the Tsushima Straits, and sank two small ships and damaged one near the Shantung Peninsula.

(e) 36 U.S. aircraft bombed and damaged the docks at Nagasaki.

(f) Aircraft of 3rd U.S. Fleet also today destroyed 1 destroyer escort, 1 submarine, 1 tanker, 4 miscellaneous and 26 small craft. 114 aircraft were destroyed on the ground.

(g) Further results of the strike by U.S. warships T.G.38 (U.S. 3rd Fleet) today are 1 destroyer and 1 miscellaneous craft at Mazaur sunk, one light cruiser either the KASHIMA or SAKAWA, 1 destroyer and 4 miscellaneous craft damaged.

(h) New data from a final despatch on the Kure strike on 28th by U.S. aircraft from Okinawa adds following details:

Battleship HARUNA beached, large hole in stern, flooded aft.

Battleship HYUGA on bottom.

Battleship ISE down by bow.

Cruiser TONE beached.

Cruiser OYODO sunk.

Cruiser AOBA down by stern and listing.

Flight decks of two UNRYU class carriers partly destroyed.

3 destroyers and 20 other craft sunk.

10 destroyers and 54 miscellaneous craft damaged.

115 aircraft destroyed on ground and 156 damaged. (310432).

30.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Far East and Australia

Japan.  
(Contd.)

(1) 29th/30th 27 U.S. Super-Fortresses laid 158 tons of sea mines off N.E. Korea and in the Shimonoseki Straits and off N.W. Kiushu.

Movement.

7. ACTIVITY (Ferry Carrier) left Brisbane for Trincomalee.



30.7.1945.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticENTERPRISE,  
trooping.

Intend to sail ENTERPRISE 1445B/30th July to Port Said.  
(2) Speed 20 knots, E.T.A. 2015B/3rd August.  
(4) ENTERPRISE acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 301041B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

WHADDON,  
destroyer.

Intend to sail WHADDON at 1415B/30th July to Trieste (C. in C. Med. 271028B).  
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 1300B/4th August.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 301705B to C. in C. Med.)

French  
ships.

Intend to sail F.S. VOLTIGEUR (S.O.), FANTASSIN and CARABINIER escorting S.Cs. 101, 102, 103, 105, 106, 134, 136, 121, 122, 124, 125, 126 at 2000B/30th July to Brest.  
(2) Routed through (all positions N. and W., lettered A to E) 35.59, 06.10; 36.50, 09.10; 39.00, 09.50; 43.30, 09.45; 48.14, 05.23 and Q.Z.S.617.  
(3) Speed  $10\frac{1}{2}$  knots, E.T.A. 1600B/3rd August.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 301731B to Premar 2.)

BESSEL,  
German.

Arrangements in your 271538 July are working smoothly. Earliest date that BESSEL can sail is 3rd August.

(2) Consider it would be of assistance if DITTANY remained in Vigo until BESSEL sailed.

British Consul is arranging this.

(3) ACTIVE sails 0800B/31st July, E.T.A. Gibraltar 1400B/1st August with following German merchant seamen - Captain, four officers and thirteen ratings, total eighteen.  
(ACTIVE, 302031B to F.O.G.M.A.)

South AtlanticDestroyers  
for E.I.

BLANKNEY and MIDDLETON arrived Pointe Noire 0800A today Monday 30th July.  
(BLANKNEY, 301025 to F.O.C.W.Af.)

SS. DORVAL  
PARK. (Br.)

DORVAL PARK grounded 28th July south of entrance first narrows Magellan Straits refloated by tide towed Punta Arenas by Chilean Navy. Propeller and bottom damaged. Diver examining. Further report tomorrow.  
(Merco Washington, 301130 to Admty.)

/My...

250

30.7.1945.  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

SS. DORVAL  
PARK. (Br.)  
(Contd.)

My 281540\*.  
DORVAL PARK grounded at first narrows 2200/28th.  
Propeller damaged. Returned Punta Arenas in  
tow 30th.  
(B.R.L.O. Punta Arenas, 301520Z to C. in C.  
S.A.)  
\* Not received in War Reg.

U. 530.

Submarine U.530 arrived La Plata 29th July for  
dry docking. American prize crew arrived by  
plane 28th July. Half crew submarine and  
documents left Buenos Aires 29th July by plane  
for U.S.A. and remainder leaving 31st July.  
(S.O.(I) Buenos Aires, 301235Z to Admty. (D.N.I.))

Lagos  
(closing  
down).

ASTRAEA Naval Establishment at Lagos will  
formally close down on 8th August with the  
exception of the N.C.S. organisation which is  
being retained personnel being borne on books  
of ELAND.  
(2) All naval correspondence and signals should  
be addressed to F.O.C.W.Af. after that date.  
(F.O.C.W.Af., 301525Z to Admty.)



251

30.7.1945.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

OCEANWAY. Intend to sail OCEANWAY at 1500C/30th July to Messina, HAMILCAR's 270956 refers.  
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 0800C/2nd August.  
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 300909C to HAMILCAR.)

LARNE,  
F/Ms. Intend to sail LARNE in tow of ASPIRANT at 1000B July 31st to Taranto. C. in C. Med. Fleet's 241744\* July not to all addressees, refers.  
(2) S. of A. 7 knots, E.T.A. 1300B/2nd.  
(7) LARNE and ASPIRANT acknowledge and comply.  
(V.A.M., 301205B to N.O.I.C. Taranto.)  
\* No trace.

Cruisers. (1) Your 280931. Request that on conclusion exercises p.m. July 31st you will proceed in ORION to arrive Alexandria by a.m. August 2nd.  
(2) Request you detail AJAX to arrive Naples p.m. August 1st.  
(3) My 131708 refers. Neither to all.  
(C. in C. Med., 301208B to F.O. 15 C.S.)

BERWICK,  
(cruiser). Sailed BERWICK at 300300C to Colombo.  
(2) E.T.A. 060400Z, S. of A. 20 knots.  
(N.O.I.C. Suez, 301305C to Admty.)

BOXER,  
(L.S.F.) Large Fighter Direction Ship BOXER and Fighter Direction Tender 13 will have had minimum working up before leaving U.K.  
(2) You are requested to arrange provision of all possible aircraft, both Naval and R.A.F. by day and night for exercises while these ships are on passage.  
(3) You are also requested to expedite the passage of both ships.  
(4) A.M. 201333A and 251229A July neither to all refer.  
(D.O.D.(F), 301805A to C. in C. Med., etc.)

Moroccan Sea Frontier. On 1st August the Moroccan Sea Frontier will be abolished. In its place will be constituted Moroccan Task Group (Task Group 125.2).

(2) H.Q. of C.T.G. 125.2 will be Port Lyautey, G.H.Q. U.S.N. activities being U.S. Naval

Liaison Casablanca, U.S. Naval Liaison W. Africa and Naval Air Facility Dakar.

(3) Control of Mosea Frontier by former commander of that sea frontier will be relinquished on above date. Comar Casa will operate ships at Casablanca under general control of C. in C. Med.

(4) Instructions re communications follow by separate signal.

(5) Med. Station 301617 was Med. 795B.

(C. in C. Med., 301909B Med. Stn. 785B (B.6))

252

30.7.1945.  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies2nd S/M.  
Flotilla.

In December 1945 Second Submarine Flotilla will comprise five 'S' and one 'T' class if Fourth and Eighth Flotillas are kept up to strength as in A.M. 172315 June.

(2) In view of my 161209 May request future policy in regard to these submarines may be reconsidered.  
(3) It is intended to use WOLFE as a Destroyer Depot Ship as soon as the Submarine Flotilla has been disbanded. A.M. 060516\* is more than optimistic.  
(C. in C. E.I., 300600 to Admty., (R) F.O.S/M., C. in C. B.P.F., S/Ms. 2, 4. 8.) See 011432 August.  
\* N.T. in W.D.

NORTHWAY,  
L.S.D.

Request you confirm NORTHWAY is allocated this station and give estimated date of sailing from U.K.  
(C. in C. E.I., 300636Z to Admty., Info. S.O. Force W.) See 012016A.

PHOEBE,  
(cruiser).

Request PHOEBE may be retained on East Indies Station for Operation "Zipper", A.M. 131936 March not to C.S.5 refers.  
(C. in C. E.I., 300915Z to Admty., Info. C.S.5.)  
Your 300915, approved.

(2) PHOEBE will not be required to return to U.K. until later in the year. Further signal will be made in due course.  
(V.C.N.S., 302353A to C. in C. E.I., C.S.5.)

Movements.

Colombo 30th July arrivals ROYALIST, TRUMPETER, BEGUM, BEACHY HEAD, ESKIMO, ROEBUCK, ORISSA, KATHIAWAR, BALUCHISTAN, RAJPUTANA, OUDH, NARBADA, KALE, LOCH LOMOND, CAUVERY, B.Y.M.S. 2232, 2235, SUTLEJ, (H.M.I.S.)  
(F.O. Ceylon, 301112Z to Admty.)

Movement.

Arrived L.S.T. 3024. Departed S/M SCORCHER.  
(Com. Aden, 301703 to Admty.)



253

30.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

ULSTER,  
destroyer.

F.O.G.M.A. pass to B.N.A. Lisbon. All times Z.  
ULSTER depart Point F Bermuda 1800/30 thence  
Ponta Delgada for onward routeing U.K., speed 17.  
(N.O.B. Bermuda 301559 to Comnavzores, N.S.H.Q.)

*INT. W.D.*

Canadian  
air Squadrons

Your 251722 to Admiralty following describes  
present position of Canadian Air Squadron personnel  
A. Canadian Government have approved taking over  
two light Fleet carriers and manning of ships  
complement by Canadian Personnel but have not yet  
approved the permanent establishment of a Canadian Fleet Air Arm.  
B. By terms of agreement between Admiralty and N.S.H.Q. Air  
Squadrons in Canadian Light Fleets will be provided by R.N.  
C. N.S.H.Q. have asked Admiralty if possible to include in the  
R.N. Squadrons operating from Canadian Carriers any Canadian  
Air Personnel on loan to R.N. and these Squadrons are referred  
to as R.C.N. manned R.N. Squadrons.  
D. Whilst embarked in H.M.C. Ships any R.N. Squadrons will be  
paid in accordance with A.F.O. 1520/45 Section D, para. B.  
Para. A of that Section does not apply. Reference A.F.O. 3688/45  
para. 5 A Admiralty's 200738 July not to all refers. Admiral  
Air's 271900 June 142140 July Admiralty's 172122 July also refer.  
(C.N.M.O. 301648A to Admiral (Air))

TRACKER.

Principal defects TRACKER on leaving U.S.A. my  
281655\* June (not to all) para. 5.  
(f) A/S dome jammed in up position. Vessel last  
docked May 1945. Copies to ships defect list  
being forwarded by air to C.C.T.  
(B.A.D., 302317Z to Admty.)  
\* List of tentative C.V.E. loading schedule (S)  
outstanding defects subject of separate signal  
by B.A.D.

Far East and Australia.

Opintol 145.

Para. A. Enemy air strength estimate for 31st  
July, nil change.  
Para. B. Blue submarine reports Korean P.O.W.  
resident of Saishuto says Japanese steel sea trucks  
leave Gyuto Suido at about 2100 local time for Shushi Gunto.  
Lay over for day there then proceed to Moppo next night. Traffic  
departs Shushi Gunto for return trips Gyuto Suido about 2100  
also carrying food and supplies for 5000 troops on Saishuto. No  
A.K. routes known to P.O.W. States no enemy minefields along  
south coast of Korea but Saishuto is completely encircled by  
minefield.

/Para. C....



254

30.7.1945  
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and AustraliaOpintol  
145 (Contd.)

Para. C. C.T.G. 95.5 reports several very manoeuvrable Japanese Biplanes piloted expertly attacked simultaneously in bright moonlight when CALLAGHAN (D.D. 792) was sunk. Planes very flimsy. Constructed of wood fabric and some plywood. F.X. projectiles appeared to pass very close to planes without actuating maximum speed tracked 90 knots but speed generally less. Not picked up until planes closed to 13 miles although altitude estimated about 1000 feet.

Para. D. From 12th A.F. Photos. 28th July Onaka area Interpron Two reports 90.25 - 263A Sumitomo aircraft C.O. Osaka no longer a target. Damage to 90.25 - 382 Osaka Arsenal. Structural 12%. Superfield 4%. Cleared 3%. Removed less than 1%. Still a target. 90.25 - 2137 (P.343) Kawanishi aircraft C.O. Nikawa. No longer a target.

Para. E. From 20th A.F. Photos. 24th July Sendai Area Bomb (9 groups missed) 671 First Army Arsenal no damage observed. Removed three per cent. 90.10 - P.575 Tagajo Naval Air Depot. No damage observed. Removed 1%.

Para. F. Comseventhflt. reports photos. Johore Straits 25th July showed C.A. in previously reported positions. C.A. at 01.28.20 N. 103.48.40 E. has about 119 feet of stern missing. One D.D. alongside berth 12.

(C. in C. Pac. Adv. H.Q., 300720 to Comgenusastaf., C.T.F. 94.)

Blue Summary CALLAGHAN (D.D. 792) sunk and PRICHETT (D.D. 561) for July 29th. damaged by enemy suicide planes at Okinawa. F.A.W. (corrupt group) Privateers sank (corrupt group) F.T.C. 1 small craft damaged 1 F.T.D. 2 S.D.

Tsushima Strait. 7 B.29 airmen rescued by submarine after two days in water. Okinawa Dumbo returned to inland sea LORKIION WABTF\* 5 B.29 crew rescued on 28th A.A. Picked up another member.

Further reports from 3rd Fleet for 28th total for enemy planes on ground raised to 111 destroyed and 119 damaged. Photos. show (corrupt groups) Shima capsized B.B. HYUGA and 3 S.S. sunk B.B. HARUNA beached and burning. Pilots report tremendous explosion on UNRYU Class C.V. northeast of Mitsuko Jimo. Interpron\* 2 reports carrier photos 24th show UNRYU class C.V. between Mitsuko Jima and Kurahasts Shima gutted. 1 F.T.C., 3 S.Cs., 2 S.D. also damaged. T.F. 37 destroyed 8 enemy planes on ground damaged 12 sank 1 D.D., 2 S.A., 1 S.B., 1 S.C., 7 S.D., 17 small craft. Damaged 3 D.D.2, (?D.E.) 2 S.S., 1 F.T.B., 1 F.T.C., 2 P.T.U., 1 S.A., 1 S.A.U., 1 S.D., 1 T.A., 100 small craft. Okinawa army air reports for 28th. 5th A.F. Tgyimoru 24s with 47 P.47 escort report 3 or 4 hits on UNRYU class C.V. at Kure. Bombs which overshot destroyed warehouses on Kurahashi Shima. 30 B.25s sank 1 S.D., 1 S.C., 1 P.C. Inland Sea attacked Kyushu ground targets. 1 B.25 missing. Of 43 P.51s over Kyushu 21 dive bombed Sasebo shipping. 1 direct hit (corrupt groups) C.V. 1 D.D. sank 1 S.D. 1 P.51 lost. 4 P.51s destroyed 2 others on water near Chinkai. 7th A.F. 225 P.47s attacking Kyushu destroyed 12 enemy planes on ground or water. 42 B.24s got 4 hits on B.B. HARUNA. 3 near misses on C.A. nearby. Damaged Fekdat Tanega. 2 B.24s lost to flak. 16 B.25s R.O.R. torpedoed Takm on Sasebo (?reported). 69 A.26 and 74 B.25 with P.5 (corrupt groups) attacked Kanhil and Kaedya East.



255

30.7.1945  
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East And Australia.

Blue summary 5th A.F. on 27th 64 B.24 damaged ground and rail-  
for July 29th. road installations at Vagoshima. 24 B.D.K. P.25s  
(Contd.) in shipping swept northeast ? damaged 2 S.D.,  
lost 1 B.25.

Night 28-29 12 H.R.M.E. B.29s B.O. CEI  
OAHHMOMIYA\*. 26 hit Uexjima. 82 Osaki. 86

Ueryam V.A. 75 (TAU RPT SSU\*). 78 Shimotsu oil refinery  
Wakayama. 61 (corrupt groups) through 2 hit Aemqvi. 5 hit  
opportunity targets. Altitude 11000 to 15100. Air opposition  
nil to moderate. All types A.A. generally Meager or Moderate  
and inaccurate.

N. I.S.W. operations at 12-36 R.O.R. 55-32 E.T.N.R.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv., H.Q., 300938 to all concerned, Cominch, etc.)

\* As received.

31. 7. 1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

South Atlantic.

Movement.

1. FENCER (Ferry Carrier) left Capetown for Cochin.

Mediterranean.

Movements.

2. BEARN (French carrier) arrived Oran from Gibraltar.  
QUEEN ELIZABETH arrived Malta from Port Said and left for Gibraltar.

East Indies.

Anti-shipping operations.

3. (a) A Sunderland attacked four large junks east of Port Blair (Andamans.)  
(b) Four Liberators sank a ferry steamer and damaged a large coaster in the Sunda Straits.

Far East and Australia.

China.

4. U.S. Privateers, Liberators and Mariners damaged barracks on northern Hainan Island, destroyed a small tanker and 3 other small vessels and damaged two small vessels in the Swatow-Hong-kong area and attacked and left a coaster burning and sinking off Cape Varella (Fr. Indo-China.)

Japan..

5. 64 U.S. Liberators bombed scattered targets in Kyushu. Large fires were started and Kagoshima, Sasebo and fires were also started at Nagasaki. 63 tons of bombs were dropped on Kago Shima.

Japan.  
(anti-shipping)

6. (a) U.S. aircraft attacked two destroyer escorts off N.W. Kyushu. Two direct hits were scored on two other destroyer escorts off Iki Shima and dock area of an island off Sasebo was also attacked and three small vessels were destroyed.  
(b) A further 16 U.S. Mustangs operating over Kyushu left two coasters and a lighthouse on fire, another small tanker was sunk by Liberators in the Inland Sea and another medium freighter transport damaged.



257

31.7.1945  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

L.S.T. In position 040° 30' N. 009° 35' W. in steep head sea from north. Am having frequent engine stoppage owing to boiler tubes failing. Require docking to clear. Am returning towards Lisbon or Gibraltar. Request instructions.

(L.S.T.(2) 426, 310355B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Your 310355B not to Plymouth. Take shelter in Leixos until weather moderates reporting your subsequent intentions to F.O.G.M.A. and B.N.A. Lisbon within 24 hours.

(F.O.G.M.A. 310830B to L.S.T. 426.)

Your 310830B. Am continuing to south and expect to be able to maintain suction for one engine. Suction is lost when trying to proceed north against prevailing wind and short (O steep) sea. Am now in position 040° 14' N. 009° 30' W. and propose returning to Gibraltar for docking. Await your confirmation.

(L.S.T. 426, 311015B to F.O.G.M.A.)

A.S.R. Intend to sail at 12 knots.  
duties. A. KNARESBORO CASTLE 1600B/31st July to relieve CAISTOR CASTLE in A.S.R. Station 20 E.T.A. 1200B/2nd August.

B. HADLEIGH CASTLE 2000B/31st July to relieve LANCASTER CASTLE in A.S.R. Station 19 E.T.A. 0700B/3rd August.  
(2) On relief ships concerned return Gibraltar.  
(F.O.G.M.A., 311514B to Admty., etc.)

WHEATLAND  
destroyer.

A.M. 101354\* not to all.  
Destination of WHEATLAND is Devonport.  
(3) Further signal will be made regarding completion of outstanding work on close range armament. A.M. 011332B not to all refers.  
(D.O.D.(H) 311725A to F.O.G.M.A.)  
\* Programme for reinforcements for East Indies Escort Force.

Frigates  
for B.P.F.

E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800Z/1st August, ST. AUSTEL BAY in company.  
(ST. BRIDES BAY 312240Z to F.O.G.M.A.)



31. 7. 1945

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

**Trawlers.** This F.O.C.W.Af's 310926 begins - addressed Comar Dakar Info. Admty. FANDANGO from F.O.C.W.Af.  
(1) Intend sailing FANDANGO towing Water Lighter C.216 and MORRIS DANCE at 1700Z/31st July.

Estimated speed  $4\frac{1}{2}$  knots, E.T.A. a.m. 5th.

(2) Request BUFFLE takes over tow off Dakar. FANDANGO will signal time and position. The two trawlers will then enter Dakar to fuel and water and on completion will sail to overtake and thereafter act as escort to Las Palmas. They have been informed of BUFFLE's intended call at Port Etienne.

(3) F.O.G.M.A. has been requested to make arrangements for tow from Las Palmas. Request that tug BUFFLE be instructed to hand over tow in that port. Ends.

(Freetown C.C.O., 310950Z to Admty.)

**Destroyers for E.I.** Intend sailing LAMERTON and WILTON on 31st July at 13 hours G.M.T. for Freetown, (route).  
(2) Speed 18 knots. (3) E.T.A. 1st August 18 hours (Comar Dakar 311125Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

**A.F.D. 31.** When ready C. in C. South Atlantic, is requested to sail H.M.R.Ts. GROWLER and REWARD with A.F.D. 31 to Shark Bay, thence as arranged by A.C.N.B. (V.A.(Q) B.P.F's 270431 July being passed to C. in C. South Atlantic, Com. Durban and C. in C. East Indies and A.M. 301914 June refer.)

(2) Request you will advise A.C.N.B. as early as possible, the estimated date of arrival at Shark Bay.

(3) Two tugs only viz. GROWLER and REWARD are available from U.K. resources for ocean passage. A.M. 271835 and V.A.(Q) B.P.F. 270431 para. 4 refer.

(4) A.C.N.B. is requested to arrange for a tug to assist in berthing at Shark Bay, and to accompany the tow onwards should this be considered advisable.

(D.O.D.(F) 311650A to C. in C. S.A.)



259

War Diary.31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

QUEEN ELIZABETH.  
(Battleship). Intend to sail QUEEN ELIZABETH at 2030B July 31st to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K. C. in C. E.I. 041157 refers.  
(2) S. of A. 15 knots, E.T.A. 1530B/3rd.  
(V.A.M., 311012 to F.O.G.M.A.)

AJAX,  
(cruiser). Intend to sail AJAX on completion of ranging about 2000B July 31st to Naples. C. in C. Med. 301208 refers.  
(2) S. of A. 18 knots, E.T.A. 1530B August 1st.  
(V.A.M., 311031B to N.O.I.C. Naples.)

GRAYLING Intend to sail GRAYLING at 0900B August 1st to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K. C. in C. Med.'s 251448 not to all refers.  
(2) S. of A. 10 knots, E.T.A. 1300B/5th.  
(5) GRAYLING acknowledge and sail to comply.  
(V.A.M., 311141B to F.O.G.M.A.)

SS. GLENBANK,  
(repaired after mine damage). RAC 2094/5201/1 cipher 31st July. Reference M.W.T. telegram 61701 (CA6) July 24th. SS. GLENBANK sailed from Constanta 31st July, at 0830 hours local time 0930 hours (?Moscow) time. British Consul General Istanbul has been advised.  
(B.M.M. Roumania, 311215B to W.O., etc.)

SS. EMPIRE VALOUR. My 291316B July refers. Following received from Greno Salonika timed 301032B. Your 291042B Combined Board of Enquiry held. Amended position of EMPIRE VALOUR 40° 34.9' N., 22° 53.7' E. Routeing instructions correct. Reason for grounding Master set direct course from Kara Point to Salonika. Letter follows. Ends.  
(P.S.T.O. Med., 311504B to D. of S.T.)

F.O.L.E.M.  
(Flag) My 311733\*. I shall be grateful if my flag might remain flying for a few days until the closing transfer of Admiralty House and the disposal of my staff. C.S.15 to proposed date to you.  
(F.O.L.E.M., 311737C to C. in C. Med.)  
Reply: 011755B. \* Not identified in War Reg,

Ships destined for E.I. Station or B.P.F. expected to arrive Malta. A.M. 041845 July. Cancel August and September. Following is revised forecast.  
August - GLASGOW, JAMAICA, ARMADA, CAMPERDOWN, TRAFALGAR, HOGUE, ALGONQUIN (R.C.N.), ZENITH, 3 Hunts, 4 A/A Sloops, 5 Bays.  
September - \*LIVERPOOL, NORFOLK, HEEMSKERK, FINISTEBRE, LAGOS, SOLEBAY, VAN GALEN, CHAPLET, 10 Hunts, 3 A/A Sloops, 2 Bays.

/October ...

260

31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Ships destined for E.I. Station or B.P.F. expected to arrive Malta. (Contd.)

October - OCEAN (may be early November), \*SUPERB, \*ST. KITTS, CHEVIOT, CHEQUERS, CHARITY, 1 Hunt, 1 A/A Sloop, 2 Bays. (D.O.D.(F), 311822A to V.A.M., Info. C. in C. Med.) Amended by 061216A August.  
\* May be later.

Levant Sitrep. to 1900 hours 30th July.

(1) Latakia. GO/34422 of 30th July. 29th July. 2 BDL less 12 Christian and approx. 270 personnel of three other units discharged and evac. to villages. Evening 29th July Alouite troops raided magazine and siezed arms to prevent these being transferred to Syrians. Later most arms. rec. and put under Brit. guard.

(2) Banias. 28th July to two further civs. found injured. GO/34422 of 30th July refers. (C. in C. M.E., 311842C to W.O.)

Destroyers for F.E.

Sailed CAESAR (D.6), CAVENDISH and PETARD at 1800C/31st to Aden.  
(2) E.T.A. 0800Z/3rd, S. of A. 20 knots. (N.O.I.C. Suez, 311929C to Admt.)



261

31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesAir/Sea  
Rescue  
Posts.

Establishment of air/sea rescue posts in the Indian Ocean for which 12 Flower Glass corvettes have, as an immediate measure been allocated. Request information as to the number and approx. positions in which these posts are required to be established in order that an estimate may be made of the eventual number and type of vessels required and of the manpower commitment involved. Air Ministry 281725 and 281930, not to C. in C. East Indies, refer. (V.C.N.S., 311205A to Air Min, C. in C. E.I.) Nos. 101 and 102 Air/Sea Rescue Units were sailed to meet the requirements of Air Command S.E. Asia. *See 101024Z Aug.*  
*See AirMin. 181230 Aug.*

Ships  
for F.E.

Arrived BELFAST, COWDRAY, BLEASDALE, EGGESFORD, HART, ERNE, BLACK SWAN, AMETHYST, WIDEMOUTH BAY, ENCHANTRESS, LOCH GORM, L.S.T. 3008. (Com. Aden, 311737 to Admty.)

Escort of  
N.Z. & U.S.  
ships.

Request confirmation that B.A.D. should take action on C. in C. E.I. 270817\* also that area defined in C. in C. E.I. 040447 is the North Eastern operation area referred to. C. in C. E.I. 031101 not held by B.A.D. (B.A.D., 311829Z to Admty.)

Reply: 021231Z August.

\* Restrictions on number of N.Z. and U.S. troops carried without escort.

Fully concur with C. in C. East Indies' 270817. Request you will obtain U.S. concurrence to unescorted sailing of U.S. troop ships at discretion of C. in C. East Indies. (2) Question of New Zealand troopships is being taken up with New Zealand Government. (V.C.N.S., 311939A to B.A.D., C. in C. E.I.) See 011549A. *7082345Z (A+W.1)*

War Diary.31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesL.S.T.(3)  
3510.

Departure 1200Z/31st H.M. L.S.T.(3) 3510 to Clyde.

(2) N.O.I.C. Quebec 281546 refers.

(3) E.T.A. Clyde 1000Z August 8th.

(N.O.I.C. Sydney, 311205Z to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Atlantic  
routes.  
Ice.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. concerned.

Following received from Cominch (C. and R.) begins:

Present ice situation makes advisable westbound traffic past Grand Banks area shift immediately to track C crossing 50° 00' N. at 43.00 N.

Eastbound shipping will continue on track B until 8th August then shift to C crossing 50° 00' W. at 42° 00' N. Ends.

A.M. 151526A, paras. 1 and 2 are therefore cancelled.

A.M. 161719B June, paras. 2 and 3 remaining in force.

(D.T.D., 311342A to A.I.G.12, C.T.F. 24.)

ULSTER,  
destroyer.

Destination U.K. of ULSTER is Chatham.

N.O.B. Bermuda's 301559 refers.

(S.B.N.O.W.At., 311529Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

Pacific  
Summary 24.  
Operation  
Naval Units.

(Cominch, 311835Z to Admty.)

See Lion Copy.

T.G. 21.3.

In TENACITY with TEMPTRESS, SURPRISE, SPRY, SAUCY, RESTLESS, FURY, READY, IMPULSE, COURAGE departs Boston Light Ship 2000 Aug. 1st. Times Z. Complies C. in C. Lant 241525. Route etc.,

thence Ponta del Gada for fuel where E.T.A. 1500 Aug. 8th.

Depart Ponta del Gada 1200 Aug. 9th, thence Point 10 miles

bearing 180 from Bishop Rock thence via Route E to Downs.

E.T.A. 12 Aug. 14 for onward routeing. First 6 ships to

Chatham last four to Harwich. Speed 12.5. Depart Eastseafron 1700 Aug. 2nd.

(C.T.G. 21.3, 312030 to Comone, Comnaveu.)

Escort  
requirements  
for B.P.F.

Your 291122, not to C.N.M.O. Every endeavour

will be made to keep to the dates forecast in

N.S.H.Q's 162210, but it is thought that no

advance on these dates will be possible.

(N.S.H.Q., 312041Z to Admty.)



Distribution of this message is to be limited to those officers who are concerned with its contents.

# TOP SECRET

# IN

**Warning :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*Note : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

311835Z July

From COMINCH

Date 1.8.45  
Recd. 0430

CCM NAVAL C IN C S BY T/P

Addressed: Admiralty.  
Info. COMNAVEU

Pacific Summary 24.

Operational Naval Units.

Southeast Pacific

BOXER two DD.

Pacific Coast

RANGER, COMMENCEMENT BAY, TAKANIS BAY, SAVO ISLAND,  
BARNES, SITKOH BAY, WAKE ISLAND, PRINCE WILLIAM, PENSACOLA, SANTA  
FE, seven DD.

Enroute U.S.

BRETON, TRENTON two DD.

Enroute Pearl

SHIPLEY BAY, ALTAMAHA, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS, STEAMER  
BAY, SARGENT BAY, CASABLANCA, CARD two DD.

North Pacific

RICHMOND, CONCORD five DD.

Central Pacific.

PENNSYLVANIA, MASSACHUSETTS, INDIANA, SOUTH DAKOTA,  
ALABAMA, NORTH CAROLINA, IOWA, WISCONSIN, MISSOURI, TENNESSEE,  
CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, KING GEORGE FIFTH, ALASKA, GUAM, BENNINGTON,  
HANCOCK, LEXINGTON, RANDOLPH, ESSEX, TICONDEROGA, YORKTOWN,  
SHANGRI LA, BON HOMME, RICHARD, WASP, IMPLACABLE, FORMIDABLE,  
VICTORIOUS, INDEFATIGABLE, ANZIO, HOLLANDIA, ROI, THETIS BAY,  
MUNDA, NEHENTA BAY, KITKUN BAY, CHENANGO, GILBERT ISLANDS,  
LUNGA POINT, MAKIN ISLAND, CAPE GLOUCESTER, SAGINAW BAY, CORE,  
WHITE PLAINS, PANSHAW BAY, ATTU, MATANIKAU, KASAAN BAY, VELLA  
GULF, BOGUE, MARCUS ISLAND, MANILA BAY, SALAMAUA, HOGGATT BAY,  
SANTEE, ARBITER, STRIKER, RULER, CABOT, BELLEAU WOOD, SAN JACINTO,  
MONTEREY, BATAAN, INDEPENDENCE, COWPENS, CHICAGO, QUINCY, ST. PAUL,  
BOSTON, WICHITA, CHESTER, SALT LAKE CITY, DETROIT, AMSTERDAM,  
DONJUAN, TOPEKA, ATLANTA, DAYTON, OKLAHOMA CITY, DULUTH, OAKLAND,  
PASADENA, SPRINGFIELD, ASTORIA, WILKES, BARRE, TUCSON, FLINT,  
SAN DIEGO, DENVER, MONTPELIER, CLEVELAND, COLUMBIA, ST. LOUIS,  
NEWFOUNDLAND, ACHILLES, UGANDA, GAMBIA, EURYALUS, BLACK PRINCE,  
181 DD.

At....

At Pearl.

NEW JERSEY, SARATOGA, ANTIETAM, INTREPID, TRIPOLI,  
CORREGIDOR, KADASHAN BAY, LONG ISLAND, MADASSAR. STRAIT,  
NATOMA BAY, MINNEAPOLIS, BIRMINGHAM, BILOXI 22 DD.

South Pacific

Two DD

Southwest Pacific

TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, COLORADO, MISSISSIPPI, ARKANSAS,  
IDAHO, WEST VIRGINIA, DUKE OF YORK, INDOMITABLE, SWANEE,  
BLOCK ISLAND, KWAJALEIN, COPAHEE, SPEAKER, CHASER, SLINGER,  
INDIANAPOLIS, PORTLAND, NEW ORLEANS, SAN FRANCISCO,  
TUSCALOOSA, SHROPSHIRE, NASHVILLE, PHOENIX, MOBILE, VICKSBURG,  
HOBART, ARGONAUT, TROMP, BERMUDA, VENERABLE, VENGEANCE,  
COLOSSUS 39 DD.

Non Operational at sea.

Enroute Pearl

One DD.

Enroute US

One DD.

311835Z

V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.(F)  
D.Map Room  
D.O.D.(H)(4)  
D.O.D.(F)(2)  
D.C.(2)  
D.S.O.  
D.D.I.C.(2)  
D.N.I.(4)  
Hd. of M.(2)  
~~W.D.~~  
Ad.Blake  
C.W.R.



263

31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Fleet Train requirements Pacific coasters. Appreciated if reply to my 290129 could arrive not later than 4th August 45 in anticipation of meeting being convened with R.A.F.T. and V.A.Q. 6th August 45, to cover disposition of A.E.S. for pending operations. (C. in C. B.P.F., 310545 to Admty.)

Operations B.P.F., 25th July. My 290410, para. 3. More detailed comparisons of scale of air effort on 25th July was -  
(A) T.F.37, 175 sorties flown from four British C.Vs. of total I.E. 256 aircraft.  
(B) T.F.38, 655 sorties flown from 9 American C.Vs. and 6 C.V.Ls. of total I.E. about 1140 aircraft.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 310730Z to Admty.)

Blue summary for July 30th. First reports of 3rd Fleet attack East Honshu Invicace of 38 damaged one CVE, two AK at Kobe. Sank one FTC, damaged CV, 3 DE, one FTB, one FTC, one SCS Maizuru. In Sagami Wan attacked submarine concentrations Ft. Atami Taga and Shimoda destroying two midget submarine, one PT. Damaged one DE, two PT, one FTC, one SCS, no air opposition. Force Snooper in afternoon. 58 enemy planes destroyed on ground, 68 damaged. T.F.37 shot down one Dinah over Folce one Wate over target, destroyed five, damaged five planes on ground. Near Maizuru damaged 3 DD, 4 DE, one FB, one FTD, one transport, 2 SC, 2 SD. Night 29th-30th Hamamatsu shelled by bombardment group including U.S. BB and KING GEORGE V. Preliminary reports show damage to shops of Imperial Govt. Railroad Propeller Plants of Japan Musical Instrument Co., and other targets. No opposition. Shimizu in Suruga Wan bombarded by 6 DDs. early morning 31st. New data from final despatch on Kure strike 28th. 1602 combat sorties by T.F.38. 115 planes destroyed on ground 156 damaged. Own aircraft losses 27 combat, 8 operational, 21 pilots, 20 crew. From photos BB HARUNA beached large hole in stern, flooded aft. BB HYUGA on bottom. BB ISE down by bow. Flight decks of both UNRYU class CV partly destroyed. CA TONE beached guns firing. CA AOBA down by stern and listing. SL OYODO and OCA CAPBIXEN, 2 DD, one DE, one FTC, one FTD, one SAL and 17 small craft but only one SS now listed as sunk. Damaged 6 DD, 4 DE, one PC, one FB, one FTC, 3 FTD, 2 SA, 5 SCS, 41 small craft. Many ground installations destroyed or damaged including 2 Codper Smelters. T.F.37 aircraft losses 8 combat, one operational, one pilot, one crew. Sank one DD, 2 SA, 2 SB, one SC, 7 SD, 17 small craft. Damaged one DD, 2 DE, one transport, 8 freighters, one SA, one SS, one PT and small craft plus ground installations. Comgen. 10 reported to C. in C. Afpac with all Army Forces under his command. F.A.W.1 Privateers sank one SCS, 2 SD, damaged 2 SD, one large schooner in Tsushima Straits. Sank 2 small ships, damaged one near Shantung Peninsula. Minesweeping of Puneau Area completed. Blue submarines rescued 3 of B.25 crew. On 24th shelled Nagata Town on Yaku Shima.



264

31.7.1945.  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia

Blue summary for July 30th. (Contd.) 531 sorties over Empire by Okinawa based planes on 29th. 5th A.F. 17 B.24s. bombed CV at Kure. Clouds obscured results but CV appeared damaged. 2 B.24 Snoopers over Inland Sea damaged one SA. 48 B.25s. swept south-east Korea and Kyushu shipping. Destroyed 3 small craft damaged one SAS, one SD, 4 small craft. 117 P.51 escorted B.25s. or attacked Kyushu ground targets and damaged one large vessel Nagasaki Harbour. 7 A.F. 162 P.47 hit Kyushu ground targets sank one Seafighter damaged 3. 46 B.24 bombed Kure shipping by radar. 36 A.26 damaged Sal and Docks Nagasaki. One of 27 B.25 lost in attacks on Kyushu ground targets. 9 B.25 weathered out of Sasebo shipping torpedoed docks starting fires.

On 28th 14 B.29s. bombed Marcus.  
(C. in C. Pac. Adv., 310432 to Guam, Marianas Gs., Admty., etc.)

Com. Britpacflt. Operational Report No.17. (1) 28th July. Task Force 37. Strike area Kure Kobe. Eight aircraft destroyed on ground. 26 damaged. Shipping sunk: 1 DD, 12 merchant ships, 17 junks. Probably sunk: three merchant ships, two luggers. Damaged: 1 DD, 2 DD or DE, 11 smaller ships, 1 SS plus assorted luggers and small craft. Ground targets: photos show one warehouse destroyed, also one oil tank and four workshops. Damaged: large warehouse and fabricating shops, the Kawasaki aircraft plant at Akashi, port installations at Fude and Sato. Electric train Fukuyama, shipyards at Harima, factory hangar and radio installations Nishi Shima. Own losses: in combat 8 aircraft, one pilot, one crewman. Operationally, 1 aircraft.

(2) 29th July. Bombardment of Hamamatsu began about midnight. British Task Unit included KING GEORGE V, NEWFOUNDLAND, URANIA, ULYSSES. United States Battleships expended 810 rounds 16 inch, KING GEORGE V 261 rounds 14 inch. No counter battery fire. Two bogies by radar did not attack. KING GEORGE V target armament factory. Four buildings set ablaze. Dense smoke obscured results of direct hits. Bombardment reported very successful. Destroyers named collided, preliminary report minor damage.

(3) 30th July. Targets Eastern Honshu Area. Task Force 37 first two strikes weathered out. 3rd successful. One Kate shot down over target. One Dinah over Force. On ground destroyed five aircraft, damaged five. Shipping in Maizuru. Sunk one lugger. Probably sunk several other small craft. Damaged three DD, four DE, one armed trawler, various smaller ships. Reports of ground damaged inflicted and own losses not yet received.

(4) H.M.C.S. UGANDA detached 27th July to Eniwetok for Esquimalt. Ends.  
(C. in C. B.P.F., 310740 to Admty.)

Training of 881 Sqdn. (Air)... C. in C. S.A. 281000B July. Would prefer 881 Sqdn. to arrive fully trained accepting delay in arrival of RANEE. Admiralty pass Admiral (Air). (F.O.N.A.S. Australia, 310755Z to C. in C. B.P.F., Info. Admty.)  
Concur 040441.

/Digest ...



265

31.7.1945  
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia - Contd.Digest 1287  
30.7.45,  
(extract.)

(1) Okinawa land based aircraft over Japan as follows. 23 Mitchells on shipping sweep to Kyushu and Honshu sank two coasters and one lugger, left burning and listing one beached sizeable freighter transport; also hit Sendai communications area, southwest tip Kyushu, severing railroad lines; one Mitchell lost to ack ack. 83 Thunderbolts hit Sendai Town with fire bombs and left entire area aflame; one plane was shot down: 13 Mustangs also swept and photoed lines of communication at Sendai. Another 13 Mustangs hit lines of communication southern Kyushu destroying nine locomotives, damaging cars, rolling stock, several motor launches and luggers. 27 Mitchells, 36 Invaders with escort 47 Thunderbolts hit Omura, West Kyushu, leaving smoke to 6,000 feet; this target so well covered (?Socrvmzones) hit Izumi; theescorting Thunderbolts dive-bombed the area, burned two P.Ts., beached a 116 foot craft, blew up three bridges and destroyed a pier. Inland sea swept by 25 Mitchells, destroyed one coaster and one harbour craft also a lighthouse and damaged radar stations; one Mitchell lost to ack ack. Single Lightning sweeping South Kyushu destroyed two fishing boats; eight Mustangs on Kyushu sweep strafed nine coasters; six Mustangs swept Honshu. 33 Thunderbolts strafed Svibushi buildings, Southeast Kyushu while 46 Thunderbolts fired warehouses, factories and barracks Mbyazaki, Southeast Kyushu. On Korea sweeps, one mission four Mustangs destroyed one destroyer escort, damaged another and fired two sea trucks and an auxiliary 15 Mustangs escorting shipping strike beached two small craft and burned building South Korea; one R/C Liberator to Korea Coast sank one unidentified ship.

(2) Predawn Liberator Snoopers from Okinawa report: One Liberator to Kyushu and Honshu destroyed one medium to large freighter transport and one coaster; Liberator to inland sea got near misses on two medium freighter transports. During night four Black Widows intruded South Kyushu, one started fires Byu Aerodrome: one Black Widow went Miyaka Jima, Sakashimas, exploded one tanker and strafed hit two of five ships docked there

(4) Navy Search planes out as usual with nil extraordinary events. Searcher over Singapore noted cruisers in same position also a plane towing Sleeve for 15 to 20 fighters, but no interception attempted; one tug towing limber raft was seriously damaged south of Singapore. Nil attacks recorded by other seven Searchers from Palawan; one aircraft is missing. 10 planes went from Luzon, only attacks; one motor launch seriously damaged Hongkong area: one lugger sunk Swatow area and one lugger damaged near Kiirun, Formosa. Three searches from Mindoro negative other two. Over French-Indo-China strafed lighthouse and radar station at Cape Saint Jacques and bombed steam rollers on aerodrome near Phan Rang. Three Mariners searched Hainan, China Coast, Pescadores Sectors previous night: ?bomb release failure saved coasters and small craft Hoihow Bay, Hainan Island, however large junk in Haisan Strait strafed: second plane strafed 12 junks along China Coast, third negative.

(5) At about dawn two or three Jap. planes approached Miri from south, dropped two bombs and departed to south. About same time two more planes bombed Brunei. Few light casualties Miri only and nil damage.



31.7.1945  
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Digest 1287, (6) R.A.A.F. operations:- 4 Spits. swept Northern  
30.7.45. Halmahera sinking two canoes. 30th July: 3  
(extract.) Liberators from Darwin searched Banda and  
(Contd.) Florids Seas; one bombed small coastal freighter  
off South Eastern Celebes with unobserved results,  
second attacked and destroyed Prah, three  
Spitfires from Sepinggan bombed strafed village  
inland from Balikpapan supporting ground forces: 24 Kittyhawks  
attacked Jesselton Aerodrome which now appears thoroughly  
unserviceable.  
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 310820Z to Admty.)