

HOME COMMAND SIGNALS

From 1st July 1945 the War
Diary for Home Commands was dis-
continued.

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

<u>FOREIGN STATIONS</u>	-	North Atlantic
(Classification	-	South Atlantic
by stations).	-	Mediterranean
	-	East Indies
	-	America and West Indies
	-	Australia and New Zealand
	-	U-boat Campaign

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

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

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships. (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (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 1 2326

War Diary.

1.12.1945
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Control of
operations
etc. forward
area E. I. Stn.
F.O.M.F.A.

1. Following arrangements will come into force on 4th December. Flag officer Malaya will assume title of F.O. Malaya and Forward Area short title F.O.M.F.A., and will assume operational control of all H.M. ships in forward area.

Far East and Australia.

Vice Admiral Administration was transferred today from BEACONSFIELD to B.P.E., V.A.(Q) GOLDEN HIND. 2. The Flag of Vice Admiral J.W. Rivett Carnac

1.12.1945.
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

HOLMSOUND
Aircraft
Component
Repair
ship for
B.P.F.

Intend to sail HOLMSOUND 1500A/1st Dec. to Port
Said for O/R B.P.F.
3. Speed $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots. E.T.A. p.m. 9th Dec.
6. HOLMSOUND acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 011029A to F.O.L.E.M.)

South Atlantic

TRENT,
frigate.

Arrived TRENT.
(Cdre. i/c Durban, 011005Z to Admty.)

NEWCASTLE,
trooping.

Intend to sail NEWCASTLE from Freetown 1700/1st
December to Portsmouth, S.O.A. 20 knots, E.T.A.
to be reported direct. Routed as safe
navigation permits. NEWCASTLE to acknowledge and
sail to comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 011201 to C. in C.
Portsmouth.)

SHIEL,
frigate,
on passage
to U.K.
from E.I.

Sailed SHIEL coastal to Simonstown calling at
Port Elizabeth. (2) S.O.A. 12 knots.
(3) E.T.A. Port Elizabeth 1500Z/2nd Dec.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 011240Z to Admty.)

NATAL,
frigate,
reverted to
S.A.N.F.
control.

A.M. 191307 September. NATAL has also
reverted to S.A.N.F. operational and administrat-
ive control as from 30th November.
(C. in C. S.A., 011246 to Admiralty.)

War Diary1.12.1945
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

PURSUER
assault
carrier
on
passage
U.K.

Intend to sail PURSUER at 1600B/1 December to Gibraltar for onward routeing Greenock in accordance with C. in C. E.I.'s 191542 November.
(3) S. of A. 15 knots E.T.A. a.m. 7 ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 010825B to F.O.G.M.A.)

ODZANI
Frigate
on passage
to U.K.
from B.P.F.
for Reserve

Intend to sail ODZANI at 0930B 2nd to Gibraltar for onward routeing U.K.
(3) S. of A. 13½ knots adjusting as necessary to arrive first light 8th December.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 010942B to F.O.G.M.A.)

~~LORD~~
~~LECH~~
IRWIN

Sail to pass position 309 at 1200B 2nd December and proceed direct to Malta thence position 227 for onward routeing to U.K.
(2) Speed 9 knots.
(3) E.T.A. Malta 0800A 6th December.
(5) Acknowledge. ~~LORD~~
(F.O.L.E.M., 011040 to ~~LECH~~ IRWIN.)

KHEDIVE
assault
carrier
on
passage
to U.K.

At 0800A December 2nd to Greenock route in accordance with para. 2 of S.N.O.R.S.C.A.'s 251121 November not to all. S. of A. 15 knots E.T.A. Clyde daylight December 9th.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 011214A to KHEDIVE.)

11th M.S.
Flotilla
for E.I.S.

My 291129* November paragraph two JASEUR only comply.
(C. in C. Med., 011241A to JASEUR.)
* Individual exercises of JASEUR and MAGICIENNE.

MICHAEL,
MINSTREL,
M/S for
B.P.F.

Intend to sail MICHAEL and MINSTREL immediately on arrival about 0630B/ 2nd to Aden, and Colombo.
(3) S. of A. 10 knots. MICHAEL to report T.O.D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal.
MICHAEL acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 011750B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Salvage
vessels
for B.P.F.

A.M. 291605 November not to all. PRINCE SALVOR and SALVAGE DUKE E.T.D. Alexandria now 4th December.
(2) My 261147 November not to all also refers.
(F.O.L.E.M., 011926B to Admiralty.)

Movement

Movements Haifa 1st December. Departure STEVENSTONE
(D.N.O. Lev. area, 012359 to Admiralty.)

War Diary1.12.1945.
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

RESOURCE
Heavy repair
ship.
Passage to
U.K. from
B.P.F.

Propose following programme for RESOURCE.

<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Departure</u>
Nil	Colombo	1st
8th	Aden	9th
13th	Suez	14th
14th	Port Said	14th
20th	Gibraltar	21st
25th	Portsmouth	Nil.

2. All dates Dec.
3. Fuel to capacity at Aden.
(C. in C. E.I., 010830EF to C. in C. Med.,
appd. 031359 Dec. and 040848.)

Control of
operations
forward area
E.I. Stn.
Flag Officer
Malaya
assumes title
of F.O.M.F.A.

Control of operations and movements in the forward
area. Following arrangements will come into
force 4th December on which date 097C of 14th
September is to be cancelled.

2. Flag Officer Malaya will assume the title of
F.O. Malaya and forward area short title
F.O.M.F.A.

3. F.O.M.F.A. will:-
(a) Assume operational control of all H.M. ships
and craft in the forward area. He may delegate
local operational control of H.M. ships in the
Netherlands East Indies to the British S.N.O. on the spot.
(b) Represent C. in C. E.I. in meeting the requirements of
S.A.C.S.E.A. in the forward area.

4. The forward area is defined as that part of S.E.A.C. East
of longitude 095° East excluding the Andaman Sea North of
latitude 010° North.

5. Signals regarding operations and movements in the forward
area are to be addressed to F.O.M.F.A. and repeated C. in C. E.I.

6. To assist F.O.M.F.A. to meet the commitments in para. 3 a
section of the operational staff of C. in C. E.I. has been
transferred to Singapore under Capt. R. Gotto D.S.O., R.N., who
assumes the title A.C.O.S. (E.I.F.)
(C. in C. E.I., 011005EF to E.I. Stn).

Destroyers on
passage to
U.K. from
B.P.F.

Intend to sail WRANGLER and WAKEFUL at 1630C to
Suez for U.K.
(2) E.T.A. Suez 0600B/5th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 011140).

RESTRICTED.

E 1
4 A 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.

Singapore -
Conditions of Naval Base - D.F.R. 0100-1 Dec.

From Commodore Superintendent
R.N. Base, Singapore.

Date 18.12.45.
Received 1010

P.L.

Addressed Admiralty, Repeated F.O. Malaya, C. in C.B.P.F.,
C. in C. E.I.

Following is a signalled review of condition of
Naval Base Singapore on 1st. December 1945. Copy follows
by air mail.

Part I. Fundamental factors governing rate of rehabilitation.

1. Electric power. Incoming supplies continue to be unreliable and are now limited to 700 KVA due to trunk cable failure outside Base Area. Dockyard generating stations. 1750 KVA Japanese SULZER undergoing major refit. Erection of 1040 KVA Japanese SULZER 25 per cent complete.
2. Water supply. System 90% efficient. Quantity 75% of requirement, necessitating restriction of hours available. Only safe to drink if boiled.
3. Roads. Only first aid repairs undertaken.
4. Railways. Stores area isolated from Workshop area due to bomb damage of both standard and metre gauge tracks. 3 Standard gauge locomotives only. Metre gauge locomotive adequate. Rolling stock both gauges inadequate.
5. Berths alongside. Stores basin. Six coasters plus AFD X. North Wall. Two deep draught. Remainder on North Wall major landing craft or lighters only due to silting. West Wall. Two deep draught plus HMS ALAUNIA.
6. Berth Cranes. One 20 ton crane out of action. One 30 ton crane cannot travel. Remaining four unreliable and travel restricted due to poor trailing cables.
7. Mobile Cranes. 7 received plus 3 found operable but unreliable.
8. Railway Cranes. 3 Standard gauge operable. Metre gauge none available.
9. Wharf transit shed and storehouse handling and stacking equipment. None available. Wharves and transit sheds becoming jammed with cargoes not consigned to Naval Base initially.
10. Small craft and lighters. Adequate except for water boats with expanding demand for all craft now under consideration.
11. Telephone services. 55% efficient.

12. British transport. S.N.S.O. 23 cars. 11 brakes and station waggons 181 lorries and trucks. 5 jeeps. 22 motor cycles. 2 buses. SCE 3 cars 5 brakes 89 lorries 5 jeeps.
13. Ex. Japanese transport. 58 cars 7 buses.
14. Accommodation. Rehabilitation keeping pace with demand. Allocation of space in Asiatic lines needs considerable adjustment.
15. Cold storage. None erected.
16. Supervision expressed in percentage joined of numbers asked for. CC 33% CE 6% SEE 20% SCL 90% S...S.O. 50% S.V.S.O. 85% S.A.S.O. 60% CD 20% and in particular lacks a second pilot a qualified boatswain one assistant Asiatic labour supervisor, and one registrar of Asiatic labour.
17. Hygiene. Main incinerator and IMHOFF tank out of action. Some sewers blocked. Storm water-ways and gutters damaged. Asiatic lines insanitary through lack of hygiene discipline. All latrines in a bad state through lack of maintenance.
18. Mosquito control. Imperfect due to bomb craters damage to drainage and cessation of measures under Japanese control. Situation improving. Malarial mosquitoes found on perimeter of Base Area.

Part 2. Present capacity of dockyard.

19. H.M.S. ALAUNIA berthed alongside West Wall.
20. KG VI Dock, Capable of being pumped out if power available and kept dry subsequently with drainage pumps. Capstans not available due to unserviceable constant current generator. Keel blocks 85%. Side blocks nil. Masonry 97%. Caisson operable.
21. AFD X. Requires extensive refit due to lack of maintenance over a long period.
22. CC Department. Machinery in place and operable 14%. Machinery recovered and repairable 46%. Machinery still dispersed or lost 40%. Shops damaged present efficiency. Sawmills 5% Ship-fitting shop 7% Boathouse 80%.
23. CE Department. Machinery in place and operable 35%. In place and repairable 35%. Still dispersed or lost 30%. Overall efficiency of department 40%. Compressed air service nil. Distilled water available from HMS ALAUNIA. Oxygen production nil. Range-finder shop 5%. Landing craft 1 C engine overhaul depot. Machinery being installed.
24. SEE Department. Machinery in place and operable 10%. Machinery recovered and repairable 40%. Machinery still dispersed or lost 50%. Battery shed facilities nil due to lack of staff damaged roof and rail-track. Electrical machinery store plating shop and acid dipping room nil.

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.

- 3 -

- 25. SCE. Plant adequate.
- 26. Radar and W/T Maintenance. Two shops each 1200 square feet.
- 27. W/S. Facilities of H.M.S. ALMUNIA.
- 28. S.N.S.O. MT Workshop capacity limited to that of 12 workshop lorries.
- 29. S.A.S.O. Workshop capacity 5%.
- 30. CD. Rigging shop 70%. Sailmakers shop 50%.
- 31. Torpedo depot. Capacity nil due to complete absence of staff.

Part 3. Storage capacity. Read in six columns. First - Department, Second - Nature of storage, Third - Total area, Fourth - Percentage weather proof, Fifth - Percentage proof from easy access, Sixth - Percentage already occupied by Japanese and recovered British stores.

32.	S.C.E. Storage for plant inadequate.				
33.	S.N.S.O. Transit Sheds	210,000	60%		20%
	Storehouses	197,000	80%	60%	25%
	Hardstanding	110,000			
34.	S.V.S.O. Storehouses	75,000	80%	50%	10%
	Tempy. storage in RNAD	35,000	90%	100%	30%
35.	S.A.S.O. Magazines	60,000	95%	25%	60%
	Storehouses	14,000	95%	20%	25%
36.	T.E.O. Storehouses	40,000	95%		40%
37.	N.A.A.F.I.	7,000	100%	100%	
38.	Medical Stores	2,000	100%	100%	
39.	SPDC	14,000	80%		

40. Senoko Oil Fuel Depot. Tankage in use or available 124,000 tons. Additional tankage awaiting cleaning and repair 60,000 tons. Oil pipe lines. 14" furnace oil line available at 2 coaster and one deep draught berths. 6" diesel oil line ditto.

Part IV. Medical Establishments.

41. Asiatic Hospital 70 beds. European Sick Quarters 50 beds. Asiatic Sick Quarters 200 beds. An average of 90 per cent of beds in each are always occupied.

Part V. Asiatic Labour.

- 42. Non-industrial. Quality poor, supply satisfactory.
- 43. Industrial. Unsatisfactory due to absenteeism and drift to better jobs elsewhere.
- 44. Coolie. Quantity satisfactory but quality very poor.
- 45. Japanese. Quantity 1550 per day. Hard working and well disciplined.
- 46. Korean. Quantity 200 per day. Hard working.
- 47. In general the hired labour is discontented over low wages compared with cost of living and over lack and expense of transport.
- 48. Owing to lack of means for taking identification photographs there is a constant trafficking in jobs and shifting of accommodation in the Asiatic lines.

D.T.R. 010045

1st. Lord.	A.C.N.P. (5)	
1st. S.L. (3)	D. of M.	
D.F.S.L.	N	
2nd. S.L.	D.R.E. (3)	Dep. Cont. (3)
3rd. S.L.	D.S.V.P. (3)	D. ()
Vice Cont.	D. of Salvage	D. () (2)
4th. S.L.	D.W.D.	E. in C. (4)
V.C.N.S.	D.	D.N.O. (4)
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.N.C. (2)	D.A.S. (4) Bath
A.C.N.S. (O)	E. in C.	C.I.N.O. (2) (47)
Parl. Secretary	D.E.E.	D.T.M. by
Civil Lord	D.N.O.	D.A/S.M. (2) Courier
Cont. M.S.R.	D.A.S. (L)	D.N.C. (2)
Secretary	D.T.M. (2)	C.E. in C.
Dep. Sec.	D.A/S.M.	D.E.E. (3)
F.A.S. (P.R.)	D.M.V. (7)	D. of C.
F.A.S. (S)	D. of S. (3)	D. of V.
D. of E.	C.E. in C.	D. of S.
D. of F.	D.M.S.R. (2)	L.
D. of L.	S.Br.	M.F.
D.N.I. (5)	W.G.F.	P.I. (2)
O.I.C. (2)	M.F. (L)	D.E.A.
D. of P. (3)	M.S.	C.L.
D. of P. (C) (3)	P.II (2)	S.W.R. (6)
D.S.D. (2)	L.Br.	
D. of L.D. (2)	C.L.	
D.M.S. (2)		
O.D. (9)		
D.C. (2)		
D.C.O.D. (7)		
W.D.		
M. (6)		
D.C.O.M. (4)		
D.T.D. (4)		
D.T.D. (C)		
D.T.A.S. 1. (3)		
D.G.D. (3)		
D.T.S.D. (2)		

Circulation continued overleaf.

1.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Return of American built C.V.Es. to U.S.A. A.M. 310035 October.
 In view of manpower shortage particularly T.124X ratings, it is necessary to return American built C.V.Es. to U.S.A. as soon as they can be made ready to leave U.K. In view of A.M. 220334 it is proposed to return the following C.V.Es. PURSUER, EMPEROR, KHEDIVE, RULER, RAVAGER, EMPRESS, BATTLER, STRIKER, SLINGER.
 It is anticipated three of these will be ready the 1st week in January and 2 in each of the following weeks. Actual dates will be communicated as soon as known.
 (2) Request confirmation that they should all be sailed to Norfolk Va.
 (3) Further signal will be made regarding TRUMPETER, SMITER, CHASER, ARBITER, REAPER, PREMIER.
 (4) No forecast can yet be made regarding dates for return of following R.N. manned C.V.Es. ATHELING, FENCER, RAJAH, RANEE, PATROLLER, QUEEN, TROUNCER and SPEAKER.
 (A.C.N.S.(O), 011708 to B.A.D. Washington.) See 052113.

Far East and Australia.

DUKE OF YORK, C. in C.B.P.F. departure from Sydney. Departed Sydney 0153Z Saturday 1st Dec. DUKE OF YORK wearing the flag of the C. in C. B.P.F. accompanied by WAGER and WHIRLWIND for Fremantle. E.T.A. Breakwater 0630H/7th Dec. Route direct. S.O.A. 15½ knots.
 (F.O.C. Sydney, 010201Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle, A.C.N.B. Melbourne.) See 071136Z

Release of Royal Marine personnel from 3 Commando Brigade. (1) This Brigade has been instructed to return all age and service groups 32 to 39 inclusive to U.K. forthwith. This release, if effected now, will reduce the strength of the Brigade below what is required to meet present commitments. In addition the number of responsible N.C.Os. remaining will be 1/3 of the proper establishment.
 (2) I consider that present military forces are already too few for the proper maintenance of law and order in the whole colony. During the next two or three weeks we shall have some 45,000 Chinese soldiers of the Chinese new 1st Army passing through the new territories en route to embark at Kowloon. This army is entirely Chinese and has no American liaison staff.
 (3) Under these conditions I am left with no alternative but the retention of these personnel due for release until reinforcements for this Brigade or further military forces arrive in Hongkong.
 (4) S.A.C.S.E.A. pass to A.L.F.S.E.A.
 (C. in C. Hongkong, 010422Z to Cabinet Offices, Admty.)
 See 051755Z. 071310Z
 071330Z

2.12.1945
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

LOSSIE
frigate
for U.K.
from
E. Indies

Intend to sail LOSSIE 0800A/3rd December to Plymouth.
(3) Speed 13½ knots. E.T.A. a.m. 6th December.
(8) LOSSIE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 021205A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

A.S.R.
relief
station
19

Have been relieved by START BAY on station 19
E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. Tuesday.
(PORTCHESTER CASTLE, 021402Z F.O.G.M.A. PELICAN.)

U.S.S. ESCAPE
salvage
vessel

Intend to sail U.S.S. ESCAPE towing Italian
S/M ^{SOFFRÈBO} MAMELI 1200A/2 Dec. Taranto.
(3) ^ Speed 10 knots E.T.A. p.m. 10 Dec.
(6) ESCAPE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 020853A to N.O.I.C. Taranto.)

CATTISTOCK
destroyer
for U.K.
and reserve

Intend to sail CATTISTOCK 1800A/2 Dec. to Portsmouth.
(3) Speed 13 - 1/2 knot. E.T.A. 0700Z/6 Dec.
(7) CATTISTOCK acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 021213A to C. in C. Portsmouth, CATTISTOCK.)

South Atlantic

Movements

Arrival H.M.S. Ships NEWCASTLE 010830
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE 020945.
Departures: NEWCASTLE 011600 Portsmouth
BUTTERMERE 011700 Las Palmas Gibraltar.
(S.O.(1) Freetown, 021230 to Admiralty.)

War Diary.

2.12.1945
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

LONDON, cruiser, trooping. LONDON is to comply with A.F.O. 6127/45* your O11840B not to Admiralty and LONDON's 241004Z+ refer.
(F.O.L.E.M., 020013B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
* Ports at which H.M. ships are to fuel when proceeding to and from the Far East.
+ LONDON's programme.

RAJAH, trooping. Intend to sail RAJAH at 0600B/3rd Dec. to Aden and Colombo in accordance with Admty.'s 131221 Nov. not to you.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) S.O.A. 16 knots. Ship to report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said), 020945B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

BERWICK, trooping. S.N.O.R.S.C.A. 301805B. Departed Suez 2300B/1st Dec. E.T.A. Colombo 1600 EG Dec. 9th.
(2) Intend shifting to broadcast V 2100Z/4th Dec.
(BERWICK, 021140 to F.O. Ceylon.)

PATROLLER, C.V.E. trooping. Intend to sail PATROLLER at 0500B/3 to Colombo A.M. 281919* Oct. refers.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) S.O.A. 16 knots, ship to report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this signal.
(5) Ship has been supplied with latest QC messages.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 021557B to F.O. Ceylon.)

BANFF, cutter. Intend to sail BANFF at 1200B/3 to Gibraltar. BANFF is closing entrance to Malta Harbour en route to R/V with 2 L.C.I. and escort them to Gibraltar and U.K. C. in C. Med.'s 291728 Nov. refers.
(3) S.O.A. to R/V 4 knots subsequently best of L.C. E.T.A. Malta entrance 0900B/6. Any amendment to E.T.A. R/V to be reported direct to C. in C. Med. E.T.A. Gibraltar to be signalled to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said), 021630B to C. in C. Med., F.O.G.M.A.)

Destroyers for U.K. Intend to sail NORMAN (S.O.) with NAPIER and NIZAM in company at 0900B/3 to Gibraltar for onward routing U.K.
(3) S.O.A. 15 knots, E.T.A. p.m./8.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 021710B to F.O.G.M.A.)

LOCHY, frigate, on passage to U.K. from E.I. Intend to sail LOCHY at noon B/3 to Gibraltar for onward routing U.K.
(3) S.O.A. 11.5 knots. E.T.A. a.m./10 Dec. ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 021752B to F.O.G.M.A.)

/HELFFORD...

2.12.1945
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

HELFORD,
frigate, for
U.K. and
reserve.

Intend to sail HELFORD at 1400B/3 to Gibraltar
for onward routing U.K.
(3) S.O.A. 13 knots E.T.A. p.m./9 ship to report
accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 021820 to F.O.G.M.A.)

2.12.1945
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movement,
F.S. ALGERIEN
with M/S.

Sailed F.S. ALGERIEN with minesweepers D.321,
334, 335 and 351 for Colombo in accordance with
my 291120.
(F.O. Bombay, 020809 EF to C. in C. E.I.)

9A

Rec 2.12.45

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.)

America & West Indies.

*Situation British Honduras
frontier Guatemala.*

No T.O.O./2nd Dec.

From. (Sir J. Hunter)
British Honduras.

Date. 2.12.45.

Recd. 2225.

C Y P H E R (O.T.P.)

To. S. of S. Colonies.

IMMEDIATE. No. 408.

Your telegram No. 278.

Guatemala.

Pootun is small Indian village, where it is hard to believe that an Agricultural settlement is intended, but it commands one of the principal mule ~~trails~~ (trails intended) into this Colony from Guatemala about 30 miles north of the Sarstoon River. It is significant that Guatemala has moved troops to other similar points along the frontier and report received last night estimated the garrison at Fallabon near Bengue Viejo at over 500 men. These forces are reported well armed with modern weapons and Guatemala has 35 aeroplanes to support them. Please refer again to my telegram No. 182. My view remains the same and I again urge that this matter be considered serious. I have discussed the present situation with the Area Commander, who will make his own report to the War Office. Meanwhile, since the question was considered last May, the end of the war has changed conditions and I see no reason or excuse for taking any risk or chances with the safety of this Colony. To impress our neighbours and restore local morale, I urge strongly that a British aircraft carrier be sent to Belize to show the flag from time to time.

No T.O.O./2nd Dec. See 072201

Circulated in Colonial office
and to.
Foreign Office. War Office.
Admiralty, Air Ministry.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3)
D.F.S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(0)
A.C.N.S.(A)(2)
Vice Contr. (Air)
Secretary.
P.A.S.(S)
D.O.D.(5)
D.C.(2)

D.N.I.(4)
Hd. of M.(6)
D. of P.(2)
D. of P.(Q)(3)
D.N.A.O.
D.A.W.T.
Ad. Blake.
W.D.

3.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

CONTEST,
COCKADE,
destroyers,
on passage
to B.P.F.

Intend to sail CONTEST (S.O.) and COCKADE 1600A/3
Dec. to Malta to work up.
(2) Route D in accordance with Medri.
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 0900A/6 Dec.
(4) COCKADE is to be detached as necessary to
arrive Oran 0800A/4 Dec. to land C.Bs. and
rejoin CONTEST without.
(7) CONTEST acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 031005A to F.O. Malta.)

ROEBUCK,
ESKIMO,
destroyers
for U.K.
for reserve.

Intend to sail ROEBUCK (S.O.) and ESKIMO 0800A/4th
Dec. to home ports.
(3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. ROEBUCK at Plymouth
0800A/7th Dec. ESKIMO at Sheerness a.m. 8th Dec.
(8) ROEBUCK acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 031229A to Admty.)

3.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

26th D.F. on passage to U.K. Sail in SAUMAREZ at 0900A/4th Dec. with 26th D.F. in company to Gibraltar through the Bizerta War Channel and thence as direct as safe navigation permits.
(2) Speed 14 knots, E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800A/7th Dec
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 031003A to D.26.)

FINISTERRE, destroyer, on passage to B.P.F. Sail on completion of exercises 5th Dec. to arrive off Tras el Kanayis Bombardment range at 0900H/7th Dec. C. in C. Med.'s 261214 Nov. not to all refers.
(2) Route as direct as safe navigation permits.
(4) Fuel consumption trials are to be out.
(5) After bombardment proceed as direct as safe navigation permits to Alexandria reporting E.T.A.
(6) F.O.L.E.M. is requested to arrange onward routeing to B.P.F.
(7) FINISTERRE acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 031153 to F.O.L.E.M., FINISTERRE.)

LONDON, cruiser, trooping. Intend to sail LONDON at 0615B/4th to Aden for fuelling with minimum delay in accordance with LONDON's 021145C, not to all, subsequently proceeding to Colombo.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) S.O.A. to Aden 21½ knots. Ships to report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 031203B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Fire in boiler room of MILNE. C.S. 15's 042355 Nov. MILNE's No. 1 boiler has been tested and is satisfactory. Full speed is now available.
(Capt. D.3, 031205B to C.S. 15.)

THULE, S/M on passage to U.K. Intend to sail THULE at 0800B/4th to Gibraltar for onward routeing to Portsmouth.
(3) S.O.A. 12 knots, E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. 11th THULE to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 031523B to F.O.G.M.A.)

FINDHORN, frigate, on passage to U.K. from B.P.F. to be returned to U.S.A. Intend to sail FINDHORN at 0900B/4 to Gibraltar for onward routeing U.K.
(3) S.O.A. 11 knots, E.T.A. p.m. 11th ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 031553B to F.O.G.M.A.)

3.12.1945.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Oprep to
1700 hrs.
2nd Dec.

For M.O.12.
A. West Java. Batavia. Generally quiet but some
looting in North.

Bandoeng. Sniping continued particularly
R.A.P.W.I. Hotel area. Patrols clearing area met
gunfire. General mopping up continues. Air
strike 1500 (or 1200) hrs. today on strongly protected buildings
which were preventing Mov. in town. 4 A.C. attacked with 64
(or 60) lb. R.P. and 500 lb. bombs. Direct hits reported and
one building destroyed.

Soekaboemi. Convoy met by escort ex Batavia and Buitenzorg
and reached Gatter 1700 hrs. Adv. Gd. 5/8 Punjab met strong
party Indonesians Q.943211 North of Tjidadak (or Tjibadak).
Attacked with A.G.R. S.P. and dispersed party. Own cas. two
wounded.

Central Lyrcia (?). Semarang remains quiet but reports
Indonesians gathering past and S.E. of town. These areas
shelled by SUSSEX.

Ambanawa (or Arbarawa). 1350 R.A.P.W.I. Evac. Semarang under
escort. Bandoe Biroe now clear of R.A.P.W.I. own tps. preparing
withdrawal.

Sumatra (?Padang). Raids in Coy. Str. on Andalas 325462 (or
325962) 1440000 (?) sheet 4 for Arms No results. Otherwise
nothing of importance though no reports yet received
Palembang Area.

Report East Java not yet available. BCD. NTR. All informed.
(A.F.N.E.I., 030103 to Alfsea).

083478. For M.O.12. Delayed Oprep to 1700 hrs 2nd Dec.

A. East Java. Sourabaya. Mob coln. 3/2 Punjab less two
Coys. with two tks. to Waroe 5170 met no opposition. One
Sherman out of action by mine. 503705. One rd. block engaged
by tk. 511688. Left (group corrupt) inf. to guard tk. Patrol
reports BR. 494755 blown and br. 488748 collapsed under tk.
crossing. Patrol 1 Degra found A.A. gun destroyed by own
(?A.C.) at M.S. 8. On Semarang rd. 471808 other patrol activity
continued encountering small numbers of extremists. B-D NTR.
all infm.

(A.F.N.E.I., 031030 to W.O.)

COLOSSUS
Light Fleet
Carrier.

H.M.S. COLOSSUS has been transferred to East
Indies station as from 22nd Nov. 1945.
2. She will be administered by F.O. Air E.I.
(C. in C. E.I., 030846EF to Admty., COLOSSUS)

SLINGER
G.P. Carrier
on passage to
U.K.

1. E.T.A. 0800c Wedn. 1st Dec.
2. Requirements.
3. Propose sailing Suez 1600C Wednesday 5th Dec.
4. Request arrangements be made to supply
passage charts from Port Said to United Kingdom
collection at Port Said.
(SLINGER, 031002E to Aden).

STRIKER
G.P. Carrier
on passage to
U.K.

Intend to sail STRIKER at 1200C/3rd to Suez for
U.K.
2. E.T.A. Suez 1730B/6. STRIKER's 281234 Nov.
not to V.A.M. refers.
5. No accommodation available, for officers or
ratings.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 031014 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

War Diary

3.12.1945.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

KEDAH
Base ship -
from E.I.
(To return
to Trade).

Intend to sail KEDAH at 1700C/3rd to Suez for
Alexandria to comply with C. in C. E.I.'s 021157EF
N.T. in W.D. not to all.
2. E.T.A.0600B/9th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 031021Z to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements

Arrivals Singapore 2nd December.
CAMBRIAN with L.S.T.3035, B.Y.M.S.2006.
Departures. B.Y.M.S.2217, 2008, 2005.
(F.O. Malaya, 031030 to Admty).

ROTHER and
SENNEN
Frigate and
cutter on
passage to
U.K.

Programme for ROTHER and SENNEN leaving Colombo
8th Dec. for Chatham arrive Port depart 15 Dec.
Aden 15th Dec. 20th Dec. Suez/Port Said 21st Dec.
22nd Dec. Alex 27 Dec. 30 Dec. Malta, 1st Jan,
4th Jan. Gib, 6 Jan, 11 Jan, Chatham.
(C. in C. E.I., 031122EF to Admty., C. in C. Med.,
F.O.L.E.M., etc).

Programme for
RESOURCE,
heavy repair
ship on
passage to
U.K.

Programme approved subject to concurrence of
C. in C. Med. Economical speed may be exceeded
as necessary to arrive Portsmouth 23rd Dec. if
possible.
2. C. in C. E.I., 010830 not to C. in C.
Plymouth refers.
(D.O.D., 031359 to C. in C. E.I., see 041255
(Med)).

Movements

Arrived: STRIKER, KEDAH, SIMBRA, B.Y.M.S.2168,
2036, 2264.
Departed: STRIKER, KEDAH.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 031915 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

War Diary

3.12.1945
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

F.O.N.A.P. Cancel para. 2 of B.P.F. 461P*
Flag officer F.O.N.A.P. will continue in command of Naval
naval air Air Stations until further notice.
stns. Pacific. (C. in C. B.P.F., 030123Z to B.P.F. N.R. 469P)
* D.T.G. 270552 November concerning organisation
of R.N. Air Establishments in Australia.

UNICORN, Departed Fremantle 0515Z/3rd Dec. UNICORN for
A/C repair Durban E.T.A. 0700Z/15th Dec. direct route S.O.A.
ship on 15 knots.
passage to (N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 030742Z to C. in C. S.A.)
U.K.

Action to be Request following action be taken further to
taken to reduce B.P.F.
reduce B.P.F. A. Fast minelayers to be sailed for U.K. as
soon as they can be spared.
B. MONTCLARE to be sailed for U.K. by end of year.
C. Total number of destroyers to be reduced to
16 as soon as practicable by sailing destroyers of 24th and 25th
flotillas to U.K. as they can be spared. Total of 16 will
eventually comprise 8 C.O. and 8 BATTLE class.
(2) Number of escort vessels to be retained remains at 16
including AIRE.
(Secretary to V.C.N.S., 031220 to C. in C. B.P.F.) *See 120742Z*

4.12.1945
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

FOINAVON
and
M.F.V.112
to U.K.

Intend to sail FOINAVON (S.O.) escorting M.F.V.
1122 at 0900A 5th December to U.K. 191958 Nov.
not to all, refers.

(2) Route.

(3) Speed 8 knots. E.T.A. FOINAVON at
Plymouth a.m. 11th December, M.F.V.1122 at
Cardiff a.m. 12th December.

(8) FOINAVON acknowledge and sail ships to
comply.

(F.O.G.M.A., 041513A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

SHIEL
frigate
on passage
to U.K.

Simonstown arrival H.M.S. SHIEL.
(C. in C. S.A., 041826 to Admiralty.)

4.12.1945
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

BANFF
L.C.I.(L)s
272 and 289
on passage
to U.K.

L.C.I.(L)s 272 and 289 sail to R/V with BANFF off Vallette Harbour entrance at 0800A 6th December and thence under her orders to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K.
(2) Speed 9 knots. E.T.A. Gibraltar to be reported by BANFF.
(3) Should L.C.I.(L)s part company from BANFF for any reason appropriate Medri route through Bizerta War Channel is to be followed.
(5) L.C.I.(L)s 272 and 289 acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 040847A to BANFF, L.C.I.(L)s 272 and 289) Cancelled by 051618.

RESOURCE
heavy repair
ship on
passage to
U.K.

Concur programme through Med. Station for RESOURCE.
Your 010830.
(C. in C. Mediterranean, 040840 to C. in C. E.I.) Your 031359, anticipating approval of 14 knots as speed of advance, entirely favourable weather conditions, rapid transit of canal and least possible delay in port en route, earliest E.T.A. Portsmouth is Dec. 23rd a.m. owing to variable conditions to date must be considered tentative.
(2) Request general policy as arrival should fall within holiday period.
(RESOURCE, 041255EF to Admiralty, info. C. in C. Med.) See 062129.

QUEEN
Escort
Carrier
trooping

Intend to sail QUEEN at 0530/5 to Colombo for onward routing Sydney.
(3) S. of A. 16 knots. QUEEN to report T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., Port Said, 040905B to F.O.Ceylon).

Cruise of
14th Destroyer
Flotilla
ships

Intend following cruise for ships addressed:-
Arrive Place Leave

(2) CHAPLET and
CHEVRON

-	Malta	p.m. 10th Dec.
a.m. 11th	Bizerta	a.m. 14th Dec.
p.m. 14th	Bone	a.m. 17th Dec.
a.m. 18th	Palermo	p.m. 21st Dec.
a.m. 22nd	Malta	-

(3) JAVELIN

-	Malta	p.m. 6th Dec.
a.m. 7th	Tripoli(L)	a.m. 10th Dec.
a.m. 11th	Bizerta	-

(4) JAVELIN to R/V with CHAPLET and CHEVRON a.m. 11th Dec. off Cap Bon as arranged by CHAPLET all three ships then to proceed in company for remainder of cruise.
(C. in C. Med., 041159A to JAVELIN, CHEVRON, CHAPLET.)

Movements

Port Said 4th Dec.
Arrivals TIPTOE, KALE.
Departure PATROLLER, LONDON, FINDHORN.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 041717B to Admiralty.)

/Movement...

4.12.1945
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Continued

Movement of
Italian ex-
Government
Officials
from Rhodes
to Taranto

We are being urgently pressed to move Italian ex-Gov. Civilian officials and their families from Rhodes to Taranto earliest possible.

(2) Subject your immediate concurrence propose routeing ASCANIUS via Rhodes ex Port Said about 8th December to embark 400 being capacity of boatage less crew.

(3) Vessel will carry out embarkation in anchorage outside harbour provided weather calm

S.N.O.D.E.K.'s 011909B not to all refers.

(4) S.N.O.D.E.K. requested signal on 8th December weather conditions and if these unfavourable ship will be diverted to Taranto. If weather conditions remain 1st until arrival off Rhodes but sudden change for worse occur S.N.O.D.E.K. requested sail vessel to Taranto without awaiting embarkation as she must not be delayed.

(5) D.S.T.O. Port Said requested to arrange for Master to obtain any necessary routeing instructions.

(6) Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 subject you reply to paragraph 2.

(7) Agreed.

(P.S.T.O. Mid. East, 041957B to M. of W.T.).

KALE
Frigate
on passage
to U.K.
from E.I.

Intend to sail KALE at 1100B/5 to Gibraltar for onward routeing Portsmouth in accordance with C. in C. E.I., 201243 November on which programme KALE will be 3 days in advance at Gibraltar.

(3) S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. a.m. 11th. KALE to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.

(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 042204B to F.O.G.M.A.)

LONDON
trooping

Time of Departure Suez 1519Z 4th December. E.T.A.
Aden 0700Z Friday 7th December.

(3) My 021145C refers.

(LONDON, 042257B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

War Diary

4.12.1945
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Sitrep 689

1. Burma Twelfth Army. 17 Div. and 19 Div. N.T.R. 82 (W.A.) Div. 83 (or 82) (W.A.) R/C Regt. now at Letpadan QF 0950, moves Taungup Prom Road. Convoy 13 marching troops arrived mile 24 0845 hours. Convoy 14 marching troops arrived mile 39 0920 hours. Convoy 15 marching troops arrived mile 47 0945 hours. Convoy 16 passed Div. SP 0830 hours.

2. Andamans. 116 Bde. N.T.R.

3. Malaya. Disbandment Force 136 ran smoothly everywhere over weekend with exception Lenggong V.D.7533 where K.M.T. refused to CONC and on arrival of our patrol to round up took to Jungle believed heading for Siam, Kosa Bahru RV where KMT finally agreed to disband 2nd December. R.A.F. demonstration flights all centres highly appreciated.

4. NEI East Java. Batavia. 9 Bde. two Coys. 3 Jat. with two tps. tks Est firm base Waroe 5169 Locations. 5 Div. H.Q. 528809. 17 Dogra 530808. Central Java. Semarang quiet. Reports of Indonesians gathering East and S.E. exaggerated. 200 dispersed rapidly when shelled by Navy. Japanese found 18000 rds. SAA buried behind police station. Bty. less TP 5 Ind. Fd. Regy. Semarang. Ambarewa. One thousand further A.P.W.I. evacuated Semarang. Banjoebiree evacuated. All troops Conc. centre, North and N.E. Town. West Java. Batavia. Generally quiet. One Bn. is being flown from Batavia to reinforce Bandoeng. 7 para Bn. from Singapore being flown to Batavia. Bandoeng. Situation was becoming out of control owing to panic amongst A.P.W.I. and other refugees from Indonesians. Systematic evacuation of protected persons to Central keeps area jeopardised by unco-ordinated and unauthorised orders of Dutch R.A.P.W.I. officials whose actions and alarmist reports caused entirely false impression and panic. There are fifty two thousand protected persons in Bandoeng. Arrival of one Bn. from Batavia by air is imminent in North Sector organised bands of Indonesians fired houses with petrol bombs. Sniping in two and attack made on HQ 3/3 GR dispersed with mortars. Sumatra. N.T.R. N.E.I. general. Connect with Sitrep 685 para. four Cas. period 23 to 29 Nov. Java killed Offrs. two V.C.O. one L.O.R.S. thirty one wounded Officers, 6 V.C.O.S. six B.O.Rs. ten I.O.Rs. one hundred and four missing V.C.O.S., one B.O.R. one I.O.R. twenty one.

5. Siam. 22 Nov. Selangor State handed over to Allied authorities by Siamese. This completes hand over of Ourgmal? States annexed by Siam.

(6) FIC. 20 Div. 80 Bde. 3 Dec. PL 3/1 GR. Investigation report on one hundred and fifty Annamites on road RJ 260480 and RJ 255500 100 Bde. 4 Dec. Tenegiep? RJ 1779. (Alfsea. 041330 to W.O.)

MULLION My 100814 Nov. Intend to sail MULLION COVE for
COVE U.K. 31st Jan. 1946.
Hull repair (C. in C.E.I., 041516EF to Admiralty.)
ship

*Cancelled by
151241 (Am)*

/Sitrep...

4.12.1945
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Continued

Sitrep.

To 1200 hrs. 4th December 1945.

West Java.

(a) Batavia. Indonesians preventing Chinese from selling fresh food to Europeans. Sup. convoy with escort left this morning for Bultenzorg. Bandoeng. 3/5 GR with arty and tk support attacked enemy held building. Building fired by Indonesians who retreated into Kampong. Booby traps, explosives, arms, amm., spears, daggers and high power transmitter recovered. Arson campaign North sector continues. Eight houses burnt, 40 dead, wounded and missing. One incident 14 people locked in house and burnt to death. W.E.F. 0900 hrs. 4 Dec. tps. Ambarawa and Oengtran under comd. 49 Bde. Tps. Semarang under comd. C.R.A.S. Bde. Enemy activity greatly reduced no major incident, Semarang. All quiet.

(b) N.T.R.

(c) 6 Marhatta flying today Batavia to Bandoeng. Come under comd. 37 Bde. on arrival. 5/8 Punjab revert to under comd. 23 Div.

East Java. (a) Mobile coln with D.W.S. moving south rd. Waroe Gendangan. Cleared mined br. otherwise N.T.R. Party Indonesians attacked Chinese area dealt with by own tps.

(b)(c) N.T.R.

(d) 3/2 Punjab coln in area surround 5376 otherwise N.T.R.

Sumatra N.T.R.

(Afnei., 041830 to W.O.)

4.12.1945
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

POLARIS,
PYRRHUS,
minesweepers.

Request you sail POLARIS (S.O.) and PYRRHUS on completion of ammunitioning to Horta, thence to Ponta Delgada for fuel and onward routeing to U.K. as directed by Admiralty.
(2) Proceeding from Shelburne direct to A. 43.10 N. 60.00 W. and B. 41.00 N. 45.00 W. thence direct to Horta. Speed 12 knots.
(Capt. D. Halifax, 041347Z to N.O.I.C. Shelburne.)

MULL OF
KINTYRE,
Motor craft
maintenance
ship for
B.P.F.

Departed Esquimalt 1800Z/4 Dec. MULL OF KINTYRE to Sydney, Australia for onward routeing as required by C. in C. B.P.F., Admty.'s 301217Z not to all refers via Honolulu (Oahu Island) and Suva (Fiji Island) for fuel and fresh provisions.
(2) Route by Great Circle. S.O.A. 10 knots. E.T.A. Honolulu 15th Dec. 350 tons fuel oil required. E.T.A. Suva 25th Dec. 390 tons fuel oil required. E.T.A. Sydney, Australia 4th Jan. Comhawseafron pass to B.N.L.O. Honolulu.
(C.O.P.C., 041848Z to C. in C. B.P.F., Admty.)

DODMAN POINT,
M.S. (L.S.)

DODMAN POINT originator departs Ambrose Light Vessel New York 1930Z/5th Dec. for Portsmouth, England.
(PIRIE, 042228 to Comthree, C. in C. Portsmouth, Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

China ports
survey and
release of
CHALLENGER.

For Hydrographer, from Hongkong for U.K. 1st Jan. vide F.O.W.A.B.P.F.'s 220719 Nov. may now be authorised and that she may leave 28 foot motor boat in lieu of harbour launch which is still at Singapore. Sub.Lieut. Ree Bassett R.N.V.R. ex M.L. 1285 will be sent to join Lt. Cdr. Griffiths as 4th Class Assistant.
(WHITE BEAR, 041722 GH to Admty., Info. C. in C. B.P.F., CHALLENGER.) *See 201017Z*

Sitrep No. 15
French Indo
China.

To 1700 hrs. 4th Dec. A. 32 (?Bde.) 3 Dec. G.O.V. A.P. French vehicle fired upon by Annamites. Fire returned killing 9 rebels. French cas. nil. 65 Annamites detained area suspected H.Q. 180568. 80 Bde. N.T.R. 100 Bde. 4 Dec. Thu. Duc. area P.S. Sgt. wounded and interpreter missing follg. clash with rebels. 4/10 G.R. patrol despatched resulted 3 rebels killed. Own cas. 1 wounded. Phnom. Penh. H.Q. A.L.F. Phnom. Penh. closes 0600 hrs. 5 Dec. British rep. now designated Liaison officer Phnom. Penh. French forces. No details received B.C.D. N.T.R. All informed.
(A.L.F.F.I.C., 041815 to W.O., etc.)

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

East Indies

Operational
Control

C.S.5 (SUSSEX) has assumed operational control of all N.O.I.C., R.N.Os. of ports. H.M. Ships and craft south of the Equator in area for which (Allied Force Netherland East Indies) A.F.N.E.I. is responsible.

5.12.1945

Wednesday

War Diary

GENERAL

Signal
traffic
authorities

L.A.N.K.A. 1 and L.A.N.K.A. 2 are two separate authorities who each deal with their own signal traffic.
(2) Care is to be taken to quote the appropriate L.A.N.K.A. when replying or referring to signals originated by either L.A.N.K.A.1 or L.A.N.K.A.2 since confusion and inconvenience are caused by failure to do this.
(D.S.D., 050104 to A.M. Home and Abroad.)

North Atlantic

BULLFINCH
Cable ship

Intend to sail BULLFINCH 0730A/6th December to Plymouth.
(3) Speed 10 knots E.T.A. p.m. 10th December.
(8) BULLFINCH acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 051214A to Admiralty.)

POLARIS,
PYRRHUS
M/S

On arrival at Ponta Delgade POLARIS should be routed direct to Liverpool (A.M. 191754 November refers) and PYRRHUS to Plymouth for onward routing to Granton for inspection and M/S work-up. Capt. (D) Halifax's 041347 December (not to all) refers.
(D.M.S. 051705 to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

South Atlantic

SHIEL
frigate
on passage
to U.K.

My 281536 November. SHIEL will not now call St. Helena due to outbreak of infantile paralysis.
(2) Amend programme as follows:
(a) Capetown depart 13th December.
(b) Delete all reference to Saint Helena.
(3) Other dates remain unchanged.
(C. in C. S.A., 051152 to Admiralty.) *see 141281*

TRENT
frigate

Sailed H.M.S. TRENT routed as follows:-
(a) 025° 12' S. 047° 26' E.
(b) 013° 40' S. 060° 46' E.
(c) Equatorial Channel thence Colombo.
(2) S. of A. 11½ knots.
(3) E.T.A. Colombo 0430Z 19th December.
(Commodore Durban, 051228Z to Admiralty.)

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

SOLEBAY
destroyer
for U.K.

Cancel my 280947A November. Further signal will be made.
(C. in C. Med., 051131 to F.O.G.M.A.)

COSSACK,
COMET,
destroyers
for B.P.F.

Following is intended programme for COSSACK and COMET.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
-	Malta	0800/15th
0800/17th	R.A.S. Elkanayas	1700/17th
0800/18th	Port Said	-

(2) All times A. All dated December.
(3) Ships are for onward routeing to B.P.F.
(C. in C. Med., 051219A to Capt. D.8.)

Sailing of
L.C.I.(L)s
postponement

In view of weather sailing of L.C.I.(L) is postponed.
(2) BANFF proceed to Gibraltar by Medri route without closing Malta.
(3) LORD IRWIN due Malta 6th December will be used to escort L.C.I.(L) when weather moderates further signal will be made.
(4) Cancel my 040549 and para. 2 my 291728 November.
(C. in C. Med., 051618 to BANFF.)

WRANGLER,
WAKEFUL,
destroyers
for U.K.
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail WRANGLER (S.O.) and WAKEFUL at 1000B/6 to Gibraltar for onward routeing Plymouth and Portsmouth respectively C. in C. E.I.'s 261442 refers.
(3) S. of A. 15 knots E.T.A. p.m. 11th WRANGLER to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known (S.N. O.R.S.C.A., 051716 to F.O. Gibr.)

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Sitrep 682 1433 Ops. cipher 5th December.
 (1) Burma 82 (WA) Div. 2 (WA) Bde. All convoys reached Prome now in transit to locations in Delta. 4 (WA) Bde. 9NR now conc. Taungup area. 82 WA Recce. Regt. Convoy 10 marching tps. arrived mile 47 convoy 11 passed mile 106 0830 hours 26th November.
 (2) Andamans. No report received.
 (3) Malaya. N.T.R.
 (4) N.E.I.
 East Java. 5 Div. 49 Bde. patrol to Kedoeng 5785 found large arms dump incl. bombs 571859 on 24th November. 5 Paj. Rif. Coys. 530853 and 534859. 9 Bde. FDLS 3 JAT 540840 canal at 553828 the canal to 552819 1 Madras 553819 (or 552819) line of canal to 541808 3/2 Punjab 541808 to confluence 532800. 3/2 Punjab twice heavily attacked night 24/25th November and on 25th November patrolled to hospital 5480 surprised crews of Japanese tankette and three A.A. guns. Patrol withdrew on arrival 50 Indonesians. 10 guns engaged and scored direct hits on tankette and guns. 123 Bde. FDLS (?1) Dogra River at 532800 520803 2/1 Punjab 516803/507798 (or 507298) 3/9 GR 503797 - 493801 Coy. 2 West Yorks. 496814. 1 Dogra heavily attacked by large numbers of Indonesians supported by one tank and armd. car and 47 mm. A Tk. gun. Enemy effectively shot up dispersed into side streets. 1 Dogra evacuated 500 civilians incl. French Consul and wife.
 Central Java. Late 24th November Bamjoebiroe heavily attacked from west. Attack beaten off, but fighting continued on 25th November. Mob. patrol despatched to keep open rd. Semarang-Ambarawa-West Java.
 West Java. Search continues for Indonesians who murdered passengers and crew of crashed aircraft. One search party repulsed attack by 100 Indonesians. Bandoeng. Outbreak night 24th/25th November area Tjimahi to west of town and also north and east sides of town. Electricity and telephone cables cut and sniping continued all night. Concentrating own tps. and Europeans and Eurasians in centre of town. Sumatra. N.T.R.
 (5) Siam. Sixteen thousand Japanese ex.Lampang Chiangmai and Ubon now in transit to final conc. area Nakhon Nayok.
 (6) FIC. On 22 (or 25) November Yamaguchi Budai cleared a suspected H.Q. in Thu Dau Mot area. 14 rebels killed and 5 P.W. taken. M.T. on its way to evac. Japanese forces from Hathien (or Hatien) area. Gen. Sakuma and 55 Div. H.Q. surrendered to 4/10 GR 25th November. Japanese civilian internees left Phnom Penh for Saigon 25th November. French Forces. Incident near Benluc RH 9637 caused cas. one killed, three wounded. Djamap 40 Kms. Ene Budop now occupied. One Bn. 27 RIG and further elements 9 DIC disembarked 25th November. (Alfsea, 050730 to W.O.)

Reports of proceedings of individual ships taking part in operations. Individual ships taking part in operations and occupational moves in co-operation with the other services are to render report of proceedings. These reports are to be forwarded to the Flag or Senior Officer conducting the operation who is responsible for co-ordinating individual reports and forwarding the whole to Commander-in-Chief East Indies. Ships are also to forward a copy of their individual reports of proceedings to their Administrative Authority E.I.T.M.449 will be amended.

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Reports of proceedings of individual ships taking part in operations (Contd.) (2) Reports of proceedings are to include the following information:
(a) Code Name of the operations if any.
(b) Object of the operation with quotation of signal ordering it.
(c) List of forces taking part.
(d) Port of departure.
(e) Ports of call.
(f) Final destination.
(C. in C. E.I., 051109EF to E.I. Station.)

C.O.I.S.(E.I.) Title lapsed (Intelligence) Colonel F.P.C.Lordon, R.M., left Colombo by air for Australia 4th December, Title of C.O.I.S. E.I. has lapsed. Cdr. J.S. Gabbett, R.N., has assumed the title of S.O.(I) E.I.
(2) Request correspondence and signals (previously) addressed to C.O.I.S. E.I. may be addressed to S.O.(I) E.I.
(C. in C. E.I., 051155EF, to D.N.I. Admiralty.)

SLINGER general purpose carrier on passage to U.K. from B.P.F. Intend to sail SLINGER at 1600 5th to Suez to U.K.
(2) E.T.A. Suez 2100B/9th.
(5) Request arrangements be made to supply passage charts from Port Said to U.K. for collection at Port Said.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 051135 to S.N.O.Port Said.)

EMPRESS Assault Carrier on passage to U.K. Intend to sail EMPRESS at 1500/5th to Suez for United Kingdom.
(2) E.T.A. Suez 0600B/9th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 051136 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Flag Officer Air E.I. Headquarters NR.454 C. Headquarters of F.O. Air E.I. will be established at R.N.A.S. Katukurunda as from 0900 EF on 10th December 1945.
(2) All correspondence for F.O. Air should be forwarded to R.N.A.S. Katukurunda on and after December 8th.
(3) Drafting office of F.O. Air will move to 34 Queen Street, Colombo on 8th December but correspondence should be forwarded to R.N.A.S. Katukurunda.
(4) As from 1600EF December 9th all signals except those referred to in para. 1 of 380C of 20th November are to be routed direct by T/P to R.N.A.S. Katukurunda (call sign COGUN) who is automatically responsible for F.O. Air E.I. on via Ceylon W/T.
(5) On December 8th 380C is to be amended as follows: Delete "Fisheries Building Colombo," and insert "R.N.A.S. Katukurunda."
(C. in C. E.I., 051215EF to All concerned).

25

5.12.1945
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies - ContinuedShips
returning
from E.I.
station
reports

H.M. ships returning to U.K. are from the time of entering the home station (a) to report their P.C.S. daily at 0800 British local time addressed to the C. in C. of the Home Command concerned and repeated to the Admiralty and the C. in C. of any adjacent command to which the ship may be proceeding if she is within 24 hours steaming of that command.

- (b) To include her E.T.A. at the entrance to the Port or anchorage in the P.C.S. report next before arrival.
(c) E.T.A. is to be amended only if the one already signalled will be more than 24 hours in error.
(C. in C. E.I., 051218EF to E.I. Station, Info Admiralty.)

~~Sumatra~~
~~SUMATRA~~relief of
R.N. personnel
by Dutch.

R.N. personnel ashore at Sabang have been relieved by Dutch troops under Command of A.L.F.S.E.A. and duties of guard ships have been taken over by Royal Netherlands Navy.
(2) Singapore C.C.O. pass P/L to S.A.C.S.E.A.C. A.L.F.S.E.A. and A.C.S.E.A.
(C. in C. E.I., 051503 EF to General Message.)

VIRGINIA
survey
vessel

Intend VIRGINIA should leave Bombay 8th December for U.K.
(2) F.O. Bombay is requested to sail her accordingly.
(C. in C. E.I., 051503EF to F.O. Bombay)
See 071437/EF.

E.I.
operational
control by
C.S.5
(SUSSEX)

C.S.5 has assumed operational control of all N.Os. I.C. R.N.Os. of ports, H.M. Ships and Craft south of the Equator in area for which A.F.N.E.I. is responsible.
(2) C.S.5 will plan in detail and implement with A.F.N.E.I. military moves in his area.
(3) Message 433A of 1st December para. 3(a) refers.
(4) Singapore C.C.O. pass P/L version to S.A.C.S.E.A.C., A.L.F.S.E.A. and A.C.S.E.A.
(C. in C.E.I., 051725EF to E.I. Gen.)

See 031731 EF Jan 45

Re request
to re-equip
34 A.M.P.
Support
Regiment for
Infantry Role
as reinforcement
for Java

Your 261010 Nov. 34 Amphibian Support Regiment contains a large proportion of technicians and tradesmen, who are not at present suited for infantry work, and there will not now be time to train the Regiment properly for such a role. There are no reinforcements available to make good deficiencies in the Regiment and the operation of the release scheme will reduce the Royal Marine strength to less than 300 by mid-February next, when there will remain only 6 officers and

7 Senior H.C.Os.

(2) Moreover this Regiment is the only unit of its kind in the British Forces that can provide fire support for a sea-borne

/landing...

War Diary

5.12.1945
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Re request
to re-equip
34 A.M.P.
Support
Regiment
for Infantry
Role as
reinforcement
for Java.
(Contd.)

landing under conditions in which Support
Craft are unable to operate. As it is hoped
eventually to retain one sub-unit of each type
in the Regiment, it is undesirable to lose the
experience gained by using its valuable personnel
for infantry work.
(3) For above reasons Admiralty are unable to
approve A.L.F.S.E.A.'s request, and the Chiefs
of Staff are in agreement with this decision.
(Hd. of M(II), Approved V.C.N.S., 051936 to
C. in C. E.I.) See 102020Z.r 201429EFY010055 JAN.
181225

Sitrep.

083773. 02380 cipher 5th December.
To 1200 hours 4th December, 1945. West Java.
(a) Batavia. 53 young Indonesians arrested
after raid Kramat line being held for

interrogation. Otherwise quiet.
Bandoeng. Generally quieter. Broadcasts that truce had been
arranged is not true. Deputy governor West Java visited Bdr.
Comdr. 3rd December but no decisive results. 3/5 R.G.R. continue
occupation north-east sector. Rescued 30 women and children.
3/5 R.G.R. opened road Bandoeng/Andir/Tjimahi. B.B.C. broadcast
4th December stated that attack on Bde. H.Q. had been repulsed
only after arrival rfts. untrue. They are investigating.
Semarang. Some interference with water supply otherwise quiet.
Ambauawa. Fighting broke out 2,000 hours 4th December with former
band of Indonesians west of town. Situation all in hand by 0430
hours 5th (or 6th) December. 1100 (?R.A.P.Q.I.) evacuation 4th
December. Roads open.

(b) N.T.R.
(c) Residues arrived Batavia. 4 Mahratta 3/10 Gr.
2 A/Tk. Regt. total 268. For CRAS (or ORAS) force. 6 Mahratta
3/5 RGR total 247 for 37 Bde. 178 Fd. Regt. total 63.
(d) One bty. 3 Ind. Fd. Regt. Semerang. 6 (or 1) Mahratta
Bandoeng.
Sumatra. Padang area. A. Major A.S.K. Anderson BM 71 Bde. and
Miss Allingham Red Cross Worker missing believed kidnapped.
Strongest representations have been made to Indonesian Resident
and every effort been made to obtain information of whereabouts.
Medan area. A. Five Spitfires ex. Medan flew over Atjeh P.E.4
(4) Dec. one crashed near Atjeh. Injured pilot being brought
back Medan today by Indonesians. Remainder landed Twndjoengpoera
South airfield reference map 1/50000 G 130 owing weather.
East Java. (a) B.9 Bde. 4th Dec. Mobile column 3/2 Punjab removed
100 lb. bomb with electric connections from BR 500676. Another
bomb and 4 British Mk.11 mines removed from road block 510672 after
it had been cleared. 80 enemy seen fleeing south engaged by arty.
and tanks. Two 75 mm. and one H.A.A. gun found covering road
block. Madras mobile column est. firm base BR 553707 without
opposition. Patrol searched Hedatigedt (or Sedatigede) 5467 and
reached road junc. 545662 NES. Night 4/5th Dec. N.T.R. 5th Dec.
mobile column tow Coys. 3 JAT and two troops tanks operating
along road Waroe 5170 Wonotjolo 4771 and raiding area Boundedumy
road junc. 485710 (or 486710) road junc. 470715 road junc.
459710 road junc. 459699 road junc. 485710. Reached Ketegan 4871
against no opposition. One Pl. plus one tp. tanks N.W. to
Wonoyjolo 497715 NES. Small amm. dump found area 468702 own troops
destroying.

/(b)...

War Diary

5.12.1945
Wednesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies.

Sitrep.
(Contd.)

(b) 123 Bde. 4th Dec. Patrol 2/1 Punjab to Laban 3976 no arms or amn. found NES. 1 Dogra patrol to Lontar 4478 and Sambikere 4378 NES. Small amn. dump 512796 found booby trap.

Night 4/5th Dec. N.T.R. B. N.T.R.

(c) 145 Fd. Regt. disembarked Soerabaja 4th December.

(d) No change. All informed.

(A.L.F.N.E.I., 052310 to A.L.F.S.E.A. etc.)

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FORIEGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

British Honduras Frontier incident
 For M.O.3.
 British Honduras Police report arrival of 400 Guatemalan Infantry near frontier opposite Benque Viejo for stopping smuggling. 4 Guatemalan aircraft have frequently flown over our Cayo district lately. American Officer attached Guatemalan Air Force reports them in possession of 35 planes. Hostile press and radio campaign continues. Only 2 R.A.F. Dakotas at Nassau. Governor and some inhabitants British Honduras apprehensive and feel neglected. I consider invasion unlikely but not impossible. Suggest aircraft carrier passing in Atlantic should show flag at Belize and flights over Cayo.
 For Troopers only. Military plan in following cable. This cable is personal for G.S.O.I, M.O.3.
 (Commander N. Caribbean Area, 051420OR to W.O., R.A.S. Washington)
 See 072201.

This cable is in continuation of 8367* dated 5th December 1945 Plan as in my N.C.A./G.Z./62 dated 23rd July 1945 modified by deficiencies. No action proposed at present until threat more definite but request following:

- (1) Permission to use Canadian Battn. in case of actual invasion.
- (2) One extra Dakota sent Nassau forthwith.
- (3) Retention British Honduras and Jamaica Battns. as in my N.C.A./G.Z./67 dated 18th November 1945 Appendix "A".
- (4) Expedite despatch for British Honduras Battn. of 14 trucks 15 cwt. 4 x 4 and 9 Piats with ammunition as per W.E.
- (5) Approval in principle of mobile platoon on 15 cwt. trucks basis for British Honduras Battn. extra to W.E. IX(?)339/2.
 (Commander N. Caribbean Area, 051425R to W.O.)* D.T.O.051420.

GEORGE W.
 SS. MC. CRARY disabled.
 DUCKWORTH, frigate, on passage to return to U.S.A.

Have despatched H.M.S. DUCKWORTH at 051852Z to go to assistance of SS. MC. CRARY (U.S.A.) in Position 33° 11' N. 58° 40' W. at 051800Z.
 (2) DUCKWORTH contacted MCCRARY by W/T, who reports boilers leaking badly, and states he may require DUCKWORTH's assistance at any moment.
 (3) DUCKWORTH maintaining W/T contact with C. in C. Lant and B.A.D. Weshington and instructed to proceed to New York if assistance not required.
 (4) My P.C.S. at 051852Z 38° 31' N. 53° 10' W. 265° 8 knots.
 (L.S.T.63, 051915Z to C. in C. Lant.) (See over P.29)

Return of American built C.V.Es. to U.S.A.

Your 011708 para. 1. Navy Department confirm that vessels should all be sailed to Norfolk V.A. to arrive if possible on the following dates:
 BATTLER during week of 14th January 1946.
 STRIKER during week of 14th January 1946.
 RAVAGER during week of 14th January 1946.
 SLINGER during week of 21st January 1946.
 PURSUER during week of 28th January 1946.
 EMPEROR during week of 28th January 1946.
 EMPRESS during week of 5th February 1946.
 KHEDIVE during week of 5th February 1946.
 Admiralty pass to all.

(B.A.D., 052113 to Admiralty). See 080255Z.

/U.S.S...

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies - Continued

U.S.S.
AUGUSTA,
Late Lord
Lothian

U.S.S. AUGUSTA sails from New York 5th December for Greenock with ashes of the late Lord Lothian. E.T.A. daylight 12th December so that service can be held at Jedburgh 1430 same day. Foreign Office have details and presume arrangements for meeting ship and disembarkation are being made. (B.A.D. 052143Z to Admiralty.) See 081338.

GEORGE W.
SS. MC. CARY
disabled.
DUCKWORTH,
frigate,
on passage
to return
to U.S.A.

Am coming to your assistance and will escort you to Bermuda. My position 38° 31' N. 53° 10' W. at 1900Z. Course 234° speed 16 knots increasing to 22 knots when swell moderates. Please send me your P.C.S. at 1200Z tomorrow Thursday and inform me as soon as any alterations are made in your present speed of advance or if my assistance should no longer be required. (DUCKWORTH, 052230Z to SS. MC. CARY.)

Far East and Australia

ENCHANTRESS
Command and
H.Q. Ship.

In view of A.M. 010151 passed C.E.F., B.P.F. Intend to sail H.M.S. ENCHANTRESS for U.K. leaving Sydney late December. (C. in C. B.P.F., 050737Z to Admiralty.) See 070731Z. Bay Class frigate under construction to be completed as despatch vessel.

Re M/S
operations
off China coast
and proposed
visit of H.M.
ships to
N. China ports

Your 301030 para. 2 (not to all) paragraph 2 of Embassy Chungking 281300Z (number 1548 to F.O.) alters the circumstances obtaining under para. 3 of my 200330Z Nov. 1, therefore suggest that despatch of reliefs to Shanghai be delayed until instructions have been received from F.O. and suitable reply made to Chinese.
(2) I have shown above to Charge D'Affaires who concurs.
(3) F.O.W.A. please pass to C. in C. B.P.F. (Afloat) Admiralty please pass to F.O. (A.N.A., Chungking, 050813 to F.O.W.A.)

Release of
Royal marine
personnel
from 3rd
Commando
Brigade

Following from Chiefs of Staff. Reference your T.O.O. 010422Z. You should comply with instructions to return to U.K. Royal Marine personnel from No. 3 Commando Brigade due for release.
(2) Measures to provide reinforcements for this

/Commando...

5.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Release of
Royal
Marine
personnel
from 3rd
Commando
Brigade.
(Contd.)

Commando Brigade are under urgent examination here and will be subject of further telegram. (Cabinet Offices, 051755Z to C. in C. Hongkong, (R) S.A.C.S.E.A., A.L.F.S.E.A., C. in C. B.P.F.)

H.M.S.
KEMPENFELT
torpedo
explosion

C. in C. B.P.F.'s 281200 and 291220 November. R.A.D. B.P.F.'s 011611 December and F.O.I.C. Sydney's 032321 December. None to all. (2) Torpedo 21 inch A.A. mark nine two star number 1535 had Firth Brown air vessel. H.M.S. TYNE was informed by A.M. 241403 April, 1945 of history sheet discrepancy. C.A.F.O. 958/45 refer

Torpedo should thus properly have been subject to restrictions in C.A.F.O. 773/44. Forging number is, however, outside groups previously regarded as strongly suspect.

(3) In view of this accident orders are being issued by A message that twenty-one inch torpedoes Marks 8 and 9 with Firth Brown air vessels are to be blown down forthwith and exchanged at first opportunity.

(4) Reference proposal in F.O.I.C. Sydney's 032321 experience has not shown steels to specification TFA 27 to be more susceptible to failure than TFA.25.

(5) Request following particulars may be signalled concerning torpedo.

A. Aircharges and duration during three months before burst.

B. Any previous exceptional charges or damages to torpedo or exceptional exposure to heat.

C. Date of first issue to sea.

D. Total number of air charges as far back as is known.

E. Location and nature of failure.

(6) Request air vessel and any fragments be forwarded to T.E.E. Greenock.

(D.T.M., 051949 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

MULL OF
KINTYRE
Motor
Craft
maintenance
ship.
On passage
to B.P.F.

Request MULL OF KINTYRE be diverted to Tokyo in accordance with C. in C. B.P.F. 050727. (D.O.D., 052225, to C.O.I.C. (R) C. in C. B.P.F.)

6.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

MAIDSTONE
S/M depot
ship

Intend to sail MAIDSTONE 0800A/7 December to
Portsmouth.
(3) Speed 13 knots. E.T.A. Spithead 1700Z/10
December.
(8) MAIDSTONE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 061029A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

A.S.R. Station
Relief

Intend to sail CROCUS 1800A - 7th December to
relieve PELICAN on A.S.R. station S. of A. 10
knots E.T.A. 1400A -9 December.
(1) On relief PELICAN return to Gibraltar.
(3) CROCUS acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 061545A to Aden.)

South Atlantic

TROUNCER
Assault
Carrier
for U.K.
from E.I.
Station.

Intend to sail TROUNCER from Freetown 1600 Dec.
6th to the Clyde. S. of A. 16 knots routed as
safe navigation permits. E.T.A. to be reported
direct. TROUNCER to acknowledge and sail to
comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 061140Z to C. in C. Rosyth,
Admiralty.)

6.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

QUEEN
E.C.
Trooping

QUEEN sailed from Suez 0630/6 E.T.A. Colombo
1400Z one minus 5.5 15th December.
(QUEEN, 060730B to F.O. Ceylon.)

BUCHANNESS
M.S.(L.C.)
Maintenance
ship

Intend to sail BUCHANNESS at 0545B/8 to Aden and
Bombay.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) Speed 11 knots, ship to report T. of D.
from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees
in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 061725B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

11th M.S.
Flotilla
TO E.I.Stn.

Intend to sail M.S.11 in LIONESS with JASEUR,
MAENAD and FLYING FISH in company at 0515B/8 to
Aden and Colombo.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) Speed 10½ knots. M.S.11 to report T. of D.
from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in
this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 061745B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

War Diary6.13.1945
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

C.S.5 Flag of C.S.5 will be transferred to **NORFOLK** at 0800EF 7th December. Cancel 4040 of 27th November.
Transfer of Flag (C. in C. E.I., 061555EF to E.I. Station.)

RESOURCE Every endeavour will be made to berth you which-
Heavy ever day you arrive. Your 041255 refers.
repair (2) With reference to A.M. 131246 October further
ship for signal will be made regarding future employment.
U.K. (D.O.D., 062129 to RESOURCE.)

Sitrep. For M.O.12.
To 1200 hrs. 6 Dec. 6 Dec. 45. West Java.
(a) Batavia. Several raids carried out 5 Dec.
Little found. 6 arrests made. Bandoeng.
Food most urgent problem. No vegetables, milk for 14 days.
North area fairly quiet. 5 Dec. evacuation refugees from south
sector under Indonesians escort own troops continued. Existence
Indonesian strong points made it unlikely 500 nearly starving
people could be evacuated today. Air strike preceded by
leaflet drop planned for this afternoon. Target 2 buildings
converted into strong point. CRAS force. Report not yet
received 5/8 Punjab. Buitenzorg. 2200 hrs. 5 Dec. resident
of Buitenzorg arrived Battalion. Headquarters stated 250 men
arrived from Bantam District. Disturbances thought likely.
Resident request Military assistance only if civil police unable
handle mobs. Situation did not develop. 5 Dec. Sherman column
at Tjikupo evacuated Totbuitenzorg.
(b) N.T.R.
(c) Tac. H.Q.'s 36 ICI Brigades arrived Batavia Tac 36 moves
Buitenzorg 7 Dec. 5 Jat expected 7 Dec.
(d) Tac H.Q. 161 Inf. (? component) Batavia E 055 (or F 055).
East Java.
(a) 1. 9 Bde. 5 Dec. Mobile column 3 Jat plus 2 troops tanks to
Wonotjolo 4771 found ammunition dump including 105 mm. ammunition
mines and SAA at 481712. Dump destroyed whole area 468715
cleared by tanks column.
2. 123 Bde. 5 Dec. 3/9 gr. patrol area 4772 reports enemy
defence positions 468717 to 470723. Trenches with head cover
but no camouflage. Platoon patrol 2 west Yorks established firm
base Kandangan 4381. British Officer with section patrol moved
North along railway. 3 men returned from patrol report patrol
engaged from Bandoeng 421878. Withdrew down railway under
constant L.M.G. fire from 4286 and bridge 424859. Platoon patrol
sent to contact not successful. British Officer and 6 still
missing. 6 December patrol left Base to contact missing. Detail
awaited.
(b) Aircraft dropped news leaflets Paskerean 7038 (or 3038)
Bangli 5743 Modjokerto 1959, Madoeng 1841 Djonbank 4947, Kedrir
7219.
(c) 145 Field Regt. believed 3 Inf. Field Regt. 5 Dec.
(d) 1 Dogra less 4 Coys. 534806 2 Coys 525803 Coy. 494802 Coy.
Pakat 3882. 3 W Yorks Coy. 517719 H.Q. R.H. (or RV) 524862)
R.H.Q. 145 Field Regt. 542796. Sumatra N.T.R. all informed.
(A.F.N.E.I., 062315 to N.O.I.C.)

6.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

DOVEY
Frigate

H.M.S. DOVEY sailed for Chatham. U.K. at 061400. E.T.A. 18th December. (N.O.I.C. Bermuda, 061442Z to Admiralty.)

POLARIS,
PYRRHUS
M/S

Departure H.M.S. POLARIS and H.M.S. PYRRHUS 2000Z Thursday 6th December 1945, to Horta Fagal through positions (a) 43.10 N. 60.00 W. and 41.00 N. 45.00 W. thence to Ponta Delgada for onward routing Admiralty. (N.O.I.C. ~~SHEL~~BURNE, 061951Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)
Shelburne,

Far East and Australia

C.S.(4)
in
SWIFTSURE

C.S.4 (R) 4 in SWIFTSURE left Tokyo 6th (R) 6th December for Sydney. (2) C.C.A.S. in HOBART has assumed temporary Command of British Naval Forces in Japan until arrival of RAD British Pacific Fleet in TYNE 23rd December. (C. in C. B.P.F. 060620Z to Admiralty.)

Aircraft
for E.I.
or
Australia

A.M. 291210 November. 62 Seafire XV are already available in Australia and this is sufficient to re-arm and support IMPLACABLE. (2) It is presumed that Seafire XV being sent in VICTORIOUS are those for INDEFATIGABLE which is to be re-armed at Singapore whither PERSEUS is being sent to assist. A.M. 051144 (N.T. in W.D.) November refers. (3) Request VICTORIOUS may be routed accordingly. (F.O.N.A.P., 061157Z to Admiralty, F.O.Air E.I., C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. E.I.)

Return of
AUSTRALIA
(Cruiser)

My 061329 not to all. Following programme is proposed for return voyage.

Port	Arrive	Depart
Plymouth	-	20th December
Freetown	28th December	29th December
Durban	9th January	13th January
Fremantle	25th January	29th January
Adelaide	2nd February	6th February
Melbourne	7th February	14th February
Sydney	16th February	-

(2) Admiralty Officers have been consulted and concur. (AUSTRALIA, 061330 to A.C.N.B.)

6.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

Re Loan of
8 BATHURSTS
(M/S)
to Dutch

Your 170926*November (N.T. in W.D.). Agree to loan of 8 BATHURSTS to the Dutch for a period not exceeding three months, in the first place. (2) Admiralty are raising question of ultimate purchase with Dutch Government. (Hd. of M.I, 061539 to A.C.N.B.) See 071343. *r 182354 January r 060628 April 46.*

Policy
regarding
future of
Fremantle
Western
Australia

Your 270420/September to Admiralty only. Admiralty envisage no short term R.N. requirement for Fremantle as a Base after departure of Fourth Submarine Flotilla. (2) Our view regarding the future of Fremantle as a base is that, from the overall strategic point of view, it would clearly be undesirable to allow the facilities created to decay and completely to abandon maintenance dredging and we

consider that, in view of its strategic location, Fremantle should be so maintained at minimum cost that it would be capable of rapid expansion in emergency in order to maintain in war a fleet for long periods without return to the main support area. It is not, however, considered that the continued dredging of Fremantle to battleship depth would be justified in peace-time.

(3) For the purpose of implementing this policy and in the interests of economy the aim in our opinion, should be to arrange that the Naval facilities created in war are maintained, and, if possible, developed by the Port authority and commercial interests for their own use in peace. This is the policy we, for our part, are pursuing generally in regard to other war-time bases for which the United Kingdom is financially responsible and for which no Naval requirement exists in peace.

(4) We, therefore, suggest that the closing down and any commercial development of Fremantle should be carefully and continuously supervised by A.C.N.B. calling on the Admiralty for any advice which may be needed.

(5) As regards dredging at Cockburn Sound there is no longer any short term R.N. requirement for dredging and, it should cease unless you desire to continue to maintain the channels through Success and Parmelia Banks as a charge to Australian funds, your 290526 not to V.A.(Q) refers.

(6) Please pass your 270420 September to V.A. (Q) B.P.F. (Hd. of M.II, Approved, 061941 to A.C.N.B., Info. V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

6.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand - Contd.

List of Japanese Major War Criminals

Reference 83532 (AG3(VW) November seven received here by 3rd December.

(1) Following five in American custody:
Mr. Togo Shigenori General Homma Masaharu
Lieut. General Nakamaru Aketo
General Doihara Kenji,
all held in Tokyo. General Umezu Ushijiro held
in Manila.

(2) Following two dead:
Major General Hamada Hitoshi (suicide)
Admiral Ito Seiichi (natural causes)

(3) Following nine at large believed all in Japan:
Lieut. General Lida Shojiro, Lieut. General Sakai Takashi,
Lieut. General Uemura Mikio, Lieut. General Isogai Rensuke,
Admiral Nagano Osumi, Admiral Oikawa Koshiro,
Admiral Shimada Shigetaro, Admiral Kondo Nobutake,
Admiral Sawamoto Yorio.
(Bristas Tokyo, 060940Z to W.O.)

7.12.1945

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

PURSUER,
assault
carrier.

Intend to sail PURSUER 0900A/8th Dec. via
Necri routes to Clyde.

(2) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 12th Dec.

(7) PURSUER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 071206A to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

A.S.R. 21
relief.

My 062101 intend sailing KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE
to A.S.R. position No. 21 at 0700 Dec. 8th.

Relieves LANCASTER CASTLE patrols from Dec. 10th
to Dec. 21st.

(N.O.I.C. Freetown Q71207 to F.O.G.M.A.)

7.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

JED, frigate, Intend to sail JED at 1600B/7 to Alexandria for
on passage onward routeing Gibraltar and Plymouth in
from E.I. accordance with C. in C. E.I.S. 201242 Nov.
Stn. (3) S.O.A. as necessary to arrive Alexandria
0600B/8.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 070944B to F.O.L.E.M.)

TIPTOE, S/M, Intend to sail TIPTOE at 0900B/8th to Gibraltar
on passage for onward routeing Portsmouth in accordance with
to U.K. F.O. S/M's 011046 Dec.
(3) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 15, ship to
report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 071145B to F.O.G.M.A.)

STRIKER, Intend to sail STRIKER at 2100B/9 to Gibraltar
general pur- for onward routeing to U.K.
pose carrier, (3) S.O.A. 15 knots, E.T.A. p.m. 12, ship to
on passage report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
to U.K. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 071732B to F.O.G.M.A.)
from B.P.F.

SLINGER, Earliest possible arrival Clyde a.m. 23rd Dec.
general pur- (2) In view of fact that A. aircraft stores and
pose carrier, ammunition except depth charges have already been
on passage landed in Australia. B. No aircraft are carried.
to U.K. C. 460 ratings, passengers, are for depots in
from B.P.F. Southern Counties. D. Proximity of arrival date
to propose SLINGER calls at Devonport to disembark
all passengers except personnel of Monab 4 and to
discharge ratings due for release under age and
service groups, remaining long enough to adjust
complement before proceeding Clyde.
(SLINGER, 071800A to Admiralty.)

War Diary.

7.12.1945
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

SCOUT, Intend to sail SCOUT from Colombo p.m. 8th Dec.
destroyer Bombay for onward routing to U.K.
tender, for (C. in C. E.I., 070942 EF to F.O. Bombay.)
scrapping.

LONDON, Intend to sail LONDON at 1615C/7 to Colombo.
cruiser, (2) E.T.A. Colombo 0700 EF/12th.
trooping. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 071232 to C. in C. E.I.)

GORLESTON, After adjusting complement intend sailing
cutter, GORLESTON from Colombo 6th Jan. to Portsmouth to
for U.K. & prepare for redelivery to U.S. under lend-lease.
redelivery (C. in C. E.I., 071234 to Admiralty.)
to U.S.

Indian coal (1) P.S.T.O.(I) intends to revert the operation
stocks, con- including bunkering of hired transports to owners
trol of sup- from 31 Dec. '45 and to relinquish the control
plies for of Indian coal supplies for H.M. ships H.M.I.
H.M. and ships and hired transports from that date.
H.M.I. ships. (2) Arrangements are being made for the transfer
from P.S.T.O.(I) stocks of Indian coal for H.M.
and H.M.I. ships at Bombay, Karachi, Cochin,
Madras, Vizagapatam, Calcutta and Chittagong to
enable existing coal bunkering arrangements to continue until 31
March, 1946.

(3) From the commencement of the next financial year i.e. 1st
April 1946 it is intended to revert to the peacetime of contrac-
tors supplying Indian coal for H.M.I. ships at the respective
ports on a T.I.B. basis for which tenders will be called for
during January 1946.

(4) Request information whether you wish the Indian coal require-
ments for H.M. ships to be included in these contracts.

(5) Confirmation is also requested that the Director of Navy
Contracts London will make arrangements regarding Indian and
Welsh coal for H.M. ships at the port of Bombay as before.

(6) Request reply to my D.T.G. 151600 EF Nov. 1945 regarding
Admiralty Welsh Coal at Bombay.

(F.O. Bombay, 071235 EF to Admty., C. in C. E.I., P.S.T.O.(I))

Sitrep 692. First. Burma. 12th Army. 17 and 19 Div. N.T.R.
82 (W.O.) Div. Main Div. H.Q. opens 6 Dec. Gyobu
Reservoir QF 4008. 1 (W.A.) Bde. 6 Dec. convoy 15
marching troops arrived Sinda 0910 hrs. Convoy 17
marching tps. arrived mile 39 0930 hrs.
Second. Andamans. 116 Bde. N.T.R.
Third. Malaya. N.T.R.
Fourth. N.E.I. East Java. Sourabaya. 4 Dec. Mob. Coln. 3/2
Punjab moving south from firm base Waroe removed hundred pound bomb
prepared for electrical firing from BR 500676 another bomb and
four British Mk. two A/Tk. mines removed from rd. block 510672.
80 defenders fled leaving two 75 m.m. and one A.A. gun. Mob. coln.
1 Madras est. firm base 553707. Patrols to rd. junc. 545662 saw
no enemy. 5 Dec. Mob. coln. 3 J.A.T. moved west from Waroe into

40

7.12.1945
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Sitrep 692. area around Taman 4870 no enemy seen. Small
(Contd.) arms dump found and destroyed 468702 and 481712.
123 Bde. 4 Dec. Patrol 2/1 Punjab to Laban 3976.
Patrol 1 Dogra to Lontar 4478 and Sambikere 4378.
Neither patrol saw enemy. 5 Dec. 3/9 G.R.
patrol report enemy def. posn. 468717 to 470723 in trenches with
head cover but no camouflage. Pl. 2 West Yorks. est. firm base
Kandangan Redjo 4381. British Offr. with Sec. patrol moved north
along rly. Three men from patrol return report patrol engaged
from buildings 421878 and retired under constant fire. Pl.
patrol to contact missing offr. and six were unsuccessful. 6
Dec. Result unknown of further attempt to contact missing Offr.
and six. 145 Fd. Regt. arrived and relieved 3 Ind. Fd. Regt.
5 Dec. Locns. 1 Dogra Arnund 5080 2 West Yorks. 5286 143
(or 145) Fd. AMBD 5479. Central Java. N.T.R. West Java.
Batavia. Quiet. Bandoeng. Food urgent problem no vegetables
or K.D. for fourteen days. North sector fairly quiet. South
sector evac. for R.A.P.W.I. hindered. Indonesians strong point
in buildings. Air strike preceded by leaflet drop took place
6 Dec. result not yet known. Buitenzorg. Resident of
Buitenzorg called H.Q. 5/8 Punjab stated 200 and fifty
Indonesians arrived from Bantam district. Anticipated trouble
and asked for mil. assistance for police. Tac. H.Qs. 36 and 161
Bde. arrived Batavia. Tac. H.Q. 36 Bde. moves Buitenzorg 7 Dec.
Sumatra (Medan.) Japanese 2 Gds. Div. ordered to destroy
(?sply). dumps north of Simpang and conc. east and S.O. of
Koeala Simpang MF 77. Padang. Major A.S.K. Anderson B.M. 71
Bde. and Miss Allingham, Red Cross worker missing believed kid-
napped. Strong representations being made to Indonesian
residents and every effort being made to obtain infm. of where-
abouts.

Fifth. Siam. 7 Div. Dacouts active on GD Ubon-Paske
investigations proceeding.

Sixth. F.I.C. 20 Div. 32 Bde. and 80 Bde. N.F. 100 Bde. 5 Dec.
Coy. 4/10 GR engaged P.A.Y. three home-made guns RJ 2963
projectiles carried ten yds. no cas. French forces. 5 Dec.
forty rebels killed north of Long Hao RJ 0930 French cas. nil.
French suffered six killed eight wounded in clash Banmethout area.
(A.L.F.S.E.A., 071255 GH to W.O.)

BATHURST,
~~slops~~ for
P.G.

Your 212226* November and 281745+. Consider
BATHURST class ~~sloop~~ quite suitable as replacement
for gunboat though doubtful whether Persians have
sufficient trained personnel to maintain this type
of vessel. For this reason suggest H.D.M.L.
would be preferable.
(S.N.O. P.G., 071403D to Admty.)
* Request whether BATHURST class minesweeper
suitable to local conditions.
+ Recommendations as to suitable equivalent for
ships lost plus one of the gunboats loaned to R.I.N
now unserviceable in terms of BATHURSTs and for
H.D.M.Ls. requested S.N.O.P.G. 250917 refers.

/VIRGINIA...

7.12.1945
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies - Contd.VIRGINIA,
survey
vessel.

Intend sailing VIRGINIA for Aden for onward routing to U.K. at 0800 EF/8th Dec. C. in C. E.I. 051503 not to all refers.
(2) E.T.A. Aden 0530C/15th, S.O.A. 10 knots.
(F.O. Bombay, 071437 EF to Com. i/c Aden.)

Sitrep
No. 18.

To 1700 hours 7th Dec.
A. 32 Bde. 1/14 (or 9/14) Punjab. Govap (or Govap) Railway Station RJ 1959 destroyed by rebels 1130 (or 1030) hours this morning. 4/2 GR River Patrol exchanged fire with enemy in prepared positions West Bank River between 221612 and 216619 (or 216629). Own casualties nil, 1 rebel killed. 80 Bde. Nothing to report. 100 Bde. Thu Dau Mot. Convoy bringing in printing press attacked area 3175 at 1030 hours rebels fled when escort debussed and opened fire. Own casualties 2 killed, 11 wounded. Rebel casualties not yet known.
Bien Hoa. 2 I.O.Rs. slightly wounded by grenades yesterday evening. One perpetrator killed one wounded. Rebel attempt to fire aircraft on airfield frustrated by Jap. guard night 6/7 Dec.
Thu Duc. Coy. 4/10 GR arrested 38 suspects in suspected ambush position near railway station 278612.
French forces. Mytho Sector. Uai Dong RH 9200 seized 6th Dec. 2 rebels killed, 9 P.W. 17 hostages set free. Vinh Long-Cantho sector. S.A.S. Bn. 5 R.I.C. killed 20 rebels in action HGATU RN 4082. French casualties 2 wounded. Travinh RN 8052 captured by 5 R.I.C. yesterday. No further details.
B. Nothing to report.
C. Commander A.L.F. F.I.C. returned Saigon today from Singapore.
D. French forces. Lt. Cde. 5 R.I.C. returned Saigon from Ranan RH 8824 on relief by elements 2 Bn 5 R.I.C. F.S. SUFFREN landing party moved from R.A.C.H. Cat RJ 2521 to Than Tkui HA 4545 on relief by elements 2 Bn. 6 R.I.C. All informed.
(A.L.F. Saigon, 071930 to S.O. S.A.C.S.E.A., A.L.F.S.E.A., C. in C. India.)

Netherlands
East Indies.

Sitrep, A.F.R.I.C.I., 072245 Dec. to A.L.F.S.E.A.,
W.O., C. in C. E.I.F.
See Lion Copy.

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.

*Sitrep.**Netherlands East Indies*

From AFNEI

072245 December

Date 8.12.45.

Recd. 0330

CIPHER

Addressed ALFSEA, ADV. ECH. ALFSEA, War Office (for M.012)
 Info. Malaya Command, ALFFIC, ALFSIAM, S.A. C.S.E.A.,
 ACSEA., C. in C. E.I.F., Landforces Hong Kong,
 116 Ind. Inf. Bde., 5 Div., 23 Div., 26 Div.,
 5 Para. Bde. (Alfsea pass), A.O.C. R.A.F. N.E.I.,
 A.H.Q. R.A.F. N.E.I., 3 N.O.I.C. Batavia Force,
 136 H.Q. Div., 404 S.S.U.

EMERGENCY.

083996. 02397 cipher 7th December.

SITREP up to 1200 hrs. 7th December.

West Java.

A. Batavia. Generally quiet. Convoy to Buitenzorg departed and returned same day without incident.

Bandoeng. Object of ops. 6 Dec. to evac. 500 starving refugees from southern sector. Strongly defended and prepared defences were encountered. 3/3 Gr with Japanese tk. sp. commenced ops. 0700 hrs. By 0715 own tps. heavily engaged and enemy were infiltrating on flanks and in rear. At 1215 hrs. airstrike commenced which destroyed main point of opposition and own tps. continued their advance against minor opposition. Indonesians seen from air moving out south. Evac. of refugees began against increased opposition one coy. 6 Mahratta being sent up in reserve. Evac. completed by 1730 hrs. 480 refugees brought out. 140 of these previously abducted by Indonesians. Own cas. 3 GOR killed 9 wounded. Captured eqpt. incl. 5 T.M.Gs. 11 rifles 2 grens. 3/5 RGR continue patrol of sector. Semarang. Mortar bombs fired on airfield and small attack on Japanese post was repulsed.

Amaarawa. Enemy 75 mm gun active. 15 rounds fired into jail as convoy moved in to evac. refugees. Air strike carried on gun position late morning 7 Dec. 1300 PWI evac. 6 Dec. Buitenzorg remains quiet.

B. N.T.R.

C. Residues 3/10 GR and 4 Mahratta arrived Semarang by air.

D. Main H.Q. 36 Bde. and 5 JAT arrived Batavia proceeding Buitenzorg.

Contd./.....

- 2 -

Sumatra.

A. Padang. Minor incidents of sniping in which one BO visiting post was wounded. 1 Lincs. raided Avillale and 74 villagers detained for questioning in connection with British personnel reported missing. Report from H.M.S. NESS. Anchored off Benkoelen at 1000 hrs. 04 December. Jap Comdr and deputy Indonesian local leader interviewed. Jap report no incidents recently. Attitude local population friendly. Destruction of arms and ammn. dumps being carried out also W/T and radar installations. H.M.S. NESS sailing for Telgebetoeng today.

Medan N.T.R.

Palemban. N.T.R.

B, C, D. N.T.R.

East Java.

A. 1. 9 Ind. Inf. Bde. 6 Dec. Br. head south Wonokromo canal withdrawn to north bank canal. Night 6/7 Dec. N.T.R. Strong patrol 352 Punjab plus tp. tks. op. along road Waroe Taman to road junction 371663 reached Kletek 4569. 2 tks. and (?coy) less pl. due west to KS1 (or 15). Inf. engage area. 14 inflicted cas. and captured number of small arms. (?Owcun) area north of Waroe fired on. Patrol (word corrupt) area located 120/200 enemy south east of position and inflicted cas. No further details.

2. (?23) Ind. Inf. Bde. 6 Dec. Pl patrol 2 West Yorks to 424859 failed to find missing BO and 6 BORS. Base at Kandagan 4381 withdrawn. Pl 2 West Yorks plus tp. tks. to Bonowo 3883 encountered road blocks of railway trucks 386836 block removed. Cas. inflicted. Coy. 1 Dogra plus tks. established base after minor brush area 387837. No further incidents. Night 6/7 Dec. and 7 Dec. N.T.R.

3. 165 (or 161) Ind. Inf. Bde. N.T.R.

A, B, N.T.R.

C. Relief of 161 Ind. Inf. Bde. by arty. (?JAN) complete. Remainder 3 Yks. Fd. Regt. sailed Semahanf 6th December.

D. 1/50000. 9 Ind. Inf. Bde. to 3/2 Punjab coy. Kalijas (or Kalimas) canal junction 534742 to 523764 coy. 534762 to excl. road junction on 548758 remainder no change. 123 Ind. Inf. Bde. 1 Dogra coy. 387837. 3/9 (?UR) Coy 553763 (or 503984) remainder no change. Arty. (?5) Ind.

Contd/.....

RESTRICTED.

IN

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- 3 -

(?JD) Regt. less two btn. 511851 (?GR) S524867 S316840
coy MG Dogra (word corrupt) coy. arty. 536838.

072245.

Note by C.6 Tels. Message delayed through being corrupt.

Received in War Reg. at 1340/8, circulated by C.6 Tels to W.O. Depts. and Defence Office, Cabinet War Room, Defence Map Room, H.W.R. Admiralty, Duty Officer (Upper Admiralty War Room), A.M.C.S. (Air Ministry), S. of S. Foreign Office, S. of S. (India Office), Brig. Reynolds (India Office)(2)

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L. (3)
- D.F.S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (C)
- A.C.N.S. (A)(2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- D. Map Room
- D.C. (2)
- D.S.O.
- O.D. (9)
- O.I.C. (2)
- D.N.I. (7) and for D.N.L.O. (2)
- D. of P. (3)
- D. of P. (Q)(3)
- D.T.A.S.W. (3)
- D.C.O.D. (7)
- M. (2)
- C.N.I. (2)
- C.C.L.S.
- W.D.
- Ad. Blake

7.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

British Honduras Frontier incident. WEAR, frigate, to be available.

Following has been received from Commander North Caribbean Area by W.O.:-
"British Honduras Police report arrival of 400 Guatemaeon Infantry near frontier opposite Benque Viejo for stopping smuggling. 4 Guatemaeon aircraft have frequently flown over our Cayo district lately. American officer attached Guatemaeon air force reports them in possession of 35 planes. Hostile press and radio campaign continues. Only 2 R.A.F. Dakotas at Nassau. Governor and some inhabitants British Honduras apprehensive and feel neglected. I consider invasion unlikely but not impossible. Suggest aircraft carrier passing in Atlantic should show flag at Belize and flights over Cayo."
(2) If convenient, request WEAR visits Jamaica in the near future so as to be available if required.
(Secretary V.C.N.S., 072201 to S.B.N.O. W.At.)

Far East and Australia.

R.N.Z.N. re policy personnel & suitability of DIDO class cruisers.

In order that planning of future personnel requirements in the R.N.Z.N. may be progressed, it would be appreciated if the Admiralty could give an expression of their opinion, without necessarily committing themselves to the proposals contained in my Navy 658 of 29th Nov. 290305, as to the suitability of DIDO class cruisers in the R.N.Z.N. This is Navy No. 742 Dec. 7th.
(N.Z.N.B., 070003Z to H.C.N.Z., Admty.)

M/S Forces strength in B.P.F.

My 230225 not to all. Estimate that minesweeping tasks can be completed by March, 1946 with sweepers now with or proceeding to join B.P.F.
(2) Consider therefore that third M.S.F. will not be required, and that eighth M.S.F. can be returned to Mediterranean without relief in March.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 070031Z to Admty.)

ERNE, A.A. sloop, reduced escort forces B.P.F.

My 270534* para. 3. ERNE has been selected for return U.K. and date of sailing and route will be signalled shortly.
ERNE's starboard L.P. turbine is out of balance. It is considered both starboard H.P. and L.P. turbines require re-balancing dynamically before ship is fully operational and complete renewals of gearing will be (?required) shortly.
Return of ERNE and ENCHANTRESS (my 050737 not to all) will reduce escort force to 16 craft including AIRE, Admty.'s 031220 not to all refers.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 070731Z to Admty., Capt. Escort Force B.P.F., F.O.W.A.B.P.F.)

/R.A.P.W.I....

7.12.1945
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSFar East and Australia - Contd.

- R.A.P.W.I. 5th Dec. refer my 300544Z November.
Sitrep No. 13. (2) North China Shanghai fit and ready R.A.P.W.I. fit for U.K. 650 Australia 50 Tientain fit and ready R.A.P.W.I. 162 Tsing Tao fit and ready R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. 20 for Hongkong 18 R.A.P.W.I. deferred in N. China for U.K. 651 Australia 116 Hongkong 23 also at Shanghai Indians for Madras 550 for lifting LOTHIAN and GLENEARN see Mov. items 2 9 16 and 17.
(3) Hongkong R.A.P.W.I. fit and ready for U.K. 51 Europe, 10 Australia, 24 U.S.A., 5 Canada, 3 S. Africa, 1 India, 5 Singapore, 7 R.A.P.W.I. cot cases for U.K., 3 Australia, 1 S. Africa, 1 R.A.P.W.I. deferred for U.K., 235 Australia, 61 India, 5 Europe, 63 Malaya, 22 W. Indies and Central America, 72 also int. deferred for Central and S. America, 158 Indian Police and dependants for Madras, 400 ready after 20th Dec., see Mov. Item 17
(4) Hanoi R.A.P.W.I. French 8700.
(5) Kwangchow Wan R.A.P.W.I. French 75, Annamites 124, see Mov. Item 15.
(6) Hainan R.A.P.W.I. for India 1, also Chinese for Hongkong 5000
(7) Manila R.A.P.W.I. for U.K., 1 Canada, 1 U.S., 7 doubtful, 4 Dutch sick R.A.P.W.I. 61 fit int. 31 fit P.O.W. being dealt with by Dutch 141 see Mov. Item 4.
(8) Rabaul information for 5th Dec. not received see my 300544 Nov. para. 8 and Mov. Item 7.
(9) Australia fit and ready P.O.W. for U.K. 478 Hongkong 116 Malaya 9 New Zealand 20 India includes 55 Indians 60 Java 3 Canada 2 Shanghai 4 int. for U.K. 38 deferred. P.O.W. 169 int. 1373 sick P.O.W. at Sydney, 73 Fremantle 12 Brisbane Indians 49 sick int. at Sydney 34, of sick, following ready for H.S. lift, remainder deferred till ready for transport lift for U.K. 32 India 49, see Mov. Items 5, 6, 20.
(10) New Zealand R.A.P.W.I. fit for U.K. 5 Singapore 1 S. Africa 1 R.A.P.W.I. deferred sick for U.K. 96 Australia 4 Hongkong 8 India 1 Singapore 1 Canada 1 China 3 Newfoundland 1 Malta 1 Ceylon 1 uncertain 3.
(11) Comphilseafon pass to S.B.N.L.O. Phil., Admty. pass to W.O. (C. in C. B.P.F., 070757Z to Admty., A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., etc.)

C. in C.B.P.F. Departed Fremantle 11(35?)Z 7th Dec. DUKE OF YORK in DUKE OF wearing the flag of C. in C. B.P.F. accompanied YORK for by WHIRLWIND and WAGER for Singapore E.T.A. 2230Z/ Singapore. 13th Dec. S.O.A. 15 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 071136Z to C. in C. E.I.S.)

Release of Royal Marine personnel, 3rd Commando Brigade. Following for Chiefs of Staff. Reference your 7042 D.T.G. 051755.
(1) Request (?ruling) whether release of Royal Marine personnel applies to corresponding age and service groups for army personnel in 2 Army Commandos of three Commando Brigade.
(2) In view of C.O.S.S.E.A. 425 D.T.G. 051715 and consequent delay in arrival of additional brigade following are requirements allowing for immediate releases and those groups who have to be in U.K. by 1st Feb.
A. Royal Marine personnel only officers 14 N.C.Os. (?65) Marines 296. B. Royal Marine and Army together officers 24 N.C.Os. 136 Marines and privates 394.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Release of Royal Marine personnel, 3rd Commando Brigade. (Contd.)

(3) Understand that a certain number of Commando personnel are available in India as replacements. Request they all be sent Hongkong now. (C. in C. Hongkong, 071316Z to Cabinet Offices.) The following from Chiefs of Staff. Reference your T.O.O. 010422Z and our 7042 of 5th December.

(1) 800 Royal Marine Commando personnel are available for despatch early Jan. 1946. This will include one new Royal Marine Commando unit and reinforcements for existing Royal Marine Commandos.

(2) On arrival present Army Commandos should be amalgamated and will not be reinforced. Further reinforcements will be despatched as necessary to maintain 3 Royal Marine Commandos. You will thus have during present transitional period a Royal Marine Commando Brigade of 3 Royal Marine Commandos kept up to strength and one Army Commando in addition which will waste in due course.

(3) C. in C. India is requested to despatch immediately reinforcements at present held at Commando base, Lake Beale, to No. 3 Commando Brigade at Hongkong. (Cabinet Offices, 071330Z to C. in C. Hongkong, C. in C. India, S.A.C.S.E.A., C. in C. B.P.F.)

Loan of 8 BATHURST's M/S to Dutch. A.M. 061539 Dec. Request report names of ships to be transferred as soon as possible. (Hd. of M.I 071343 to A.C.N.B.)

A/S training S/Ms to return to U.K. Your No. 1149/B.P.F./1428 /Ops. Approved to sail VORACIOUS, VIRTUE, VOX to U.K. as soon as convenient. Concur that as, a temporary measure, A/S Training in Australia should be carried out by submarines from the China Flotilla. (V.C.N.S., 072112 to C. in C. B.P.F.) *See 130342*

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

26th D.F. Intend to sail D.26 in SAUMAREZ with VIGILANT, VIRAGO, VERULAM, VENUS, VOLAGE in company 0500A/9th Dec. to U.K.
(2) Speed 13 knots, E.T.A. SAUMAREZ and VENUS at Plymouth 1500Z/12 Dec., VIRAGO at Chatham 1000Z/13 Dec., VIGILANT and VERULAM at Harwich 1300Z/13 Dec. VOLAGE at Portsmouth 0800Z/13th December.
(7) D.26 acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 081129A to N.O.I.C. Sheerness, Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

SPUR, S/M. Intend to sail SPUR 1430Z/8 Dec. via Necri routes to Rothesay.
(2) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 14 Dec.
(7) SPUR acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O. Gibraltar, 081145A to Admty.)

R.T. NIMBLE, broken down with tow THORSHOVDI, tanker. Following from NIMBLE.
"Will you pass this to Gibraltar please. Immediate. From NIMBLE to F.O.G.M.A. (R) C. in C. Med. Engines broke down. Tug and tow drifting with tow parted. Consider earliest assistance necessary. Last position 38.00 N. 06.50 E." Position now 38.01 N. 07.06 E.
(SS. GEN. BLATCHFORD, 081217 to F.O.G.M.A.)
See 091610 and 101208.

South Atlantic.

Stn. 22 A.S.R. relief. Intend sailing FAL to A.S.R. Station 22 at 0700/9th relieve CAISTOR CASTLE patrols from 11th - 22nd December.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 081133 to F.O.G.M.A., Admty.)

A.S.R. 21. Departure KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE 0700 for A.S.R. position 21.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 081331 to Admty.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

L.S.T. 3002 Intend to sail L.S.T. 3002 at 0600B/9 to Aden and Bombay.
on passage (2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
to E.I. (3) Speed 9 knots ship to report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 080855B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

SOLEBAY, Sail at 1300A/12th Dec. to Gibraltar for onward routing to Greenock routed by appropriate Medri and Necri routes.
destroyer, (2) Speed 13½ knots, E.T.A. Gibraltar 0900A/15th depart p.m. (4) Acknowledge.
on passage (C. in C. Med., 081205 to SOLEBAY.)
to U.K.

AJAX to A requirement has arisen for a cruiser to escort River Plate SS. HIGHLAND MONARCH when she leaves the River Plate carrying German internees ex GRAF SPEE, probably between 7th and 21st February.
as escort to (2) It is most suitable that AJAX should be the ship selected, and she would be required to leave SS. HIGHLAND MONARCH with ex German internees from Gibraltar about 10th Jan. so as to complete visits to Montevideo and Buenos Aires by the date of embarkation. Request your remarks.
GRAF SPEE. (3) A guard of 2 officers and 50 other ranks Royal Marines would be required to embark in AJAX for

duty in HIGHLAND MONARCH on the return voyage to U.K. It is suggested that this requirement could best be met by providing personnel due for repatriation from the Mediterranean under the release scheme or longest abroad roster.
(4) In addition, it is desired to give passage to South America to certain British officials and service repatriates up to the total numbers which could reasonably be accommodated as well as the Royal Marine guard. Such passengers would be embarked at Gibraltar or Malta according to outward passage arrangements. Request you will include in your reply the number for which accommodation could be made available.

A. Officers status. B. Other ranks.
(5) In the event of reinforcement of the Mediterranean becoming necessary during the absence of AJAX a cruiser would be provided from the Home Fleet.

(V.C.N.S., 081543 to C. in C. Med.) See 101702, and 161448.

Visit of Intend following programme for SIRIUS. All times B.
F.O.L.E.M. Arrive Place Depart
to Jedda, etc. Blank Alexandria 1645/9th Dec.
to meet King 0700/10th Dec. Port Said daylight 13th Dec
Ibn Saud. p.m. 13th Dec. Suez p.m. 13th Dec.
1200/15th Dec. Jedda p.m. 17th Dec.
a.m. 18th Dec. Port Sudan 0900/20th Dec.
0800/22nd Dec. Suez 0900/22nd Dec.
p.m. 22nd Dec. Port Said p.m. 22nd Dec.
a.m. 23rd Dec. Haifa blank.
(2) My 280916 Nov. and 241208 Nov. neither to all refer.
(F.O.L.E.M., 081620 to C. in C. Med.) See 111157.

/11th M/S F....

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

11th M.S.F. S.N.O.R.S.C.A. 061745. Time of departure from Suez 2015B/8. E.T.A. Aden 0545C/14. (M.S. 11, 082019B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Transfer of H.M. ships and equipment to Turks. Your 271745B November. Every effort is being made to expedite delivery within limits of available resources. (2) INCONSTANT is due to complete at Devonport on 22nd Dec. ex trials and it is hoped to notify E.T.A. at Istanbul very shortly. (3) ORIBI is being taken in hand for alterations to accommodation to suit Turkish requirements and should complete February 1946. (4) Delay to sailing of BURAK REIS has been largely due to industrial trouble over which Admiralty have no control. The Turkish Naval Attache has now been given a detailed programme for completing trials which should allow of sailing at approx. the same date as INCONSTANT. (5) Signal regarding M.Ls. and M.M.Ss. follows. (Hd. of M.I., 082247 to B.N.A. Ankara.) See 101800B, 102118.

+ 071825B Jan/46

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Movements

Arrivals Singapore 7th Dec. ARIADNE, ROSEBAY.
Departures HOWE, LOCH ECK, BIGBURY BAY, CAMBRIAN,
TRODDAY B.Y.M.S.
(F.O. Malaya, 081201 to Admty).

**PATROLLER
Escort
Carrier.**

In order to make full use of opportunity for
lifting passengers to U.K. intend to defer
departure of PATROLLER from Colombo for Aden
to 21st Dec.
(C. in C. E.I., 081431EF to F.O. Ceylon).

**RESOURCE
Heavy
repair ship.**

Intend to sail RESOURCE at 0800C/9th to Suez for
U.K.
2. E.T.A. Suez 0600B/13th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 081704C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements

Arrived RAJAH, RESOURCE, AWE M.F.V. 1170, 1060,
1114, departed RAJAH.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 081749 to C. in C. E.I.)

Sitrep No.19.

084076 0 2368 Cipher 8 Dec. Secret, to 1700 hrs
8 December.
A. 32 Bde. NTR. 80 Bde. NTR. 100 Bde. Bien Hoa.
Mobcol 14 FF Rif swept area of yesterdays
incident at 3175. Nes. Locals report many Viet Miyh areas Ben
Nom 7091 and Tuc Taung 8592. Thu Duc. Convoy again sniped
area 3370. Rebels dispersed on being engaged. Cas. unknown.
Own cas. nil. French (?forces). Banmethuot area. Approx 20
tons ammunition found in Annamite village this area. Strong
cone rebels reported 3 kms. North East of Benmethuot. Cantho
area. Omon B.M. 9372 captured 7 Dec. by elements 5 RIC.
strong oppsn. met incl. many blockhouses and land mines.
French troops were supported by F.S. ANNAMITE and F.S. GAZELLE.
100 rebels killed. French cas. (?2) wounded. 40 rifles and
misc. equipment captured. Admin buildings and public utilities
destroyed by Annamites before leaving. B C D NTR. All informed.
(Alffic, 081805GH to W.O.)

Note: Received in War Registry at 1210/9th December and circu-
lated by War Office.

**Sitrep.
Netherlands
East Indies.**

To 1200 (or 1900) hrs. 8 Dec.
West Java. A. Batavia. Centre sector, 0830 hrs.
7 Dec. patrol 1 Patiala ambushed when investiga-
ting shots fired Djagal area D.345. Two I.O.Rs.
wounded patrol pinned. Rfts. One Coy. 1 Patiala
sent and heavily fired on from houses Kramat Road.

One tp. 11 Cav. sent out 1100 hrs. and with coy. relieved patrol
cleared houses. L.M.G's and Mors. used. Recovered one VCO one
BOR six IORS body of R.A.F. BOR two mil. vehs. Tps. withdrawn
1700 hrs. 1730 and 1800 hrs. few shots fired but area remains
quiet. Own cas. total killed one R.A.F. BOR wounded one offr.
five IORS. Afternoon 7 Dec. one coy. 1/16 Punjab with tp. 11
Cav. searched Kramat Leywarsat-Oe (or Lontarsat-Oe) Dock area.
2100 hrs. and 2150 hrs. Indonesians estimated at twp. pls.

/attacked...

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Sitrep. attacked Number 2 Dock with L.M.Gs. grens.
 Netherlands Attack repulsed by 6/8 Punjab. Own cas. nil.
 East Indies. Bandoeng. Revised cas. figures fighting 6 Dec.
 (contd.) Own tps. (?10) GORS killed, eleven wounded. 7
 Dec. Generally quiet. Convoy Ran Andir Airfield
 without opposition four Dutch kidnapped Andir area
 and thirty six refugees evac. without incident
 from same area by own tps. Reported that Dutch internees fired
 two houses as reprisal for previous arrest Dutch offenders by
 own tps. Dutch ex P.O.W. tps. called out deal with Dutch looters
 in Laetary. N.W. sector still continues hostile. Indonesian
 tps. Area to be cleared today.
 Samarang. Incidents night 6/7 Dec. 2200 hrs. twenty Indonesians
 unsuccessfully attacked H.Q. of British and (?Jap) tps. in
 armed band of two hundred engaged and scattered by own tps.
 perimeter airfield believed Indonesians trying infiltrate into
 town. Own tps. cleared Kampongs area RV 941. Immediately to
 east of BR RV 343114. SUSSEX has sailed replaced by NORFOLK.
 Ambarawa. (8 groups corrupt) today. 7 Dec. seven hundred and
 forty six R.A.P.W.I. four hundred Eurasians evac. following air
 attack on gun point strike rendered effective. Patrols sent
 Toentang, WB 0082 Djetak WA 909857 respectively N.E. and N.W. of
 town. Considerable Indonesian conc. at (4 groups corrupt).
 B. N.T.R.
 C. N.T.R.
 D. H.Q. 36 Bde. 5/8 Punjab 5 at Buiten Dworg (?Buitenzorg).
 East Java. A. Mob patrol road Jaroe to Taman (or Taoan) met
 200 enemy in position 440695. Engaged enemy fled north. Several
 killed many wounded. 2 L.M.G. 30 rifles 4 pistols 3 stens captured
 Own cas. 2 IORs killed 7 wounded. Own patrols moving west to
 area Bobob 3382 (2 groups corrupt) arms and am. in area engaged
 enemy inf. withdrew north into close country. BR. 327820
 prepared for demolition charges removed. Coy. West Yorks.
 plus tp. tks. op west along Grissee road to BR 420880.
 B: Tac. R. Mosquito shot down (?near) 4288, crew killed.
 C. N.T.R.
 D. 1 Madras (7 groups corrupt) 3 (2 groups corrupt) 552778.
 Sumatra. A. Padang. Bodies of Major Anderson BM.71 Bde. and
 Miss Allingham Red Cross worker found foully murdered buried in
 shallow graves 361821. Investigation continuing.
 B. C. D. N.T.R. All informed.
 (Alfnei, 082240 to Alfsea).

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

C.V.Es. Your 062204*N.T. in W.D.
returning to Navy Department confirm in the circumstances that
U.S.A. vessel can be accepted at Norfolk on arrival.
They would, however, appreciate it if the nine C.
V.Es. mentioned in my 052113 could be sailed to
arrive at Norfolk on the dates requested as some
difficulty is anticipated in accepting the
vessels if they arrive before then.
(B.A.D., 080255Z to Admty).
* EMPIRE LAGAN sailed 6th Dec. for Norfolk V.A.

U.S.S.AUGUSTA Your 052143. Confirmed necessary arrangements
with ashes are being made.
of late Lord (Hd. of M. Br.II, 081338 to B.A.D. Washington).
Lothian.

British Your 072201. H.M.S. WEAR is at present under-
Honduras going repairs and would be available to sail for
Frontier Jamaica on 12th Dec. without refrigerator or
incident. 15th Dec. complete with refrigerator, unless
WEAR frigate urgency is considered to be sufficient for early
available. sailing. Propose she should sail Saturday 15th
Dec.
(S.B.N.O.W.At., 081457Z to Admty). Appd. 091218.

Far East & Australia

R.A.P.W.I. Mov. 5th Dec. Refer my 300543Z Nov.
No.13. 2. H.S. TJITJALENGKA at Shanghai E.T.D. 7th
Dec. lifting sick R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. and Europe
54 Indians for Madras 156 programme Singapore
E.T.A. 16 Dec. E.T.D. 19th Dec. lifts further
sick R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. 20 India 10 Madras E.T.A. 25th Dec.
E.T.D. 27th Dec. Colombo E.T.A. 30th Dec. E.T.D. 2nd Jan for S.
Africa and U.K. lifts sick at Durban for U.K.140.
3. H.S. GERUSALEMME at Fremantle E.T.D. mid Dec. to lift sick
for Malaya then temporarily to act as base H.S. Singapore.
4. H.S. VASNA E.T.A. Manila 10th Dec. to lift Dutch sick
R.A.P.W.I. 61 fit Int. 31 to Hong Kong for onward passage.
5. H.S. MAUNGANUI E.T.A. Fremantle 8th Dec. thence to Colombo
and U.K. lifting sick R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. and Europe 189
(9 ex Fremantle) see Sitrep Item 9.
6. H.S. KAROA at Sydney thence to Brisbane lifts sick R.A.P.W.I.
ex MAUNGANUI for India 38 also sick Indians 10 from Brisbane
lifts further sick Indians 49 and fit Indians 55 thence to
Rabaul and India see Sitrep item 9.
7. H.S. AMARAPOORA E.T.A. Rabaul 9th Dec. thence to Singapore
and India.
8. H.M.S. GLORY expected time of arrival Sydney 12th Dec.
lifting Australians for Australia.

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

- R.A.P.W.I. Mov. No. 13. (contd.)
9. HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN E.T.A. Hong Kong 20th Dec. approx. available for lift of R.A.P.W.I. from China to U.K.
 10. DUNERA sailed Shanghai 29th Nov. for India with Indian Police and dependants 906 and Indians for Madras 504.
 11. H.M.S. FORMIDABLE at Sydney E.T.D. end of Dec. with sick for South Africa from Sydney and Fremantle.
 12. H.M.S. IMPLACABLE at Sydney E.T.D. 8 Dec. for Wewak for lift of Australians to Australia.
 13. CIRCASSIA sailed Manila 5th Dec. with Dutch 2200 for Balikpapan.
 14. CHESHIRE at Brisbane lifts Chinese 1600 to Hong Kong E.T.A. 18th Dec. ship then allocated to lift Indians from China Coast to India.
 15. H.M.S. GUARDIAN at Hong Kong for Kwangchow Wan thence to Saigon lifting French Nationals 75 Anamites 125.
 16. H.M.S. LOTHIAN at Shanghai E.T.D. shortly for India with R.A.P.W.I. 40 and Indians for Madras see Sitrep Item 2.
 17. H.M.S. GLENEARN at Hong Kong E.T.D. 10th Dec. lifting Indian Students 44 thence to Shanghai E.T.A. 14th Dec. for lift of Indians to Madras see Sitrep Item 2.
 18. SAMHAIN sailed Hong Kong early Dec. lifting Indian Police and dependants for Madras 400.
 19. SAMSTRULE sailed Hong Kong early Dec. for Vancouver lifting R.A.P.W.I. Canadian and American 15.
 20. AQUITANIA E.T.D. Sydney 10th Dec. with fit P.O.W. for U.K. 357 sick R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. ex Sydney 20 ex Fremantle 3 Int. for U.K. 38 see Sitrep Item 9.
 21. Comphlseafnon pass to S.B.N.L.O. Phil Admiralty pass to War Office.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 080030 to Admty. A.C.N.B.)

Visit of
T.R.H.
Duke and
Duchess of
Gloucester
to Tasmania
in KING
GEORGE V.

- Intend H.M.S. KING GEORGE V leave Jervis Bay p.m. 7th Jan. conveying T.R.H. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and retinue to Hobart E.T.A. p.m. 9th Jan.
2. It would seem appropriate that ship should remain a few days at Hobart after this mission.
3. Subject to concurrence of C. in C. E.I. and A.C.N.B. propose H.M.S. KING GEORGE V leave Hobart a.m. 15th Jan. for E.I. Station calling Fremantle 20th Jan. for fuel.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 080259Z to C. in C. E.I., A.C.N.B.) Concur, 101153. See 171553 + 070747 JAN.

51(69)-1

Rec'd Jan 21

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.)

080745Z/December

From C.S. 2

Date 8/1/46

Time 2119

O.T.P.

Addressed B.A.D. Washington

Info: C. in C. B.P.F., F.O.W.A. B.P.F., S.O. Force T.

IMPORTANT
GUARD

mid
C. in C. B.P.F.'s 150825/November.

Further information now received from B.N.L.O. SCAP the case of HSIN YANGTSE was not repetition not referred to Washington in the first instance but this is now being done. For information SCAP is strongly recommending that this ship should not be returned to owners but should be employed as repatriation ship. British ownership is a conflicting query but it is confirmed that this is entirely correct. HSIN YANGTSE is registered with Lloyd's Official No. 155840. Observing that ship is less than one thousand tons and that it was built for and has been exclusively employed as Pilot vessel it seems wrong and inadvisable that this ship should be diverted to repatriation work from the special duties for which she is urgently required in Hang Chow Bay.

080745Z

NOTE: Presumably passed by B.A.D. Washington for information.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (0)
P.A.S. (3)
D.O.D. (5)
D.C. (2)
Hd. of M. (2)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q) (3)
D. of S.T. (6)
D.T.D. (4)
D.N.I. (4)
Ad. Blake
D.D.I.C. (2)

MMB/
96

WD —

War Diary

9.12.1945
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

NIZAM
destroyer
on passage
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail NIZAM 1700A/9th Dec. via Necri
routes to Chatham.
(2) Speed 15 knots. E.T.A. p.m. 13th Dec.
(7) NIZAM acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 091130A to N.O.I.C. Sheerness,
Admiralty, NIZAM.)

RANEE
trooping
to F. East

Sail at 1600Z to comply with C. in C. Portsmouth's
041523Z.
(2) Speed 16 knots. E.T.A. First light 12th
December.
(5) RANEE acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A., 091222A to F.O. Malta.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

BUCHAN
NESS
M.S. (L.C.)
Maintenance
ship on
passage to
E.I. T. of D. Suez 0940B. E.T.A. Aden 0900C December
14th.
(BUCHAN NESS 090951B to Aden).

EMPRESS
Assault
Carrier
Trooping. Intend to sail EMPRESS at 2000B/9th to Malta
for onward routeing Gibraltar and Gourock
C. in C. E.I.S. 261830/refers.
3. S. of A. 15 knots E.T.A. a.m. 12th EMPRESS
to report accurate E.T.A. to C. in C. Med.,
when known.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 091050B to C. in C. Med).

JED
Frigate on
passage from
E.I.S. Sail to pass position 309 at 1100B/10th Dec.
and proceed to Gibraltar for onward routeing to
U.K.
(3) Speed 13 knots.
(4) E.T.A. Gibraltar 0700A 16th Dec.
(6) Acknowledge.
(F.O.L.E.M., 091136B to JED, Admty. C. in C. Med).

SS. THORSHOVD
(tanker) in
distress. Intend proceeding to assistance Tanker THORSHOVD
reported in distress 38.07 N., 07.00 E. My
position 37.11 N., 10.50 E. course 282° speed
16 knots.
(KALE, 091240 to V.A. Malta).

R.T. NIMBLE
broken down. Neither Tug nor Tow require further assistance.
Proceeding Naples. E.T.A. 1330A/10th.
(GEN. BLATCHFORD, 091610 to Comnavaw).

See 081217

War Diary9.12.1945.
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

B.Y.M.S. Intend to sail B.Y.M.S. 2205 (S.O.), 2043, 2015,
 → Movements. 2244 at 1200C/9th to Bombay.
 2. E.T.A. Bombay 1430EF/16.
 (N.O.I.C. Aden, 091140C to C. in C. E.I.)
See 091814 below

Sitrep No.20. 084125. To 1700 hrs. 9th Dec.
 A. Brit. tps. NTR. French Forces. Southern
 Sector. 4 clashes resulted 68 rebels killed.
 Gren. factory destroyed.
 B. CD. NTR. All infm.
 (Alffic, 091645Z to W.O., Saceea etc).

DART Intend to sail DART at 0800C/10th to Suez for U.K.
 Frigate on 2. E.T.A. Suez 2199B/15th.
 passage to (Aden, 091701 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
 U.K. for Reserve.

S/MS TALENT, Sailed TALENT and TALLY HO direct to Hong Kong.
 and TALLY HO 2. Reporting E.T.A. position AD to F.O.M.F.A.
 on passage and E.T.A. and requirement Hong Kong to Com.
 from Colombo. Hong Kong in due course.
 (C. in C. E.I., 091735 to N.O.I.C. Hong Kong,
 C. in C. B.P.F.)

Movements Arrived DART, MICHAEL, . . . MINSTREL. Departed
 → SIGFRA, SIMBRA, B.Y.M.S. 2205, 2015, 2244, 2043.
 (N.O.I.C. Aden, 091814 to C. in C. E.I.,
 S.N.O.R.S.C.A., Admty).

Sitrep, 084227. 0/2016 cipher 9th Dec. For M.O.12.
 N.E.I. To 1200 hours 9th Dec.
 A. Batavia. Shooting occurred dockyard area.
 Also minor clash Kpamat area. 8 (or 1) Coy.
 1 Patrols with troop (?1 (or 11)) Cav. cleared
 area against opposition. Intermittent shooting during night.
 Supplies convoy left for Bandoeng with escort. Relief escort
 taking over Buitenzorg. Resident (or ?President) refused entry
 of 36 Bde. into Palace. 5 Jat Coy. entered by force against
 slight S.A.A. fire. Lota Aris Camp SW of Topp attacked during
 night by approx. 50 Indonesians. (?3) Ind. (?Fd.) Regt. less 1
 battery landed today Batavia proceeding Buitenzorg (?earliest).
 (?Bangoeng). Situation much quieter. 3/3 GR cleared NW sector
 removing (?barricades) without cas. (?No corrupt) A/Tk. mines
 some rifles found extremists H.Q. Seaesang. Airfield fired on
 from west 9 (or 8) coy. despatched to clear area. 1 M.M.G.
 captured. Norfolk and Caprice engaged targets east of town.
 Ambaraha. Air strike 7 Dec. scored direct hit on pln. position.
 Own patrol Toei yang WB 0082 returned having captured 5 L.M.Gs.
 and large quantity S.A.A. 1350 R.A.P.W.I. evacuated. Camp.
 staffs. 400 Chinese and stores to be cleared estimate 3 days.
 B. N.T.R.
 C. 1 Coy. 4 Rajput to Buitenzorg for temporary duty.
 3 Ind. Fd. Regt. disembarked Tandjong Priok.
 D. N.T.R.

/Sumatra...

9.12.1945.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Sitrep. Sumatra. A. Padang. Tnban village M.R. 2833
N.E.I. searched 2 houses containing primers and
(contd.) explosives burnt. Action taken to destroy
villages to which murderers of Major Anderson
and Miss Allingham belonged and of which all
inhabitants must have been accessories before or
after. Several persons in possession of arms resisting arrest
or trying to escape shot. Some of these reliably identified
as assistants in murders. Day curfew imposed Padang during
funeral well observed. Indonesian moderate leaders and reps Jap.
25 Army requested permission to attend funeral. 5000 Indonesians
concentrated airfield Tandjoeng area no arms except spears.
Now dispersed.
B. - D. N.T.R. Report from H.M.S. NESS arrived Teloekebetoeng
met local Jap Commander. Jap strength 6000 considerable amount
of arms and amn. incl. some ex Allied arms. No incident
reported this area since clash between Jap. convoy and
Indonesians on 18th Nov.
East Java. A. 9 Inf. Bde. 8 Dec. 1 Madras 2 Coy. patrols
Leatched area bounded by railway road junc. 38806 Rly. 538840
(or 538820) road junc. 576813 road junc. 561804 Rly. road junc.
538802 (or 538806). Found few arms some amn. in deserted houses.
123 Bde. 8 Dec. 3/9 GR coy. patrol advanced to (?475723) from
478824 (or 478727) without opposition. Brit. Offr. and 1
Platoon patrol to Balas 4772 west to 455728 south east to bridge
470720 fired on 465722 by approx. 20 enemy incl. 1 L.M.G. from
465770 (or 465720). Arty. engaged enemy withdrew. Position
occupied. Mobile column coy. 2 West Yorks 2 Troop tasks along
Grissee road clear to railway crossing 4287. Road block
consisting railway trucks and steam roller removed from crossing.
1 Tank, 1 Jeep hit mines same area after advance tanks and
infantry had passed. Enemy fire from village area overcome
by tanks. 1 armoured car 1 Bofor destroyed by tanks 421883.
Enemy fire from railway road junc. 4288 engaged by arty and
LMG. Fire from north bank canal area 4288 engaged by MMG and
area strafed. Advance continued to 425897 encountered road
block 100 yards long consisting logs and stores successfully
engaged by arty. Own cas. 1 BO, 1 BOR, 1 Civilian interpreter
wounded. Arty. N.T.R.
B. N.T.R. C. N.T.R.
D. 3/2 Punjab coy. canal junc. 523764 to 535762 coy. 535762
to 556755. 3 Jat coy. 556755 to 566753. Remainder no change.
(A.F.N.E.I., 092230 to W.O. and usual addresses).

9.12.1945
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

WEAR
frigate
(British
Honduras)

Your 081457. Concur.
(Admiralty, 091218 to S.B.N.O. W.At.)
See 121414Z.

Far East and Australia

Northeast
China
report

Precis of 7th Fleet summaries 7th and 8th Dec. Yen-an radio on 1st December repaired Yen Shi Shan has returned from Chungking and has been massing his troops for imminent attack on 8th route CCP Army around northern and southern section of Tuntgu rail road. Southeast China report. U.S. Observer reported (dated B-3) increasing violence at Canton. Rumours started by CCB of Coup d'etat prevent C.N.A. departure to north China. Chinwangtao area quiet Peiping Taku Yarha. Japanese sources (dated C-0) through U.S. Observer reports indications tht U.S. forces in Peiping would be classed as belligerent by CCP in event of imminent attack on city. Source states CCP massing for drive on city on 5th Dec. Hongay Area. Northeast garrison unit plans to sail from Hongay 8th Dec. Sweeping continued in Formosa Straits. Seven type 93 mines swept and destroyed. Moored sweeping continued Takis. 20 Type 93 swept and destroyed. Check sweep three mine lines Kiprun previously reported swept by Japanese, swept and destroyed two Type 93 mines. Mines sighted 7th Fleet area 6 sunk 2. Commander 7th Fleet has been authorised by U.S. Navy Dept. to start training Chinese Naval personnel at Tsingtao on diesel driven amphibious ships and craft. 3 L.S.Ts have been allocated and training of 30 officers and 200 men will commence about 10th December.
(C.S.2, 091614Z to V.A.(Q) B.P.F., Info. C. in C. B.P.F.)

MULL OF
KINTYRE
Motor Craft
maintenance
ships on
passage to
B.P.F.

Reference your 070515Z* not to all. MULL OF KINTYRE diverted to Tokyo in accordance with Admiralty's 052225Z not to all, via Honolulu for fuel. Comhawseafron pass to B.N.L.O. Honolulu. (C.O.P.C., 091903Z to C. in C. B.P.F., Comhawseafron.)
* N.T. in W.D.

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

GENERAL.

Accelerated rate of release of armed forces. The Cabinet has recently ruled that there is to be an acceleration in the rates of release in the Armed Forces which will necessitate the strength of the R.N. at present planned for 30th June, 1946, being reached not later than 30th April, 1946.

(2) Reduction of ships, bases and services, as laid down in Admiralty Letter M/PD. 029/45 of 11th Oct., must therefore be speeded up and Their Lordships desire that the target date for achieving all these reductions should be advanced to 31st Jan. This date is selected in order to provide a period in which to sort out the personnel thus made available and get equivalent numbers ready for release by the 30th April. Further instructions will be signalled about speeding releases of Age and Service Groups.

(3) It is realised that decisions are still awaited in respect of outstanding items such as disposal of ships, aircraft and stores, closing of accounts, etc. Every endeavour is being made to expedite such decisions but in many cases action has to be taken through other Government Departments who also have a vital interest in disposals policy.

(4) It is also realised that closing down bases may retard release of personnel if the full normal procedure for closing accounts, mustering and handing over stores is strictly adhered to. Commanders-in-Chief are authorised to adopt such modifications in procedure as can be put into force to accelerate the work provided that a reasonable control of expenditure is maintained and the risk of financial loss is avoided. Details of all such modifications should be reported to the Admiralty immediately.

(5) Ports which are normally commercial ports must be closed down and transferred to control of local authorities as soon as possible, and the minimum of naval personnel retained for essential items of work which must remain under naval control. A.L. M06010/45 of 2nd Nov. (to Home Ports only) refers.

(6) This matter is now urgent and the need for determined action by all concerned is emphasised.
(1st Lord, 101807 to General.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LAERTES, M/S, on passage to E.I. LAERTES in company with B.Y.M.S. 2141 on passage from U.K. to Gibraltar require to enter Lisbon for shelter and for B.Y.M.S. 2141 to refuel with diesel oil.

(2) Approx. E.T.A. 1200Z/11th December.
(3) Request necessary arrangements be made.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101153A to B.N. A. Lisbon.)

/HELFORD...

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

HELFDORD,
frigate,
on passage
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail HELFDORD 1700A/10th Dec. to Ply-
mouth.
(2) Speed 12½ knots, E.T.A. 0900Z/14th Dec.
(7) HELFDORD acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101229A to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

South Atlantic.

BLANKNEY,
destroyer,
on passage
to U.K. for
reserve.

Capetown departures. BLANKNEY routed as safe
navigation permits for Pointe Noire, Freetown
and onward routing by Capt. in Charge West
Africa to Gibraltar and Devonport.
(2) S.O.A. 13 knots, E.T.A. Pointe Noire 0800/
16th December.
(5) Vice Consul Pointe Noire has been informed.
(C. in C. S.A., 101051B to Admty.)

A.S.R. 21,
KNARESBOROUGH
CASTLE,
breakdown.

KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE broke down with condenser-
itis at 1820/9th Dec. in position 08° 18' N.
18° 57' W. LANCASTER CASTLE ordered to leave
station and render assistance. At 1015 Dec. 10th
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE effected repairs and
proceeded to A.S.R. Station No. 21 LANCASTER
CASTLE ordered to return to Freetown.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 101110 to F.O.G.M.A.)

R/V with KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE in position 08.03 N. 20.37 W.
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE proceeding to position 21. My E.T.A.
Freetown 1600Z tomorrow, Tuesday, no aircraft contacted during
patrol.

(LANCASTER CASTLE, 101316Z to N.O.I.C. Freetown, Admty.)

CHARLOCK,
frigate.

Date of completion ex trials of CHARLOCK is 19th
December, my 011500 November.
(C. in C. S.A., 101516 to C. in C. E.I.)

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

Adriatic. S.O.S. from SS. KENMAR aground Propospi Light
SS. KENMAR 0200Z/10th. No bearing obtained.
aground. (Stavsnas Radio No T.O.O/10th to All ships.)

FINISTERRE, Intend to sail FINISTERRE immediately on arrival
destroyer, about 0700B/11th to Aden and Colombo.
on passage (2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
to B.P.F. (3) Speed 14 knots FINISTERRE to report time of
departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all
addressees in this signal.
(6) FINISTERRE acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 101001B to N.O.I.C. Aden,
FINISTERRE.)

SLINGER, Intend to sail SLINGER immediately on arrival
general pur- about 1800B/10, to Gibraltar for onward routing
pose carrier U.K.
on passage (3) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 16. Ship to
from B.P.F. report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(6) SLINGER acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said), 101125B to F.O.G.M.A.)

R.T. NIMBLE, Your 100825* not to all. Keep Almed, Comar
broken down. Bizerta and Comar Bone informed of situation.
(2) On arrival of tugs, A. MINDFUL is to take
over tow of NIMBLE and weather permitting, tow
her to Bizerta. They should shelter at Bone if
necessary. B. ST. LOUIS to tow THORSHOVDI to Bone when vessel
should be left pending further instructions.
(3) WRANGLER, WAKEFUL detach and proceed Gibraltar when you
consider that your assistance is no longer necessary, relief
destroyer will be sent if you report that this is desirable
vide para. 1B your 100825.
(C. in C. Med., 101208 to WRANGLER.) See 110730A and 121730A.
* N.T. in W.D.

Situation at 1800. MINDFUL with THORSHOVDI in tow and
WAKEFUL in company proceeding to Bone at 5 knots.
(2) NIMBLE disabled in position 37.30 N. 07.32 E. drifting at
2 knots in S.E. direction WRANGLER standing by.
(3) ST. LOUIS not seen. Request every endeavour should be made
for ST. LOUIS to R/V with NIMBLE by first light.
(4) Can home ST. LOUIS if? she is instructed to act in accordance
with my 100419 from midnight tonight.
(WRANGLER, 101840A to C. in C. Med.)

AJAX to R. Para. 2 of A.M. 081543 being passed to C. in C.
Plate as es- Med. Naples and AJAX. AJAX can complete refit and
cort to SS. be ready to leave Gibraltar by date given.
HIGHLAND (2) Ref. para. 5. A reinforcement of Med. by one
MONARCH with cruiser will be necessary on departure of AJAX as
ex German one cruiser will be refitted thus leaving me only
prisoners from 3 for the many commitments I have.
GRAF SPEE. (3) Reply to para. 3 and 4 will follow.
(C. in C. Med., 101702 to Admty.) See 211945.

/Transfer...

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Transfer of H.M. ships and equipment to Turks Will transmit contents of your 082247* to Turks which I know will give them great satisfaction. Would much appreciate a provisional answer to my 051655 Nov.
(2) Admiralty please pass to last addressee.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 101800B to Admty., C. in C. Med.)
* Concerning trials of ships for Turkey.

A.M. 082247/45 not to F.O. S/M.

At conference on trials for BURAK REIS, Turkish C.O. has disclosed that Turkish authorities wish post refit trials to be carried out by British crew with Turkish observers.

(2) It has been assumed by Admiralty that Turkish crew would carry out trials assisted by British Liaison Officer, Warrant Engineer, and six Submarine ratings, supervised by appropriate technical experts from Vickers Armstrong, and all arrangements have been made on this basis including alteration of plates and indicators to meet Turkish requirements. Ship will be ready for sea on 21st Dec. but if Turkish authorities insist on trials being carried out by British crew a delay of up to two months will be inevitable due to alteration of plates etc. to British system. It is assumed that additional delay is not acceptable and you are requested to obtain urgent confirmation that trials can be carried out with Turkish crew.

(Hd. of M.I., 102118 to N.A. Ankara, C. in C. Med.)
See 121520, 131252.

Transfer of boom defence vessels to Turks. Your 291156 Nov. Ref. para. 3, Turkish Naval Authorities inform me that Istanbul is the port selected for transfer of these ships.
C. in C. Med. pass to V.A.M.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 101806B to C. in C. Med., F.O.L.E.M., Admty., V.A.M.)

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

BARBRAKE, Intend following programme for BARBRAKE returning
 B.D.V. from Colombo to South Africa.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
-	Colombo	11th Dec.
20th Dec.	Seychelles	21st Dec.
31st Dec.	Beira	2nd Jan.
7th Jan.	Durban	

(3) R.N.O. Seychelles and Brit. Con. Beira are requested to arrange supply of coal fresh water and provisions detailed requirements follow.

(C. in C. E.I., 101004 to N.O.I.C. Durban.)

AWE, frigate, Intend to sail AWE at 1700C/10th to Suez for U.K.
 on passage to (2) E.T.A. Suez 1800B/15th.
 U.K. for (N.O.I.C. Aden, 101044C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
 reserve from
 E.I.

AVON, frigate, Intend to sail AVON at 1700C/10th to Suez for U.K.
 on passage (2) E.T.A. Suez 0900B/15th.
 from B.P.F. (5) AVON requests name of final destination.
 to U.K. for (N.O.I.C. Aden, 101115 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
 Reserve.

KING GEORGE V Your 080259* this will be convenient.
 visit to Tas- (C. in C. E.I., 101153 to C. in C. B.P.F.)
 mania with * Subject to concurrence of C. in C. E.I. and
 T.R.H. The A.C.N.B., propose KING GEORGE V leave Hobart
 Duke and 15th January.
 Duchess of
 Gloucester.

Sitrep 695. First. Burma. 12th Army. 19 Div. 22 E.A. Bde.
 H.Q. now est. QA 887977. 1 R.A.R. en route Pegu.
 82 W.A. Div. 1 G.C.R. est. Myaungmya UP0919 less
 three coys. and one pl. one pl. Wakema UP3919.
 Coy. less two pls. Pyapon UP9477. Rd. Taungup-Prome closed 8 Dec.
 Second. Andamans. 116 Bde. N.T.R.
 Third. Malaya. 2 R/C Regt. being placed under comd. 5 para. Bde.
 Fourth. N.E.I. Sitrep not yet received for 9 Dec.
 East. Java. Sourabaya. Mob patrol from Waroe engaged 200 enemy
 in def. posn. 440695. Enemy fled north several killed many
 wounded. 2 L.M.G. 30 rifles 4 pistol 3 sten captured. Own cas.
 killed two I.O.R. wounded six. Pat move west in area Boboh 3382
 report arms and amn. in area. Enemy engaged withdrew north into
 close country. Demolition charges removed from BR327820. Coy.
 West Yorks with tp. tks. op. west on rd. Sourabaya Grisser reached
 Segoromadoe BF420880. T.A.C. R. Mosquito shot down area 4288
 crew killed.

/Central...

War Diary.

10.12.1945
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Sitrep 695. Central Java. Semarang. Night 6/7 Dec. twenty
(Contd.) Indonesians unsuccessfully attacked Brit. and Jap.
H.Qs. Two hundred Indonesians thought trying to
infiltrate into town engaged and scattered. By
own tps. on perimeter airfield. Kampong area RV
9412 east to BR RV 343114 cleared. SUSSEX replaced by NORFOLK.
Ambarawa. Evac. R.A.P.W.I. expected completed on 7 Dec. Patrols
N.E. and N.W. of town went to WBO082 and QA909857.
West Java. Bandoeng. Dutch ex P.O.W. called out to deal with
Dutch looting. Intention 8 Dec. was to clear Indonesians
from N.W. sector of town. Buitenzorg. Main 36 Bde. arrived.
Sumatra. Padang. Bodies of Major Anderson B.M. 71 Bde. and
Miss Allingham Red Cross worker found foully murdered and
buried in shallow graves 361821. Strong and immediate action
being taken against murderers and villages of murderers 9 Dec.
Fifth. Siam. 7 Div. N.T.R.
Sixth. F.I.C. 20 Div. Brit. tps. N.T.R. French forces. South
sector 8 Dec. total sixty rebels killed and grenade factory
destroyed.
(A.L.F.S.E.A., 101245 GH to W.O., etc.)

EVENLODE,
frigate.

Programme for EVENLODE.
My 161331 Nov. not to all refers.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Nil	Colombo	15th Dec.
22nd Dec.	Aden	22nd Dec.
27th Dec.	Suez Port Said	28th Dec.
29th Dec.	Alexandria	2nd Jan.
8th Jan.	Gibraltar	10th Jan.
14th Jan.	Devonport	Prepare for re- delivery to U.S. under lend-lease.

(C. in C. E.I., 101449 to Admty., C. in C. Med.,
F.O.L.E.M.)

INVER,
frigate.

Programme for INVER my 161331 Nov. not to all
refers.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Nil.	Colombo	15th Dec.
22nd Dec.	Aden	22nd Dec.
27th Dec.	Suez Port Said	28th Dec.
3rd Jan.	Gibraltar	4th Jan.
8th Jan.	Portsmouth	Nil.

To prepare for redelivery to U.S. under lend lease.
(C. in C. E.I., 101506 to Admty., C. in C. Med.,
F.O.L.E.M., etc.)

RICHELIEU,
Fr. battle-
ship to re-
turn to France.

Understand that Marine Paris intends RICHELIEU to
return to France shortly.

(2) Reason given is that heavy logistic support
is out of proportion to service she can render on
Indo-China coast particularly as draught prevents
entry into ports.

(V.C.N.S., 101650 to C. in C. E.I.)
See 120233.

/Sitrep...

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Sitrep No. 21. To 1700 hrs. 10th Dec.
A. 32 Bde. 8 Dec. 4/2 G.R. killed 4 rebels attempting cross river area bridge 1763 9 Dec. 9/14 Punjab area Nullah junc. 210604 killed 2 rebel snipers. 2 Annamites captured with grenades and amm. 80 Bde. N.T.R. 100 Bde. N.T.R. French forces. 9 Dec. sweep area Travinh R.N. 7052 (or 7952) resulted 50 rebels killed 3 French wounded. 12 Annamites and 1 Jap. killed area Cau Ong Thin RJ 1738. 10 Dec. Ban Me Thout 108° 10' E. 19 (or 12) degs. 10' N. Attacked by est. 1000 Annamites supported by 2 mortars. Attack repulsed with casualties to rebels. Further details awaited. B.C.D. N.T.R. All informed. (Alffic, 101800H to W.O., etc.)

Sitrep. For M.O. 12. To 1200 hrs. 10th Dec. West Java.
A. Batavia. Java bank set on fire. R.A.F. barracks Tanah Tinggi attacked with grens and S.A.A. last night. Attack driven off R.A.F. no casualties. Batava/Bandoeng convoy reached Buitenzorg without incident. 5 Jat less one coy. with armd. cars took over escort. Met S.A.A. fire 1530 hrs. Heavily engaged at map ref. 9330 at 1600 hrs. Own cas. 1 R.A.F. officer killed 12 wounded. 1612 hrs. spotting A.C. attacked opposition. Five further road blocks and opposition met before Soekaboemi. Part of convoy arrived Soekaboemi 2330 hrs. remainder first light morning 10th. Remaining for twenty four hrs. proceeding Bandoeng 11th Dec. Total cas. killed 1 R.A.F. officer, 14 British and Ind. O.Rs. seriously wounded thirty. Buitenzorg. Activity begun night 8/9 ceased by 0800 hrs. Own troops removed all road blocks. Telephone exchange evac. by Indonesians. Resident Barnas taken prisoner by extremists now free. Night 9/10 Indonesians believed arrived from direction Soekaboemi firing on Kota Paris R.A.P.W.I. camp with M.M.G. L.M.G. and grens again occurred. Bandoeng. Area generally quiet. Indonesian def. positions remain in northwest area. Looting by Dutch ex P.O.W. continues seven arrested. Own troops have cut railway line to east to prevent loss of rolling stock. Semarang. Generally quiet. In town clearing of Kampongs continues. Number of Indonesians recently infiltrated into town believed planning to isolate airfield docks and Nieu Teandi district. Ambaraga. Remains quiet. Evac. R.A.P.W.I. complete and evac. stores and camp staff begun.
B. N.T.R.
C. 3 Ind. Fd. Regt. less one bty. begin move to Buitenzorg today. Advance parties 4 Mahratta 3/10 G.R. arrived Semarang from Ambarawa. 1/1 Punjab disembarking Batavia today.
D. One 3/4 G.R. school building Goentoerweg Batavia D. 1558. East Java.
A. Active patrolling continues no major incident. Patrol mobile column in strength (group corrupt) plns. one coy. with tanks artillery and G. engrs. Op. along road Waroe 5170 (or 9170) to Sideardjo 5059 reached Gedangan 5166 against some opposition. One pl. occupied Waroeoeneng 4371 with no opposition. Large Jap. petrol dump found 545828. B. to D. N.T.R.

/Sumatra...

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

Sitrep.
(Contd.)

Sumatra. A. Padang. Measures continuing against villages concerned in recent murders. SS. WILHEMMI with officer and Sec. 8/8 Punjab sailed for Moula Boh map ref. 1/250000 J.60579 to evac. small Jap. grn. Jap. report small scale attacks and fighting in areas Loeboekpakam M.6592 Kabandjah M.2242.

B. to D. N.T.R. All inf.
(Afnei., 101850 to W.O., etc.)

re Request
to re-equip 34
Amphibian
Support Regt.
for Infantry
Role as re-
inforcement
for Java.

OZ 7130 C.O.S. (India) 37. 10th December, 1945.
From Chiefs of Staff.
Reference Admiralty's 051936 and C. in C. East Indies 061206 EF. Request details of disposal of 34 Amphibian Support Regiment.
(2) C. in C. East Indies is requested to pass reference to C. in C. India.
(Cabinet Offices, 102020Z to Cs. in C. India, East Indies, Alfsea, S.A.C.S.E.A.)

10.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Cruise of
FROBISHER
(cadet train-
ing ship.)

Your letter 6908/9/8825/F/24 dated 1st Nov. 1945.
Copies of FROBISHER's cruiser programme have been
sent to Governors of the Colonies concerned for
information.

(2) Governor Windward Island has sent me a cable
as follows:-

"Your letter 5438/2 of November 19th. Cruise will
be most welcome and I am obliged for copy of proposed programme
unless there are special reasons for omission of call St. Vincent
I would be grateful if you would consider inclusion call at
that Colony. Carnacou is dependency Grenada and I suggest
substitution St. Vincent for Carriacou if it is possible to fit
call both." Ends.

(3) Request your remarks.

(S.B.N.O. Bermuda, 101615Z to Admty.) See 121430. + 302055

Far East and Australia.

UNICORN,
A/C repair
ship.

Can further signal now be made regarding para. 2
of A.M. 261150 Nov.
(UNICORN, 100718Z to Admty.)

Return of
H.M.A.S.
AUSTRALIA,
programme.

Your 061330 concur.
(A.C.N.B., 100721 to AUSTRALIA.)

T.R.H. Duke
& Duchess
of Gloucester,
visit to
Tasmania.

Concur in your 080259.
(A.C.N.B. Melbourne, 101153 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Landing craft
S.W. Pacific
reduction in
L.S.T.

Acute manpower shortage necessitates early with-
drawal of British manned landing ships employed on
rehabilitation duties.

(2) Request you will report as a matter of urgency.
A. What reduction in strength of Force A is now
possible and when requirement will lapse.
B. Whether manning of any of these L.S.T. could be
taken over by R.A.N.

(3) A.M. 181605 Sept.* not to all refers.

(V.C.N.S., 101920 to A.C.N.B., C. in C. B.P.F.)

* Re number of L.S.T. for services Far East will probably
be reduced to approx. 60 in near future.
Reply 120636.

War Diary

11.12.1945
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S.R.
Stn.19.
Relief

Intend to sail PORTCHESTER CASTLE 1800A 11th December to relieve START BAY on A.S.R. Station 19.
(2) Speed 12 knots. E.T.A. 0500A 14th December.
(3) On relief START BAY return to Gibraltar.
(4) PORTCHESTER CASTLE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 111114A to Admiralty, PORTCHESTER CASTLE, START BAY, Comnavea.)

SPANKER
M/S

Intend to sail SPANKER. 1100A 12th December via Medri. Routes to Malta.
(2) Speed 10 knots. E.T.A. 1600A 16th December.
(4) SPANKER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 111222 to F.O. Malta.)

South Atlantic

A.S.R.21

Have re-established A.S.R. position 21.
(KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE, 110500Z to N.O.I.C. Freetown.)

Reports
from H.M.
ships
returning
to U.K.

H.M. ships returning to U.K. are from the time of entering the Home Station.
(a) To report their P.C. and S. daily at 0800 British local time addressed to the C. in C. of the Home Command concerned and repeated to the Admiralty and the C. in C. of any adjacent command to which the ship may be proceeding if she is within 24 hours' steaming of that command.
(b) To include their E.T.A. at the entrance to the port or anchorage in the past P.C.S. report prior to arrival.
(c) To amend their E.T.A. only if previously signalled E.T.A. will be more than two hours in error.
(C. in C. S.A., 111051 to S.A. Stn. 964G.)

H.M.A.S.
frigates
and
repatriation
of S.African
personnel

H.M.S.A. ships TRANSVAAL (S.O.) NATAL and GOOD HOPE will be sailing from Durban about 18th December for Suez via Aden under similar circumstances to those quoted in my 031223* November.
(2) Ship will fuel at Aden on passage to Suez and probable again on the return journey to Durban.
(3) S.N.O.R.S.C.A. pass to OG HZ Middle East.
(C. in C. S.A., 111236 to C. in C. E.I.)
* H.M.A.S. GOOD HOPE (S.O.) and TRANSVAAL will be sailing Durban about 5th November.

See 201721B

War Diary11.12.1945
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

R.T.
NIMBLE
and
SS.
THORSHOVDI

NIMBLE and THORSHOVDI arrived Bone. MINDFUL experiencing trouble with fuel. Have instructed her when ready to render assistance to NIMBLE and to comply with your 101208.
(2) Am proceeding with WAKEFUL in company to Gibraltar.
(WRANGLER, 110730A to C. in C. Med.)
See 121730A.

Tug NIMBLE and stern portion of THORSHOVDI have been towed into Bone by WRANGLER and MINDFUL respectively. WRANGLER, WAKEFUL resumed passage to Gibraltar.
(C. in C. Med., 111228A to Admiralty.)

L.S.T. 3002
Collision

L.S.T. 3002 reports being in collision with American SS. POLAND VICTORY 120 miles south of Suez at 0028B 11th December. L.S.T. badly holed forward of bridge.
(2) H.M.S. MAENAD standing by. H.M.S. Ships PRINCE SALVOR and SALVAGE DUKE proceeding to assistance.
(F.O.L.E.M., 111024B to C. in C. Med.)

Re transfer
M/S in
Mediterranean
agreement

Request confirmation that the signature by British and Italian Naval Authorities of an agreement to clauses one to ten verbatim of Admiralty letter M 07883/45 of 12th November 1945 will be adequate basis on which to transfer minesweepers observing that similar agreements with other Nationals have been made on a Government level. Viz agreement of 9th March 1942 with Greeks.
(2) In addition to C.B. quoted in para. 2 it is desirable that the following books should also be supplied S.P. 02276 C.B. 04031 and O.U. 6350.
(C. in C. Med., 111131 to Admiralty.) See 021619.

Visit of
F.O.L.E.M.
to Jedda
to meet H.M.
King Ibn Saud

Reference my 081620. I am informed that H.M. King Ibn Saud has accepted my invitation to lunch on board SIRIUS at Jedda on 17th December.
(F.O.L.E.M., 111157 to C. in C. Mediterranean and Admiralty.)

F.O.L.E.M.
movements

I shall be away from my H.Q. from p.m. Friday 14th visiting Khartoum to meet the C.I.Gs. thence to Jedda, Port Sudan and Port Said and returning to Alexandria Saturday 22nd.
(2) During this time signals should be routed as follows:
(a) Those requiring personal attention of F.O.L.E.M. to F.O.L.E.M. (Afloat) and also for information to F.O.L.E.M.
(b) Those concerning policy and operations to F.O.L.E.M. (Afloat) or F.O.L.E.M. and normally repeated for information to the other according to which authority is required to take action.
(c) Those concerning all other matters to F.O.L.E.M. only.
(3) Messages for F.O.L.E.M. (Afloat) and F.O.L.E.M. should be routed via Alexandria C.C.O.
(F.O.L.E.M., 111238B to Eastern Med. General.)

/MIRROR...

11.12.1945
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

MIRROR, F.O.G.M.A. is requested to sail Cable ship MIRROR cable repairs. to Alexandria on conclusion of her present cable operations.

(2) F.O.L.E.M. is requested to employ cable ship MIRROR as follows:

A. repair of Alexandria Candia cable.

B. Restoration of Malta Zante Corinth cable.

(3) On conclusion of these duties in the Eastern Mediterranean F.O.L.E.M. is requested to sail cable ship MIRROR to Palermo. MIRROR is then to be employed on the restoration of Palermo Cagliari cable.

(C. in C. Med., 111551A to F.O.G.M.A., F.O.L.E.M.)

See 131239 (North Atlantic.)

War Diary

11.12.1945
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Ocean Air/Sea Rescue Air Ministry AG.9530 1 October and APX.206 22 November and MEDME AR.260 28 November.
(2) In agreement with C. in C. E.I. We think use of corvettes for Ocean Air/Sea rescue is extravagant.
(3) In view of (a) increased shipping on lines which usually run near ocean air routes and (b) small numbers of incidents calling for ocean rescue we suggest it may be possible to dispense with special ocean rescue vessels and rely on Lancasters carrying air-borne lifeboats supported by ordinary shipping and any Naval craft which may be available.
(4) Would appreciate your views and an indication of Air Ministry policy for ocean air/Sea Rescue. Your AG. 9530 1st October refers. (H.Q.A. C.S.E.A., 110300Z to A.M. Whitehall.) *See 27/835L.*

B.Y.M.S. for E.I. Intend to sail B.Y.M.S. 2161, 2036, 2264 at 1200C/11th to Bombay.
(2) E.T.A. Bombay 1430EF/18th.
(3) Craft to proceed to Karachi if fuel runs short (N.O.I.C. Aden, 111030, to C. in C. E.I., F.O. Bombay, F.O. Ceylon.)

MICHAEL, MINSTREL M/S for B.P.F. Intend to sail MICHAEL and MINSTREL at 0500 12th Colombo.
(2) E.T.A. Colombo 0930EF 21st.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 111213 to C. in C. E.I.)

Sitrep 696 11.12.45 Alfsea, 111255GH to N.O.I.C.
See Lion Copy.

Re transfer of Flag of F.O. Air East Indies to HOWE Cancel 380 C D.T.G. 201201. All signals for F.O. Air E.I. are to be routed to R.N.A.S. Katukurunda. (?454) C. of 5th December not to Admiralty refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 111719EF, to E.I. General Message)

Aircraft Carrier VENERABLE Intend following programme for VENERABLE all dates December.

Arrive	Place	Depart
Nil	Colombo	1400 EF 12
1300 EF 13	Trincomalee	p.m. 15th.
1000 H 23	Fremantle	Nil.

(2) Comic. Trincomalee is requested to sail VENERABLE as convenient to comply.
(3) Propose VENERABLE departs Fremantle a.m. 27th December to arrive Sydney 1st January.
(C. in C. E.I., 111727EF to C. in C. B.P.F.) See 140236.

Sitrep. 22 French Indo-China. 0.2265 cipher 11th December. To 1700 hrs. 11th December.
A.32 Bde. 10th December 4/2 Gr. Grenade throwing at C.O.'s jeep. Sweep area crossroads 1767 (or 1760) produced 60 suspects. 80 Bde. N.T.R. 90 Bde. Printing press convoy proceeded Ben Cat and returned without incident.

/Phnod...

SECRET

69A
IN

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

Sitrep 696.

111255GH/December

From Alfsea

Date 11.12.45.

Recd 1420

Cipher

Addressed War Office and usual addresses.

MOST IMMEDIATE

084310 1448/Ops Cipher 11 Dec. Secret.
Sitrep 696.

1st. Burma Twelfth Army. 17 Div and 19 Div NTR. 82 (WA) Div..
Rd Taungup-Prome reopened 9 Dec.

2nd. Andamans. 116 Bde No report received.

3rd. Malaya 4 Inf Bde. Lt.Gen.Kinoshita formally surrendered
081415. 5 Para Bde 2 RECCE Regt now under Comd took over Gds
7 Para BN. 7 Para BN sails Batavia 11 Dec. 25 Ind Inf Div Siamese
refuse to run freight trains containing salt for food Controller
without authority Bangkok. Passenger trains run as normal.

4th. NEI.

East Java Sourabaya 9 Ind Bde 8 Dec 1 Madras Patrols searched centr
and east central districts and found some arms. 123 Bde 8 Dec
3/9 GR Patrol to 475723 pushed PL Patrol North Locating enemy
strength twenty and one LG 465720. Party engaged enemy withdrew.
Mob coln Coy 2 West Yorks with two Tps Tks Adv NW up Sourabaya
Grissee Rd. Rly trucks and steam roller Rd Block removed from Rly
crossing 4287, enemy fire from village silenced by Tks which also
destroyed one Armd car with Bofor. One own Tk and Jeep hit
mines fire from North bank canal 4288 engaged by MG and area
strafed. Adv continued to one hundred yard long log Rd block
425897. Own Cas wounded one Offr one BOR. One civilian
interpreter, Locns 8 Dec. 3/2 Punjab Coy 523764 to 535762 Coy
535762 to 556755, 3 Jat Coy 556755 to 566767 remainder no
change, 9 Dec. Mob Coln one BN plus one Coy with Tks Arty and
Engr moving South from W/ROE reached Gendangen 5166 against some
opposn. Large Japanese Pet dump found 545828 PL occupied
Waroengoeng Without opposn.

Central Java, Samarang 8 Dec mob coln to clear enemy firing into
Airfd from West captured ones MNG Norfolk and Caprice engaged
enemy East of town 9 Dec town generally quiet. Clearance Kampong
Area West of Airfd continues. Number of Indonesians have recently
infiltrated into town Ambaraws, Airstrike 7 Dec scored direct hit
on gun positions and own patrol to Toentang WB 0082 returned having
captured five LG and large quantity SAS 8 Dec 1350 RAPWI Evac to
Semarang 9 Dec Evac all RAPWI now complete. Evac of stores and
Camp Staff commenced will take three days. Adv parties 4 Mahratta
and 3/10 GR arrive Semarang.

/West

West Java, Batavia. 8 Dec. Shboting ocurred in Dockyard and Kramat areas. Coy 1 Patiala with Tp Tks cleared area against opposi SJP Convoy for Bandoeng left for Buitenzorg escort will be relieved at Buitenzorg. Intermittent shooting during night 8/9 Dec. 9 Dec. Java bank set on fire RAF Barracks Tanah Tinggi Attacked with GDES and SA fires night 8/9 Dec attack driven off without own cas. Buitenzorg. 8 Dec. Coy 5 JAT entered Palace against slight opposn. Kotaparis camp SW of town attacked by fifty Indonesians. 9 Dec. Activity night 8/9 Dec. ended 0800/9 hours. Sup Col for Bandoeng arrived escort taken over by 5 JAT less Coy with Armd Cars, Coln heavily engaged at 1530 hrs at Kompa QW 9229. At 1612 hrs supporting aircraft attacked. Coln proceeded being almost continuously engaged Chief points of opposn being Tjibadak QW9421 and Tjimahi QX 0120. Part of Coln arrived Soekaboemi 092330 and remainder first light 10 Dec. Coln will remain Soekaboemi twenty four hrs before proceeding Bandoeng. Own Cas killed one RAF Offr seriously wounded 14 Brit and 1OR. Night 9/10 Dec Indonesians believed arriving from South fired on Kotaparis RAPWI Camp Buitenzorg with MMG LMG and Gdes. Bandoeng, 8 Dec. Town much quieter. 3/3 GR partially clear NW Sector and remove Barricades without Cas. Five A/Tk mines and some rifles found in extremists HQ. 9 Dec. Generally quiet. Looting by Dutch continues 7 arrested own Tps cut rly East of Town to prevent loss rolling stock. Locns, Coy 4/7 Rajput arrive Buitenzorg for temporary duty. 3 Ind Fd Regt disembarked Batavia and less one Bty moved to Buitenzorg 10 Dec. 1/1 Punjab disembarked Batavia.

Sumatra Padang. Action taken to destroy villages to which known murders of Major Anderson and Miss Allingham belonged. All inhabitants must have been accessories before or after. Several armed persons resisting arrest or trying to escape were shot. Some of these reliably identified as Assistants in murder. Five thousand Indonesians CONC Airfield ~~Tandjang~~ (or Tandjong) area were dispersed. They carried no Arms except Spears. (c's) Ness arrived Telekbetoengin in South Sumatra report no incidents this area since 18 Nov. Japanese have considerable quantity of arms incl some ex Allied. S.S. WILHEMMI with Offr and Sec 8/8 Punjab sail for Meulaboh J.6356 to evac Japanese GRN Medan. Japanese report small attacks and fighting areas Loeboekpakam 6598 and Kabandjahe MM 2242.

5th. Siam. 7 Div. Increase in Dacoity area Bandara RF 1000. Japanese being armed so authorised scale as precaution sixth. FIC. 20 Div. 32 Bde. 8 Dec 4/2. GR killed four rebels BR RJ 663 9 Dec 9/14 Punjab killed 2 Snipers RJ2160. 80 Bde 100 Bde Nkr. French forces. 8 Dec. 50 rebels killed in sweep area TRA Vinh RN8052 French Cas three wounded. 12 Annamites one Japanese killed area Cau Ong thin RJ1738. 10 Dec Ban ME Thout MZ8480 attacked by approx. one thousand Annamites supported by two MORS. Attack repulsed details awaited.

alpha - 111255GH

/Circulation overleaf

SECRET

69B
IN

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- 3 -

Received in War Reg. 0930/12 Dec.

Circulated by War Office to War Office Depts.
Defence Office, Cabinet War Room, Defence
Map Room, Air Ministry, S.of S. (Foreign
Office), S.of S.(India Office), Brig.Reynolds
(India Office) and Admiralty.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(0)
A.C.N.S.(A)(2)
A.C.N.S.(W)
D.C.(2)
D.S.O.
O.D.(9)
O.I.C.(2)
D.N.I.(7) & for D.N.L.O.
D.of P.(Q)(3)
D.T.A.S.W.(3)
D.C.O.D.(7)
M.(2)
C.N.I.(2)
C.C.L.S.
W.D.
Ad.Blake.

A16
EMB

11.12.1945
TuesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

Sitrep. 22 etc. Phnod Penh (or Phnom Penh). N.T.R. French
(Contd.) Forces. Ref. Sitrep number 21. French post
at Ban Me Thuot called for air support from
Spitfires on patrol in area. Two strafing
runs made on each of three targets indicated.
Area now reported quiet.
B.C.D. N.T.R. All informed.
(Alffic, 111825H to W.O. Sacssea, Alfsea.)

Oprep. West Java. (a) Batavia. Generally quiet.
To 1200 hours Buitenzorg. No R.A.P.W.I. cas. shooting night
11th Dec. 9/10th December. Spasmodic firing continues.
Netherlands 3 Ind. FD moving Batavia to Buitenzorg met 18
East Indies road blocks with minor resistance. Bandoeing.
Search of North Sector carried out forty Eurasians
evac. 0620 hours 11th December. Bn. 3/3 GR with A.F.Vs. in
support, left for Soekaboemi to meet sups. convoy. Met Road
Block QX 7624 which strafed by escorting a/c. Expected to
arrive Soekaboemi approx. 1500 hours. Sups. convoy remaining
Soekaboemi will continue to Bandoeng with 3/3 GR escort on 12th Dec.
Total cas. for first stage now reported 3 BO, 82 IORs. of which
1 BO 19 IORs. killed. Semarang. Active patrolling no incidents.
Caprice (? or Capriue) left Semarang for Pedang. Ambarawa.
Active patrolling one minor action at Gentan WA 9882. Enemy Gun
WA 9677 opened fire no cas. Evac R.A.P.W.I. stores continues.
(b) to (c) Nothing to report.
(d) 3 Ind. Fd. Regt. less one Bty. Buitenzorg. 1/1 Punjab
Batavia C 945.

Sumatra. (a) Padang. H.M.S. NESS arrived Emmahaven. Otherwise
N.T.R. Medan. One RIASC truck with 3 IORs missing, last seen
collecting stores at Railway Siding Kampong Baroe 444916. Patrols
sent to investigate encountered several Road Blocks covered by
small arms fire. 3 Japanese a/c MMGs, one Rifle, 8 Prisoners
taken. Own cas. one IOR, slightly wounded.
(b) Nothing to report.
(c) One Sqn. 146 RAC landed Medan.
(d) No change. East Java. 9 Ind. Inf. Bde. Mob Column to
Sidoarjo met some opposition at Waroe and Gedangan fir? basis est.
at Waroe and Gegangan and own Tps. consolidated. Own cas. 1 IOR
died of wounds. One LMG and 20 Rifles captured. Morning of
11th Column entered Sidoarjo against slight opposition. 123 Ind.
Inf. Bde. Acting patrolling continues to West. No other
incidents. Large Amn. Dump types destroyed KM 18 507647 quantity
of mixed amn. found in Kota Station 5282. 1500 Chinese liberated
by own Tps. Sidoarjo area 11th December. General poor response
to Div. proclamation ordering all arms to be surrendered to MIL
except Darmo area where response was good. Full details not yet
available. Concrete Airstrip found by 3/9 GR patrol 9th Dec.
area 373-08. Strip 800 yds. long. No roads leading to strip.
13/14 Bays Darmo of accn. one Sqn. Strip made useless owing to
bamboo stakes and many holes.
(A.F.N.E.I., 112115 to A.L.F.S.E.A.)

Rec: 16.2.46

70A
OUT

MESSAGE.

UNCLASSIFIED
To C. in C. E.I.
S.B.N.O. W.A.
Capt. West Africa.
Info: C. in C. S.A.
F.O. Ceylon.
Captain East Africa. P/L.

111948/December.
DATE
11.12.45.

SENT

*Copy
type plain
TB*

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From: Admiralty.

DEFERRED

Admiralty are anxious to obtain for record purposes an account of the activities of Colonial and Burma Naval Forces during the war and of the local problems of organisation, training and expansion.

2. Research in Admiralty would no doubt reveal this information in various despatches and operational reports which have been rendered from time to time, but it would be appreciated if you would forward at early convenience an account in general terms covering the points in paragraph 1 above, and any other aspects which would be of value to place on permanent record.

111948.

for Head of M.II. (902)

M. (M.5494/45) (6)
D. of P.(3)
R.O.
D.T.S.D.(2)

*asked for in connection
with M0390/46
received 15/2/46
Trinidad RNVR
report
C-C A. WJ
21/102/5/1
14/1/46*

(130)

71

11.12.1945
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

re Closing
down of D.G.
ranges on
Australian
mainland.

My 171137 October. Advice is desired as to
necessity for maintaining permanent D.G. range
in Australia.
(A.C.N.B., 110721Z to Admty.) *See 271859*

Trooping.
Delay in turn
round of ships

Attention is again drawn to the necessity for
minimum delay in turn round of ships employed on
trooping duties. Times taken recently (amounting
in some instances to 9 or 10 days) need to be
substantially reduced.
(V.C.N.S., 111626 to Cs. in C. B.P.F., E.I.,
V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic.

LOCHY,
frigate,
on passage
from E.I.Stn.

Intend to sail LOCHY 0800A/13th Dec. via Necri
routes to Plymouth.
(2) Speed 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ knots. E.T.A. 0900Z/17th Dec.
(7) LOCHY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121013 to Admty.)

FINDHORN,
frigate,
on passage
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail FINDHORN 1000A/13th Dec.
(2) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 18th Dec.
(7) FINDHORN acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121113A to Admty.)

STRIKER,
general pur-
pose carrier
to U.K.

Intend to sail STRIKER 0900A/13 Dec. via Necri
routes to Clyde.
(2) 15 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 17th December.
(7) STRIKER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121853A to Admty.)

War Diary.

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

MAENAD, M.B. My 101245B* delayed through towing L.S.T. 3002 on passage to disabled in collision, E.T.A. Aden 1200/16th. E.I. L.S.T. (MAENAD, 120745B to N.O.I.C. Aden.) See 131214B. 3002 damaged. * N.T. in W.D.

RANEE, Sail at 1700A/13th Dec. in accordance with C. in E. Carrier C. Portsmouth's 041523Z* not to all to Port Said for onward routeing to Colombo and Sydney. trooping. (2) Speed 16 knots report E.T.A. at Port Said. (4) Acknowledge. (C. in C. Med., 120853A to RANEE.) * Intend sailing RANEE to Malta for onward routeing to Sydney via Colombo.

Transfer of A.L.M. 07883/45 dated 12th Nov. 1945. It is M.M.S. and intended to transfer on loan to the Greeks M.M.S. B.Y.M.S. on 63, 65, 88, 140 and B.Y.M.S. 2033, 2190 in loan to Greeks order to increase the ships in the 160th B.Y.M.S. Flotilla to 8 minesweepers and 4 danlayers. This is considered very desirable and crews are now available.

(2) Greek Admiralty state that they are unable to man further minesweepers. However Med. Zone board have instructed Greek representatives to reconsider taking over a group of M/S trawlers in view of heavy minesweeping commitment which faces them.

(C. in C. Med., 120922A to Admty.) See 151145B. and 031620 JAN.

Y 081243 JAN

HOLMSOUND, Intend to sail HOLMSOUND at 0530B/14th to Aden A/C component and Colombo for onward routeing to B.P.F. repair ships, (2) Routed as safe navigation permits. on passage (3) S.O.A. 9½ knots, ship to report own time of to B.P.F. departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 121005B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

R.T. HENGIST. HENGIST take L.C. 26 in tow and sail at 0600A/12th Dec. to Port Said for onward routeing to Colombo as direct as safe navigation permits.

(2) S.O.A. 7 knots. Report E.T.A. Port Said 24 hours in advance.

(C. in C. Med., 121123A to HENGIST.)

EMPRESS, Sail as soon as ready to Gibraltar by appropriate assault Medri routes for onward routeing to U.K. carrier on (2) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. to be reported. passage to (4) Acknowledge. U.K. (C. in C. Med., 121129A to EMPRESS.)

/C. in C. Med. ...

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

C. in C. Med.
visit to
Sicily.

I intend to sail in LIVERPOOL at 2300 tomorrow
Thursday 13th for Palermo arriving at 0900
Friday 14th Dec.

(2) I will return to Naples leaving Palermo
p.m. Saturday 15th.

(3) My flag Lieutenant and one cypher officer
will accompany me.

(C. in C. Med. Naples, 121211A to LIVERPOOL.)

Transfer of
H.M. ships
to Turks.
Trials of
BURAK REIS

A.M. 102118. Request para. 2 be cancelled and
authority informed that it had been assumed by
Admiralty that Turkish crew would carry out post
refit trials, but if Turkish Authorities wish,
these can be carried out by British crew. Com-
pleting approx. 15th Jan. 1946.

(Hd. of M.I., 121520 to N.A. Ankara.)

See 131252 and 141045G.

FINISTERRE,
destroyer,
on passage
to B.P.F.

S.N.O.R.S.C.A.'s 101001 E.T.A. Aden 0700 G.M.T.
Sunday 16th December.

(FINISTERRE, 121615B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., N.O.I.C.
Aden.) See 121128Z (Far East and Australia.)

R.T. NIMBLE.

Your 101208 refers. Towing NIMBLE to Bizerta
E.T.A. 0800B/13.

(MINDFUL, 121730A to C. in C. Med.)

CONFIDENTIAL.

74A 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.)

121952B/December

From P.O.L.E.M.

Date 27.12.45.

Recd. 1631

N. CODE XB

To: C. in C. Med.
Info: C. in C. Med. (Naples), S.N.O. Dodecanese.

IMPORTANT

As a result of a joint meeting in Dodecanese the requirements for future inter-island transport which have now been confirmed by an inter-service meeting in Cairo include following bids.

(A) To be turned over to Army for (?correct) administration and maintenance M.F.V. 516.

(B) To be similarly turned over to B.M.A., N.S.G. (L) 39 LANNER (?KENNET) and CRESCENT MOON.

2. Request very early decision in order to proceed with training and turn over which is estimated to take one month.

3. Further signal will be made regarding minor and captured enemy craft which are not required.

4. MY 021752 * refers.

F.O.L. 9m

121952B

*C. in C. Med
see 29/12/45 0915 January*

* Not identified in War Registry.

Note:- Message to Admiralty for information only.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (3)
- D.F.S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (0)
- O.D. (9)
- D.C. (2)
- D.S.O.
- M. (2)
- D.S.V.P. (3)
- D.M.S. (2)
- D. Mov. (7)
- D.N.I. (5)
- O.I.C. (2)
- D. of P. (3)
- D. of P. (Q) (3)
- W.D.

BNC
(79)

*inter island transport
needs to be hurried
re Fleet & Admiralty*

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

F.S. RICHELIEU A.M. 101650 is being passed to N.A. Paris for battleship, information. (D.O.D., 120233 to C. in C. E.I.)
to return to France.

SWALE,
frigate.

Intend to sail ^{SWALE}~~SWIFT~~ at 0600C/14th Dec., Friday, direct Durban in accordance with your 251021* Nov. (2) S.O.A. 13 knots, E.T.A. Durban 0700B/19th December, Wednesday.
(F.O. East Africa, 120915 to C. in C. E.I.)
* Request sail SWALE to arrive S. Africa before Christmas to transfer to Union Government Control.

Flag
changes.

Flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody, C.B. is to be transferred from HOWE to UKUSSA at 0800 tomorrow Thursday 13th December.
(C. in C. E.I., 121205 to E.I. Stn., G.M. NR 484c)

PLYM,
frigate,
on passage
from B.P.F.

To sail PLYM at 1700C/12th to Suez for U.K.
(2) E.T.A. Suez 0600C/18th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 121233 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements.

Arrivals Singapore 12th Dec. L.S.Ts. 3503, 3041, L.C.I.(L)s. 218, 11, 12, 123, 163, 172, 1242, L.C.T.(E) 306, 341.
Departures CARYSFORT, CARRON, CAVALIER, DEWDALE, BEARN (F.S.), CAESAR, QUEEN EMMA, QUERCY (F.S.), L.S.Ts. 337, 368, 3006.
(F.O. Malaya, 121631Z to Admty.)

War Diary.

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

WEAR, frigate, My 081457 and your 091218.
(Br. Honduras) Unless other instructions are received intend employing WEAR in repatriating T.R.N.V.R. personnel ex CORSAIR to Trinidad, sailing from Bermuda early next week. Intend WEAR to visit Jamaica after leaving Trinidad.
(S.B.N.O. W.At., 121414Z to Admty.)

Cruise of FROBISHER (Cadet Training ship.) Submit following comments on S.B.N.O.W.A. 101615 not to all. Visit to St. Vincent considered but not proposed because of A. very deep and unsheltered anchorage. B. Visit to unfrequented anchorage such as Carriacou desirable for training reasons as relaxation from fairly intensive showing the flag cruise.

(2) In view of A.M. 720A which reduces cruising speed to economical propose following amendments to programme submitted in my letter No. 8053/226 of 21st October.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leave</u>
9th Jan.	Enter Ponta Delgada	4th Jan.
20th Jan.	Azores	11th Jan.
	Trinidad	23rd Jan.

(3) Request approval.
(FROBISHER, 121430 to S.B.N.O. W.At., S.B.N.O. Trinidad.) 030205

PUNCHER, carrier, preparations for return to the U.S. (lease-lend) On return from the U.K. PUNCHER will be declared surplus to Naval requirements and will be prepared for return to the U.S.
(2) Instructions as laid down in B.A.D.'s articles for return of lend lease ships (R.L.L.O.) are to be followed with the exception that everything which is to be retained or returned to the U.K. will be landed in Halifax.

(3) Signal and cipher logs are to be landed in Halifax in accordance with Naval Order 5505.
(4) Type X equipment is to be landed in the U.K. prior to ships departure for Canada and returned to nearest Naval Store Officer.
(5) Naval Stores ledgers and provision clothing and mess traps accounts are to be balanced indication quantities presently on board and quantities on board as 5th February 1944. Only those items in excess of latter and which are required by R.C.N. will be destored at Halifax.
(6) A/S equipment in accordance with R.L.L.O. para. 9 is to be prepared for landing at Halifax.
(7) Detailed instructions are being prepared and will be forwarded to Halifax as soon as possible.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 122222Z to PUNCHER, B.A.D., Admty., etc.)

S.O.S. signal. S.O.S. DE GYW S.O.S. from BKXL at 2237 in 47.06 N. 57.07 W.
(FORT ORLEANS, 122305 to all ships.)
Following heard from KKTCA* position 47.06 N. 60.06 W.
(FORT ST. ANTOINE, No T.O.O/13th to all ships.)
* Signification unknown.

War Diary.

12.12.1945
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Landing craft S.W. Pacific reduction in L.S.T. Your 101920. These vessels are fully employed repatriating Australian Army and Air Force personnel from Moluccas area pending requirement for lift of occupation force to Japan. This is now planned to commence mid January and complete in two trips mid March but final arrangements await concurrence of S.C.A.P. Japan.

(2) Recent allocations by W.O. London will permit release of GLENGYLE mid January.

(3) Desire to retain L.S.Ts. as these will be most suitable for lift to Japan which includes large proportion of vehicles and stores.

(4) Demobilisation commitments will not permit manning of L.S.Ts. by R.A.N. Can you concur in retention of these until occupation force commitment is clarified. Question to be reviewed Mid January.

(A.C.N.B., 120636 to Admty., V.A.(Q), C. in C. B.P.F.) *see 052253Jan*

D.Fs. B.P.F. A.M. 031220 para. 1C. Intend releasing reduction of. destroyers for return to U.K. as follows:-

A. 25th D.F. as relieved by 8th D.F.

B. 24th D.F. in March when it is anticipated 19th

D.F. will be at full strength and available on

China Coast having completed programme in my 290619 not to all addressees.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 120742Z to Admty.) See 151826.

FINISTERRE, Request FINISTERRE be routed via Singapore to destroyer, on Hongkong. passage to (C. in C. B.P.F., 121128Z to C. in C. E.I., B.P.F. F.O.W.A.B.P.F., FINISTERRE.)

13.12.1945
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Flag changes. 1. The flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody, C.B., is being transferred from HOWE to UKUSSA at 0800 today.

13.12.1945
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

WRANGLER,
WAKEFUL,
destroyers,
on passage
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail WRANGLER (S.O.) and WAKEFUL
1200A/13 Dec. via Necri routes to home ports.
(2) Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. WRANGLER at Plymouth
1000Z/16 Dec. WAKEFUL at Portsmouth 1500Z/16 Dec.
(7) WRANGLER acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 130930A to Admty., Cs. in C. Plymouth,
Portsmouth.)

LAERTES,
M/S on
passage
to E.I.

Intend to sail LAERTES (S.O.) and BY.M.S. 2141
0800A/14 Dec. via Medri routes to Malta.
(2) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 18th Dec.
(4) LAERTES acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 131206A to F.O. Malta, C. in C. Med.,
LAERTES.)

MIRROR,
cable repairs.

Your 111551 Dec. MIRROR returned Gibraltar today
and has received instructions from cable and
wireless London to restore Gibraltar-Malta cable.
(2) MIRROR is informing London of requirements
detailed in your signal.
(3) Request priority be established.
(F.O.G.M.A., 131239A to C. in C. Med.)
See 171019A

13.12.1945
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

L.S.T. 3002 My 111024. L.S.T. 3002 in tow of SALVAGE DUKE damaged. with PRINCE SALVOR in company reached Suez p.m. 12th and is now anchored in Suez Bay. L.S.T. cut two thirds of way through approx. 100 feet from bows, but does not appear in any immediate danger of sinking and it is hoped to dry dock her on 14th for examination. Salvage vessels are standing by for the present. There was one casualty. F.O.L.E.M. 121127 (N.T. in W.D.) to Admiralty refers. (F.O.L.E.M., 131214B to C. in C. Med.)

Transfer of H.M. ships & equipment to Turks. re Trials of BURAK REIS. I have communicated contents of your 102219 to Turkish Naval Authorities here. (2) Turkish Chief of Naval Staff entirely agrees with Admiralty's views that trial should be carried out by the Turkish crews, assisted by British Key personnel suggested. He is today instructing Turkish Naval Attache in London by telegram that these orders are to be communicated to the C.O. of the BURAK REIS. Admiralty pass to F.O.S. (B.N.A. Ankara, 131252 to Admiralty.)

Reporting of warships movements, instructions. NR. 099B. The following instructions on the reporting of warship movements supercede previous signalled instructions. MSGO 57 and MSO 24 are being reprinted.

(2) Intend to sail signals are to be addressed to The Naval Authority Port of destination repeated to The Flag Officer of the area or areas in which the movement takes place. The number of information addressees additional to the above is to be kept to an essential minimum.

C. in C. Mediterranean except in 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.

(3) F.O.I.L. is to be included in the address of all signals concerning the movement of Italian Warships.
(4) Almed, N.A. Paris and Marine Paris are to be included in address of all signals concerning the movement of French warships.
(5) Comnavnav is to be included in the address of signals concerning the movement of U.S. warships and U.S. Navy transports.
(6) Signals concerning the arrivals at Malta of the following types of ships are always to be repeated to the Commodore Superintendent Malta when necessary and to the Authorities mentioned below who will not otherwise receive them.
Destroyers and escorts to Captain (D) Malta.
Landing ships and craft to Phonicia Coastal craft to GREGALE.
Danlayers and minesweepers to Capt. M/S Med. and Commander M/S Malta.

Submarines to Commander S/M One 7.
Flag Officers of areas are to make the following two summarizing signals.

/A....

13.12.1945
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Reporting of warships movements, instructions. (Contd.)

A. Major warships summary to include Fleet minesweepers and above and consist of part 1 to contain the movements of all major warships in the last 24 hours 0001 to 2359 giving arrivals departures and estimated positions of ships at sea to be addressed to Admiralty C. in C. Mediterranean, Capt. M/S Mediterranean and Flag Officers adjacent areas. Part 2 to contain the intended future movements that is a summary of the intend to sail signals to be addressed to C. in C. Mediterranean and Flag Officer of adjacent areas.

Note: Danlayers normally included with Fleet minesweepers. B. Minor warships summary similar but separate signals as in para. 7A above.

(C. in C. Med., 131303 to S. & A. Med. Stn.) *Amended 3/12/20 -*

34th Trawler Group M/S, paying off.

Taking ROUSAY, GILLSTONE, AILSA CRAIG, CROWLIN, GULLAND, KITTERN, MEWSTONE and SKOKHOLM under your orders sail in HOY at 1000A/14th Dec. for Gibraltar routed through the Bizerta War Channel and thence as direct as safe navigation permits. (2) Speed 9 knots, E.T.A. to be reported.

(4) F.O.G.M.A. is requested to comply with Admiralty decision on my 101525 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all for paying off 34th trawler group.

(5) S.O. 34th M/S T.G. acknowledge. (C. in C. Med., 131509A to F.O.G.M.A.)

Amended by 131621A

Personal. Age & Service Groups dispersal rate increased.

Since A.M. 222115 Sept. was issued, the rate of dispersal of Age and Service Group has been considerably increased vide A.G.M. 682A of 12 Nov. (2) It is requested that C. in Cs. will make an estimate of reliefs which will be required for each separate officer category in the Age and Service Groups due for dispersal by 30th June 1946 as indicated in A.G.M. 682A where these have not

already been covered in the replies to A.M. 222115 Sept. (3) The information should be signalled as soon as possible and in particular not later than 15th Jan. 1946 in respect of Naval Air Arm, Combined Operations Air Engineer and Cypher Officers. (D.C.N.P., 131723 to Cs. in C. Med., S.A., E.I., B.P.F.)

RESOURCE, heavy repair ship on passage from B.P.F.

Intend to sail RESOURCE at 0600B/14 to Gibraltar for onward routeing Portsmouth C. in C.'s 010830 refers. (3) Speed 14 knots, E.T.A. p.m. 19th ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 131740B to F.O.G.M.A.)

COSSACK, COMET, destroyers, on passage to B.P.F.

Sail in COSSACK with COMET under your orders at 0800A/15th Dec. as direct as safe navigation permits to arrive off Ras El Kanayis Bombardment range at 0800A/17th. My 051219 and 161000 refer latter not to all. (3) On completion of bombardment about 1600A/17 proceed as direct as safe navigation permits to Port Said for O/R to B.P.F. (C. in C. Med., 131759 to D.8.)

13.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

S/M
TALENT Request information regarding present position and future movements of H.M. Submarine TALENT. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 130947 to Admiralty.) Reply 141151.

C. in C.
E.I. Flag changes The flag of Admiral Sir A.J. Power K.C.B., C.V.O. C. in C. E.I. is to be struck in LANDGUARD at sunset on Friday 14th December 1945 and the flag of Admiral Sir Arthur J. Power K.C.B., C.V.O. is to be hoisted in HOWE at 0800 on Saturday 15th Dec.

(2) The flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody C.B. F.O. Air E.I. is to be struck in UKUSSA at sunset on Friday 14th Dec., 1945.

(3) The flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody C.B. as C. in C. E.I. is to be hoisted in LANDGUARD at 0800 Saturday 15th December, 1945.

(4) The flag of Rear Admiral A.R.M. Bridge C.B.E. as F.O. Air E.I. is to be hoisted in UKUSSA at 0800 Saturday 15th December. (C. in C. E.I., 131016 EF to S. and A. E.I.S.)

Destroyers Intend to sail NEPAL and WESSEX at 1300C/13th to for U.K. and Suez for U.K. for Reserve (2) E.T.A. Suez 0600C/17th. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 131031C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Sitrep. 598 First. Burma. Twelfth Army 17th Div. 99 Bde. 11th December, fifty Dacoits armed rifles automatics attacked police station village G. 3270709. Two police escaped not known whether remaining nine killed. Two PLS, 1 RAR to assist civil recce. in force. 10th Dec. Dacoits stole ten rifles Payagyi QC 4804, 19 Div. 11 Dec. patrol to contact Chinese offr. at Kan Weng HK 18 (or LK 18). Suspension BR Pegu QF 015025 now open.
Second. Adamans. N.T.R.
Third. Malaya. N.T.R.
Fourth. N.E.I. West Java. Batavia. Own tps. now defending rly. line dockyard to Batavia. Patrols will op. along rly. line from docks to Old Batavia Rly. Sta. Town remains quiet. Buitenzorg convoy vehs. with escort for Kota Paris Camp encountered armed Indonesians at rly. crossing. Crown dispersed but sniping continued. Attack on camp dispersed by L.M.G. fire. Bandoeng. Quiet. Batavia to Bandoeng convoy 3/3 GR ex Bandoeng arrived Soekaboemi 1330 hrs. 11 Dec. Convoy left for Bandoeng first light 12th Dec. Last reported Tjiandjoer QX 3429 no incidents. Semarang. Reports of concs. Indonesians East of town otherwise N.T.R. Oengareh rd. block South of town and village 955895 cleared. Ambarawa. Evac. of stores continues. Indonesians continue to infiltrate from North and East. East Java and Sumatra. No reports received.
Fifth. Siam 7 Div. 12 Dec. H.Q. 89 Bde. 3/6 GR embarked.
Sixth. F.I.C. 20 Dec. 32 Bde. 80 Bde. N.T.R. 100 Bde. 12 Dec. French killed two wounded three rebels (Thu Dau Mot). French Forces. Many rebels killed twenty P.W. during ops. island RN 6773 Intention. 32 Bde. 15/16 Dec. 4/2 GR sweep are RJ 213622, 220612, 210604, 205617 (or 205613) all informed. (Alfsea, 131107 GH to W.O.)

13.12.1945
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

F.S. SAVORGNAN S.N.O.R.S.C.A.'s 300932 T. of D. from Suez 1100B/
DE BRAZZA 13, E.T.A. Djibouti 1600B/17.
Sloop on (SAVORGNAN, 131112B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)
passage to
E.I.

Personnel Following from N.L.O. advanced Alfsea. Personnel
34th R.M. of 34 R.M. support Regt. will be transhipped
Support Regt. from COLOSSUS to SALWEEN for return to India
agreed P.S.T.O. S.E.A.C. 091440.
In view of the effect of this advice and probable
future inactivity in India, will have on the
Regts. morale, it is considered that they should now be withdrawn
from this theatre Alfsea's 100852* and my 131409x refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 131403 to Admiralty.)
* Not identified in W.R. Being obtained.
x Received in War Registry but not yet circulated as it merely
agrees with 100852.

Sitrep To 1700 hrs. 13th December.
No.24 (a) 32 Bde. N.T.R. 80 Bde. N.T.R. 100 Bde.
French 12th Dec. Japanese Convoy from Honquan 1059
Indo- attacked 3 KM North of Baubang 1513 Japanese
China. casualties, 1 killed 4 wounded. Rebel
casualties unknown. French Forces. Can.
GIOC. Two clashes. French casualties.
3 wounded. Rebels 5 killed. Mytho. Truck
ambushed, 2 French wounded. Reprisal party
killed, 7 rebels. B.C.D. N.T.R. All
informed.
(Alffic, 131715GH, to W.O.)

Cruiser Renewal of all lubrication oil is now in hand and
LONDON ship cannot be ready for sea before Monday 17th
trooping December. Admiralty's 110725 not to all refers.
Proposed amended programme.
Leave Arrive
Colombo 0900 17th December Aden p.m. 21st Dec.
Aden a.m. 23rd December Suez 0600 26th Dec.
Suez 0600 26th December Port Said p.m. 26th
Dec.
Port Said p.m. 26th Dec. Gibraltar p.m. 30th Dec
Gibraltar a.m. 31st Dec. Plymouth a.m. 2nd
Jan.
Plymouth a.m. 2nd Jan. Spithead p.m. 3rd Jan.
Spithead p.m. 3rd Jan. Chatham 1230 4th Jan.

- (2) Fuel at Aden and Gibraltar.
 - (3) Disembark passengers and mail at Plymouth.
 - (4) Disembark passengers at Spithead and Chatham.
 - (5) Give 5 days leave to each watch between 5th and 18th January.
 - (6) Ready to sail p.m. Sunday 20th January.
 - (7) Times local time.
- (LONDON, 131928EF to C. in C. E.I.) Approved 141222EF.)

13.12.1945
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SS. JOSEPH Received 0207 on 500 k/cs S.O.S. from KFWP or
HOOKER (Am.) KUWP JOSEPH HOOKER, U.S., position at 0100 G.M.T.
S.O.S. lat. 49.00 N. long. 64.23 W. have crew and 530
troops aboard.
(JOSEPH HOOKER No T.O.O./13 to All ships.)
Radio your P.C.S. weather and present situation.
You have authority, request any westbound W.S.A. ship without
troops to stand by you. Keep us fully advised.
(C.N.O. C. & R., 130221Z to JOSEPH HOOKER.)

C.V.Es.return Your 052113 dates of arrival will be complied with.
to Norfolk, (Hd. of M.II, 131612 to B.A.D.)
U.S.A.

Far East and Australia.

Policy, re
Manus and
future of
bases in
Pacific.

I have recently been in communication with
A.C.N.B. regarding possible transfer of British
interests in Manus to Australia. A.C.N.B. has
replied they consider future of bases in the
Pacific to be a matter that should be dealt with
on Imperial lines.

(2) B.P.F. requirements for Manus will
practically cease soon after I have established
my H.Q. in Hongkong.

(3) Request Admiralty indicate policy concerning the withdrawal
from Manus and whether there are factors to be considered other
than facilities for the present B.P.F.

(4) It would seem that the presence of an Australian civil
administrator in governing Admiralty Islands sufficiently
safeguard our position without need of military or naval
representation.

(C. in C. B.P.F. (Afloat), 130251 to Admiralty.) *See 011550 Jan 46*

re Return of
A/S training
S/Ms VOX,
VORACIOUS,
VIRTUE to
U.K., re-
tention of.

A.M. 072112.

V class submarines are being employed at Sydney to
supply power and light to ships of B.P.F. refitting
and to dockyard during present industrial strike.

(2) While a settlement of present strike may be
reached shortly further strikes appear likely to
develop and the refitting of B.P.F. ships at
Sydney would be seriously interfered with if no
submarines were available to supply power.

(3) In order that submarines may be available to meet these
emergencies and to meet A/S requirements which have been resumed
intend A. VOX, VORACIOUS, VIRTUE be retained at Sydney until end
Feb./46 opportunity being taken to dock and prepare them for
passage then to be sailed to U.K. visiting Fremantle to make good
any defects, by ADAMANT who will then be there and to adjust
complements as necessary from S/M 4. B. Two T class submarines
from 4th S/M F. to relieve C class submarines at Sydney for a
period of approx. one month.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 130342 to Admty., F.O. S/M.)

14.12.1945
Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

East Indies

Flag changes

The flag of Admiral Sir A.J. Power, K.C.B., C.V.O., C. in C. East Indies was struck in LANDGUARD at sunset today.
The flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody, C.B., F.O. Air East Indies was struck in UKUSSA at sunset today.

Far East and Australia

Australia
R.N. Air
Station
Nowra,
closing
down of.

The R.N. Air station, Nowra will cease operating about 31st January, 1946.

14.12.1945
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S.R. Relief

H.M.S. PORTCHESTER CASTLE has taken over A.S.R. 19 from 0430 today Friday. My E.T.A. Gibraltar 1530A Sunday 16th. (START BAY, 140437Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

SHIEL,
Frigate
to return
to U.K.

My 281536 November and 051152 December SHIEL will not now leave Capetown until about December 19th.
(2) She is being held to convey Medical Officer to St. Helena.
(C. in C. S.A., 141831 to Admiralty).
See 171223.

War Diary

14.12.1945
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Transfer
of H.M.
ships and
equipment
to Turks -
re Trials
of BURAK
REIS.

A.S.(I) has sent telegram referred to in para.(2)
of my 131252 propose not to take any action on
your 121520. Admiralty pass to F.O.S.M.
(B.N.A., Ankara, 141045G to Admiralty.)

Cruiser
CUMBERLAND
trooping

Intend to sail CUMBERLAND at 0530B/15 to Aden
for fuelling subsequently Bombay and Colombo.
(3) Speed 20 knots CUMBERLAND to report
.T.O.D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all
addressees in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 141048B to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

14.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

11th M/S F. Intend to sail M/S 11 in LIONESS with JASEUR
on passage and FLYING FISH in company at 1730C/14th to
to E.I. Trincomalee C. in C. E.I.'s 131801 (N.T. in W.D.)
not to all refers.
(2) S.O.A. 11 knots, M/S 11 to report time of
departure from Aden and E.T.A. Trincomalee to
all addressees in this signal.
(5) If in difficulty through fuel shortage ships to proceed to
Colombo to fuel and thence to Trincomalee.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 141136C to C. in C. E.I.)

S/M TALENT. Your 130947. TALENT left Colombo 9th Dec. for
Hongkong. C. in C. E.I.'s 091735 not to
F.O.C.R.I.N. refers.
(D.O.D., 141151 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

LONDON, Your 131928 approved subject to concurrence of
trooping. Admiralty and Commanders in Chief concerned.
(2) Delay at Aden will enable passage of canal to
be made in daylight.
(C. in C. E.I.S., 141222 EF to LONDON.)

HARTLAND- Intend to sail HARTLAND POINT at 1600C/14th to
POINT, Colombo.
M.S.(L.S.) (2) E.T.A. Colombo 2030 EF/23rd.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 141232 to C. in C. E.I.)

R.T. PRUDENT, Intend to sail H.M.R.T. PRUDENT at 1700C/14th
for U.K. to Suez for U.K.
(2) E.T.A. Suez 0800C/19th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 141240C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Lend-lease Following discussions with U.S.N. representatives
major landing in Bombay, request you declare to Admiralty the
craft surplus. following lend-lease major landing craft, as
surplus to requirements on the East Indies Stn.
(2) Registered numbers L.C.T.(5) 2012, 2038, 2041,
2044, 2056, 2120, 2122, 2231, 2265, 2269, 2275,
2282, 2287, 2291, 2292, 2296, 2297, 2306, 2310, 2338, 2339, 2361,
2420, 2425, 2430, 2435, 2436, 2440, 2444, 2445, 2450, 2477, 2487,
2490, 2491, 2500, L.C.I.(L) 120, 173, 261, 265, 267, 279, 286, 287,
296 and 312.
(3) The above total of 36 L.C.Ts.(5) includes 10 craft, renum-
bered, N.S.C.(L) 81 to 90 inclusive and degraded for use as
harbour craft and L.C.T.(5) 2430, 2435 and 2490, which have been
written off, but not disposed of. Craft are located at Bombay,
Calcutta, Cochin and Mandapan.
(S.O.R.N.E. India, 141635 EF to C. in C. E.I. Stn.)
Amended by 151236 EF *See 221056C.*

/VIRGINIA...

14.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

VIRGINIA,
survey ship
for U.K.

Intend to sail VIRGINIA at 0600/15th to Suez for
U.K. E.T.A. 0700B/20th.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 141815 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements.

Arrived BUCHANNESS, HARTLAND POINT, VIRGINIA,
ARTHUR CAVANAGH.
Departed HARTLAND POINT, PRUDENT, LIONESS,
JASEUR, FLYING FISH.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 141959C to C. in C. E.I.)

14.12.1945
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Assault
Carrier
TROUNCER
Return
to U.S.

On completion of preparation for return to U.S.
(A.M. 062132 - N.T. in W.D. - not to all refers.)
F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail TROUNCER
to Port of Spain, Trinidad, to load 48 Reliants
ex-Piarco (Piarco's 271901 Nov. - N.T. in W.D. -
not to all refers.)

(2) TROUNCER is to retain an aircraft mainten-
ance party of 1 P.O.A.M. (A) and 4 A.M. (A).

(3) N.A.S. Piarco is requested to arrange aircraft handling
party for loading and securing aircraft.

(4) On completion of loading, S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic is
requested to sail TROUNCER to Norfolk, Va., to re-deliver ship
and aircraft to U.S.

(5) F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to inform all concerned of
expected date of arrival of TROUNCER at Trinidad.

(6) S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic is requested to inform B.A.D. and
Admiralty of Expected date of arrival of TROUNCER at Norfolk,
Va., for re-delivery of aircraft and ship to U.S.

(D.O.D., 141012 to F.O.I.C. Greenock, B.A.D. etc.) *see 202133 Z*

Far East and Australia

Programme
VENERABLE

Concur para. 3 of C. in C. E.I. 111727* passed
to A.C.N.B.

(2) Request sailing accordingly.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 140236Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle.)

* Programme of VENERABLE propose departs 27th
December Fremantle.

R.N. Air
Station
Nowra
Closing down
of.

The R.N. Air Station Nowra will cease operating
about 31st January 1946 when the main party will
leave.

(2) A retard party will remain to close down the
station which it is estimated will be available
for marching in inspection mid-March.

(3) Further signal will be made when exact
dates are known.

(V.A.(Q) B.P.F. 140517 to R.A.A.F., H.Q.,
A.C.N.B., Melbourne.)

R.A.P.W.I.
Sitrep
No. 14 12th
December.

C. in C. B.P.F., 140600Z, 140616Z to Admiralty
etc.

See Lion Copy.

MESSAGE.

90A
IN

Far East and Australia

Friday 14 December

UNCLASSIFIED

140600Z December

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

Date 14.12.45.

Recd. 1047.

P/L

Addressed Admiralty, A.C.N.B. Melbourne, N.Z.N.B. Wellington,
S.A.C. S.E.A.C. V.A. (Q) B.P.F. Commander Philippine,
C. in C. E.I., F.O.W.A. B.P.F. S.O. Force S,
Brit. Washington, C. in C. ALFPAC. C.O.P.C.
High Commissioner for U.K. (Canberra), B.A.T.M.,
ALFSEA ARMINDIA.

IMPORTANT.

RAPWI. Sitrep No. 14 dated 12th December reference
my 070757Z December.

2. North China Shanghai fit and ready RAPWI for
U.K. 650, Australia 50, Tientsin fit and ready RAPWI for
U.K. 121, Australia and N.Z. 69, Canada 4, India 2,
Tsingtao fit and ready RAPWI for U.K. 20, Hong Kong 17,
Australia 1, RAPWI deferred in North China for U.K. 651,
Australia 116, Hong Kong 23, also at Shanghai for lift in
GLENEARN Indians for Madras 425, see Mov. item 10.

3. Hong Kong RAPWI fit and ready for U.K. 50,
Europe 7, Australia 18, U.S.A. 5, Canada 2, S. Africa 4,
India 5, Singapore 4, RAPWI Cot cases for Australia 3,
RAPWI deferred for U.K. 244, Europe 60, Australia 64,
India 64, S. Africa 1, W. Indies and C. America and S. America
287, Canada 43, Malaya 50, also Indian Police and
Dependants for Madras 400, see Mov. Items 16 and 18.

4. Hanoi French P.O.W. 8700

5. Hainan RAPWI for India 15 (approx) also Chinese
for Hong Kong 5,000.

6. Malia British Int 6, Dutch for lift by British Nil.

7. Australia fit and ready P.O.W. at Sydney for U.K.
117, Hong Kong 115, Malaya 8, New Zealand 20, India 8,
Java 3, Canada 3, Shanghai 3, Fit Int for U.K. 46
Malaya 6, Canada 1, New Zealand 13, East Indies 3 deferred
P.O.W. 189 Int 1314 sick P.O.W. at Sydney 45 Fremantle 12
sick Int at Sydney 26, sick RAPWI will either remain in
Australia or be lifted by Trooper when fit, see Mov items 14
and 19.

8. New Zealand RAPWI fit for U.K. 4, Singapore 1, Canada
1, China 1, RAPWI deferred sick for U.K. 85, Australia 4,
Hong Kong 7, India 2, Singapore 2, Malta 1 uncertain 15.

9. Comphilseafiron pass to S.B.N.L.O.Pail.
Admiralty pass to War Office.

140600Z.

2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.3.(0)
Secretary
Dep.Secretary
P.A.S.(0)
D. of E.
O.D.(2)
D.S.O.
A.C.N.P.(5)
C.W.(Cas)(3)
N.L.(6)
M.(2) & for W.O.(D.P.W.) & for F.O. P.O.W.Dept
C.N.I.(2)
M.D.G.
D. of P.(Q)(3)
D.Mov.(7)
~~W.F.~~
N.
D. of S.T.(10)
D.T.D.(2)
C.E.I.
L.Br.)
C.E.II) Bath (8) by Courier
S.W.R.(6))

GG/
gc (83)

MESSAGE.IN

UNCLASSIFIED

140616Z/December

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

Date: 14/12/45.

Recd: 1110

P/L.

Addressed: Admiralty, A.C.N.B. Melbourne, N.Z.N.B. Wellington,
S.A.C. S.E.A.C., V.A. (Q) B.P.F., Commander
Philippines, C. in C. E.I., F.O.W.A. B.P.F., S.O.
Force "S", B.A.D., C. in C. Afpac, High Commissioner
for U.K. (Canberra), C.O.P.C., B.A.T.M., ALFSEA,
ARMINDIA.

IMPORTANT

NR 61/931.

RAPWI Mov. No. 14 dated 12th December Refer my 080030Z
December.

(2) H.S. AMARAPOORA sailed Rabaul 10th December expected time
of arrival Singapore 24th December thence to India.

(3) H.S. GERUSALEMME expected time of departure Fremantle
17th December approx. for Singapore to act as Base H.S. Ship
temporarily and lifting RAPWI for Malaya.

(4) H.S. KAROA sailed Brisbane 10th December lifting RAPWI
for India ex Sydney 9 and Indians for India ex Brisbane sick
49 fit 68 thence to Rabaul and India.

(5) H.S. MAUNGANUI sailed Fremantle 10th December with sick
RAPWI for U.K. 87 sick int. for U.K. 14 expected time of
arrival Colombo 18th December (approx.).

(6) H.S. TJITJALENGKA sailed Shanghai 6th December for
Singapore expected time of departure 15th December lifting
sick RAPWI for U.K. 25 Europe 5 also Indians for Madras
156 expected time of departure Singapore 19th December
lifting further sick RAPWI for U.K. 20 India 10 Madras
expected time of arrival 25th December expected time of
departure 27th December Colombo expected time of arrival
30th December expected time of departure 2nd January thence
to South Africa and U.K. Lifts sick at Durban for U.K.
140.

(7) H.S. VASNA sailed Manila 13th December expected time of
arrival Hong Kong 17th December lifting Dutch sick RAPWI 63
fit int. 34 for onward passage also British fit RAPWI 2
Chinese for Hong Kong 1 Iranian for Baghdad 1 Greeks for
Greece.

(8) H.M.S. ATHELING with 756 N.Z. Army personnel for New
Zealand expected time of arrival Fremantle 14th December
thence to Melbourne and New Zealand to lift available RAPWI
in New Zealand for Australia and U.K.

/(9)

Cont'd: P.T.O.

- 2 -

(9) H.M.S. FORMIDABLE at Sydney expected time of departure end of December with sick for S. Africa and U.K.

(10) H.M.S. GLENEARN sailed Hong Kong 10th December lifting Indian students for India 44 expected time of arrival Shanghai 13th December to lift Indians for Madras 425 (approx.) see SITREP item 2.

(11) H.M.S. GUARDIAN sailed Kwangchow wan lifting French 75 Anamites 125 for Saigon expected time of arrival 13th December.

(12) H.M.S. IMPLACABLE expected time of arrival Wewak 13th December to lift Australians to Australia.

(13) H.M.S. LOTHIAN sailed Shanghai 7th December lifting RAPWI ex Hong Kong 40 (approx.) and Indians for Madras 211 expected time of arrival Singapore 14th December.

(14) AQUITANIA sailed Sydney 10th December with fit POW for U.K. 357 sick RAPWI for U.K. 357 sick RAPWI for U.K. 20 fit int. for U.K. 38 expected time of arrival Fremantle 14th December lifts further sick RAPWI for U.K. 3.

(15) CIRCASSIA sailed Balikpapan for Macassar now under control of SACSEA.

(16) CHESHIRE departed Brisbane lifting Chinese seaman 58 ex Sydney and Chinese 1277 ex Brisbane all for Hong Kong expected time of arrival 18th December will lift all available Indians for India from Hong Kong and Shanghai see SITREP items 2 and 3.

(17) DUNERA sailed Singapore 8th December (approx.) for India lifting Indian police and dependants ex Shanghai 906 Indians for Madras ex Shanghai 504.

(18) HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN expected time of arrival Hong Kong 20th December available for final lift of British and European RAPWI from China to U.K. see SITREP items 2 and 3.

(19) MOOLTAN expected time of arrival Wellington 20th December thence U.K. via Sydney lifts from Sydney fit POW for U.K. 65 fit int. for U.K.

(20) SAMHAIN sailed Hong Kong early December lifting Indian police and dependants for Madras 400.

(21) Comphlseafroon pass to S.B.N.L.O. phil. Admiralty pass to War Office.

As received.

140616Z

1st Lord	A.C.N.S. (0)	M. (10) & for W.O.	D. of P. (3)
1st S.L. (3)	Secretary	A.C.N.P. (5)	N.L.
D.F.S.L.	P.A.S. (D)	D.C. (2)	C.W. (Cas.) (3)
2nd S.L.	P.A.S. (S)	D.S.O.	N.
4th S.L.	O.I.C. (2)	O.D. (9)	C.N.I.
5th S.L.	D.T.D. (2)	D. Mov. (7)	D.N.A.R. (3)
V. Contr. (Air)	D.T.D. (C) (2)	D.N.A.O. (2)	D.A.E. (4)
V.C.N.S.	D. of S.T. (30)	D.A.W.T.	D.A.M.R. (3)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)	M.D.G.	D.A.C.R. (3)	Air Br.
D.T.A.S.W. (3)	D. of P. (Q) (3)	Mails.	D. of S. (6)
W.D.	W.R. No. 2		

14.12.1945
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

72

Australia and New Zealand

ai
WHELP
destroyer
on passage
to U.K.

Departed Fremantle 0100Z/14th December WHELP
for Colombo E.T.A. 0230Z/23 December direct
route S.O.A. 15 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 140850Z to F.O. Ceylon.)

UNICORN
aircraft
repair
ship

Destination of UNICORN in U.K. is Devonport.
(2) Men due for release and on longest abroad
roster and compassionate cases are to be
discharged on arrival. Foreign service leave
due to remainder of ship's company is to be
given in accordance with A.F.O. 5998/44 and
A.F.O. 4087/45 in two watches.

(3) Complement will be adjusted during leave period to that
required for D.L.T. Carrier. UNICORN will relieve PREMIER as
D.L.T. Carrier in early February 1946. A.M. 261150 November not
to all refers.
(D.O.D., 141918 to UNICORN, Admiral Air.) *Sec. 201657(S.A)*

a
n
er

15.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Flag changes. 1. The flag of Vice Admiral C. Moody, C.B. as C. in C. East Indies was hoisted in LANDGUARD at 0800 today. The flag of Rear Admiral A.R.M. Bridge, C.B.E., as F.O. Air E.I. was hoisted in UKUSSA at 0800 today. The flag of Admiral Sir Arthur J. Power, K.C.B., C.V.O., was hoisted in HOWE at 0800 today.*

America & West Indies.

Head of
British
Admiralty
delegation
to Washington.

2. Admiral Sir Henry Moore assumed duty as Head of British Admiralty delegation Washington today.

15.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

GENERAL.

Economical
speed of
ships.

For the purpose of A.G.M. 720A economical speed
is to be taken as follows:
A. For battleships, fleet and light fleet carriers
and destroyers - 14 knots.
B. For sloops, frigates and minesweepers - 12 knots.
(V.C.N.S., 151504 to A.G.M. H. & A.)

War Diary.

15.12.1945
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

THULE, S/M. Intend to sail THULE 0800A/16th Dec. via Necri routes to Portsmouth.
(2) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. p.m. 20th Dec.
(7) THULE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 151006A to Admiralty.)

SOLEBAY, Intend to sail SOLEBAY 1530A/15th Dec. via Necri destroyer. routes to Clyde.
(2) Speed 14½ knots, E.T.A. 1600Z/19th Dec.
(7) SOLEBAY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 151030A to Admiralty.)

Frigates & Arrival 1000Z/14th, H.M. ships SEYMOUR and HONESTY. corvette to Sailed 2100Z/14th for Boston, U.S.A. E.T.A. a.m. be returned 23rd. to U.S.A. (Consul Ponta Delgada, 151430Z to Admiralty.)

A.S.R. Stn. Estimate am now in New Station 19. 19, (RUSHEN CASTLE, 161850Z to PORTCHESTER CASTLE.) established. New station 19 established 43 N. 16 W.
(2) RUSHEN CASTLE left station 18 now closed 1600Z/15th Dec. 12 knots to open new 19.
(3) RUSHEN CASTLE is requested to inform PORTCHESTER CASTLE when on new station, PORTCHESTER CASTLE then return Gib. 12. knots without further orders.
(4) PORTCHESTER CASTLE is to report on leaving old 19 to Admiralty, C. in C. Plymouth, Comnavcu prefixed immediate.
(5) PORTCHESTER acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A., 151956A to PORTCHESTER CASTLE, RUSHEN CASTLE.)

South Atlantic.

Movement. Arrived UNICORN.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 150645Z to C. in C. S.A.)

ENTERPRISE, Intend to sail ENTERPRISE from Freetown at 1600/15 cruiser, Dec. to Simonstown calling at Pointe Noire for fuel trooping. and water.. S.O.A. 21 knots navigation as safety permits. E.T.A. Pointe Noire 0700/19th Dec. E.T.D. Pointe Noire 1600/19th Dec. E.T.A. Simonstown to be reported direct. ENTERPRISE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 151101 to C. in C. S.A.)

A.S.R. Stn. M.141510* not to all. A.S.R. Stn. 21 not required No. 21. until further notice. Return to Freetown forthwith signalling your T.A.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 151545 to KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE.)

15.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

C. in C. Med.
movement.

C. in C. Med. in LIVERPOOL arrived Palermo 14th Dec., intend to sail in LIVERPOOL at 0700A tomorrow Sunday 16th for Naples, arriving 1730A/16th. (C. in C. Med., 150917A to Admiralty.)

Transfer of
M.M.S. 63,
65, 88, 140,
on loan to
Greeks.

EWROTAS can be released on completion of defects approx. Dec. 29th.

(2) ACHELOS and ALPHIOS can be released approx. two and three weeks respectively after arrival of M.M.S. Both vessels at present allocated to 160th M/S Flotilla as danlayers.

(3) C. in C. Med.'s 120922 A.M. 062046, 101226 (not to all) refer.

(S.B.N.O.. Greece, 151145B to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

See 021809 B Jan

+ 25/26 March 46

15.12.1945.
Saturday

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Closing of Naval Control offices at Bombay, Karachi and Cochin.

N.C.S. Offices, Bombay, Karachi, and Cochin, will close on the first of Jan. 1946, thereafter Merchant ships from these Ports for Rangoon inclusive for further East are to call at Colombo for route instructions. Request all concerned be informed.
(F.O.R.I.N., 150508EF to Admiralty).

ROTHER, SENNEN, Frigate and Cutter on passage to U.K.

Intend to sail ROTHER and SENNEN at 2350/15th to Suez for U.K.
2. Ships to report T. of D. from Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 151058 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Lend Lease Major landing craft surplus.

Amend last sentence of my 141635 to read "Craft are located at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin and Mandapam".
(S.O.R.N.E. India, 151236EF to C. in C. E.I.)

E.I. Change of C. in C.

Vice-Admiral C. Moody C.B., has today Saturday 15 Dec. relieved Admiral Sir A.J. Power K.C.B., C.V.O. as Commander in Chief East Indies Station. Admiral Power has sailed from Colombo for the United Kingdom in H.M.S. HOWE.
(C. in C. E.I., 151402EF to Admty. C. in C. B.P.F.)

HOWE.
Flag of Adm. Sir Arthur Power, K.C.B., C.V.O. Programme.

Propose following programme for HOWE, wearing the flag of Admiral Sir Arthur Power, K.C.B., C.V.O., All dates Dec. unless otherwise stated.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
-	Colombo	15th
18th	Bombay	19th
24th	Aden	26th
29th	Suez	29th
30th	Port Said	1st Jan.
9th Jan.	Portsmouth	-

2. Anchor in Bitter Lakes for night 29th/30th.

3. 3,300 tons fuel required Port Said.

4. Dates of leaving Port Said and arriving Portsmouth may be delayed 24 hours depending upon condition of condensers after canal passage.

(C. in C. E.I., 151452EF to Admty., C. in C. Med. See 171840).

34th R.M. Amphibian Support Regt.

L.Z. 11125. 59/COS. For Chiefs of Staff. Your COS (India) 37 of 11th Dec. Request 34 R.M. Amphibian Support Regiment incl. LAD and H.Q. 40 T.K., B.D.E., W.K.S.P. and one sec. be returned Madh Island through Bombay.
(G.H.O. India, 151530Z to Cabinet Offices, See 192120Z).

15.12.1945.
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

HOLM SOUND
Aircraft
component
repair ship
on passage
to B.P.F.

T. of D. Suez 151600B E.T.A. Aden 210600B.
(HOLM SOUND, 151607B to N.O.I.C. Aden, Admty).

F.O. Malaya
and Forward
Area.
responsibilit-
ies.

Naval Administration ashore.
F.O.M.F.A. is to assume responsibility for the
administration of all N.Os. I.C. R.N.Os. and
Port Parties in the forward area as defined in
450 C of 5th Dec.
(C. in C. E.I., 151609EF to E.I. G.M.)

MULL OF
GALLOWAY
Motor craft
maintenance
ship return
to U.K.

A.M. 101807*. There is no further requirement
on East Indies Station for MULL OF GALLOWAY.
Intend to return her to U.K. via Suez.
(C. in C. E.I., 151803EF to Admty).
*Disposal of ships, aircraft and stores in
respect of accelerating rates of release.

Movements

Arrival ROTHER, SENNEN.
Departed BUCHANNESS, VIRGINIA.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 151912 to C. in C. E.I.)

Sitrep No.
26. French
Indo China.

To 1700 hrs. 15th December.
A.32 Bde. 5/14 (or 9/14) Punjab MC 2 (8) 5 (?2)
pls. fired on S.N.S.G.O. AP while moving to
support 4/2 (or 4/5) GR. Our Cas. 3 killed.
Area mortared. Enemy cas. unknown. 4/2 GR
Hanphu Op. Landing unopposed. Right Coy.
later struck 50 Rebels. Our cas. 1 killed 1 JGM (?) and 4 LORs.
wounded. Enemy cas. 31 Killed. 315 PW taken. FM. H.Q.
destroyed also large arms dump containing Jap amn. and small
arms. 80 Bde. nothing to report. 100 Bde. (?5 GCL) plus Coy.
13 FF Rif captured 4 rebels 410747. Liberated 8 friendly
Annamits. Phnom Peeh nothing to report. French forces Mytno.
5 clashes. French cas. 1 killed. 1 Offr. and 5 ORs wounded
1 missing. Rebel Cas. 8 killed 10 PW. Gia Dinh. 5 Rebels
killed in Police (?armed charge) 11 Rebels killed.
B. British Forces. Nothing to report. French forces (?Groupe-
ment Mussu) and 1 Bn. 23 RIC (?at) Duc Hoa RH 9359.
C. British Forces nothing to report. French forces heavy
weapons group light Commando 5 RIC leave Saigon 16th Dec. to
re-inforce Ban Me Thout Garrison.
D. Nothing to report.
(Alffic, 151920 to W.O. Sacsea, Alfsea).

Ocean Air sea
rescue vessels
to be
discontinued

Reference A.C.S.E.A., 110300. Subject to Air
Ministry concurrence, intend to inform C. in C.
East Indies that provision of ocean air/sea
rescue vessels is to be discontinued forthwith.
(Hd. of M.II Appd. V.C.N.S., 152200 to Air
Ministry).

see 271833Z

15.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Destroyer
Flotillas
B.P.F., re-
duction of,
Release for
return to U.K.

Your 120742. It is urgently necessary to accel-
erate the reduction of total number of destroyers to
16.
(2) If it is not practicable to advance the date
of return of the 24th Destroyer Flotilla complete,
request you will consider relieving them (and/or
destroyers of 25th Destroyer Flotilla remaining
after those in your 270229 November) ship for
ship by destroyers of the 19th Destroyer Flotilla
as soon as they can be made available. It is realised that they
may reduce the scope of the programme outlined in your 290619 Nov.
(V.C.N.S., 151826 to C. in C. B.P.F., R.A.(D) B.P.F.,
A.C.1, V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

010242 Jan
See 040209Z Jan 46

16.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

TIPTOE
S/M.

Intend to sail TIPTOE 1300A/16th Dec. via Necri routes to Portsmouth.
2. Speed 11 knots. E.T.A. a.m. 21st Dec.
7. TIPTOE acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 160953A to Admty., C. in C. Portsmouth).

JED
Frigate
for Reserve.

Intend to sail JED 1400A/16th Dec. via Necri routes to Plymouth.
2. Speed 13 kts. E.T.A. p.m. 19th Dec.
7. JED acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 161037A to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth JED).

South Atlantic

CAISTOR
CASTLE
Corvette
A/S rescue
Force.

Arrivals H.M.S. CAISTOR CASTLE 1030/13th Dec. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 160908 to Admty).

16.12.1945
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

DART
Frigate
on
passage
from
E.I.

Intend to sail DART at 0700B/17th to Gibraltar for onward routing U.K.
(3) Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 24th. Ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 161020B to F.O.G.M.A.)

RANEE
Carrier
Trooping

Intend to sail RANEE at 0900B/17 to Colombo for onward routing to Sydney.
(2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) S. of A. 16 knots. RANEE to report T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 161202B to F.O. Ceylon.)

Visit of
H.M.S. AJAX
to Plate. Ex
German prisoners
from GRAF
SPEE

A.M. 081543. It is most desirable that AJAX should have an R.M. Band for this trip.
(2) None is available from U.K.
(3) It is requested that one be provided from station resources, if possible.
(D. of M., 161448 to C. in C. Mediterranean.)
See 171701.

AVON
frigate
to be paid
off on
Reserve

Intend to sail AVON at 0800B/17th to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K.
(3) 11½ knots E.T.A. A.M./24th AVON to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 161740B to F.O.G.M.A.)

AWE
Frigate
for
Reserve

Intend to sail AWE at 1600B/17 to Alexandria and Ria for onward routing Gibraltar and U.K.
(3) Speed 11 knots E.T.A. 0900B/18.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 161748B to F.O.L.E.M.)

16.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Flag of
F.O.W.
transference.

At 1200GH 17th Dec. Flag of F.O.W. will be transferred from BULOLO to L.S.E.51. Office of F.O.W. will be established ashore at Union Buildings, Singapore. Signals to F.O.W. are to continue to be routed for the time being. (C. in C. E.I., 161248EF to E.I. Stn. No.504, Admiralty). *SM 041443EF JAN.*

MAENAD
M/S
on passage to
E.I. Stn.

Intend to sail MAENAD at 0500C/17th to Trincomalee C. in C. E.I.S., 131801 not to all refers.
2. S. of A. 10 knots. Ship to report time of departure and E.T.A. Trincomalee to all addressees in this signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 161829EF to C. in C. E.I.)

Movement

Colombo 16th Dec.
Arrivals SUSSEX, NESS, departure LOCH ACHRAY, M.M.S.198.
(F.O. Ceylon, 162050EF to F.O.C.R.I.N., Admty).

16.12.1945
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East and Australia

Indian repatriates from Shanghai Your 151005 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all. 245 Indian repatriates have been embarked in GLENEARN for passage to Madras 15th December. These comprise all the Indians in Shanghai willing to be repatriated. There remain approximately 400 who have obtained or are confident of obtaining employment. Consider that the repatriates of Indians from Shanghai in R.A.P.W.I. ships is now complete. CHESHIRE is not required to lift Indian from Shanghai. (2) The foregoing statement has been seen by the Chairman Indian Advisory Committee who concurs. (C.S.2., 160215 to F.O.W.A., B.P.F., inform C. in C. B.P.E.)

Manchuria Report Precip of Seventh Fleet Summaries 13 and 14 December. Reliably reported no Communist troops at Chang-Chun (43 - 57 - 125 - 16). Proposed airlift Fifth Division to Chanco-Chun still pending.

North-east China Report. Sixth Marine Division report H.Q. 8th. C.N.A. West Chiahsien (36 - 17 119 - 59). Leading elements into Kao-Mi rpt. Kae Mi (36 - 23 119 - 42). Chinese sources indicate six missing Marine Aga Divers crashed closed vicinity Shan Li Shih Chin (36 54 - 120 08). Rear Adm. Perry shifted flag from Norton Sound to Curtis. Continued moored sweeping Takao. Swept and destroyed one Type 93 mine. Continued moored sweeping Kyuko area Formosa. Three Type 93 mines and one obstructor swept and destroyed. (C.S.2, 160420Z to F.O.W.A., B.P.F.)

17.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

LAGOS
Destroyer

Intend to sail LAGOS 1400A 17th December via Medri Routes to Malta.
(2) Speed 14. E.T.A. 20th December.
(5) LAGOS acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 171030A to V.A. Malta, C. in C. Mediterranean, LAGOS).

SLINGER
G.P. Carrier
on passage
to U.K.

Intend to sail SLINGER 1430 KM 17th December Via Necri Routes to Devonport.
(2) Speed 11½. E.T.A. a.m. 21st December.
(7) SLINGER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 171146A to Admiralty.)
Amended by 180913A.

BUTTERMERE
(Seagoing
training
ship)
(Freetown)
for U.K.

Intend to sail BUTTERMERE 1200A 18th December via Necri Routes to Devonport. Admiralty is requested to allocate final destination.
(2) Speed 10½. E.T.A. 22nd Dec. 1200A.
(7) BUTTERMERE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 171214 to Admiralty, C. in C. Plymouth)
See 211654A.

South Atlantic

UNICORN
Aircraft
repair
ship
on passage
to U.K.

Sailed H.M.S. UNICORN coastal to Cape Town.
(2) S. of A. 15 knots WKEL. E.T.A. Cape Town 0900Z 19th.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 170737Z to C. in C. S.A.)

SHIEL
Frigate

My 141831. Following is now approximate programme for SHIEL:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Capetown	-	18th December.
St. Helena	23rd December	23rd December.
Freetown	28th December	29th December.
Gibraltar	5th January	6th January.
Devonport	10th January	-

(2) Governor of St. Helena has been informed.
(C. in C. S.A., 171223 to Admiralty.)
See 181712B.

FOSSBECK
Boom Carrier

Intend to sail H.M.S. FOSSBECK to Plymouth at 1000Z 18th December weather permitting.

(2) 7 knots.
(3) Direct route as safe navigation permits.
(4) E.T.A. at daybreak on 24th December.
(A.L.O.A.F., 171432Z to Admiralty, C. in C. Plymouth)

/SHIEL...

17.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Continued

SHIEL
frigate
for
redelivery
to U.S.

On arrival at Devonport about 8th January SHIEL is to give foreign service leave in accordance with A.F.Os. 5998/44 and 4087/45 prepare for redelivery to U.S. authorities in accordance with C.A.F.O. 1830/45 and adjust to ferry complement. C. in C. S.A.'s 281536 November not to all refers. (Admiralty, 172308 to C. in C. S.A., SHIEL)

17.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

MIRROR
Cable Ship

Request you sail MIRROR to Alexandria for work in my 111551.

(2) Further signal will be made concerning work in your 131239 which is understood to be part of EMILE BAUDOT programme given in my 091031 Sept. not to F.O.L.E.M.
(C. in C. Med., 171019A to F.O.G.M.A.) Amended by 171637.

Cancel para. 1 of my 171019. F.O.G.M.A. is requested to comply with A.M. 142249* received subsequently.

(C. in C. Med., 171637 to Admiralty, F.O.G.M.A.,) See 181055A (N.A.) * Question of MIRROR's programme was discussed at W/T Board re restoring of Gib.-Malta cable and is to have priority.

WESSEX
destroyer
on passage
from B.P.F.

Immediately on arrival about 2000B/17, sail WESSEX in company to Alexandria for onward routing to U.K.

(3) Speed as necessary to arrive 0930B/18.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 171031B to NEPAL.)

3rd and
14th
Destroyer
Flotillas
change
round.

It is the intention to change round the 3rd and 14th Destroyer Flotillas early in the new year; the 14th D.F. joining F.O.L.E.M. eastward while the 3rd D.F. proceeds to the Central Mediterranean.

(2) Since there are, as yet, only 5 ships in the 14th D.F., 2 of the hunts of 6th division will, if the situation requires, be left in Levant until sufficient new ships join the 14th D.F. to bring it up to strength.

(C. in C. Mediterranean, 171148 to F.O.L.E.M.)

See 311515

Orbat 123
Central
Mediterranean
Forces.

FX 56571 cipher 17th December.

Shows position as known at 1200A/14 December.
First. G.H.Q. A R.A.A.C. No change B.2 Polcorps
No change C.2 District Delete 218 (Special) Area
D.3 District No change E H.Q. BTNA No change.

Second. H.Q. L.F. Greece No change.

Third. H.Q. B.T.A. Vienna Area 71 Sub. Area 219 Sub. Area 46
Inf. Dib. 128 138 and 139 Inf. Bdes. 10H 12L IRGH 2 R Tks.
16/5L 78 Inf. Div. 11 36 and 38 Inf. Bdes. NIH.

Fourth. HQ 13 Corps 55 Area 86 Area 201 Sub. Area 7N Staffs 88
U.S. Inf. Division. 349 350 and 351 Inf. Regts. 752 Tk. Bn. 56 Inf.
Div. 24 Gds. Bdes. 169 Inf. Bde. 4H 7 Armd. Bde. (less 16/5L less
2 R Tks.) 6 Lwowska Inf. Bde. Gp. 167 Inf. Bde. Gp.
(G.(S.D.) C.N.F., 171453A to W.O.)

R.M.band
for AJAX

A.M. 161448. This has been arranged.
(C. in C. Med., 171701 to Admiralty.)

17.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

TEST
frigate

Arrived H.M.S. TEST.
(Diego Suarez, 170725C to Trincomalee)

RAJAH.
Carrier
Trooping

Sailed RAJAH to Bombay for onward routing to U.K.
keeping constant watch on broadcast V.
(C. in C. E.I., 171430 EF to F.O. Bombay.)

Re
repatriation
of Italians
in S.E.A.C.

My 151521 not to all. Directive from S.A.C. S.E.A.
to C. in C. Ceylon states that Italians in
S.E.A.C. should remain where they are until they
can be repatriated to Italy.

(2) When, therefore, ERITREA has collected
approximate total 180 Italians and Swiss as intend-
ed in your 131817 not to all, request you sail her

to Mediterranean.

(3) Admiralty. Understand Ministry of Marine, Rome desire that
ERITREA proceeds later to Shanghai to contact Italian Ambassadors
to China and Japan. Request confirmation.

(C. in C. E.I., 171625EF to F.O.M.A.F.A.) *See 031414 Jan.*

SCOUT
destroyer
tender
to U.K.

My 131123.

Intend sailing H.M.S. SCOUT, a.m. 19th December to
R/V with R.F.A. SCOTOL in accordance with C. in C.
E.I. 070942* at 0600/22nd.

(F.O. Bombay, 171713 EF, to N.O.I.C., Aden.)

* Intend to sail SCOUT from Colombo p.m. 8th
December Bombay for onward routing U.K.

HOWE
programme

Your 151452* approved subject to concurrence of
C. in C. Med.

(2) Para. 3 of your message. Ship should fuel to
maximum at Aden in accordance with A.F.O. 6127/45
and subject to limitations referred to in

F.O.L.E.M.'s 261047 November. Fuel embarked in canal area
should accordingly be reduced to the minimum.

(D.O.D. (Approved A.C.N.S.(O), 171840 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C.
Med.)* Proposed programme for HOWE wearing the Flag of Adm. Sir A.
Power, K.C.B. C.V.O.

Closing of
Naval
control
offices
at Bombay,
Karachi and
Cochin.

Your 150508. Consider local promulgation will
suffice, other authorities do not appear to be
concerned.

(D.T.D., 172014 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

FINISTERRE
destroyer on
passage to
B.P.F.

Intend to sail FINISTERRE at 0600C/18th to
Colombo.

(2) S. of A. 14 knots. Ship to report T. of D.
and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this
signal.

(N.O.I.C. Aden, 172150 to C. in C. E.I.,
C. in C. B.P.F., Aden.)

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17.12.1945
MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesHd. of
British
Admiralty
delegation
to WashingtonAdmiral Sir Henry Moore assumed duty as Head of
British Admiralty delegation Washington on 15th
December, 1945.
(B.A.D., 171807Z to Admiralty and SAKER.)Far East and AustraliaFORMIDABLE
A.C.Request FORMIDABLE be sailed from Sydney 27th
December for Fremantle to embark sick passengers
and for onward routeing to Capetown (for fuel)
and Portsmouth.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 170102Z to A.C.N.B.)

Movements

Arrivals Singapore 16th December.
ARGONAUT, VERYAN BAY, MANELA, L.S.T.'s 39 36 280
326 L.S.E. (L.C.) 50.
Departures BEARN, NIGELLA.
(F.O.M.F.A., 170850 to Admiralty.)SS. VACPORT
(Tanker)
mined
HongkongF.O.W.A.'s 160825Z (N.T. in W.D.) December not to
or needed by all.
VACPORT was mined in Tathong Channell at about
1025H/ Sunday December 16th. Ship is now docked
for examinations. Reports conflict as to exact
position of mining but it is not considered
necessary to restrict traffic in the Entrance
Channell.
(N.O.I.C. Hongkong, 171200 to C. in C. B.P.F.)KING GEORGE
V for U.K.
direct from
TasmaniaC. in C. B.P.F. 080259 (Not to B.S.1).
Request KING GEORGE V be sailed direct to U.K. on
leaving Hobart.
(2) Paragraph 2 of A.M. 271600 (N.T. in W.D.) Nov.
(To Cs. in C. only) is cancelled.
(D.O.D. (Approved V.C.N.S.), 171553 to C. in C.
B.P.F., C. in C. E.I.)see 041829 JAN/46
+ 070747 " " 3.

18.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SS. Lat. 43.42 N., 30.40 W. Please save OE GCK.
DIMITRIOS (DIMITRIOS CHANDRIS No T.O.O. 18th to All Ships)
CHANDRIS Information received Greek Merchant Vessel
Greek in DIMITRIOS CHANDRIS in distress position
distress. 43.42 N., 30.40 W. ^{American} French ship PIERRE L' ENFANT
approx. 75 miles from distressed ship is
proceeding to assist, American liberty ship
ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL also proceeding to assist. R.A.F. Azores.
Propose sending aircraft at dawn to assist homing of rescue
ships. Request approx. positions rescue ships and any other
ships in area.
(N.O.I.C. Azores, 180610Z to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

SLINGER Add 9 hours to all times my 171146A Dec.
G.P. carrier (F.O.G.M.A., 180913A to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth
on passage SLINGER)
U.K.

MIRROR Intend to sail MIRROR p.m. 19th December to
cable re-establish original Gib-Malta number 2 cable
repairs. which was diverted to Algiers June 1943.
2. Area of operations vicinity of 37.40 N.,
03.50 W.
3. A.M. 142249 and C. in C. Med. (Malta)
171637 both Dec. neither to MIRROR refer.
4. MIRROR acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 181055A to C. in C. Med., MIRROR) *see 171116 Jan 46.*

South Atlantic

SHIEL My 141831* and 171223.
frigate. Capetown departure 1615B SHIEL routed as safe
navigation permits for St. Helena, Freetown
and onward routing by Capt. in Charge West
Africa to Gibraltar and Devonport.
(2) S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. St. Helena 0700B Dec. 23rd.
(C. in C. S.A., 181712B to Admty).
*SHIEL not now leaving Capetown until about Dec. 19th.
/Approx. programme for SHIEL.

18.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

COSSACK,
COMET
destroyers
for B.P.F.

Intend to sail D.8 in COSSACK with COMET in company at 0530B/19 to Aden and Colombo for onward routeing B.P.F.
2. Routed as safe navigation permits.
3. S. of A. 15 knots D.8 to report T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 181018B to N.O.I.C. Aden)

Re
minesweeping
Med. areas.
Mine clearance
committee.
Board
meeting.

The subjects raised in your 111600* which is Belgrade (?04)2304* and 121015* being repeated to Admiralty are matters for discussion at the (?meeting) of the Mediterranean Zone Board at Whitehall the Yugoslav representative (?has) despite invitation neither so far attended nor furnished the Board with any information regarding minesweeping in the Areas.

2. Inform Mano (?1) a that before the Channel and harbour referred to in your 121015 could be declared safe for shipping Mediterranean Zone Board will require sufficient details of clearance operations to justify such action.

3. Yugoslav representative in your 131640 should therefore bring full repetition full records of all M/S activities and future intention to next Mediterranean Zone Board meeting at Bashika commencing 15th January for 3 days.

(C. in C. Med. 181211 to B.N.A. Belgrade) See 211745A.

*Not identified in War Registry.

Herewith is B.N.R. Belgrade's 141640 referred to in C. in C. Med. Naples 181211. Begins. Addressed C. in C. Med., Info Cdr. Taranto F.O.I.L. from B.N.R. Belgrade. Yugoslav Naval Staff have detailed Capt. Vlastic Blagoje as Yugoslav representative to the Mediterranean zone mine clearance committee and request the information as to place and date of next meeting and probable duration of stay. Ends.

(N.O.I.C. Naples, 181414 to Admty).

B.Y.M.S.2258
SHILLAY
(Dan layer)
for B.P.F.

Take SHILLAY under your orders and sail at 0800A 20th Dec. through position 36° 14' N., 14° 49' E. thence as direct as safe navigation permits to enter Alexandria by Medri route 20/2.
2. Speed 10 knots expected time of arrival 1800A/23rd.

4. Ships are for onward routeing to B.P.F. (C. in C. Med., 181351A to B.Y.M.S.2258)
Amended 190933A.

RANEE
carrier
trooping

Time of departure Suez 1530Z/18th. E.T. of arrival Colombo 27th Dec.
S.N.O.R.S.C.A's 161202B/Dec. refers.
(RANEE, 181616Z to F.O. Ceylon).

CONFIDENTIAL

Rec 3.1.46

E.I.
110A
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.)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dec
181225/January

From : ALFSEA

Rec Date : 3.1.46.

Recd : 0250.

P/L

To : Troopers.

Info : C. in C. E.I., SACSEA, Admiralty, ARMINDIA.

2980 SD4. Subject 34 Amphibian Sp Regt R.M.

1. It is not clear who is the controlling authority for this unit.
2. We had hoped to employ the regiment in our Inf role in Java. We therefore asked C. in C.E.I. to agree to the necessary re-equipment for inf role and C. in C. E.I. referred to Admiralty.
3. Admiralty in their 051936 / December not to you stated they could not approve request in second and that this decision was approved by chiefs of staff. The Unit which had sailed is now therefore returning to India.
4. Understand from same Admiralty sig that it is intended to allow unit to run down to a smaller we to include one sub unit of each type now in the regt. Our proposals consequent on discussion with O.C. Unit who bases his detailed recommendations on discussions at a recent conference at C.O.H.Q. are being forwarded separately.
5. Cabinet Offices 7130 Cos (India) 37 of 10 Dec not to you refers to Admiralty sig in third and asks C. in C. India for "details of disposal of 34 Amphibian support regiment".
6. In view of third and fifth above request decision be obtained who is to be controlling authority in U.K. who will decide future of regt after its arrival back in India. See Para. 4. Recommend that controlling authority should deal direct with India on disposal of Unit. Meanwhile we intend to submit our proposals to you and India.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
D.F.SL.
2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
Par. Secretary
A.C.N.S.(0)
Secretary
A.C.N.P. (5)

181225 /
P.A.S.(S)
P.A.S.(P.)
D. of (3)
D. of P. (Q) (3)
W.D.
C.G.R.M. (2)
O.D. (9)
D.C.O.D. (3)
D.C.O.P. (3)

Admiralty unable to approve ALFSEA's request to re-equip 34 Amphibian support regt. for an Inf. role reinforcement for Java.
As received.
D.N.I.(5) O.I.C.(2)
D.Mov.(7) M(MO10387/45)
D.C.(2) (6)

18.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

VINDEX
G.P. Carrier
Replacements
of aircraft
to
carriers.

Employment of VINDEX in the role of providing replacement aircraft to carriers has been under consideration.

(2) If the fleet was (corrupt groups) a main base for a protracted period, aircraft could be supplied by,

- (A) A properly equipped replenishment carrier.
- (B) A ferry carrier if aircraft lighters and cranes were available.

(3) Even if stored, equipped and complemented for the purpose VINDEX would be unsuitable for a replenishment carrier as she has no catapult.

(4) VINDEX is unsuitable for the purpose of paragraph 2 B as she has only one derrick with a maximum lift of approximately 9,000 pounds repetition 9,000 pounds.

(5) It is considered that there is a need to keep alive the technique of the replenishment carrier but it is not possible to do this in the Britpacflt using VINDEX.

(6) It is for consideration that a suitable C.V.E. for this purpose be retained in the Navy but it is not intended to ask for replacement of VINDEX on this account.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 180305Z to Admty., C. in C. B.P.F., V.A. B.F., F.O.N.A.P.)

See Army. 081333 Feb. C.C.B.P.F.

Minesweeping
China coast,
and Formosa.

Precis of 7th Fleet Summaries 15 and 16 Dec. Rear Adm. Settle in SPRINGFIELD at Taku. Continued moored sweeping Formosa Straits and Approaches to Kiirun. One type 93 mine swept and destroyed. Completed all (?) moored

sweeping Takao. 14 type 93 mines swept and destroyed. Completed moored sweeping Kyuko Area. Continued magnetic sweep in Approaches to port of Amoy, negative results. Completed all magnetic sweeping Takao area.
(C.S.2, 180535Z to F.O.W.A., B.P.F.)

BELFAST
cruiser.

- (a) Blank. (b) and (c) C.S.2 in BELFAST.
- (d) Shanghai. (e) 0500Z/18th. (f) 14 knots.
- (g) Q.P.H. 171 to, Sat. E. Doe, A. Ail, X, Y, thence by Hong Kong searched channel.
- (h) Hong Kong. (i) 0545Z 21. (j) (k) Blank.
- (l) In accordance with 400P.
- (S.O. Force S, 180629 to F.O.W.A., B.P.F.)

ENCHANTRESS
command and
Headquarters
Ship.

When ready, about 27th Dec. request ENCHANTRESS be sailed for U.K. via Melbourne, Fremantle, Colombo, Aden and Suez Canal.

2. S.A. 12 knots.
(V.A.(Q), B.P.F., 180803Z to F.O.C. Sydney, C. in C. B.P.F.)

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

Coastal
Forces
E.I.
organisation,
lapse of.

The Coastal Forces organisation East Indies will
lapse on 1st January 1946.

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

GENERAL

Post War
Pay for
Forces

Head of N. Branch, 191130 to A.G.M. Home and
Abroad, 855A.
See Lion Copy. .

Pension
Scales

Head of N. Branch 191131 to A.G.M. Home and
Abroad, 856A.
See Lion Copy.

W.D

MESSAGE

191130/December. OUT

To. A.G.M. Home and Abroad.
855A (B4)

Date. 19.12.45.

From. Admiralty.

The decisions of the Government on post war pay for members of the Forces below officer rank are summarised below for information. Fuller details will be circulated as soon as possible. The summary applies particularly to Naval ratings; Royal Marines' arrangements are under consideration: they will be framed generally on those for naval ratings. Officers, the Naval air branch and certain H.O. branches (e.g. Mechanics) and Women's Services will be dealt with later.

2. The new code will be introduced for all serving on 1st July, 1946.

3. These decisions have been reached after a comprehensive review. The aim has been to simplify the pay system, to establish generally equality between the three fighting Services, and to compare with civilian rates as closely as the Service organisation and the system of issues in kind and marriage allowance will permit. It is not possible to calculate exactly the value to the serviceman of issues in kind, e.g. food, lodging, but in relating service to civilian rates of pay the value of these items, called the "Home Savings" element, has been assessed at 20/- per week for a married man. Similarly the disadvantages attendant on service in the forces, e.g. frequent moves, separation from family etc. and the advantages he enjoys, e.g. security of employment, opportunities of advancement, pensions, etc., have been carefully examined. The disadvantages weigh more heavily on the married man and this fact has been considered in assessing the general level of service pay and Marriage Allowance.

4. In place of the present separate scales for each branch in the Navy and the many varied additions, there will be one pay and incremental scale common to all branches, the pay rate being designed to absorb present-separate non-substantive pay and most duty allowances. In artisan and artificer branches men full trained in appropriate trades in civil life or by service apprenticeship will continue to be entered above the basic grade and thus receive pay of appropriate higher ratings as at present. Trade Allowance will be paid to Artificer and Shipwright ratings above the 5th Class and to Mechanics.

Cont. 5.

5. The incremental system is an important part of the new code. It will consist of an addition to pay for each two years' service from 18 or date of entry if later. This method of recognising increasing experience replaces present progressive pay so as to reduce inequalities arising through variations in time taken for advancement vacancies to arise. Existing branches will be grouped for pay purposes as follows:- ~~Group III, all other branches.~~
Group I (Artificers), Group II (Artisans) & p. 11. All other branches.

6. The basic rates of pay for all ratings whether Seamen and other general branches, Artisans or Artificers, will be as follows, expressed daily and weekly. (read in 3 columns):-

Ordinary rate (on entry)	4/-	28/-
Ordinary rate (trained)	5/-	35/-
Able Seaman rate ^{2nd} (qualified as for 3rd Class <i>non-sub rate.</i>)	6/-	42/-
Leading rate ^{for 2nd class non sub rate.} (qualified as non-sub rate Class)	7/6.	52/6
Petty Officers ^{for 1st class non sub rate.} (qualified as 2nd Class)	9/-	63/-
Chief Petty Officers (qualified as 1st Class)	10/6.	73/6.

6a. It has not yet been decided how men not holding the non-substantive qualification appropriate to their substantive rate will be treated on transfer to the new scales: it should not be assumed that they will get the full amount of the new basic rates unless or until they qualify.

7. Incremental pay for A.B. rates will be 1/2 a week for each two years' man's service from age of 18 or date of entry if later, up to a maximum of six incremental that is 7/- a week. For leading rates and above 1/9 a week for each two years' man's service from age of 18 or date of entry if later regardless of rating in which time is spent. Increments for Artificers and Artisans entered at ages between 17 and 21 will reckon from age 18 and will be first payable after completion of one year's service. Those entered later than 21 will receive increments on 3 years' added time payable after 1 year's service.

8. Present non-substantive pay is absorbed in basis pay and abolished, and present non-sub qualifications will become qualifications for advancement. Most allowances will also be absorbed but additional pay will be granted for certain instructional qualifications, for service in submarines, and for certain duties in Naval Air Branch. Trade allowances for Artificers and Shipwrights will be 7/- a week for 4th and 3rd Classes, 10/6 a week for 2nd and 1st Classes, and 14/- a week for Chief ratings. For Mechanicians after 3 years as such 7/-, after 9 years 10/6, Chief 14/-. Certificate allowances for E.R.A's remain as at present.

Cont. 8a..

- 3 -

- 8a. Extra pay in its various forms is not yet settled. Most of the existing provisions will disappear but probability is that hard lying money and tropical allowance will remain. Climate pay will disappear.
9. Good conduct badges may be earned after 4 repetition 4, 8 and 12 repetition 12 years service, and will be paid at 2/4 a week each.
10. Allowances for kit upkeep will continue.
11. Detailed examples to show how new code will be applied appear at end of message.
12. All ratings serving on 1st July, 1946 will be placed on the new scale on that date and no option of retaining current or past scales can be permitted. It will be seen that while a substantial rise is given on present pay exclusive of War Service Increments, some men now receiving maximum W.S.I. would lose on the new rates. Where rates of pay, including war service increments are being drawn on 30th July, 1946, at such amounts as to produce an overall excess over the new rates of pay, the difference will be continued temporarily as an addition to the rate of pay under the new code, and will be regarded as a "war excess". These war excesses will be reduced by instalments beginning on 1st January, 1947, and continuing at ~~4~~ monthly intervals thereafter. For ratings the amount of the initial reduction will be 3/6 a week, the second and subsequent reductions being 7/- a week.
13. War time emoluments are affected as follows. Time will cease to reckon for War Service Increments on 1st July, 1946, and payment as a separate item will cease. Japanese Campaign Pay will not (repeat not) form a permanent part of the new pay code and will be reviewed in the light of circumstances. It will not, however, be withdrawn before 15th August, 1946, one year after VJ day. Post War Credit will cease to accrue from 1st July, 1946.
14. Marriage Allowance rules have been revised and there will be flat rates of allowance to married men regardless of children for whom no allowances will be payable from naval funds. The minimum age for payment is 21. The rates will be

(A) Rank	(B) Allowance exclusive of qualifying allotment.	(C) Weekly rate of qualifying allotment.
Leading and below.	35/-	10/6.
Petty Officer	40/-	17/-
Chief Petty Officer	42/6	24/6.

/Cont. These payments.

These payments are liable to income tax. Special arrangements will be made to continue in payment total amount actually in issue (including qualifying allotment) under old code where it exceeds the total under new code so long as it remains more favourable to wife and family and present entitlement of children continues, subject to new rate of qualifying allotment being charged against the man and absorbed into the allowance. The amount so continued in issue will not be subject to subsequent increase under the old marriage allowance code except in respect of any children for whom pre-natal allowance may be admissible before 1st July, 1946. The children of service men will be eligible for allowances under the Family Allowance Act (the rate of 5/- a week each for second and subsequent children).

14a. The special arrangements referred to at end of paras 12 and 14 to carry on excess pay and marriage allowance after 30th June, 1946, will not apply to men who enter or re-enter from 1st January, 1946, after break in service.

15. Dependant's Allowances and War Service Grants will not be applicable to men who enter on normal engagement from 1st January, 1946. Existing entitlements will continue till 1st July, 1947. Non regular men will continue to be eligible for both payments while the National Service Act remains in force.

16. The present insurance contribution will be adapted to the wider scope of the new National Insurance scheme but contribution is not likely to exceed 2/- weekly: the exact amount is not yet fixed.

17. The new rates of pay which are related to the wage standards of the United Kingdom, will not apply to Maltese or to native ratings. The position of such men will be dealt with later, though it may not be possible to deal with such classes before 1st July, 1946. Service will continue to reckon towards War Gratuity for men (and officers) serving up to 15th August, 1946.

13. Examples of pay under new code at stages of service follow (read 2 columns (A) present rating and pay without W.S.I. weekly service) (B) future pay weekly).

<u>(A)</u>	<u>(B)</u>	
Able Seaman 2 years man's service	Basic	42/-
Gunnery rating 3rd (31/6)	Incremental	1/2
	Total.	<u>43/2</u>
Able Seaman 7 years man's service	Basic	42/-
Gunnery rating 3rd Badge 1	Incremental	3/6
(39/1)	Badge	<u>2/4</u>
	Total.	47/10

Cont. Leading Seaman

- 5 -

(A)	(B)	
Leading Seaman 12 years man's service	Basic	52/6
Gunnery rating 2nd	Increment	10/6
Badges 2. (50/2)	Badges (3)	7/-
	Total.	<u>70/-</u>
Acting Joiner 4th Class entered as 5th class age 19 and has 1 year's service. (Increment counting from age 18) (49/-)	Basic	52/6
	Increment	1/9
		<u>54/3</u>
E.A. 2nd Class (entered as Artificer Apprentice) 10 years man's service Badges 2 (77/-)	Basic	73/6
	Increment	8/9
	Badges	4/8
	Trade Pay	10/6
	Total	<u>97/5</u>
Chief E.R.A. entered at 21. 16 years service. Certificates 2 Badges 3 (106/9)	Basic	73/6
	Increment	15/9
	Badges	7/-
	Trade Pay	14/-
	Certificate Allces.	14/-
	Total.	<u>124/3</u>

19. Summary of new pensions scale follows in separate message.

191130, amended by 220122

for Head of Naval Br.

Full Admiralty Circulation.

N. (6)

P.M. (12)

+ M.4. for Treasury. Mr. Humphreys-Davies.

War Office Mr. Fry (3)

Air Ministry Mr. Edwards (3)

F.O. Mr. Simpson.

vms

W.D.

M E S S A G E

O U T

191131/December

To: A.G.M. Home and Abroad 856A Date 19.12.45

P/L

From Admiralty

Simplified pensions scale will come into force for all men discharged to pension on or after 19th December, 1945. Pensions will be assessed solely by reference to length of service and ranks held. Present variations and additions for Conduct, and Age additions will disappear.

2. The new scale will be as follows:-

(i) Service element of pension

For each complete year of service the following weekly rates will be payable:-

for each year from 1st to 20th	-	1s.	2d.
" " " " 21st to 25th	-	1s.	6d.
" " " " 26th to 30th	-	2s.	6d.
" " " " 31st onwards	-	4s.	0d.

(ii) Rank element of pension

For each year as Leading rate	-	4d.
" " " " Petty Officer	-	6d.
" " " " C.P.O.	-	9d.
" " " " Sergeant Major, R.M.	-	1s. 3d.

3. There will be maxima as follows. These will only come into operation in extreme cases for men with exceptional length of service:-

Leading Seaman	70/-
Petty Officer	80/-
C.P.O.	90/-
Sergeant Major, R.M.	100/-

These are maxima applicable to all three services and it is emphasised that they are related to a length of engagement considerably longer than is contemplated for the R.N. and the R.M.

4. Percentage Increase under the Pensions Increase Scheme will not repeat not be payable on pensions assessed at these new rates, as they have been assessed in relation to present conditions.

/5.....

5. Specimen rates for men with 22 years' reckonable service are as follows. The rates quoted under the old scales have been assessed on the assumption that character has been V.G. throughout.

Examples

- (i) Able Seaman - 22 years as such
1919 rates - 22s. 9d.
1930 rates - 18s. 0d.
New rates - 26s. 4d.

- (ii) Leading Seaman with 8 years as Able Seaman
and 14 years as Leading Seaman
1919 rates - 26s. 10d.
1930 rates - 22s. 1d.
New rates - 31s. 0d.

- (iii) Petty Officer with 8 years as Able Seaman,
4 years as Leading Seaman and 10 years as
Petty Officer
1919 rates - 29s. 9d.
1930 rates - 25s. 0d.
New rates - 32s. 8d.

- (iv) Chief Petty Officer with 8 years as Able Seaman,
4 years as Leading Seaman, 8 years as Petty
Officer and 2 years as Chief Petty Officer.
1919 rates - 30s. 4d.
1930 rates - 25s. 7d.
New rates - 33s. 2d.

- (v) C.E.R.A. with 3 years as Petty Officer and 19
years as C.P.O.
1919 rates - 38s. 6d.
1930 rates - 33s. 9d.
New rates - 42s. 1d.

6. For men who complete periods of service longer than 22 years, the pension earned will rise at a steeper rate, owing to the increased service element after 20 and 25 years. For example, a Chief Petty Officer (Seamen) and similar branches who completed 27 years would get 46s. 5d. or if he completed 32 years, 65s. 8d.

7. It may be that in certain cases, men entitled to the 1919 rates of pension, with the Age Increases, and possible entitlement to Percentage Increase under the Pensions Increase Act provisions at age 60 or on invaliding or incapacity, may prefer to remain on their existing entitlement. All men now serving on engagement to complete time for pension will be allowed to choose, at the time of discharge, either the old

/ or

or the new terms, and will be allowed to revise their option if subsequently any change affecting them is made in the conditions of the Pensions Increase Act.

8. Position of existing pensioners. The new code will not apply to men who have been pensioned already but consideration is being given to the position of pensioners who have served for at least six months during the 1939/45 war. Further details will be promulgated separately.

9. Gratuities

A new system of gratuities payable on discharge will be introduced for men completing periods of service of less than 22 years.

This will provide for gratuities as follows:-
 After 10 years' service - £50 (i.e. at the rate of £10
 a year for each year
 after the 5th)

For each year after the
 10th - £25
 subject to a maximum of £200.

Only service after 19th December, 1945 will reckon for the new gratuities. Men with previous unbroken service will count their former service only

- (a) towards the qualifying period of 10 years;
- (b) towards determining the rate at which they begin to count for gratuity.

EXAMPLES

- (i) A man completing 12 years from 19th December, 1945 will get £100.
- (ii) A man with 8 years' previous service will, on completion of 4 years' further service, become entitled to £70 - i.e., 2 years at £10 a year and 2 years at £25 a year.
- (iii) A man with 10 years' previous service will, on completing a further 2 years' service, become entitled to £50 (i.e., 2 years at £25 a year).

191131/December

Full Admiralty Circulation

For Hd. of Naval Branch
 Q.A.M.

N. (6)

London & Bath

P.M. (12)

+ M.4 for Treasury, Mr. Humphreys-Davies (4)

WAR OFFICE Mr. Fry (3)

Air Ministry, Mr. Edwards (3)

F.O. Mr. Simpson.

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S.R.
relief
Stn. 20

Intend to sail PELICAN 1200A/19 December to relieve CROCUS on A.S.T. Station 20. Speed 12. E.T.A. 2000A/21 December.
(2) On relief CROCUS return to Gibraltar.
(3) PELICAN acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 190954A to Admiralty, PELICAN, CROCUS, Commaveu.)

ZEST
destroyer

Intend to sail ZEST 1600A/19th December Via Medri Routes to Malta.
(2) Speed 14. E.T.A. 1300A/22nd December.
(5) ZEST acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 191006A to V.A. Malta.)

ESPIEGLE
M/S

Subject to satisfactory trials ESPIEGLE will sail for Malta 26th December.
(F.O.G.M.A., 191240A to C. in C. Mediterranean).

South Atlantic

A.S.R.
relief
Stn.
No. 22

Intend sailing CAISTOR CASTLE to A.S.R. Station No. 22 at 0800 December 20th, relieves H.M.S. FAL Patrols for 22nd December to 4th January.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 190901 to F.O.G.M.A., CAISTOR CASTLE.)

Movement

Capetown arrival 1240B UNICORN.
(C. in C. S.A., 191652 to Admiralty.)

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

B.Y.M.S. 2258 and SHILLAY (Danlayer) B.P.F. Amend my 181351. SHILLAY delayed due to defects. B.Y.M.S. comply, keeping single operator watch. (C. in C. Med., 190933A to SHILLAY, B.Y.M.S. 2258)

PLYM Frigate on passage from B.P.F. Intend to sail PLYM at 0700B/20th to Gibraltar for onward routeing U.K. (3) Speed 12 knots. E.T.A. p.m. 26th. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 191005 to F.O.G.M.A.)

M/S on passage to E.I. NADIA Depot Ship (ZZ craft) for return to trade Take LAERTES and NADIA under your orders and sail at 1700A 20th December to Alexandria through:- (Route etc.) and thence by ~~by~~ Alexandria Approach Channel. (2) Adjust speed to arrive dawn 24th. (5) MAGICIENNE and LAERTES are for onward routeing to East Indies Station. (6) C. in C. East Indies is requested to arrange de-perming and de-rangng of LAERTES at Colombo. (7) MAGICIENNE acknowledge. (C. in C. Med., 191145 to MAGICIENNE, C. in C. E.I.) Cancelled by 200933A.

Re YC.1151 mine-sweeping. Your 160911 (N.T. in W.D.) N.O.I.C. Trieste is requested to reply direct to (A) (C) and (D). (2) Answers to remaining queries as follows:- (B) Towing of YC.1151 from Trieste to another port in the Mediterranean could probably be carried out when (?good) weather comes in 1946. (D) YC.1151 is an "Eggcrate" used for sweeping Oyster mines. It consists of a cellular structure with free venting bottom and ship shaped bow and stern. Length 122 ft., beam 64 ft. depth 24 feet, weight 450 ton. Vessel was assembled at Oran. (C. in C. Mediterranean, 191417A to Commavnau. Info. N.O.I.C. Trieste, Admiralty.) See 210900A.

VICTORIOUS A/C trooping Regret that in accordance with A.F.O. 6127/45* am unable to provide 2500 tons of fuel at Port Said. Your 182020. Request amount required to enable you to proceed to Aden where you fuel to capacity. (S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 191715B to VICTORIOUS) See 200921Z * Fuelling of H.M. Ships proceeding to and from Far East (N.S. Fuel 2202/45 - 25th October 1945.)

SS. HIGHLAND MONARCH German internees ex GRAF SPEE from River Plate It has been represented that the size of the guard to be embarked in HIGHLAND MONARCH, given in para. 3 of A.M.081543 (to C. in C. only), may be insufficient. (2) The number of German internees will be approximately 900 but a more important factor in deciding the size of guard required is probably

/the...

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

SS. HIGHLAND
MONARCH -
German
internees
ex GRAF SPEE
from River
Plate.
(Contd.)

the lay-out of internees accommodation.
(3) Request you will arrange for HIGHLAND
MONARCH (due Port Said 20th December) to be
inspected from this point of view and that you
will report what strength of guard is considered
necessary.
(4) It might perhaps be possible to isolate
bridge structure, etc. by barriers of wire grills.
(5) For information of F.O.L.E.M. HIGHLAND
MONARCH is to convey German internees ex GRAF
SPEE from River Plate to Germany. P.S.T.O.

Middle East is aware of this but for security reasons the ship
has not been told.
(D.O.D., Admiralty, 191826 to C. in C. Med., F.O.L.E.M.,
P.S.T.O. M.E.)

PEACOCK
A.A. Sloop

After embarking draft sail at 1000A 21st December
for exercises in accordance with M.P.P.88.
(2) On completion about 1330A sail for Gibraltar
via appropriate Medri route E.T.A. 1500 24th.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 192215 to PEACOCK.)

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19.12.1945
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

Transfer of Minor Landing Craft to R.I.N. Ref. my number X 441 J' 16 of 6th December (459 ' X 441 J'16 to Admiralty) intend to transfer H.M.S. MARVE? and the 72 Minor Landing Craft to the R.I.N. on 1st January 1946 (R) 15th January, 1946 H.M.S. MARVE? is to pay off on that day.
(S.O.R.N.E.I., 191040EF to C. in C. E.I., Admty.)
See 101250 EF JAN

CUMBERLAND Trooping Time of departure Aden 1800C 18th Dec. E.T.A. Bombay 1030 EF Saturday 22nd December.
(CUMBERLAND, 191100C to F.O. Bombay.)

SCOUT Destroyer tender on passage Sailed H.M.S. SCOUT in accordance with my 171713.
(2) SCOUT may be up to six hours late for R/V with SCOTOL.
(F.O. Bombay, 191807EF to N.O.I.C. Aden, SCOTOL.)

Coastal Forces organisation EI. lapse of. The Coastal Forces Organisation East Indies will lapse on 1st January 1946. All communications and matters hitherto referred to Captain Coastal Forces East Indies are to be addressed to Commander In Chief East Indies from that date.
(C. in C. E.I., 191832EF to E.I. General Message 520C.)

34th R.M. amphibian Support Regt. Following from Chiefs of Staff. Reference G.H.Q. India 59/C.O.S. of 15th December (151530 Dec.)
We have decided that most satisfactory solution to problem of 34 Royal Marine Amphibian Support Regiment is to bring the whole unit home to U.K. including R.A.C. personnel attached. As bulk of Regiment is, in any case, due for repatriation in February whole Regiment should be shipped at that time, subject to this not interfering with repatriation under release and Python schemes.
(2) It is intended to keep unit in being. Amphibian equipment including reserves should, therefore, accompany unit.
(Cabinet Offices, 192120Z to Alfsea, Sacsea, C. in C. E.I., G.H.Q. India.)
See 031230 Z JAN.

Movements Colombo 19th December. Arrivals: TRENT, HALLADALE, VIOLET, CAESAR, WHIRLWIND, WAGER, DEVON CITY, GONCALVES, ZARCO (Portuguese Ship) PENN.
Departures: COLOSSUS, CAESAR, PENN, NESS, LOCH QUOICH, SUSSEX.
(F.O. Ceylon, 192210EF, to Admiralty, F.O.C.R.I.N)

HOWE battleship Sailed H.M.S. HOWE C. in C. East Indies' 151452 refers.
(F.O. Bombay, 192220EF to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

/BULOLO...

19.12.1945
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Continued

BULOLO
L.S.H.(L)

A.M. 081353*.

H.M.S. BULOLO should be sailed to U.K.
(D.C.O.D.; (Admiralty) 192343 to C. in C. E.I.,
F.O. "W".)

* BULOLO should not be sailed till Admiralty
direction is received.

19.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

BEGUM
Escort
carrier (for
redelivery
to U.S.A.
assistance
required.

My P.C. and S. 44.30 N., 41.07 W. 283° 8 knots.
Serious leak in Main Oil Fuel system main
engines liable to go out of action at any time.
Require assistance. Ship may have to be towed.
Trying to make Argentia, New Foundland.
Acknowledge on B.A.M.S. two Apples.
(BEGUM 191241Z to B.A.D. Washington)
See 201331Z.

WEAR
frigate.

H.M.S. WEAR departed Bermuda for Trinidad
2000Z/18 communications in accordance with
A.F.O. 'S' 1'45 S. of A. 11½ knots, E.T.A.
Trinidad p.m. 23rd Ends.
(N.O.I.C. Bermuda, 191315Z to N.O.I.C. Port of
Spain).

Far East & Australia

Trooping
Programme.

Following is probable programme of Naval
Trooping Vessels sailing from U.K. in December
1945 and January 1946.

<u>Ship</u>	<u>E.T.D. U.K.</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>E.T.A.</u>
CUMBERLAND	7 Dec.	Bombay : Colombo	24 Dec.
FENCER	13 Dec.	Malta : Colombo	2 Jan.
RANEE	5 Dec.	Colombo: Sydney	9 Jan.
DEVONSHIRE	15 Dec.	Bombay : Colombo : Sydney.	15 Jan.
VICTORIOUS	15 Dec.	Colombo : Singapore : Sydney.	20 Jan.
NEWCASTLE	3 Jan.	Malta : Colombo.	20 Jan.
INDOMITABLE	Jan. (uncertain)	Malta : Colombo	Early Feb.
SUFFOLK	13 Jan.	Colombo : Sydney	11 Feb.
ENTERPRISE	24 Jan.	Ceylon	11 Feb.
LONDON	20 Jan.	Malta : Ceylon : Sydney.	18 Feb.
RAJAH	19 Jan.	Ceylon : Singapore : Hong Kong.	18 Feb.
CUMBERLAND	26 Jan.	Ceylon : Sydney.	23 Feb.
PATROLLER	24 Jan.	Ceylon : Sydney.	26 Feb.

2. V.A.(Q) B.P.F. 070622 not to all refers.
(D. of M. 190725 to C. in C. B.P.F., E.I., Med, Portsmouth,
Plymouth, Nore).

Disposition C. in C. B.P.F. 190736Z to Admty.
Signal No.43. See Lion Copy.

/Minesweeping...

MESSAGE.

119A

IN

Unclassified

(7) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (m) (n) (o) (p) (q) (r) (s) (t) (u) (v) (w) (x) (y) (z)

190736Z/December

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

Date: 25.12.45

Rec'd: 0315

P/L

To: Admiralty, A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B. V.A. (Q) B.P.F. C. in C.E.I.
F.O.C. Sydney, B.C.O. Washington, N.O. i/c Hong Kong,
F.O.W.A. B.P.F. S.O. Force T, C. in C. B.P.F. Afloat,
S.A.C. S.E.A.C. S.B.N.L.O. Phil. B.N.L.O. Leyte, B.N.L.O.
Subic, F.O.M.F.A.

Disposition signal Number 43 changes since my

120216.

- (A) At Tokyo CAUVERY.
(B) At sea bound Tokyo ARIADNE 'EASEDALE' TYNE.
(C) At Toba UNDINE UNDAUNTED.
(D) At Shanghai GODAVARI GLENEARN.
(E) At sea bound Shanghai FORT CHARLOTTE.
(F) At Amoy APOLLO.
(G) At Hong Kong REAPER TERMAGENT WHITESAND BAY
BIGBURY BAY TRODDAY BYMS 2045 BYMS 2017
EMPIRE NEPTUNE STAGPOOL VASNA MARUDU.
(H) At sea bound Hong Kong DUKE of YORK EURYALUS ARGONAUT
BELFAST TALENT TALLYHO GUARDIAN
FORT WRANGEL MULL of KINGTYRE.
(J) At Subic BLACK SWAN BARBIAN ROCKWING.
(K) At sea bound Subic BYMS 2064.
(L) At sea bound Morotai EMHYST AIRE WEASEL ROCKCLIFFE.
(M) At Manus WOODCOCK BYMS 215 BONAVENTURE.
(N) At sea bound Manus FORT BEAUHARNOIS.
(O) At sea bound Townsville BEIJULY FIRTH.
(P) At Brisbane CHASER BOSPHUROSUS.
(Q) At sea bound Brisbane HART.
(R) At Sydney IMPLACABLE PIONEER DEERSOUND FORT
CONSTANTINE.
(S) At Sea bound Sydney INDEFATIGABLE WIZARD SWIFTSURE
URCHIN FLAMBOROUGH HEAD PERSEUS.
(T) At Melbourne VINDEX.
(U) At sea bound Fremantle VENERABLE FERNMOOR.
(V) At sea bound Darwin TUSCAN REDPOLE.
(W) At sea bound Singapore PROME.
(X) At sea bound Auckland ERIN.
(Y) Temporarily on E.I.S. Lothian.
(2) (A) Left Station S.E.O.R.
(B) U.K. ARBITER WAGER WHELP WHIRLWIND TJITJALENGKA.
(C) Admiralty, N. Control, CEDARDALE, BISHOPDALE.
(D) E.I.S. Heron.
(3) (A) U.A.D.E.S.E.A. pass to S.O.E.I.F.

190736Z

Circulation overleaf....

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
D.F.S.L.
Controller
Vice Controller
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
A.C.N.S. (O)
Vice Contr. (Air)
D. Map Rm.
O.D. (9)
D.C. (2)
D.S.O.
O.I.C. (2)
D. of P. (3)
D. of P. (Q) (3)
M. (2)
N.A. Mails
D.M.S. (2)
D.T.A.S.W. (3)
D.T.S.D.
D.C.O.D. (7)
D.C.O.P. (5)
D.N.A.O. (2)
D.A.E. (4)
D.A.M.R. (3)
D.A.C.R. (3)
D.N.A.R. (3)
D.A.W.F.
Air Br.
D. of S. (3)
D. Mov. (7)
D.G.D. (3)
H.W.R. (2)
Ad. Blake (4)
W.D.
D.S.V.P. (3)
D. of S.T. (10)
D.T.D. (C) (3)
D.S.D. (2)
C.F.M.D. (2)
D.S.V.P. (3)
F.O/S.M.
W.R. No.2

P.I. } Bath by
S.W.R. (6) } Courier (7)

19.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia - Contd.

Minesweeping report, China. F.O.W.A. Minesweeping Report No. 7 B.P.F. Weekly Minesweeping report to Admiralty number 1 (A). 8th M.S.F. (Less ~~THIS BE~~) cleared 2 mine lines for Mosa Straits U.S. Sweepers cleared remainder Flotilla returning Hong Kong for Christmas subsequently to be employed local waters (B) 10th M.S.F. less JEWEL, SERENEA, FELICITY, at Hong Kong COURIER have welcome clearing moored mines Lema Channel, WAVE and LIBERTY boiler cleaning. (C) B.Y.M.S. 2018, 2080 and 2246 started first shallow magnetic sweep of Hong Kong Area. 2017, 2045 and Danlayer TRODDAY due today. (D) Clearance of Canton River start today employing H.D.M.Ls. and M.F.Vs. Oropesa fitted and 2 R.C.L. specially converted for shallow water ground mines. (F.O.W.A., B.P.F., 191010 to Admty).

TACITURN S/M for U.K. (B) TACITURN. (D) Hong Kong. (E) 0200Z/19th Dec. (F) 11.5 (6) usual. (H) Singapore, Colombo, U.K. (I) 0930Z/24th Dec. (L) In accordance 400 P. amended 425 P. F.F. until 1400Z/21st December. V from 0200Z 21st Dec. (N.O.I.C. Hong Kong, 191130 to F.O.M.L.A., C. in C. E.I. C. Phil. S.F.)

Re Return of A/S training S/Ms to U.K. QXX. Your 130342. Manning situation makes it imperative to sail VOX, VORACIOUS and VIRTUE for U.K. as soon as possible, and in any case not later than end Jan. Request therefore you will arrange for their duties to be taken over by submarines of 4th Flotilla as soon as possible. (D.O.D. Appd. V.C.N.S., 191608 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

20.12.1945.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

RESOURCE
Heavy
repair ship
from
B.P.F.

Intend to sail RESOURCE 0700A/21st Dec. via N.E.C.R.I. routes to Portsmouth.
2. Speed 14 E.T.A. 1900A/24 Dec.
7. RESOURCE acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 201137A to Admty., C. in C. Portsmouth and 211624A).

South Atlantic

CHARLOCK
Corvette

A.M. 012023 June, F.O.C.R.I.N's 150913 June and my 101516Z.* Subject to satisfactory completion of trials expect to sail H.M.S. CHARLOCK from Simonstown about 29th Dec. for Durban and Diego Suarez.

(2) Signals quoted not to all.

(C. in C. S.A., 201026B to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

*Date of completion ex trials of CHARLOCK is 19th December.

A.S.R.22
relief.

Departure H.M.S. CAISTOR CASTLE 0800 for A.S.R. position 22. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 201650 to Admty).

UNICORN
on passage
to U.K.
Refit etc.

Following remarks are submitted on the proposal contained in A.M. 141918 only now received. 361 ratings of ship are due for release under A.M. 707A on arrival or shortly after. Of remainder of ship's company at least 75 per cent left U.K. in Ship in Dec. 1943 and will therefore be due for 28 days foreign service leave. The

majority of Officers are either due for release shortly after arrival or for foreign service leave.

3. Ship has been in tropical waters for 2 years without adequate refitting period. Last refit Durban Dec. 1944 last docking 4 days in (Darwin?) July 1945. Main gearing limits speed to 18 knots, A.M. (?232)009Z March 1945 refers. Estimate condition of machinery and underwater work requires a minimum of 6 weeks refit before ship can comply (? with) para. under reply. Major items -

(1) 2 boilers overdue for test (April 1945).

(2) Rudder Pintle bearings require rebushing.

(3) Breakage of welding structure in ships side wing compartments requires major structural repairs to prevent extension.

(4) Accelerators I and III require fitting with modified pistons and lubricating packing in accordance with C.A.F.O.2445/43.

(5) In anticipation of refit ships defects list was forward by air from Durban to A.S. Devonport.

(UNICORN, 201657Z to Admty).

War Diary

20.12.1945
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

H.M.A.S.
frigates
and
repatriation
of S.
African
personnel.

My 111236 not to TRANSVAAL Durban departure
1700B Dec. 18th TRANSVAAL NATAL and GOOD HOPE
routed as safe navigation permits for Suez and
return to Durban.

2. S. of A. 14 knots ships will probably not
now call Aden E.T.A. Suez 0800B Jan. 1st.

4. Ships hold appropriate Naval codes and
cyphers.

(C. in C. S.A., 201721B to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary

20.12.1945.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

VICTORIOUS trooping. Your 191715B not to Admty.* or C. in C. Plymouth. Terms of A.F.O. 6127/45* were taken into consideration when programme for VICTORIOUS was worked out. That programme as approved before VICTORIOUS sailed from U.K. and Aden, was not included.

2. Suggest that Admty. be asked whether the further delay which will be entailed by calling at Aden is acceptable observing that VICTORIOUS is already 48 hrs. late on approved programme due to bad weather.

3. 1,000 tons of fuel would be required at Port Said in order to reach Aden if call at that Port is ordered. 2,500 tons would be needed to reach Colombo direct in accordance with programme.

(VICTORIOUS, 200921Z to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., reply 211300.)
*Fuelling of H.M. Ships proceeding to and from the Far East.

M/S. on passage to E.I. Cancel my 191145.*
NADIA will not sail due to weather conditions.

2. LAERTES comply with my 191515.✓

3. MAGICIENNE sail at 1700A/20th Dec. to R/V with LAERTES thence in company through position 36° 14' N., 14° 49' E. thence as safe navigation permits to Alexandria.

4. Speed 10 knots E.T.A. first light 24th.

6. Acknowledge.

(C. in C. Med., 200933A to LAERTES, MAGICIENNE, NADIA).
*Sailing LAERTES and MAGICIENNE.
✓Not identified in War Reg.

F.S. Intend to sail TOURVILLE immediately on arrival 0700B/21 to Aden and Colombo for onward routing Singapore - Saigon.

TOURVILLE cruiser on passage to Indo China. (2) Routed as safe navigation permits.
(3) Speed 20 knots. Ship to report T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden.
(5) TOURVILLE acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 201145B to F.O. Colombo.)

War Diary

20.12.1945.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Re Italians in S.E.A.C. repatriation of. Your ⁸¹⁷597?/18 T.O.O. 181239EF. Dec. Policy given in S.A.C.S.E.A., 1444 stands. Italians should not be accepted (Ceylon?). (Understand) S.A.C.S.E.A. 1451 arose from conversation with Com. Mudford Italian N.L.O. in view of para. 3 your signal no further action is required on S.A.C.S.E.A. 1451.

2. For F.O.M.F.A. Request you arrange to sail ERITREA to Med. on completion of programme given in para. (C). Your 131817 Dec. C. in C. E.I. 171625 Dec. also refers. (S.A.C.S.E.A., 200803 to C. in C. Ceylon) See 241731EF.

FINSTERRE Com. Aden 172150. Departure Aden 0300Z Dec. 18th E.T.A. Colombo 0430Z Dec. 24th. destroyer on passage B.P.F. (FINISTERRE, 200910Z to C. in C. E.I.)

N.C.S.O's closing down. (Bombay, Karachi and Cochin). Amend my 150508 as follows: After word inclusive delete "for" and insert "and parts". (F.O.C.R.I.N., 201429EF to Admty).

34th Amphibian Support Regt. Your 160014 to Colombo. Following is repetition of Alfsea 100852 begins 2096 SD 3 Confl. subject 34 Amphibian Support Regt. R.M. first decision in Admty. 051936 Dec. not to Armindia noted Regt. will be released at once from planned role for return to India. Second under the circumstances we propose that the disposal of the Regt. after its return to India should be entirely in your hands. Request your confirmation. (N.O.I.C. Singapore 201710 to Admty). Unable to approve Alfseas request re 34 Amphibian Support Regt.

WHIRLWIND and WAGER destroyers for U.K. Intend following programme for WHIRLWIND and WAGER.

Arrive	Place	Depart
a.m. 19th Dec.	Colombo	a.m. 21st Dec.
p.m. 26th Dec.	Aden	a.m. 27th Dec.
a.m. 31st Dec.	Suez	-
-	Port Said	p.m. 2nd Jan.
a.m. 8th Jan.	Gibraltar	p.m. 10th Jan.
a.m. 14th Jan.	Portsmouth	WAGER p.m. 14th Jan.
	Sheerness	WHIRLWIND.

2. Transit Canal daylight 31st Dec.
3. Fuel at Aden Port Said, Gibraltar.
(C. in C. E.I., 201821EF to C. in C. Med., Admiralty).

War Diary

20.12.1945.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

BEGUM
escort
carrier on
passage to
U.S.A. for
Re-delivery. Have been able to effect repairs during lull in weather and am steering in a southwesterly direction to avoid storm centre with intention of proceeding to Norfolk. Modoc informed. (BEGUM, 201331Z to Admty., Adm. Halifax, B.A.D. Washington).

SS. BELGIAN
SAILOR
in distress. SS. BELGIAN SAILOR reported in distress in position 45.50 N., 41.05 W. damaged rudder will be towed to St. Johns Nfld. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 201616Z to Admty).

ATTACKER
Escort
carrier on
passage for
redelivery
to U.S.A. Request following information.
(A) Amended E.T.A.
(B) Estimated percentage fuel remaining on arrival Norfolk.
(C) If leaking.
(D) Any urgent provision requirements. B.N.L.O. Nor.
(N.C.S.O. Norfolk V.A. 201628 to ATTACKER).

TROUNCER
Escort
carrier for
redelivery
to U.S.A. Your 141012. Navy Department confirm that TROUNCER can be accepted and ask that vessel be sailed Norfolk Va. Admty pass to all except N.A.S. Piarco, S.B.N.O. W.Atlantic. N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, Trinidad, pass to N.A.S. Piarco. (B.A.D., 202133Z to Admty).

Far East & Australia

Minesweeping
China coast
Amoy. All British Minesweepers leave Amoy 21st Dec. task completed. (F.O.W.A., B.P.F., 200318Z to Chungking, C. in C. B.P.F.)

Transfer of
landing craft
and mainten-
ance facili-
ties from
East India
Station to
Hong Kong. A.M.*251237 N.T. in W.D. (R) ? Nov.
The Landing Craft demand was the result of a request from G.O.C. Hong Kong through F.O.W.A. Brit. Pac. Flt.
2. To maintain law and order, it will be necessary periodically to land parties of troops on the Islands and on parts of the coast of the mainland in the area of the Colony of Hong Kong. The largest numbers visualised for these operations are 750 (R) 750 personnel and 37 (R) 37 vehicles.

3. Harbour craft supplied by V.A.(Q) since original request was made will meet this commitment to a great extent, but 6 (R) 6 L.C.T. Mark 3 (R) 3 OR, 4 (R) 4 and 6 (R) 6 L.C.I.(L) in addition will be necessary. Request these may be provided. (C. in C. B.P.F., 200830Z to Admty) *As received.

/CHALLENGER...

War Diary

20.12.1945.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia - Contd.

CHALLENGER
surveying
vessel.

WHITE BEAR 041722,* not to all.
Propose sailing CHALLENGER for U.K. on 1st
Jan. request Admty. approval.
(2) Propose she calls at Jesselten, Labuan,
Burnei Niri, and Tuhire on passage to carry
out brief inspection. Request ACH and
F.O.M.F.A. comments.
(F.O.M. 201017Z to Admty)
*CHALLENGER to complete Hong Kong surveys.

In ACNB 221049Z FOWA BPF 310234.

Ordunas
lifts from
Borneo.
Balikpapan.

Landforces 191715 not to C. in C. East Indies
Intend subject to concurrence of Landforces to
undertake Ordunas lifts from Labuan with
ANSON, VENGEANCE, IMPLACABLE, and possibly
BERMUDA and APOLLO all loading between 1st and
16th Jan.

2. No prospect is seen of completing embarkation from
Balikpapan before about 7th Feb. PIONEER and a second trip of
IMPLACABLE would be made available for this lift if required.

3. GLENEARN now released by para. 2 of C. in C. East Indies
191951 and who is due Madras about 28th Dec. can be made
available for use by S.A.C.S.E.A. until end of Feb.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 201359Z to Landforces Melbourne, S.A.C.S.E.A.)

*T. Plot
Summary*

See S.O. Force S 200110Z F.O.W.A.B.P.F.

SECRET

FEVA
IN
126A

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.)

200110Z/December.

From: S.O. Force S.

Date: 28.12.45.

Recd: 0140

C.C.M. (5 services) Gen S.

To: F.O.W.A. B.P.F.
Info C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. B.P.F. (Afloat) C. in C. Hong
Kong, C.S.2.

precis of 7th Fleet summaries 17 and 18 December.

(1) Rear Admiral Noble in BLUEBRIDGE expected Shanghai 22/12 for conference on movement of Chinese Armies and Japanese repatriation.

(2) High winds delayed and slightly damaged convoy mentioned in precis of 9th and 10th. Minesweepers forced to take shelter at Kiirun and Amoy. At Shanghai 1 Coronado aircraft seriously damaged, harbour tug assisted ships leaving moorings.

(3) 2 Marines of 1st Mardiv involved in shooting incident in which Chinese civilian was killed at Yangstua 39 degs. 20 mins. 117 degs. 05 mins.

(4) Comseventhflt. has recommended the release of the 3 CVE's under his command.

200110Z

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(0)
A.C.N.S.(A)(2)
A.C.N.S.(W)
D. Map. Room
D.C.(2)
D.S.O.
O.D.(9)
O.I.C.(2)
D.N.I.(5)
D. of P.(3)
D. of P.(Q)(3)
D.T.A.S.W.(3)
D.C.O.D.(7)
M.(2)
C.N.I.(2)
C.C.L.S.
W.D.
Ad. Blake.
D.M.S.(2)

J.R.
110

War Diary

21.12.1945.
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

OCEAN
Light fleet
carrier and
destroyer on
passage to
Gibraltar.

My 191544. N.T. in W.D. E.T.A. 0900A tomorrow
Saturday 22nd Dec. H.M.S. MEYNELL in company.
(OCEAN, 211214A to F.O.G.M.A.)

CRUSADER
destroyer.

Admiralty pass to C. in C. Portsmouth, F.O.G.M.A.,
C.N.M.O., N.S.H.Q. Arrival 1930Z/20th H.M.S.
CRUSADER. Date and time of departure depending
weather. Request urgent weather report between
Ponta Delgada and Kingston Jamaica.
(Consul Ponta Delgada, 211315Z to Admty, B.N.A.
Lisbon, S.B.N.O. Azores).

RESOURCE
heavy repair
ship.

RESOURCE sailed at 1500A/21st Dec. Add eight
hours to times in my 201137A.
(F.O.G.M.A., 211624A to C. in C. Portsmouth).

BUTTERMERE
seagoing
training ship
(Freetown) for
U.K.

My 171214 sail at 0900A/22 Dec. to comply with my
171214. E.T.A. Plymouth 1500A/26.
(F.O.G.M.A., 211654A to BUTTERMERE).

POLKA,
VALSE
Trawlers,
A. S. R. Force.

21st Dec. Restricted. Your 201729Z N.T. in W.D.
Request POLKA and VALSE be diverted to Horta,
Island of Fayal, which will be their base in the
Azores.
(S.B.N.O. Azores, 211905 to C. in C. Plymouth).

South Atlantic

TEVIOT
frigate on
passage to
U.K. from
E.I.

Arrived H.M.S. TEVIOT.
(N.O.I.C. Durban, 210754Z to Admty, C. in C. S.A.)

A.S.R.
relief

Delayed by weather. E.T.A. 1100Z/22nd.
(PELICAN, 210850Z to CROCUS).

/Liberia...

21.12.1945.
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

Liberia
aerial
photography.

Following message from H.M. Embassy, Washington, dated 6th December just received. Begins: State Department wish to let you know that U.S. Government has been asked by the Government of Liberia to undertake aerial photography of certain areas in Liberia which are under survey for road or other construction. They suggest that you might care to inform the authorities in neighbouring British territory. Flights may commence within the next ten days. Ends. (S. of S. Colonies, 211430 to Sierra Leone).

War Diary21.12.1945.
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanSKIPJACK
M/Sweeper

Weather reduced speed to 4 knots from 2100/20th, amend E.T.A. 1300 if weather continues to moderate. S. of A. now 8 knots.

2. Weather report wind south west force 8 to 9 sea very rough moderating long moderate swell.

Visibility good between squalls of heavy rain. D/R position 37° 57' N., 04° 41' W.

(SKIPJACK, 210800A to F.O.G.M.A., C. in C. Med).

Re Y.C.1151
etc.
minesweeping.Your 160911 and C. in C. Med., 191417.
(A) Good (C) No (D) No useful purpose foreseen.
(N.O.I.C. Trieste, 210900A to Comnavaw).ROTHER
Frigate
SENNEN
Cutter
on passage
to U.K.Sail at 1700B/21B Nedri 20/3 20/1 and 20/2 to Alexandria. E.T.A. 0700B/22. Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 210945B to ROTHER, SENNEN).MIRROR -
cable repairs
in
MediterraneanMIRROR's Programme has been adjusted to comply with Admiralty Message 142249.*
(2) Cable ship MIRROR is now the only British cable ship operating on the Mediterranean Station. Furthermore she is the only efficient deep water cable ship of any nationality on the station.

(3) The programme of restoration of cables off the North African Coast is outlined in Troopers Message number 71609 of 4th Sept. 1945 to A.F.H.Q. Italy only and gave the decision of the BJCB at their meeting on the 21st August.

(4) (A) Consequent on that programme of restoration my 091031 Sept. was signal? allocated for cable ship EMILE BAUDOT.

(B) Para. 2 of my 091031 Sept. although ST. MARGARETS is on the station she is being employed on recovering anti-submarine cables in the Levant Area in accordance with Admty. directions.

(5) Confirmation is requested which item in para. one of my 091031 Sept. should now be completed by MIRROR. On completion of this item MIRROR will be required for work in my 111551 which contains long standing commitments now of some urgency.

(C. in C. Med., 211107A to Admty. F.O.G.M.A., F.O.L.E.M.)

*Subject. Programme for C.S. EMILE BAUDOT on completion of repairs. ST. MARGARETS can be made available to assist on return to Med.

SEE 021045 JAN.

VIRGINIA
survey ship
for passage
to U.K.Sail at 1800B/21 by 20/3 2/1 otherwise as safe navigation permits to Gibraltar for O/R U.K.
2. Speed 10 knots E.T.A. p.m. 29th ship to report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.

4. Acknowledge.

(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 211010B to VIRGINIA).

War Diary21.12.1945.
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Lapse of
Title of
Captain S/M,
2nd S/M
Flotilla
and
reconstitu-
tion of 1st
S/M Flotilla
Med.

It is proposed the title of Captain S/M 2nd S/M Flotilla should lapse from 7th November 1945, the date of arrival of H.M.S. WOLFE in U.K. and the 2nd S/M Flotilla considered disbanded from that date. In view of A.M. 240254 Nov. N.T. in W.D. and subject to concurrence of C. in C. Med. propose that on arrival of H.M.S. WOLFE in Malta, the title of commander S/M 1 be abolished, the duties of Senior Officer Submarines being taken over by Commanding Officer H.M.S. WOLFE from that date. When submarines are again stationed in the Mediterranean the 1st S/M Flotilla to be reconstituted, the Commanding Officer H.M.S. WOLFE then assuming the title of Captain S/M 1. If approved request promulgation and necessary action may be taken. (F.O.S/M 211126 to Admty).

*see 080929 JAN.
Admty 11459 Jan.*

ARTIGLIERE
Italian
destroyer.

Intend sailing I.S. ARTIGLIERE at 1700A/21st to Port Said for onward routing to Bitter Lakes.
2. Speed 15 knots, E.T.A. 0900/24th.
3. Embarked (A) for 9th Italian Battleship Group 6 officers 19 Pos. 71 ratings. (B) 9 Italian civilians for Port Said.

4. No (R) no liaison party embarked F.O.T.A.L.I.S., 181358B N.T. in W.D. July not to all refers.
6. S.N.O.R.S.C.A. pass to I.S. VITTORIO VENETO. (Capt. i/c Taranto, 211206A to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., C. in C. Med).

VICTORIOUS
trooping.

VICTORIOUS 200921 para. 2. Delay is acceptable.
2. Only sufficient fuel is to be embarked at Port Said for passage to Aden.
(Admty. 211300 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., VICTORIOUS)

FENCER
escort
carrier
trooping.

Ship remaining at Malta until 29th Dec. E.T.A. Port Said 2nd Jan. Colombo 11th Jan.
(FENCER, 211312 to Admty).
FENCER is delayed at Malta by engine defect, expect to sail her 29th Dec. to arrive Colombo about 11th Jan.
(C. in C. Med., 211838A to Admty).

U.S.S.
MONTEREY
Light
aircraft
carrier,
for U.S.A.

U.S.S MONTEREY sail at 1300A/22nd for Norfolk.
(2) S. of A. 23 knots.
(3) Routed as direct as safe navigation permits.
() Ship to signal E.T.A. at destination.
(N.O.I.C. Naples, 211619A to MONTEREY).

/Information...

21.12.1945.

Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Information re minesweepers to be bought by Yugo Slav representative at next Med. board meeting.

Your 181211A received and communicated to Yugoslav General Staff verbally and in writing. (B.N.A. Belgrade, 211745A to C. in C. Med).

PHOEBE cruiser for Med.

Present intention is that on completion of shake-down at Portland after refit, PHOEBE will be allocated to the Mediterranean Fleet. (D.O.D., appd. V.C.N.S., 211939 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Med).

SUPERB re Cruiser. Visit of AJAX to River Plate - Replacement.

SUPERB will leave Portland during third week in January to work up at Malta.
2. It is regretted that no other cruiser can readily be made available for the replacement of AJAX requested in your 101702, but SUPERB, although not fully efficient before her work up is completed, will be under your orders until AJAX returns.
3. In the event of an emergency, para. 5 of A.M. 081543 will be implemented.
(D.O.D. appd. V.C.N.S., 211945 to C. in C. Med).

MAURITIUS cruiser for Med. Fleet.

Present intention is that on completion of shake-down at Portland after refit, MAURITIUS will be allocated to the Mediterranean Fleet. (D.O.D. appd. V.C.N.S., 212005 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Med). See 22215 8 JAN 46.

21.12.1945.
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Destroyers for U.K. and reserve. Sailed WHIRLWIND and WAGER to Aden for onward routeing to U.K. (C. in C. E.I., 210950EF to Com. 1/c Aden).

Local forces in Malay reconstitution of. For S.E.A.C. Rear Link. At the present moment Ministries at home are dealing direct with Cs. in C. out here with regard to reconstitution Malayan Naval, Army and Air Forces.
2. This appears to be unco-ordinated at any rate at this end. We feel that correct procedure would be for requirements of three Services to be agreed by S.A.C. S.E.A. discussed with B.M.A. and Colonial Office representatives on the spot and then sent home to Chiefs of Staff.
3. Please examine present system and signal result. (S.A.C. S.E.A., 211023Z to Cabinet Offices). *See 112148 Z.*

8th Destroyer Flotilla ships on passage to B.P.F. E.T.A. 1100C/23rd COMET in company. Both ships require 500 tons of oil fuel. Weather 6290, 1474. (Capt. D. (8) 211140 to N.O.I.C. Aden and V.A.(A))

Movement Depot ship Arrival H.M.S. LUCIA. (F.O. Bombay, 211051EF to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary

21.12.1945.
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

PUNCHER
trooping to
Canada.

Your 211416. N.T. in W.D. P.C. and S. at 1500/21
045° 26' N., 050° 27' W. 268° 11 knots. E.T.A.
Sambro 0800Q Sunday 23rd.
Request you acknowledge.
(PUNCHER, 211506Z to C. in C. C.N.A., N.S.H.Q.)

Far East & Australia

R.A.P.W.I.
Mov. No.15
19.12.45.

C. in C. B.P.F., 210631Z to Admty.
See Lion Copy.

Precis on
7th Fleet
Summaries
19 and 20
Dec.
Northern
China and
Minesweeping
completion
of.

Generalissimo visited Headquarters of 13
National Army at Chunchow to discuss with
Russians the delay of entry into Mukden.
Russians wish for further delay to evacuate
troops and equipment. C.N.A. have captured
Tanshan and elements are within 60 to 86 kilos
of Mukden.

2. Chinese sources report large scale CCP-KMT
engagements Roghupeh Honan border. Communists
have captured Tsaoyang and are driving towards
Sdynwgang. C.C.P. Chief of Staff states that
C.C.P. KMT fighting is also threatening Kalgan
Chengte and Chaoyang. C.C.P. H.Q. has moved from
Yenan to Kalgan.

3. Clinedy Political Consultative Council consists of 38
delegates representing KMT, C.C.P., Democratic League and Young
China Party meets Chungking this week. Ill health prevents
attendance of Mam. Tse Lung.

4. Magnetic sweeping Amoy and moored sweeping Formosa Strait
completed.
(S.O. Force S, 210918Z to FYPE, (R) C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C.
Hong Kong, C.S.1).

French ships
for Indo-
China.

Marine Nationale have informed me by letter that
they have decided to send to Indo China early in
Jan. 1946.

(A) LA GRANDIERE and (B) 3 Sweepers of
COMMANDANT DOMINE Class.

This decision is due to development of the
situation in that place.

2. I am asked to approach Admiralty with the request that
these vessels may embark a 3 month outfit of common user stores
before departure and that the procedure used for previous units
may be followed especially that they may top up at Alexandria
with these essentials.

3. It is stressed that French industry cannot yet guarantee
supply of some of these articles. Only articles that cannot
be supplied from France will be asked for.

MESSAGE.

1339 F.E.A.

IN

RAPWI. Movement No 15.

UNCLASSIFIED.

210631Z/December.

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

Date: 21.12.45.

Recd: 1142.

P/L.

To: Admiralty. A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B. S.E.A.C. (Kandy).
C. in C. AFPAC. V.A.Q. B.P.F. Comdr. Philippine
Sea Frontier. C. in C. E.I. F.O.W.A. B.P.F.
B.O. Force "S". High Commissioner for U.K. (Canberra)
Commanding Officer Pacific Coast., Vancouver, B.A.D.
Washington, Bath. Alfsea. ARMINDIA.

RAPWI Mov. No.15. dated 19th December refer my
140616Z December.

2. HS AMRAPOORA sailed Rabaul 10th December E.T.A.
Singapore 25th December thence to Madras.

3. HS GERUSALEMME at Fremantle will sail shortly for
Singapore to act temporarily as Base H.S. Singapore.

4. HS KAROA sailed Rabaul E.T.A. Newcastle 24th December
(approx) thence to Singapore E.T.A. 10th Jan (approx)
lifting sick RAPWI for India E.T.A. Sydney 9 INT for
India ex Sydney 95 also ex Brisbane for India sick Indians
56 fit Indians 56.

5. HS MUNGANUI at Colombo thence to Middle East and U.K.
lifting sick RAPWI 230 sick INT for U.K. 56 also further
invalids ex Ceylon for M.E.150.

6. HS TJITJALENGKA sailed Singapore 19th December lifting
sick RAPWI for U.K. 45 Europe India 10 also India NS for
Madras 156. E.T.A. Madras 25th December Colombo E.T.A.
30th December E.T.D. 2nd January. thence to Durban and U.K.
Will lift further sick from Durban to U.K. 140.

7. HS VASNA at Hong Kong having lifted Dutch sick RAPWI
63 fit INT 34 from Manila who await onward passage to N E I.

8. H.M.S. ATHELING E.T.D. Melbourne 19th December with N.Z.
Army personnel E.T.A. Wellington 23rd December thence to
Sydney lifting available RAPWI from New Zealand.

9. H.M.S. BERWICK sailed Fremantle 18th December lifting
RAPWI - 50 from Melbourne E.T.A. 22nd December.

10. H.M.S. GLENEARN sailed Shanghai 18th December lifting
Indian students ex Hongkong for India 44 and Indians ex
Shanghai for Madras 245 E.T.A. Singapore 23rd December
E.T.A. Madras 28th December (approx).

11. H.M.S. LOTHIAN arrived Madras having lifted Indians and
Indian RAPWI from China.

/ 12.

Cont'd P.T.O.

2.

12. AQUITANIA sailed Fremantle 15th December with fit P.O.W. for U.K., 357 sick RAPWI for U.K. 23 fit INT for U.K. 3 E.T.A. Capetown 24th December.

13. CHESHIRE at Hongkong to lift all available Indians to India from Hongkong E.T.A. Madras 30th December (approx) see SITREP item 3.

14. HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN E.T.A. Hongkong 20th December available for final lift of British and European RAPWI from China. See SITREP Items 2 and 3.

15. MCOLTAN E.T.A. Wellington 20th December thence to Sydney to lift RAPWI for U.K. see SITREP in M.7.

16. H.M.S. FORMIDABLE E.T.A. Sydney 28th December will lift sick P.O.W. from Fremantle for U.K. 9 see SITREP Item 7.

17. Compilseafiron pass to Z.B.N.L.O. Phil Admiralty pass to War Office.

210631Z. *amended by 2115Z*

1st Lord.	D.C.(2).
1st S.L.(3).	D.S.O.
D.F.S.L.	O.D.(9).
2nd S.L.	D.Mov.(7).
4th S.L.	D.N.A.O.(2).
5th S.L.	D.A.W.T.
V.C.N.S.	D.A.C.R.(3).
A.C.N.S.(A)(2).	Mails.
A.C.N.S.(O).	D. of P.(3).
Secretary.	N.L.
Vice Controller (Air).	C.W.(Cas)(3).
F.A.S.(D).	N.
F.A.S.(S).	C.N.I.
D.T.A.S.W.(3).	D.N.A.R.(3).
W.D.	D.A.E.(4).
O.I.C.(2).	D.A.M.R.(3).
D.T.D.(2).	Air Br.
D.T.D.(C)(2).	D. of S.(6).
D. of S.T.(30).	
M.D.G.	
D. of P.(Q)(3).	
W.R.No.2.	
M.(10) and for W.O.	
A.C.N.P.(5).	

War Diary

21.12.1945.
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

French ships
for Indo-
China.
(contd.)

4. The establishment of common user stores foreseen will be - (A) For LA GRANDIERE as for SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA. (B) For 3 Sweepers as for AVISO OF CHEVREUIL class.
5. Request urgent and sympathetic consideration to this proposal.
(B.N.A. Paris, 211104A to Admty) See 221518.

ATHELING
Escort Carrier
trooping.

It is not desired to alter the arrangements outlined in para. 8 of your 140616 N.T. in W.D. but it is pointed out that it was not Admiralty intention that ATHELING's turn round should be delayed by her proceeding beyond Sydney. Paras. 1(a) and 3 of A.M. 281919*Oct. N.T. in W.D. refer.
(D.O.D. Appd. V.C.N.S., 211630 to C. in C. B.P.F. ashore & afloat) See 240554 Dec.
*Re: Sailing of 4 C.V.E's.

F.S. EMILE
BERTIN
cruiser.

(B) F.S. EMILE BERTIN. (D) Hong Kong. (E) 0830Z 21st Dec. (F) 18 knots. (H) Shanghai. (I) 0900Z/23rd Dec.
2. Will require Yangtse and Whangpoo pilots. (N.O.I.C. Hong Kong, 211725 to Comtask Unit 4.2 Task force 70 for Comar China).

INDEFATIGABLE
A/C carrier.

Request you will sail INDEFATIGABLE for U.K. as soon as she can be spared.
(D.O.D. Appd. V.C.N.S., 211958 to C. in C. B.P.F., ashore and afloat) See 221652 and 221925. ²⁸⁰³²⁵
* 282002

22.12.1945
Saturday

War Diary

GENERAL

Release of
officers
and ratings.
Volunteers
for post-
ponement
of.

Admiralty C.W.1. 221816 to A.G.M. Home and
Abroad.
See Lion Copy.

Board of
Admiralty,
Christmas
message.

The Board of Admiralty send their greetings
and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year
to all officers and men of the Royal Navy, and to
their families at home and abroad. In this
year of victory. They also wish to extend
their warmest greetings to the W.R.N.S., to the
Q.A.R.N.N.S. and to all those in the civil
employment of the Admiralty throughout the world, whose devotion
and hard work have contributed so greatly to the success of our
arms.

(2) Throughout the struggle now happily ended the Royal Navy
has maintained its highest traditions of courage and loyalty.
Though the great tasks of war are done, difficult years of
reconstruction lie ahead, in which many of those who are now
in the Naval Service will have their part to play in a different
sphere. To those for whom this Christmas will be their last in
the Royal Navy or in Admiralty service, Their Lordships wish
all success in civilian life; to those who continue ~~to continue~~
to serve, They express their hope for a speedy completion of
the many duties which remain to be accomplished before
tranquillity and peace return to the world.

(Hd. of M (II), Approved 1st Lord, 221225 to A General - Home
and abroad.)

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S.R.
relief
Stn. 20

Was relieved by PELICAN in position 20 at 0520Z
my E.T.A. Gibraltar 0600Z 24th.
(CROCUS, 220613Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

MIRROR
(Cable ship)

MIRROR has been delayed by weather and has now
received priority instructions from C. and W.
London to repair break in Gib-Portcurno Number
One cable.

(2) Ship will be sailed 23rd December to under-
take this work and on completion will proceed to comply with my
181055 December.

(F.O.G.M.A., 221115A to C. in C. Med. (Malta)). See 17/11/46 Jan 46

22nd Dec. 135A.

General

UNCLASSIFIED

221816/December

To : A.G.M. Home and Abroad 882A.

Date : 22.12.45

P/L

From: Admiralty.

BASEGRAM

882A. It has been decided to extend the opportunity to volunteer for posturement of release to officers and ratings in all Age and Service Groups not covered by A.F.O. 5626/45.

2. The new terms of volunteering are as follows :-

(a) until 31st March 1947, provided their services are so long required.

or (b) for so long as their services are required, but not beyond the expiration of the present emergency which will continue until terminated by Order-in-Council.

For officers the codeword MARCHVOL is to be used for volunteers under (a) and the existing codeword EMVOL for volunteers under (b).

3. The general instructions contained in A.F.O. 5626/45 are applicable and officers (except existing EMVOLS) and ratings are to be invited to volunteer as indicated below :-

(1) All officers including R.M. officers in Age and Service Groups 41 and later, but excluding Supply Branch and W.R.N.S. officers who are dealt with in (a) and (b) below.

(a) Supply Branch officers in Age and Service Groups 41 and later are only to be given the option of volunteering for the period of the emergency as in 2 (b) above, in view of relatively slow rate of release of these officers.

(b) W.R.N.S. officers in all Age and Service groups. References to W.R.N.S. officers in Admiralty General Messages 814A of 8th December, and 833A of 13th December re-issued in A.F.O.7315/45 are hereby cancelled.

(ii) Existing NEWVOLS. All officers including W.R.N.S. are to be given opportunity of volunteering as in para. 2.

(iii) Existing EMVOLS. These officers including W.R.N.S. have already signed an undertaking to serve until the end of the present emergency and are therefore unaffected by this signal.

(iv) Radar Officers, who do not wish to volunteer as MARCHVOL or EMVOL may volunteer for shorter periods up to a specified date as laid down in Admiralty General Message 799A December.

/(v).....

*use of officers
ratings
volunteers for
posturement
of sc*

- (v) Personnel who signed an undertaking to serve for a specified period as a condition of promotion to officer rank are not affected by this signal.
- (vi) Ratings (including other ranks Royal Marines and W.R.N.S) in all Age and Service Groups. Those who have already volunteered for the period of the emergency will be held to their undertakings, but those who have volunteered up to 30th September, 1946, are to be allowed to volunteer as in para. 2. W.R.N.S. ratings in categories which are being abolished on 31st December, 1945 or by 30th June, 1946, are not to be allowed to volunteer unless they are willing to be remustered in accordance with paragraphs 7 and 8 of A.F.O. 7316/45 which replaces A.F.O. 5627/45.

4. The opportunity of volunteering under this signal will remain open until 31st March, 1946, for officers and ratings but will continue thereafter until further notice for ratings.

5. Volunteers under para 2 (a) will be eligible for release by 31st March, 1947, provided they are then eligible for release in Class A.

6. This scheme is not applicable to officers and ratings on T.124 Agreement and variants including Commissioned Cable Ship Agreement to Controlled Mining or Harbour Defence ratings. It is applicable to officers and ratings of the R.N. Patrol Service.

7. All officers and ratings are to be advised that it is in their own interest and that of their employers in civil life that the latter should be kept informed concerning the period for which the individual has volunteered.

8. While no definite forecast of the date on which the present emergency will terminate by Order-in-Council can be given it is anticipated that it will not be for some time after 31st March 1947. In this connection it is observed that the emergency terminated approximately three years after the end of the 1914-18 war.

9. Commanders-in-Chief are responsible for ensuring that this message is received by transports for the information of officers and ratings on passage out. For Officers and ratings on passage home, responsibility rests with Divisional Sea Transport Officers. Officers and ratings on leave and on detached service and officers at home in not to join appointments are to be made aware of the contents of this signal by their Commanding Officers as soon as possible.

221816

for Head of C.W.I.
(Q.A.M. Ext. 526)
Approved by D.C.N.P.

Full Admiralty Distribution London and Bath

C.W.I. (C.W.77814/45) (12)

D.P.S. (D) (16)

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.

ME
(35)

OUT

RESTRICTED.

War Diary

22.12.1945.
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic - Contd.

L.C.I.(L)
272 and
tugs for
U.K.

Intend to sail L.C.I.(L) 272 (S.O.) REWARD and LORD IRWIN 1000A 23rd December via Necri routes to U.K.

(2) Sailing of L.C.I.(L) 289 delayed with major defects.

(3) Speed 9 E.T.A. L.C.I.(L) 272 and LORD IRWIN at Plymouth a.m. 28th December REWARD at

Campbeltown a.m. 30th December.

(7) Admiralty is requested to divert mails accordingly.

(8) My 190930A December* now cancelled.

(9) L.C.I.(L) 272 acknowledge and sail ships to comply.

(F.O.G.M.A., 221205A to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown).

* ?190939 intended.

Intend to sail H.M.R.T. REWARD 1000A/23rd December to comply with my 190930 E.T.A. Campbeltown a.m. 30th December.

(4) REWARD acknowledge and sail to comply.

(F.O.G.M.A., 221921A to N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, C. in C. Rosyth REWARD).

South Atlantic

BLANKNEY
destroyer
for U.K.
and reserve.

Intend to sail BLANKNEY from Freetown at 1600 December 22nd to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K. calling at Las Palmas for fuel and water en route S. of A. 14 knots navigation as safety permits. E.T.A. Las Palmas a.m. 26th December E.T.D. Las Palmas p.m. 26th December. E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. 29th December. BLANKNEY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 220951 to F.O.G.M.A.)

A.S.R.
relief
Stn.22.

Have been relieved on Station 22 by H.M.S. CAISTOR CASTLE. My E.T.A. Freetown 1100/24.
(FAL, 221500Z to Freetown).

War Diary

22.12.1945
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

DEVONSHIRE
trooping

Sail at 0515B/23 as safe navigation permits to Aden, Bombay and Colombo for onward routeing Sydney.
(2) Speed 20 knots. Report your T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal.
(4) Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said), 221055B to DEVONSHIRE.)

VICTORIOUS
A.C.
trooping

Sail at 0530B/23 as safe navigation permits to Aden for fuelling with minimum delay and Colombo for onward routeing Singapore and Sydney.
(2) Speed 20 knots, report your T. of D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal.
(4) Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said), 221105B to VICTORIOUS.)

SIRIUS
cruiser

Immediately on arrival about 1630B today, 22nd December, proceed to Haifa in accordance with F.O.L.E.M.'s 081620, not to S.N.O.L.A.
(2) Adjust speed to arrive 0830B 23rd.
(4) Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 221320B to SIRIUS.)

Repatriation
of North
African
native
troops

French Ministry of National Defence have applied to me for loan of VILLE D'ORAN for one or, if possible two voyages between Marseilles and Algiers for urgent repatriation of North African native troops now congested in Southern France. If approved would suggest her allocation for two such voyages between 16th January, and 28th Jan. (D.S.T.O. France, 221558A to D. of S.T.)

22.12.1945
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Air operations South East Asia (Dec. 2 - June 15) (A.C.S.E.A., 220500Z to Air Ministry, Whitehall) See Lion Copy.

LONDON trooping Intend to sail LONDON at 0630/23rd to Suez for U.K.
(2) LONDON to report T. of D. from Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this signal. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 221040 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

INVER, EVENLODE frigates for U.K. and return to U.S.A. Intend to sail INVER and EVENLODE at 1400Z/22 to sail for U.K.
(2) S. of A. 12 knots E.T.A. Suez 0500/27. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 221041 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Lend lease major landing craft - surplus 36 L.C.T.(5) and 10 L.C.I.(L) detailed in S.O.R.N.E. India 141635 are surplus to requirements on E.I. Station. (C. in C. E.I., 221056C to Admiralty.)

see 281649-

F.S. TOURVILLE Cruiser on passage to Indo-China S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 201145B not to all.
(2) T. of D. Suez 2315B 21st E.T.A. Aden 0800B/25th.
(3) Request to be sailed from Aden evening 25th. Request confirmation as soon as possible, that pure water is available at Aden. (F.S. TOURVILLE, 221130 to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Trooping accommodation Your 181124 (Not identified in War Reg.) As far as E.I. sailings are concerned the choice (?at present) lies between H.M.S. CUMBERLAND, H.M.S. FENCER and H.M.S. SMITER estimated to pass Malta approximately 8th, 17th and 20th Jan. respectively. ~~As H.M.S. CUMBERLAND should leave Colombo about 28th December.~~ As H.M.S. CUMBERLAND should leave Colombo about 28th December request timely decision so that accommodation if desired, can be reserved. (C. in C. E.I., 221139EF to C. in C. Med.)

LOTHIAN H.Q. ship and L.S.T. 3505 programme Intend following programme for LOTHIAN and L.S.T. 3505. Lifting NP.2504 from Ceylon to Kure, all dates January unless otherwise stated.

Arrive	Place	Depart
Nil	Colombo	2nd
7th	Singapore	9th
13th	Hongkong	15th
19th	Kure	Nil

/ (3) ...

War Diary

22.12.1945
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

LOTHIAN H.Q. Ship and L.S.T. 3505 programme (Contd.)	(3) L.S.T. 3505.		
	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
	Nil	Colombo	29th
	5th	Singapore	As requisite
	19th	Kure	Nil.

(4) F.O.M.F.A. and Com. Hongkong are requested to sail vessels as requisite.
(Colombo, 221203EF to C. in C. B.P.F. afloat, C. in C. B.P.F., V.A.(Q) B.P.F. etc.)

Acceleration release in rates of personnel etc. Closing of Diving School at Trincomalee

In order to effect the reduction of personnel ordered in A.M. 101807 intend to close E.I. Diving School at Trincomalee.
(Colombo, 221204EF to Admiralty.)

RAJAH Trooping

Sailed H.M.S. RAJAH to Aden for onward routeing to U.K.
(F.O. Bombay, 221357EF to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Movement

Arrivals: H.M.S. MICHAEL, H.M.S. MINSTREL, L.S.5
Departure: L.S.T. 410.
(Comic. Trincomalee, 222135EF to Admiralty.)

MOST SECRET

139A

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** December

(*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a **One Time Pad** Date 23.12.45
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

From A.C.S.E.A.

Recd. -

CYPHER

To:- Air Ministry Whitehall

IMPORTANT

WX. 55216 ACC 60 December 22nd.

Personal for C.A.S. from Park.

Here is review of air operations in South East Asia covering period December 2 to 15 inclusive.

2. Air operations in Java continued on a slightly increased scale. During the period nine offensive operations were made by Mosquitoes of 84 and 47 Squadrons and Thunderbolts of 60 and 81 Squadrons. 63 sorties being flown. The Heavigap attacks were made in the environs of Bandoeng, South East of Batavia and Ambubawa in Central Java and were made in direct support of the army evacuating RAPWI's from camps in these areas. Indonesian strong points in Bandoeng were attacked on the 2nd December by two Mosquitoes carrying six rocket projectiles and two Thunderbolts with 6,000 lbs. of bombs and again on 6th by four Mosquitoes with 32 rockets. These strikes seem successful and direct hits were scored with R/Ps and bombs on several buildings and huts. Airstrikes were made also on Indonesian positions in the Ambarawa area on 7, 8 and 12 December, 21 Thunderbolts and three Mosquitoes being employed. The attack on the 12 was directed against machine gun positions threatening our troops and two bridges which the army stated would permit the Indonesians to make an outflanking movement to cut off an Allied party engaged in the final evacuation of a RAPWI camp in the north. Following the attack our ground forces reported that the machine guns had ceased firing and that one of the bridges was destroyed and the other damaged by bombs. Commenting on the three raids in this area, the army OPREP reads "Air strikes 7, 8 and 12 December on targets and by good fortune no bombs fell outside the target. The British army as well as the Indonesians were greatly impressed by the unusual accuracy of the bombing but R/P weapons are being used now for this kind of target."

3. Two attacks were made on 13 and 14 December in support of land forces operating other areas. The first took place near Bekasi, some 15 miles east of Batavia and was made by five Mosquitoes and seven Thunderbolts. One vehicle full of Indonesian troops was strafed, this vehicle and three others were set on fire. Targets for the second attack were roads and a bridge in the Gresik area, ten miles north west of Sourabaya. Direct hits rendered 75 foot

of

of the bridge impassable and cratered the roads. During the fortnight 25,000 lbs. of bombs and 80 R/Ps were expended in the offensive operations.

4. Road convoys travelling from Batavia through Buitenzorg to Bandoeng have frequently been delayed by road blocks and subjected to attacks by Indonesian elements which have inflicted casualties on convoy personnel and their escort. On 10 December an air attack was made against Tjibadak, one of the main points of opposition, by seven Mosquito and six Thunderbolts. Many fires were started and it was reported that most of the village had been destroyed. To counter these raiding parties, Mosquitoes and Thunderbolts have maintained almost continuous patrols over these roads, strafing road blocks and areas from which enemy fire was encountered. In all 82 sorties were flown on such patrols. In addition to these offensive operations, 62 sorties were flown on tactical reconnaissance flights over Java. The Air C. in C. visited Sourabaya and the British Divisional Commander pointed out the several buildings that had been bombed by the Mosquitoes when these housed Indonesian headquarters. In every instance the bombs scored direct hits on the gun positions, enemy concentrations and vital bridges over the Ktoetang and also strong patrols by own troops nullified Indonesian efforts to hold up (?evacuation) programme.

5. In French Indo-China Spitfires of 273 Squadron carried out tactical reconnaissance flights over the Saigon area. On 11 December three aircraft attacked approximately 1000 Annamites who were threatening a small French force.

6. Disturbances have been reported from Sumatra. In Medan, the local Indonesians interpreted the arrival of tanks and Spitfires as an indication of British intentions to take over Sumatra. One demonstration flight was made over North Eastern Sumatra by five Spitfires of 136 Squadron. One aircraft crashed and burst into flames but the pilot was taken from the burning plane by Indonesian and later, when a truce had been arranged, he was picked up by an Expeditior and taken to Medan Hospital.

7. Flying accidents and casualties in operations in Nei during the period are as follows -
One Thunderbolt crashed on landing pilot uninjured.
One Spitfire crashed into jungle in Sumatra (see para. six)
One Mosquito on a tactical reconnaissance flight in the Soerabaya area shot down by enemy AA fire pilot and navigator killed.
One Thunderbolt, tyre burst on take off pilot slightly injured.
Since conclusion of this period one Thunderbolt on tactical reconnaissance Soerabaya area was shot down by AA fire. The Pilot was seen to bale out and is believed to have been taken into nearby house. Since the commencement of operations in Nei 11 aircraft have been destroyed, eight aircraft damaged by AA fire, five R.A.F. aircrew? killed, 6 missing believed killed, one missing two injured

8.

8. Liberators, Sunderlands and Dakotas of AHQ Ceylon made a total of 128 transit and ferry flights during the fortnight despite the fact that during a four day period of bad weather it was only possible to fly ten sorties. 117 and 233 Squadrons of 232 Group have been disbanded while 5 Squadrons continue to maintain the routine supply effort to Burma, Siam, French Indo-China, Malaya and Sumatra. During the fortnight 18 November to 1 December inclusive, 873 sorties were flown, 24 being abortive due to weather and technical causes, 1534 tons of supplies and 5374 personnel were carried into the areas named while on the return journeys loads consisted of 91 tons of material and 4580 personnel including 1122 casualties, 9605 civilian internees and 27 ex POW

9. A report has been received covering the meeting at Nancowry in the Andamans between four members of the crew of a Liberator and a naval landing party. The meeting took place at the end of December and the aircrew were reported to be in good health. The Liberator had crashed into the sea while returning from an offensive sweep in search of the Japanese cruiser HAGURA on 15 May 1945 (The cruiser was sunk on the following day by naval forces, materially aided by sightings reported by R.A.F. aircraft) The Japanese commented on the toughness of the aircrew members who swam ashore after the crash in spite of their injuries. The Japanese were also greatly impressed by the security mindedness which one aircrew displayed. Review ends.

220500Z

Rec'd in W.R. 0800/24

Circulated by Air Ministry to
A.M. Dpts., Admiralty,
Minister of Defence and
S. of S. for Foreign Affairs.

1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
D.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
C.N.I.
C.C.L.S.
W.D.

AS 110

22.12.1945.
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

SS. ANNA
DICKINSON
damaged.

AC.839 22nd Dec. Following read from ANNA
DICKINSON 'U.S. Vessel being opened by sea
considerable damage done course 078 speed 8 knots.
T.O.O. 221815Z". Aircraft being despatched
to contact vessel at dawn 23rd.
(247 Group 222026Z to Admty. London).

Far East & Australia.

French ships
for Indo-
China.

My 211104 concerning French decision to send 4
further vessels to Indo-China. I am now
informed by Marine Nationale that the names of
the three sweepers are LA GRACIEUSE, LA CAPRICIEUSE
~~SS~~ COMMANDANT DOMINE.
2. The first two names will sail from Toulon
towards end of Jan. 1946 and the last named in
February from the same port.
(B.N.A. Paris, 221518 to Admty).

INDEFATIGABLE
A.C.
aircraft.

In view of impending return of INDEFATIGABLE to
U.K. (A.M. 211958 to C. in C. B.P.F. only
refers), presume 48 Seafire XV in VICTORIOUS
will no longer be required to disembark at
Singapore, (A.M. 091217 refers).

2. F.O.N.A.P. is requested to report how many
of the Seafire XV in VICTORIOUS can be used to support
IMPLACABLE's Air Group and where they should be disembarked.
3. F.O. Air E.I. is requested to report how many in addition
to the six Seafire XV for 757 Squadron can be held in reserve
in Ceylon and/or Southern India.

(D.N.A.O., 221652 to F.O.N.A.P., F.O. Air E.I.)

A.M. 211958. Air Group should be returned to U.K. with
ship.

2. Seafire Squadrons should keep their aircraft but Avengers
and Fireflies should not be returned to U.K.
(D.N.A.O., 221925 to C. in C. B.P.F.) *See 282002.*

Surveying
Vessel
CHALLENGER

Your 201017* para. 2 agreed.
(A.C.N.B., 221049Z to F.O.W.A. B.P.F.)
* Propose sailing CHALLENGER for U.K. 1st Jan.
para.

141

23.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

DART
on passage
to U.K.
for Reserve.

My 221045Z. Amend E.T.A. to read 1000Z 24th Dec.
(DART 231910Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

CRUSADER

Sailed Ponta Delgada 1630Z for Kingston Jamaica
S. of A. 20 knots. E.T.A. 1200Z/30.
(CRUSADER, 231655Z to S.B.N.O.W.At.)

South Atlantic

SHIEL
Frigate
on passage
to U.K.
for reserve.

1A. Sailed St. Helena 0745Z/23rd.
2. E.T.A. 04° 32' S., 0815Z/25th.
3. E.T.A. Freetown 1545Z/27th C. in C. S.A.
171223 Dec. not to all. refers.
(SHIEL, 230814Z ?171223 intended to Admty).

A.S.R.
relief
station 22.

Have relieved H.M.S. FAL on A.S.R. Station 22
at 1450Z/22.
(CAISTOR CASTLE, 231345Z to N.O.I.C. Freetown).

BLANKNEY
destroyer
for U.K.

Arrival H.M.S. BLANKNEY 0800 Dec. 22nd departure
1615/22 Las Palmas Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 231730 to Admty, C. in C. S.A.)

23.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Salvage
vessels

Intend sailing ^{to} day Sunday December 23rd in
company with SALVAGE DUKE. E.T.D. 1145/23.
E.T.A. Aden 0700/29.
(PRINCE SALVOR 230840 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A., V.A.(Q)).

Gunboats for SCARAB, APHIS, COCKCHAFER will be ready to sail
E.I. Station. from Taranto to East Indies Station on Dec. 31st.
Trials show that fuel endurance is about 900
miles at 9 knots, feed water 5½ days.

2. Intend they should proceed under escort via
Tobruk, Suez, Port Sudan to Aden. They will require a total of
about 220 tons fuel and if available 40 tons water at all these
ports, and may need to top up at Massawa.

3. F.O.L.E.M. is requested to sail ST. BRIDES BAY to arrive
Taranto by December 30. It is intended that she should escort
gunboats as far as Aden. She should be prepared to tow and to
supply fuel and water to gunboats should weather delay ships
on passage.

(C. in C. Med., 231028 to F.O.L.E.M.) *see 221745 B Jan 46*

23.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

PATROLLER
E. C.
Trooping.

Proposed following programme for PATROLLER.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
a.m. 27th Dec.	Aden	p.m. 27th Dec.
a.m. 31st Dec.	Suez	a.m. 31st Dec.
p.m. 31st Dec.	Port Said	a.m. 1st Jan.
p.m. 9th Jan.	Plymouth	-

(C. in C. E.I., 231246EF to Admty).

23.12.1945
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Movement

Arrivals Trinidad 23rd December, H.M.S. WEAR.
(N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, 231011Q to S.B.N.O.W.A.A.
(Bermuda)).

WEAR
frigate
and Flag
of S.B.N.O.
W.At.

The modifications to H.M.S. WEAR requested in my
181443 July and approved in A.L.D. 094024/45 of
31st October appear no longer to be necessary
as far as accommodation of myself and small staff
is concerned observing that (A.M. 212017 refers)
a cruiser will be shortly available as my Flagship.
(2) In pre-war days an occasional commitment in
this station was the provision of a sloop for
transporting various Governors round their scattered islands.
Propose, therefore, that H.M.S. WEAR may still be taken in hand
by Bermuda Dockyard for modifications for above reason.
(S.B.N.O. W.At., 231512Z to Admiralty, C.S. Bermuda.)

PUNCHER
Trooping
for Canada

Arrival a.m. 23rd December, H.M.S. PUNCHER from
U.K.
(C. in C. C.N.A., 231235Z to N.S.H. Ottawa.)

24.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

America and West Indies

Limits of
Station
Substitution
of title
C. in C. of
America and
West Indies
for S.B.N.O.
W. Atlantic
comes into
force

Limits of America and West Indies Station are
as follows:-

(I) In Pacific - the pre-war boundary except
that the boundary South of the Equator will be
110° E.

(II) In the Atlantic, the boundary of the present
U.S. Strategic Zone extended from the S.E. corner
(40° S. 26° W.) to South Pole.

Title of C. in C. America and West Indies Station
is to be substituted for S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic
forthwith.

24.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

AVON
Frigate
for U.K.
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail AVON 0900A/25 December via Necri routes to Plymouth.
(2) Speed 11. E.T.A. 1000A 29th December.
(7) AVON acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 241129A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

CRUSADER
Destroyer
on passage
from U.K.

Departure H.M.C.S. CRUSADER 1600Z/23 E.T.A. Kingston Jamaica p.m. 30th.
(Consul Ponta Delgada, 241130Z to Admiralty.)

A.S.R.
relief
Stn.20

Intend to sail START BAY 1300A 24th December to relieve PELICAN on A.S.R. Station 20. Speed 12. E.T.A. 0800A 26th, December.
(2) On relief PELICAN return to Gibraltar.
(3) START BAY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 241152A to Admiralty.)

BUTTERMERE
Sea-going
training-
ship on
passage
from W.Africa

My 211654A December. BUTTERMERE sailed 1200A/23 December. E.T.A. Plymouth 1800A/27th December.
(F.O.G.M.A., 241245A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Destroyers
on passage
from B.P.F.
to U.K.

Intend to sail NEPAL (S.O.) and WESSEX 0900A 25th December via Necri routes to home ports.
(2) Speed 14. E.T.A. NEPAL at Portsmouth 0900A 28th December. WESSEX at Plymouth 1400A 28th December.
(7) NEPAL acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 241653A to Admiralty, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth.)

DART frigate
to U.K. for
reserve.

Intend to sail DART 0800A/27th Dec. to Plymouth.
2. Speed 11. E.T.A. 31st Dec.
7. DART acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 241729A to Admty.)

South Atlantic

ENTERPRISE
cruiser
(trooping)

Intend to sail ENTERPRISE from Simonstown p.m. 29th December for Takoradi Freetown and onward routeing by Capt. in Charge West Africa to Gibraltar and Portsmouth.

(2) Approximate programme as follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Simonstown	-	29th December.
Takoradi	4th January	4th January
Freetown	6th January	6th January
Gibraltar	11th January	12th January
Portsmouth	15th January	-

(C. in C. S.A. 241121 to Admiralty.)

24.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

UNICORN
aircraft
repair
ship on
passage
to U.K.
from B.P.F.

C. in C. B.P.F.'s 090539 November not to all.
Intend to sail UNICORN from Capetown a.m. 29th
December fro Freetown and onward routeing by
Captain in Charge West Africa to Devonport.
(2) Approximate programme as follows:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Capetown	-	29th December
Freetown	7th January	7th January
Devonport	15th January	-

(C. in C. S.A., 241642 to Admiralty.)

"Hunt"
Destroyers
for U.K.
and reserve

My 241646. LAMERTON and MIDDLETON will sail from
Capetown to Freetown in company with UNICORN who
will fuel both destroyers at sea.
(2) My 161802 to Captain in Charge West Africa
also refers.
(C. in C. S.A., 241651 to Admiralty, C. in C.
W. Africa.)

War Diary

24.12.1945.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

TEAL
N.A.B.
(Naval
auxiliary
boat).

Sail at 0800A/26th Dec. to Gibraltar through Bizerta War Channel thence as direct as safe navigation permits.
2. Speed 7 knots E.T.A. a.m. 1st Jan. reporting accurate E.T.A. 24 hours in advance.
4. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 241035 to TEAL, F.O. Malta, Admty)

AWE
frigate on
passage to
U.K.
(reserve).

Sail at 1200A/26th Dec. by appropriate Medri route to Gibraltar.
2. Speed 11 knots, E.T.A. 0600A/30th, ship is for onward routing to U.K.
4. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 241049A to AWE, Capt. (D) Malta).

TEWERA
M/S auxiliary
on passage
to U.K. from
E.I. Stn.

Sail on completion of coaling on 24th Dec. to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K. Routed by appropriate Medri route.
(2) Speed 8 knots E.T.A. to be reported.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 241053A to TEWERA).

U.S. SS.
NATHANIEL
BACON
(mined and
aground).

U.S. Ship NATHANIEL BACON struck three mines in position reported 230° eight miles from Civita Vecchia Italy at 0630 19th Dec. and later went aground in position 42° 23' N., 11° 26 mins. 30 seconds East.
Two casualties possibility of salvage of ship and cargo being investigated.
(C. in C. Med., 241648A to Admty).

Greek Govt.
and mainten-
ance of
Greek Forces
Payment for
stores etc.

Am informed by S.B.N.O. Greece that a statement has been published in the local press of the British Government's intention to hold Greek Government financially responsible for maintaining Greek forces as from 1st Jan. 1946. If this statement is confirmed request very early instructions as to procedure to be adopted regarding method of repayment. It is understood that the Greek Government Sterling credit is small and repayment in Sterling locally would be impracticable. Recommend that essential stores and services should continue to be supplied to the Greek Government and recorded for repayment at a future date to be determined between the British and Greek Governments.
2. Similarly instructions are requested regarding payment for stores and services supplied by the Greek Government. The present rate of exchange of 2000 drachma to the pound is extremely artificial and the price of stores and labour is fluctuating at an alarming rate and the wages of local men engaged on repairs to H.M. Ships have increased to approximately three times the rates adopted on our entry into Greece thus repayment by the British Government to the Greek Government would be out of all proportion to the value of goods and services rendered if assessed at the present rate of exchange.
(C. in C. Med., 241656A to Admty).

24.12.1945.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

SS.
THORSHVODI.

^a
^ trouble

An attempt was recently made to tow stern half of THORSHVODI to Genoa but failed due to engine trouble breaking down in very rough weather. Stern half of THORSHVODI was subsequently berthed at Bone.

Intend to defer towing two halves of this vessel to Genoa until spring.
(C. in C. Med., 241701 to Admty).

RETRIEVER
cable ship
programme.

Following is intended programme for RETRIEVER

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
-	Alexandria	a.m./1st Jan.
a.m./5th Jan.	Malta	p.m./6th Jan.
a.m./11th Jan.	Gibraltar	p.m./11th Jan.
a.m./16th Jan.	Plymouth	-

2. A.M. 221413 not to all refers.
(F.O.L.E.M., 241909B to Admty).

24.12.1945
MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

French troops from Madagascar for French Indo-China
 SAMFLORA sailed Light ship. E.T.A. Tamatave a.m. 30th December to load vehicles of French Brigade for Saigon. Embarked military one French Officer, one French N.C.O. Accommodation available - 16 cabins, berths 10 troop deck with cabin messing 280 troop deck messing. Requires 150 tons water.
 Diego Suarez pass to Tamatave.
 (S.S.T.O. E. Africa, 241021C to B.N.L.O. Diego Suarez.)

Movement Arrive HOWE.
 (N.O.I.C. Aden, 241731C to C. in C. E.I.)

Italians in S.E.A.C. repatriation of
 Your 221702 not to all. S.A.C.S.E.A. 200803 not to all. Add:- Directs.
 (a) Italians cannot be accepted in Ceylon.
 (b) ERITREA is to sail for Mediterranean after embarking Italians and Swiss (personnel?) now being collected in ~~NDI~~ and ~~Puket~~.
 (2) Latter requirement precludes her going to Shanghai before end of February but there appears to be (?no objection) to her being used after her present commitment, for (?repatriation) of Italians direct from Shanghai to Italy. She is in any case planned to return from Mediterranean to Shanghai to contact Italian Ambassadors to China and Japan.
 (C. in C. E.I., 241731EF to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Operation Report. Netherlands East Indies
 02186 cipher 24th December. Secret.
 For M.O. 12.
 To 1200 hrs. 24th December 1945.
 West Java.
 (a) Batavia Kramat Camp fired on by L.M.G. gren. and rifles. Own patrols searched area removed barricades. Hospital North-East Camp evac. to St. Carolus Hospital. 5 para. Bde. searched five kampongs. Kwitang D.446. Heavy opposition met. Own cas. one B.O.R. seriously wounded. Some arms recovered. Glontar Sembiland 549 as own troops approached hundred Indonesians moved East rly. and commenced sniping. Area South of Djagil X.rds. searched against slight opposition some arms recovered and twenty arrests made considerable quantity weapons grens. amm. collected in all searches. Buitenzorg all areas generally quiet excl. Bde. H.Q. which attacked for two hrs. by grens. Bandoeng 23rd December Bde. Gp. incl. arty cleared kampongs North-East sector. Own troops attacked and sniped at. Arty fire caused Indonesians retire to paddy fields. Houses searched rifles spears amm. petrol bombs discovered. Twelve kidnapped people recovered. Only issolated groups extremists remain this sector. Semarang no major incident. Oengaran one hundred black buffaloes located three hundred yards south of 5 Raj Rif positions area cleared. 5 Raj. Rif positions later shelled by 75 mm. Believed Indonesians have now followed up from Ambarawa and joined the forces conc. Goengoeng Pati RV 8900.
 (b) N.T.R.
 (c) 1/8 GR disembarking Batavia today proceeding Buitenzorg.
 (d) 22 Indep. Para. Coy. Batavia C.239.

/Sumatra...

24.12.1945
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Operation Sumatra.
Report. (a) Generally quiet. Billiton small Dutch
Netherlands garrison in control situation quiet. Japanese
East Indies. garrisons Lmoseumkwe E.6876 Bireun being evac.
(Contd.) 24 (or 26) December. Otherwise N.T.R. R.A.P.W.I.
750 R.A.P.W.I. from Padang to Medan on GLENROY.
1200 Dutch from Samarang to Bangkok on AMHERST
VICTORY. 45 Dutch from Bandoeng to Singapore by
air. Sunda Straits patrol. Met extremely bad weather 15 to
18 De? Little shipping unable to investigate any met. Praus
investigated 15 to 21 Dec. all on normal work no arms found.
Patrol returned Batavia morning 21st December.
East Java.
(a) 9 Bde. December 23rd. Captured two Indonesians with
quantity of Japanese uniforms in Pepelegi 5069. Patrol from
Gedangan found road block 533654. Locals fled on approach own
patrol. All other patrols N.T.R. Night 23rd/24th December
N.T.R. 24th December. Local patrolling N.T.R. 128 Bde. 23rd
December 2/1 Punjab patrol encountered approximately 50 enemy
with two M.M.Gs. and two L.M.Gs. dug in area 3473. Own O.Rs.
engaged. Enemy withdrew to 335731 leaving 2 swords quantity S.A.A.
and T.K.R. pass. Night 23rd/24th December N.T.R. 24th December
N.T.R. Arty. Night 23rd/24th December Patrols 5 (or 8) Ind.
W.D. captured 23 (or 20) looters and curfew breakers area 521831.
(b) A.C. dropped news leaflets on Lawang and Malang. Malang
airfield reported clear. Airstrip W.D.4203 obstructed with
barrels and poles.
(c) N.T.R.
(d) Coy. 3/9 G.R. 436707. All inf.
(A.F.N.E.I., 241850FG to W.O.)

24.12.1945.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

Limits of America & West Indies Station. Change of title of S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic to C. in C. America & West Indies. Your 191553 Nov.
(a) Anticipated SHEFFIELD will leave U.K. Feb./March 1946., and KENYA April/May 1946. See A.M. 201937 re Escorts.
(b) Station will be known as America and West Indies Station. Station limits as follows:
(1) In Pacific - the pre-war boundary except that the boundary south of the equator will be 110° West.
(ii) In the Atlantic - the boundary of the present U.S. Strategic Zone, extended from South East corner (40° S., 26° W.) to South Pole.
2. The peace-time activities of the Squadron should be arranged on pre-war lines.
3. Question of allocation of Military and Air Forces is under discussion.
4. Title of C. in C. America and West Indies Station is to be substituted for S.B.N.O.W. Atlantic forthwith.
5. A message is being issued.
(Hd. of M. Branch, 241525 to S.B.N.O. W. Atlantic).

Far East & Australia

Routeing of H.M. trooping ships beyond Australia - avoidance of. A.M. 211630 Dec. although every effort will be made to avoid routeing H.M. Trooping Ships beyond Australia it may still be necessary to do so where large N.Z. drafts are embarked.
2. The reason for this is that there is no accommodation at Melbourne for holding drafts while waiting for lifts by Troop Transport and owing to the industrial situation the railways are unable to provide transport over the 600 miles from Sydney to Melbourne.
3. There is no passenger lift at present between Australia and New Zealand except in H.M. Ships or hired Transport hired Transports usually routed Melbourne to New Zealand one outward passage.
(V.A.(Q) B.P.F., 240554 to C. in C. B.P.F. Afloat).

Mil. Sit. Manchuria. China theatre daily intelligence Summary No.210 24th Dec.
Part One. Sino press quoting Tu Li Mings Chinchou headquarters states, on 20 Dec. advance elements KMT forces moving from Chinchou (121 07 - 41 07) base had reached Vhing Tnitzu Prn. one (121 23 - 51 27), the second rail station northeast of Koupangtzu (121 44 - 41 20 21) en route to Hsinmin (122 48 - 41 59) and Mukden. Second column en route to Gourhsin (121 39 - 42 05) from Ihsienj (121 15 - 41 32) (?arrived) Chinghomen (121 21 - 41 45). The third column en route Chih seng (119 00 - 42 18) reached Yenpaishou (119 37 - 41 23). All columns halted these

/points...

War Diary24.12.1945.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSFar East & Australia

Mil. Sit. points awaiting Russian liaison parties before
 Manchuria. advancing and effecting occupation. A fourth
 (contd.) column en route to Yinkou (122 13 - 40 40) arrived
 at Panshan (122 02 - 41 12). Section one, KMT -
 CCP conflict, North China - Marine recon. of
 22 Dec. reports 15 tanks of foreign design
 observed about 80 miles east of Peiping along the Peiping -
 Chinwangtao highway. This is believed to be a continuation of
 the KMT armoured movement reported near Sangho and moving east
 on 21st Dec. These tanks may be headed for the Fengjun -
 Linhsi - Luanhsien sector of the highway to assist in quelling
 CCP harassment of the northward movement of KMT troops. A
 large concentration of CCP troops estimated at 10,000 in the
 Shihhsiachen (117 03 - 40 34) area are reported to be destroying
 the rail line and are in a position to disrupt further KMT moves
 up the rail line from Peiping in the direction of Chengte
 (11753 - 4055). Reds continue to strengthen the outer defences
 south east of Kalgan with an estimated 30,000 troops reported in
 the vicinity of Hsuan Hua (115 01 - 40 37). CCP activity
 continues at Lunkou (120 17 - 37 38) with marine recon reporting
 8 power craft in the harbour with an additional 32 reported
 sighted in the Chefoo harbour on 22nd Dec. Sino headquarters,
 conservatively estimate 20,000 CCP troops along the rail line
 from Tsinan to Tbingtao. Central China, large Red forces are
 reported in the vicinities of Laochunshan (111 29 - 33 54) and
 Tientaishan (113 34 - 32 54) which may indicate additional
 Red reinforcements are moving toward the Fancheng (112 05 - 32 03)
 area where recent large scale clashes with KMT forces have been
 reported. KMT forces in this sector have re-occupied Tstoyang
 (112 44 - 30 10) on 22 Dec. Japanese situation on 20 Dec. 6,000
 Jap troops arrived at Tsingtao from Ftinan for repatriation.
 The navy reports that due to storm damage and machinery breakdown
 no lists will be available for Jap. repatriation from the
 Tangku area from 21 December.
 (Comgenchina, No T.O.O.)

Repatriation of Refer C. in C. B.P.F. 140600* para. 3.
 West Indians 2. Of those awaiting repatriation there are
 of Chinese some 130 West Indians of Chinese origin resident
 origin from in Jamaica or Trinidad and 120 Central and South
 Hong Kong etc. American subjects. Desirable these should be
 cleared from Hong Kong within reasonable time.
 3. The Central and South American subjects have
 no Consular representative here, and the majority
 have no protecting power either.
 4. There appears to be no prospect of getting them cleared and
 documented in sufficient detail for U.S. authorities to accept
 them at Manila for onward routeing and it is considered that
 endeavours on this line will be abortive. Neither is it consi-
 dered that the U.S. authorities will accept the West Indian
 subjects.
 4. Prospects of direct lift from Hong Kong to destinations are
 negligible.
 6. Unless any better solution can be offered intend these
 people should be sent as opportunity offers (?to) U.K. for
 onward routeing.
 7. C. in C. Hong Kong 131646 and 151832 neither to all are
 relevant.
 (C. in C. B.P.F., 241442 to W.O., Admty).
 *R.A.P.W.I. fit and ready for U.K. - list of passengers.

24. 12. 1945.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia - Contd.

BERRYHEAD
Escort
Maintenance
ship.
GUARDIAN
Net Layer
for U.K.

Request you will sail BERRYHEAD and GUARDIAN
for U.K. as soon as they can be released.
(D.C.D., 241459 to V.A.(Q)).

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25.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

NEPAL
destroyer

My 241653*. Amend E.T.A. NEPAL at Portsmouth to read 1400/28th Dec.
(F.O.G.M.A., 251015A to C. in C. Portsmouth)
*Intend to sail NEPAL (S.O.) and WESSEX.

RESOURCE
(heavy
repair ship)
on passage
to U.K.

RESOURCE arrives Vigo 1000A tomorrow Wednesday and requires 800 tons fuel oil. Request arrangements may be made for this to be supplied. (F.O.G.M.A., 252029A to RESOURCE, B.N.A. Madrid, R.O. Vigo, Admty).
Following received from RESOURCE addressed C. in C. Plymouth passed to you for information Begins.

Your 241831. My position at 0800/25 45° 25' N., 13° 57' W., course 145°. Speed 14 knots. Margin of fuel now remaining 3½ days at 14 knots, due to far Westing in gale. Am proceeding to Vigo, E.T.A. daylight tomorrow Wednesday. Request approval to purchase fuel oil locally through Consul up to tank capacity of 1000, tons that is approximately 800 tons. Intend proceeding to Portsmouth as soon as weather conditions appear favourable.
D.T.G.251005. Ends.
(D.O.D., 252030 to B.N.A. Madrid, F.O.G.M.A.)

25.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

JAUNTY
rescue
tug.

Sail at 0530B/26 with L.C.27 in ^{two}~~two~~ as safe
navigation permits to Aden and Colombo.
2. S. of A. best of two report your time of
departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all
addressees in this signal.
4. Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 251005B to JAUNTY).

25.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies.

TOURVILLE
French
cruiser.

Intend to sail F.S. TOURVILLE at 1700C/25th to Colombo.
2. S. of A. 18 knots. Ship to report time of departure and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this signal.
(E.F.M. Aden, 251118C to C. in C. S.A.)

TRUMPETER
General
purpose
carrier -
defects.

H.M.S. TRUMPETER reports damage to tubes of both boilers the cause of which is not clear. Board of enquiries being held and report will be forwarded. Port boiler is serviceable but a number of tubes in starboard boiler require renewal. Intend to sail ship to the U.K. on one boiler starting early Jan. A.M. 062127 N.T. in W.D. refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 251215EF to Admty).

HOWE
battleship
on passage
to U.K.

Intend to sail HOWE at 0900C/26th to Suez for U.K. to comply with C. in C. E.I.'s 151452.
2. HOWE to report T. of D. Aden and E.T.D. Suez to all addressees in this signal.
4. Holds relevant QB messages.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 251634 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

WHITE BEAR
surveying
vessel.

For Hydrographer. Intend following programme in Jan. Leave Singapore 1st Penang 3rd to 7th Sabang 9/11th Nantcowry 11th/12th Port Blair 13th/14th Colombo 18th to 24th where closing of Hydrographic Office and CPU Kandy require discussion if Admiralty approve C. in C. E.I.S. 181159 then Bombay 28th to 31st in accordance with C. in C. E.I.S. 182051.
(WHITE BEAR, 251530 to C. in C. E.I., F.O.M.A.F.A.) See 301119EF

25.12.1945.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

Proposed
visit of
H.M. Ships
to Ports in
Australia
etc.

Owing to changes in availability of ships, visits
by the forces in my 290619 Nov. are being
considerably amended.
Para. Two. Request signal quoted be considered
cancelled.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 250301Z to Admty).

26.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

L.C.I.(L) Intend to sail L.C.I.(L) 272 (S.O.) and LORD
272, LORD IRWIN 1000A/26th Dec. to Plymouth.
IRWIN, for 2. Speed 9. E.T.A. a.m. 31st Dec.
U.K. 8. L.C.I.(L) 272 acknowledge and sail ships to
comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 260845 to Admty).

RESOURCE Anchored off Vigo Harbour at 0915Z/26th Dec.
heavy repair Am maintaining watch on broadcast BN.
ship. (RESOURCE, 260930Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

S.R. relief Have been relieved on station 20 by START BAY.
Stn. 20. Expected time of arrival Gibraltar 0800A/28th.
(PELICAN, 260945Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

PEVENSEY Intend to sail PEVENSEY CASTLE 1800/26 Dec.
CASTLE to Freetown for A.S.R. duties.
A.S.R.duties. 2. Speed 12. E.T.A. 1700A/1st Jan.
4. PEVENSEY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 261221A to N.O.I.C. Freetown,
PEVENSEY CASTLE).

BARRIER Your 301438 Nov. R.T. E.D.A. of H.M.S. BARRIER
B.D.V. at Pembroke Dock a.m. 4th Jan. 46.
from E.I. (F.O.G.M.A., 261437A to Admty).
Stn.

26.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

LONDON
cruiser
trooping.

Immediately on arrival p.m. today 26th Dec. sail
by Medri 20/3 and 2/1 otherwise as safe
navigation permits to Gibraltar for onward
routeing Plymouth Spithead and Chatham in
accordance with your 131928.

2. Speed 20 knots. E.T.A. p.m./30. Report
accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
4. Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 260832B to LONDON)

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26.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Sitrep 711. First. Burma. 12th Army. 17 Div. Two Coys. 1/7 GR to Moulmein ex Kawkareik QN 9505.
Second. Andamans. N.T.R.
Third. Malaya. N.T.R.
Fourth. East Java. Active patrolling. Enemy encountered dug in area 3473 used MMGs. and LMGs. When engaged by our tps. they withdrew to 335731. Twenty three looters and curfew breakers captured.
Central Java. Oengaren. Indonesians now believed to have followed up from Ambarawa and joined forces in Goengenpati area 8900. 5 Raj. Rif. dispersed one hundred members of Black Buffalo Organisation found within three hundred yards of our posn. Later own posns. were shelled by 75 m.m.
West Java. Batavia. 5 Para. Bde. 23 Dec. searched five Kampongs. At Kwitang D.446 hy. opposn. met some arms recovered. At Glunter Sembilan D.349 one hundred Indonesians east of rly. fired on our tps. Area south of Dragil X rds. searched against slight opposn. In all considerable quantities of weapons grenades and amn. were captured. Own cas. one B.O.R. wounded. 24 and 25 Dec. all areas generally quiet. Raid by own tps. in north sector recovered army rations and ammn. 1/8 GR and 23 Div. residues arrived 24 Dec. 1/8 GR proceeding to Buitenzorg. 22 Indep. Para. Coy. Batavia C.239. Bandoeng. Ops. in N.E. Sector caused Indonesians to withdraw. Sector now clear except for isolated groups of extremists. Twelve kidnapped people recovered and arms and petrol bombs found. Night 23/24 Dec. sniping and grenade throwing occurred in Area Museum 24 Dec. search of area around rly. sta. recovered grenades and swords.
Fifth. Siam. N.T.R.
Sixth. FIC. 20 Div. 32 Bde. H.Q. and 3/8 GR embarked 25 Dec.
Seventh. Hong Kong. 1 Travancore Inf. less three Coys. Gun Club Hill Barracks three Coys. Whitfield Barracks. All informed.
(Alfsea, 261050GH to W.O.)

ROYALIST
cruiser.

Intend to sail ROYALIST for Aden at 0900C
Sunday December 30th.
2. S. of A. 13 knots, E.T.A. Aden p.m. January 4
1946.
(F.O. East Africa, 261103C to C. in C. E.I.)
Amended by 270915.

DEVONSHIRE
trooping.

Intend to sail DEVONSHIRE at 1700C - 26th to
Bombay for onward routeing to Colombo and Sydney.
2. Ship to report T. of D. Aden and E.T.A. Bombay
to all addressees in this signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 261145C to C. in C. E.I.)

ETHIOPIAN
Boom Carrier
for U.K.

Intend to sail ETHIOPIAN at 0700C/27th to Suez
for U.K.
2. S. of A. 9 knots, ship to report T. of D.
Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this
signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 261220C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

/VICTORIOUS...

War Diary26.12.1945.
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies - Contd.VICTORIOUS
trooping.

Intend to sail VICTORIOUS on completion of fuelling to Colombo for onward routeing to Singapore and Sydney.

2. S. of A. 20 knots, ship to report T. of D. Aden and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressees in this signal.

(N.O.I.C. Aden, 261710C to C. in C. E.I.)

See 271039C.

Opns. Report.
Netherlands
E.I.

To 1200 hrs. 26 Dec.

A. Batavia. All areas generally quiet. Firing broke out 10 bn. area. All quiet by 0120.

Kampong Witang area searched.

Chinese inhabitants terrified of extremists.

One decomposed Chinese body found hacked to pieces. TKR reported as trouble makers.

Sentoing 49A and (?Soda) Water Factory said to be H.Q. of extremists. Buitmezorg. Generally quiet. Few shots fired night 24/25 Dec.

Bandoeng. Operations in Chinese sector to the south. 6 MLI held up while advancing towards area of intended operations. Area 837189 held in strength by extremists using Chinese locals with intention forcing British to stop operations. 6 MLI fired upon with LMG from defence positions. Heavy house to house fighting ensued. Well organised defence system with trenches wire trip wire body traps snipers mines and road ? blocks also encountered. Pemoeda Ha siezed and searched. Documents arms amm. food and clothing recovered. This H.Q. used as training centre many dummy weapons recovered. Estimated 100 men housed this H.Q. Objectives reached at 1300 hrs. after heavy house to house fighting. Sniping opens up all area incl. TAC Bde. H.Q. 3/3 GR held up 842188 by IRGS in sandbagged posn. This area attacked on own troops with tank support. 3/3 GR held up clearing thicj Kampong this area and forced withdraw. Bde. group returned Bandoeng 1800 hrs.

Semarang. NTR. ?Oecagaren. Two 75 mm. guns shelled own posn. inaccurately and spasmodically. No cas.

Sourabaya. Patrol fired on at Kendang 533734. Own cas. two slightly wounded. Patrol base Menganti attacked by 50 Indonesians armed with two MMGs hand grens and rifles. One PW and one MMG captured. Two Coys. 2 W Yorks passed to comd. 451 sub area.

Sumatra. NTR all areas. All infm.
(A.F.N.E.I., 261835Z to Alfsea.)

26.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

Ships for
return to
U.S. Navy.

Norfolk arrived H.M. ships ATTACKER and BEGUM
for return to U.S. Navy.
(Ottawa, Ontario, 260520Z to Admty, B.A.D.)

Far East & Australia

Infe.1
Far East
Periodical
Intelligence
Signal.

Infe. One.
1. China. Communist Kuomintang war turning in
favour of government. Communist activities
confined to destruction of communications to
prevent government troops move north. U.S.S.R.
less inclined to assist communists and are
delaying withdrawal until 3rd January. Government
troops have occupied Mukden. Temperatures of 20°

below zero impeding airlift of government troops into Changchun,
capital of Manchuria, to take over from Soviet forces. At
Chinhshien government troops found 70 Japanese aircraft which
are now operational. Communist troops are withdrawing from
Mukden in a northwesterly direction but large numbers firmly
entrenched in western Manchuria. Government troops in Paiping
area awaiting reinforcements of new First Army expected at
Tientsin and Peiping. One division of new First Army awaiting
American transports at Hong Kong have returned to China with only
prospect of reaching north by walking there. 12,000 communist
troops moved into Shantung and are concentrated in Lincheng area
north of Suchow to impede drive north of 3 government armies.
Chinese navy patrolling area that will prevent communists
escaping by junk from Chefoo and Wei Hai Wei to Dairen. 4,000
communists in Canton area.

2. Macao Chinese blockade by land and sea. Situation tense.
3. French Indo-China. Political problem predominates over
military situation. Except for Hatien and Phuquoc, Cambodia at
peace. French occupation of Cochin China rendered difficult by
pockets of resistance south and southwest of Saigon. French
opening road to Dalat and, with occupation of Nhadrang, are
gaining control of coastal routes. French confidence is high
but would welcome retention of British forces until March
though withdrawal planned to be completed mid-January.
Possibility of renewed Annamite attack on their withdrawal.
French control may be weakened by controversy between French
from France and Cochin China French. Situation obscure north of
16° north. British Military Mission arrived.
4. Java. Main centre of trouble in west. (?Sniping)
continues at Bandoeng. Indonesians no longer under control
of their leaders. Our forces weak and scattered. Situation
deteriorating. Central Java quieter and evacuation of R.A.P.W.I.
from Semarang (?was) to have been completed by 15th December.
Possibility of 200,000 evacuees and Dutch in central area whose
whereabouts unknown. Our forces at Semarang hopelessly out-
numbered. Sourabaya dominated by our forces and radius of 15
miles cleared round city. Evacuation of R.A.P.W.I. completed.
10,000 Japanese at Batavia under control. 12,000 in central

/and...

26.12.1945.
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

Infe.1 and 20,000 from Sourabaya have been ordered to
Far East surrender to our nearest forces. If they
Periodical disobey British unable to fetch them. Possibility
Intelligence we may evacuate Sourabaya and Semarang to secure
Signal. western Java.
(contd.) 5. Sumatra. Situation deteriorating.
6. Malaya. Political unrest continues.
Sympathy with Nationalist movements, especially
in India, much in evidence.
7. Siam. Frontier incidents on Siam - F.I.C. border between
French and Annamites. British force returned from Chiengmai
and Lampang on completion of destruction of Japanese arms and
equipment.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 260240 to V.A.(Q) etc.)

Far East In order to keep Flag Officers informed of the
Periodical current events and tendencies in the Far East
Intelligence Periodical Intelligence signals will be
Signals for issued by C. in C. B.P.F. The first of these
Flag signals is my 260240Z. Flag Officers are to
Officers. report by letter whether this type of signal is
considered of value or whether sufficient
information is already available to them.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 260242 to F.O., B.P.F.)

Minesweeping B.P.F. Weekly Mines Sweeping Report to Admt. No.2. Ships remain as in Report No.1.
Report. (A) 8th M.S.F. Start clearance of Bias Bay moored mines tomorrow 27th Dec.
(B) 10th M.S.F. 49 mines swept Lema Channel. Clearance continues.
(C) B.Y.M.S. clearing Tathong Channel moored and magnetic.
(D) Canton River clearance progressing.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 260815Z to Admt., S.O. M/S Flotillas 8, 10, F.O. C/S).

CHALLENGER Your 201017 approved.
return to (D.O.D. (Hydrog concurs), 261715 to F.O.W.A.
U.K. B.P.F., CHALLENGER.
Survey ship.

Sitrep No. To 1700 hrs. 26 Dec.
37. (A) 80 Bde. NTR. 100 Bde. 24 Dec. Annamite Forces demonstrated modern air support to ground troops. 81 MM Jap. Mortar Bomb suspended by stout string over bough of tree. Seasoned bomb aimer squatted base of projector. Bomb hurtled down to own Troop Convoy but failed to explode. One dejected Annamite captured. Own Troops amused. French Forces NTR. BCD NTR all informed.
(Alffic, 261740 to W.O.)

27.12.1945.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

A.S.R.
vessels.

On arrival PEVENSEY CASTLE at Freetown sail
KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE to Gibraltar for repairs.
(F.O.G.M.A., 271208A to N.O.I.C. Freetown,
Admiralty).

South Atlantic

BLANKNEY
destroyer
for U.K. and
reserve.

Arrived Las Palmas 0700Z and departed for
Gibraltar at 1400Z today, Thursday, 27th Dec.
(BLANKNEY, 271415Z to Admty).

SHIEL
frigate
on passage
to U.K.

Intend sailing SHIEL from Freetown at 0700 Dec.
28th to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K.,
E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. Jan. 3rd. SHIEL acknowledge
and sail to comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 271725 to F.O.G.M.A.,
Admty. C. in C. S.A.)

27.12.1945.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

MAGICIENNE,
LAERTES
M/S on
passage to
E.I.

Immediately on arrival at 0700B/28 sail with
LAERTES in company as safe navigation permits to
Aden and Colombo.
2. Speed 10 knots. Report your T. of D. from
Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal.
4. Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 270842 to MAGICIENNE) See 2.

SIRIUS
cruiser.

SIRIUS assumed duty of S.N.O. (Afloat) Haifa at
1600B 26th Dec.
(C.S.15, 270900Z to C. in C. Med).

German
prisoners
ex GRAF
SPEE.

Date of arrival of HIGHLAND MONARCH at Buenos
Aires is not yet certain. It may be necessary
for AJAX to sail from Gibraltar about 3rd January.
Further signal will be made.
(D.O.D. Appd. V.C.N.S, 271300 to C. in C. Med.,
V.A. Malta, F.O.G.M.A.)

Jewish
illegal
landings -
of immigrants

1. Army report that vessel of approx. 150 tons
found beached on sandbank off coast at Naharia
(approx. 18 miles north of Haifa) early morning
26th vessel was flying flag bearing "This is the
boat of Hannah Hanneish which disembarked
immigrants on Naharia seashore with assistance
of Jewish Defence organisation. And in memory of
six million Jews killed in Europe as a certificate of shame to
the British Government". Turkish flag found in vicinity.
2. Reuter's special correspondent reported that "Operation
Bethlehem" was the successful landing of 250 illegal immigrants
mostly between 15 and 35 from Poland and Eastern Europe. The
vessel had been at sea for 2 weeks, and on being sighted by
aircraft 24th Dec. landing beach was changed at last moment.
(F.O.L.E.M., 271312 to C. in C. Med., see 281350B and 281830B).

NADIA
(depot ship)
to return
to trade.
SHILLAY
danlayer
for B.P.F.

NADIA and SHILLAY sail in company at 1500A/28th
Dec. to Alexandria. NADIA is for onward routeing
to Port Said and SHILLAY to B.P.F.
2. Routed through positions (route).
3. Speed 10 knots adjusting speed to arrive first
light Jan. 1st.
5. P.C. and S. and a weather report are to be
signalled daily at 1200A to C. in C. Med. Malta
repeated F.O.L.E.M.
6. Should weather or circumstances necessitate
you may put into ports on the North African Coast reporting
your intentions.
8. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 271813A to NADIA, SHILLAY).

/KEDAH...

27.12.1945.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

KEDAH
(Base ship)
to return to
trade, on
passage to
U.K. from
E.I.

Sail at 1400B/28th by Medri 20/3 otherwise as
safe navigation permits to Malta for onward
routeing U.K.

2. Speed 10 knots E.T.A. p.m. January* report
accurate E.T.A. to C. in C. Med., when known.

4. Acknowledge.

(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 271828B to KEDAH)

*Date omitted.

War Diary27.12.1945.
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

- ROYALIST (cruiser) Amend E.T.A. Aden in my 261103C* to p.m. Jan. 4th 1946.
(F.O.E. Africa, 270915C to C. in C. E.I.)
*Intend to sail ROYALIST for Aden at 0900 Sunday Dec. 30th.
- Destroyers on passage from B.P.F. to U.K. Intend to sail WHIRLWIND and WAGER at 1130C/27th to Suez for U.K.
2. Ships to report T.O.D. Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 271017 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
- VICTORIOUS trooping. Com. Aden's 261710C sailed Aden 0015Z/27th Dec. E.T.A. Colombo 0930Z/31st Dec.
(VICTORIOUS, 271039C to F.O. Ceylon, C. in C. E.I.)
- East Indies Escorts. Lapse of Title. On departure of Capt. J.A. Baker Creswell in GORLESTON from Colombo 6th Jan. the title of Capt. East Indies Escorts will lapse.
(C. in C. E.I., 271041EF to East Indies Stn).
- DEVONSHIRE cruiser trooping. Commodore Aden's 261145C, departed Aden 1500Z Wednesday, 26th, E.T.A. Bombay 0330Z Sunday 30th December.
(DEVONSHIRE, 271052C to C. in C. E.I.)
- PATROLLER E.C. trooping. Comm. Aden's 270130. Pass breakwater Aden 0948C/27th E.T.A. Suez 1500B/30th.
(PATROLLER, 271105 to Aden, S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
- R.I.N. reliefs in E.I. and B.P.F. From F.O.C.R.I.N. Propose the following reliefs during Jan. H.M.I.S. SUTLEJ (Cmdr. Aubrey Tod R.I.N.R.) to relieve H.M.I.S. KISTNA in Andaman Is. H.M.I.S. KISTNA (Capt. (?T.K. or J.T.) S. Hall R.I.N.) to relieve H.M.I.S. GODAVARI in British Pacific Fleet.
2. H.M.I.S. KISTNA to call at Madras prior to proceeding to Pacific.
(Naval H.Q. India, 271105 to C. in C. B.P.F., and 300245 to C. in C. E.I.)
- Seafire XV aircraft VICTORIOUS. Para. 3 of A.M. 221652, N.T. in W.D.
2. All 48 Seafire XV can be accommodated but will be parked in the open and owing to present complement of station considerable time will be required to complete aircraft to operational standard.
(F.O. Air E.I.Stn., 271137EF to Admty. F.O.N.A.P., VICTORIOUS).
- Transfer of flag C.S. 5. Flag of C.S. 5 transferred to NORFOLK 17th Dec. Cancel 473C of 10th Dec.
(Alex C.C.O., 271206EF to Admty).

/Escort...

War Diary

27.12.1945.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

Escort Carrier Intend to sail RAJAH at 1730C/27th to Suez for
RAJAH U.K.
trooping. 2. S.O.A. 20 knots. Ship to report T.O.D.
Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this
signal.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 271231 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)
See below

ARBITER Com. Aden's 271230C para. 2 departed Aden
G.P. 1630C/27th, E.T.A. Suez 1800B/30th Dec.
carrier. requirements nil.
(ARBITER, 271502Z to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Movements Arrived PATROLLER, RAJAH, ARBITER, SCOUT.
Departed PATROLLER, RAJAH, ARBITER, WHIRLWIND,
WAGER, HOLMSOUND, VICTORIOUS, COSSACK, COMET
ETHIOPIAN.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 271720 to C. in C. E.I.,
S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said)).

Fleet M/S MICHAEL and MINSTREL are to form part of the 11th
temporarily M.S.F. until relieved by LAERTES and MAGICIENNE
for 11th about mid Feb. when they are to form part of the
M.S.F. 7th M.S.F.
(C. in C. E.I., 271750EF to MICHAEL, MINSTREL)

RAJAH RAJAH left Aden 1800C/27th Dec. S. of A. 16
trooping. knots. E.T.A. Suez p.m. 31st Dec.
(RAJAH, 271830C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

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.

271833Z *Dec 45*

From A.M. Whitehall.

Date 8.1.46.

Recd 1244.

To A.C.S.E.A.
 Info. MEDME, A.H.Q. Aden, A.H.Q. Ceylon, Admiralty.
 C. in C. E. I., F.O.M.F.A., (Flag Officer Malaya
 Forward Area Singapore) S.A.C.S.E.A.

IMPORTANT.

AOX. 787 27th December, 1945.

Your AO.62 December 11 to all addressees and
 Admiralty Signal 152200 to Air Ministry and C. in C. E. I.
 only refer.

2. Agree that Naval Corvettes for Air/Sea Rescue in A.C.S.E.A. should be reduced to minimum compatible with actual trans-ocean air traffic and availability of effective alternative means of rescue.
3. Proposal to rely upon Lancasters with airborne lifeboats and the diversion of Merchant ships accords with tentative Air Ministry policy for Post-War Air/Sea Rescue. Proposal necessitates (A) the location of some A.S.R. Lancasters at appropriate airfields south and east of India. (B) Arrangements for rescue controlling Authorities to have day to day knowledge of actual Merchant ships including position course speed and characteristics for briefing Captains of Aircraft and for addressing request for aid to the appropriate ships (C) An effective system of communicating immediately with such ships.
4. The Lancasters due to leave U.K. in early 1946 are routed only to India. Can a number now be routed to airfield where presence will justify the release of Corvettes? An early reply to this is necessary owing to limitations of all-up weight and other factors. An estimate of the date when maintenance and operational control arrangements will be ready at each location is also required.
5. Communication with Merchant ships in U.K. waters is effected by GPO stations on 500 Kcs. What stations and frequency will be used in A.C.S.E.A.? Understand that 500 Kcs. is not generally effective in the tropics. The position of ships in U.K. waters is not always known with reasonable accuracy by shore authorities and this aspect needs examination in your theatre before it can be confidently said that ships

can be.....

can be diverted by W/T to effect rescue of survivors in a dinghy or airborne lifeboat.

6. You should however agree with C. in C. E. I. to release immediately as many Corvettes as possible prior to arrival of A.S.R. Lancasters and completion of other rescue arrangements in to release further Corvettes as your rescue organisation develops.

7. Our proposals concerning R.A.F. Air/Sea Rescue Marine Craft are contained in Air Mail Letter S.72484/11/D.L. Rescue of 18th December, 1945.

271833Z.

1st Lord	M. (M 09759/45)(2).
1st S.L.(3).	C.F.M.D.(2).
D.F.S.L.	D.S.V.P.(3).
V.C.N.S.	D.N.A.O.(2).
A.C.N.S.(0).	W.D.
A.C.N.S.(A)(2).	D. of P.(3).
O.D.(9).	D.S.D.(2).
D.C.(2).	D.T.A.S.W.(3).
O.I.C.(2).	D.T.D.(4).
C.C.L.S.(2).	D. of P.(Q)(3).

A6.
dj

27.12.1945.
Thursday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

WEAR
frigate.

H.M.S. WEAR sailed Trinidad for Jamaica 1400Z/27 communications in accordance with A.F.O./S/1/45 S.O.A. 11½ knots. E.T.A. Jamaica 1200Z/31st. (N.O.I.C. Port of Spain, 271011Q to R.N.O. Jamaica).

Far East & Australia

Movements

(a) -. (b) APOLLO, TENACIOUS, ALACRITY.
(c) APOLLO. (d) Shanghai. (e) 2300Z/26th.
(f) APOLLO, TENACIOUS 16 knots, ALACRITY sailing independently 15 knots. (h) Taku. (i) APOLLO, TENACIOUS 2300Z/28th, ALACRITY 0700Z/29th. (j)
(k) -.
(S.O. Force S, 270125 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Re
Purchase
of surplus
tugs and
lighters by
Anfu
development
company.

Anfu Development Company have approached Embassy Commercial (?Secretariat) on subject of purchase of surplus tugs and lighters originally built for D-day use from British Naval Authorities.
2. They plan to purchase 6 tugs and 24 lighters but larger order may result if terms are favourable.
3. Craft are required for commercial shipping on Yangtse river and delivery is to be taken at Shanghai.

4. They request details of quantities available price, specifications and also blueprints as soon as possible.
5. Request information whether Admiralty is interested and guidance as to channels through which negotiations should be conducted.

(A.N.A. Chungking, 270310Z to Admty, N.A. Shanghai).

Mil. Sit.
China.

Comg in China, 270530Z to W.O. and usual addressees
See Lion Copy.

R.A.P.W.I.
sit. in
Shanghai and
North China
26th Dec.

No change since my 190223. Breakdown called for in C. in C. B.P.F.'s 210630 will be signalled immediately it is available.
(S.O. Force S, 270759 to F.O.W.A., B.P.F.)
R.A.P.W.I. Sitrep No.15 fit and ready R.A.P.W.I. for lift in HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN from Shanghai 822 from Tokio and Tsingtao 368. S.O. Force S., is requested to make breakdown of these figures.

/D.G....

SECRET

170A

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.)

Military Situation
China

270530Z/December

Date : 27.12.45

From : COMG in China.

Recd : 2200

CYPHER

To : War Office and Usual addressees.

CFBX 18408 Cipher 27th December.
085847.

China Theater daily intelsum number 211 26th December.

Part 1. Military situation.

Section one. KMT CCP conflict. Manchuria. American source quoting General Tu Li Ming states KMT forces south Manchuria have captured 1500 rifles, light machine guns and some 75 (?mm) mountain artillery pieces, all Jap made from CCP forces. Chinese military source gives CCP OB for South Manchuria as follows. Divisions numbers 1, 3 and 7 brigades number 11, 21 and 22, independent seventh and new seventh and the first artillery brigade. Regiments numbers 64 and 65, 1 engineering regiment. All units are under the eighth route army. Same source estimates total movement CCP regulars into South Manchuria from China after VJ day totals 80,000. CCP forces met in the KMT advance north from Chinwangtao to Chinhsien consisted of small cadres of regulars with bulk consisting of impressed local militia. Tu Li Ming has 3000 CCP regulars in garrison camps at Chinhsien and Suichung (120 19 - 4 - 21).

North China. From Sino G2 comes additional 23 December report of further KMT CCP conflict in the Lunhsien sector (118 45 - 39 42). (? 8,000 or 9,000) communists attacked elements of the KMT 94 army resulting in 100 CCP troops killed and 18 captured. KMT losses were reported low. Along the Tsinan - Tsingtao railroad on 14 December CCP forces engaged elements of the KMT Eighth Army in the area west of Kaomi (119 32 - 36 25). Casualties were believed heavy on both sides. Other activities along the Tsinan-Tsingtao rail line reported by marine recon. on 23 December, 500 civilians, believed communists employed, reported building fortifications west of Changlo (118 38 - 36 43) possibly designed to slow the movement of KMT advance elements reported moving into (?Changfu) on this date. Central China. Sino press reports increased CCP activity in the northern Kiangsu, a total of (?5,000 or 50,000) CCP troops are currently engaged in besieging the towns of Kaoyu (119 28 - 32 48), Taichou (119 55 - 32 29) and (?Guiopo) (119 31 - 32 32). (CCP efforts to establish a base in this area continuous since movements of the new Fourth Army elements from south Yangtze river. However, total number reported believed high.

/Section two.....

Section two. Japanese situation. That some KMT forces will be augmented by considerable Jap armour in the future and that Jap technical advice is being further exploited is indicated in a directive from the Sino Commanding General, Eleventh war area ordering the organization of 11 Chinese and companies and 1 Tank service company totalling approximately 383 officers and men and 2 armored artillery battalions of 2 companies each with each company consisting of 64 officers and men. The repatriation of a sufficient number of Jap armored technicians has been deferred to assist in the plan. In addition 65 Jap officers and enlisted air force technicians have been requisitioned by the Tenth CAF. 171 Japanese formerly working in the auto repair depot are being detained to reopen same.

Section three. Communications. On 22 December marine recon. report 19 car train carrying civilians eastward from Changtien (118 04 - 36 51). On Tsinan-Tsingtao railroad. Sino press states joint Sino Russian railroad commission held first meeting 24 December.

270530Z

Received in War Reg. at 1224/30th
Circulated by War Office to
Internal Depts and Air Ministry
Foreign Office and Admiralty.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
D.F. S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (0)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
A.C.N.S. (W)
D. Map Room
D.C. (2)
D.S.O.
O.D. (9)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (7) & for D.N.L.O. (2)
D of P (3)
D of P (Q) (3)
D.T.A.S.W. (3)
D.C.O.D. (7)
M. (2)
C.N.I. (2)
C.C.L.S.
W.D.
Ad. Blake

27.12.1945.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia - Contd.

D.G. Ranges
in Australia
and New
Zealand.

A.C.N.B's 110721 and N.Z.N.B's 180235 para. 3,
neither to all add. The general policy regarding
D.G. ranges in peace-time is under consideration.
It is not anticipated that there will be any
R.N. requirement for a permanent D.G. range in
Australia or New Zealand. Further signal will
be made when policy has been definitely decided.
(D.T.A.S.W., 271859 to A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B.)

See 042046 AM 46.

War Diary.

28.12.1945
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Frigate
PLYM, on
passage
from B.P.F.
to U.K.

Intend to sail PLYM 1800A/28th Dec. to Plymouth.
Speed 12, E.T.A. 1100A/1st Jan., 1946.
PLYM acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 280945A to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth,
PLYM.)

U.S. A.S.R.
Stations
Atlantic.

Change my Dis. 241016 Nov. as follows.
Revised Ocean Positions.

A. Stn. No.	B. Ocean Position.
2	62 N. 33 W.
3	56° 30' N. 51 W.
4	51° 45' N. 35° 30' W.
6	44° 30' N. 41 W.
7	35° 30' N. 40 W.
8	34 N. 52 W.
10	36 N. 70 W.
12	46 N. 29 W.
13	7° 05' S. 24° 40' W.
19	43 N. 16 W.

Stations 18 and 21 disestablished 14th December. Ships
assigned stations 12 and 13 now on station.
Request Cinclant advise any changes Beacon frequencies relocated
American Stations.
(Comnavu 281326 to A.M., Freetown, etc.)

South Atlantic.

R.A.N.
cruiser
AUSTRALIA,
on passage
from U.K.

Intend to sail AUSTRALIA from Freetown at 1730
Dec. 28th to Durban for O/R to Fremantle, S.O.A.
15 knots, navigation as security permits, E.T.A.
to be reported direct.
AUSTRALIA acknowledge and sail to comply.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown 281119 to C. in C. S.A.)

28.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Frigate
INVER on
passage
from E.I.
to U.K.

Sail at 1715B/28 as safe navigation permits
to Gibraltar for onward routing to
Portsmouth.
Speed 12 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 4th Jan. report
accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 280921B to INVER.)

Lapse of
title
S.N.O.R.S.C.A.
on 1st Jan. '46.

Request the following be promulgated by a message.
As from 0001B/1st Jan. 1946 the title of S.N.O.R.
S.C.A. will lapse.
(2) F.O.L.E.M. will assume direct control of
operations in the Red Sea as far south as the
Mediterranean Station limits.
(3) N.O.I.C. Port Said will be responsible for all
matters affecting Suez Canal transits and ships requirements in
the Canal Area.
(C. in C. Med., 281145A to Admiralty.)

Escort
Carrier
FENCER
trooping.

Sail at 1630A/29th Dec. to Port Said for O/R
to Colombo.
Speed 16 knots, E.T.A. 0700B/1st Jan.
Ship requires to disembark a small draft and
8 cwt. stores at Port Said. It is requested mails
may be delivered on board and pilot available to
expedite passage of canal same day. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 281241 to FENCER.)

Jewish illegal
landing of
imigrants.
Loss of It.
schooner.

Further to my 271312 police report name of ship to
be MARIU name had been superimposed over another
which is indecypherable ship is almost certainly
the Italian schooner MARIU which sailed Genoa 22nd
Nov. reportedly for Milano tonnage and fact that
vessel is new. Confirm this.
(2) Wreck is on its side with no reasonable hope
of salvage.

(3) Further report from fairly reliable source states ship sailed
from Italy and was at sea 9 days Master and crew Italians 254
immigrants landing 90% Polish Jews last 36 hours of trip
passengers and crew without water Turkish flag found aboard.
(4) MARIU is number 20 in S.O.(I) E.M.'s suspected immigrant
shipping summary number 6.
(F.O.L.E.M., 281350B to C. in C. Med.)

Reference my 271312. It is most unfortunate that this ship
got through the patrol. On investigation with the Commander in
Chiefs of other Services I am satisfied that the Royal Navy took
the necessary action with the information available to them.
(F.O.L.E.M., 281830B to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

/Purchase...

28.12.1945
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Purchase of H.M. ships by Egyptian Govt. and training facilities for. As a result of Preliminary Staff talks I understand that Egyptian Government will apply to purchase following vessels. Your 292325* Nov. refers A. to be supplied in 12 months time. One WREN class A.A. sloop. 2 CASTLE class corvettes. 5 H.D.M.Ls. 6 high speed (20 knots) diesel seagoing launches though there appear to be no such launches in existence so far as information available to me shows. B. To be supplied in 18 months time. 1

WREN class sloop. 4 ALOUETTE (?) class minesweepers. 4 B.Y.M.S. C. To be supplied in 36 months time. 1 WREN class sloop. 4 B.Y.M.S. 4 VOSPER M.T.Bs. fitted to carry 4 18 inch torpedoes. 2 Air Sea Rescue launches of 63 feet type.

(2) It is possible that offer of FOWEY to replace SOLLUM may modify requirements of 3 A.A. sloops.

(3) Full details will be sent by letter to C. in C. Med. and Training requirements follow in my 281910.

(F.O.L.E.M., 281906B to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

* Concerning purchase by Egyptian Government of Warships from us. Important they should indicate their requirements officially as soon as possible so ships can be earmarked.

My 281906. I understand following training facilities will be requested by Egyptian Government. They are in addition to those mentioned in my 141040 Nov.

A. 1 Commander to spend 2 months visiting training establishments in England.

B. 1 Officer to do long course signals.

C. 4 Officers to study gunnery, torpedo, minesweeping.

D. 9 University Graduates to do 18 months course at Engineering College Keyham and 1 graduate to study Asdics, Radar, Gyros.

E. 19 Midshipmen to serve some 6 months in H.M. ships and then to do Sub. Lieutenant courses.

F. In about 3 months some 50 E.R.As. to serve in small H.M. ships for 6 months. 40 of them to continue to serve in H.M. ships for another 9 months.

G. 1 Officer to do long navigation course in about 9 months time.

H. In about 10 months time a further 10 University Graduates to do 2 years course at Keyham.

I. In about 14 months time 5 Officers to join small ships of Royal Navy to fit them for Command.

(3) Full details follow by letter to C. in C. Med.

(3) They have so far been reluctant to accept idea of Naval Mission but I have asked for further audience with King and will bring up this matter again.

(F.O.L.E.M., 281910 to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

MAGICIENNE, M/S, Your 270842A. Intend to sail from Suez at daybreak on passage Saturday 29th Dec. E.T.A. Aden 1200C/3rd Jan. 1946. to E.I. (MAGICIENNE, 281919B to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said.))

28.12.1945

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Aircraft for Paras. 1 and 4 F.O.N.A.P. 250321 (N.T. in W.D.) Sembawang, In view of numbers of aircraft already destined VICTORIOUS. for Sembawang consider it undesirable to send more at present stage of development of station. Paras. 2 and 3 indicate these aircraft unlikely to be required before 1st June, 1946.

(2) Propose locating aircraft in Ceylon or S.W. India A.M. 221652.

(3) It is presumed R.N.A.L. ROC will be available for transport of the aircraft to Singapore.

(F.O. East Indies, 281045 EF to Admty., F.O.N.A.P., VICTORIOUS.)
See 311212.

Sitrep 713. First. Burma. 17 Div. Two Bands Dacoits reported S.T.R. 15 and 70 respectively. Latter incl. four Japanese attacked village near Kyaukktet QT. 3897 night 16th Dec. Police intercepted party killing 8. Aung San in speech to 20,000 at Shwethalyaung Pagoda QF 7326 disassociated A.F.P.E.L. and P.B.F. from recent civil disturbances 1/7 Gr. Rear H.Q. and one Coy. Moulmein. Tac. H.Q. and two Coys. Kawkareik (? or Kawlareik) QN. 9505. One Coy. Mudon. 6/15 Punjab mile 42½ QL. 895915 less one coy. Kawa QL. 8872 1/3 Gr. Mile 43 QL. 895910 less two coys. respectively Winkadat QG. 3706 Yitkaogale (or Yitkangwle) QM. 1389. 82 (W.A.) Div. (2 words corrupt) Ahwedaung UE (?or UU) 509720. Second. Andamans. N.T.R. Third. Malaya. 2 Div. H.Q. opened Johore Bahru 25th Dec., after successful evacuation Japanese surrendered personnel from Kotaradja to Batunpahat WV. 7575 and Seremban VU. 9545 Coy. 2 D.L.I. rejoined Bn. 25th Dec. Four Japanese Officers including one Colonel committed suicide 26th Dec. Fourth. N.E.I. East Java. 9 Bde. Patrols to Boerdoeran WD. 5062 and RD. Junc. 544662 had no incidents. 123 Bde. Own patrol was engaged area WD. 364754 captured four P.W. two L.M.G. seven Rifles. Central Java. Bamarang. N.T.R. Oengaran. Inaccurate shelling by 35 (?or 75) mm. continues. West Java. Batavia. 26th Dec., Sawar Besar Area in North Central District searched. Five houses opposite railway station burnt believed arson by extremists. 27th Dec. (?Plan) Y. was implemented. By 1150 hrs. a cordon was complete round town. Search of town has begun. No incidents had been reported up to 271725. Buitenzorg. Occasional sniping but generally quiet. Bandoeng. Patrols 6 Mahratta were fired on and cleared area from which sniping occurred. Own casualties three drowned. Snipers in area bde. H.Q. cleared by 3/3 Gr. patrols also to N.E. sector further evacuation of Chinese from south sector. Fifth. Siam and Fic. N.T.R. Sixth. Hongkong. 26th Dec. villagers reported thirty armed pirates visited Juny Bay 6602. No piracy reported. Det. 1 Jodhpur Argyle P.W. camp. 1 Travancore Club Hill Barracks less one coy. Whitfield Barracks. (Alfsea, 281200 to W.O.)

/Lend...

War Diary.

28.12.1945
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Lend lease
major landing
craft surplus.

Your 221056. Approved to declare these vessels
surplus to requirements.
(2) They should be prepared for re-delivery to
U.S. Authorities in terms of C.A.F.O. 7830/45 and
local U.S. Authorities requested to accept re-
delivery on station.
(V.C.N.S., 281649 to C. in C. E. I. Station.)

Movement,
S.A. frigates.

Arrived TRANSVAAL, GOOD HOPE, NATAL.
Departed TRANSVAAL, GOOD HOPE, NATAL.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 281835C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

War Diary.

28.12.1945
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

FORMIDABLE, A/C. Departed Sydney 0002Z/28th Dec. FORMIDABLE to Fremantle C. in C. B.P.F. 170119 refers, S.O.A. 14 knots. Routedirect, E.T.A. Gage Roads 1400H/3rd Jan. (F.O.C. Sydney, 280032Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle.)

TENACIOUS, destroyer. A. Blank. B. 2nd. C. TENACIOUS. D. Shanghai entrance. E. 2200Z/27. F. 16 knots. H. Tsingtao. I. 0100Z/29. L. Broadcast F F 4185 k/cs within 24 hours of Shanghai. 355 k/cs within 04 hours Tsingtao. (S.O. Force S, 280201 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

INDEFATIGABLE, A/C. A.M. 211958 propose INDEFATIGABLE proceed U.K. via The Cape. (A.C. 1, 280325Z to C. in C. B.P.F., Admty.) A.M. 211958 and A.M. 221925. Request arrangements be made for ship to return Avenger and Firefly spares to R.N. Store Depot, Sydney, before leaving Station. (2) Seafire spares, British and American general air stores and all air publications should be retained on board for return in U.K. (D. of S., 282002 to C. in C. B.P.F., A.C. 1.) *See 020815Z JAN.*

Destroyer Depot Ship MONTCLARE wearing broad pennant of C.O.F.T. Programme from B.P.F. to U.K.	Intend following programme for return to U.K. of MONTCLARE wearing broad pendant of C.O.F.T.
	<u>Arrive</u>
	<u>Place</u>
	<u>Depart.</u>
	Hongkong 3rd January
	Singapore 11th January
	Colombo 20th January
	Aden 30th January
	Suez 4th February
	Port Said 8th February
	Malta 17th February
	Portsmouth -

(2) Comm. Hongkong is requested sail MONTCLARE for Singapore on 3rd January for O/R. (C. in C. B.P.F., 280637Z to N.O.I.C. Hongkong, Admty.)

29.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

H.M.A.S.
AUSTRALIA,
on passage
outwards.

Arrival H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA 0830.
(S.O.I. Freetown, 290910 to Admiralty.)

SHIEL, frigate,
on passage
to U.K.

Arrival SHIEL 1430/27th, departure 0700/28th
Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 290912 to Admiralty.)

UNICORN
and des-
troyers on
passage to
U.K.

My 241642, 241646 and 241651. Capetown departure
UNICORN in company with LAMERTON and MIDDLETON.
(2) S.O.A. 15 knots.
(C. in C. S.A., 291514B to Admty., C.C.W.Africa,
F.O.G.M.A.)

ENTERPRISE,
trooping.

My 241121. Simonstown departure ENTERPRISE.
(2) S.O.A. 18½ knots. E.T.A. Takoradi 0800Z/4th
January.
(C. in C. S.A., 291627 to Admty.)

29.12.1945
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Financial
responsibi-
lity of
Greek Govt.
for stores,
etc.

Your 241656A Dec. Greek Government were informed by H.M. Ambassador on 23rd Oct. that they must assume financial responsibility for Greek Forces on 1st Jan. 1946.

(2) Accounting procedure is under urgent consideration, and probable arrangement will be that R.N. Claims will be handed to Treasury Financial Advisor, Athens monthly or quarterly, and that he will offset them against any amounts due by U.K. to the Greeks.

(3) This would involve showing agreed prices on vouchers which would be signed by receiving Greek officer. Copies of vouchers would be forwarded to Admiralty with indication of disposal of original.

(4) Where stores cannot be priced locally, Admiralty would be consulted by signal. In the event of extreme urgency, supply might be made and price fixed later.

(5) You should confirm in writing with Greek Admiralty and Greek local authorities that they are aware of substance of para. 1 and that all issues made on and after 1st Jan. are to be paid for. If possible, sterling payments on the spot may be arranged.

(6) Your general comments on proposed procedure would be welcomed.

(7) Para. 2 of your 241656A Dec. is covered by 262010 Dec. from S.B.N.O. Greece.

(Hd. of Works and General Finance, 291111 to C. in C. Med., F.O.L.E.M., S.B.N.O. Greece.)

SS. THORSHOVDI, Your 241701. As considerable importance is attached to the early repair of THORSHOVDI request confirmation that no objection is seen to the completion of this towage during Jan. or Feb. provided a suitable tug can be made available from U.K. (2) Agreed M.O.W.T.
(D. of S.T., 291500 to C. in C. Med., F.O.G.M.A., etc.) See 301220A. ✓ 101122A JAN (North Atlantic).

SECRET MESSAGE.

179 A

OUT

291421/December

Rec 29.12.45

To C. in C. Med.
 Info: C. in C. Plymouth
 C. in C. A. and W.I.
 F.O.G.M.A.
 Capt. i/c. W. Africa
 C.S. 15

DATE 29.12.45.

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.)

H.M.S. AJAX
 B.N.A. Buenos Aires.

NAVAL CYPHER (C) P/L O.T.P.

From Admiralty

A.M. 081543 not to all.

Following is outline of programme desired for H.M.S. AJAX forthcoming visit to South America.

*HIGHLAND MONARCH
 mean speed
 GRAF SPEE*

<u>Arrived.</u>	<u>Place.</u>	<u>Depart.</u>
	Malta	6th Jan.
8th Jan.	Gibraltar	9th Jan.
14th Jan.	Preetown	15th Jan. (refuel)
21st Jan.	Rio de Janeiro	28th Jan.
28th Jan.	Santos	1st Feb.
4th Feb.	Monte Video	9th Feb.
9th Feb.	Buenos Aires	16th Feb. (refuel)

2. Corresponding programme for HIGHLAND MONARCH.

Arrive Buenos Aires 2nd Feb.
 Loading meat 2nd to 14th Feb.
 Embark GRAF SPEE internees 15th Feb.
 Leave Buenos Aires 16th Feb.

3. HIGHLAND MONARCH and AJAX proceed in company from Buenos Aires calling at Monte Video to collect internees ex TACOMA. HIGHLAND MONARCH (mean speed of advance 15 knots) will be escorted on her homeward passage as far as the vicinity of Gibraltar by AJAX and thereafter by SUPERB, AJAX returning to the Mediterranean Station.

4. Request approximate quantity of fuel required by AJAX at Buenos Aires may be reported to Admiralty by signal.

5. A small quantity of fuel is available at St. Vincent (Cape Verde) should AJAX require it, not less than 24 hours notice to be given.

6. Dates of intended visits have not yet been agreed with the Governments concerned.

291421 *511 271785 JAF (N.A.)*

D.O.D. (376)

Approved A.C.H.S. (0)

Circulation overleaf.

War Diary.

29.12.1945
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

BERWICK,
cruiser,
trooping.

Request you sail BERWICK 1000K on 3rd Jan. for
Fremantle and onward routeing to Colombo and U.K.
(2) Detailed programme will be signalled.
(F.O.S.A., 290223Z to A.C.N.B. Melbourne.)

War Diary.

30.12.1945
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

OCEAN, light fleet carrier. Intend to sail OCEAN with MEYNELL in company 1900A/31st Dec. via Medri routes to Malta. E.T.A. 1330A/4th Jan. OCEAN's 271950 not to all refers. (4) OCEAN acknowledge and sail ships to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 301105A to F.O. Malta, C. in C. Med., OCEAN.)

BLANKNEY, destroyer, for U.K. for reserve. Intend to sail BLANKNEY 1200A/31st Dec. to Devonport (2) Speed 13, E.T.A. 1100A/4th Jan. (7) BLANKNEY acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 301113A to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, BLANKNEY.)

AWE, frigate, for U.K. and reserve. Intend to sail AWE 0900A/1 Jan. via Necri routes to Chatham. (2) Speed 12, E.T.A. first light 6th Jan. (6) AWE acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 301153A to C. in C. Nore, AWE.)

LONDON, cruiser, trooping. Intend to sail LONDON 0800A/31 Dec. to Plymouth. (2) Speed 20, E.T.A. 1230A/2 Jan. (6) LONDON acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 301729 to C. in C. Plymouth, LONDON.)

^{F.}
SS. R.F. PECKHAM (Am.) in collision. Collision off Gib. 4 miles to east. (R.F. PECKHAM, No T.O.O/30 to Admty.) S.O.S. we are abandoning ship at 2200, we are four miles off Gibraltar approaching from east. At 2206 cancel abandoning ship we are now (remainder unread) Controlling Stn. Gibraltar Radio, acknowledged by Gibraltar Radio. (R.F. PECKHAM, U.S., 302210 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.) We are other ship involved in collision we are standing by. (JESSE COTTRELL, No T.O.O/30 to Admty.) Assistance on the way. (R.F. PECKHAM, No T.O.O/30 to Admiral Portsmouth.) Will return to Gibraltar for examination. Are we permitted in at night, if so send pilot - ends. (JESSE COTTRELL, 302247Z to Gibraltar.)

FOSSBECK, boom carrier, on passage from Casablanca to Rosyth. FOSSBECK. Arrived Ferrol 1010 Dec. 30th for 230 tons Bunker and Provisions. Naval authorities Ferrol have informed me coal required cannot be supplied unless necessary instructions are received Madrid. Await instructions. (Coruna, 301950A to B.N.A. Madrid.)

War Diary.

30.12.1945
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

TEST, frigate, My 291626 Nov. TEST is expected to be ready for transferring sea at the end of Jan. Request port to which she to R.I.N. should be sailed.

(C. in C. S.A., 301207 to Admty.) *see 191123 Jan 46.*

30.12.1945
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

EVENLODE,
frigate, on
passage to
U.K. and to
be returned
to U.S.A.

Sail at 1000B/2nd and proceed by Medri routes
20/2 2/1 and as safe navigation permits to
Gibraltar for onward routeing to Plymouth.
(2) S.O.A. 12 knots.
(3) E.T.A. 1500A/8th Jan.
(5) Acknowledge.
(F.O.L.E.M., 301135B to EVENLODE.)

SS. THORSHOVDI, A.M. 291500.
towage.

Regret no tug is available from station resources.
In view of weather conditions consider tow of this
kind to be most undesirable at this time of year.
(C. in C. Med., 301220A to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)
Cancelled by 311430.

Re transfer
M/S in Med.

Can answer to my 111131 now be made as first
ships are ready for transfer and considerable
congestion in harbour at Malta is being experienced.
(C. in C. Med., 301223A to Admty.)

30.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

ROYALIST
cruiser
on passage
to U.K.

Sailed H.M.S. ROYALIST at 0900C/30th Dec. for Aden in accordance with my 261103C and my 270915C.
(F.O.E. Africa, 300937 to C. in C. E.I.)

COSSACK,
COMET
destroyers.

E.T.A. 0900 E.F. 2nd Jan. COMET in company. COMET urgently requires supply and fitting of armature for 20 inch axial flow engine room supply fan, my 192048B to C. in C. East Indies only refers.
(Capt. D.(8) 301102D to F.O. Ceylon).

WHITE BEAR
surveying
vessel.

In anticipation of approval to my 101159 intend that WHITE BEAR should leave Singapore 1st Jan. for U.K.
2. Programme for passage is contained in WHITE BEAR's 251530 not to F.O.M.F.A.
(C. in C. E.I., 301119EF to Admty, WHITE BEAR, F.O.M.F.A.)

CUMBERLAND
cruiser
Trooping
programme.

Dates of arrival of CUMBERLAND at ports on passage to U.K. Aden 1st, Suez 5th, Port Said 6th, Malta 8th, Gibraltar 10th, Plymouth 13th, Portsmouth 13th, Sheerness 14th, all Jan.
2. CUMBERLAND will signal times of arrival to authorities concerned.
(C. in C. E.I., 301248 to Admty., C. in C. Med., C. in C. Plymouth).

SMILAX
Corvette
on passage
to U.K. -
to be returned
to U.S.A.

Intend to sail SMILAX at 1600C/30th to Suez for U.K.
2. Ship to report T. of D. Aden and E.T.A. Suez to all addressees in this signal.
5. Acknowledge and comply.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 301330 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

30.12.1945.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

FROBISHER
Cadet
training
ship.

Your 101615. FROBISHER's 121430 para. 1 which is concurred in gives reasons for omission of St. Vincent from Spring Cruise programme. (Hd. of M. Bch. II, 302055 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Far East & Australia

R.I.N.
reliefs in
E.I. &
B.P.F.

Your 271105 concur.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 300245 to Naval H.Q. India).

Destroyers
for U.K.

Departed Melbourne 1035Z/30th Dec., D.27 in KEMPENFELT with WIZARD for Fremantle in accordance with C. in C. B.P.F. 170713. S. of A. 14 knots. E.T.A. 1230H Friday 4th Jan. (N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne, 301125Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle).

31.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U.S. ROBERT 0006. Tug is alongside and pilot is aboard.
R.F. PECKHAM, Proceeding to Gibraltar Harbour. At 0009. QUM*
in collision. temporarily safe.
(ROBERT F. PECKHAM, 310010 to Admty. London,
C. in C. Plymouth.)

* Distress traffic ended.

SS. R.F. PECKHAM bound for Hampton Roads collided at 2245Z/30th
with SS. JESSE COTTRELL 10 miles east of Gibraltar refer
message Com. N.O.B. Palermo 271400 putting into Gibraltar for
survey large hole at No. 3 starboard under own power out listing
badly 38 merchant crew 17 Navy Passengers.
(R.F. PECKHAM, 310300Z to Admiral Gibraltar.)

A.S.R. Intend to sail PEACOCK 1600A/3 Jan. to relieve
Relief PORTCHESTER CASTLE on A.S.R. station 20. Speed 12.
Stn. 20. E.T.A. 1200A/5 Jan.
(2) On relief PORTCHESTER CASTLE return to
Gibraltar.
(3) PEACOCK acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 311414A to Admty., PEACOCK, Comnavu.)

CHARITY, Intend to sail CHARITY 0900A/1st Jan. via Medri
destroyer, routes to Malta carrying out fuel consumption
for Med. trials on route. E.T.A. p.m. 3rd Jan.
(4) CHARITY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 311422A to F.O. Malta, C. in C. Med.)

31.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

ARBITER, G.P. carrier, on passage from B.P.F. Immediately on arrival about 2300B December sail by Medri 20/3 and 2/1 to Gibraltar for onward routeing U.K.
(2) Speed 16 knots, E.T.A. p.m./5 Jan. report accurate E.T.A. to F.O.G.M.A. when known.
(4) Acknowledge.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 310954A to ARBITER.)

ROTHER, frigate, SENNEN, cutter, on passage from E.I. Taking ROTHER under your orders sail at 1630A/1st Jan. 1946 by appropriate Medri route to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K.
(2) Speed 12 knots, E.T.A. first light 5th.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 311033 to SENNEN.)

HOWE, battleship. Intend to sail HOWE wearing the flag of Admiral Sir Arthur Power, K.C.B., C.V.O. at 0900B/1 Jan. to Portsmouth. C. in C. E.I., 151452 Dec.
(2) Routed Medri 20/3 2/1 otherwise as safe navigation and Medri and Necri permits.
(3) Speed through Med. 18 knots adjusted as necessary to arrive Portsmouth 9th Jan. HOWE to report accurate E.T.A. when known.
(5) HOWE acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 311125B to C. in C. Portsmouth, HOWE.)

re SS. THORSHOVDI, towage. Cancel my 301220.
(C. in C. Med., 311430 to Admty., F.O.G.M.A., M.W.T.R. Med.)

14th D.F. movements. To implement my 171148 the following movements will take place.
(2) A. Some of 14th D.F. as detailed by Capt. D.14 leave Malta Jan. 16th to relieve MUSKETEER in Greek waters. MUSKETEER then to proceed Malta.
B. MUSKETEER and MARNE will later be required to escort LIVERPOOL wearing the flag of C. in C. during his visit to Western Med. ports
C. Remainder of 14th D.F. sails to Malta Jan. 24th for Alex. for duties with F.O.L.E.M.
D. MILNE, MATCHLESS, STEVENSTONE and at least one other HUNT to proceed to Malta as soon as practicable after the arrival of 14th D.F. in Levant.
Para. 2 my 171148 not to all refers.
(C. in C. Med., 311515 to F.O.L.E.M., Capt. D.(14), Capt. D.(3), S.B.N.O. Greece.)
See 21115

PATROLLER, E.C. trooping. Intend to sail PATROLLER at 0700B/1st Jan. to Plymouth. C. in C. E.I.'s 231246.
(3) Speed 16 knots, E.T.A. a.m. 9th. PATROLLER to report accurate E.T.A. when known.
(5) PATROLLER acknowledge and comply.
(S.N.O.R.S.C.A., 311635B to C. in C. Plymouth, PATROLLER.)

31.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

E.I. Disp. East Indies disposition signal No. 18. Amend
Signal No. 18 disposition of following ships to read:-
(2) At Singapore PRINCE ALBERT, DURDALE,
ENNERDALE, CAVALIER, LOCH RUTHVEN, LOCH MORE,
LOCH KILLESPORT, ERITREA.
(3) At Sourabaya LOCH ECK.
(4) At sea for Morotai LOCH GLENDHUE.
(5) Off station DUKE OF YORK, ARGONAUT, K.15.
(C. in C. E.I., 310915 EF to Admiralty.)

CLEOPATRA, Propose following programme for CLEOPATRA on
cruiser. passage to U.K. All dates January, unless shown
otherwise.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
-	Trincomalee	a.m. 8th
a.m. 16th	Aden	p.m. 16th
p.m. 20th	Suez	a.m. 21st
p.m. 21st	Port Said	a.m. 23rd
a.m. 29th	Gibraltar	p.m. 31st
a.m. 4th Feb.	Portsmouth	-

(2) Fuel at Aden, Port Said, Gibraltar.
(C. in C. E.I., 311019 EF to Admty., C. in C. Med.)
Approved 011600.

THYME, Programme for THYME leaving Colombo 5th Jan. for
corvette, U.K.
for U.K.
& reserve.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
14th Jan.	Aden	15th Jan.
21st Jan.	Suez/Port Said	22nd Jan.
23rd Jan.	Alex.	26th Jan.
3rd Feb.	Gibraltar	5th Feb.
9th Feb.	Portsmouth.	

(C. in C. E.I., 311227 to BEACHY HEAD, THYME.)

ROSEBAY, Intend to sail ROSEBAY at 1330/31st Dec. to Suez
corvette, for U.K.
to be re- (2) Ship to report time of departure Aden and
turned to E.T.A. Suez to all in this signal.
U.S.A. (5) Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 311100 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Aircraft in Your 281045 para. 2 approved.
VICTORIOUS. (2) Included in VICTORIOUS' load are three Seafire
XV protected by plastic coating. These aircraft
should be returned to U.K. in their preserved
condition.
(3) Seafire XV aircraft should be given preference for covered
accommodation over all American combat types.
(4) Your para. 3 confirmed.
(D.N.A.O., 311212 to F.O. Air E.I.)

/VIOLET...

War Diary.

31.12.1945
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

VIOLET,
corvette,
for passage
to U.K. and
reserve.

Programme for VIOLET leaving Colombo 5th Jan.
for U.K.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
14th Jan.	Aden	14th Jan.
20th Jan.	Suez/Port Said	23rd Jan.
27th Jan.	Malta	29th Jan.
2nd Feb.	Gibraltar	2nd Feb.
8th Feb.	Chatham	-

(C. in C. E.I., 311229 to BEACHY HEAD, VIOLET, Admty.)

GORLESTON,
cutter,
(escort).

Programme for GORLESTON leaving Colombo 6th Jan.
for U.K.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Depart</u>
13 Jan.	Aden	14th Jan.
18 Jan.	Suez/Port Said	19th Jan.
20 Jan.	Alex.	24th Jan.
30 Jan.	Gibraltar	1st Feb.
5 Feb.	Portsmouth	-

(C. in C. E.I., 311245 to GORLESTON, Admty.)

ROSEBAY,
corvette,
for U.K. to
be returned
to U.S.A.

Com. Aden's 311100.
Time of departure Aden 1415 CD 31st Dec. E.T.A.
Suez 150B* 5th Jan.
(ROSEBAY, 311435 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A. (Port Said))
* As received.

VICTORIOUS,
aircraft to
be landed from.

F.O. Air E.I. 281045 (not to all.)
Intend VICTORIOUS shall land 48 Seafire 15 at
Trincomalee in addition to aircraft allocated to
Ceylon in A.M. 151451 not to all.
(2) On completion of unloading intend to sail
VICTORIOUS to Sydney via Fremantle.
(C. in C. E.I., 311548 EF to Admty.)

WHELP,
destroyer
on passage
to U.K. and
reserve.

Intend to sail WHELP at 1330/1st Jan. to Suez for
U.K.
(2) Ship to report time of departure Aden and
E.T.A. Suez to all addresses in this signal.
(5) Acknowledge and comply.
(Com. Aden, 311818 to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

31.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

H.M.C.S. CRUSADER, destroyer. H.M.C.S. CRUSADER arrived 1200Z/31st. (N.O.I.C. Jamaica, 311210Z to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Royal Canadian naval reserves merged into new reserve force from 1.1.'46

On 1st January 1946 The Royal Canadian Fleet Reserve, Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and The Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve are merged into a new reserve force to be known as The Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) short title R.C.N. (Reserve). The new force is organized from the 1st Jan. 1946 pursuant to sections 22 and 23 of the Naval Service Act, 1944. All officers and men who on the 1st Jan. 1946 are members of The Royal Canadian Fleet Reserve Royal Canadian Naval Reserve or Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve are transferred to The Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) with the seniority of rank or rating equivalent to that held by them in the force to which they belonged immediately before the transfer became effective. Officers of The Royal Canadian Naval Reserve who are transferred to The Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) shall receive during the continuance of their active service in the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) the basic pay of rank to which they would have been entitled had they continued to serve in the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve. Further instructions will be issued. (N.S.H.Q., 312037 to R.C.N. General Nr. 73S., Admiralty.)

Far East and Australia.

Programme for S/Ms VIRTUE, VORACIOUS, VOX, for U.K. Your 240637Z Dec. not to all. Propose to sail VIRTUE (S.O.), VORACIOUS, VOX from Sydney 23rd January for U.K. carrying out following programme:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>
Sydney	-	23rd Jan.
Fremantle	2nd Feb.	6th Feb.
Colombo	21st Feb.	28th Feb.
Aden	10th March	11th March
Port Said	18th March	21st March
Malta	26th March	30th March
Gibraltar	4th April	8th April
Holy Loch	16th April	-

(S.O. S/Ms Sydney, 310002Z to C. in C. B.P.F., V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

*See 090533Z Jan.
+ 300222 "*

KING GEORGE V battleship. Intend KING GEORGE V return to U.K. via South Africa. E.T.D. Hobart 15th January. (F.O.S.A., 310028 to C. in C. B.P.F., Admty.)

/CHALLENGER...

31.12.1945
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

CHALLENGER,
surveying
vessel,
on passage
to U.K.

Intend following programme for return of
CHALLENGER to U.K. F.O.W.A's 201017 not to all
refers.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
1st Jan.	Hongkong	6th Jan.
7th Jan.	Jesselton	8th Jan.
10th Jan.	Labuan	0800H/11th Jan.
1400H/Jan.	Kuching	17th Jan.
17th Jan.	Singapore	24th Jan.
	Colombo	

(2) F.O. Ceylon is requested to arrange onward routeing from
Colombo.

(3) Calls at Miri and Kuching are dependant on weather. F.O.M.
F.A. is requested to arrange for local representatives to meet
ship off Miri and Mauratebas, Entrance at times indicated.

(4) Com. i/c Hongkong is requested sail CHALLENGER 1200H/1st Jan.
S.O.A. 10 knots.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 310234 to Admiralty.)

TYRIAN,
destroyer.

A. Blank. B. Nil. C. TYRIAN. D. Shanghai.
E. 0010Z/31st. F. 12.5 knots. H. Hongkong.
I. 0730H/3 K. Blank.

(S.O. Force S, 310331 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

TERPSICHORE,
TERMAGANT.

Arrival Shanghai, C.S. 2 in BELFAST, TERPSICHORE,
TERMAGANT.

(S.O. Force 3, 310400 to C. in C. B.P.F.)