

HOME COMMAND SIGNALS

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

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>FOREIGN STATIONS</u> (Classification by stations). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North Atlantic - South Atlantic - Mediterranean - East Indies - America and West Indies - Australia and New Zealand - U-boat Campaign |
|---|--|

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

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

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

1.12.1946.
Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Lapse of title of S.N.O.R.S.C.A. As from 0001B today the title of S.N.O.R.S.C.A. will lapse.
F.O.L.E.M. assumes direct control of operations in the Red Sea as far south as the Mediterranean Station limits.
N.O.I.C. Port Said is responsible for all matters affecting Suez Canal transits and ship's requirements in the Canal Area.

War Diary.

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

SS. JOHN B. HOOD, disabled. Lat. 36.20 N. 34.40 W. lost propeller require immediate assistance 550 troops aboard, Master. (SS. JOHN B. HOOD, 010322 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Following intercepted from American steamer JOHN MCDONOGH at 0327 G.M.T. addressed SS. JOHN B. HOOD begins - We can get to you in 5 hours, Ends. (Lands End Radio 010330 to Admiralty.)

S.O.S. from JOHN B. HOOD.

Lat. 36.20 N. long. 34.40 W. lost propeller require immediate assistance 550 troops on board. Master. No D.T.G. Ends. (F.O.G.M.A., 011034A to Admiralty.)

SS. R.F. PECKHAM, (U.S.) damage in collision with JESSE COTTRELL. R.F. PECKHAM has been in collision with JESSE COTTRELL and first survey reveals large hole in starboard side about 25 feet in length from upper deck to well below the waterline. Bulkhead between No. 2 and 3 holds on starboard side completely demolished. Vessel has a list of approx. 20° and drafts are 13 feet 6 inches aft and 29 feet 6 inches forward. Survey continuous. Vessel will need docking for complete survey and decision of type of repairs to be carried out American Bureau surveyor to be informed report survey JESSE COTTRELL follows.

(A.S. Gibraltar, 011712A to C. in C. Med.) See 031612A.

PRUDENT, R.T. Intend to sail PRUDENT p.m. 2nd Jan. to Vigo to L.C.I. (L) 272. tow L.C.I. (L) 272 to Plymouth. N.O.I.C. Aden 141240, L.C.I. (L) 272, 282214 and my 291216 refer. (2) Speed 12, E.T.A. Vigo p.m. 4th Jan. (3) Tow will not leave Vigo until S.O. in L.C.I. (L) 272 is ordered by F.O.G.M.A. to proceed. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to provide weather information required in my 221239. (4) Tow will follow route to Plymouth given in my 191216. (F.O.G.M.A., 011816A to C. in C. Plymouth, Admty.) See 021755A.

South Atlantic.

KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE. Your 271208 Dec. intend to sail KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE from Freetown at 1200 Jan. 2nd to Dakar My 311616 (N.T. in W.D.) Dec. not to all refers. S.O.A. 12 knots navigation as safety permits. E.T.A. Dakar 0800 Jan. 4th. KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE to proceed to Gibraltar on completion of investigation referred to in my 311616 (N.T. in W.D.) Dec. report - in G departure. S.O.A. 12 knots navigation as safety permits. E.T.A. Gibraltar to be reported by KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE. KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE to acknowledge and sail to comply. (N.O.I.C. Freetown, 011554 to F.O.G.M.A.)

/A.S.R. ...

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

A.S.R.
relief
stn. 22.

Intend sailing LANCASTER CASTLE to Air Station
No. 22 at daylight January 2nd relieves CAISTOR
CASTLE patrols from 4th to 18th January.
(N.O.I.C. Freetown, 011555 to F.O.G.M.A.)

CHARLOCK
corvette,
R.I.N.

Sailed CHARLOCK to Diego Suarez.
(2) S.O.A. 11 knots.
(3) E.T.A. Diego Suarez 1600Z/7th.
(Cdre. i/c Durban, 011615Z to Admty., C. in
C. E.I.)

War Diary.

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

FENCER,
trooping.

Sail at 1200B/1. Jan. as safe navigation permits to Colombo. Speed 16 knots report your time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Colombo to all addressed in this signal. Acknowledge and comply. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 010957B to FENCER.)

re Visit
AJAX to R.
Plate as
escort to
SS. HIGHLAND
MONARCH with
ex German
internees
from GRAF SPEE

Following received from C.S. 15 begins:-
"Commanding Officer AJAX informs me that the interpretation placed on A.M. 081543 Dec. was that AJAX would escort HIGHLAND MONARCH to U.K. and he announced this to his ship's company when secrecy was relaxed.

(2) AJAX has about one third of her ship's company due for release or L.F.S. in March.
(3) An extra guard of one officer and 50 ratings is being provided in HIGHLAND MONARCH by AJAX. C. in C. Med., 241655 (N.T. in W.D.) Dec. refers.

(4) In view of above I strongly urge that AJAX continues to U.K. in order to adjust complement, recover the guard and give a few days leave.
T.O.O. 311825 Dec." Ends.

(2) As I have deferred the refit of ORION I am prepared to accept the additional temporary absence of AJAX from Med. Station and strongly concur in C.S. 15's para. 4.
(C. in C. Med., 011110A to Admiralty.) *see 07/309.*

War Diary.

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Amphibian
Support
Regt. R.M.

(1) Decision in Admiralty 051936 Dec. not to Arminia noted. Regiment will be released at once from planned role for return to India.
(2) Under the circumstances we propose that the disposal of the regiment after its return to India should be entirely in your hands. Request your confirmation.
(Alfsea, 010055 to C. in C. E.I., Admty.)

WHELP,
destroyer,
on passage
to U.K.

Intend the following programme. Depart Aden p.m. Jan. 1st arrive Port Said p.m. Jan. 5th.
(2) Depart Port Said a.m. Jan. 7th, arrive Gibraltar p.m. Jan. 12th.
(3) Depart Gibraltar a.m. Jan. 14th, arrive Portsmouth a.m. Jan. 17th.
(4) It is intended to carry out an annual full power trials between Gibraltar and Portsmouth.
(WHELP, 010829C to Admiralty, C. in C. Portsmouth, F.O.G.M.A.)

TULIP,
corvette,
for U.K. and
reserve.

Penang 1st January departure to Singapore for onward passage to U.K. TULIP will report own E.T.A.
(N.O.I.C. Penang, 011001 to F.O. Malaya, F.O.I.C. Singapore.)
Your 011001 not understood. Please verify and repeat.
(F.O. Malaya, 012138 to R.N.O. Penang, C. in C. E.I., Admty.)

Order of the
day by
Supreme
Allied
Commander,
S.E. Asia.

The Supreme Allied Commander South East Asia has issued the following order of the day on 1st January, 1946 - begins:
This first peacetime New Year sees all of us in South East Asia Command far from our homes. I told you in my last order of the day of the tasks and responsibilities which we are sharing out here, and you know how proud I am of the way in which they are being carried out. Those of us in Singapore and elsewhere in Malaya and in Burma are living among a civil population who have been oppressed for three years by the Japanese. Many have suffered in jails and internment camp. We must help them in every way we can, not only by courtesy and friendly behaviour but by remembering that food and communications are short and that it would be selfish and inconsiderate of us not to confine ourselves as much as we can to our own canteens and service shops and clubs. It is only in this way that we can avoid adding to the difficulties of the civilians by forcing prices and by depriving them of what is already scarce.

/For...

War Diary.

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Order of
the day by
Supreme Allied
Commander
S.E. Asia.
(Contd.)

For those of you in French Indo-China and Siam your gradual withdrawal has already begun. You have done a good job in difficult circumstances particularly in French Indo-China and have earned universal respect. You who are serving in the Netherlands East Indies have had an even more difficult and thankless task, but you have acquitted yourselves with that unfailing patience and fearlessness which you showed during war itself. Thousands of internees, including women and children, owe their lives to you, and are grateful to you. In continuing to carry out your responsibilities, see to it that nothing mars your good name wherever the incitement may be, do not be led into reprisals, revenge could only breed hatred and further violence, and damage to the reputation which you now enjoy. It is only by your restraint and tolerance that conditions can be re-established in which Dutch and Indonesians can discuss their mutual aims and find agreement. I wish to repeat that with rare exceptions the discipline of those under my command, as well as their patience, good humour and courage, has given me pride and satisfaction.

I wish you a happy new year in 1946, and a speedy return to your homes when your task is done. Ends.

(C. in C. E.I., 011006 to E.I.S. General Message 552C.)

F.S.
RICHELIEU,
battleship.

Intend to sail F.B.S. RICHELIEU about 4th Jan. to Trincomalee for provisions and onward routing to Mediterranean.
(2) F.B.S. RICHELIEU will require to refuel before arrival at France.
(F.O.M.F.A., 011026 to C. in C. E.I.S.)

CAPRICE,
destroyer.

548C of 29th Dec. 1945 sail from Calcutta:
A. 0700 FG 2nd Jan. B. Singapore. 15 knots.
F. a.m. 7th Jan. G. Acknowledge.
(Combay, 011300 FG to CAPRICE.)

Repatriation
of Italian
Nationals.

My 171625 and 241731* Dec. not to all ERITREA due Suez approx. 23rd Jan. with repatriates for Italy. Commanding Officer suggests Italian Nationals should be transferred to Italian battleship in Bitter Lake to expedite ships return to Far East. Request F.O.L.E.M. will state whether this can be arranged.

(2) Request F.O.M.F.A. will state whether or not any Swiss Nationals are on board.

(C. in C. E.I., 011421 to F.O.L.E.M.)

* re Italians to be repatriated to Italy. *See 22/138 E.F*

WHITE BEAR
surveying
vessel.

My 182051 Dec. WHITE BEAR is now required to remain in Malaya for the present and visit to Bombay must therefore be postponed. A.M. 131837* not to all refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 011450 to F.O.C.R.I.N., F.O. Bombay.) * N.T. in W.D.

/A.M. ...

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

WHITE BEAR
surveying
vessel.
(Contd.)

A.M. 311831 Dec.* propose to adhere to programme in my 251530 Dec. as far as Colombo visit. Additional reasons for visit are to adjust personnel, collect certain stores, ensure early receipt of hydrographic instructions and discuss mining situations before commencing survey based on Port Swettenham.

(WHITE BEAR, 011516 to C. in C. E.I.)

* N.T. in W.D.

CLEOPATRA,
cruiser,
programme.

Your 311019 EF. Approved subject to concurrence of C. in C. Med.

(2) It is presumed that ship will fuel to capacity at Aden.

(D.O.D., 011600 to C. in C. E.I.)

MESSAGE.

7A

E. 1 -

IN

UNCLASSIFIED

010145/January

From: C.S. Singapore

Date: 10.1.46

Recd: 0645

P/L

RECIRCULATION

To: F.O. Malaya
Info: Admiralty C. in C. E.I. C. in C. B.P.F.(Afloat)
C. in C. B.P.F. (Ashore)

Following is a review of condition of Naval Base, Singapore on 1st January 1946.

Part I

Fundamental factors governing relief rehabilitation.

1. Electric power. Reliability of supply from Singapore town improved but limited to 700 KVA until availability of 22 KV overhead lines service from same source, estimated at mid-January subject to delivery of transformer oil already demanded 1750KVA Japanese Sulzer refit progressing. 1040 KVA Japanese Sulzer erection 60% completed. Electric fugate has been requested as a wise insurance.
2. Water supply. System 95% efficient. Quantities 75% of requirements owing to restriction imposed by outside authorities necessitating limitation of hours available. Drinking water has to be boiled.
3. Roads. Able to commence reconstruction to a restricted extent.
4. Railways. Stores area connected to workshop area by standard gauge.
5. Berths alongside. Additional coaster berth owing to departure of A.F.D. AEN to refit.
6. Berth cranes. Second 30 ton crane can now travel.
7. Mobile cranes. Twelve received. Eight in service. No crane garage.
8. Railway cranes. Standard gauge, 5 working. Two under repair. Two to be erected. One metre gauge nearly erected.
9. Wharves, transit sheds and associated equipment. Struggle to keep wharves clear for incoming cargoes continuing. Transit sheds still congested with items not consigned to Naval Base initially. Opportunity for onward shipment of 734 shipping tons ex ESSFY still awaited. Seven fork lift trucks received and being assembled.

/ 10. Small.....

10. Small craft and Lighters. Necessary allocation applied for.
11. Telephone services. Sixty % efficient. Improvement now awaiting equipment demanded.
12. British transport placed on road. S.N.S.O. thirty cars. Twenty seven brakes and station wagons. Three hundred and fifty lorries and trucks. Nineteen jeeps. Ninety four motor-cycles. Two buses. Seen charge.
13. Ex Japanese transport. Dwindled to forty six cars.
14. Accommodation. No change.
15. Gold storage. Change.
16. Supervision expressed in percentages joined of numbers asked for by 1st January 1945. Of 40% C.E. 25%. S.E.E. 15%. S.C.E. 90%. S.N.S.O. 54%. S.V.S.C. 8%. S.N.S.O. 70%. C.D. 18%. Boatswain is available.
17. Hygiene. Imhoff tank repaired. Maid incinerator 40%. Progress in other items being made.
18. Mosquito control. As before. D.D.T. spray from aircraft has been carried out once.

Part II

Present capacity of dockyard.

19. No change.
20. K.G. VI Dock. CAISSON pumped out and reberthed, divisional bulkheads under repair.
21. A.F.D. 31. Permanent moorings about to be laid. A.F.D. 10. Dry docked and under refit by Singapore Harbour Board.
22. C.C.O. machinery in place and operable 20%. Recovered and repairable 50%. Dispersed or lost 30%. Ship fitting shop capacity now 12%. Other items no change.
23. C.E. Department. Machinery in place and operable 40%. Recovered and repairable 35%. Dispersed or lost 25%. Landing Craft Ice Overhaul Depot. Machinery nearly installed. Other items no change.
24. S.E.E. Department. Machinery in place and operable 15%. Recovered and repairable 35%. Dispersed or lost 50%. Bench work facilities 50%. Other items no change.

/ 25. S.C.E.....

MESSAGE.

7B

IN

25. S.C.E. Department. Maintenance of M.T. and plant difficult through lack of skilled labour.

26. No change.

27. No change.

28. No change.

29. S.A.S.O. No change armanent maintenance } ship
H.M.S. PORTLAND HILL has been asked for.

30. C.D. Rigging shop 8%. Sailmakers shop 50%.

31. T.E.O. End one European member of office staff available.

Part III

Storage capacity.

| Department | Nature of Storage | Total area | % weather proof | % proof from easy access | % occupied by Japanese and ex British stores |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| 32. S.C.E. | Storage Fac. plant inadequate. | | | | |
| 33. S.N.S.O. | Transit sheds | 210,000 | 80 | 15 | - |
| | Storehouses | 242,800 | 80 | 50 | 20 |
| | Hardstanding | 110,000 | - | - | - |
| 34. S.V.S.O. | Storehouses | 86,000 | 80 | 99 | 5 |
| | Temp. storage in R.N.A.D. | 35,000 | 90 | 100 | 25 |
| 35. S.A.S.O. | Magazines | 60,000 | 95 | 50 | 40 |
| | Storages | 14,000 | 95 | 50 | 25 |
| 36. T.E.O. | Storehouses | 40,000 | 95 | - | 40 |

37. No change.

38. No change.

39. No change.

40. Senoko oil depot. Tankerage in use or available 148,000 tons. Awaiting cleaning and repair 36,000 pipelines no change.

Part IV

Medical establishments.

41. No change.

/ Part V.....

Part V.

Asiatic labour.

- 42. No change.
- 43. No change.
- 44. No change.
- 45. Japanese quantity 2,600 per day.
- 46. No change.
- 47. No change.
- 48. Photographic and thumb printing registration has commenced at a rate of about 500 per week.

010145

Note - this message has been passed to you for action

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1st Lord | D.M.S. (2) | C.E. I |
| 1st S.I. (3) | D.T.D. (4) | W.G.F. |
| D.F.S.I. | C.C.R.T. (2) | M.F. (L) |
| 2nd S.I. | D.T.A.S.W. (3) | P. II (2) |
| 3rd S.I. | D.G.D. (3) | A.S. (M.S.) |
| Vice Controller | D.T.S.D. (2) | W.D. |
| 4th S.I. | A.C.N.P. (5) | Dep. Contr. (3) |
| 5th S.I. | M.D.G. | D. (4) for action |
| V.C.N.S. | N. | E. in C. (4) |
| A.C.N.S. (O) | C.W. (2) | D.N.O. (4) |
| A.C.M.S. (W) | C.G.R.M. (2) | D.A.S. (4) |
| Parl. Secretary | D.B.D. (2) | D.T.M. |
| Civil Lord | D.S.V.P. (3) | P.N.C. (2) |
| C.M.S.R. | D. | C.E. in C. |
| Secretary | D.N.C. (2) | D.E.E. (3) |
| P.U.S. | E. in C. | D. of C. |
| Nav. Secretary | D.E.E. | D. of V. |
| P.A.S. (PR) | D.N.O. | D. of S. |
| P.A.S. (S) | D.A.S. (L) | C.E. II |
| U.S. (F) | D.T.M. (2) | L. |
| U.S. (S) | C.F.M.D. (2) | M.F. |
| D. of I. | D.Mov. (7) | P. I (2) |
| D.N.I. (5) | D. of S. (3) | S.W.R. (6) |
| O.I.C. (2) | D. of V. (3) | |
| D. of P. (3) | D. of S.T. (10) | |
| D. of P. (G) (3) | Hydrog. (2) | |
| D.S.D. (2) | D. of N. | |
| D. of L.D. (2) | Staff Charts | |
| O.D. (9) | C.E. in C. | |
| D.C. (2) | D.M.S.R. (2) | |
| D.C.O.D. (7) | D. of C. | |
| D.C.O.M. (4) | M. (10) | |

Bath (40

1.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

S/M TRUMP,
transfer from
4th to 3rd
S/M Flot.

H.M. S/M TRUMP transferred from the 4th S/M F.
to 3rd S/M F. Accounts to FORTH as from a.m.
1st Jan. 1946.
(Capt. (S) 4, 010203 to Admty.)

Policy, re
Manus and
future of
bases in
Pacific.

Your 130251.

(1) Over-riding factor is necessity for
elimination of dollar expenditure as soon as
possible. All R.N. personnel should be withdrawn
immediately they are no longer required.

(2) Concur with your para. 4.

(Hd. of M.II, 011550 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LANCASHIRE
accommoda-
tion ship
from B.P.F.

Intend to sail fleet accommodation ship LANCASHIRE
1600A/2nd January to Plymouth for orders. A.M.
311748 refers.

- (2) Speed 10, E.T.A. daylight 7th Jan.
- (4) LANCASHIRE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 021231A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

PRUDENT, R.T.
and L.C.I.
(L) 272.

Your 011816A para. 3. Request confirmation that
S.O. of this operation will be the C.O. of L.C.I.
(L) 272 and not C.O. PRUDENT.

- (2) If para. 1 confirmed request that towing
Master may be embarked in PRUDENT on arrival at
Vigo, K.R. and A.I. 1174(A) refers.
(PRUDENT, 021755A to F.O.G.M.A.) See 031142A.

BURGES,
frigate,
to be re-
turned to
U.S.A.

BURGES and 13 landing craft arrived Lisbon
1800 today. Awaiting favourable weather report
to proceed.
(N.A. Lisbon, 022014 to F.O.G.M.A.)

War Diary.

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

FENCER,
E.C.
trooping.

FENCER left Suez 0800B/2nd Jan. Expect to arrive Colombo 11th Jan. but defects make this uncertain.
(FENCER, 020831 to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)

RAJAH,
trooping.

C. in C. E.I. 221722. Intend to depart from Port Said 1700B/2nd Jan. Speed 16 knots, E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. 8th Jan.
(RAJAH, 020921B to F.O.G.M.A.)

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

Intend leaving Port Said with WAGER in company for Gibraltar at 1800B today 2nd January. E.T.A. 0800A/8th January. S.O.A. 14 knots.
(WHIRLWIND, 020939B to F.O.G.M.A.)

MIRROR, cable
ship repairs.

Your 211107 December.
Fully appreciate arguments regarding MIRROR but owing to recent loss of CAMBRIA on South American station and transfer of PACIFIC and STORE NORDISKE to Far East, Cable and Wireless now have only five ships to cover remainder of entire system. Repair programmes must therefore be confined to most important work on main routes only. Furthermore MIRROR is long overdue for docking and Cable and Wireless are most anxious for this to be effected either at Gibraltar or Malta as soon as possible.

(2) Reference your para. 5, programme detailed in your 091031 Sept. has undergone slight change in that item (c) has been completed. Therefore prior to docking, if possible, and provided more urgent work does not intervene, MIRROR should complete items (a) and (b) leaving remainder of programme to be carried out by EMILE BAUDOT or such other vessel as situation permits.

(3) Cannot agree urgency of programme in your 111551 Dec. since (a) Alexandria-Candia, though faulty, is working satisfactorily and (b) restoration of Malta-Zante-Corinth-Athens route is dependent on three factors (i) clearance of mines on Zante-Patras-Corinth sections, (ii) all cable huts have been demolished and will require to be rebuilt and (iii) relaying of landline section between Corinth and Kalamaki, all of which are understood to be a long way from completion.

(D.S.D., 021045 to C. in C. Med., F.O.G.M.A., F.O.L.E.M.)

Situation
Palestine.

C. in C. M.E., 021245B to War Office, etc.
See Lion Copy.

re Sweeping
of mines in
Med.

Following is a repetition of B.N.R. Belgrade's #121015 referred to C. in C. Med. Naples 181211 begins:-
Addressed C. in C. Med. Info. F.O.I.L. from B.N.R. Belgrade. MANOLA informed me last night that the Yugoslav Authorities have cleared Fiume Harbour of mines. Have swept an inshore channel thence to (?within) (15?)

/miles...

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

10A Med.

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.)

Palestine

021245B/January.

From : C.-in-C. Middle East.

Date : 2.1.46.

Recd. 1940

CYPHER.

Addressed : War Office

Info: Norlevant, G.O. C.-in-C. Persia/Iraq, C.-in-C. India.

IMMEDIATE

358287. GI/76258 cipher 2nd January.

Appreciation of situation in Palestine.

1. Sabotage attacks of 27th December believed to have been planned by Irgun as demonstration against report that no more immigration certificates were available. Jewish Agency was aware that Irgun was about to recommence activities and had in fact given half hearted warning security authorities that first targets might be police stations. Reason for this warning, which was not precise enough to be of any practical assistance, probably had object of covering agency.
2. Possible that further Irgun attacks may take place in near future. Palmach is unlikely to be used except in support of illegal immigration though reports state that inactivity and uncertainty are undermining discipline of Hagana and Palmach and that between 200 and 300 of latter have gone over to Irgun.
3. Jewish Agency reported to be agitated at implications of Arab trade boycott and said to be considering (?counter) measures such as preventing Arabs entering Jewish centres. Dismissal of Arab labour and boycott on all local Arab produce. Probable that effect of boycott will further aggravate local Arab-Jew tension.
4. Increasing evidence of Jewish intention to testify before Anglo-American Commission and use every possible means of influence. Large sums reported available from American sources to accelerate immigration plans and settlement in Palestine. Envoys believed to be on way to Europe to intensify Zionist propaganda and ensure that refugees impress Commission with unanimous desire to emigrate only to Palestine. All informed.

021245B

Received

Received in War Registry at 2300/3rd, circulated by War Office to W.O. departments and F.O., Colonial Office, A.M., Defence Office & Admiralty.

1st Lord
 1st S.L.(3)
 D.F.S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 Secretary
 A.C.N.S.(0)
 A.3 Naval Secretary
 EEC. P.A.S.(8)

D.O.D.(5)
 D.C.(2)
 D.N.I.(4)
 D. of P.(2)
 D. of P.(Q)(3)
 Hd. of M.(4)
 W.D.

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

re Sweeping of mines in Med. (Contd.) miles of Albena and expect to complete (?this) port within next week. When they propose to declare that they consider this channel free from mines (all types). My 111600* (not to F.O.I.L.) refers. (Naples C.C.O., 021543A to Admty.) * N.T. in W.D.

re Transfer M/S in Med. agreement. Your 111131 Dec. Confirmed that signature by British and Italian Naval Authorities will be sufficient in this instance as loan is but of a temporary nature. (Hd. of M., 021619 to C. in C. Med.) *See 08/243 A.*

Transfer of B.Y.M.S. 2033, 2190 on loan to Greeks. Your 120922A Dec. B.Y.M.S. 2033, 2190 should not be transferred on loan to Greeks as these are lease-lend and cannot be re-assigned. (Hd. of M., 021620 to C. in C. Med.)

G.S. EVROTAS, M/S. EVROTAS repairs completed and ship ready for sea. Request instructions as to disposal. My 151145 Dec. addressed Admiralty refers. (S.B.N.O. (G), 021809B to C. in C. Med.) *see 27/254 March-*

Sit. rep. Levant State. General strike throughout Syria and Lebanon today Wednesday 2nd as protest against Anglo-French Treaty. (2) French have committed 3 provocative acts. (a) Landed from French ship SAGITTAIRE in Beirut some 100 military personnel. (They were actually genuine reliefs) (b) Sent back to Aleppo a most unpopular Delegation. (c) (?Brought) back to Levant by air General Oliva Roget of Damascus fame. (b) and (c) have particularly incensed Syrians. (3) French do not consider it desirable to hold further meetings of main evacuation committee until further Directives have been received from both Governments. Point at issue is regrouping of British troops in Lebanon. (F.O.L.E.M., 021842 to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

SHILLAY, B.Y.M.S. 2258 for B.P.F. Taking B.Y.M.S. 2258. SHILLAY under your orders sail at 1600B/4th Jan. and proceed by Medri routes 20/2 20/1 20/3 to Port Said. S.O.A. 10 knots. E.T.A. 0700B/5th. (3) N.O.I.C. Port Said is requested to arrange canal transit for SHILLAY and B.Y.M.S. 2258 and O/R to B.P.F. (4) Acknowledge. (F.O.L.E.M., 021845 to NADIA.)

Recd 28th Jan. Med

RESTRICTED.

//(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.

RESTRICTED

021600/January.

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

DATE: 27.1.46.

RECD: 2110.

C.C.M. (NAVAL) 5 Services, Gen. R. by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty.

Repeated: C. in C. East Indies, F.O.L.E.M., N.O.I.C. Massawa.

As a temporary measure I have no objection to the proposal put forward in A.M. 182107⁴ to move the Southern limit of the Mediterranean Station in the Red Sea to 15 degs. North, in order to include Massawa in my area.

mts of
dⁿ + E.I.
Stations

2. This problem of Command in the Red Sea has recently been under my investigation and in my letter MED.45/597/5/2 dated 20th November not held by Admiralty or N.O.I.C. Massawa I have asked C. in C. East Indies for his remarks on the proposal to move the permanent limit down to 12 degs. 30 mins. North, so as to include Aden in the Mediterranean Station.

3. This I consider desirable in the interests of inter service co-operation since such new limit would bring the army and R.A.F. Middle East Commands entirely within the area to C. in C. Mediterranean, whereas at present part of their command is from the Naval aspect under me and part under C. in C. East Indies.

4. Should this limit be considered impracticable for other reasons I would suggest that the station limit be made the parallel of 12 degs. 50 mins. North, so that Perim should be included with Aden while the port of Assab would revert with Massawa to the Mediterranean Station.

021600. See 131007EF(E.I)

Proposing Massawa revert to Mediterranean Command to facilitate disposal of lease-lend items etc.

Note by War Registry:- Above signal was quoted in C. in C. East Indies 131007 (being recirculated) and repetition was requested as there was no trace of previous receipt in War Registry.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1st Lord. | P.A.S. (S). | C.N.I. (2). | D.S.D. (2). |
| 1st S.L. (3). | O.D. (9). | Ad. Blake. | C.E. in C. |
| D.F.S.L. | D.C. (2). | W.D. | W.G.F. |
| Controller. | D.N.I. (5). | H.W.R. (2). | |
| 5th S.L. | O.I.C. (2). | D.T.S.D. | C.E. in C.) |
| V.C.N.S. | D. of P. (3). | A.O.S.D. (2). | D. (4).) |
| A.C.N.S. (O). | D. of P. (Q) (3). | P. II (2). | D.A.S. (4).) |
| A.C.N.S. (A) (2). | M. (8) (M. 010436/45) | Hydrog. (2). | C.S.L.) |
| Secretary. | for action. | D.C.O.D. (7). | S.W.R. (6).) |
| Naval Secretary. | D.T.D. (2). | D. of S. (3). | |
| U.S.S. | N.A. Mails. | D. of V. (3). | |
- Bath. (16)

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CUMBERLAND,
trooping.

Ref. 548C of 29/12/45 sail from Aden as follows
A. 1200C/2nd. B. Suez for U.K. C. 20 knots.
D. 2056.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 020949 to CUMBERLAND, Admty.)

CAMBRIAN,
destroyer.

548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Colombo as follows - A. 0600 EF 3rd Jan. B. Calling Trincomalee thence direct to Padang. C. 14 kts. F. 0700 EF 4th Jan. Trinco. CAMBRIAN to report E.T.A. Padang to R.N.O. Padang in due course. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. E.I., 021027 EF to CAMBRIAN.)

TACITURN,
S/M.

Propose following programme for TACITURN on passage to U.K. all dates Jan. unless shown otherwise:

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Colombo | 5th |
| 13th | Aden | 14th |
| 19th | Suez | 19th |
| 19th | Port Said | 19th |
| 25th | Malta | 31st |
| 12th Feb. | Holy Loch | - |

(2) Transit canal daylight 19th.

(3) Fuel at Aden and Malta.

(C. in C. E.I., 021256 EF to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

DEVONSHIRE,
trooping.

548C of 29th Dec. 1945. To sail from Colombo as follows - A. 1700 EF 3rd Jan. B. Fremantle. C. 20 knots. G. For onward routeing to Sydney.
(3) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. E.I., 021801 to DEVONSHIRE.)

Movements.

Colombo January 2nd.
Arrivals DEVONSHIRE, COSSACK, COMET.
Departures VICTORIOUS, DESTINY, L.S.T. 3505.
(F.O. Ceylon, 021902 EF to Admty.)

War Diary.

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

H.M.C.
frigates.

H.M.C.S. ANTIGONISH with H.M.C.S. BEACON HILL departed Balboa 1 January for Esquimalt via San Pedro. Speed 12. Route coastal. E.T.A. San Pedro 12th.
(N.O.I.C. Esquimalt, 021810 to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

B.P.F. D.Fs. Your 151826 Dec. Release of 24th and 25th D.F. release of. from B.P.F. will be as follows:-
24th D.F. Jan. 1, Feb. 5, March 2.
25th D.F. Jan. 2, Feb. 3, March 2.
(2) Total number in B.P.F. between Feb. and switch will be below 16 but since 8th and 19th D.F. are either new or recently (?docked) and the 16 (?below) be fully operational, this can be accepted.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 020242 to Admty.)

KING GEORGE V, Admiralty request you sail KING GEORGE V from battleship, Hobart on 15th Jan. for U.K. carrying out for U.K. following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 21st Jan. | Fremantle | 22nd Jan. |
| 7th Feb. | Capetown | 8th Feb. |
| 18th Feb. | Freetown | 19th Feb. |
| 1st March | Portsmouth | |

(2) 2800 tons oil required at Capetown 2000 tons at Freetown.
(3) S.O.A. 13½ knots.
(F.O.S.A., 020121 to A.C.N.B., KING GEORGE V, B.S. 1.) *see 280625Z*

BERWICK,
cruiser,
trooping.

BERWICK's programme is as follows:-

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 8th Jan. | Fremantle | 9th Jan. |
| 16th Jan. | Colombo | 17th Jan. |
| 22nd Jan. | Aden | 22nd Jan. |
| 25th Jan. | Suez | 26th Jan. |
| 26th Jan. | Transit of canal to P. Said | 27th Jan. |
| 31st Jan. | Gibraltar | 31st Jan. |
| 3rd Feb. | Devonport Spithead. | 3rd Feb. |

(2) Concerned authorities are requested to ensure minimum delay on passage.
(F.O.S.A., 020202 to Admty., C. in C. B.P.F.)

/Movement...

2.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Movement,
A.A. sloop.

Arrived Shanghai ALACRITY.
(C.S. 2, 020400 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

R.A.P.W.I.
Mov. No. 16.

C. in C. B.P.F., 020416 to Admty., A.C.N.B.
Melbourne, N.Z.N.B., C. in C. E.I., etc.
See Lion Copy.
C. in C. B.P.F., 020417 to A.C.N.B. Melbourne,
N.Z.N.B. Wellington, Admiralty.)
See Lion Copy.

INDEFATIGABLE,
A/C.

C.S.1's 280325 not to all addressees. Fully
concur INDEFATIGABLE should return to U.K. via
Cape. Request Admiralty approval.
(2) My 070658 Nov. also refers.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 020815Z to Admty.)

ENCHANTRESS,
sloop,
on passage
to U.K.

Departed Melbourne 1919K/2nd Jan. ENCHANTRESS for
Fremantle in accordance with V.A.(Q) B.P.F.'s
180803Z. S.O.A. 12 knots. E.T.A. Fremantle
0800Z Tuesday 8th Jan.
(N.O.I.C. Melbourne, 020935Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle)

MESSAGE.INR.A.P.W.I - No 16.

UNCLASSIFIED

020416/January

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

Date 3.1.46.

Recd 0936

P/L

To Admiralty A.C.N.B. Melbourne N.Z.N.B. Wellington
 C.in C. E.I. V.A. (Q) B.P.F. S.O. Force "S"
 H.Q. S.A.C. SEAC Singapore ALPSEA COMPHILSEAFRONT
 B.A.D. C.O.P.C. ARMINIA C.in C. AFPAC.

IMPORTANT

RAPWI Mov No.16 dated 26th December.

Refer my 210631 December.

2. HS AMARAPOORE Expected time of arrival Singapore 25th December for Madras.
3. HS KAROA at Newcastle NSW for Singapore. Expected time of arrival 10th January approx. for Madras RAPWI for India fit 57 sick 151.
4. HMS GLENEARN Expected time of arrival Madras 28th Dec. approx.
5. CHESHIRE Expected time of departure Hong Kong 27th December for Singapore and Madras. Indian police and dependants 400 other Indians for Madras 270. Other passengers for Singapore 160 for U.K. 100. Numbers approximate.
6. HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN Expected time of arrival Hong Kong 5th January for China Chingwangtao Shanghai and Hong Kong for final lift of British and European RAPWI for U.K. See SITREP Item 2.
7. HMS ALACRITY Expected time of departure Shanghai 27th December for Taka to collect RAPWI 48 for HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN and return Shanghai Expected time of arrival 31st December.
8. HMS TENACIOUS Expected time of departure Shanghai 27th Dec. for Tingtao to collect RAPWI 26 for HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN.
9. HMS MONTGLARE Expected time of departure Hong Kong 3rd January for U.K. RAPWI Dutch sick non cot ex VASNA 20.
10. HMS ATHELING at Wellington for Sydney will lift available RAPWI for onward routing.
11. MOOLTAN lifts P.O.W. 35 from Sydney for U.K.
12. HMS FORMIDABLE Expected time of arrival Fremantle 1st January lifts P.O.W. for U.K. 9.
13. Following will be omitted from address of future RAPWI Mov. signals. C.in C. AFPAC COM PHILSEAFRON C O P C BAD.

/14....

14. Admiralty pass to War Office Comphilscafron pass to S.B.N.L.O. Phil V.A.(Q) pass to High Commissioner for U.K. Canberra.

020416.

2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(0)
D.C.(2)
D.Mov.(7)
O.D.(9)
D.C.D.D.(7)
D.T.D.(2)
D.of S.T.(30)
Mails.
D.of S.(3)
W.D.
Ad.Blake.
U.S.M.(3)

D.of P.(Q)(3)
M.D.G.
A.C.N.P.(5)
C.W.(Cas)(3)
N.L.(6)
M.(20)and for W.O.(DPW)
& F.O.(P.of W.Dept.)
N.
C.N.I.

IH
111c

MESSAGE.IN

RAPWI 16. (cont)

UNCLASSIFIED

020417/January

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

Date: 2.1.46.

Recd: 1240.

P/L

Addressed: A.C.N.B. Melbourne, N.Z.N.B. Wellington, Admiralty,
C. in C. E.L., V.A. (Q) B.P.F., S.O. Force
"S". B.M.D., C.O.P.C., H.Q. SACSEA Singapore,
ALFUEL, C. in C. AFPAC, ARMINIA.

IMPORTANT

RAPWI Sitrep number 15 dated 26th December refer.
my 210630 December.

2. North China 1 RAPWI fit and ready for lift in HIGHLAND
CHIEFTAIN Shanghai 822. Taka, Taingtao and Tientoin
390 see Mor. Items 6, 7, and 8. RAPWI deferred for U.K.
732, Australia 108, Hong Kong 56, Singapore 8.
Also distressed Italians Shanghai 622, Tientsin 300 to
350 condition reported desperate.

3. Hong Kong RAPWI fit and ready. For U.K. and Europe
69, Australian and New Zealand 20, U.S.A. 3, Canada 2,
South Africa 4 sick ready for Hospital ship left for U.K.
3, Australia 2 also sick in HSVAS NA, Dutch for Holland 46,
for NEI 15. See MOR Item 9. Deferred. British 248,
Australia and New Zealand 63, British for India 64,
Europe 59, U.S.A. 56, NEE 27, Canada 4, West Indian Chinese 132
Central and South America 153. Indian repatriates see Mov
Item 5.

4. Sainan RAPWI for India 15 approx. also Chinese for
Hong Kong 5000.

5. Australia no recent information. See my 210630 Para. 7

6. New Zealand no recent information. See my 140600 para. 8.

7. Following will be omitted from address of future RAPWI.
Sitreps C. in C. AFPAC Comphlseafron C.O.P.C.B.A.D.

8. Admiralty pass to War Office Comphlseafron Pass
to S.B.N.L.O. Phil V.A. (Q) Pass to High Commissioner for
U.K. Canberra.

020417.

/ RAPWI Sitrep No. 15.

/ Sitrep No. 14.

/ Circulation over.

2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (0)
Secretary
Dep. Secretary
P.A.S. (0)
D. of E.
O.D. (9)
D.S.O.
A.C.N.P. (5)
C.W. (Cas. (3)
N.L. (6)
M. (20) for W.O. (D.P.D.) and
for F.O. (P.O.W. Dept.)
C.N.I. (2)
M.D.G.
D. of P. (Q) (3)
D. Mov. (7)
~~W.D.~~
N.
D. of S.T. (10)
D.T.D. (2)
C.E.I.
I. Br. }
C.E.II } Bath 8 by courier
S.W.R. (6) }

--JD
91

3.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

GENERAL.

Electrical
Branch, R.N.

The closing date for applications for permanent commissions in the Electrical Branch, R.N. under A.F.O. 5283/45 and A.F.O. 6390/45, has been extended to 31st March, 1946.
An A.F.O. is being issued accordingly.
(Hd. of C.W., 032007 to Admty. General.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

PRUDENT, R.T. Your 021755 not to Plymouth. Confirmed S.O. of operations is L.C.I. (L) 272. Your sailing orders para. 2 refers.

(2) When one H.M. ship tows another responsibility for towing arrangements decision to sail and safe navigation rests on senior officer. Opinions of an experienced though junior H.M. tug captain would nevertheless be fully considered by a more senior officer when about to be towed by the former.

(3) Your K.R. and A.I. reference concerns towage of docks in wartime.

(4) Acknowledge.

(F.O.G.M.A., 031142A to PRUDENT, L.C.I. (L) 272.)

Your 031142A. Acknowledged.

(PRUDENT, 031717 to F.O.G.M.A.)

SHIEL,
frigate.

Intend to sail SHIEL 1100A/4th Jan. to Plymouth.

(2) Speed 12, E.T.A. first light 8th Jan.

(7) SHIEL acknowledge and sail to comply.

(F.O.G.M.A., 031524 to SHIEL, C. in C. Plymouth.)

U.S.S. JESSE
COTTRELL,
damaged in
collision
with R.F.
PECKHAM.

Further to my 011712A Jan. a first survey of U.S.S. JESSE COTTRELL reveals (a) Bow above 32 - 0 draft stove in and stem set to port about 3 ft. 0 ins. (b) Ships side and bulwarks crippled and split. (c) Gun platform distorted. (d) Fairleads and deck fittings displaced. (e) Divers examination revealed port side over first 7 frames set in and an outer bottom lap opened up to a max. of 1 ft. 6 ins. Several frames crippled.

Intend to dock vessel on 3rd instant and effect temporary repairs. American surveyor to be informed.

(A.S. Gibraltar, 031612A to Admty.)

3.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

A.S.R.
relief
No. 22.

Departures LANCASTER CASTLE 1030/2nd for A.S.R.
position No. 22, KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE 1230/2nd
for Dakar-Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 031049 to Admty.)

3.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

M/S on
passage to
B.P.F.

Immediately on arrival 0700B/5 sail as safe navigation permits to Aden and O/R to B.P.F.
(2) Speed 10 knots. Report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal, except NADIA.
(4) Acknowledge and comply.
(N.O.I.C. Port Said, 031015 to B.Y.M.S. 2258, SHILLAY.)

AJAX,
cruiser,
en route
for R. Plate.

AJAX sail at 1100A/5th Jan. with draft embarked to D.G. Range to carry out two check runs thence by appropriate Medri route to Algiers. E.T.A. 0730A/7th Jan.
(2) Sail from Algiers about 0930A/7th as direct as safe navigation permits, to arrive Gibraltar 1500A/8th.

- (3) On arrival at Gibraltar disembark draft.
- (4) F.O.G.M.A. is requested to supply AJAX with chart folio No. 9.
- (6) AJAX acknowledge.
- (C. in C. Med., 031228A to AJAX, F.O.G.M.A.)

War Diary.

3.1.1946
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movement. Arrived HENGIST towing L.C. 26, CONFEDERATE, departed CUMBERLAND.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 030900C to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)
Arrivals Singapore 2nd Jan. JAMAICA, FINISTERRE,
SS. GERUSALEMME. Departures M.M.S. 199, 200.
(F.O.M.F.A., 030900 GH to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)

ROYALIST, Propose following programme for ROYALIST on
cruiser. passage to U.K., all dates Jan.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| a.m. 4th | Aden | p.m. 4th |
| p.m. 8th | Suez | a.m. 9th |
| p.m. 9th | Port Said | a.m. 11th |
| a.m. 14th | Malta | p.m. 18th |
| p.m. 21st | Gibraltar | a.m. 24th |
| a.m. 28th | Portsmouth | |

- (2) Transit canal daylight 9th.
(3) Fuel at Aden, Port Said, Malta, Gibraltar.
(C. in C. E.I., 031156 EF to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

Minesweeping Force No. 18 Force No. 18 has been allocated to Minesweeping Force earmarked for clearance of ports on (corrupt) coast.
(2) N.O.I.C. Rangoon pass P/L to R.N.O. Moulmein Burma Command. F.O.M.F.A. pass P/L to Alfsea.
(C. in C. E.I.S., 031206 EF to F.O.M.F.A., Admty.)

34th R.M. Ref. Cabinet Offices 7259 of 19th Dec.
Amphibian (1) We propose to return also the LAD which has
Support Regt. been working with this unit for some time and therefore specially trained in amphibian technique.
(2) Equipment. Propose returning unit with following special amphibious equipment:

| <u>(A)</u> <u>Serial</u> | <u>(B)</u> <u>Item</u> | <u>(C)</u> <u>Ind.Wet.</u> <u>Qty.</u> | <u>(D)</u> <u>Res.</u> | <u>(E)</u> <u>Total</u> | <u>(F)</u> <u>Remarks</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | L.V.T. Load Carriers | 52 | 18 | 70 | Does not include specialist flame and rocket L.V.Ts. See Serial 2. |
| 2 | Special L.V.Ts. | 30 | Nil | 30 | Includes F.T., Rocket, Rec., Comd. L.V.Ts. |
| 3 | L.V.T. (A) 4 | 24 | 6 | 30?+ | Nil |
| 4 | M.29C | 12 | 12 | 24 | Nil |
| 5 | Dukws (?) + | 21 | Nil | 21 | Nil all items subject to your confirmation w.e. paras. 3-5 below. |

/(3)...

3.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

- 34th R.M. Amphibian Support Regt. (Contd.)
- (3) Serial 1, 3, 4 and 5. In view of your stock holdings request confirmation these items and quantities will be required. Col. (E) Para. 2 for these items represent surpluses to our post war requirements but in order to save shipping point out advantage of declaring surplus here rather than shipped to U.K.
- (4) Serial 2. Flame throwers. Only ones held here are Jock Up Mark One Wasps. Not considered worth shipping these as FT transportable number seven Mark One should be available U.K. Note, however, Indian WET gives total 20 not 12 and there may be post war Indian requirement for Number Seven Mark One.
- (5) Serial 2. 4.5 Rockets. Present total holding in India is qty. 110 34 Amph. Support Regt. require total qty. 88 including res. Minimum proposed post war Indian requirement is qty. 66 excluding res. In view of confliction of demands request you decide precedence of demand and confirm in event of units demand being met you will meet our post war requirements. Understand you may require 4.5 Rocket amm. request your firm requirement to be supplied ex our stocks.
- (6) Serial 2. Suggest we return unit complete in its present holding of other specialist veb. i.e. Rec. Comd. etc. as these amphibious equipments are peculiar to unit only.
- (7) This unit is being included in the February shipping bid. (G.H.Q. India, 031230Z to Cabinet Offices.)
+ Check and repeat requested.

JAMAICA, cruiser, CAVALIER, destroyer. 548C and 29th December. Take CAVALIER under your orders and sail from Singapore as following:-
A. 1200 GH tomorrow 4th January. B. R/V C.S. 5 in accordance with paras. 3 and 7 and C.S. 5's 261205 GH, not to Admiralty. C. Acknowledge. (F.O.M.F.A., 031241 GH to JAMAICA, Admty., C.S. 5.)

re Repatriation of Its. in S.E.A.C. Can you confirm or otherwise final para. of C. in C. E. I. 171625 Dec. to all concerned. (Hd. of M., 031414 to F.O.I.L., C. in C. Med., Cin C. E.I., C. in C. B.P.F.)

TRUMPETER, G.P. carrier. Propose following programme for TRUMPETER on passage to U.K.

All dates Jan. when shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Colombo | 5th |
| 8th | Bombay | 10th |
| 15th | Aden | 16th |
| 20th | Suez | 21st |
| 21st | Port Said | 23rd |
| 29th | Gibraltar | 30th |
| 3rd Feb. | Greenock | - |

- (2) Transit canal daylight 21st.
(3) Fuel at Aden and Gibraltar. Latter for extra stability in view of large deck load.
(C. in C. E.I., 031652 to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)

3.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

F.O. 5th C.S. Reference 458C of 5th Dec. 1945.
operational On or about 19th Jan. SUSSEX will relieve F.O.
control. 5th C.S. in operation control of all N.Os. i/c
R.N.Os. of ports H.M. ships and craft south of
the equator in the area for which A.F.N.E.I. is
responsible.

(2) Intend F.O. 5th C.S. to resume operation control in this
area about end of Feb.

(C. in C. E.I.S., 031731 EF to S. and A. in forward area E.
Indies.)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Netherlands | (A.F.N.E.I., No T.O.O. to Alfsea, S.A.C.S.E.A., |
| E. Indies | W.O.) |
| Op. Rep. | See Lion Copy. |

MESSAGE.

20A ^E 1
IN

*Netherlands East Indies
Operation Report*

RESTRICTED

No T.O.Q 3rd January

From: AFNEI

Date: 4/1/46
Time: 0110

P/L

Addressed: ALFSEA, SACSEA, War Office (For MO 12)

EMERGENCY 086340.

O.2286 Cipher 3rd Jan.

OPREP up to 1200 hrs. 3rd January 1946.

West Java.

(a) Batavian Kampongs No. 9 and 10 searched 2nd Jan. No incidents 20 suspects taken Glodok jail. Buitenzorg Sniping occurred Bronkebonsalada and rly. crossing. One GOR wounded other end town generally quiet. Police barracks raid disclosed 26 carbines 40 swords 15 pistols large amount amn. and grenades. Bandolng. Quiet. Road convoy containing 5/8 Punjab and residues for Bandoeng arrived from Batavia 1430 hrs. without incident. Convoy vehicles with 3/3 GR Bn Gp escort returning (?today). 19 Euransians handed over by local authorities. Semarang 4 small jitter parties Op night. No damage no cas. LMG fired upon three a/c landing airfield one hit scored on wing. Oengaren. Quiet. Extremists fired on tkr. truck.

(b) Nothing to report.

(c) Det. 11 Cav. Punjab arrived Bandoeng.

(d) Nothing to report.

Sumatra.

(a) Padang area. At Fort de Koek civil broadcasting unit handed over to Japs Gds. Currency printing presses destroyed. Nothing to report other area.

(b) to (d). Nothing to report.

R.P.I. 173 from Semarang to Batavia. 18 from Batavia to Balikpapan.

East Java

9 Bde. Own patrol engaged by LMG 393687 Kampongs searched found clear. Local patrol within camps found 25 rifles. 123 Bde patrol engaged by 15 Indonesians with 2 LMG (or MMG). Arty engaged enemy estimated 100 with MMDs and 3 inch mortars Lembang 385692. Own cas days ops 4 wounded. Arty. 72 looters and

/curfew ..

curfew breakers arrested. Ann dump estimated 150 tons found 570860.

(b) and (d). Nothing to report. All informed.
C.6. (Telegrams)

No T.O.O./3rd Jan.

Received in War Registry 1505/4th.
Circulated by War Office to War Office
Departments and Defence Office, Cabinet
War Room, Defence Map Room, Air Ministry,
Foreign Office, India Office and Admiralty.

Advance copy sent D.C.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C. 1.6.
A.C.N.S. (0)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
A.C.N.S. (W)
O.D. (9)
D.C. (2)
D.S.C.
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (Q) (3)
D.T.A.S.W. (3)
D.C.O.D. (7)
H. (2)
C.N.I. (2)
C.C.L.S.
W.D.
Ad. Blake

War Diary.

3.1.1946
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

BERWICK,
cruiser,
trooping.

Departed Sydney 0045Z/3rd Jan. BERWICK for Fremantle F.O.S.A. 29T223/Dec. not to all refers. S.O.A. 18 knots, E.T.A. Breakwater 100H Tuesday 8th Jan.
(F.O.C. Sydney 030132Z to A.C.N.B. Melbourne, N.O.I.C. Fremantle, N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne.)

Repatriation
of Japanese
overseas.

S.C.A.Jap. informs me that 100 Liberty Ships manned by Japanese are being made available immediately for repatriation of overseas Japanese. These ships will be used for long hauls while smaller ships and L.A.T's will be used for short hauls such as North China and Korea. By this method repatriation of Japanese in American area of responsibility is expected to be complete by August of this year. (B.N.L.O. Scap, 030245Z to C. in C. B.P.F., Admty.)

Mobile
Generating
stations
for Singapore.

Request that HOTHAM or SPRAGGE may be sailed to Singapore at earliest opportunity to comply with C.S. Singapore 201826 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all addressees.
(D.O.D., 031312 to C. in C. B.P.F., C.S. Singapore.)

French Indo-
China,
Sitrep No. 45.

Alffic, 032100 to W.O., S.A.C.S.E.A., Alfsea.
See Lion Copy.

SECRET

21A
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.)

French Indo China

032100/January

From: ALFFIC

Sit: r p No 45

Date: 4.1.46

Recd: 0312

Cypher

To: War Office SACSEA ALFSEA

EMERGENCY

086347. 0.2254 cypher 3 Jan. SECRET

Sitrep No. 45 up to 1700 hrs 3 Jan..

A. 80 Bde. NTR. 100 Bde. 3 Jan. Bien Hoa and Br positions 3673-3672 attacked 0130 hrs - 0400 hrs by estimated 200 rebels, armed with rifles LMGs gren dischargers. Attack repulsed and long range PAT to Ben Go 4067 ambushed retiring rebels. Own cas in all areas nil. Rebels cas 33 counted dead. Tonkinese. One MMG plus many rifles and gren captured. Thu Duc. Out of 12 gren thrown in HQ area exploded doing no damage. Rebels dispersed by return fire. French Forces. Loc Ninh Area. Col Massus coln from Dong Xoai Rd 4545 occupied Phoc Hoa RD 2810 without opposition.

B. 29 Dec fire in French ship ERIDAN in Saigon seriously damaged ship. Inquiry proceeding. Sabotage not (rpt not) suspected.

C. Rhnom Penh. Gen Leclerc arrived from Saigon 3 Jan. 100 Bde. Brig Hirst visited Thu Duc and Thu Dau Mot 3 Jan.

D. NTR. All informed.

032100

Advance copy sent D.C.

Received in War Reg. at 1505/4th. Circulated by War Office to W.O.Depts. and Defence Office, Cabinet War Room, Defence Map Room, Air Ministry, Foreign Office, India Office and Admiralty

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.I. (3)
- D.F.S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (O)
- A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
- A.C.N.S. (W)
- D.C. (2)
- BKH D.S.O.
- 70 O.D. (9)
- O.I.C. (2)

- D.N.I. (5)
- 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

4.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

America & West Indies.

U.S. Naval
Forces,
Post war
organisation.

1. The post war organisation of the U.S. Naval
Forces has been established.

4.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

INVER,
frigate
for U.K. from
E.I., and
reserve -
returned
to U.S.A.

Intend to sail INVER 1800A/4 Jan. to Portsmouth.
(2) Speed 12, E.T.A. p.m. 8th Jan.
(6) INVER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 041047A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

PRUDENT,
L.C.I.(L)
272, on
passage
to U.K.

It is intended to sail M.F.V. 1184 from Vigo in
company with ships addressed. My 011816 Jan.
not to M.F.V. refers.
(F.O.G.M.A., 041125A to L.C.I.(L) 272, PRUDENT.)

4.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SENNEN,
cutter,
for U.K. and
return to
U.S.A.

Sail at 0700A/5th Jan. by appropriate Medri route
to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K.
(2) Speed 12 knots, E.T.A. 1800A/8th.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 041351 to SENNEN.)

ETHIOPIAN,
Boom Carrier
on passage
to U.K.

If ETHIOPIAN is not already loaded with boom
stores and delay in homeward passage can be
accepted, request she may be employed for one
lift of boom gear from Brindisi to Malta.
(C. in C. Med., 041527 to Admty.) See 051156B
and 091252.

War Diary.

4.1.1946
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

A.S.R. Lancaster A/C for shipping routes. A.O. 159 4th Jan. Ref. your A.O.X. 787 dated 27th December.
(1) Proposals in para. 3 sub-paras. A and C agreed to. Anticipate difficulty in acquiring the information referred to in sub-para. B of para. 3 owing to areas covered by transport routes in this theatre and the wide dispersal of ports of departure and arrival.
(2) Lancaster aircraft due to arrive early this year will assemble in India. Our signal A.O. 140 dated 31st Dec. (N.T. in W.D.) refers. They will then be dispersed to bases from which they can cover all air traffic routes in the theatre. This arrangement should avoid confusion.
(3) Operational control is already available at all planned locations. You will be informed when maintenance arrangements are completed.
(4) Communications with merchant ships could be effected direct on 500 k/cs. Owing to the lack of G.P.O. facilities in this theatre, it is considered that their use would be impracticable. (Air Command, S.E. Asia, 040930Z to A.M. Whitehall.)

F.S. DUQUESNE, cruiser, on passage. (1) N.O.I.C. Port Said 030850B. Time of departure Suez 0403 (700B) E.T.A. Aden 070600. (DUQUESNE, 041201B to F.O. Ceylon, N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Flag of F.O.W. 567 O Singapore C.C.O. is automatically responsible for F.O.W., cancel 504 C of 16th Dec. (C. in C. E.I., 041443 EF to E. Indies Stn.)

F.S. SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA, sloop. 548 C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Colombo as follows: A. 0800 EF 5th Jan. B. Singapore for onward routeing to Saigon. C. 12½ knots, as safe navigation permits through following positions, etc. refers. Acknowledge. (C. in C. E.I., 041540 to SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA, Admty., C. in C. B.P.F.)

ROYALIST, cruiser, on passage to U.K. 548 C of 29.12.45 sail from Aden as follows: A. 2100C/4th. B. Suez for U.K. C. 14 knots. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 041745 to ROYALIST.)

F.S. RICHELIEU battleship. Intend following programme for RICHELIEU returning to Mediterranean all dates Jan.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Singapore | 6th |
| 10th | Trincomalee | 16th |
| 23rd | Aden | 24th |
| 24th | Djibouti | 25th |
| 29th | Suez | |

(2) Request RICHELIEU be sailed to comply. (C. in C. E.I., 042041 to RICHELIEU, F.O.M.F.A., etc.)

/Movements...

War Diary.

4.1.1946
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

Movements.

Arrival HALLADALE, arrived and sailed VICTORIOUS.
(Com. i/c Trincomalee, 040900 EF to Admty.,
C. in C. E.I.)

4.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

H.M.C.S.
CRUSADER,
destroyer.

Arrived canal zone 1125/4Z consumption trials in my 021424 (N.T. in W.D.) not conclusive intend repeating on passage San Pedro to Esquimalt.
(3) Intend departing Balboa p.m. 7th.
(CRUSADER, 041956 to N.S.H.Q., Compaseafon, Admty.)

U.S. Naval
Forces, post
war organi-
sation.

The following post war organisation of the U.S. Naval Forces has been established.

(2) All available ships are divided amongst the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 16th and 19th numbered fleets comprising respectively the Active Fleet, Pacific The Active Fleet, Atlantic: The Reserve Fleet, Pacific and Reserve Fleet, Atlantic: The in-

Active Fleet, Atlantic: and the in-Active Fleet, Pacific.

(3) The U.S. Pacific Fleet will consist of the 1st and 3rd and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet of the 2nd and 4th above mentioned numbered fleets. The 16th and 19th Fleets are assigned respectively to the Eastern Sea Frontier and the Western Sea Frontier.

(4) Task or operating Fleet numbers are also allotted as follows - Nos. 5 and 7 to C. in C. Pac.

Nos. 8 and 10 to C. in C. Lant.

Assignments to these task or operating fleets will be made by the appropriate Commanders-in-Chief from the ships within their numbered fleets.

(5) Task Force Nos. 90 to 99, inclusive are allocated to C. in C. Pac. and Nos. 60 to 69, inclusive to C. in C. Lant. for the designation of supporting elements and special forces.

(6) As heretofore, C. in C. Pac. and C. in C. Lant. will command directly the 1st and 2nd Fleets respectively. Fleet Commanders have, or will be appointed to command the 3rd, 5th and 7th Fleets under C. in C. Pac., and the 4th, 8th and 10th under C. in C. Lant. The Commander, Eastern Sea Frontier, will command the 16th Fleet, and the Commander Western Sea Frontier, the 19th Fleet, both under C.N.O.

(7) The status of the 12th Fleet (U.S. Naval Forces Europe) remains unchanged; its operational control being under C.N.O. and its logistic support under C. in C. Lant.

(8) The ships of the active fleets referred to in para. 2 are to be manned for unlimited service (normally 70% or more of war complement for combat types, and less for other types.) The reserve fleets will be manned for limited service (normally 20% to 50% or war complement for combat type and 20% to 30% for other types). The in-active fleet will consist of vessels and craft in an in-active state.

(9) The above organisation is now in being except that the 8th and 10th operating fleets have not yet been activated.

(B.A.D., 042219Z to Admty.)

/H.M.C.S. ...

4.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

H.M.C.S.
UGANDA,
cruiser.

It is under consideration to sail H.M.C.S. UGANDA from Esquimalt to Halifax by way of Cape Horn. The proposed cruise, the principal purpose of which is training, would include a visit to the Falkland Islands in late March. Confirmation is requested that oil fuel could be supplied from stock at Port Stanley.
(N.S.H.Q., 042219Z to C. in C. A.W.I., Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

REAPER,
CHASER,
G.P. Carriers,
for U.K.
PIONEER, A/C
maintenance
ship.

Intend to sail C.V.Es. for U.K. from Sydney via Hongkong and Singapore as follows, REAPER 17th Jan., CHASER 29th Jan.
(2) Release of PIONEER will be dealt with separately.
(3) Withdrawal of INDEFATIGABLE does not ease airfield commitments in Australia since previous plans provided for ship moving with C.A.G. to China coast. Your para. 3D refers.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 040133Z to Admty.)

Release of
destroyers
for return
to U.K.

Your 151826 Dec. Release of 24th and 25th D.Fs. from B.P.F. will be as follows:-
24th D.F. Jan. 1, Feb. 5, March 2.
25th D.F. Jan. 2, Feb. 3, March 2.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 040209Z to Admty., S.O. D.F. B.P.F.)

FORMIDABLE,
A/C, on
passage to
U.K.

Departed Fremantle 1026Z/3rd Jan. FORMIDABLE for Capetown, E.T.A. 0600Z/18th Jan. S.O.A. 14 knots. Requires 3,500 tons fuel.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 040254Z to C. in C. S.A.)

KING GEORGE V,
battleship,
as flagship
of Home Fleet
on return
to U.K.

A.M. 171553 not to all.
On arrival in U.K. about end Feb. K.G.V. is to give F.S.L. and recommission with special reduced complement as flagship of the Home Fleet.
(2) Further instructions will be issued regarding the future of NELSON.
(A.C.N.S.(O), 041829 to C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. H.F.)

War Diary.

5.1.1946
Saturday.

GENERAL.

Combined operations executive officers, release of.

944A. A.G.M. 682A 12th Nov. 1945. Delete reference to Combined Operations Executive Officers in paras. 1 and 2.

(2) The following revised programme for the dispersal of Combined Operations Executive Officers up to group 45 is promulgated for information and necessary action.

| | <u>Group</u> | <u>Latest dispersal date</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Combined opns. | 33 to 38 | 31st January |
| Executive offr. | 39 to 44 | 28th February |
| | 45 | 31st March |

(3) The position of C.O. Executive Officers in groups 46 and above is under consideration and will be clarified shortly. (D.C.N.P., 051023 to A.G.M. Home and Abroad.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

A.S.R.
Relief
Stn. 20.

Relieved on patrol station 20 by PEACOCK. E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800Z/7th. (PORTCHESTER CASTLE, 050910 to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic.

FAL, frigate,
Capt. i/c
W.Af.,
programme.

Intend to proceed in FAL on 8th Jan. and carry out following programme. Monrovia 9th to 10th Jan. Lagos 14th to 17th Jan. Takoradi 18th to 23rd Jan. Freetown 28th Jan.

(2) N.C.S.Os. Lagos and Takoradi inform authorities concerned. N.C.S.O. Takoradi inform G.H.Q. Accra. (Capt. i/c W.Af., 051038 to F.O.G.M.A.)

5.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

STUBBORN,
S/M, on
passage to
U.K. from
B.P.F.

Sail at 1000B/8th and proceed by Medri routes
20/2 2/1 and safe navigation permits to Gib.
(2) S.O.A. 10 knots, E.T.A. p.m. 15th. Ship
to report accurate time of arrival to F.O.G.M.A.
(4) Acknowledge.
(F.O.L.E.M., 051146B to STUBBORN.)

ETHIOPIAN
boom carrier.

Your 041527X. During her boiler clean at Alex.
ETHIOPIAN is being loaded with about 12 tons
Naval and victualling stores for return to U.K.
This will not interfere with lift of boom gear.
(F.O.L.E.M., 051156B to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

CUMBERLAND,
trooping.

CUMBERLAND sails from Port Said at 0600B on 6th
Jan. and arrives Malta 0800A on 8th Jan. Request
ship may be delayed as little as possible it is
hoped to arrive Plymouth Sound p.m. Saturday
12th to disembark 150 personnel.
(CUMBERLAND, 052230B to C.S. 15, V.A.M.,
C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.

5.1.1946
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements. Arrived ROYALIST, DEVON CITY, INVESTIGATOR.
Departed PRINCE SALVOR, SALVAGE DUKE, ROYALIST.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 050900C to Admty.)

GLENEARN, As from noon 7th Jan. Naval Party 2504 will be
L.S.I. (L) accommodated in GLENEARN. All signals should be
transport. addressed to GLENEARN. Intended programme:

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| - | Colombo | 9th |
| 14th | Singapore | 14th |
| 18th | Hongkong | 20th |
| 26th (?) | Kure | (corrupt group) |

All dates January.

(3) F.O. Ceylon, F.O.M.F.A., and Cmdre. Hongkong are requested to sail vessels accordingly.

(4) L.S.T. 3505 is to await arrival of GLENEARN in Hongkong.
C. in C. E.I. 071703 Jan. refers.

(N.P. 2504, 051103 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. B.P.F.)

LOTHIAN, LOTHIAN is not now required for Japan port party
H.Q. ship, neither is she required as relief for BULOLO.
return to U.K. (My 041244 EF Dec. not to all addressees and
A.M. 010905 Dec. refer.) Intend she return U.K.
as soon as it can be conveniently arranged.

(2) The personnel lift of LOTHIAN is under 60%
of her total accommodation and in view of the acute R.N. manning
situation it appears that she is a very uneconomical ship to
retain under white ensign.

(C. in C. E.I., 051123 EF to Admty.) *see 061629 Feb.*

Air Sea Rescue AO 787.

on E.I. Stn. Your AO 62 Dec. 11th to all addressees and
Release of Admiralty signal 152200 to Air Ministry and C.
corvettes from. in C. E.I. only refer.

Substitution (2) Agree that Naval corvettes for Air Sea
by aircraft. 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 Min.
policy for post war Air Sea Rescue. Proposal necessitates -
A. The location of some A.S.R. Lancasters at appropriate air-
fields south and east of India.

B. Arrangements for rescue controlling authorities to have day
to day knowledge of actual merchant ships including P.C.S.
and characteristics for briefing Captains of Aircraft and for
addressing requests for aid to the appropriate ships.

/C...

5.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

- Air Sea Rescue C. An effective system of communicating on E.I. Stn. immediately with such ships.
release of (4) The Lancasters due to leave U.K. in early corvettes from, 1946 are routed only to India. Can a number substitution now be routed to air-fields where presence will by aircraft. justify the release of corvettes? An early (Contd.) 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 G.P.O. stations on 500 k/cs. What stations and frequencies will be used in A.C.S.E.A? Understand that 500 k/cs 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 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 and 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/II/D.D. Rescue of 18th December, 1945.
(Air Min., Whitehall, 051400 to A.C.S.E.A.)

War Diary.

5.1.1946
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PARRET,
frigate,
to be re-
turned to
U.S.A.

Part company from Flight D (I) as convenient and proceed with L.S.T. 200 to New York. Acknowledge now.
(B.A.D., 051715Z to PARRET.)

Far East and Australia.

KEMPENFELT,
WIZARD,
destroyers,
on passage
to U.K. and
reserve.

Departed Fremantle 0130Z/5 Jan. KEMPENFELT and WIZARD for Colombo in accordance with C. in C. B.P.F.'s 170713 and my 040603 not to all. Direct route. S.O.A. 14 knots. E.T.A. Colombo 0230Z/14 Jan.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 050325Z to C. in C. E.I., see 060224Z.)

R.A.P.W.I.
Sitrep No. 17

(C. in C. B.P.F., 050347 to Admty.)
See Lion Copy.

ATHELING,
escort
carrier,
trooping.

Request you sail ATHELING 1100K/8th Jan. for U.K. carrying out following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 13th | Fremantle | 14th Jan. |
| 27th | Aden | 28th Jan. |
| 31st Jan. | Suez for transit | 2nd Feb. |
| | Port Said | |
| 11th Feb. | Plymouth. | |

(F.O.S.A., 050347Z to A.C.N.B.)

R.A.P.W.I.,
M.I.R. No.
17.

Dated Jan. refer my 020416.
(2) H.S. KAROA E.T.A. Singapore 10th Jan. (approx.) for Madras R.A.P.W.I. for India fit 57 sick 151.

(3) HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN E.T.A. Hongkong 5th Jan. for Ching Vangt A.O. Shanghai and Hongkong for Final lift of British and European R.A.P.W.I. for U.K. See Sitrep Item 2.
(4) MONTCLARE left Hongkong 3rd Jan. for Singapore and U.K. P.O.W. Dutch sick No. 72 cot ex VASNA 20.
(5) MOOLTAN lifts P.O.W. 35 from Sydney for U.K.
(6) FORMIDABLE left Fremantle 3rd Jan. P.O.W. sick for U.K. 9
(7) Admiralty pass to W.A.F.F. Office, V.A.(Q) pass to High Commissioner for U.K. Canberra.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 050348Z to Admty.)

/Japanese...

MESSAGE.

33⁴
IN

*Ra-P.W.
Sit 17.*

UNCLASSIFIED

050347Z/January

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

Date: 5/1/46
Time: 1415

F/L

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

IMPORTANT

RAFPI Sitrep No. 17 dated 2nd January 1946 refer my 020417 January.

(2) N. China RAPWI for HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN ex Chinquangtao. U.K. and Europe 271, Aust. 26 Hong Kong 1, India 4, Canada 3 ex Shanghai including RAPWI stayed in from Taku and Tsingtao for U.K. 538 for Europe 131 Aust. 120 S. Africa 8, Singapore 2, India 8. Total 1142 including 70 women and 248 children see MOV Item 3. Deferred at Shanghai for U.K. 747 Aust. 108 Hong Kong 55, Singapore 16.

(3) Hong Kong RAPWI fit and ready for U.K. 54 Europe 9 Aust. 19 U.S.A. 12, Canada 2, S. Africa 4, India 3, Malaya 8. Sick ready for Hospital Ship lift for U.K. 1 Aust. 2 also sick in Hsvasna POW Dutch for Holland 10 cot 11 non cot for N.E.S. 5 cot 5 non cot. Deferred for U.K. 240. Europe 60 Aust. 62 FIC 3 U.S.A. 48 India 39 Canada 37 NEI NA 27 West India Chinese 133 Central and South America 158.

(4) Hainan RAPWI for India 15 (approx.) also Chinese for Hong Kong 500.

(5) Australia dated 31st December 1945 POW fit and ready for U.K. 122 Hong Kong 99 Malaya 25 NEI 3 Canada 1 Shanghai 2, India 5, Europe 1. Deferred 80 sick 31. Int for U.K.M. MOOLTAN 39 fit and ready for U.K. 74 Canada and U.S. 9 Malaya 21 Shanghai 2 N.Z. 13 East Indies 10 Hong Kong 17 S. Africa 1 deferred 1214.

(6) New Zealand no recent information see my 140600 December para. 8.

(7) Admiralty pass to War Office V.A.(Q) pass to High Commissioner for U.K. Canberra.

050347Z.

2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(0)
Secretary
Dep. Sec.
P.A.S.(0)
D. of E.
O.D. (9)
D.S.O.
A.C.N.P.(5)
C.W. (Cas)(3)
N.L. (6)

M.(20) for W.O.(DPD) &
for F.O.(FOW Dept)

C.N.I. (2)
M.D.G.
D. of P.(Q)(3)
D.Mov.(7)

~~W.E.~~

N.

D. of S.T.(10)
D.T.D. (2)
C.E. (1)

L. Br. } Bath (18)
C.E.II. } by
S.W.R.(6) } Courier

JM.
89.

5.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Japanese war crimes, U.S. team, Brit. participation. H. 315. Lt. Colonel Hendron representative of the U.S. Judge Advocate Shanghai who is in Tokio states that U.S. War Crimes Team is about to depart from Shanghai for Formosa or may have departed.

(2) Suggest British participation which it is understood would be welcome might be arranged through Comgen. China.

(3) U.S. Team is chiefly concerned with crimes committed against American Aviators though also briefed concerning crimes against British P.O.Ws. which number 1171 out of total of 1279 in Formosa.

(4) Reports on atrocities are contained in A. Report of present S.O. Shanghai as enclosure to C.S. (corrupt group).

B. Agas report to Comgen. China (dated 29th November.)

(Bristas Tokio, 050400Z to Machin (C.C.O. Hongkong pass))

See 2/1600-

Japan, mine clearance, etc.

My 010519 (N.T. in W.D.) Jan. Propose following further signal to C. in C. B.P.F., request you will comment.

(1) My 010519 Jan. Comminpac. has informed Cdr. 5th Fleet as follows:-

A. Existing Channel Buoys were laid by Japanese.

It is particular that further requirements should be fulfilled by Japanese under British supervision if and when Kure area is taken over.

B. Half of the 5 cable channels could be widened to advantage although U.S. Forces have found present channel satisfactory. No U.S. M/S will be available for this sweep before 1st Feb. and their availability after this date is under consideration.

(2) Com. 5th Fleet states there is an unknown number of pressure and magnetic mines in unswept area but the earliest pressure type should all have become sterile by mid-March. American authorities claim 99% reliability of sterilization Magnetic type not fitted with sterilizers.

(3) Provided action as in 1A is taken it would appear from report by F.O. Cdg. Australian Squadron that this would meet our requirements for maintaining (2 corrupt groups).

(C.T.F. 57, 050816Z to F.O. Australian Squadron.)

U.K. Liaison Mission in Japan.

IZ 219. GAIR 14.

(1) In accordance with F.O. 184 T.O.O. 012304 U.K. Liaison Mission in Japan has been formed officially as from Jan. 1st.

(2) For certain administrative reasons the effective opening date will be January 14th

when British Staff Section Tokio (Bristas) will cease existence.

(3) Please inform all concerned. If proposals in para. 4 of H. 303 January 3rd are approved would appreciate inclusion of this information in your notification.

(British Staff Section Tokio, 051200Z to Cabinet Offices.)

/Landing...

War Diary.

5.1.1946
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

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

Your 120636 Dec. para. 4.
Retention of L.S.T. will involve a considerable additional manning commitment which is most undesirable at present time. In view of importance of lift to Japan, however, concur in retention of these L.S.T. subject to review in mid-Jan. by which time over-all shipping position should be clearer.
(2nd S.L., 052253 to A.C.N.B., V.A.(Q)., C. in C. B.P.F.)

6.1.1946.
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

N.C.S.O.
Aden closing
down of.

N.C.S.O. Aden will close down as from midnight
31st Jan. 1946.

6.1.1946
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

ARBITER
G.P. carrier
on passage
to U.K.

Intend to sail ARBITER 1300A/6th Jan. via Necri
route S.T.O. Clyde.
2. Speed 14. E.T.A. 2000A/10th Jan.
6. ARBITER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 061217A to C. in C. Rosyth).

NEWCASTLE
cruiser
trooping.

Sail when ready to comply with C. in C. Plymouth's
021446 Jan.
2. Adjust speed as necessary to arrive Malta
1000A/8th Jan.
4. Acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A., 061219A to NEWCASTLE).

G.S.
TAYGETOS
Mishap.

Rudder broken again, now position a few miles
east of Gibraltar.
(TAYGETOS, 062026 to Admty, C. in C. Plymouth).

South Atlantic

ENTERPRISE
cruiser
trooping.

Intend to sail ENTERPRISE from Freetown at
2000 on 6th Jan. to Gibraltar for onward
routeing to Portsmouth. Speed of advance 19½
knots. E.T.A. to be reported direct. ENTERPRISE
to acknowledge and sail to comply.
(Capt. i/c W. Africa, 061535 to F.O.G.M.A.)

6.1.1946.
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

CARDIGAN
BAY
(Frigate)
towing
M.T.Bs.

On completion of exercises about 1500A/8th Jan. with draft for Alexandria embarked and with three M.T.Bs. in tow sail for Alexandria through position 36° 14' N., 14° 49' E. and thence by appropriate Medri route.

2. Adjust speed according to conditions of towing reporting P.C. and S. daily at 1200A and E.T.A. 24 hours in advance.

4. Capt. (L) is requested to arrange tug to meet CARDIGAN BAY off Alexandria to take over tow.

5. CARDIGAN BAY acknowledge.

(C. in C. Med., 061151A to CARDIGAN BAY).

WHELP
destroyer
on passage
from B.P.F.
to U.K. and
reserve.

E.T.D. Port Said 0700B Jan. 7th E.T.A. Gibraltar 1700Z Jan. 12th.

4. F.O.G.M.A. and N.O.I.C. Port Said. Acknowledge (WHELP 061245B to F.O.G.M.A.)

War Diary.

6.1.1946
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

N.C.S.O. Aden
closing down
of.

N.C.S.O. Aden will close down as from midnight
31st January, 1946.
(N.C.S.O. Aden, 061000C to Admty.)

LUCIA,
depot ship,
on passage
from E.I.
to U.K.

548C of 29.12.1945 sail from Aden as follows -
A. 1730C/17th Jan. B. Suez for U.K.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 061220C to LUCIA.)

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

548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Aden as
follows - A. 0900C/7th. B. Trincomalee. If in
difficulty through fuel shortage, proceed to
Colombo to fuel and thence to Trincomalee.
C. 10 knots. Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 061225C to LAERTES.)

6.1.1946
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PUNCHER,
 return
 to U.S.A.

Departures Halifax 1930Z/6th Jan. at 12 knots
 PUNCHER for Norfolk for return to U.S. E.T.A.
 Norfolk 1300Z/9th Jan.
 (C. in C. C.N.W.A. Halifax, 061940Z to Comeast-
 seafon.)

PARRET,
 on passage
 for return
 to U.S.A.

Your 051715Z addressed PARRET acknowledge by
 PARRET. At 2300Z/6 PARRET in position 39° 45' N.
 38° 22' W. course 270, speed 10.5 knots escorting
 F.D.T. 13 who has had engine trouble. PARRET
 and F.D.T. 13 rejoining detaching L.S.T. 200
 without PARRET to New York off Chesapeake, cargo
 welding disturbed but safe in fair weather, my
 P.C.S. at 2300Z/6 40° 28' N. 43° 58' W. 260°, 9 knots. Request
 that all signals for me be routed via Washington N.S.S. broad-
 cast or on 500 k/cs.
 (L.S.T. 214, 062359Z to B.A.D., C. in C. Plymouth.)

Far East and Australia.

FORMIDABLE,
 A/C, on
 passage to
 U.K.

Request FORMIDABLE be supplied with early infor-
 mation on following points so that necessary
 arrangements may be made during passage. A.
 Movements after arrival in U.K. B. Whether ship
 will pay off and if so whether she will restore.
 C. Long leave arrangements. D. If ship is to re-
 fit and probable duration.
 (C. in C. B.P.F., 060223 to Admty., A.C. 1.,
 FORMIDABLE.)

KEMPENFELT,
 WIZARD,
 destroyers,
 on passage
 to U.K.

Proceed direct to Trincomalee if unable to make
 Trincomalee owing to lack of fuel anchor at
 Galle and onward towage to Trincomalee will be
 arranged report as soon as possible if you intend
 anchoring at Galle and also your E.T.A.
 Trincomalee C. in C. E.I.'s 051236Z not to all
 refers. Acknowledge.
 (N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 060224Z to S.O. 27 D.F.,
 KEMPENFELT, WIZARD.)

Your 060224 acknowledged.

(2) E.T.A. Trincomalee KEMPENFELT and WIZARD 0530Z/14th Jan.
 (Capt. D.27, 061051Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle.)

7.1.1946
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BURGES,
frigate,
to be re-
turned to
U.S.A.

Your 051904 only received today. BURGES and
flotilla sailed 1000 today.
(N.A. Lisbon, 071035 to F.O.G.M.A.)

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

Intend to sail ROTHER 0800A/8th Jan. via Necri
routes to Chatham.
(2) Speed 12, E.T.A. a.m. 13th Jan.
(7) ROTHER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 071136A to ROTHER, Admty., C. in
C. Nore.)

AJAX, en
route to
R. Plate.

AJAX should proceed at 15 knots to Freetown.
Modified programme follows.
A.M. 291421 Dec. (N.T. in W.D.) refers.
(A.C.N.S.(O), 071735 to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic.

Movement.

Arrival ENTERPRISE 1200/6th, departure 2000/6th
Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 070857 to Admty.)

UNICORN,
A/C repair
ship on
passage to
U.K. from
B.P.F.

Intend to sail UNICORN to Devonport E.T.D. 1530/7
Jan. S.O.A. 15 knots, E.T.A. to be reported
direct. Ship to acknowledge and sail to comply.
(Capt. i/c W.Af., 071246 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

LAMERTON,
MIDDLETON,
destroyers,
on passage to
U.K. to re-
duce to
reserve.

Intend to sail LAMERTON and MIDDLETON to Gib.
for onward routeing to Chatham and Portsmouth
respectively at 0800/8th Jan. S.O.A. 14 knots,
ships will call at Las Palmas for fuel and
water E.T.A. Las Palmas a.m. Jan. 12th, E.T.D.
Las Palmas p.m. Jan. 12th, E.T.A. Gib. a.m. Jan.
15th. Ships to report when changing, R.O. Las
Palmas has been informed ships to acknowledge and
sail to comply.
(Capt. i/c W.Af., 071344 to F.O.G.M.A.)

7.1.1946
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SMILAX,
corvette, on
passage to
U.K. from
E.I.

Intend sailing from Alexandria 0700Z/9th, E.T.A.
Gibraltar 0700Z/16th, S.O.A. 11 knots.
(SMILAX, 070916Z to F.O.L.E.M.)

ROSEBAY,
corvette,
on passage
to U.K.
from E.I.

ROSEBAY sails Port Said 1330B/7, E.T.A. Gib.
a.m. 15th. Speed 10 knots.
(ROSEBAY, 070932B to F.O.G.M.A., Admty.)

CUMBERLAND,
cruiser,
trooping.

Sail on 8th Jan. as soon as possible after
embarking Commodore Mansergh to Gibraltar.
(3) Report E.T.A. at Gibraltar.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 071125 to CUMBERLAND, F.O. C.S.15)

AJAX to R.
Plate as
escort to
SS. HIGHLAND
MONARCH with
ex German
internees
from GRAF SPEE.

Your 011110.
It is considered that the interpretation placed
upon A.M. 081543 Dec. was unjustifiable and that
the announcement to the ship's company should
not have been made.
(2) Since however it has been made Their Lordships
approve the return of AJAX to the U.K. to give
leave within the period required to adjust
complement.
(3) AJAX should be instructed to report by signal
numbers and categories of ratings who will
require relief in March.

(4) The necessary amendments to A.M. 291421 Dec. will form the
subject of a separate signal.
(A.C.N.S.(O), 071309 to C. in C. Med.(Naples)) *see 232126 (A+W.1)*.

Transfer of
H.M. ships
& equipment
to Turks.

Your 082247 Dec. Can anticipated date of arrival
in Turkey of destroyer ex INCONSTANT and S/M
BURAK REIS now be ~~postponed~~ ^{postponed} please, as Turkish
Naval Staff are anxious to arrange for crews to
be ready in advance, (?Alex.) please pass to all.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 071825B to Admty.)

7.1.1946
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

C. in C. Ceylon, lapse of title. The title and appointment of Commander in Chief Ceylon lapses at 0200 hours on the 8th Jan. 1946. (C. in C. E.I., 070906 EF to E.I. Stn.)

Weekly report of M/S progress Nov. (1) Current operations, A. Serial 15, clearance of moored mines dividing G area J, IMI started by 4th H.S.F. on 29th Dec. Clearance of EFM 422 line. (a) completed 1st Jan. 12 Japanese dummy mines being swept flotilla then returned Penang to refuel. (b) Serial G B.Y.M.S. of 166th M.S.F. arrived Singapore 4th Jan. from Sourabaya after widening approach channel to 1 mile and sweeping total of 4 magnetic mines. (2) Future operations. A. 3 B.Y.M.S. of 152nd M.S.F. sail from Singapore 8th Jan. for Bangkok. Para. 2A of my 311220 Dec. refers. B. Intend 166th M.S.F. to sail for Penang about 15th Jan. for serial SF and H. (F.O. Malaya, 071025 to C. in C. E.I.)

F.S. DUQUESNE, cruiser. 548C of 29.12.1945. Sail Aden as follows - A. 0800C/8th Jan. B. Colombo. C. 15 knots. Acknowledge. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 071123Z to F.S. DUQUESNE.)

6th D.F. Take CARRON and CAVALIER under your orders and proceed to Singapore via Carimata Straits at speed of advance 14 knots, E.T.A. 1530 GH 9th Jan. (3) Acknowledge. (C.S. 5, 071515 GH to CARYSFORT.)

COLOSSUS, light fleet carrier. Sail from Kilindini as follows - A. 1000C/8th Jan. B. Durban. C. 14 knots. G. Acknowledge. (Capt. i/c Kilindini, 071600C to COLOSSUS.)

Repatriation of Its. in S.E.A.C. Admty.'s 031414A not to all. Confirmed that It. Ministry of Marine desires that ERITREA should proceed to Shanghai to establish contact with Italian Ambassadors to China and Japan. Para. 3 of C. in C. E.I. 171625 Dec.refers.

(2) Consider it undesirable that repatriates in ERITREA should be transferred to battleships in Bitter Lakes as in C. in C. E.I. 011421. (F.O.I.L., 071725A to C. in C. E.I.) See 091733 (Mediterranean)

MONKSHOOD, corvette, on passage to U.K. for reserve. Programme for MONKSHOOD leaving Trincomalee 12th Jan. for U.K.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Port</u> | <u>Leave</u> |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 22nd Jan. | Aden | 22nd Jan. |
| 28th Jan. | Suez/P.Said | 30th Jan. |
| 7th Feb. | Gibraltar | 8th Feb. |
| 12th Feb. | Devonport | - |

(C. in C. E.I., 071759 EF to MONKSHOOD, BEACHY HEAD)

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.)

No T.O.O. / 7th January

From. B.A.D.

Date. 18.1.46.

Recd. 0419.

O.T.P. T/K.

To. Admiralty.

GUARD.

Your 171623.0
Following is 081935. Top Secret Guard.

From. B.A.D.
To. C. in C. B.P.F.
Info. C.S.2. Admiralty.

C. in C. B.P.F.'s 150825/November. 0

C.S.2's 080745 December 0, and my 262013/November 4

(all being passed to Admiralty) should be read in conjunction with my 0815074. C. in C. B.P.F. pass to C.S.2.

Admiralty pass to C. in C. B.P.F. T.O.O. 081935. Ends.

BAD. No T.O.O. 187. Admiralty

- 0 Graded Guard Top Secret.
- 4 Graded Secret.
- ≠ Graded Confidential.
- * Passing action taken by War Registry.
- 0 Originated by War Registry calling for repetition of B.A.D. 081935 received undecypherable.

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

- Ad. Blake.
- W.D.
- D. of P. (Q) (3)
- Ad. Moore.

*LOT VESSEL
SIN YANGTSE
employment
Marchant
Shipping Account
from Japanese*

7.1.1946
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

H.M.C.S. Request permission to proceed at 1130Z/8 for
CRUSADER, San Pedro, California, en route to Esquimalt.
destroyer. Route coastwise. S.O.A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 1500Z/16
(CRUSADER, 071840 to Com. Panama Sea Frontier.)

Far East and Australia.

Hongkong, Following is a repetition of my 051217 begins.
coal supplies Addressed Nanking repeated F.O.W.A. from C. in
for. C. Hongkong. As a result of a visit of WOODCOCK
to Hongay it has been ascertained that some
3000 tons of coal is immediately available and
can be paid for in Hongkong dollars in Hongkong.
(2) We have a ship flying the Chinese flag ready to sail now
which could lift 7,000 tons per trip.
(3) Intend ship should be escorted at least on the first trip
in view of risk of piracy.
(4) The coal is urgently required for maintenance of essential
services in Hongkong and therefore it is proposed that should
sail not later than (6th) October (as received.)
(5) Request necessary clearance for this undertaking A.M.
031749 and 031759 refer.
(C. in C. Hongkong, 070218Z to Admty.)

QUEEN, Request you sail QUEEN p.m. 10th Jan. for U.K.
trooping carrying out the following programme.
to U.K.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| 15th Jan. | Fremantle | 17th Jan. |
| 25th Jan. | Colombo | 27th Jan. |
| 2nd Feb. | Aden | 2nd Feb. |
| 6th Feb. | Suez | End transit to P. Said |
| | | 7th Feb. |
| 12th Feb. | Gibraltar | 12th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Portsmouth. | |

(F.O.S.A., 070517 to A.C.N.B.)

Japan, U.K. Bristas has received instructions to form new
Liaison Mis- U.K. Liaison Mission Tokio with effect 1st Jan. '46
sion at Tokio. (2) Administrative reasons new Mission will not
commence to operate until 14th Jan.
(3) Ref. my letters BN Number 05950 dated 18th and
20th Dec. (not to Admty.) request urgently,
instructions regarding appointment Naval Adviser and staff to
Mission and position of B.N.L.O. Scap.
(4) Suggest following: A. Present British Naval Liaison Section
is transferred to return for duty on staff of British Naval
Adviser to Mission to date 14th Jan. B. Assume title of Naval

/Adviser...

War Diary.

7.1.1946
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Japan, U.K. Adviser U.K. Liaison Mission and Senior British
Liaison Mis- Naval Officer (Ashore) Japan, vice B.N.L.O. Scap
sion at Tokio. with effect from 14th Jan. pending the arrival
(Contd.) of any other officer who may be selected for
this appointment. C. New appointments are issued
accordingly.
(B.N.L.O. Scap, 070715 to C. in C. B.P.F.)
See 120830.

Visit of Departed Sydney 0732Z/7th Jan. KING GEORGE V
T.R.H. Duke wearing the personal standard of His Royal
& Duchess of Highness The Duke of Gloucester for Hobart route
Gloucester to direct. S.O.A. 13½ knots. E.T.A. Hobart 1730K/
Tasmania in 9th Jan.
KING GEORGE V. (F.O.I.C.(S), 070747 to N.O.I.C. Hobart.)

8.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

East Indies.

Commander in Chief Ceylon lapse of title. 1. The title and appointment of Commander in Chief Ceylon lapsed at 0200 today.

8.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RAJAH,
cruiser,
trooping.

Intend to sail RAJAH 1400A/8th Jan. to Plymouth.
(2) Speed 16, E.T.A. 0900A/11th Jan.
(6) RAJAH acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 081027A to RAJAH.)

FROBISHER,
cadet training
ship.

Intend to sail FROBISHER 0030A/9th Jan. to
Trinidad. A.M. 241858 Dec. refers.
(2) Speed 12, E.T.A. p.m. 20th Jan.
(4) FROBISHER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 081143A to FROBISHER.)

ENTERPRISE,
trooping.

E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800A/11th Jan.
(4) Have on board Bishop Of Lebombo who would
like to see Bishop or Dean of Gibraltar.
(5) Request berth may be allocated alongside.
(ENTERPRISE, 081244Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic.

Movements.

Departures UNICORN 1800/7th Devonport. H.M.
ships LAMERTON, MIDDLETON 0800/8th, Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 080846 to Admty.)

8.1.1946

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Lapse of title F.O. S/M's 211126 Dec. Concur with proposed
Capt. S/M 2nd title "Senior Officer Submarines" until arrival
S/M F. and re- of British submarines in Malta.
construction (2) Request dates when first submarines may
of 1st S/M F. be expected.
Mediterranean. (C. in C. Med., 080929 to Admty. F.O. S/Ms.)

VIRGINIA,
surveying
vessel on
passage to
U.K.

Sail at 0700A/9th Jan. by appropriate Med⁷⁴
route to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K.
(2) Speed 11 knots reported E.T.A. Gibraltar
24 hours in advance.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 081048 to VIRGINIA.)

Transfer of
M.M.S. and
B.Y.M.S.
on loan to
Greeks etc.

A.M. 021620.
(2) No counter instructions having been received
from Admiralty to the intentions expressed in my
120922 Dec. B.Y.M.S. 2033 was transferred on loan
to the Greeks on the 1st January. S.B.N.O. Greece
021810 refers. Difficulty has been experienced by
the Greek M/S authorities in arranging crews
for these ships and withdrawal now would com-
promise their M/S programme.

(3) Continued manning of all B.Y.M.S. on the Med. Station
with British personnel is no longer possible and on termination
of certain British minesweeping commitments more B.Y.M.S. will
become available for disposal. Rather than release these
B.Y.M.S. from the Med. it would be advantageous for them to be
manned by other nations thus reducing the work of British
flotillas in foreign waters.

(4) It is requested, therefore, that very early consideration
may be given to the release of B.Y.M.S. 2033 and 2190 to the
U.S.N. and for the U.S.N. to assign these 2 vessels to the
Greek Admiralty to replace those sunk during former M/S opera-
tions and that the policy outlined in para. 3 may be favourably
considered.

(5) A decision before the meeting of Med. Zone Mine Clearance
Board on 15th Jan. would be of great value and enable future
programme to be settled.

(C. in C. Med., 081243A to Admty.)

NEWCASTLE,
cruiser,
trooping.

Sail at 0800A/9th Jan. by appropriate Medri
route to Port Said for onward routeing to Colombo.
(2) Speed 20 knots reporting E.T.A. at Port Said
24 hours in advance.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 081613A to NEWCASTLE.)

War Diary.

8.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements.

Arrivals RECRUIT, RIFLEMAN, CHAMELEON, SCARAVAY.
Departures F.S. TOURVILLE.
(Com. i/c Trincomalee, 080900 EF to Admty.)

R.T. ENCORE, ENCORE sailed a.m. 8th Jan. towing Caisson for
towing Caisson Singapore A.M. 242215 Oct.*(N.T. in W.D.) refers.
to Singapore. ENCORE is allocated to B.P.F.
(C. in C. E.I., 081119 EF to F.O.M.F.A.)
* H.M. rescue tugs ENCORE and ALLEGIANCE
allocated for duty with B.P.F. on arrival at
destination.

Destroyer
Depot Ship
WOOLWICH for
Sabang and
Penang.

548C of 29.12.45 sail from Trincomalee as follows -
A. 1800/10th Jan. B. Sabang. C. 10½ knots.
WOOLWICH arrives Sabang a.m. 14th Jan. and departs
a.m. 15th Jan. for Penang. Acknowledge.
(Com. i/c Trincomalee, 081656 to WOOLWICH.)

SNOWFLAKE,
corvette,
on passage
from E.I. to
U.K. for
reserve.

548C of 19.12.1945 sail from Aden as follows -
A. 1200/9th. B. Suez for U.K. C. 9 knots.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 081730 to SNOWFLAKE.)

Rec 21 146 49A

SECRET

IN

America via India

081507/January

RECEIVED:—

From B.A.D. Washington

DATE 8.1.46.

TIME 2300

Naval Cypher X by Cable

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.]

Addressed C. in C.B.P.F.
Info., C.S. 2 Admiralty.

Reference C. in C.B.P.F.'s request to B.A.D. that the matter of the return of the former British Shanghai Pilot Boat Company Pilot Macrussey Hsin Yangtse should be taken up with the Navy Department, the Chief of Naval Operations now states that the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff have considered this matter.

3. They consider that the disposition of this vessel should be made in accordance with the principle enunciated in C.C.S. 928/1 (928,2,203 E) in effect the intention is expressed by the U.S. Chiefs of Staff that SCAP should control all recovered shipping as a matter of military expediency in order to expedite co-ordinated repatriation of Japanese Nationals and for the maintenance of a minimum Japanese convoy, though it is not intended to establish an absolute priority for such purposes.

3. The Chief of Naval Operations states that the vessel in question has been repaired and converted for employment in this Japanese repatriation service, an employment which has been strongly recommended by SCAP.

4. In view of this the U.S. Joint Chief of Staff feel that SCAP should return the HSIN YANGTSE until development of SCAP's resources would render her release from repatriation service available. SCAP is being requested to give the return of this vessel high priority when any vessels may be released. Admiralty pass to C. in C.B.P.F. Ø C. in C.B.P.F. pass to C.S. 2.

081507/

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L. (3)
- 4th S.L.
- D. S.L.
- V.G.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (0)
- Secretary
- U.S. (S)
- D.C. (2)
- O.D. (9)
- D.N.I. (5)
- M (4)
- D. of P. (3)
- D. of P. (Q) (3)
- D.T.D. (4)
- O.I.C. (2)
- Admiral Blake (4)
- Admiral Sir Henry Moore Room 510 B.1.

⚡(-) as received, but three groups partly corrupt.

Ø Passing action being taken by War Registry.

WT

*1st Lord
SIN YANGTSE
during ship
British*

8.1.1946.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia.Far East
Situation
Report.

(1) China. Pending negotiations at Chungking Nationalists are continuing their drive against the Communists in Eastern Inner Mongolia and Western Manchuria. Objectives are Communist H.Q. Kalgan and Chengteh the principle towns. Chengteh is threatened by Nationalist forces from east and south, Kalgan from west and southwest. In Manchuria only nominal Chinese forces have entered Mukden, main C.N.A. forces still at Sinmin 40 miles northwest awaiting result of Sino-Chinese negotiations for entry. Russians request time for removal of troops and equipment. Evidence of Russian removal of much industrial plant from Manchuria. Communists continue attack. Simicyain Chinese rail routes to the north with gains on the Nanking Tientsin railway in southwest Shantung. Nationalists still dependent on American lift by sea to reinforce armies in north-east China and Manchuria. H.Q. of Chinese Navy abolished and functions transferred to Naval Bureau of Ministry of War.

(2) French Indo-China. South of 16° French continue to extend perimeter of occupation but sporadic Annamite attacks occur within the occupied area. All Japanese will have been disarmed except for outlying garrisons and those on administrative duties in Saigon by 15th January.

(3) Java. Indonesian leaders are more co-operative towards the British. Peoples Security Army may be placed under British command to undertake evacuation of A.P.W.I. and rounding up of Japanese in central and eastern Java. Extremists maintain their activity and are increasingly stronger the further east they are encountered. Situation still difficult.

(C. in C. B.P.F., 080854 to Flag officers B.P.F., C. in C. E.I., Admty.)

RAJAH,
carrier,
trooping.

A.M. 031740 not to all. Sailing date of RAJAH will be 31st Jan.
(D.O.D., 081850 to C. in C. B.P.F., C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Hongkong.)

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

15th Cruiser
Squadron.

1. Flag of Rear Admiral H.R.G. Kinahan, C.B.,
C.B.E., was hoisted today in ORION as Rear
Admiral Commanding 15th Cruiser Squadron vice
Commodore 1st Class M.J. Mansergh, C.B., C.B.E.

War Diary.

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

AJAX,
cruiser,
on passage
to S.America.

Intend to sail AJAX 1800A/9th Jan. to Freetown.
A.M. 071735 refers.
(2) Speed 15, E.T.A. 0800Z/15th Jan.
(4) AJAX acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 090914A to AJAX, Capt. W.Af.)

S/M TRUMP.

Destination for TRUMP on arrival in U.K. is
Clyde to join 3rd S/M F.
(F.O.S/M, 091043Z to F.O.G.M.A., S/M 1, N.O.I.C.
Port Said.)

EVENLODE,
frigate,
KEDAH, on
passage from
E. Indies.

Intend to sail EVENLODE escorting KEDAH at 1339A/
19th Jan. to Plymouth. KEDAH for O/R to Barrow.
(2) Speed 8½ knots, E.T.A. Plymouth p.m. 15th Jan.
(5) If requiring fuel, water or shelter, ships
should enter Lisbon, Vigo or Corunna, S.O.
reporting intentions to F.O.G.M.A. or C. in C.
Plymouth and B.N.A. Lisbon or Madrid.
(8) EVENLODE acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 091614A to KEDAH, EVENLODE, see
101107A.)

South Atlantic.

H.M.A.S.
AUSTRALIA,
on passage
outwards.

Arrived H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA.
(Cdre. Durban, 090445 to Adnty.)

War Diary.

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Royal Hellenic Navy, transfer of ships to.
May reply now be made to my 3109/MED45/0065/4 dated 9th July, 1945, 3271/MED45/0065/4 dated 29th July, 1945 and 4428/MED45/0040/2 dated 10th Oct. 1945 concerning future of Royal Hellenic Navy.
(2) S.B.N.O. Greece has represented that the lack of a decision as to what ships will be made available to the Royal Hellenic Navy is rendering future policy, the manning of the Greek Fleet and minesweeping forces difficult to decide.
(C. in C. Med., 091034 to Admty., Info. F.O.L.E.M., S.B.N.O. Greece.) See 121303.

15th C.S. Change of Command.
Flag of Rear Admiral H.R.G. Kinahan, C.B., C.B.E. as Rear Admiral Commanding 15th C.S. has been hoisted in ORION today 9th January vice Commodore first class M.J. Mansergh, C.B., C.B.E., whose broad pendant was struck at sunset yesterday 8th Jan
(C. in C. Med., 091143 to Admty.)

S/M STUBBORN, on passage to U.K., breakdown.
STUBBORN is stopped in position 31° 56' N. 27° 17' E. Effecting repairs to main engines.
(2) Chief causes of breakdowns are worn piston and liners. All spares have been used on route from Fremantle and none are now carried as these have been unobtainable at ports of call.
(3) S/M one is requested to signal if up to six pistons 1940s class area available at Malta.
(4) If spares available intend to proceed to Malta.
(5) Further signal will be made giving E.T.A. and intentions when reply received from S/M one.
(STUBBORN, 091251B to Capt. S.1, F.O.L.E.M.) See 100001B and 100943.

STUBBORN's 091251B and S/M 1's 091747A (N.T. in W.D.) neither to SMILAX. Request you will divert SMILAX to escort and, if necessary, tow STUBBORN to Malta.
(C. in C. Med., 091813 to F.O.L.E.M.)

re ETHIOPIAN boom carrier on passage to U.K.
Your 041527 not to all approved to use available cargo space, delay to ship being reduced to absolute minimum.
(D. of Boom Defence, 091252 to C. in C. Med.)

RETRIEVER, cable ship, for U.K.
Sail at 1200A/10th Jan. to Gibraltar for onward routing to Plymouth.
(2) Speed 6 knots, routed by appropriate Medri route, E.T.A. a.m. 17th at Gibraltar, accurate time to be reported. (4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 091349 to RETRIEVER.)

/French...

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

French ships
on passage
to Indo-China
to visit
Alexandria
for stores.

Your 211104A Dec. not to second and third
addressees no objection to the proposal that on
their way to Indo-China French ships LA GRANDIERE,
LA GRACIEUSE, LA CAPRICIEUSE and ~~LE~~ COMMANDANT
DOMINE shall indent on Alexandria for Common User
Stores providing the period for which supplies are
issued does not exceed three months.

It is expected that the first three named ships
will arrive Alexandria toward the end of Jan. and
the last named in Feb. Port of departure Toulon.
Issue of stores would be under Mutual-Aid. French authorities
in U.K. have not been informed.
(Hd. of M. (Allied Supplies), 091639 to B.N.A. Paris, C. in C.
Med.)

Repatriation
of Italians
in S.E.A.C.,
ERITREA
(S/M tender)

Entirely concur F.O.I.L.'s 071725 para. 2.
(C. in C. Med., 091733 to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary.

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements. Arrived MEADOWSWEET, SNOWFLAKE.
Departed L.C.Qs. 500, 499, 390, 510, 489, 385,
L.C.H. 75.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 090900C to Admty.)

Movements of carrier TRUMPETER, and diversion to Haifa. Your 051022 not to all passed to Admiralty and TRUMPETER.
TRUMPETER leaves Port Said 23rd January for Gibraltar and could be diverted to Haifa, subject to Admiralty approval of delay to arrival in U.K. my 031652 refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 090957 EF to F.O.L.E.M.) See 121153.

37th M/S F. R.I.N. 548C of 29.12.1945 take KHYBER, BIHAR, BENGAL and BALUCHISTAN under your orders and sail from Bombay as follows.
A. 1200 EF 9th Jan. B. Trincomalee. C. 10.5 kts. G. Acknowledge.
(F.O. Bombay, 091057 EF to S.O. 37th M/S F. Admty.)

Carrier TRUMPETER. 548C of 29.12.1945.
Sail from Bombay as follows -
A. 1200 EF 10th Jan. B. Aden. C. 13 knots. Acknowledge.
(F.O. Bombay, 091647 EF to TRUMPETER.)

Persian Navy, gunboats for. A.M. 301034* Oct. and former correspondence.
(2) Would N.H.Q. India please say where the three gunboats are docking and when they will be ready for handing over to the Persians. If the Persian crews for these gunboats, who have had no experience of operating them since 1941, require refresher training, there is much to be said for arranging this discreetly in an Indian port. Would S.N.O. P.G. please remark on the need for such training bearing in mind that it might help us to foster our influence on the Persian Navy in the future.
(3) It is now proposed to give the Persians the 3 H.D.M.Ls. referred to in S.N.O.P.G.'s 120533* Sept. (not to N.H.Q. India) in replacement of the fourth Persian gunboat cannibalised to provide spares. Would S.N.O.P.G. please say if Persians will be able to man these or whether crews will have to be trained. C. in C. Med. 031104* Oct. not to N.H.Q. I. refers. H.D.M.Ls. should not be mentioned to the Persians at present.
(Hd. of M.I, 091846 to S.N.O.P.G., N.H.Q. India.) see 182220 -
* N.T. in W.D.

182220 -
+262032
+091948 Feb.
+011135 Feb.

War Diary.

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

KHEDIVE,
escort
carrier,
redelivery
to U.S.A.

Ref. F.O.I.C. Greenock's 031605. KHEDIVE will not arrive Halifax before a.m. Jan. 13th. Delay due to weather and mechanical defects.
(2) Dockyard assistance will probably be required for examination of H.P. turbine pinion bearings.
(KHEDIVE, 091005 to Admty., Admiral Air.)

H.M.C.S.
CRUSADER,
destroyer.

Request permission to proceed on completion fuelling at about 1800Z/9th Jan. to San Pedro, California, en route to Esquimalt, routed coast-wise, S.O.A. 15 knots, E.T.A. San Pedro 2150Z/17th January. My 090350Z not to all refers.
(CRUSADER, 091550Z to Cmdr. Seafrontier, Panama.)

FIFENESS,
M.S.(L.C.)

Compaseafron sail FIFENESS about 15th Jan. Canal Zone to New York to load. Comeaseseafron sail onward to Clyde.
(Opanav, 091650Z to C.P.S.F., C.E.S.F.)

Far East and Australia.

VICTORIOUS,
A.C.
trooping.

548C of 9th Dec. my P.C.S. 25° 43' S. 109° 30' E. 141, 20 knots, E.T.A. Fremantle 0330Z/10th Jan.
(2) Intend to sail soon as provisions have been embarked. My 071201Z (to N.O.I.C. Fremantle only)
(VICTORIOUS, 090131Z to F.O. Ceylon.)

There are in Australia 120 Naval ratings and 100 R.N.E.S. urgently required at Singapore. Their departure will also assist in the closing down of R.N. commitments in Australia.
(2) Request VICTORIOUS may return to U.K. via Singapore.
(3) No other lift can be foreseen. VICTORIOUS cannot be filled to full trooping capacity in Australia and these ratings will therefore not displace others propose that C. in C. E.I. completes the ship to full capacity.
(V.A.(Q) B.P.F., 090157 to Admty.)
Admty. 111539 to V.A.(Q) B.P.F.

ENCHANTRESS,
sloop, for
U.K.

Intend sailing ENCHANTRESS approx. at Tuesday 15th Jan. for Trincomalee delay is due to making good hull and engine room defects.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 090233Z to C. in C. E.I.S. Com. i/c Trincomalee.)

Programme for
S/Ms VIRTUE,
VORACIOUS, VOX
for U.K.

S.O. S/M Sydney's 310002 Dec. approved, except that submarines are to be routed via Trincomalee and not Colombo.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 090533Z to S.O. S/M Sydney, Admty.)

War Diary.

9.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia - Contd.

Heavy repair ship ARTIFEX for E.I.S. C. in C. E.I. 270820* Dec. Intend to sail ARTIFEX to Sydney shortly for restoring and docking thence to East Indies Station.
(2) Ship will have been two years abroad at 10th June, 1946 and I think should then proceed home to recommission.
(3) Whilst it is agreed that RANPURA should be employed at Singapore for the present, Admiralty confirmation is requested that ship is under operational control of C. in C. B.P.F. A.M. 070749* Nov. not to all para. B refers.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 090613Z to Admty.) * N.T. in W.D.

See 241601 (EF)
4 081957

M/S report China. C.P.F. weekly minesweeping report to Admiralty number four B.Y.M.S. 2153.
Arrived A. 8th M.S.F. completed clearance of submarine laid magnetic field. South of Bias Bay. 4 mines exploded. Flotilla leaves for Med.
12th Jan. B. 10th M.S.F. completing moored mine clearance of Lema Channel and entrance to Port shelter. C. 180th B.Y.M.S. continuing clearance of Tathong Channel. One moored and one magnetic mine exploded. D. Canton River clearance progressing.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 090812Z to Admty.)

Sumatra. R.N.L.O. 26 Div. 071831, not to all.
Craft required for evacuation at Pakan Baroe. All craft capable of lifting troops Pakan Baroe to Rempang and which can be (?) spared are required at Pakan Baroe on Jan. 25th for evacuation Report what craft will be available, giving lift of each to F.O. Malaya, repeat N.O.I.C. Batavia, R.N.L.O. 26 Div.
(F.O.M.F.A., 090940 to N.O.I.C. Palembang.)

War Diary.10.1.1946
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

DACRES, frigate, casualty. One rating badly burnt in engine room at 0715Z. Am proceeding Horta to hospitalize. LOSSIE in company. E.T.A. when known will be signalled direct. My estimated position at 0800Z 42° 09' N. 30° 42' W. course 155, 14 knots.
(DACRES, 100925Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Ref. my 101027Z not to Admty. and Plymouth. E.T.A. Horta 0330 G.M.T. would local authority prefer me to wait till daylight.
(DACRES, 101436Z to British Consul Horta.)

Destroyers on passage from B.P.F. to U.K. and reserve. Intend to sail WHIRLWIND (S.O.) and WAGER 1500A/10th Jan. to home ports.
(2) Speed 14. E.T.A. WHIRLWIND at Sheerness 1500A/14th Jan. WAGER at Portsmouth first light 14th Jan.
(6) WHIRLWIND acknowledge and sail ships to comply (F.O.G.M.A., 101005A to WHIRLWIND, Cs. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Nore.) See 110948A.

KEDAH, base ship from E.I. My 091614 Jan.* If weather and other conditions permit, KEDAH is to be detached as convenient to proceed Barrow unescorted without calling Plymouth.
(2) A.M. 212252 Nov. not to you refers.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101107A to EVENLODE.)
* Intend to sail EVENLODE escorting KEDAH at 1339/19th Jan. to Plymouth.

THORSHOVDI ashore, Gibraltar. During heavy weather experienced last week end fore half of THORSHOVDI dragged and finally parted her moorings and was eventually driven ashore in Gibraltar Bay 5 cables south westward of River Palmones Mouth. Ship has sustained no apparent damage. There is 19 feet of water at stern.
First attempt to tow off unsuccessful. Another attempt will be made after ship has been lightened probably a.m. 12th Jan. when prospects of salvage appear good. Intend to retain FRISKY at Gibraltar to assist. A.M. 291500* Dec. M.W.T. London's number 5890 to M.W.T.R. Gibraltar only and your 291301 Dec. not to all refer.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101122A to C. in C. Med. (Malta)) See 191505A
* Request confirmation no objection to towage of THORSHOVDI during Jan. or Feb.

SENNEN, cutter, on passage from E.I. to be returned to U.S.A. Intend to sail SENNEN 1000A/11th Jan. via Necri routes to Chatham.
(2) Speed 12, E.T.A. first light 16th Jan.
(6) SENNEN acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101505A to SENNEN, Admty.)

BURGES, frigate, escorting L.C.I.(L) for return to U.S.A. BURGES escorting 12 in number L.C.I.(L) will call at Bermuda about 26 Jan. for rest, repairs and provisions prior to resuming journey to New York.
(F.O.G.M.A., 101719A to C. in C. A.W.I.)

10.1.1946
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

S/M STUBBORN, Main engines repaired. Am under way speed 9 knots.
on passage (2) Position at midnight 9th 32° 38' N. 25° 54' E.
to U.K. (3) In view of S/M 1's 091747 shall proceed to

Gibraltar in accordance with your 051146.
(Your para. 3). Communications will be complied
with unless otherwise ordered.

(STUBBORN, 100001B to F.O.L.E.M., S/M 1.)

STUBBORN is to proceed to Malta reporting P.C.S. twice daily
at 0600A and 1800A to C. in C. Med. (R) SMILAX.

(2) SMILAX is to escort STUBBORN to entrance to Grand Harbour
then proceed to Gibraltar.

(3) STUBBORN's last reported position at 0001B/10th 32° 38' N.
25° 54' E. Speed 9 knots, estimated course 293°.

(C. in C. Med., 100943 to SMILAX, STUBBORN.)

STUBBORN's 100001 and S/M 1 091756 (N.T. in W.D.) neither to
all and C. in C. Med.'s 100943. WOLFE has already sailed and
spares are not available at Gibraltar.

(2) Observing STUBBORN is due to pay-off into reserve on arrival
in U.K. C. in C. Med. is requested to report if vessel is
considered fit to complete passage with or without escort.

(3) If unfit request STUBBORN remains at Malta or Gibraltar
until spares can be sent by first service opportunity.

(F.O. S/M, 101345 to C. in C. Med.)

Clearing of
minefields,
re Italian
participation
in.

Representations have been received from Italian
Minister of Marine that active contribution of
the I.R.N. to the work of clearing minefields
should entitle Italians to be represented on
board on equal footing with other interested
countries whose practical contribution to the
common task has in some cases been less. Para. 2

of 3rd revision of drafts agreement for clearance of mines
forwarded under A.L. M.01765/44 of 2nd April, 1945 refers.

(2) It would undoubtedly be advantageous to work of Med. zone
board if Italian representative became full member but
presumably at this stage, and until peace treaty is signed,
this could not be done. Request confirmation.

(3) Para. 5 of 2155/Med.45/20235/5 of 16th May, 1945, to
Admiralty only forecast the reaction of the I.R.N. in this matter.
(C. in C. Med., 101528 to Admty., F.O.I.L., Capt. M/S Med.)

see 221744.-

60

10.11.1946.
ThursdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

Movements Colombo 9th Jan. Arrivals BULOLO, CLEOPATRA. Departures COMET, GLENEARN, CLEOPATRA. (F.O. Ceylon, 100900 to Admty).

Corvette NIGELLA for U.K. 548C of 29th Dec. Sail from Singapore as follows: (a) 1100GH 11th Jan. (b) Trincomalee for onward routeing to U.K. Acknowledge. (F.O. Malaya, 101131GH to NIGELLA).

Air Sea Rescue Patrol. 548C of 29th Dec. Sailing Air Sea rescue patrol as follows:
(a) p.m. 16th Jan. Message My 101146 refers G.H. (b) Bangkok. (c) To position K 012° 30' N., (007°?) East thence to position H and via Q.C.A. 656 W C 83 and W C 117.
(d) Q C 246 Q.C.A. 673 W C 150. (f) V Broadcast.
(g) Acknowledge.
(F.O.M.F.A., 101206GH Info. Admiralty).

Postponement of transfer of L.C.P. (L's) to R.I.N. In view of a new Admiralty requirement the transfer of 18 L.C.P.(L's) referred to in my 191040 Dec. must be postponed and may be cancelled.
(S.O.R.N.E. India, 101250EF to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

D.S. JAN VAN BRAKEL M/S. Cancel my 091025 548C of 29.12.45. Take M.M.S. 1025, 1026, 1014, 1082 under your orders and sail from Colombo as follows:
(a) As convenient p.m./11th January.
(b) Singapore calling at Sabang.
(c) 10 M kts.
(g) R/V with M.M.S. from Trinco. in position 5° 54' N. 82° 10' E.
(i) Acknowledge.
(F.O. Ceylon, 101741EF to JAN VAN BRAKEL.)

L.S.H.(L) BULOLO Passage from E.I.S. to U.K. Sailing from C.B.O. 12th for U.K. routed as follows: Arrive Bombay 15th Jan. Arrive Aden 24th Jan. Arrive Suez 28th Jan. Arrive Gibraltar 7th Feb. Arrive U.K. 13th Feb. 2. Request air and sea mail be directed accordingly.
(BULOLO, 101830EF to Admty, Ceylon).

10.14.1946.
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia

BERWICK
cruiser
trooping.

Departed Fremantle 0005Z/~~19~~th Jan. BERWICK for Colombo E.T.A. 0430Z/17 Jan. F.O.S.A's 290223 not to all refers. S. of A. 18 knots direct route.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 100452 to F.O.I.C. Sydney).

QUEEN
carrier
trooping.

Departed Sydney 0645Z/10th Jan. QUEEN for Fremantle for onward routing to U.K. F.O.S.A.070517 not to all refers. Route direct. S. of A. 15 knots. E.T.A. breakwater 1200K/16th Jan.
(F.O.I.C. Sydney, 100648 to QUEEN, A.C.1, N.O.I.C. Fremantle).

VICTORIOUS
A.C.
trooping.

Departed Fremantle 0800Z/10th Jan. VICTORIOUS for Sydney E.T.A. Sydney 2330Z/14. Direct. S. of A. 20 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 101005Z to F.O.I.C. Sydney, F.O.S.A.)

Re occupation
forces
Japan.

JCOSA 6. 1. To avoid possible misunderstanding in mounting and movement instructions connected with B.C.O.F. all dates will be stated in relation to symbol K which will be (1) First Feb.

2. All movements connected with B.C.O.F. will therefore from now onwards be expressed as K plus or minus day.
3. K stands for Kure.
(Defence, Melbourne, 101545Z to Cabinet Offices, Army H.Q., India, C. in C. B.P.F.)

Visit of
C. in C.
Hong Kong
to General-
issimo Chiang
Kai Shek.

For Chiefs of Staff.
I returned today Thursday from a three day visit to Chungking where I had a most friendly welcome from all quarters. I stayed one night with Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek at his house in the country and amongst other things he spoke of the importance of the co-operation between Hong Kong and other ports on the South China Coast and said he hoped I would go and visit Amoy and

Swatow. Intend to visit the ports in a few weeks and with concurrence of C. in C. B.P.F. shall proceed there in one of H.M. Ships. Generalissimo also said he hoped to find time to come to Hong Kong and see some of the ships of the B.P.F.
(C. in C. Hong Kong, 102350Z to Cabinet Offices).

War Diary.

11.1.1946
Friday.

GENERAL.

Lapse of title Capt. S/M 2nd S/M F. and abolition of title Comdr. S/M 1. 963A. The title of Captain S/M 2nd S/M F. lapsed from 7th Nov. 1945 and the 2nd S/M F. has been considered disbanded from that date. (2) On arrival of WOLFE at Malta, where she will be taken in hand for long refit, the title of Commander S/M 1 will be abolished, and the duties of S.O. Submarines will be taken over by C.O. WOLFE from that date. (3) Submarines will not be attached to WOLFE until maintenance personnel are available. (4) When submarines are again stationed in the Mediterranean the 1st S/M F. will be reconstituted. The C.O. WOLFE will then assume the title of Captain S/M 1. (A.C.N.S.(O), 111459 to A.G.M. 963A.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Destroyers on passage from B.P.F. to U.K. and reserve. Ships in my 101005A are proceeding independently. (2) WAGER left Gibraltar 0145 11th Jan. E.T.A. Portsmouth amended to 1000Z/14th Jan. (F.O.G.M.A., 110948A to Cs. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth.)

Cruiser ENTERPRISE, trooping. Intend to sail ENTERPRISE 1800A/11th Jan. to Portsmouth. (2) Speed 17½, E.T.A. Portsmouth 15th Jan. (3) Ship will call at Devonport 1200Z/14th Jan. to land draft. ENTERPRISE acknowledge and sail to comply. (F.O.G.M.A., 111024A to ENTERPRISE, Cs. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth.)

Frigate DACRES returning to U.S.A. Berthed Horta E.T.D. 1330Z. (DACRES, 111044Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)

11.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Lapse of
title of
Capt. S/M
2nd S/M F.
etc.

Your 211126 Dec. 1945 approved.

(2) In view of acute manning position administrative and repair staff to enable WOLFE to be utilized as a depot ship during refit cannot be provided at present.

(3) Submarines, therefore, will not proceed to Malta until WOLFE can be so manned. (C. in C. Med.'s 080929 Jan. refers.)

(A.C.N.S.(O), 111500 to F.O. S/M.)

Destroyer
MARNE with
Parliamentary
Sec. to Admty.
and Med. mine
clearance
board repre-
sentative to
Naples.

With the Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty and British representatives of the Mediterranean Mine Clearance Board embarked, sail at 0600A/13th January as direct as safe navigation permits to Naples.

(2) Speed 15 knots to Messina thence adjusting speed to arrive Naples 0800A/14th.

(3) Sail from Naples to arrive Catania by 1100A/15th and there embark leave party for passage to Malta reporting E.T.A.

(4) Communications - constant watch on Malta broadcast. (5) Acknowledge.

(C. in C. Med., 111639A to MARNE.)

War Diary.

11.1.1946
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Volunteers
for appoint-
ment as
Historian
R.I.N.

Volunteers are required from reserve officers of the rank of Lieut. Commander and below who are deferred volunteers or D.V. one or D.V. two for appointment as Historian to write up the history of the R.I.N. during the present war. (2) Names of volunteers are to be signalled to N.H.Q. and written applications which should contain details of the applicants qualifications are to be forwarded without delay. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 111045 EF to R.I.N. General Message.)

Sitrep 717. First. Burma. 17 Div. 3 Japanese deserters 5 Dacoits arrested in Divarea.
Second. Andamans. N.T.R.
Third. Malaya. 9 Jan. Coy. 1 Northhamptons Exkota Tinggi VP 9161 to Singapore. Civil police took over from Coy. 1 Northhamptons at Endau one Pl. remains.
Fourth. N.E.I. East Java. 9 Bde. 9 Jan. Patrol 332 Punjab encountered ten Indonesians 492638 when engaged by arty. enemy fled. Patrol 3 JAT found unarmed Indonesians swimming the canal 547757 FS Sec. interrogating. Two hundred looters dispersed 529711. 123 Bde. Patrol 1 Dogra fired on Fabaso M.M.G. at Rd. Block 264808 no cas. Locns. Sqn. 11 Cav. 571812.
Central Java. Rd. Semarang - Coengoenpati (or Goengoenpati) RV 8900 cleared to 868074. Twenty Indonesians with three L.M.G. encountered R.F.C. 891118. Own cas. killed one G.O.R. wounded one B.O.R. Enemy (?own) posn. 873093 found evac. signs own C.B. fire very accurate. Tps. now investigating reported enemy concs. Tembalang RV 8904 and Drondol (or Srondol) Wetan RV 9603. Adv. party 5 Para. Bde. arrived Semarang.
West Java. Batavia. Searches continued nothing found. (?Intermittent) shooting night 8/9 Jan. Klender 0686 no develop- ment. 5 Para. Bde. continue to embark. Buitenzorg. Quiet. Search N.W. sector began 10. Bandoeng. Patrolling continues. Three Eurasian Prisoners returned by Indonesians on expiration sentence. Sotojo promises warn Indonesians conc. south of Rly. not to approach closer.
Sumatra. Padang. Raid aided by Civil Police on area 295953 in connection recent kidnapping. Ten suspects detained for FS interrogation.
Fifth. Siam. Six hundred and five I.N.A. ten civilians conc. Klongtoi (or Slongtoi) Docks. Eight civilians one I.N.A. deserter still to be conc. These personnel to embark in Jaladurga 11 Jan. 10 F.A.N. H.Q. 114. Bde. moved Bangkok Comd. Lopburi passes to 1 R Jat.
Sixth. FIC. 10 Jan. 1/1 Gr. in Ops. in conjunction with French met opposn. area 1773 own cas. nil rebel cas. not known. 4/10 Gr. met oppose area Vinh Phu Thon. One G.O.R. wounded one rebel killed fifty five suspects arrested. Laithieu, two blind grenades thrown. One rebel killed four captured. French forces. Ops. area RG 8123 North Binh Tanh RG 8120. One Frenchman wounded six rebels killed M.G. captured. Cantho Sector. Long Xuyen RG 7106 occupied against lt. opposn. Fifty P.W. taken. Two Frenchman killed during occupation Sadec RN 1195.

/Seventh...

11.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Sitrep 717. Seventh. Hongkong. 0001 hrs. 9 Jan. 150 Bde. (Contd.) relieved 3 C.D.O. Bde. duties Kowloon. 10 Jan. 1 Jaipur Gds. disembarked Exhmt Ekma and Est. Lyemun Barracks 622982. All informed. (Alfsea, 111205 to W.O. etc.)

SHILLAY, danlayer Request you will sail SHILLAY to escort B.Y.M.S. to join 8th SHILLAY will be held to join 8th M.S.F. in Ceylon. M.S.F. A.M.S. 050203 and 071759 N.T. in W.D. refers. (C. in C. E.I., 111222 EF to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

Cancelled by C.C.E.I. 241207 EF Com. Aden

BULLFROG, Intend to sail BULLFROG 16th Jan. from Colombo cable ship to U.K. Propose following programme:- for U.K.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Colombo | 16th Jan. |
| 20th Jan. | Bombay | 24th Jan. |
| 30th Jan | Aden | 31st Jan. |
| 7th Feb. | Suez | 8th Feb. |
| 8th Feb. | Port Said | 9th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Alexandria | 24th Feb. |
| 5th March | Gibraltar | 6th March |
| 15th March | Devonport | - |

- (2) Weigh H.D.A. off Versova Creek while in Bombay.
- (3) Transit canal daylight 8th Feb.
- (4) Fuel Bombay - Aden - Alexandria - Gibraltar.
- (C. in C. E.I., 111229 EF to Admty., C. in C. Med.)

Sitrep No. A. 80 (?Bde.) Relieved of all op. commitments 53 to 1700 1600 hours, 11 Jan. 109 (or 100) Bde. Sitrep hrs. 11 Jan. No. 52. 4/10 Gr. op. area 2266. Total 7 rebels killed. Maps VM does pistols, grens. and 2007 (or 2000) rds. S.A.A. captured. 120 P.W. and suspects incl. 100 Tonkinese. Bien How. Night 10/11 Jan. rifle and L.M.G. fire from crossroads 3674 silenced by own fire. 555 (or 575) sub-area. Assumed responsibility for British sector Saigon wef 1600 hrs. 11 Jan. with under command 2/8 Punjab and M.G. J.A.T. less one coy. French forces. Moc Ninh (or Loc Ninh) area. 3 French wounded in VM (or VP) ambush. 9 Jan. ops. east Than Thoung (or Thuong) RJ 2650 15 suspects arrested. QIP Dinh (or Gia Dinh). Gren. incident. No cas. 3 arrests.

B. N.T.R. C. 114 Fd. Regt. left Fic for Malaya 10 Jan. 16 (or 96) Cav. less one sqn. embarked today.
D. 80 Bde. 10 Jan. coy. M.G. J.A.T. area 211170 (or 211570) relieved by French. Coy. 4 Dogra 202508 relieved by French. 11 Jan. coy. 2/8 Punjab rejoined bn. 11 Jan. bty. 23 Mtn. Regt. returned Saigon ex 100 Bde. All infm. (Alffic, 111905 to W.O., S.A.C.S.E.A., Alfsea.)

Forces in Malaya, re-constitution of. Following from Chiefs of Staff. Ref. you S.A.C. 2097 cipher 21st Dec. We consider that Service Ministries should deal with you on matters of policy affecting local forces in Malaya. On matters of detail Ministries will continue to deal direct with Cs. in C. S.E.A.C. Service Ministries will maintain necessary liaison with Colonial Office to whom presumably responsibility for local forces will revert when that department resumes civil administration in Malaya. (S.A.C.S.E.A., 1121482 to Cabinet Offices.)

11.1.1946
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Lend-lease
frigate
SHIEL.

Lend-lease vessel SHIEL will shortly be available for re-delivery to U.S. authorities with British crew and should be ready to leave U.K. about 8th Feb. Request you will signal port to which vessel should be sailed.
(Hd. of M.II, 111507 to B.A.D. Washington.)

BASUTO, boom
defence vessel
(Trinidad to
U.K.) R.F.A.
WAR BRAHMIN,
tanker.

BASUTO in company with R.F.A. WAR BRAHMIN sailed for U.K. via Azores at 0700Z/11th Jan. S.O.A. to Azores 7 knots. WAR BRAHMIN leaves BASUTO at Azores where latter coals and subsequently sails direct ~~from~~ Humber at 7 knots. On leaving BASUTO, WAR BRAHMIN proceeds independently direct to Portsmouth at 9 knots. Request destination of BASUTO on Humber be communicated direct to ship. E.T.A. BASUTO Horta p.m. 21st Jan. Humber

31st Jan. provided delay at Horta does not exceed 48 hours
E.T.A. WAR BRAHMIN Portsmouth 27th Jan.
(Com. 1/c Bermuda, 111702Z to Admty.)

Far East and Australia.

A/C Carrier
INDEFATIGABLE
with destr.
UNDAUNTED
from B.P.F.
to U.K.

Request you sail INDEFATIGABLE with UNDAUNTED in company from Melbourne for U.K. at 2200/30th Jan. to carry out following programme all times Z.

| E.T.A. | Place | E.T.D. |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 0001Z/5th Feb. | Fremantle | 1000Z/5th Feb. |
| 0400Z/20th Feb. | Capetown | 0800Z/24th Feb. |
| 0600/5th March | Freetown | 1800Z/5th March |
| 1600Z/11th March | Gibraltar | 1700Z/12th March |
| | Daylight 16th March | Portsmouth |

(2) Admiralty is requested to divert mail accordingly. Mails for A.C.I. and staff should continue to Sydney.
(T.O.S.A., 110054 to A.C.N.B.)

See 310534 Z.

A/C Compo-
nent repair
ship DEER
SOUND from
B.P.F. for
U.K. and to
carry bullion.

Intend DEER SOUND leaving Sydney about 20th Jan. for U.K. should call at Melbourne to lift 1,000,000 pounds worth of bullion.
(From A.C. 1, amended by 120022, from F.O.S.A., 110122 to Admty.)

Australian
ratings and
R.N.Es. in
Australia for
Singapore taken
passage in
VICTORIOUS
returning
U.K.

Your 090157 approved.
(D.O.D., 111539 to V.A.(Q) B.P.F.)

+
+
UK

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

Greece.
Operational
control of
area adja-
cent to.

1. As from 0001A February 1st the operational control of the area adjacent to Greece but not the Dodecanese will be transferred from F.O.L.E.M to C. in C. Mediterranean.

Far East and Australia.

Japan,
British
Liaison
Mission.

2. Captain Grant is appointed Naval Advisor British Liaison Mission Tokio on establishment of Mission.
He will be senior British Naval Officer (ashore) Japan until appointment of Commanding Officer British Shore Party.

War Diary.

12.1.1946
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

DACRES and
LOSSIE,
frigates,
on passage,
returned
to U.S.A.

DACRES and LOSSIE arrived Horta, Azores and
departed a.m. 11th Chief E.R.A. Cloie D/MX
53927 and A/B Rhodes P/JX 32209 discharged to
R.N.S.Q. Horta.
Admiralty please pass to C. in C. Plymouth.
(N.O.I.C. Azores, 120035Z to Admty. London.)

VIRGINIA,
surveying
vessel.

Intend to sail VIRGINIA 2000A/12th Jan. to
Plymouth for disposal.
(2) Speed 11, E.T.A. p.m. 16th Jan.
(7) VIRGINIA acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121055 to VIRGINIA.)

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operational control of area adjacent to Greece, transferrance of from F.O.L.E.M. to C. in C. Med.

As from 0001A Feb. 1st the operational control of the area adjacent to Greece, but not the Dodecanese will be transferred from F.O.L.E.M. to C. in C. Med.
(2) S.B.N.O. Greece will remain a minor operational authority under C. in C., responsible for an area bounded by a line joining following points:-
A. Dalmatian coast in lat. 40 N. (of) all positions are N. and E. unless otherwise indicated.

040° 00' 019° 20'. C. 036° 23' 019° 00' D. 034° 30' 024° 00' E. 034° 30' 027° 00' F. 036° 00' 026° 00' G. 037° 25' 026° 20' H. Turkish Territorial waters in 037° 35' N. thence along 3 mile limit from coast of Turkey to J. Turkish Greek Border.
(3) At same time the western limits of Levant and Eastern Med. area will be altered to a line joining the following position:-
Z. C Cape Misurata (032° 25' N. 015° 25' E.)
C. 036° 23' N. 072° 00' E. thence through position D. to J. inclusive above.

(4) S.B.N.O. Greece will be responsible direct to the C. in C. Med. for the administration of R.N. personnel in the area outlined in Para. 2 above and for all matters connected with the Greek Navy.
143B of 4th Dec. is cancelled by 155B of 10th Dec.
(C. in C. Med., 121016 to Med. Station G.M. 159B.) *See 281224-1301519.*

CONTEST, destroyer, for B.P.F.

Sail at 0800A/14th Jan. as direct as safe navigation permits to Ras el Kanayis, to arrive 0730A/16th January.
(2) Carry out fuel consumption trials on passage.
(3) Carry out bombardment at Ras el Kanayis in accordance with M.S.L. 101017 to F.O.L.E.M. repeated CONTEST.

(4) Thence proceed to Port Said to arrive a.m. 17th making E.T.A. signal. From Port Said CONTEST is to be sailed for B.P.F.

(6) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 121135 to CONTEST, Capt. D.8, C. in C. B.P.F.)

Carrier TRUMPETER, and diversion to Haifa.

Ref. C. in C. E.I. 090957. Can a delay of 48 hours be accepted in TRUMPETER's return to U.K. Staff College Haifa are very anxious that students go on board a carrier before end of their course.
(F.O.L.E.M., 121153B to Adnty.)
See Adnty. 141929 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Royal Hellenic Navy, transfer of ships to.

C. in C. Mediterranean's 091034. Approved in principle to transfer on loan to Greek Government (a) 2 HUNTS type II or III to bring escort flotilla up to 8, (b) 2 U class submarines bringing flotilla up to 6, in return 2 obsolete submarines of Greek origin to be paid off, (c) 8 ISLE class M.S/A.S. trawlers now in the Med. and due to pay off in May, 1946, (d) 2 M.Ls. bringing flotilla

SHAKESPEARE or

/up...

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Royal Hellenic Navy, transfer of ships to. (Contd.) up to 8, these to be converted for minesweeping from station resources. (2) Further signal will be made regarding implementation of this signal.

(Hd. of M.Branch I, 121303 to C. in C. Med., S.B.N.O. Greece.) *see FOS/171816H Adm. (F.E. & A.I.) and Adm 171817 (S.A.)*

NEWCASTLE, cruiser.

Departed Suez Bay for Aden 1715B/12th January. Constant watch on Alexandria broadcast. E.T.A. will be reported 24 hours before arrival. (NEWCASTLE, 121745B to Com. Aden.)

Com. Adm. 221838 Feb. Adm.

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

COLOSSUS,
light fleet
carrier.

My position at 0130Z/12 23° 29' S. 36° 20' E.
course 21, speed 14 knots.
(2) E.T.A. Durban 1000B/13.
(COLOSSUS, 120911C to F.O. Ceylon, Admty.)

TARANTULA,
gunboat,
disposal of
by sinking.

Hulk of TARANTULA is to be towed into deep
water and sunk on completion of present service.
Any item of use and any fitting likely to be of
substantial value is first to be removed. A
report giving list of items removed and their
condition will be required. Report action
taken and position of sinking. A.M. 242120
March, 1945 refers.
(C. in C. E.I., 120940 to Com. i/c Trincomalee.)

See 021549 May -

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

L.S.T. 214, My P.C.S. at 1030Z/12th, 36° 52' N. 57° 43' W.
F.D.T. 13, 250° 5.5 knots. L.S.T. 200 in company. In
L.S.T. 200 view of intensifying storm in position 42 N.
on passage. 80 W. F.D.T. 13 and L.S.T. 200 are proceeding
to Bermuda.
(L.S.T. 214, 121230Z to N.O.B. Bermuda, Admty.)

Greek Navy, Information received that C. in C. Mediterranean
temporary loan has authorised temporary loan to Greek Navy of
of B.Y.M.S. B.Y.M.S. 2033 and B.Y.M.S. 2190 without prejudice
to future disposition. B.Y.M.S. 2033 transferred
on 1st Jan. B.Y.M.S. 2190 to be transferred on
the 14th Jan. These transfers to replace 2
Greek B.Y.M.S. which have been sunk during minesweeping opera-
tions. This is considered most desirable owing to operational
necessity and to maintain uniformity in the Greek Flotilla
thereby simplifying operation and maintenance.
(2) It is regretted that U.S. Navy Department was not consulted
before this temporary loan was authorised. Request you will
seek covering approval of this loan as a matter of urgency.
If necessary Greek Navy will be directed to make direct
application for loan of these vessels to Washington.
(3) Comnaveu has been consulted and while being sympathetic
is unable to give covering authority in the absence of a definite
policy from Washington concerning the future disposition of
Lend-Lease minesweeping forces. It is understood that the
Central Mine Clearance Board is proceeding on the assumption
that vessels will continue to be available for mine clearance.
(4) You will appreciate that shortage of British personnel
and the magnitude of the mine clearance task will make it
essential for further minesweeping vessels (including B.Y.M.S.)
to be manned by Allied Navies in the future.
(Hd. of M.Branch I, 121533 to B.A.D. Washington, Comnaveu,
C. in C. Med.) See 141519 B.A.D. Washington. r 1915/52

Chilean Navy re acquire- Following for Director of Naval Intelligence
ment of 2 from Naval Attache, begins -
frigates. Commander in Chief of Chilean Navy states he is
today telegraphing Chilean Naval Attache London
asking him to endeavour to obtain Admiralty's
prices and terms on which they could acquire
two frigates.

Chilean Navy have lately been in touch with Canadian War
Assets Corporation who had offered ships at approx. U.S.
dollars 100,000 each without armament. Considering deal closed
Chilean crews for two ships sailed hence Jan. 1st in ARAUCANO
but Corporation has now withdrawn and Chileans consider them-
selves let down.

They are anxious to acquire two of these ships at earliest date
possible and in the event of being successful in Great Britain
would send ARAUCANO across from New York with crews. They
would prefer vessels with armament if possible. Ends.
I feel if we can oblige Chileans they would regard it a
personal favour which would not be forgotten.
(Santiago de Chile, 121642 to Foreign Office.)

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

| | |
|--|--|
| DEER SOUND A/C component repair ship for U.K. | Correction to D.T.G. 110122 groups 65 (re sailing of DEER SOUND from Sydney for U.K.) This signal was originated by F.O.S.A. not F.O.A.C.I. C.C.O. Sydney, 120022 to Admty.) |
|--|--|

| | |
|---|---|
| Loan of cor- vette and boom defence vessel to Chinese Maritime Customs. | Request I may be informed whether decision can now be given concerning the loan of a corvette and boom defence vessel to the Chinese Maritime Customs. N.A. Chungking 080329 Oct. and 020520 (N.T. in W.D.) Nov. refer. (2) An early and favourable reply would I consider have an excellent effect. (C. in C. B.P.F., 120503Z to Admty., C. in C. Hongkong.) |
|---|---|

See 242302.

| | |
|---|--|
| Japan. Disposition of Br. forces. | Following is text of Britel 67 which is being passed to you for information quote ref. Arminia 245019/SD 5 of 3rd Jan. and our Britel 62 of 8th Jan. subject to detailed R/C which is now taking place we anticipate possible locations of B.C.O.F. in Hiroshima prefecture may be as shown below. The distances quoted are A. Force HQ and one Bde. Gp. on Etajima Island five miles west. B. Base and sub-area HQ Kure. C. HQ Beindiv Kure or Hiro five miles southeast. D. Bde. Gp. Hiro. Bde. Gp. Kaidachi 10 miles north Bde. Gp. Fukiyama Onomichi Mihara 50 miles east. E. One Bn. in rotation Sokio. F. Hospitals Etajima Island. (2) Northcott not yet decided particular allocation of areas to Bdes. (3) Inter Bde. reliefs in above areas proposed. (Britel, 120600Z to Admty.) |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| re Lift for R.A.P.W.I. from Nether- lands E.I. to Australia. | Your 052000 and F.O.S.A.'s 310242 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all. Since requirements for lift of Australians had lapsed IMPLACABLE did not sail for Labuan and other arrangements which can not now be changed have been made for her future employment. (2) ANSON, VENGEANCE and APOLLO are already in Australian waters for refit or other duty. (3) I regret it is not at present possible for B.P.F. to assist with lift for R.A.P.W.I. from Ne. E.I. to Australia. (C. in C. B.P.F., 120748 to Alfsea.) |
|--|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| Japan. U.K. Liaison Mission at Tokio. | My 070715Z and your 100343 not to Com. 5th Fleet Request necessary promulgation that as from 0001/14th Jan. should be addressed as Naval Adviser to U.K. Liaison Mission Japan on purely naval administrative and technical matters. Suggest short title N.A. Tokio. (2) Britas has requested Cabinet Offices to promulgate that all other matters should be addressed to U.K. Liaison Mission Japan. (B.N.L.O. Scap, 120830 to C. in C. B.P.F.) |
|--|--|

/B.N.L.O. ...

12.1.1946
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Japan. U.K.
Liaison
Mission
at Tokio.
(Contd.)

B.N.L.O. Scap 070715 Jan. and A.M. 010104 Jan.
(2) Captain Grant is appointed Naval Adviser,
British Liaison Mission, Tokio, on establishment
of Mission, and will cease to be B.N.L.O. Scap.
(3) He will be Senior British Naval Officer,
(Ashore) Japan, temporarily, until appointment
of Commanding Officer, British Shore Party.
(4) He may communicate direct with Admiralty as
necessary, using title "Naval Adviser, B.L.M.
Tokio", C. in C. B.P.F. 060445Z Sept. refers.
(Hd. of M.I, 121332 to C. in C. B.P.F.,
B.N.L.O. Scap.)
See C. in C. B.P.F. 140725 Admty.
Admty. 141357 C. in C. B.P.F.

War Diary.

13.1.1946
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

WHELP, Intend to sail WHELP 0800A/14th Jan. to
destroyer, Portsmouth carrying out full power trials on
on passage. WHELP's 010829C Jan. refers.
from B.P.F. (2) E.T.A. 1000A/17th Jan.
for reserve. (6) WHELP acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 131058 to WHELP, C. in C. Portsmouth)

BURGES, Intend to sail BURGES (with S.O. of 280 L.C.I.
frigate, (L) Flotilla embarked) escorting L.C.H. 98,
landing craft 269, L.C.I.(L) 134, 164, 184, 193, 210, 268, 291,
for return 375, 378, 387 at 1000A/14th Jan. to Bermuda for
to U.S.A. O/R to New York.
(2) Speed 10. E.T.A. to be reported when known
to C. in C. A.W.I. (R) Admty.)
(3) On leaving Gibraltar flotilla is to shape
course for Salvage Island. On reaching lat. 31 N. a westerly
course along this lat. may be set if weather is favourable. If
unfavourable course should not be altered to the west until
reaching a more southerly lat. S.O. is to decide when to leave
this lat. to shape course for Bermuda.
(4) S.O. is to signal P.C.S. and weather report at 1200Z
daily to F.O.G.M.A. while east of long. 40 W. thereafter to C.
in C.A.W.I. both repeated Admiralty.
(8) L.C.I.(L) 379 is detained Gibraltar with major defects.
Further report will be made.
(9) S.O. Flotilla acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 131152A to S.O. 280 L.C.I.(L) Flotilla, C. in C.
A.W.I.)

WOLFE, Intend to sail WOLFE 1600A/14th Jan. via Medri
depot ship. routes to Malta.
(2) Speed 14, E.T.A. 1400A/17th Jan.
(5) WOLFE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 131202A to WOLFE, V.A. Malta.)

South Atlantic.

AUSTRALIA, Sailed H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA to Fremantle.
cruiser. (2) S.O.A. 15½ knots.
(3) E.T.A. Fremantle 2230Z/24th.
(Cdre. Durban, 130800Z to Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

Movement. Arrived COLOSSUS.
(Cdre. Durban, 130830Z to Admty.)

13.1.1946
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Proposed change of E.limit of Med.Stn.

Your 021600 Jan. (~~N.T. in W.D.~~) In my letter No. 4413 EI/19219/45 of 31st Dec. (copy to all) I have stated that I am in agreement with the proposal that the whole of the Red Sea and Aden should revert to the Mediterranean Command but propose dividing line between E.I. and Med. Stations should be meridian of 46° E. between Arabian and African coasts.
 (C. in C. E.I., 131007 EF to C. in C. Med.)

See 022206 Feb (had).

R.N.O.Labuan and naval responsibility for Moluccas.

Para. 2 A.C.N.B. 310647* not to all. R.N.C. Labuan has taken over naval responsibility for Moluccas? under command of C. in C. E.I. through F.O. Malaya.

(2) Information is requested A. date of final relief for Australian Forces by S.A.C.S.E.A. in phase 2 Area, when C. in C. E.I. through F.O. Malaya will assume naval responsibility for this area. B. Limits of phase 2 Area. (F.O. Malaya, 131156 to S.A.C.S.E.A., C. in C. E.I.) See 160225Z. * N.T. in W.D.

TULIP, corvette, for U.K. and reserve.

Programme for TULIP leaving Trincomalee 19th Jan. for U.K.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Port</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 30th Jan. | Aden | 31st Jan. |
| 6th Feb. | Suez/Port Said | 7th Feb. |
| 8th Feb. | Alex. | 12th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Malta | 16th Feb. |
| 22nd Feb. | Gibraltar | 26th Feb. |
| 3 March | Portsmouth | - |

(C. in C. E.I., 131156 EF to Trincomalee, Admty.)

TACITURN, S/M, on passage to U.K.

548C of 29.12.1945 sail from Aden as follows -
 A. 0845/14th. B. Suez for U.K. C. 11.5 knots.
 (N.C.I.C. Aden, 131220 to TACITURN, Admty.)

GORLESTON, cutter, on passage to U.K. and to be returned to U.S.A.

548C of 29th December, 1945 sail from Aden as follows -
 A. 1030/14th. B. Suez for U.K. C. 12 knots.
 (N.C.I.C. Aden, 131836C to GORLESTON, Admty.)

Fr. sloop SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA, for Saigon from E.I.S.

548C of 29th Dec. Sail from Singapore as follows -
 A. 0600 GH 14th Jan. B. Saigon. G. Acknowledge.
 (F.O.M.F.A., 131923 GH to S.E.E.C.C.D., SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA.)

13.1.1946
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

KHEDIVE,
escort
carrier
for re-
delivery
to U.S.A.

Arrival a.m. 13th January KHEDIVE from U.K.
(C.O.A.C., 131458Z to N.S.H.Q., Capt. D.Halifax.)

War Dairy

14.1.1946.
Monday.

GENERAL

Programme of dispersal of certain Officers. The following revised programme for the dispersal of Officers in the branches shown, in the period 1st January to 31st March, 1946, is promulgated for information and necessary action.

A.G.M. 682A 12th November, A.G.M. 727A 22nd November and A.G.M. 803A 7th December are to be amended accordingly.

| (A). <u>Commissioned Officers.</u> | <u>Group.</u> | <u>Latest dispersal date.</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| (1) Naval Air Arm Officers (Except F.D.O.) (Including Warrant and ex-Warrant Officers) | 39 40 to 43 | 28th February. 31st March. |
| (2) Air Engineers (Including Warrant and ex-Warrant Officers) | 26 to 32 33 to 36 37 to 40 | 31st January. 28th February. 31st March. |
| (3) Medical Officers | 41 42 to 44 45 to 47 | 31st January. 28th February. 31st March. |
| (4) Dental Officers. | 28 29 to 32 33 to 36 | 31st January. 28th February. 31st March. |
| (5) Chaplains. (Church of England) | 21 and 22 23 to 26 27 to 29 | 31st January 28th February. 31st March. |
| (B) <u>W.R.N.S. Officers.</u> | | |
| (1) <u>Administrative</u> | 21 to 22 23 to 27 28 to 32 | 31st January. 28th February. 31st March. |
| (2) <u>Non-Administrative.</u> | | |
| (a) Bomb-Range. | 31 to 35 36 and above | 31st January 28th February. |
| (b) Topographical Duty Officer } Orthoptist } Plotting } | 41 and above | 28th February. |
| (C) <u>Warrant and ex-Warrant Officers.</u> | | |
| (1) <u>Writer Officers</u> | 3 6 7 8 | 31st January. 15th February. 15th March. 31st March. |
| (2) <u>Stores Officer.</u> | 7 8 9 10 | 31st January. 15th February. 15th March. 31st March |
| (3) <u>Cookery Officer.</u> | 12 | 31st January. |
| (4) <u>Catering Officer</u> | 10 11 12 17 | 31st January. 15th February. 28th February. 15th March. |
| (5) <u>Wardmaster</u> | 24 6 7 9 | 31st March. 31st January. 28th February. 31st March. |

3. Reference A.G.M.803A 7th December. The omission of any programme for February as regards para 2. (C) and for January and February as regards para. 2 (D) is intended to indicate that no dispersals of W.R.N.S. Officers in the categories shown will be made during those months in Groups 41 and above. (D.C.N.P. 141344 to A.G.M. 977A)

War Diary

14.1.1946.
Monday.

FOREIGN SERVICE

South Atlantic.

A.S.R. Relief. Intend sailing PEVENSEY CASTLE to A.S.R.
Station 22 at 0800 Jan. 16 relieves LANCASTER
CASTLE. Patrols from Jan. 18th to Feb. 10th.
(Capt. i/c. W.Af. 14110. to F.O.G.M.A.)

War Dairy

14.1.1946.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

F.O. 15th Cruiser Sqdn. Appropriate authorities are requested to sail AURORA and SIRIUS as necessary to implement following programme.

- (2) SIRIUS arrive Malta 4th Feb.
- (3) AURORA arrive Haifa 12th Feb.

(4) Intend my movements in ORION:-

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Leave</u> |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| - | Malta | 21st Jan. |
| 24th Jan. | Alexandria | 30th Jan. |
| 31st Jan. | Haifa | 13th Feb. |
| 14th Feb. | Piraeas | 26th Feb. |
| 14th Feb. | Larnaka | 18th Feb. |
| 20th Feb. | Piraeus | 26th Feb. |
| 28th Feb. | Malta | - |

(C.S.15, 141000A To. C. in C. Med. F.O.L.E.M)

Report on mine damage to British FORT TICONDEROGA 7138 tons in N.E. Adriatic G.A.F.O. 2120/44 and M.S.O. 436
(A) FORT TICONDEROGA
(B) British
(C) Approx. 0720A/11th Jan. 1946.
(D) Approx. 44° 40' N.
13° 51' E.

(E) Mined.

(F) Large hole in starboard bilge in centre of No. 2 hold. No. 2 Tween deck starboard side

badly buckled. No. 1 hold leaking slightly.

Ship arrived Trieste under own power p.m. 12th January.

(N.O.I.C. Trieste 141150A. To. Admiralty. C. in C. Med.,
C. in C. Med. Naples. V.A.M. F.O.I.L.)

Carrier TRUMPETER and proposed diversion to Haifa. Your 121153/ and A.M. 111536/ (N.T. in W.D) not to TRUMPETER apparently crossed. Delay to TRUMPETER cannot be accepted.
(A.C.N.S.(O) 141929 To. F.O.L.E.M.)

/ Can delay of 48 hours be accepted in return to U.K. of TRUMPETER.

o Presume that OCEAN can be made available to visit Haifa in due course.

War Diary14.1.1946
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies.

11th M/S.F. 548C of 29/12/1945 take JASEUR, MINSTREL and MICHAEL under your orders and sail from Trincomalee as follows.
A. 1600EF 15th Jan. B. Singapore. C. 12 knots.
(Comic Trinco. 140926 to M.S.11)

S.A. Frigates Take NATAL and GOOD HOPE your orders and sail Repatriation from Kilindini as follows:
of S.A. (A) 1500C on Monday 14th Jan.
Nationals. (B) Durban
(C) 14 knots.
(G) Acknowledge.
(Capt. i/c. Kilindini. 141106C. to TRANSVAAL).

FENCER 548C of 29th Dec. 1945. sail from Colombo as follows:
Carrier (A) As convenient.p.m. 15th.
Trooping (B) Aden
(C) 16 knots.
(G) Onward routing to U.K.

Acknowledge.
(F.O. Ceylon. 141222 to FENCER)

H.M.I.S. H.M.I.S. NARBADA arrived flying flag of
NARBADA F.O.C.R.I.N. at 0900.
A.A. Sloop
Flag of
F.O.C.R.I.N.
(N.O.I.C. Madras 141226EF to N.H.Q. (I)

Escort Carrier C. in C. Nore is requested to sail RAJAH RAJAH trooping allocated for trooping duty on 31st Jan. to Far East. to Hong Kong via Suez, Aden (for fuelling) Ceylon and Singapore.
2. Passage speed is to be 16 knots.
3. C. in C. B.P.F. is requested to sail ship on reverse route filled as dictated by reply to A.M. 031740, not to all, which is urgently awaited.
(D.O.D. 141309 to C. in C.E.I. C. in C. Nore. C. in C. B.P.F)

Destroyers 548C of 29th December 1945 take WIZARD under on passage your orders and sail from Trincomalee as follows:
to U.K. from (A) 1400 EF 15th Jan.
B.P.F. for (B) Aden.
Reserve. (C) 14 knots.
Acknowledge.
(Com. i/c. Trinco. 141424 to Capt.D.27 in KEMPENFELT)

/VIOLET...

14.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies contd.,

VIOLET 548C of 29/12/45 sail from Aden as follows.
Corvette (A) 2100C/14
on passage (B) Suez for U.K.
to U.K. and (C) 10 knots.
reserve. Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Aden. 141712 to VIOLET.)

War Diary.14.1.1946.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

Proposed transfer of M.L. 340 to Greece. Further to A.M. 121533, following received from C. in C. Mediterranean:- Begins: Report has been received from S.B.N.O. Greece that G.M.L. 232, which was transferred to R.H.N. in June 1945 is in poor condition and that Greek Admiralty request to retain her for training purposes only. Propose to transfer M.L. 340 at present in reserve at Malta in lieu. Request early approval..ends. In view of the fact that this vessel is fitted with Lease-Lend engines request you obtain early approval. (Head of M. Br. I. 141519. to B.A.D. Washington) *See 8103512 + 131135 Feb. (Head).*

H.M.C.S. NEW WATERFORD Frigate. (Cdre. Panama Admiralty) H.M.C.S. NEW WATERFORD departed Balboa 132300. E.T.A. San Pedro 24th en route Esquimalt. Route coastal. Speed 12. Sea Frontier 142030 to N.O.i.c. Kingston Jamaica

Escort Carrier KHEDIVE returning to U.S.A. (C.O.A.C. 142059Z to KHEDIVE) Ship at 1130Z 15th Jan. and at 16 knots proceed Norfolk, Va, for return to U.S. E.T.A. 1200Z/17th Jan. Amend E.T.A. as necessary. Acknowledge.

Far East & Australia

Re title of U.K.N.A. (Naval Adviser Mission Tokyo) As this differs little from title approved in paragraph 2 of A.M. and gives better short title, suggest the former be adopted as approved title.

(C. in C. B.P.F. 140725 to Admiralty) Appd. 181116. A.M. 121332 and B.N.L.O. Scap 120830. 2. There are objections to use of abbreviation N.A. as this might cause confusion with abbreviation for Naval Attache, but title "Naval Adviser, Toyko" can be used. (Head of Military Br. I. 141357 to C. in C. B.P.F)

A.F.D. 20...

War Diary14.1.1946.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONS.Far East & Australia contd.,

A.F.D. 20 Movement. (B) A.F.D. 20 in tow of ENTICER and ENIGMA.
 (C) ENTICER.
 (D) Manus.
 (E) 1430K Monday 14th January.
 (F) 6.5 knots.
 (G) Standard to Morotai.
 (H) Morotai for O/R to Singapore.
 (I) A.M. 22nd January.
 (K) 449.

Paragraph 2 my 112215Z (N.T. in W.D) not to all refers.
 (S.B.N.O.Manus. 140753Z to C.C.O. Morotai, P.D. Morotai.

Movement of Battleship KING GEORGE V. E.T.A. Gage Roads, 0831H/21st Jan.
 (N.O. i.c. Hobart. 141840Z to N.O.i.c. Fremantle A.C.N.B.
 N.O. ic. Port Melbourne. Adelaide.)

Programme refits for ships of B.P.F. Following is a repetition my 120523 addressed Admiralty repeated C.S. 2. C.S. 4. F.O.(Q) B.P.F. Begins:
 It is desired to prepare a programme of refits for ships of the B.P.F. to cover period up to Oct. 1946.
 2. Information is requested whether the relief of any of the cruisers of B.P.F. is contemplated for refit in U.K. 120523....Ends.
 (C. in C. B.P.F. 141955Z to Admiralty)

15.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ROSEBAY,
corvette,
for U.K.
& reserve.

Intend to sail ROSEBAY 1300A/15th Jan. via Necri routes to Chatham.
(2) Speed 10. E.T.A. first light 21st Jan.
(6) ROSEBAY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 151044A to C. in C. Nore.)

A.S.R.Stn.
20 closed down.

A.S.R. Station 20 closed down. E.T.A. Gibraltar 0800A/17th Jan. Thursday.
(PEACOCK, 151107Z to F.O.G.M.A., Admty.)

Destroyers
for U.K.
& reserve.

Intend to sail LAMERTON (S.O.) and MIDDLETON 1300A/16th Jan. to U.K.
(2) Speed 14, E.T.A. LAMERTON at Harwich 1400A/20th Jan. (C. in C. Nore's 131634Z, not to all, refers.) MIDDLETON at Portsmouth 0100A/20th Jan.
(6) LAMERTON acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 151544A to LAMERTON, MIDDLETON, C. in C. Portsmouth, N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

South Atlantic.

SS. HIGHLAND
MONARCH,
to Buenos
Aires for
German inter-
nees ex
GRAF SPEE.

HIGHLAND MONARCH leaves Trinidad 19th Jan. for Buenos Aires carrying sixteen repatriated volunteers for Rio de Janeiro and thirteen for Montevideo. In view of disturbed political conditions here and difficulties in arranging onward transport, Consul General asks that short visits may be made to above ports to drop passengers. Royal Mail officials say that delay entailed would be 12 hours at Rio and three hours at Montevideo. Cost approx. two hundred pounds at each port which in case of Rio is much cheaper than sending passengers north from Buenos Aires. Ministry of Food representative says that one days delay would not affect meat loading programme. U.K.S.R. agrees. (Britnavat Buenos Aires, 151408Z to Admty. London.) *See 232126 (A+W.I)*

AJAX, on
passage to
Buenos Aires.

Arrival AJAX 0755/15 Jan.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 151534 to Admty., C. in C. A.W.I)

15.1.1946.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

DEVON CITY
Boom Carrier
on passage
to U.K.
from East
Indies.

Intend to sail at 0900B/17th to Gibraltar speed
10 knots. E.T.A. Gib. a.m. 25th.
Request charts for passage U.K. may be supplied
on arrival.
(DEVON CITY, 151209 to F.O.G.M.A.)

OCEAN light
fleet
carrier.

Request confirmation that H.M.S. OCEAN will
remain as a unit of the Mediterranean Fleet on
completion of her working up. Ref. A.M.061509
Dec. refers.
(C. in C. Med., 151500 to Admty) Admty 172026.

15.1.1946.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Movements Arrived H.M.S.A. Ships TRANSVAAL, NATAL and GOOD HOPE, 0800C/14th Jan. (Capt. i/c Kilindini, 150901C to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. S.A., Admty).

RICHELIEU 548C of 29th Dec. 45 sail from Trinco. as follows: A. 0900EF 16th Jan. B. Aden. C. 14 knots. G. RICHELIEU will anchor off Colombo from 0800 to 1230 17th Jan. Acknowledge. (Comic Trinco., 151136 to RICHELIEU).

MULL OF GALLOWAY Cancel my 041516 Dec. not to all. 2. Intend following sailings from Colombo, MULL OF GALLOWAY, 31st Jan., MULLION COVE 11th Feb. Motor craft maintenance ship. 3. F.O. Ceylon is requested to sail ships accordingly. MULLION COVE 4. Com. i/c Trincomalee is requested to sail ships to arrive Colombo MULL OF GALLOWAY a.m. 29th Jan. MULLION COVE a.m. 7th Feb. Hull repair ship for U.K. (C. in C. E.I., 151241EF to Admty). *see 071151EF (Feb)*

ROCKROSE Programme for ROCKROSE leaving Colombo 20th Jan. for U.K.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Port</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 29th Jan. | Aden | 30th Jan. |
| 4th Feb. | Suez/Port Said | 6th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Malta | 11th Feb. |
| 15th Feb. | Gibraltar | 17th Feb. |
| 21st Feb. | Devonport | - |

(C. in C. E.I., 151509EF to Admty).

NEWCASTLE 548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Aden as follows: (a) 1000C/16th. (b) Colombo. (c) 20 knots. Acknowledge. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 151845C to NEWCASTLE).

TRUMPETER Sail from Aden as follows:- (a) 0900C/16th (b) Suez for U.K. (c) 13.5 knots. G.P. carrier on passage to U.K. Acknowledge. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 151845 to TRUMPETER).

WEAR Arrival H.M.S. WEAR. (R.O. St. Lucia, 152105 to Admty).

15.1.1946.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

H.M.C.S.
ARNPRIOR
corvette
escorting
L.S.Ts. to
U.S.A.

L.S.T.430, 366, 363 in company escorted by
H.M.C.S. ARNPRIOR. My P.C. and S. At 0001Z/15th
36° 17' N., 65° 37' W. 270° 9 knots.
(L.S.T.214, 150045Z to C. in C. Lant, Admty).

KHEDIVE
Escort
Carrier
for return
to U.S.A.

Departure Halifax 1630Z/15th Jan. at 16 knots
H.M.S. KHEDIVE for Norfolk N.A. for return to
U.S. routed from Sambro Light vessel through
position 40.40 N., 67.40 W. thence direct to
destination. E.T.A. Norfolk to be reported.
(C.O.A.C., 151750 to C.E.S.F.)

FROBISHER
cadet
training
ship.

Navy Department have intercepted your 151800
indicating H.M.S. FROBISHER is on your station.
2. Grateful for an outline of her cruise as
B.A.D. keep Navy Department as far as possible
informally informed of H.M.S. movements which
may affect them in any way. Admiralty pass to
F.O.G.M.A.
(B.A.D., 152315 to C. in C. A.W.I., (R) Admty.
F.O.G.M.A.) See 161917Z.

Far East & Australia

R.A.P.W.I.
Mov. 18.

9th Jan. refer my 050346.
2. HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN at Hong Kong E.T.D.17th
Jan. approx. for Chingwangtao, Shanghai, Hong
Kong and U.K. see Sitrep item 2.
3. R.S. VASNA, E.T.D. Hong Kong 17th Jan.
approx. for Sydney with P.O.W. Dutch for U.K. 21 ex sick for
U.K. 1 for Aust. 1 R.A.P.W.I. fit for Australia. (all available)
plus Service Invalids and Service passengers for Australia and
U.K.
4. H.M.S. BONAVENTURE, E.T.A. Subic 10th Jan. R.A.P.W.I. for
U.S.A. 7 for Cuba 11.
5. H.M.S. TENACIOUS E.T.D. Hong Kong 10th Jan. for Sydney
R.A.P.W.I. for South Africa 4.
6. EKMA E.T.D. Hong Kong 14th Jan. for Singapore P.W.O. Dutch
sick 7 ex VASNA for N.E.I.
7. Admiralty pass to War Office V.A.(Q) pass to High
Commissioner for U.K. Canberra.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 150240Z).

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

15.1.1946.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Far East & Australia - Contd.

R.A.P.W.I. 9th Jan. 1946 refer my 050347.
Sitrep 2. North China R.A.P.W.I. for HIGHLAND
No.18. CHIEFTAIN ex Chingwantao U.K. and Europe 271
Aust. 26 Hong Kong 1 India, 4 Canada, 4 ex
Shanghai including R.A.P.W.I. staged in from
Taku and Tsingtao for U.K. 538 Europe 131 Aust. 120 South
Africa, 8 Singapore, 2 India, 8 Total 1143 including 470 women
and 248 children see Mov. item 3 deferred at Shanghai for
U.K. 747 Aust. 108 Hong Kong 55 Singapore 16.
3. Hong Kong R.A.P.W.I. fit and ready for U.K. 48 Europe
9 Aust. 19 U.S.A., 17 Canada, 2 India, 3 Malaya, 3 sick ready
for H.S. lift for U.K. 1 Aust. 2 also sick in H.S. VASNA
P.O.W. Dutch for 21 deferred for U.K. 238 Europe, 59 Aust.
62 Fic, 3 U.S.A., 1 India, 39 Canada, 37 Nei. 40 Malaya 28
West Indies, 133 and South Americans 158 see mov. items 3 and 6.
4. HAINAN, R.A.P.W.I. for India 15 (approx.) also Chinese
for Hong Kong 5000.
5. Australia no recent information see my 050347.
6. New Zealand R.A.P.W.I. deferred sick for U.K. 75 Aust. 4,
Hong Kong 4, U.S.A. 2, China Newfoundland and Malta, Malaya and
Ceylon one each uncertain 10 fit and ready for U.K. 10 misc.
3 fit deferred 2.
7. Admiralty pass to War Office V.A.(Q) pass to High Commiss-
ioner for U.K. Canberra.
(C. in C. B.P.F., 150242Z to Admty., A.C.N.B.)

ATHELING Departed Fremantle 1100Z/13th Jan. ATHELING
carrier for Aden F.O.S.A's 050347 refers. Route
trooping. direct, S. of A. 16 knots. E.T.A. Aden 1500Z
27th Jan.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 150322Z to Comic, Aden).

ENCHANTRESS Departed Fremantle 0100Z/15th Jan. ENCHANTRESS
sloop for for Trincomalee E.T.A. 1330Z/26th Jan. route
U.K. direct S. of A. 12 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle, 150543Z to Comic,
Trincomalee).

RANEE E.C. Request you sail RANEE a.m. 20th Jan. for U.K.
trooping. carrying out following programme:-

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 26th Jan. | Fremantle | 27th Jan. |
| 4th Feb. | Colombo | 5th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Aden | 10th Feb. |
| 14 Feb. | Suez and transit to Port Said. | 15th or 16th Feb. |
| 24th or) | | |
| 25th Feb.) | Portsmouth. | |

(F.O.S.A., 150637Z to A.C.N.B.)

War Diary.

16.1.1946.
Wednesday.

GENERAL

Shortage
of Executive
Officers.

- 520 AZ. The shortage of Executive Officers available for appointment is at present severe.
2. It is anticipated that this position will ease as ships and establishments pay off in accordance with reduction schedules.
 3. In the meantime, however, unless the great majority of Executive Officers due for dispersal can be released without relief it will follow that the Dispersal Programme for Executive Officers as promulgated in A.G.M. 682A 12th November 1945 must be slowed down. This would be highly undesirable.
 4. Flag and Commanding Officers are, therefore, requested to make every effort so to re-arrange officer duties that an absolute minimum number of reliefs are required. It should be observed that while this may mean that each Officer will, for a time, have more duties, it is nevertheless ultimately in his own interests that the release programme should be maintained.
 5. In future, requests to Admiralty for reliefs for Executive Officers being dispersed are to be repeated to C's in C. No reliefs will be supplied until concurrence of C's in C. regarding their necessity has been signalled to Admiralty.
 6. This procedure will be cancelled as soon as the relief position eases.
 7. My 121338 is A.G.M. Home 518AZ.
(A.C.N.P. 161118 to A.G.M. Home 520 AZ)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

PORTCHESTER CASTLE Intend to sail PORTCHESTER CASTLE 1800A/16 Jan. to Chatham A.M. 101149 not to all refers.
Corvette for U.K. 2. Speed 12. E.T.A. p.m. 21.
6. PORTCHESTER CASTLE acknowledge and sail to comply.

(F.O.G.M.A. 161011A to PORTCHESTER CASTLE. C. in C. Nore)

RETRIEVER Intend to sail RETRIEVER 0900A/17th January to Plymouth.
Cable ship. 2. Speed 7. E.T.A. a.m. 24th Jan.
7. RETRIEVER acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 161545A to RETRIEVER)

16.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

AJAX
visit to
S. America.

Brazil Authorities agree that no gun salutes
should be fired at Santos because they cannot
be returned.

2. Berth alongside arranged. Request E.T.A.
be signalled.

3. Admiralty pass to AJAX.

(B.N.A. Rio de Janeiro 162156Z to Admiralty)

16.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

R.N.O. F.O.M.F.A. 131156 para. 2.
Labuan and (A) Final date not yet firm but will be
Naval signalled later. Likely to be early Feb.
responsibility (B) Phases 2 and 3 are now combined and the
for Moluccas area contains all the outer islands of the N.E.I.
& within S.E.A.C. boundaries.

(S.A.C.S.E.A. 160225Z to F.O.M.F.A. C. in C.E.I)

Movements Bombay 15th Jan.
Outer. Arrivals. BULOLO. s.s. DESTINY. HENGIST
towing L.C. 26. AMRITSAR towing ZERBRAC 80.
Departures. LAWRENCE.

(F.O. Bombay 160900EF to Admiralty. C. in C.E.I)

CLEOPATRA 548C of 29/12/45 sail from Aden as follows.
cruiser (A) 1745C 16th.
on passage (B) Suez for U.K.
to U.K. (C) 14 knots.
Acknowledge.

(N.O.i.c. Aden. 161032 to CLEOPATRA. Admiralty)

WAVENEY There is no further operational requirement for
L.S.H (S) WAVENEY on East Indies Station. Intend to sail
her for U.K. in Jan.
to U.K. 2. F.O.M.F.A. is requested to sail her as soon
as convenient to Trincomalee for onward routing.

(C. in C. E.I. 161333EF. to Admiralty. F.O.M.F.A.)

FENCER FENCER is returning to Colombo with main feed
trooping pump armature burnt out and auxiliary feed
defect. pump defective further signal will be made.

(C. in C.E.I. 161156EF to Admiralty) *See 232010.*

Closing down A.M. 101807/Dec.(N.T. in W.D). Request
of bases in forecast dates by which remaining L.C. bases
India. and establishments in India will be closed
down.

2. A.M. 151700 Sep. your 280821 August and
030351/Oct. also refer.
(D.C.O.D. 162054 to C. in C.E.I.)

/THYME...

War Diary.16.1.1946.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies contd.,

THYME 548C of 29.12.45. Take BARNABY in tow
 corvette and leave Colombo as follows:-
 BARNABY B.D.V. (A) 1030EF Jan. 17th.
 (B) Aden.
 (C) Best with tow.
 (F.O. Ceylon. 161243EF to THYME)

H.M.I.S. Further to my 151527EF (N.T. in W.D)
 NARBADA H.M.I.S. NARBADA sailed for Male Atoll at
 A.A. Sloop 0900EF Jan.16th. flying the flag of
 flying flag. Vice Admiral Godfrey, ~~Feerin.~~
 F.O.C.R.I.N.
 (N.O.I.C. Madras.161614EF to C. in C.E.I)

War Diary.

16.1.1946
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SHEFFIELD Request SHEFFIELD may be designated as my flagship
cruiser from information at my disposal she would appear
proposed to be the most suitable vessel of the two.
flagship of (C. in C. A.W.I., 161602Z to Admty. Info. SHEFFIELD,
C. in C.A.W.I.KENYA.)

FROBISHER, My 161842Z (N.T. in W.D.) to B.A.D. only contains
Cadet cruiser programme of FROBISHER. Your 152315 Jan.
training refers.
ship. Admiralty please pass F.O.G.M.A.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 161917Z to B.A.D.)

Far East and Australia.

Disbanding Intend to disband M.S.Rs. 7 and 8 and to absorb
of M.S.Rs. personnel as necessary in Bankstown Station
7 and 8. complement. Under present conditions separate
components are no longer required.
(F.O.N.A.P., 160238 to Admty.)

95

17.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MIRROR
Cable repair
ship.

MIRROR has completed work in my 221115 Dec. and is at present undergoing essential 48 hours docking.
2. On completion about 20th Jan. she will be sailed to carry out repair work in my 181055 unless instructions to the contrary are received.
(F.O.G.M.A. 171116 to C. in C. Med. (Malta))

SMILAX
Corvette for
U.K. to be
returned
to U.S.A.

Intend to sail SMILAX 1000A/18th Jan. to Portsmouth.
2. Speed 10. E.T.A. first light 23rd Jan.
6. SMILAX acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 171122A to SMILAX)

L.C.I.(L)
387 returning
to U.S.A.
defects.

L.C.I.(L) 387 has developed serious leaks in hull, intend her to proceed in company with L.C.H. 269 to Las Palmas for repairs.
P.C.S. of flight at 1300Z - 29° 07' N. 15° 25' W. 270°. 6 knots.
BURGES will rejoin flight after detaching L.C.H. 269.
(S.O. 280 L.C.I (L) Flotilla in BURGES 171201Z to F.O.G.M.A. Admiralty)

BURGES and 11 L.C.I.(L) arrived Las Palmas 2230Z.
(S.O. 280 L.C.I.(L) Flotilla in BURGES 172231Z to F.O.G.M.A)

South Atlantic.

Whalers
for return
to U.K. and
Norway.

My 291502/ Dec. (N.T. in W.D) not to all. It is hoped to sail CYCLONE, FIERY CROSS and HINNOY from Capetown at the end of Jan. to arrive Plymouth mid March.
2. The endurance of all ships is probably limited to little more than 1,000 miles. Water capacity is the governing factor but oil fuel capacity only gives about 200 miles additional endurance.
3. Ships will call at Lobito on passage to Pointe Noire from Walvis and subject to confirmation by Captain in Charge West Africa that fuel can be made available ships will have to call at Lagos or some other intermediate port between Pointe Noire and Takoradi.
4. A.M. 051540/ Jan. It is expected that LEVANter will be ready for sea by early Feb. but as far as can be seen at present no officers and engineroom personnel will be available for her, GRIBB or SUDEROY I and II.
6. Admiralty pass to S.B.N.O. Norway.
(C. in C.S.A. 171140 to Admiralty - see 201054) r 0511 22.
/ CYCLONE and FIERY CROSS are being held.
/ Whalers GRIBB, LEVANter, SUDEROY to sail Christiansand.

17.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic contd.,

CATTERICK
and
LAUDERDALE
destroyers
and Loan
of H.M.Ts.
to Greek Govt.

Destination of CATTERICK and LAUDERDALE is now
Malta, where ships are to reduce to care and
maintenance. A.M. 121303 not to all refers.
2. Request you will sail ships accordingly.
3. C. in C. Mediterranean is requested to return
ships companies to U.K. at first opportunity.
(A.C.N.S.(O) 171817 to C. in C. South Atlantic)

17.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

ROYALIST cruiser. Sail at 1645A/18th Jan. by appropriate Medri route to Gibraltar for onward routeing to U.K.
2. Speed 14 knots report E.T.A. Gibraltar 24 hours in advance.
4. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med. 171129 to ROYALIST)

F.S. BARFLEUR A.M.C. for French Indo-China. My 131650B Sept. refers.
1. F.S. BARFLEUR ready to leave Oran for Far East Jan. 21st.
2. Propose following onward trip (? Alex.) for embarking N.S. and lubricant Port Said for fuelling Aden, Colombo, Singapore, Saigon.
3. Request ship may call Malta from January 24th if found necessary after ranging at Arzeu.
4. Request concurrence.
(ALMED. 171815 to C. in C. Med.)

OCEAN Light Fleet Carrier. Your 151500/ confirmed.
2. OCEAN must, however, return to U.K. to re-arm on conclusion of the present trial period. It is requested you report her anticipated date of readiness for return.
(A.C.N.S. (O) 172026 to C. in C. Med.) *See 12/033 Feb.*
Requesting confirmation OCEAN will remain as a unit of Med.Fleet.

Vessel with illegal immigrants seized by TALYBONT (destroyer) At 1415 today Thursday with Air Co-operation TALYBONT successfully intercepted Wooden Motor Vessel of approximately 500 tons, very well founded and (?clean), nationality unknown but from engine markings tallies and charts, obviously Italian. Name on stern ENZA but obviously false. Master admitted he was on passage to Palestine.
2. Vessel escorted Haifa. Approximately 600 illegal immigrants, on board (count not yet made). Vessel turned over to local authorities.
3. Interception was made in position 033 degs. 15 mins. 034 degs. 51 mins.
(S.N.O. (Afloat) Haifa. 172259B to F.O.L.E.M. C.S.15. see 191315)

War Diary.

17.1.1946.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

TRENT
frigate
re transfer
to R.I.N.

Your 220336 Nov. 1945.
In order to expedite personnel reductions on this station request decision may now be given regarding TRENT at present in Trincomalee with reduced complement.
(C. in C.E.I. 170906EF to Admiralty)

FREESIA
Corvette
for U.K.
and reserve.

Intend following programme for FREESIA on passage to U.K.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Port.</u> | <u>Leave.</u> |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Trinco. | 19th Jan. |
| 28th Jan. | Aden. | 30th Jan. |
| 4th Feb. | Suez. | 5th Feb. |
| 5th Feb. | Port Said. | 7th Feb. |
| 8th Feb. | Alex. | 10th Feb. |
| 12th Feb. | Malta. | 15th Feb. |
| 19th Feb. | Gib. | 21st Feb. |
| 26th Feb. | Chatham. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Suez, Malta and Gib.
(C. in C.E.I. 171201EF to V.A. Malta. N.O.i.c. Trinco. Admiralty)

8th M/S.F.
on passage.

Following programme is intended for 8th M/S.F. ~~THIS IS~~ MARY ROSE.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 30th Jan. | Trinco. | 5th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Bombay. | 14th Feb. |
| 21st Feb. | Aden. | 25th Feb. |
| 2nd March. | Suez. | - |

2. Wash through boilers at Trincomalee.
(F.O.M.F.A. 171703GH to C. in C. E.I.S. F.O. Bombay)
As received.

* See next page.

17.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

WEAR frigate. Arrival Trinidad 17th Jan. WEAR.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 170911 to Admiralty)

Minesweeping B.P.F. Minesweeping report in Admiralty No. 5.
China. A. 8th M/S.F. less MARY ROSE and THISBE have
sailed for Mediterranean.
B. 10th M/S.F. cleared Port Shelter? 14 mines
cut magnetic clearance of Lena Channel.
C. 180th B.Y.M.S. continuing clearance of Tothing Channel
8 mines cut Canton River clearance is progressing.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 170126 to Admiralty)

QUEEN Departed Fremantle 0130Z/17th Jan. QUEEN for
Carrier Colombo, F.O.S.A's 070517 refers.
trooping. Route direct, S.O.A. 15½ knots, E.T.A. Colombo
1200Z 25th Jan.
(N.O.i.c. Fremantle 170310 to F.O. Ceylon
C. in C. E.I)

100

18.1.1946.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

s.s. THORSHOVDI My 101122. Fore half of THORSHOVDI successfully refloated. refloated p.m. today Friday.
2. My 181453A re FRISKY also refers.
(F.O.G.M.A. 181505A to C. in C. Med. (Malta))

GARDINER My P.C.S. 44.11. N. 24. 20 W. 24. 26. weather Frigate wind W.N.W. 6-7 weather cloudy cloud 7/10 600 ft. on passage visibility 6-12 miles sea rough pressure 1004 Mbs for return sea and swell 53. to U.S.A. 2. L.S.Ts. 358 and 165 report vertical cracks with L.S.Ts. in tank space bulkhead and spreading situation not critical if improvement in weather is anticipated.
3. Request (a) weather forecast for route.
(b) destination Azores if necessary to detach.
(GARDINER 181201Z to C. in C. Plymouth) (see 191230)

Your 181201 being passed to other addressees.
N.W. wind expected to moderate in your area but deep depression is situated about 45 W.
2. Proceed to Horta, Azores.
3. On arrival report situation.
4. Do not sail without favourable weather forecast.
5. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Plymouth. 181756 to GARDINER) (see 211401)

South Atlantic.

Movement. Capetown arrival FORMIDABLE.
(C. in C. S.A. 180800 to Admiralty)

AJAX on Departure AJAX 1430/16th Jan. for Santos. passage to South (S.O.(I) Freetown 180905 to Admiralty) America.

A.S.R. Departure PEVENSEY CASTLE p.m. 16th January Stn. 22. for air sea rescue station 22.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 180910 to Admiralty)

War Diary.

18.1.1946.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

A.F.D. 32
damaged
at Oran.

A.F.D. 32 again broken adrift from moorings.
Now at jetty. One end badly damaged making
water fast doing our best.

(A.F.D. 32 180830Z to C. in C. Med.)
(see 191014A (Med) and 191734A(N.A.))

(1) A.F.D. 32 badly damaged port side fore and

after ends.

(2) Dock now moored alongside Mole with 5 degs. list to
starboard.

(3) French Authorities have made survey. There all available
rings / put out.

(4) Consider port unsafe for dock.

(5) Await your decision regarding repairs.

(6) Have done all possible.

(A.F.D. 32. No. T.O.O. 18th. to C. in C. Med).

/ as received - Corrupt portion being obtained.

CONTEST
destroyer
on passage
to B.P.F.

Departed Suez 1700B/18th Jan. E.T.A. Aden
1500B/22nd Jan.

(CONTEST 181701B to Com. Aden)

CLEOPATRA
Cruiser
on passage
to U.K.
defect.

My maximum speed is twelve knots on own shafts
as a result of serious accident to Turbo
Generator in after engine room. Dockyard
assistance will be required make good defects
to bring four shafts into action for which
estimate time required four days.

(CLEOPATRA 182028BC to C. in C. Med.)

18.1.1946.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

s.s. HIGHLAND BRIGADE Regret advise you HIGHLAND BRIGADE reported struck mine. Now anchored 40 miles off Singapore. Personnel being taken off in craft, further details will be reported when known.

2. For P.S.T.O(I)

Reference Alfsea's unnumbered signal of 171945.

CHESHIRE nominated in place of HIGHLAND BRIGADE. Anticipate former should arrive Bombay about 30th Jan.

3. For D.S.T.O. Malay.

CHESHIRE should be given priority of berthing on arrival Singapore from Madras and sailed soonest possible for Bombay.

4. Agreed.

(P.S.T.O. S.E.A.C. 180957 to D. of S.T. (London))

1. HIGHLAND BRIGADE mined at 0520GH 18th Jan. at eastern entrance to Singapore Strait, position reported as 058 Horsburgh Light 4 miles.

2. Only casualty one man slightly scalded, engines immobilized, no flooding.

3. Arrived Singapore under tow at 2315GH 18th Jan. probably ground mine, sweep of area by B.Y.M.S. 18th Jan. negative.

(F.O.F.M.A. 181820GH to C. in C.E.I. Admiralty.

MORAY FIRTH
Aircraft
engine
repair ship
for B.P.F.

Ref. A.M. 151802/ not to all, owing to change of air train programme request MORAY FIRTH be onward routed from Colombo to Brisbane.

(F.O.S.A. 181132Z to C. in C.E.I.S.

✓ Sail MORAY FIRTH 16th Jan. Hong Kong via Gibraltar, Suez, Aden, Colombo and Singapore. ?151804 intended.

F.S. DUQUESNE.
Cruiser.

E.T.A. Singapore 0200Z/21.

(F.S. DUQUESNE 181213EF to N.O.i.c. Singapore)

MONTCLARE
destroyer
depot ship
on passage
to U.K.
from B.P.F.

548C of 29th Dec. 1945 sail from Colombo as follows.

(A) at 1000 20th Jan.

(B) Aden.

(C) 12 knots.

(G) Onward routeing to U.K. acknowledge.

(F.O. Ceylon 181524 to MONTCLARE.

Sitrep 60
French Indo-
China.

To 1700 hours 18 January.

W. 555 Sub-Area. N.T.R. 100 Bde. N.T.R. French Forces. Locninh Area. Grn. Phuoc Hoa Rd. 2811 attacked by Rebels. French cas. one wounded. Rebel cas. one killed. Chanhlu Stn. RJ. 1798 held by 30 armed Rebels. Bencat Area. Six

French wounded in clash with Rebels An Loi RJ. 1796. Cantho Area. Nui Sam RG. 2840 occupied. French cas. one killed one wounded. Rebel cas. unknown. 90 Rifles and gren. dump captured. B.D.D. (or B.C.D.). N.T.R.

All infm.

(Alffic 181750G to W.O)

18.1.19.46.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

Oprep To 1200 hours 18 January 46. West Java.
Netherlands A. Batavia. 15 suspects arrested in search
E. Indies. houses Gang Lontarsembalan (or Gang Lentarsembilag).
Buitenzorg. All sectors quiet. For Bandoeng
convoy one Coy. 1/8 Gr. covered BR. 036476
Composite Coy. 8 F.F. Rif. est. Staging Post
Djember QX. 1841 (or 7841). Convoy arrived 1700 hrs. without
incident after difficulty in crossing BR. QX. 0848 owing bad
condition. Bandoeng. Own Tps. report Indonesians evac.
Kampongs N.W. Sector on Ocders Pemoedas. Report Indonesians
conc. Area 856190 being investigated. 6 Mahratta open Road
Padalarang 7127 for Convoy today.
B. N.T.R.
C. Remainder 49 Bde. disembarking Batavia today.
D. N.T.R.
East Java.
A. Sourabaya. 9 Bde. Sector. Own patrol fired on by small
arms area 404689. Arty. engaged. 123 Bde. Sector. No major
incident Arty. Sector. Patrol 24 Mtn. Regt. along Grissee Road
to BR. 420880 met by opposition from approx. 60 enemy with MMG
and IMGs. area BR. 420880. Firing continued throughout day.
Own cas. 1 B.O. killed 1 I.O.R. wounded. Semarang. Enemy
encountered by own Patrol 915121 engaged by Mortars. 9 looters
arrested. Otherwise no major incident.
B. to D. N.T.R.
Sumatra. N.T.R. R.A.P.W.I. 141 Bandoeng to Batavia 25
(or 75) Batavia to Holland. Missing Dakota incident. Dakota
en route from Bandoeng sighted signs of crashed aircraft at
QX. 440554. Also sighted by other aircraft in transit. Report
practically nothing left of plane jungle in vicinity blackened
and scorched. No signs of life. Beaufighter being despatched
tomorrow to take photographs. All infm.
(A.F.N.E.I. 181800 to Alfsea. S.A.C.S.E.A. W.O.)

THYME Intend following programme for THYME on passage
Corvette to U.K. Sailed Colombo 17th Jan. towing
on passage BARNABY as far as Aden. All dates Feb. unless
to U.K. shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Port.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| - | Aden. | 29th January. |
| 3rd | Suez. | 4th. |
| | Port Said. | 4th. |
| 5th | Alexandria. | 7th. |
| 16th | Gibraltar. | 18th. |
| 22nd | Portsmouth. | - |

2. Arrival Aden dependant on speed of two.
 3. Fuelling at Aden, Alexandria and Gibraltar.
 4. Canal transit 4th February.
- (C. in C. E.I. 181806EF to Admiralty)

/Persian...

War Diary.

18.1.1946.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

Persian
Navy
gunboats
for

Three Persian gunboats will be ready to sail
from Bombay first week in Feb. Your O91846
refers.
(N.H.Q. (I). 182220 to Admiralty. S.N.O.P.G.
C. in C.E.I.S. C. in C. Med) *See 071335 Feb-*

War Diary.

18.1.1946.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and W. Indies.

DACRES E.T.A. Boston 1400Z Saturday 19th has been
Frigate signalled to C. in C. Lant and repeated to
to be returned B.A.D. Washington.
to U.S.A. (DACRES 180245Z to Admiralty)

STRIKER Intend to sail STRIKER to Norfolk, Virginia,
Escort at 0800/20th Jan. to comply with Admiralty's 171818
Cruiser for January (N.T. in W.D) E.T.A. 30th Jan.
re-delivery to 4. STRIKER acknowledge and sail to comply.
U.S.A. (F.O.i.c. Greenock. 181755 to B.A.D. Washington.
STRIKER).

BATTLER Intend to sail BATTLER to Norfolk, Virginia
Escort at 1600 19th Jan. to comply with Admiralty's
carrier for 171818 Jan. E.T.A. 30th Jan.
redelivery 4. BATTLER acknowledge and sail to comply.
to U.S.A. (F.O.i.c. GREENOCK. 181735 to B.A.D. Washington
BATTLER)

Far East and Australia.

C.S.2. (A) -
in BELFAST (B) 2
Cruiser. (C) CS 2 in BELFAST.
(D) Shanghai.
(E) 0030Z/18.
(F) 14 knots.
(G) East of Jomard Passage.
(H) Sydney.
(I) 2.
(K) -
(L) -
(S.O. Forces. 180030 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

DEVONSHIRE Request you will sail DEVONSHIRE at 1500K
Trooping. Wednesday 23rd Jan. to U.K. carrying out
following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 28th Jan. | Fremantle. | 30th Jan. |
| 5th Feb. | Colombo. | 7th Feb. |
| 11th Feb. | Aden. | 13th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Suez and transit to Port Said. | 18th Feb. |
| 22nd Feb. | Gib. | 22nd Feb. |
| 25th Feb. | Plymouth. | |

2. S.O.A. 19 knots to Fremantle then 19.7 knots.
(F.O.S.A. 180048Z to A.C.N.B)

18.1.1946.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia contd.,VICTORIOUS
A/C
Trooping.Request you will sail VICTORIOUS p.m. 25th Jan.
for U.K. carrying out following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 30th Jan. | Fremantle. | 30th Jan. |
| 4th Feb. | Singapore. | 5th Feb. |
| 8th Feb. | Colombo. | 10th Feb. |
| 14th Feb. | Aden. | 15th Feb. |
| 18th Feb. | Suez. | 18th Feb. |
| 18th Feb. | Port Said. | 20th Feb. |
| 24th Feb. | Gibraltar. | 24th Feb. |
| 26th Feb. | Plymouth or Home Port ordered. | |

2. S.O.A. 20 knots.

3. Admiralty is requested to divert mails accordingly.
(F.O.S.A. 180834Z to A.C.N.B)

Re title of Your 140725 approved.
Naval adviser (Hd. of M.I. 181116 to C. in C. B.P.F)
to U.K.Liaison
Mission Tokyo
(U.K.N.A)

Loan of
S/M's to
Greeks.

A.M.121303 (Med)
(1) VOX, VORACIOUS and VIRTUE have just
completed self refits in Australia and are in
as good condition as any other U Class. They
leave Sydney 23rd Jan. and are due Malta 26th
March on passage to U.K. to reduce to immediate
reserve.

(2) Suggest the best two of these three on arrival at Malta
be loaned to the Greeks. This would effect considerable
economy in man power.(3) If not approved 2 U Class from immediate reserve in U.K.
could be fully commissioned and sent out.(4) Request early decision.
(F.O.S/M. 181611 to Admiralty)Re loan of
8 BATHURST
(M.S) to
Dutch.

H.M.A.S. CAIRNS commissioned temporarily as
Her Netherland's Majesty's ship CAIRNS 17 Jan.
1946. Your 061539 Dec. refers.
(A.C.N.B. 182354Z to Admiralty)

War Diary.

19.1.1946.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Far East and Australia.

Flag Officer
4th Cruiser
Squadron.

1. Today Vice Admiral ^JJ.H. Ed~~del~~ston C.B. C.B.E. relinquished command of 1st B.S. and assumed command of 4th Cruiser Squadron flying his flag in SWIFTSURE.

19.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

GARDINER
Frigate with
L.S.Ts. on
passage to
be returned
to U.S.A.

Ref. C. in C. Plymouth 181756 and my 181801
my E.T.A. Horta 191130 O BERRY L.S.Ts. 358
165, 416, 238, 217 in company.
2. Major defects.
(A) L.S.Ts. 358 and 165 split bulkheads need
welding.
(B) GARDINER and BERRY U.S. type S.G. and S.L.
Radar.
2. My P.C.S. 41 56 25 54 212 10.
(GARDINER 191230 to S.B.N.O. Azores)

A.F.D. 32
survey of
at Oran.

C. in C. Mediterranean's 191014 not to all.
Intend to sail START BAY 2030A tonight to Oran
with Chief Constructor and Assistant Captain
of Dockyard Gibraltar embarked.
2. Speed 17. E.T.A. 1100 a.m. 20 Jan.
3. Ship is to return to Gibraltar at

economical speed with inspectors on board when survey of dock
is completed.

4. Constant Watch Gibraltar B/C.
5. START BAY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 191734A to START BAY.Almed.)

South Atlantic.

A.S.R.
Relief Stn.
22.

Have been relieved by PEVENSEY CASTLE on
A.S.R. in position 22.
(LANCASTER CASTLE 190145 to Capt. i.c. W.Af.)

WILTON
Destroyer
for U.K.
and Reserve.

My 181503 (N.T. in W.D) and 151043. WILTON will
sail from Capetown in company with FORMIDABLE
who will fuel her at sea and detail her for
Freetown on completion.
(C. in C.S.A. 191044B to Admiralty. C. in C.W.A)

TEST
frigate
transferring
to R.I.N.

My 301207 / Dec. Subject to satisfactory trials
TEST will be ready for sea on Jan. 24th.
(C. in C.S.A. 191123 to Admiralty)
(see 232041. E.I.))
/ Request port to which TEST be sailed when
ready for sea.

19.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

A.F.D. 32
damaged
at Oran.

A.F.D. 32's 180830 and 181745 being passed.
Request and report situation. In particular
whether practicable to tow dock to Gibraltar
for repairs. Alternatively to increase mooring
to ensure safety at Oran and send Party to carry
out repairs there.

(C.in C. Med. 191014A to F.O.G.M.A.)
(see 211224A (N.A.))

Interception
illegal
immigrants
TALYBONT.

(A) Haifa's 172259B.
(1) Information received that ENZO (~~ENZO~~ SERENI)
is cover name for RONDINE registered ~~SAYONA~~ and
sailed Messina for Palestine on maiden voyage.
(2) Final count of illegals is 911.
(F.O.L.E.M. 191315 to C. in C. Med. Admiralty .
D.N.I.)

See 291019.

19.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

INDOMITABLE C. in C. Portsmouth's 121500 not to all large
A.C. trooping. black log exists at Bombay particularly of
officers.
2. Intend INDOMITABLE calls there en route
U.K. leaving Colombo about 11th Feb.
(C. in C.E.I. 191113EF to Admiralty)

SMITER Propose following programme for SMITER on
G.P. Carrier passage to U.K. All dates Jan. unless shown
on passage otherwise-
to U.K.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Colombo. | p.m. 21st. |
| a.m. 27th. | Aden. | p.m. 27th. |
| a.m. 31st. | Suez. | a.m. 31st. |
| p.m. 31st. | Port Said. | p.m. 31st. |
| p.m. 5th Feb. | Gibraltar | p.m. 7th Feb. |
| a.m. 11th Feb. | Greenock. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden and Gibraltar.
(C. in C.E.I. 191619EF to Admiralty)

F.S. BARFLEUR Almed's 171815 passed F.O. Ceylon and F.O.M.F.A.
A.M.C. for Concur as far as East Indies Station is concerned,
French Indo- except that BARFLEUR should complete with fuel
China. at Aden Colombo and Singapore in accordance with
371C of 16th Nov. not to all.
(C. in C.E.I. 191650 to C. in C. Med. Almed).

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19.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and W. Indies.

NARBOROUGH
frigate
FISHGUARD
cutter
for return
to U.S.A.

NARBOROUGH and FISHGUARD arrived St. Johns
1300Z today Saturday 19th Jan.
(N.O.i.c. Newfoundland 191315Z to C.O.A.C)

Frigate
returned
to U.S.A.

DACRES and LOSSIE arrived T.O.O. 190947R.
(N.S.S.O. Boston Mass. 191436 to Admiralty)

Temp. loan
to Greek
Navy of B.Y.M.S.
2033 and
2190.

Your 121533. Action is being taken with Navy
Department and further signal will be sent. In
the meantime, request earliest possible advance
information of any further arrangements of this
sort as foreshadowed in para. 4. of your signal.
(B.A.D. Washington. 191515Z to Admiralty. C. in. C
Med)

ARBITER
to be
re-delivered
to U.S.

Your 161618 Navy Department confirm vessel can be
accepted and that she should be sailed to Norfolk
V.A. for re-delivery.
(B.A.D. 191935 to Admiralty)

Far East and Australia.

PIONEER
aircraft
maintainance
ship.
DEERSOUND
aircraft
component
ship.
BEAULY FIRTH
aircraft engine
repair ship
for U.K.

A.M. 221451 (N.T. in W.D) Dec. Intend PIONEER
Group return to U.K. leaving Australia as follows:-
(A) PIONEER about 17th Feb.
(B) DEERSOUND end Jan.
(C) BEAULY FIRTH early Mar.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 190241 to Admiralty. F.O.S.A.
A.C.l. F.O.N.A.P.)

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

19.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia contd.,

R.A.P.W.I. priorities. Your 180041Z*Oct. (N.T. in W.D). paras. 2 and 3 regarding R.A.P.W.I. priorities.
2. Personnel are still arriving from Far East to rejoin families and for other reasons.
3. As it is difficult to decide here whether they "elected" to do this R.A.P.W.I. priority for passages to U.K. is being requested.
4. It seems there must be some limit to this and we suggest those now arriving are doing so voluntarily and rank under para. 3.
5. Propose abolish R.A.P.W.I. priority after 28th Feb.
6. Do you concur.
7. Would appreciate reply before next priority committee meeting Tuesday 22nd Jan.
(A.C.N.B. 190657Z to D. of S.T) *R.N.personnel being given preference over R.A.P.W.I. whereas latter should have top priority.

Fourth cruiser Sqdn. Command. Vice Admiral ^{J.}S.H. Edde~~l~~sten C.B. C.B.E. relinquished command of First Battle Squadron and assumed command of Fourth Cruiser Squadron to date 19th January 1946, flying the flag in SWIFTSURE. Admiralty's 010024 refers.
(C.S. 4 191415 to Admiralty)

20.1.1946.

Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

BASUTO Reference Com. i.c. Bermuda's 111702Z
B.D.V.(Trinidad) BASUTO arrived Horta Azores 1341Z Jan. 20th.
on passage (N.O.i.c. Azores. 201615Z to Admiralty)
to U.K.

South Atlantic.

Re Whalers Information is being sought from French
return to Authorities regarding oil, fuel and water
U.K. fuel supplies at Duala. Para. 3. your 171140
supplied refers.
at Duala. (Capt. i.c. W. Africa. 201054 to C. in C.S.A)

20.1.1946.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| F.S. BARFLEUR | F.S. BARFLEUR sails 1100A 20th Jan. to Alexandria. |
| A.M.C. for | 2. 13 knots. |
| Far East. | 3. Routed as in Medri. |
| | 4. E.T.A. a.m. 25th Jan. |
| | 9. (A) Guard 375 kc/s no Liaison Party. |
| | (B) Almed's 171815A and C. in C. Med's |
| | 181233A neither to all refer. |
| | (Algiers C.C.O. 201330A to Alexandria C.C.O. |
| | Colombo Aden.) |

20.1.1946.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Destroyers
on passage
to U.K.

At 0130 G.M.T. Sunday 20th. KEMPENFELT and
WIZARD in company, position 11 degs. 34 mins.
north, 56 degs. 56 mins. east, course 25 degs.,
speed 14 knots.

2. E.T.A. Aden 0400 G.M.T. Tuesday 22nd Jan.
(Capt. D. 27. 200122Z to F.O. Ceylon.

Movements.

Intend following movements:-

1. SUSSEX and CAPRICE sail Batavia p.m. 24th Jan.
to rendezvous with ships addressed, South of
Discovery East Bank Light for 24 hours exercises.
2. CAMBRIAN sail Batavia 1200 GH 21st Jan. to Samarang thence
sail so as to rendezvous as in part one.
3. On completion of exercise a.m. 26th SUSSEX and PETARD to
Samarang GLASGOW to Sourabaya CAMBRIAN to Batavia CAPRICE to
Singapore or Batavia depending upon reply my 191939 (N.T. in W.D)
to F.O.M.F.A. and CAPRICE only.
(SUSSEX 201525 to C. in C.E.I. F.O.M.F.A. C.S. 5. D.6)

20.1.1946.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

WEAR
Frigate.

WEAR sailed Trinidad for Georgetown 1000Z/20
communications in accordance with A.F.O. S.1/45
S.O.A. 11½ knots, E.T.A. 2000Z/21st.
(N.O.i.c. Port of Spain 200611Q to R.O. Georgetown)

FROBISHER
Cadet
training
ship.

Arrival Trinidad 20th Jan. FROBISHER.
(N.O.i.c. Trinidad. 201005Q to C. in C. A.W.I)

Far East and Australia.

RANEE
trooping.

Departed Sydney 0030Z 20th Jan. RANEE for
Fremantle and onward routing to U.K. F.O.S.A.
150637 not to all refers route direct. S.O.A.
16 knots. E.T.A. breakwater.
(F.O.i.c. Sydney 200046Z to N.O.i.c. Fremantle).

RT. ENTICER
with A.F.D.20.
for Morotai.

Position at 1200 Item 20th at zero degrees
21 mins. South. Long. 137 degs. 28 mins. East
course 286 degs. speed now 4 knots. A.F.D.20
reports severe damage to scow end caused by
recent heavy swell. Request permission to
proceed Menukwari or alternative anchorage.

Here dock staff can effect temporary repairs for onward passage
to Morotai.

(ENTICER 200351B to S.B.N.O. Manus.)

Your 200351Z approved.

(S.B.N.O. Manus 201226Z to ENTICER.)

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21.1.1946.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE
Corvette
for U.K. Intend to sail KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE 1600A 22 Jan to Chatham. A.M. 101149 not to all refers.
2. Speed 12. E.T.A. 0900A 27 Jan.
6. KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 211126 to KNARESBOROUGH CASTLE).

RETRIEVER
Cable Ship
on passage
to U.K. Report forthwith if you require escort to Plymouth and if you intend to stop at an intermediate port.
(F.O.G.M.A. 211212Z to RETRIEVER).

START BAY
Frigate
and A.F.D. 32. Intend to sail START BAY 1730A 21st Jan. to Oran. Speed 15. E.T.A. 0900A 22nd Jan.
2. Ship is to return to Gibraltar when work is completed. My 211224A not to all refers.
4. START BAY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 211220A to START BAY. Almed. Comar).

A.F.D. 32 has been inspected. Main damage on port side aft, the dock side being stove in to maximum of approx. 1' 6" and plating split and open in two places.

2. Dock has been careened 5 degs. to left main damage out of water but is leaking slightly through chine angle.

3. Dock is safe in present weather but arrangements have been made to send additional hawsers to Oran today to ensure safe mooring in event of heavy weather. French authorities are prepared to effect temporary repairs by fitting cement boxes. This would make dock safe for towage to Gibraltar. I am authorising this work to start on Tuesday 22nd unless contrary instructions are received from you. Work will be supervised by representative of Chief Constructor Gibraltar. Am informed Commander Anderson U.S. Navy arrived Oran next week to take over dock and further action must be decided after consultation with him.

Your 191014A/ and my 211220A refer.

(F.O.G.M.A. 211224A to C. in C. Med. Admiralty).

/ Request whether practicable to tow A.F.D. 32 to Gibraltar for repairs). (See 261839A).

GARDINER
Frigate
on passage
to U.S.A.
with L.S.Ts. Your 181756. Regret owing to primitive shore facilities in Horta 358 and 165 will not be ready before Saturday 26th Jan. at the earliest.
2. Request Frigates may proceed to U.S. destinations and L.S.Ts. sailed when weather permits to rendezvous with next flight of Frigates returning to U.S.
(GARDINER 211401 to C. in C. Plymouth)
(See 221015A)

SUPERB
Cruiser
and destroyers. Intend to sail SUPERB with CHEVIOT and CHILDERS in company 1400A 22nd Jan. via Medri routes to Malta to work up.
2. Speed as requisite for exercises on passage E.T.A. to be reported direct.
5. SUPERB acknowledge and sail ships to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 211550A to C. in C. Malta).

21.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

- FORMIDABLE My 151043, 181503 and 191044, none to all.
A.C. WILTON Capetown departure FORMIDABLE with WILTON in
destroyer company.
(for reserve) 2. FORMIDABLE routed direct to Z buoy (approaches
on passage to Spithead) thence Portsmouth. E.T.A. Outer Spit
to U.K. buoy 1430Z Feb. 7th.
3. WILTON direct to Freetown for onward routing
by Capt. in Charge West Africa to Gibraltar
and Devonport.
4. S.O.A. 14 knots.
(C. in C.S.A. 211531B to Admiralty)

21.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

14th D.F. Taking ships of the 14th D.F. named in address
and M.T.Bs. under your orders proceed to take M.T.Bs. in tow
for Alexandria. and sail to Alexandria about 1700A 25th Jan.

2. Routed by appropriate Medri routes, speed
as convenient for towing, reporting E.T.A.
24 hours in advance.

4. F.O.L.E.M. is requested to implement paragraph 2 (D) of
my 311515 Dec.

5. Acknowledge.

(C. in C. Med. 211115 to Capt. D (14). Capt. D. (3) JERVIS
CHEVRON, CHEQUERS, CHAPLET.)

Meeting of
Parliamentary
Secretary and
King Farouk.
Re Staff
talks
concerning
projected
Egyptian
Navy.

With the concurrence of the Ambassador I
presented the Parliamentary Secretary to His
Majesty King Farouk at Montazah Palace on
Saturday, 19th January and reported progress
in recent staff talks concerning the projected
Egyptian Navy.

2. The King told us of his keenness for an
Egyptian Navy and how he intended to see it
through as none of his Ministers knew much of
seafaring matters.

3. We explained to the King that while Admiralty
were anxious to assist in the training of
Personnel for his Fleet in the United Kingdom as
much as possible, many other nations had calls and claims to
make.

4. I then touched on the thorny question of a Mission which all
have carefully avoided up to date. After explaining to him the
serious deterioration of certain vessels transferred to the
Greeks through indifferent maintenance, His Majesty agreed that
technical assistance in running the ships would be necessary.

5. He also raised the question of a Naval Attache which he
said he would welcome - I will raise this with the Ambassador.

6. Lastly I asked whether they could make use of H.M.S.
CARLISLE as an accommodation for seaman and stokers training
ship if I could get approval for the transfer of this ship for
a few thousand pounds local technical opinion is that she has
little value except scrap. May I be informed subject to
approval of the lowest sum for which Admiralty would be prepared
to let her go to the Egyptians.

7. The Parliamentary Secretary gave me considerable support
and assured His Majesty that he would represent his wishes
favourably at home. His Majesty undoubtedly appreciated his
visit and he was warm in his thanks to me personally for
assistance over the project, I feel that if we can now press
on with these matters good progress might be made.

8. The King also asked if his large Yacht MAHROUSSA could
again be refitted and modernised in a United Kingdom Port.
(F.O.L.E.M. 211524 to Admiralty)

see 09184573 Feb 4 r 061258 March.

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21.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Air Operations A.C.S.E.A. 211000Z to Air Ministry London)
S.E. Asia (See Lion Copy).
2-15th.

Minesweeping Weekly report of M/S progress No. 5. J current
report. operations.
(A) Serial 15 Nindings Area 6th M.S.F. sweeping
E.F.M.S. 422 line.
(B) Cut is Japanese type 93 moored mines up to
and including 18th Jan. 11 of these were dummies.
(B) 3 B.Y.M.S. expected to leave. Bangkok for Singapore on
22nd Jan. report on sweeping not yet received.
(C) After mining of HIGHLAND BRIGADE 18th Jan. available
B.Y.M.S. carried out magnetic sweep in Singapore strait with
negative result.
2. Future operations serials F and H Penang area CORBRAE sails
Singapore for Penang 21st Jan. and 166th M.S.F. following day.
(F.O.M.F.A. 211025 to C. in C.E.I. Admiralty).

BULL base Following received from BULL begins:-
depot ship As complement has not been reduced to a holding
Massawa. party, instructions are requested whether this
establishment may now become a tender. Full
pay accounts held.
2. As Massawa has now reverted to Mediterranean
Command, propose BULL becomes tender to SHEBA from date to
be reported by BULL.
(C. in C.E.I. 211220 to C. in C. Med). *RNO Massawa 080907C Fd,
FOLEM*

11th M.S. 584C of 29th Dec. 1945. Take FLYING FISH and
Flotilla. MAGICIENNE under your orders and sail from Trinco,
as follows:-
(A) 1600EF 23rd Jan.
(B) Singapore.
(C) 10 knots.
(Com. i.c. Trinco. 211624 to MAENAD)
(See 241432)

SECRET

E1
IN
120A

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

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

FROM A.C.S.E.A.

*air operations
SE Asia*

211000Z January

Date 22.1.46

Recd. No T.O.R.

CYPHER

ADDRESSED. Air Ministry London

IMPORTANT

DC.158

KX.43000

Personal for C.A.S. from Allied C. in C.

The review of air operations in South East Asia covering period 2 to 15 January inclusive reads as follows.

Para. 2. Java. During the period the improvement in the political and military situation reported in my last summary continued and the R.A.F. was not called upon to undertake any offensive action in Java. Much close support however has been given to the Army this contributing to a reduction in the casualties sustained by the ground forces and RAPWI. Thunderbolts in 60 and 81 Squadrons gave air cover to military convoys moving along the roads between Batavia, Buitenzorg and Bandoeng. This deterred the Indonesians from ambushing our troops and the columns were thus rendered secure from attack.

Para. 3. On the 12th January two Thunderbolts patrolled an armed column proceeding from Buitenzorg to Tjandoer. At one point the convoy was halted before a damaged bridge and the aircraft flew ahead to investigate the possibility of an ambush. Not far distant at Toegoe an open car was seen as well as several small road blocks spaced at intervals along the road. Armoured patrols cleared the blocks although in so doing fire from concealed Indonesian snipers was encountered. Meanwhile the bridge was repaired and the convoy continued. Aircraft subsequently observed road blocks ahead being removed apparently by the local inhabitants. Further sorties were flown by 81 Squadron under poor weather conditions covering our troops on the same road. At one point snipers were in action against our convoys and the Thunderbolts sighted several Indonesians taking cover behind a house. They gave the position to the Army, mortars were used and a direct hit was scored. The convoy then moved on without meeting any further opposition. Tactical reconnaissances were flown by 60 Squadron Thunderbolts in the Soerabaya Krawang and Bekasi areas. At Ploso near Soerabaya the northend of a bridge was reported as damaged but two rail bridges in the vicinity were seen to be serviceable. On the 12th January two Thunderbolts of 60 Squadron made a reconnaissance of Malang airfield. A single engined twin seater bi-plane with Indonesian markings was seen taking off. Dummy attacks were made by the Thunderbolts to intimidate the Pilot and the aircraft landed immediately. The airfield buildings appeared deserted and barrels were scattered around the dispersal areas. On the 15th January two Thunderbolts of the same squadron again flew over Malang airfield and reported men working on aircraft in a hangar North West of the field. An anti-aircraft gun in the vicinity engaged our aircraft with six bursts of 20 ms fire without causing any damage. Mosquitoes also flew tactical reconnaissances in Java in close support of the Army. On the 9th January they reported Indonesians drilling at (Bandoeng?) and eight road blocks were seen on the Batavia-Tangerayd Road. On the 14th January a 31 /3squadron. .

Squadron Dakota left Bandoeng at 0957 hours bound for Kemajoran. At 1002 a signal was received from the aircraft giving the expected time of arrival Kemajoran as 1025. Nothing further was heard but the pilot of a Dutch B.25 reported that he saw the Dakota flying into cloud over Bongkok Mountain South West of Poerwakarta. Despite extremely bad weather a full search by air jungle rescue units and aircraft was carried out. The local T.K.R. have been co-operating but up to the present all attempts to locate the missing crew have been unsuccessful though wreckage has been located among the hills.

Para. 4. The evacuation of Allied prisoners of war and civilian internees continues steadily. Between the 2nd and the 15th January Number 31 (Dakota) Squadron flew 479 RAPWI sorties between Batavia, Bandoeng, Samarang, and Soerabaya carrying passengers, mail, and freight. This Squadron also dropped leaflets in Samarang and made a tactical reconnaissance of Yrawang?. Mitchells, Dakotas, and Catalinas of the Netherlands Squadrons flew 163 RAPWI sorties between 2nd and 15th January. Japanese pilots and Hickory Aircraft have also been utilised on RAPWI duties and flew 59 sorties between Batavia and Tjililetan.

Para. 5. Transport and Ferry Aircraft from R.A.F. Group Ceylon carried out 128 transit and ferry flights covering Indow Malaya and the Cocos Islands 'review ends'.

211000Z

Received in War Registry at 0359/24th January

Circulated by Air Ministry to internal Depts., Min. of Defence, S. of S. Foreign Affairs and Admiralty.

1st Lord
1st S.L.(3)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.

(2)

D.C.(2)
D.S.O.
O.D.(9)
O.I.C.(2)
D.N.I.(5)
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.

EL/EC: (91)

121

21.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and W. Indies.

Frigate
and Cutter
to be
returned
to U.S.A.

NARBROUGH⁰ and FISHGUARD arrived St. Johns
19th Jan. N.O.i.c. Newfoundland is requested
to reply to C.E.S.F. 210415/ being passed to
all.
(D. of Op. Divn. 211353 to C.E.S.F. N.O.i.c.
Newfoundland).
/ Requesting E.T.A. at Boston NARBROUGH⁰ and
FISHGUARD.

Far East and Australia.

DULLISK COVE
(HULL repair
ship)

A.M. 070749 Nov. and my 070747/ neither to all.
2. On completion of landing stores and machinery
about 23rd Jan. intend to sail DULLISK COVE for
U.K. via Singapore and Trincomalee.
3. Ship is available for conveyance of freight
from intermediate port if desired but it is
considered should not be delayed by more than a few days as
about 150 A.S.G. will be embarked.
4. Timber for dunnage is not carried and cannot be supplied
at Hong Kong.
(C. in C. B.P. 210431Z to Admiralty C. in C.E.I)
/ Deployment of repair ships in Far East.

R.T. ENTICER
with A.F.D 20
in tow.

Following received from ENTICER begins:
A.F.D. 20 reports Scow very heavily damaged and
number three flooding tank bulkhead leaning
slightly. At 2300Z 20th case off ENIGMA to stand
by and tow dock stern first if necessary.
ENTICER proceeds with A.F.D. 20 in tow in an
endeavour to find calm water if lee of south east corner of
Biak Island thence weather permitting to Menukwari.
2. Position at 1100Z 21st lat. 0101 degs. 09 mins. south
long. 136 degs. 23 mins. east in calm water. Weather last
24 hours moderate to fresh N.W. wind in long heavy northerly
swell now improving.
(S.B.N.O. Manus 211105Z to N.O.i.c. New Guinea).

Japanese
war crimes U.S.
team - British
participation.

088094.
MA/37. Reference your H/315 050400Z/ from
British Bristas.
1. Suggest personnel mentioned in Troopers 93018
A.G.3 (V.W) of 111725Z (N.T. in W.D) more
suitable than any British Officer now in China.
2. Will S.A.C.S.E.A. say if clearance with
WEDEMEYER is required.
(Machin 211600 to Bristas Tokio).
/ Lieut. Colonel Henderson states that U.S. War Crimes Team
is about to depart from Shanghai for Formosa.

No. 2467/191.

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V"

At Fremantle.

21st January, 1946.

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

7th to 21st JANUARY, 1946.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report of proceedings of H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" under my command from the 7th to 21st January, 1946.

7th January, 1946.

2. This was our last day in Sydney and the forenoon was occupied with preparing for sea and arranging for the embarkation of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Prince William, Prince Richard and suite.

By the courtesy of Major General A.W. LLOYD, C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., the band of the Headquarters, 2nd Australian Army played during the dinner hour, on the jetty for the entertainment of the Ship's company. This gesture was very much appreciated by all hands.

3. At about 1330, two motor cars and luggage for the Royal Party were embarked together with some members of the suite. Their Royal Highnesses and the remainder of the party arrived by barge at 1600 and were received with a Royal Guard and Band. The total composition of the party and their accommodation was as follows:-

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester. | } In Chief of Staff's Suite In the Admiral's Suite. In Captain of the Fleet's and Flag Captain's Cabin. |
| 2. Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Gloucester | |
| 3. His Royal Highness, Prince William. | |
| 4. His Royal Highness, Prince Richard. | |
| 5. Miss Lightbody (Nurse) | |
| 6. Miss Place (Nurse) | |
| 7. Miss Horne (Nursemaid) | |
| 8. Lady D'Arcy de Knayth (aged 8) | |
| 9. Miss Peebles (Governess) | |
| 10. Miss Phipps (Lady-in-Waiting) | In Officers' Cabin. |
| 11. Commander Robertson (Comptroller) | In Flag Lieutenant's Cabin. |
| 12. Miss Horsey (Her Royal Highness's Secretary) | In Admiral's Sec's Cabin. |
| 13. Sergeant Amos, R.M. (His Royal Highness's valet) | } In Officers' Cabins. " " " " " " " " " " " " |
| 14. Miss Elliot (Her Royal Highness's maid) | |
| 15. Miss Church (" " " ") | |
| 16. T.B. GALE (Chauffeur) | |
| 17. W. Halhead (" ") | |

4. At 1630 H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" flying the personal standard of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, slipped from No. 3 Wharf, Woolloomooloo, and sailed for Hobart, passing Sydney Heads at 1724. Guards and Bands were paraded by all ships in harbour, by order of the Vice Admiral Commanding, First Aircraft Carrier Squadron.

8th January, 1946.

5. The passage to Hobart was uneventful and good weather was experienced the whole of the way. Their Royal Highnesses, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Commander A.W.P. ROBERTSON, Royal Navy, Miss PHIPPS, Miss HORSEY and Miss PEEBLES were guests of the Ward Room Mess at dinner during the evening.

9th January, 1946.

6. The ship anchored off Hobart at 1730, the Harbour authorities having recommended that it was inadvisable to berth alongside before the morning. At 1800 His Excellency, the Governor (Admiral Sir Hugh Binney) called on His Royal Highness and was received with a Guard and Band. At about 1830 the Heads of the Services, comprising Brigadier HOAD, C.B.E., Commander V.A.T. RAMAGE, A.D.C., R.A.N., Squadron Leader A.A. DOYLE R.A.A.F. paid their respects to His Royal Highness. At 1940 Their Royal Highnesses proceeded ashore by boat to dine with His Excellency the Governor and returned on board at about 2230. The whole party slept on board that night.

10th January, 1946.

7. At 0630, H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" weighed and proceeded alongside Ocean Pier, Hobart, and the disembarkation of cars and luggage was commenced. At 1000, Their Royal Highnesses and party left the ship by car for Devonport, Tasmania. His Royal Highness was wearing plain clothes and at his request no Guard and Band was paraded. Their Royal Highnesses were pleased to express their appreciation of the arrangements made for their comfort during the voyage.

8. At 1015 on 10th January, 1946, I commenced my round of official calls as follows:-

- 1025 On His Excellency, The Governor (Admiral Sir Hugh Binney) at Government House.
- 1040 On the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon. Robert GOSGROVE, M.H. at Premier's Office.
- 1050 On the Chief Justice, Sir John MORRIS, at Judge's Chambers.
- 1100 On the Commander, Line of Communication Area, Brigadier HOAD, at Anglesea Barracks.
- 1115 On the Lord Mayor, Mr. J. SCINDY, C.B.E., M.H.A. at Town Hall.

Return calls were made as follows:-

- 1200 His Excellency, the Governor - a Guard and Band being paraded.
- 1220 Commander Line of Communication Area, Brigadier HOAD.
- 1230 - 1245 The Premier, Chief Justice, Lord Mayor and Master Warden.

9. In the evening, I attended a Cocktail party given by Dr. and Mrs. Crowther.

Friday, 11th January, 1946.

10. At 1100 I returned the call of the Master Warden, Mr. M.S. MILLAR, at the Marine Board Officer and subsequently left cards at the Presidents of the various Clubs who had been kind enough to make me an Honorary Member.

11. I gave a lunch party on board at which the following honoured me with their presence:-

- His Excellency, the Governor and Lady Binney.
- The Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency, Captain Gold.
- Miss Paul, Secretary to His Excellency.
- Commander V.A.T. Ramage, R.A.N. (N.O.I.C. Hobart)
- Premier and Mrs Cosgrove.
- Lord Mayor and Mrs Scindy.
- Brigadier and Mrs Hoad.

-3-

12. I subsequently drove to the top of Mount Wellington in the car which Brigadier Hoad had kindly placed at my disposal during our stay and attended a Cocktail party at the Navy, Army and Air Force Club at which a speech of welcome was made by the President to which I made a suitable reply. I then proceeded to a reception given by Brigadier and Mrs Hoad.

Saturday, 12th January, 1946.

13. I attended the Race Meeting at Elwick by invitation of the Chairman and Members of the Tasmanian Amateur Jockey Club. All officers and men who wished to attend were admitted free of charge and quite a number availed themselves of this offer.

14. In the evening, accompanied by Captain R.T. WHITE, D.S.O., Captain (E) G.C. COOK, O.B.E., and Commander H.C.O. BULL I dined with His Excellency, the Governor and Lady Binney at Government House.

Sunday, 13th January, 1946.

15. After Divisions and Divine Service on the quarterdeck, I paid a call on the Bishop of Tasmania, The Right Reverend, J.O. GRAMWICK and Mrs GRAMWICK at Bishop's Court. The Chaplain, Canon J.S. BEZZANT, B.D., M.A., preached the sermon at Evensong in the Cathedral.

Monday, 14th January, 1946.

16. Together with 6 officers I attended a luncheon at the Tasmanian Club. Owing to wartime restrictions still prevailing the lunch was quite informal and there were no speeches.

17. A cocktail party was held aboard from 1800 to 2000 which was attended by some 300 to 400 of the local residents. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Binney also honoured us with their presence on this occasion. The party appeared to be most successful.

Tuesday, 15th January, 1946.

18. At 0800 Brigadier Hoad kindly sent his band to play on the jetty as a farewell gesture. The ship slipped from Ocean Pier at 0845 and course was shaped to pass south of Tasmania and thence on a great circle to Fremantle. A short full power trial was carried out during the afternoon to test all the work carried out during the refit and especially the re-alignment of the Port Outer Shaft. The trial was successful as reported in my message timed 150155 January to the Admiral Superintendent Sydney, and repeated to The Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet, The Vice Admiral (C), and The Flag Officer Commanding, First Battle Squadron, British Pacific Fleet.

19. The ship was open to visitors from 1400 to 1800 on 10th, 12th and 13th January, and no trouble was experienced as the numbers were not excessive and in no way approached the number which had to be dealt with at Melbourne.

20. Entertainment. Enclosures I and II of this letter show the entertainment provided for officers and ratings. Apart from this, there was much individual hospitality and both officers and men were very warmly received. The visits to the Cascade Brewery were perhaps the most popular event.

21. The behaviour of the majority of the ship's company was excellent, but there were unfortunately a few cases of drunkenness and disorderliness amongst a section of the less reputable members of the crew.

Wednesday, 16th January to Monday, 21st January, 1946.

22. The passage to Fremantle was uneventful. A strong south-westerly wind was encountered during the last 2 days of the passage. Opportunity was taken to exercise General Quarters and test through all communications after the refit and also to swing for adjustment of the magnetic compass.

23. The ship anchored in Gage Roads, Fremantle at 0830 on Monday,
21st June, 1946.

I have the honour to be sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Sgt. B. B. SCHOFIELD

CAPTAIN.

The Vice Admiral (Q)
British Pacific Fleet.

(Copies to:-The Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet,
and The Flag Officer Commanding,
First Battle Squadron, British Pacific Fleet.)

1946.

Naval Staff Officer,

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V".

HOBART.

VISIT TO HOBART.

JANUARY 1946

Following facilities and entertainment are being provided by:-

- (a) City Council and Government.
- (b) Cascade Brewery, and
- (c) Racing Clubs.

(A)

(i) SCENIC BUS TRIPS

In and around Hobart including Mount Wellington and Mount Nelson. for 100 Men each trip.

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday 10th | Leave Ship 1330 - Return 1530 |
| Friday 11th | Leave Ship 0945 - Return 1145 |
| Monday 14th | Leave Ship 1330 - Return 1530 |

NOTE: Desired that Men embark and leave on time.

(ii) DANCES - All at City Hall

Friday 11th Free admittance to Dances.
 Saturday 12th (Saturday is old time dancing)

Monday 14th Invitation dance arranged by City Council.
 Each Member of Ship's Company allowed to bring one lady. Partners will be available for those not bringing their own.

(iii) FREE TRAVEL.

Free travel on Tram and Bus Routes except to FERN TREE and TAROON.

(B)

CASCADE BREWERY INSPECTION.

Thursday 10th Trolley buses to accommodate 150 will leave
 Friday 11th Customs House at 1540 each day.
 Monday 14th

(C)

FREE ADMITTANCE.

Free admittance to Race Courses - Horse, Hots and Dogs.

.....

- NOTES: (i) Allies Leave Club - Franklin Square - is centre for organisation of private entertainment. Mrs Cooley in charge.
- (ii) Sports Officer to advise Secretary to Naval Officer-in-Charge (Lieutenant Simmons) of any recreational grounds required.
- (iii) "HOON" Depot facilities - Tennis Court and Billiard Tables (2) are at disposal of Ship's Company.

Enclosure II to H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V"'s Report of Proceedings - 21st January, 1946

Naval Staff Office,
HOBART.

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V".

VISIT TO HOBART - JANUARY, 1946.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME - OFFICERS.

Thursday, 10th

1800 President - Mrs K.B. DAVIES - and Members, Victoria League (Young Contingent) invite 50 Officers to a Sherry Party at Club Room, 24, Murray Street.

Note: Social Secretary (Ship's) to advise Miss MORRIS-MILLER, Tel 3714 - of number accepting by 1200K, Thursday, 10th January.

Friday, 11th

1300 Captain's Lunch Party onboard.

1730 Navy, Army and Air Force Club "At Home" - Captain and say 25 Officers. Corner of Davey and Murray Streets.

1800 Brigadier and Mrs Head "At Home" - Angleses Barracks - Captain and 6 Wardroom Officers.

Saturday 12th
p.m.

Chairman - Mr. R.W. Hatchorn - and Committee of Tasmanian Amateur Jockey Club "At Home" - Elwick Race Course.

1940 Dinner - Government House - Invitation.

Sunday, 13th

Free

Monday, 14th

1245 President - Mr C.T. Butler - and Committee, Tasmanian Club invite Captain and 6 Wardroom Officers to Lunch at Club.

Note) See Hobart Port Orders for information re Clubs and Recreation.

22.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

Italy.
Taranto,
closing of
A.S. British
Naval Base.

1. Taranto will close as a British Naval Base at 2359 on January 31st and Captain i/c will be withdrawn. N.O.I.C. Trieste will then assume operational control under C. in C. Med. of the whole of Adriatic north of 40° N. The area previously under control of Capt. i/c Taranto will then revert to direct operational control of C. in C. Mediterranean.

22.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ROYALIST,
cruiser, on
passage from
East Indies.

Intend to sail ROYALIST 0900A/24th Jan. to
Portsmouth.

(2) Speed 14, E.T.A. a.m. 28th Jan.

(4) P.C.S. and weather report in accordance with
Sl/45 at 29 to be signalled 0600Z and 1800 at 29
to signalled 0600Z and 1800Z daily to F.O.G.M.A.
until crossing 43° N. then to C. in C. Plymouth
both repeated to Admiralty.

(6) ROYALIST acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A., 221009A to ROYALIST, C. in C. Portsmouth.)

GARDINER,
frigate, on
passage to
U.S.A. with
L.S.Ts.

Presume you will reply to GARDINER's 211401 as I
have no information on future movements of those
flights.

(F.O.G.M.A., 221015A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

See 201605Z (AM.1)

South Atlantic.

Movement.

Arrival LANCASTER CASTLE from A.S.R. Station
221000/21 Jan.

(S.O.(I) Freetown, 221150 to Admty.)

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22.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TRUMPETER, G.P. carrier, on passage to U.K. Sail at 0800B/23rd Gibraltar speed 13 knots E.T.A. a.m. 29th. Acknowledge. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 220928B to TRUMPETER.)

R.T. FLAUNT, A.F.D. 67. 548C of 29.12.1945. Take A.F.D. 67 under your orders and sail from Massawa as follows - A. 0600/23rd. B. Aden. C. 4½. G. To tow A.F.D. 67 from Massawa in accordance with A.F.O. 5468/45. (R.N.O. Massawa, 221026C to FLAUNT.)

Taranto, closing as British Naval Base. Capt. i/c Taranto will be withdrawn at 2359/31st Jan. when Taranto will close as a British Naval Base except that a small nucleus of British technical personnel will remain to wind up British interests.

(2) Thereafter N.O.I.C. Trieste is to assume operational control under C. in C. Med. of the whole of Adriatic north of lat. 40° N. The remainder of the area previously under the control of Capt. i/c Taranto will then revert to the direct operational control of C. in C. Med. (C. in C. Med., 221610 to Med. Station General Message 188B, N.O.I.C. Trieste, F.O.I.L.)

Clearing of minefields etc. re It. participation in. Your 101528. It is confirmed that at this stage and until the Peace Treaty is signed Italians could not be given full membership of Board, nevertheless the advantages of such a step are fully appreciated and the matter will be reconsidered when the Peace Treaty is signed. (Hd. of M. Br. I, 221744 to C. in C. Med., F.O.I.L.)

Gunboats for E. I. Stn. from Med. Sail escorting SCARAB, APHIS and COCKCHAFFER at 0630B/23rd to Aden report time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal, ships are calling at Port Sudan to top up fuel. Gunboats D.O.P. Gunboats are for onward routeing East Indies, C. in C. Med.'s 231028 Dec. refers. F.O.L.E.M.'s 291258 (N.T. in W.D.) regarding ST. BRIDES BAY also refers. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 221745B to ST. BRIDES BAY.)

/KEMPENFELT...

22.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------|------------------|
| KEMPENFELT, WIZARD, on passage to U.K. from B.P.F. for reserve. | Intend following programme for KEMPENFELT and WIZARD on passage to U.K. | | |
| | <u>Arrival</u> | <u>Port</u> | <u>Departure</u> |
| | a.m. 22nd Jan. | Aden | p.m. 22nd Jan. |
| | p.m. 26th Jan. | Suez, P.Said | p.m. 28th Jan. |
| | a.m. 3rd Feb. | Gibraltar | a.m. 5th Feb. |
| a.m. 8th Feb. | Plymouth | a.m. 9th Feb. | |

WIZARD
Sheerness, KEMPENFELT.

(2) Fuel at Port Said and Gibraltar.

(3) Canal transit by night 26/27 January.

(Capt. D.27, 221910 to Admty., F.O.L.E.M., C. in C. Med.)

MAURITIUS, A.M. 212005 Dec. not to C.S. 15 or SIRIUS. It is
cruiser, now expected that MAURITIUS will leave U.K. for
for Med. Fleet the Mediterranean about third week in April.
SIRIUS will remain on the Mediterranean Station
until relieved by MAURITIUS.
(V.C.N.S., 222158 to Cs. in C. Med. Portsmouth.)

22.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

re ERITREA,
It. sloop,
with repatriates for
Italy,
black market
transactions,
etc.

My 161010 (N.T. in W.D.) British N.L.O. ERITREA I.S. has reported that there is reason to believe that her officers and men have used the opportunity provided by the collection of Italian internees and refugees to engage in large scale black market transactions and smuggling. It is not unlikely that an effort will be made to land refugees on board before reaching Italy ostensibly so that ship can proceed to Shanghai for more.

(2) It is also suspected that collusion, exists with friends in Italian battleship in Vera Cruz with a view to their selling in Italy quantities of black market produce which is now alleged to be on board.

My 011421 not to Cdre. Aden refers.

(3) Discipline is reported as bad..

(4) B.N.L.O. and Liaison personnel have been withdrawn. 598C of 20th Jan. not to all refers.

(C. in C. E.I.S., 221138 EF to C. in C. Med.)

Dutch S/M
O.23, on
passage to
Holland.

Following is approximate programme for Netherlands Submarine O.23 which left Batavia 21st January. Dates are subject to alteration at C.Os. discretion.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Leave</u> |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 26th Jan. | Bangkok | 28th Jan. |
| | Pennan? | |
| 6th Feb. | Trincomalee | 9th Feb. |
| 18th Feb. | Aden | 20th Feb. |
| 25th Feb. | Port Said | 28th Feb. |
| 7th March | Gibraltar | 9th March |
| 14th March | Rotterdam | - |

(2) Dutch ex prisoners of war will be embarked at Bangkok. Fuel and provisions requested at Trincomalee. Port Said and Gibraltar S/M directed to signal E.T.A. and requirements at least 24 hours in advance.

(3) O.23 will be under the command of C. in C. Neth. Forces in East until arrival at Port Said and there after under command of C. in C. Netherlands Navy Holland (B.D.Z.)

(C. in C. E.I.S., 221626 to N.O.I.C. Bangkok, N.O.I.C. Trincomalee.)

HIGHWAY,
L.S.D. on
passage
to U.K.

Intend following programme for HIGHWAY on passage to U.K.

| <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| - | Colombo | 21st Jan. |
| 28th Jan. | Aden | 29th Jan. |
| 2nd Feb. | Suez | 3rd Feb. |
| 3rd Feb. | Port Said | 4th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Gibraltar | 10th Feb. |
| 14th Feb. | Chatham | - |

(2) Fuelling at Aden and Gibraltar.

(3) Canal transit 3rd Feb.

(C. in C. E.I., 221716 EF to C. in C. Med., Admty., HIGHWAY.)

War Diary

22.1.1946.
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies

PARRET
frigate
for
return to
U.S.A. and
L.S.T.239.

H.M. L.S.T. 239, and H.M.S. PARRET sailed from Bermuda in company for Norfolk and New York respectively at 1330Z on the 22nd January. Communications in accordance with A.F.O. S1/45 L.S.T.239 instructed to call U.S.N.O.B. Norfolk on Port Wave when within 100 miles Cape Henry for entry instructions and to detach H.M.S. PARRET to New York when no longer required as escort, S. of A. H.M. L.S.T.239 and PARRET when in company 5 knots H.M.S. PARRET on being detached 10 knots E.T.A. L.S.T. 239 28th Jan, H.M.S. PARRET to report E.T.A. New York on being detached other ships to report P.C. and S. at 1200Z daily to C. in C. A.W.I. C.O.A.C. and B.A.D. Ends. (Com. 1/c Bermuda, 221350Z to B.A.D. Washington).

Re FISHGUARD
defects.
Request
permission
proceed
independent-
ly Boston
Mass.

You should obtain instructions from N.O.I.C. Newfoundland. Your 201750 refers. (D.O.D., 221410 to NARBROUGH).

NARBROUGH
frigate
FISHGUARD
cutter
for return
to U.S.A.

Admiralty's 211353, not to all. H.M.S. NARBROUGH and H.M.S. FISHGUARD departed St. Johns 1900Z today, Tuesday, 22nd Jan. E.T.A. Boston Light Vessel 1300Z Friday 25th. (N.O.I.C. Newfoundland 222015Z to C.E.S.F.)

23.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RT. STORM KING In company with B.Y.M.S. 2149 - my position.
with B.Y.M.S. 0800/23rd - latitude 38 degs. 21 mins. 48 secs.
2149. north, longitude 09 degs. 28 mins. 50 secs. west.
Course 166 degs., speed 12 knots.
Wind northerly force 6, rough sea and heavy
confused swell, cloudy, visibility good.
(STORM KING 230810Z to F.O.G.M.A. C. in C. Plymouth)

BASUTO Consul Horta reports BASUTO sailed from Horta
B.D.V. on a.m. 22nd. for Humber, E.T.A. 31st Jan.
passage to (F.O.G.M.A. 230938A to Admiralty).
U.K. from
Trinidad.

MIRROR MIRROR has instructions from C. and W. London
Cable ship to carry out following cable repair programme.
programme. (A) Lisbon - Gibraltar 2 in position 3700 N.
0716 W.
(B) Gibraltar - Malta 3 in position 100 miles
from Malta.
(C) Gibraltar - Malta 2.
2. Ship will sail for (A) 24th Jan. if weather permits.
(F.O.G.M.A. 231046A to C. in C. Med.)

LULWORTH Arrival 1000/Z today LULWORTH, STOCKHAM. E.T.D.
Cutter 1000/24th. S.O.A. Knots 12. LULWORTH E.T.A.
STOCKHAM Boston noon 31st.
Frigate STOCKHAM E.T.A. Philadelphia noon 1st.
on passage (LULWORTH 231240Z to C. in C. Portsmouth. Admiralty
for return B.A.D. Wash.)
to U.S.A.

South Atlantic.

Destroyers A.M. 171817. On completion of trials expect to
for Med. sail CATTERICK and LAUDERDALE from Durban Jan.
31st for Malta.
2. Approximate programme.

| <u>Place.</u> | <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Durban. | - | 31st Jan. |
| Kilindini. | 5th Feb. | 6th Feb. |
| Aden. | 11th Feb. | 11th Feb. |
| Suez. | 15th Feb. | 16th Feb. |
| Port Said. | 17th Feb. | 18th Feb. |
| Malta | 20th Feb. | |

(C. in C.S.A. 231434 to Admiralty. C. in C.E.I)

128A SA

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.

231241/January.

From: C. in C. S.A.

Date: 25.1.46.

Recd: 2035

Naval Code (X) CORRECTION

To: Admiralty.
Info Capt. in Charge, West Africa, F.O.G.M.A., C. in C. E.I.,
Com. Durban, Com. Supt. Simonstown.

C. in C. E.I. 060924/ and 281047 both November not to all. TEVIOT was recommissioned with Royal Navy steaming party on 17th January and will be ready to sail from Simonstown for U.K. about 30th January.

(2) Following is approximate programme.

| <u>Place</u> | <u>Arrive</u> | <u>Depart</u> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Simonstown | - | 30th January. |
| Freetown | 11th February. | 12th February. |
| Gibraltar | 19th February | 20th February. |
| U.K. | 25th February | - |

(3) Request destination in U.K. to which ship is to be sailed.

(4) Mails have been arranged.

Am SA 231241 *Admiralty*

Intend sailing TEVIOT from Trinco to South Africa 9th December. TEVIOT will be manned by R.N. for passage to U.K. on completion of repairs mid. December.

- 2nd S.L.
- O.D. (9) for action
- D. Movements (7)
- M. (2)
- N.A. 2 S.L. (2)
- C.W. (2)
- A.C.N.P (5)
- D. of M.
- D.C. (2)
- D.S.O
- D.T.A.S.W. (3)
- Mails
- W.D.
- W.R. No. 2.

J.R.83

129

23.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

GORLESTON
Cutter
on passage
to U.K.
to U.S.A.

Sail at 0730B 24th Jan. by Medri and as safe navigation permits to Gibraltar. Speed 12 knots. E.T.A. noon 30th Jan. (F.O.L.E.M. 231115B to GORLESTON.)

Royal Hellenic Navy transfer of ships to on loan.

Admiralty message 121303 (C) trawlers are not required by Greeks who are willing to man six B.Y.M.S. and four M.M.S. instead. My 171037/ Jan. refers. (D) two M.Ls. were transferred on 12th Nov. in anticipation of approval need to replace one defective M.L. has since arisen and approval was requested in my 101504 (N.T. in W.D) Jan. (C. in C. Med. 231445 to Admiralty S.B.N.O. Greece)

GRADISCA
Italian
Personnel
Ship ashore-
Gavdo Island
(Crete)

Proceed with despatch to position 34. 48. North 24. 09 East to render assistance to the Italian Personnel ship GRADISCA reported ashore East End Gavdo Island, reporting your E.T.A. (S.B.N.O. (G) 232310B to FANCY, BRIGAND. MAX BERENDT.) (See 260045B).

23.1.1946.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

BERWICK
Cruiser
trooping. 548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Aden as follows:-
(A) 1730C 23rd.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 18 knots.
(Com. Aden. 231035C to BERWICK.)

NEWCASTLE
Cruiser
trooping. Propose following programme for NEWCASTLE on passage to U.K. All dates Feb. unless shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Colombo. | 26th Jan. |
| 31st Jan. | Aden. | 1st. |
| 4th. | Suez. | 4th. |
| 4th. | Port Said. | 5th. |
| 11th. | Plymouth. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden and Port Said.
3. Canal transit daylight 4th Feb.
(C. in C. E.I. 231054 to Admiralty. C. in C. Med.)

PRINSES
BEATRIX
L.S.I. (M)
on passage
to U.K. Propose following programme for PRINSES BEATRIX on passage to U.K.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Colombo. | 25th Jan. |
| 30th Jan. | Aden. | 31st Jan. |
| 4th Feb. | Suez. | 4th Feb. |
| 4th Feb. | Port Said. | 5th Feb. |
| 10th Feb. | Gibraltar. | 12th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Devonport. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said and Gibraltar.
3. Cancel transit daylight 9th Feb.
(C. in C.E.I. 231252 to Admiralty. C. in C. Med.)

FENCER
trooping
defect. Your 161156. Can a date of completion now be given as FENCER is urgently needed for special trooping service.
(D.O.D. 232010 to C. in C.E.I)

TEST and
TRENT
frigates
transfer to
R.I.N. C. in C.E.I. 170906 and C. in C.S.A. 191123, not to all. Government of India have now accepted TRENT for transfer to R.I.N. but wish to return SIND and GONDWANA to R.N. as being surplus to requirements.

2. C. in C.S.A. is requested to sail TEST to Bombay after completion of Indianisation.
3. C. in C.E.I. is requested to sail TEST to Bombay after completion of Indianisation.
3. C. in C.E.I. is requested to make arrangements to transfer TRENT to R.I.N. in Ceylon.
4. Further instructions will be issued about future of GONDWANA and SIND when returned to R.N.
(Admiralty 232041. to C. in C.E.I. C. in C. S.A.)

*see 121805 Feb.
+ 181707 Feb.
+ 212103 Feb.
+ 201643 "
251014 May.*

23.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Visit of
AJAX to
South America
and S.S.
HIGHLAND
MONARCH
with internees
ex GRAF SPEE.

Concurrence of all governments concerned has now been received from visit of AJAX to ports given in programme below. Primary object is for purpose of escorting S.S. HIGHLAND MONARCH, with internees ex GRAF SPEE and TACOMA and also certain German civilians from South America to Germany. Opportunity is also being taken to pay first visit since war to ports in Brazil, Argentine and Uruguay.

2. Programme of visits for AJAX is as follows:-

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Sail.</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 23rd Jan. | Santos. | 26th Jan. |
| 27th Jan. | Rio de Janeiro. | 3rd Feb. (re-fuel) |
| 6th Feb. | Montevideo. | 11th Feb. |
| 11th Feb. | Buenos Aires. | 16th Feb. (re-fuel) |
| 25th Feb. | Freetown. | 25th Feb. (re-fuel) |
| 5th March. | Chatham. | - |

HIGHLAND MONARCH will embark GRAF SPEE and civilian internees at Buenos Aires and call Montevideo 16th Feb. for internees ex TACOMA.

3. AJAX will be present at Rio de Janeiro during the first part of festivities in connection with the inauguration of the new President of Brazil.
4. In view of recent leakage to the Press respecting duties of HIGHLAND MONARCH, subject has now been degraded to unclassified, except in regard to actual arrangements for selection and embarkation of internees, which will continue to be treated on a secret basis.
5. It is regretted that this information has not previously been passed direct to you. Please see Washington telegram No. 108. Buenos Aires reply time of origin 072005 F.O. telegram No. 241 passed for info. to Washington F.O. telegram unnumbered dated 10th Jan. addressed Washington, and Buenos Aires departmental No. 2 of 14th Jan. repeated Washington. (D.O.D., A.C.N.S.(O) 232126 to B.A.D. Wash.)

SPURNPOINT
M.S. (L.S)
on passage
from
Vancouver
to U.K.

Your 222313Z(N.T. in W.D.) Not to Admiralty
SPURNPOINT will be routed via New York to
embark passengers and stores after leaving
canal zone.
2. Admiralty signal U.K. destination.
(B.A.D. 232201Z to C.O.P.C)

23.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

GUARDIAN Request GUARDIAN be sailed 28th Jan. for
net layer Singapore for onward routeing to U.K.
for U.K. (C. in C. B.P.F. 230133Z Com. Hong Kong.)

Cruiser Departed Sydney 0530Z 23rd Jan.
DEVONSHIRE DEVONSHIRE for Fremantle. F.O.S.A. 180048 not
Trooping. to all refers. Route direct. S.O.A. 19 knots.
E.T.A. Breakwater 0200Z 28th Jan.
(F.O.i.c. Sydney 230539Z to N.O.i.c. Fremantle
A.C.N.B. N.O.i.c. Port Melbourne.)

Minesweeping B.P.F. minesweeping report to Admiralty No. 6
report. in report number 5 for 14 mines read 16:
(A) 10th M.S.F. completed partial magnetic
clearance of Lamma Channel with negative results,
Flotilla now storing preparatory to sailing for
Kure to widen the entrance channel.
(B) 180th B.Y.M.S. completed clearance of Tathone Channel now
carrying out magnetic clearance of east Lamma Channel.
(C) Canton River clearance progressing.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 230750Z to Admiralty.)

KING GEORGE V. Departed Fremantle 0100Z/23rd Jan. KING GEORGE V.
battleship for Capetown F.O.S.A.'s 020121 refers. Route
on passage through following position:
to U.K. (A) 35 deg. South 90 deg. East.
(B) 35 deg. South 60 deg. East.
(C) 32 deg. South 40 deg. East.
S.O.A. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots. E.T.A. Capetown 0800Z/7th Feb.
Request on arrival Capetown.
(A) Passage charts from Capetown to Portsmouth.
(B) 250 tons Furnace oil.
(C) 300 tons drinking water.
(N.O.i.c. Fremantle 230926Z to C. in C.S.A).

Japan The following ships under command of Captain J.
Establishment Grindle, R.N. are assigned to Force "C" with the
of British task of establishing British Naval port
Naval port facilities and Directorate at Kure. Ships will
facilities arrive Kure on dates shown.
re Kure. 2. H.M.S. GLENEARN APF. 1st Feb.
Ships H.M.I.S. CAUVERY DE. 2nd Feb.
assigned to EMPIRE CHARMAN AK. 2nd Feb.
Force "C". H.M. L.S.T. 3505. 2nd Feb.
EMPIRE SALVAGE AO. 2nd Feb.
10th M.S. Flotilla. 6th Feb.
(Approx)
H.M.S. MULL OF KINTYRE AR. 6th Feb.
(Approx.)
TANCRED AO (Small) 11th Feb.
(Approx.)
GOLDEN MEADOW AWK (Small). 11th Feb.
(Approx.)

3. Captain Grindle is being instructed to report for duty
to Comnavjap who is requested to allot a Task Group number

/to...

23.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia contd.,

to this Force if considered necessary.

4. Effective 26th Jan. except that Tenth Minesweeping Flotilla and MULL OF KINTYRE will not report for duty with Force "C" until arrival at Kure.

(C. in C. B.P.F. 231713Z to S.C.A.P. C. in C. Pac. Com. 7th Fleet.)

MONTCLARE
destroyer
depot ship
on passage
to U.K.

Request intention for MONTCLARE on arrival in U.K. and ship's future employment may be communicated. This information is desired in order to facilitate making preparation for leave and reduction to reserve or pay off if applicable. A.M. 061758 Dec. para (2) (not to all) refers.

(2) Ship is due for docking and refit, but there are no major items at present on the defect list.
(C.O.F.T.B.P.2. 231746C to Admiralty. C. in C. Portsmouth.)

War Diary.

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ALBACORE
Fleet M/S.

Intend to sail ALBACORE 0830A 26th Jan via
Medri routes to Malta.

2. Speed 10. E.T.A. 0930A 30th Jan.

5. ALBACORE acknowledge and sail to comply.

(F.O.G.M.A. 241011A to ALBACORE. C. in C. Med.)

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Cable repair ship. S.B.N.O. Greece 231322 (N.T. in W.D) not to Admiralty. ST. MARGARETS is to be temporarily withdrawn from work on A/S fixed defence cables to restore Alexandria Athens cable.

2. MIRROR has already a full programme of work repairing main Lisbon Gibraltar Malta cables.
(C. in C. Med. 241304. F.O.L.E.M.)

Your 241304/

Greekmil now report that Alexandria Athens cable again tests as normal. Fault still exists but urgency for repair is not so immediate.

(S.B.N.O. (G) 241930B to C. in C. Med.)

/ ST. MARGARETS to be temporarily withdrawn to repair cable.

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

BULOLO 548C of 29th Dec. 1945.
L.S.H. (L) Sail from Aden as follows:-
on passage (A) 1200/24th.
to U.K. (B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 13 knots.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 240900C to BULOLO)

Allocation of Hospital ships for removal French sick from Saigon to France. 6350Q MOV. 6.
(1). In view of delay to CHANTILLY now under repair in France and not expected to be ready before April we have received a request from French Authorities here for allocation of hospital ship CAP ST. JACQUES to move French sick originally programmed to move in CHANTILLY end Jan. for Saigon to France. CAP ST. JACQUES now under repair at Singapore E.T.C. repairs 1st Feb.
(2) Suggest following alternatives.
(A) CAP ST. JACQUES to Saigon for France, KAROA being allocated if required by C. in C. E.I. in replacement.
(B) KAROA allocated to French and CAP ST. JACQUES retained by C. in C.E.I.
(3) KAROA E.T.A. Singapore 25th Jan. thence Madras for complete disembarkation.
(4) Request early decision. Meantime C. in C. E.I. requested to comment.
(H.Q. Alfsea 241000 to Troopers. C. in C.E.I.)
(See C. in C.E.I. 251440EF. H.Q. Alfsea.)

Cruiser NEWCASTLE Trooping. Ref. 548C of 29/12/45, sail from Colombo as follows:-
(A) 0800EF 26th Jan.
(B) Aden.
(C) 20 knots.
(F.O. Ceylon 241110 to NEWCASTLE.)

SHILLAY Destroyer to join 8th M.S.F. Cancel my 111222/
(C. in C.E.I. 241207EF to Com. Aden.)
Request SHILLAY be sailed to escort B.Y.M.S. 2258 to Bombay.

11th M.S. Flotilla. My 211624 sailed less MAGICIENNE delayed pending investigation of underwater ^{damage} caused by grounding.
(Com. i.c. Trinco. 241432 to F.O.M.F.A.)

Air Target ship PENN not required on E.I.S. Naval Air Targets A.L. M/P.D. (?02)9/45 of 11th Oct. 1945. shows provision of 3 destroyers as air target ships for E.I.S. A.M. 051418A/ Sept. allocated PENN as air target ship for E.I.S. and for air target ship duties at Singapore.
2. There has been no work for PENN as an air target ship either here or at Singapore nor is any work foreseen in near future.

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

- 3. The provision of A.T. ships appear very uneconomical of manpower and is not justified by carrier strength of future fleet as planned.
 - 4. It is recommended that no provision for special naval air target ship be made at present time.
 - 5. It is intended to sail PENN for U.K. in Feb.
(C. in C.E.I.S. 241511EF to Admiralty) (see 261448 and 281227. F.E. & A.)
- ✓ Allocation of air target ships to B.P.F.

WAYLAND
(dockyard
ship) and
repair
facilities
Trincomalee.

C. in C. B.P.F.'s 090613 Jan. and C. in C.E.I.'s 270820 Dec. C.S. Bombay's 231705 and A.M. 111554 last 2 not to B.P.F. and (?V.A.) (?Q). WAYLAND now for refit at Bombay has had major boiler breakdown. Present intention is to effect temporary repairs at Bombay to enable passage to be made to U.K.

The reduction of E.I. Fleet to strength given in A.M. 111554 (N.T. in W.D.) enables the loss of repair facilities at Trincomalee represented by WAYLAND to be accepted, providing these reductions are to be effected by June 1946.

In order however to enable AUSONIA to function satisfactorily throughout 1946 it is necessary for her to be docked and undergo refit shortly.

It is requested that ARTIFEX may be sailed to Trincomalee to act as Base Repair Ship for a period of about 6 weeks subsequently proceeding U.K. on return of AUSONIA.

Request C. in C. B.P.F. will indicate date on which ARTIFEX can arrive Trincomalee. Intend sailing MULLION COVE as planned.

LANCASHIRE will not now be required.

(C. in C.E.I. 241601EF to Admiralty)

Admiralty 082000 Feb. C. in C.B.P.F.

TAFF
frigate
Air Sea
Rescue
duty.

My P.C.S. at 1800EF 24th Jan. was 24 degs. 05' N. 63 degs. 05' E. 303 degs. 12 knots.
2. E.T.A. position 24 degs. 50' N. 61 degs. 50' E. at 2330EF 24th Jan. for Air Sea Rescue Duty vice LOCH QUOICH.
(TAF 241815EF to F.O. Ceylon.)

SECRET

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.
(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

SECRET.

D.T.O. 241235Z January.

From: SACSEA.

Date: 25.1.46

Recd. 1340

P/L

Addressed: War Office.
Info: BRISLAB Tokyo. M.A. Chungking. Staff Officer, Shanghai. C. in C. Hong Kong. M.A. Shanghai. C. in C. B.P.F. ALPSEA.

IMMEDIATE. 088356.

SAC 5025/A Cipher 24 Jan. RESTRICTED.

Ref. Bristas H.315 TOO 050400 January subject investigation of war crimes in Formosa.

*Formosa.
Investigation
War crimes*

1. Agree suggestion in your 93018 (AG3(VW)) TOO 111725Z January (not to all) that Major Crossley Lieut. Cross and Sergt. Edwards all recovered PW should proceed to Formosa. Grateful if they could be despatched to report to ALPSEA Warcrimes Codashord Section (Lieut.Col.Lambe) at Goodwood Park Hotel, Singapore. Arrangements will be made by ALPSEA for onward journey to Formosa on receipt of expected time of arrival.
2. It is hoped to send in addition a legally qualified officer if suitable one can be found.
3. Please confirm that this liaison party will report results of investigation to Headquarters, ALPSEA *ic* - For Military Attache Chungking. Please confirm acceptance by US authorities and notify whether party should be routed to Shanghai or Formosa and Headquarters to whom they should report.

Sacsea-D.T.O. 241235Z *hro*.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
Secretary
U.S.S.
H. (4)
D.H.I. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D. of P. (3)
V.D.

Circulated by War Office to War Office Departments, and Admiralty, Defence Office, Foreign Office, A.M.C.S. Secretary of State for Dominions, Secretary of State for Colonies, Secretary of State for India, Cabinet Offices, Treasury Solicitor, J.A.G's Office.

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Commodore
Supt. H.M.C.
Dockyard
Halifax
Lapse of
title.

Effective 1st February. 1946. The title of Commodore Superintendent H.M.C. Dockyard Halifax will lapse. The duties and responsibilities at present involved in that appointment will, from the same date, be assumed by the Superintendent H.M.C. Dockyard Halifax. Signal address S.D.Y. Halifax to whom all correspondence formerly sent to the Commodore Superintendent should be addressed. (N.S.H.Q. 242031Z to Admiralty).

Far East and Australia.

DEVONSHIRE
cruiser
trooping.

Admiralty wish your programme to be accelerated to enable ship to arrive Plymouth on 22nd Feb. 2. Comply if condenser defects permit, reporting amended programme addressees in my 180048. (F.O.S.A. 240004Z to DEVONSHIRE.)

Your 240004Z/ to DEVONSHIRE and Admiralty only. In anticipation of no further condenser trouble intend following amended programme.

(1) Place.

Fremantle.
Colombo.
Aden.
Suez.
Port Said.
Gibraltar.
Plymouth.

E.T.A.

0100 28th Jan.
0300 5th Feb.
1200 10th Feb.
0300 14th Feb.
1500 14th Feb.
0800 19th Feb.
0830 22nd Feb.

E.T.D.

1000 29th Jan.
0430 6th Feb.
0500 11th Feb.
31 ANK/
0600 15th Feb.
1800 19th Feb.

All times G.M.T. Your 180048 refers.

(DEVONSHIRE 240740Z to F.O.S.A.)

/ DEVONSHIRE's programme to be accelerated to enable ship to arrive Plymouth 22nd Feb.

/ as received.

War Memorial
Museum
Canberra
Naval aircraft
for.

A request has been received by F.O.N.A.P. from the Australian War Memorial Committee for three Naval aircraft to be presented for display in the War Memorial Museum at Canberra where there is an historical collection of aircraft. 2. F.O.N.A.F. proposes that a Corsair IV and Avenger III and a Seafire III should be presented. These aircraft can be made available from stocks in Australia which are surplus to R.N.

requirements.

3. Request you will obtain concurrence of U.S. Authorities to the presentation of Corsair and Avenger and subject to this it is intended to approve F.O.N.A.P.'s proposals.

(Vice Contr.(Air) 240012 to B.A.D. F.O.N.A.P. V.A.Q.)

/MONTCLARE....

Rec 218.2.46.
138A

CONFIDENTIAL

OUT

241411/January.

FROM Admiralty.

TO C. in C. B.P.F.

DATE 24.1.46.

C. in C. E.I.

Info. F.O.M.F.A.

F.C.S.A.

N.C.I.C. Batavia.

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.]

N.O.I.C. Sourabaya.
Cdre. Supt. Singapore.
F.O. (S/M).

Naval Code (B) and P/L. by T/P.

In order to fulfil Anglo-American Soviet agreement for destruction of U-Boats, request you will sink in deep water by 15th February, U.219 at Batavia, U.195 at Sourabaya and U.181 and U.862 at Singapore.

241411.
for Head of M.I. (1672).

Approved A.C.N.S. (Ops.)
200 31/1/41 + 16/1/46 Feb.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (Ops).
O.D. (9).
M. (4).
War Diary.

D.B.

24.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia contd.,

MONTCLARE
destroyer
depot ship
on passage
to U.K.

First destination of MONTCLARE in U.K. is
Portsmouth.

2. On arrival passengers and men due for release
and on longest abroad roster are to be discharged.
Foreign service leave is to be given in accordance
with A.F.O. 395/46.

3. Ship has been allocated as depot ship for
7th S/M. Flotilla at Portland to relieve CYCLOPS.

5. Your 231746 not to all refers.
(D.O.D. 241252 to C.O.F.T.)

Loan of
corvette
and Boom
Defence
vessel to
Chinese
Maritime
Customs.

Your 120503. Chinese Maritime Customs have
suspended negotiations regarding the acquisition
by them of H.M. ships pending settlement of the
question of compensation for their ships
requisitioned at Hong Kong in 1941. Their claim
and the question of Admiralty liability have been
referred to Treasury Solicitor. Meanwhile
Chinese Maritime Customs apparently refuse to
take over any ships as part payment of their
claim leaving the balance to be assessed by
arbitration. We understand unofficially that

the matter is not finally closed, and if it is reopened it will
be dealt with with minimum of delay.

(V.C.N.S. 242302 to C. in C. B.P.F. C. in C. Hong Kong.
N.A. Chungking.)

See 300150Z.

25.1.1946.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

A.S.R.
trawlers.

Your 241434/ (N.T. in W.D.) R.O. Corunna reports VALSE sailed as arranged 0910A/24th Jan. POLKA proceeding Ferrol for repairs to boiler feed pump. 2. Have instructed Consul to expedite repairs and report E.T.D.

(F.O.G.M.A. 251032A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/ F.O.G.M.A. to ascertain from R.O. Corunna whether POLKA and VALSE have sailed for Ferrol.

Russian
M/S on
passage
from U.K.
to Black Sea.

C. in C. Plymouth's 201043/. Three Russian Minesweepers stopped Gibraltar 0400 25 Jan. to make good minor defects and sailed 1300A same day.

(F.O.G.M.A. 251422A to C. in C. Med. (M))

/ U.S.S.R. LARCHLAKE (S.O.) CEDARLAKE and EIMLAKE sailed at 1000 20 Jan.

Duala
supplies.

Herewith Capt. i/c. W.Af's. 231837/ (N.T. in W.D.) Begins: Addressed C. in C. S.A. Info. Admiralty.

F.O.G.M.A. From Capt. i.c. W.Af. My 201054

Comar Dakar advises no oil fuel available at

Duala although water is available..ends.

(Freetown C.C.O. 250859?8 to C. in C. S.A. Admiralty.)

/ Information being sought from French Authorities regarding oil fuel and water supplied at Duala.

141

25.1.1946.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Depot ship
LUCIA on
passage
from E.I.
to U.K.

Sail at 1200A 27th Jan. to Gibraltar for O/R
to U.K.
2. Speed 9 knots or better reporting E.T.A.
Gibraltar.
4. Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med. 251155 to LUCIA.)

Return of
Lend-Lease
landing
ships
from Med.
to U.S.A.

A.M. 031737 Nov. (not to all). On relief by
L.S.T. (3) L.S.T. (2) 3, 4, 77 and 394 are to be
prepared for redelivery to U.S. Authorities in
terms of C.A.F.O. 1830/45 and sailed to
Gibraltar for onward routeing to the U.S.A.
2. C. in C. Med. is requested to inform B.A.D.
Washington in due course expected date of
departure of L.S.T.(2) from the Mediterranean
station and B.A.D. Washington is then requested
to signal destination for these vessels.
3. Tank decks of L.S.T.(2) should be loaded to capacity with
surplus Lend/Lease Minor Landing Craft.
4. Official numbers of all ships and craft redelivered in
accordance with above are to be reported by signal.
5. A further signal will be made regarding navigating crews.
(A.C.N.S.(O) 251253 to C. in C. Med. B.A.D. Washington.)

Sit. Rep.
Suez Canal
and Cyprus.

CCL/71. 25th Jan. 1946.
Following for Chiefs of Staff from Commanders-in-
Chief.

1. General.

Future combined training in Middle East has been
discussed with Chief of Combined Operations.

2. Kabrit.

Suez Canal Company have only agreed training in canal during
1946. Individuals and units will not be ready for combined
training until end of 1946. Personnel and material can not
be allotted for short term building project.

3. Famagusta.

Request reconsideration Famagusta as very suitable both from
military and political aspects. This opinion endorsed by
General Paget's recent visit Cyprus. Resources for construction
will have to be provided from outside Middle East but do not
anticipate any excessive expenditure.

(G.H.Q. 251630Z to Cabinet Offices.)

Cruiser
BERWICK
trooping.

Due to 24 hours heavy weather delay in
Australian Bight. Following is amended programme.
Leave Port Said 0500B 28th Jan. Arrive Gibraltar
1400A 1st Feb. Leave Gibraltar 0700A 2nd Feb.
Arrive Plymouth 1630Z 4th Feb. Leave Plymouth
1900Z 4th Feb. Arrive Spithead 0730Z 5th Feb.
(BERWICK 252205Z to Admiralty.)
(See 281049).

25.1.1946.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

F.S. DUQUESNE Departed Singapore 24th Jan. French Cruiser
on passage DUQUESNE.
to Indo- (F.O. Malaya. 250900GH to Admiralty. C. in C.E.I)
China. Note. - received as TOP SECRET. Downgraded by
War Registry.

TRUMP 548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail ^{from} ~~for~~ Aden as follows:
Submarine (A) 1500C 25th.
on passage (B) Suez for U.K.
to U.K. (C) 10 knots.
(G) TRUMP requests chart of Port Said Harbour
on arrival.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 251048C to TRUMP.)

Allocation of Hospital 6350 Q. MOV. 6. D.T.G. 241000 Jan. Intend to
ships for removal of CAP ST. JACQUES.
French sick (C. in C.E.I. 251440EF to H.Q. Alfsea.)
from Saigon originally programmed to move in CHANTILLY.
to France. *See H.Q. Alfsea 241000 to Encoopers.
C in C.E.I.*

CHALLENGER Ref. 548C 29.12.45.
surveying Sail from Colombo as follows:
ship. (A) 1500EF Jan. 26th.
(B) Aden.
(C) 9 knots.
(G) Onward routeing to U.K.
Acknowledge.
(F.O. Ceylon 251805 to CHALLENGER.)

War Diary.

25.1.1946.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

NARBROUGH
frigate
FISHGUARD
returned
to U.S.A.

NARBROUGH and FISHGUARD arrived.
T.O.O. 251044.
(C.C.O. Washington 251613 to C.C.O. Ottawa.)

Far East and Australia.

Cruiser
BLACK PRINCE
Movement.

(B) BLACK PRINCE.
(D) Shanghai.
(E) 0001Z 25th Jan.
(F) 12 knots.
(G) Via Formosa Straits.
(H) Hong Kong.
(I) 0001Z 28th Jan.
(S.O. Force S. 250001 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Troopship
sailings
to Australia
and N.Z.
Feb.

Following are planned troopship sailings to
Australia and New Zealand in February.

| Ship. | East of Suez capacity. | E.T.D. U.K. |
|---------|------------------------|-------------|
| TAMAROA | 1496. | 1st Feb. |
| ARAWA. | 1680. | 19th Feb. |

2. Ships will proceed to both Australia and
New Zealand and will call Taranto to embark
N.Z. personnel.

3. In addition to Australian and New Zealand Service personnel
TAMAROA will embark Service families in U.K. for disembarkation
at Taranto. Details of accommodation available for embarkation
of N.Z. personnel in Taranto will be subject of separate
signal but number who can be given saloon messing will not
exceed about 148.

4. STIRLING CASTLE is allocated for March backlift from
Australia and New Zealand but if substantial troopdeck space
cannot be utilised cabin space equivalent to 50% of vacant
troopdeck should be left vacant and ship routed to U.K. via
Colombo or India as required by P.S.T.O. India.

5. Agreed.

(D. of S.T. 250023 to A.C.N.B. N.Z.N.B.)

/INDEFATIGABLE...

War Diary.

25.1.1946.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia. contd.,

INDEFATIGABLE
Carrier
for U.K.

INDEFATIGABLE sailed for United Kingdom with following aircraft embarked.
A. Number 24 Wing 36 Seafire Mark three.
B. In Class one preservation 18 Reliant three Expeditor 8 Seafire Mark 3. Total 65 aircraft. (F.O.N.A.P. 250551 to Admiralty.)

Aircraft
component
Repair Ship
DEERSOUND
from B.P.F.
to U.K.

Request you will sail DEERSOUND at 1700 K 29th Jan. for U.K. carrying out following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 31st Jan. | Melbourne. | 2nd Feb. |
| 7th Feb. | Fremantle. | 9th Feb. |
| 24th Feb. | Aden. | 25th Feb. |
| 1st March. | Suez transit to Port Said. | 4th March. |
| 7th March. | Malta. | 9th March. |
| 12th March. | Gibraltar. | 15th March. |
| 0800 18th March. | Arrive 10 miles South of Bishop Rock. | |

2. Admiralty is requested to inform DEERSOUND of destination. (F.O.S.A. 250656Z to A.C.N.B.)

Destroyers
URSA and
TUMULT
from B.P.F.
to U.K.

Request you will sail URSA and TUMULT Senior Officer URSA at 1700K 2nd Feb. for U.K. carrying out following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 4th Feb. | Melbourne. | 9th Feb. |
| 14th Feb. | Fremantle. | 17th Feb. |
| 27th Feb. | Trincomalee. | 1st March. |
| 8th March. | Aden. | 8th March. |
| 12th March. | Suez and transit to Port Said. | 14th March. |
| 17th March. | Malta. | 20th March. |
| 23rd | Gibraltar. | 25th March. |
| 29th March. | Portsmouth. | |

3. S.O.A. 14 knots. (F.O.S.A. 250847Z to A.C.N.B.) See 300651 F.O. 11127 Feb. (E.1).

Demobilisation
in B.P.F.

Your 120523. (N.T. in W.D.) Recent increased rates and figures for demobilisation which may affect present planned dispositions are now being considered. Further signal will be made as soon as effects are known. (D.O.D. A.C.N.S.(O). 251953 to C. in C. B.P.F.)

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Visit of
C. in C. Med.
to Tangier
in LIVERPOOL
cruiser.

Intend to sail LIVERPOOL flying flag of
C. in C. Med. with destroyers MUSKETEER and
MARNE in company O630A 27 Jan. to Tangier
E.T.A. alongside O915A.
2. LIVERPOOL acknowledge and sail ships to
comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 261131A to H.B.M. Consul General
Tangier.)

DEVON CITY
Boom Carrier
on passage
to U.K.
from E.Indies.

Intend to sail DEVON CITY 1000A 27th Jan. to
Plymouth for disposal.
2. Speed 10. E.T.A. a.m. 1st Feb.
7. DEVON CITY acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 262237A to DEVON CITY.)

A.F.D. 32
damaged
at Oran.

My 211224/ Jan. Request I may be informed
of intended programme for this dock.
(F.O.G.M.A. 261839A to C. in C. Med. (Malta.))
(See 271221 and 280902 (Med.))
/ Damage to A.F.D. 32 has been inspected. Dock
is safe in present weather, but arrangements
have been made re heavy weather.

Trawler
ERISKAY
Wreck of.

Your 260046/ (N.T. in W.D.) following is copy
of my 061220Z from N.O.i.c. Azores to F.O.G.M.A.
repeated Admiralty. Ref. Trawler ERISKAY grounded
on Island of San Jorge November 12th 1945
Portuguese coastguard state unable maintain
guard over wreck vessel.

2. Considerable pilfering will doubtless follow withdrawal
of guard, request instructions whether wreck can now be
abandoned ends.
(N.O.i.c. Azores 261930Z to Admiralty.)

South Atlantic.

S.S. HIGHLAND
MONARCH to
be treated as
Naval Unit
on visit to
S.America.

Your 211427/Jan. HIGHLAND MONARCH is a fully
requisitioned vessel operating as a troop
transport for H.M. Government.

In view of this fact and that the vessel is
making calls to land repatriated volunteers and
to embark German internees and will act under
the general orders of AJAX, it is considered that
the ship could be treated as a naval unit and
light and harbour dues waived. These views should

be represented to the Brazilian Authorities with a view to
waiver being granted.

(D. of S.T. 261618 to Britnavat Rio.)

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Italian S.S. GRADISCA ashore on Gavdo Island, ~~CRETE~~ Crete. Transfer of passengers.

Further to my 251603 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all. About 1180 passengers now transferred to TRUMPETER who is proceeding to Malta.

- When weather permits intend embarking baggage and baggage party in FANCY for passage to Malta. This may be possible tomorrow Saturday.
- CRETE has been detached but intend to retain the remaining ships until SALVENTURE has arrived and has examined ship.
- Permanent staff and company of GRADISCA still remaining on board numbers 250. (C.S. 15. 260045B to C. in C. Med.)

Situation Saturday forenoon.
Wind north east force 8, short steep sea.

- GRADISCA exposed to beam sea now working about pivot under bridge but no further damage reported.
- Intend no further operations until SALVENTURE arrives.
- ORION's 2 motor boats and working party of 5 officers and 31 ratings weather bound in GRADISCA. (S.O. C.S. 15. 261015 to C. in C. Med.)

CLEOPATRA Cruiser.

Intend following amended programme for CLEOPATRA on passage to U.K.:

| <u>Arrived.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Port Said. | p.m. 27th Jan. |
| a.m. 2nd Feb. | Gibraltar. | a.m. 3rd Feb. |
| a.m. 7th Feb. | Portsmouth. | - |

(N.O.I.C. Port Said 260830B to Admiralty.)

LONDON cruiser trooping.

Sail at 0830A 27th Jan. through position 36 degs. 14 mins. north, 14 degs, 49 mins. east, and thence by appropriate Medri route to Port Said for onward routeing to East Indies and Sydney.

- Speed 20 knots. Report E.T.A. Port Said 24 hours in advance.
- Acknowledge. (C. in C. Med. 261059 to LONDON.)

INDOMITABLE A.C. trooping.

INDOMITABLE sail at 0900A 27th Jan. through position 36 degs. 14 mins. north, 14 degs. 49 mins. east, thence by appropriate Medri route to Port Said for onward routeing to Colombo.

- Speed 20 knots. E.T.A. 0930B 29th Jan.
- N.O.i.c. Port Said is requested to sail INDOMITABLE through the Canal without delay.
- INDOMITABLE acknowledge. (C. in C. Med. 261147 to INDOMITABLE.)

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean contd.,

French
Tanker
VAR for
Indo-China.

My 131650B Sept. refers.

(1) Subject to result of trial F.T. VAR will be sailed 29th Jan. at rendezvous Toulon direct Alexandria for embarking stores F.O.L.E.M. is requested to sail VAR as soon as possible to Port Said thence Aden.

(2) Vessel should need oil in Port indicated by C. in C.E.I. then be sailed to Saigon.

(3) Request concurrence.
(Almed 261215A to C. in C. Med.)
(Concur 271158A.)

F.S. BARFLEUR
A.M.C.
for Far East.

Sail at 0700B 27th Jan. and proceed by Medri routes to Port Said Q speed 13 knots. E.T.A. 1800B 17th Jan.

3. N.O.i.c. Port Said is requested to arrange canal transit on 28th Jan. and on routeing to Colombo via Aden.

(F.O.L.E.M. 261735B to BARFLEUR.)

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GLASGOW
Cruiser.

My P.C.S. 05 degs. 30 mins. South. 110 degs.
18 mins. East. 09 degs. 10. E.T.A. Sourabaya
0700 27th Jan.
(GLASGOW 260900GH to F.O. Ceylon.)

Re landing
craft for
training
purposes
and
maintenance
of same in
tropics
deterioration.

Request confirmation that Lend-Lease landing
craft, including L.C.A. can be retained for
post-war training, in view of article One of
Lend-Lease Charter U.S. Naval Commission in
Delhi were dubious on this point.

(2) It is desired to make quite clear the
implications of trying to maintain landing craft
in the tropics. First - the tropical sun which
opens out the seams of craft on hardstanding.
Second - the depredation of Toledo worm when
craft are water-borne, Third - the Monsoon rains
which rust up machinery externally, and
internally.

(3) To maintain the craft in this Theatre, referred to in
D.C.O.D., Serial 14, will entail the exclusive services of
some 1200 officers and men in India alone. Even then the
serviceability of minor landing craft after six months cannot
be guaranteed.

(4) It is being found increasingly difficult, on the one hand,
to reduce rapidly, in compliance with repeated signals from
the Admiralty and on the other hand to maintain craft on the
scale indicated in various D.C.O.D. serials.

(5) It is suggested that a policy of "Use, scrap or sell"
is the only one which will enable our planned programme of
reduction to be adhered to. Your 162054/Jan. on (?MGDSW) /
early action is being taken, refers.

(6) S.O.R.N.E. (I) concurs.

(C. in C.E.I. 260954 to Admiralty. S.O.R.N.E.(I)) *see 251755 Feb -*
/ as received. *r 021055 March.*

WILDGOOSE
WREN
A.A. Sloops
for P.G.

Admiralty's 212037 Nov. (N.T. in W.D.) and
112000/ Jan. Can a rough date now be given
when WILDGOOSE and WREN may be expected in the
Gulf.

(S.N.O. Persian Gulf 261009Z to C. in C.E.I.
Admiralty.)

/ Re additional accommodation for S.N.O.P.G.
in WILDGOOSE.

Re
operational
control of
Dutch S/M's
O.23 and
TROMP.

The following has been received from B.D.Z.
"Ref. 0119-1019 from B.S.O. to C. in C.N.E.I.
and 0116-3305? from C. in C. N.E.I. to C. in C.
E.I.W. Request you inform me whether Admiralty
agrees to accept operational control of O 23
and TROMP from Port Said to Holland.
240910/Jan".

(C.M.R.London 261010 Admiralty See 290608 (Med))

/CHALLENGER...

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

CHALLENGER
surveying
vessel
on passage
to U.K.

Intend following provisional programme for
CHALLENGER on passage to U.K., subject to
Hydrographic requirements in the Gulf of
Aden, Suez Canal, and Straits of Gibraltar.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Colombo. | 26th Jan. |
| 6th | Aden. | 9th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Canal Area. | 17th Feb. |
| 27th Feb. | Gibraltar. | 5th March. |
| 10th March. | Portsmouth. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said and Gibraltar.
3. Canal transit and survey 16th and 17th Feb.
4. CHALLENGER is requested to amend above as surveys progress.
(C. in C.E.I. 261221EF to Admiralty. C. in C. Med.)

Sitrep 742. 1446/Ops. Cipher 26 Jan. 088461.

First. Burma. N.T.R.

Second. Andamans. N.T.R.

Third. Malaya. 20 Jan. armed pirates looted
rice in junks six miles north Port Weld V.D. 30 24 Jan.
H.Q. 50 Ind. Armd. Bde. closed Malacca. T.A.C. H.Q. opened
Batavia 25 Jan.

Fourth. N.E.I. East Java. From Sitrep. to 241200 9 Bde.
Own patrols along Rd. Kletek 4569 - Kri Jan. 3464 south
bank Sourabaya River no incidents. 123 Bde. Approx. one hundred
enemy moving Tjerme to Podjok 339833 engaged by own patrols.
Own patrol engaged by enemy with L.M.G. from Drianedja.
Semarang. 5 Para. Bde. Searching of Kampongs continues.
Enemy mortared own posn. on Gonnell Hill 8605 Sitrep. to
251200 not yet received. West Java. Arrested looters gave
infrm. leading discovery med stores and motor tyres. Wrls.
transmitter discovered in raid chemical factory. Dutch
marines took over anti looting patrols west dock area. Engr.
rece party with escort proceeding Bekassi. Only incident
truck hit mine. Rd. convoy left 25 Jan. for Bandoeng.
Buitenzorg Quiet. Engr. repair party returned from B.R. 9742.
Bandoeng A.P.W.I. with small escort 2 Ind. A/Tk. Reg. fired
on from 772184. Own patrols to Bengkok 8724 and Tjoemboeloit
8525 no incidents Bde. Gp. took over wrls. sta. Tjoemboeloit
without incident. Dago 8623 rd. to Padnok (or Padjok) 8624.
Will be cleared to lift 155 tons stone from quarry.
Sumatra. No reports yet received.

Fifth. Siam. N.T.R.

Sixth. F.I.C. Own troops N.T.R. French forces. N.H.A. Trang
20/21 Jan. rebel attack repulsed. During occupation Triton
eighty rebels killed. Material captured incl. three trucks
W.T. Sta. steamboat and junks. 23 Jan. force operating area
Pakse M.H. 17 suffered two killed. All informed.
(Alfsea 261225EH to W.O. O.C.)

/LOCH GLENDHU...

26.1.1946.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies contd.,LOCH GLENDHU
Frigate.

548C of 29th Dec.

Sail from Singapore as follows:-

- (A) a.m. 30th Jan.
- (B) Batavia.
- (C) Gaspar Strait, 11 knots.
- (G) You will replace LOCH CRAGGIE in Java waters. Acknowledge.
- (F.O. Malaya 261237GH to LOCH GLENDHU. SUSSEX. C.C.O. Batavia.)

PENN
air target
ship.

Your 241511. PENN is not to be sailed to U.K. pending further consideration as to her future. (V.C.N.S. 261448 to C. in C.E.I. C. in C. B.P.F.) (See 281227 (F.E. & A.)) Intend to sail PENN to U.K. as there is no further work as an air target ship at Singapore.

ENCHANTRESS
Sloop
on passage
to U.K.

Intend to leave Trincomalee for Aden 29th 0800Z.
(2) S.O.A. 12 knots.
(3) E.T.A. Aden 0600Z/7.
(ENCHANTRESS 261620 to Com. i.c. Trinco. C. in C. E.I.)

ATHELING
E. Carrier
Trooping.

548C of 29.12.45. sail from Aden as follows:
(A) 0630C 27th.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 16 knots.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 261710 to ATHELING.)

Sitrep.No. 67
French Indo-
China.

O 2371 cypher 26th Jan. Secret.
To 1700 hrs. 26th Jan.
A.555 Sul Orf. E.A. N.T.R. 100 Z30. N.T.R.
French Forces. Massu Column. Advance held up
by two large gaps in the Rd. at K.M. 110 L.R.C.
21 from Ninh Hoa. Mufflet (or Gufflet) Column.

Elements of R.I.C.M. flown to Dalot have linked up with fwd. elements R.I.C.M. at the village of Oa Mouei T.M. 160 R.C. 20 advancing from Saigon Bien Hoaim a force from 123 E.J.R. R.I.C. engaged Party Rebels South of Binh Thach 221 R.J. 3478. Cas. French 1 (or 2) killed 6 wounded. Rebels 31 killed incl. 6 Japs. 25 wounded. Bourgund Column. Captured Xuan Lop? 22 (or 229?) R.J. 8773 Trang Bos (or Trang Bom) 221 R.J. 5975 Long Thanh 221 R.J. 5254. Tps. advancing from Long Thanh linked up with landing party from Triphant at Cho Moi. Convoy fired on by L.M.Gs. between Bien Hoa-Long Thanh. Cas. French 1 killed 4 wounded. Long Thanh, 28 Rebels killed 3 P.W. captured L.N. Batile 5 South of Long Thanh R.C. 16. French Forces 1 killed 4 wounded. Ponchalier (or Ponchadier) Column. Captured Tan Uyon 221 R.J. 3388 cleaning up L'ille Tortue 221 R.J. 3385 severe opposn. encountered at Tan Phu 221 R.J. 3782. Cas French 4 killed 53 (or 13) wounded incl. 2 offrs. Hvy. Cas. believed to have been inflicted on Rebels. Thu Dau Yoj, 10 Japs. killed in battle at Pnutnuan 221 R.J. 188,

26.1.1946.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies contd.,

Sitrep. Cholyn. 3 Annamites killed and 21 arrested
No. 67. in sweep through City. B.C.D. N.T.R.
French All Infm.
Indo-China. (Alfsea 261820 to W.O. Sacsea. Alfsea.)

Oprep. 088489. O.2185.cipher 26 Jan. Confidential.
Java. To 1200 hrs. 26 Jan. West Java.
(A) 1 Bde. 161 Bde. Batavia. Number of men
detained in raid on suspected Pemoeda Meeting
Place North Sector. 1200 hrs. Dutch troops
took over posns. South of railway line (?Meeste Cornelis)
from 5 Rj. Rif. 36 Bde. Train observed Tjitjoeroeng Station
9432 with approx. 120 Tkr. 11 Tkr. in village taken in custody
for interrogation. Only arms were swords spears. Arrangements
made meet train Buitenzorg for further investigation. Police
Buitenzorg issued special passes. Road convoy Bandoeng reached
Soekaboemi without incident left 0730 hrs. this morning.
37 Bde. Bandoeng. Occupation radio station Tjioemboeloet and
Stone Quarry Podjok 25 Jan. provoked opposition from
Indonesians for first time for a week. Tjioemboeloet Op.
undertaken by 3/3 G.R. with Coy. 3/5 R.G.R. and tank support.
Radio station occupied and fortified by coy. 3/5 R.G.R. without
opposition but two coys. 3/3 G.R. continued North Mop up area
and engaged by S.A. and L.M.G. fire. Opposition engaged by
Arty. and Coy. attack put in. Indonesians fled. Own cas.
one G.O.R. killed one wounded. Op. to Podjok by 3/5 R.G.R.
Removals one began 0830 hrs. Area to North and East patrolled.
S.A. and L.M.G. fire met Sekepitjoeng 875256 Tjipahkut
(or Tjipahnut) 872239 and Rd. Junct. 875229. Own Cas. one
G.O.R. wounded. Bde. Group returned Bandoeng except one Coy.
3/5 R.G.R. occupying Radio Station 853238.
B - C. N.T.R.
(D) One Coy. 3/5 R.G.R. Tjiomboeloet 853230 (or 853238)
Sumatra. N.T.R. East Java. A.Semarang. Slight patrol
activity and sniping otherwise N.T.R. 9 Bde. Patrol base
B.R. 450660 engaged by Mortars and L.M.G. and M.M.G. No. Cas.
Relief of 3 J.A.T. Coys. 1 Madras at Gedangan and B.R.450660
took place without incident. 123 Ind. Inf. Bde. Patrol with
Mortar and Tanks in support moving West of Moroboeloerdjo
Road engaged by L.M.G. from Kampongs 296818 302818 303813.
When engaged dispersed. Patrol encountered heavy fire from
Mortars and M.M.Gs. area 24 K.O.S. (K.M.S) Arty., Engaged.
Own Cas. one G.O.R. wounded. B.N.T.R. C. N.T.R. D. Coy. 1
Madras (corrupt gp. 450660 and Coy. Gendangan 5066 3 J.A.T.
loss one Coy. Medical School 545083 R.A.P.W.I. 502 R.A.P.W.I.
from Batavia to New Zealand. 32 Dutch from Batavia to
Balikpapan. All informed.
(Alfsea 261825 to Alfsea. Sacsea.)

/Persian...

26.1.1946.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

Persian
Navy
gunboats
for,
training
of crews.

Request early reply to the last sentence of
para. 2. of Admiralty Message 091846.
(Hd. of M. Brch. I. 262032 to S.N.O. Persian Gulf.
N.H.Q. India. C. in C.E.I.)

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26.1.1946.
SaturdayWar Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Far East and Australia.SPRAGGE
Mobile
Generating
Station

SPRAGGE de-converted for use as power station is at present at Hong Kong preparing for re-delivery to United States Navy at Subic in accordance with Admiralty instructions and as provisionally arranged with you by S.B.N.L.O. Phillipines. Further signal will be made when sailing date is known.

(2) Ship was stripped in United Kingdom of all A/S Radar and Gunnery equipment except 4 Oerlikons also of certain W/T gear. Radio Manila pass to C.P.S.F. and B.N.L.O. Subic.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 260235 to C.P.S.F. Admiralty. Com. Hong Kong.)

R.A.P.W.I.
Sit. Rep.
No. 19.

23rd Jan. 1946 refer my 150242. No Sit. Rep. was issued for 16th Jan.
2. North China. R.A.P.W.I. for HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN ex CHINGWANG TAO U.K. and Europe 271 Aust. 26 Hong Kong 1 India 4 Canada 3 Shanghai for U.K. 538 Europe 131 Aust. 120 S. Africa 8, Singapore 2, India 8 total 1143 including 470 women and 248 children. See Mov. item 2 R.A.P.W.I. Shanghai deferred for U.K. 747 Aust. 108 Hong Kong. 55 Singapore 16. Further ship has been requested for March.
3. Hong Kong R.A.P.W.I. fit and ready U.K. 56 Europe 9 Aust. 13 U.S.A. 16 N.E.I. 40 Canada 2 India 3 Malaya 1 deferred fit for U.K. 238 Europe 44 Aust. 33 U.S.A. 3 India 39 Canada 7 Malaya 1 West Indies 135 deferred sick U.K. 1 Aust. 1. Also displaced persons for Aust. 28 F.I.C. 3 misc. 3 Europe 25 Malaya 27 Cuba 8 Canada 30 Central and S. Americans 158. Hainan no recent information.
5. Australia. P.O.W. fit and ready for U.K. 141 Hong Kong and Shanghai 58 Malaya and Java 41 Canada 3 India 4, N.Z. 21 P.O.W. sick Sydney 21 Fremantle 4 deferred 66 Int. fit and ready 4 U.K. 247 Hong Kong 2 Malaya 45 N.Z. 2 Canada 11 S. Africa 2 India 2 deferred 1028. Also service invalids 100 approx. See Mov. items and 14.
6. New Zealand R.A.P.W.I. deferred sick for U.K. 75 Aust. 4 Hong Kong 4 U.S.A. 2 China Newfoundland Malta Malaya and Ceylon 1 each uncertain. 10 fit and ready for U.K. 10 misc. 3 fit deferred 2.
7. Admiralty pass to War Office V.A.(Q) pass to High Commissioner Canberra.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 260713 to Admiralty. V.A.(Q))

R.A.P.W.I.
Mov. No.19.

Refer my 150240. No Mov. was issued for 16th Jan.
2. HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN E.T.A. Chingwang Tag. 24th Jan. for Shanghai Hong Kong and United Kingdom see S.I.T. Ref. Item. 2.
3. A.H.S. VASNA E.T.A. Sydney 3rd February for Fremantle and Bombay R.A.P.W.I. fit for Aust. 34 P.O.W. Dutch sick and Holland 23 service invalids 34 will embark further invalids for U.K. from Sydney and Fremantle for onward routeing from Bombay where ship returns to trade.
4. P.O.W. 3 and Int. 133 leave Australia and ATHLONE CASTLE DURBAN CASTLE and DOMINION MONARCH.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 260723 to Admiralty.)

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27.1.1946.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.POLKA
A.S. Trawler.

Corvina
~~GORUNNA~~

My 251032. R.O. ~~GORUNNA~~ now reports repairs completed to POLKA E.T.D. a.m. 27th Jan. (F.O.G.M.A. 270902A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Air Sea
Rescue duties
Azores area.

A.22 27th Jan.
U.S. Navy has now provided one destroyer escort and an A.P.A. vessel and a Navy lug at Ponta Delgada for Air Sea Rescue duties after diplomatic clearance with Portuguese Government by U.S. Embassy Lisbon.

2. It has not yet been made clear to Comnavzor whether (?this) attachment is permanent as original assignment was for seven weeks only, until early March, and intended primarily to deal with state of U.S. Merchant and Navy vessels suffering damage on Central Atlantic passage owing to severe winter weather.

3. H.M. Ambassador informs (?me vessels) are independent of British political cover but Comnavzor regards them as under British operational control as far as aircraft rescue is concerned.

(S.B.N.O. Azores 271155Z to Air Ministry London. Admiralty.)

See 192230 Feb.

Escort for
L.C.I.(L)'s
on passage
to Bermuda.

My 261239 (N.T. in W.D.) to Capt. W. Af. only. Captain W. Af. is to sail Corvette as necessary to R/V with L.C.I.(L) 387 and three other L.C.I.(L) in position 28 N. 23 W. at 1100Z 2nd Feb. and escort them on passage towards Bermuda.

2. S.O.A. 9 knots or better.

4. C. in C.A. and W.I. is requested to arrange relief escort to take over in vicinity 40 W. at approx 1100Z 6th Feb.

5. When relieved Freetown Corvette return to Gibraltar.

7. Capt. W.Af. acknowledge and report name of Corvette detailed to C. in C.A and W.I. F.O.G.M.A. and Admiralty.

(F.O.G.M.A. 271302A to C. in C.A. and W.I. Capt. W. Af.)

(See 272314 S.A. and 280934 and 291628A and 301615(A.W. & I.)

South Atlantic.Escort for
L.C.I.'s on
passage to
Bermuda.

Your 271302 received and understood. CAISTOR CASTLE detailed.
(Capt. i.c. W.Af. 272314 to F.O.G.M.A.)
(See 280934.)

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27.1.1946.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

BERWICK
cruiser
trooping.

Sail at 0600B/28 to Gibraltar.
Speed 18 knots. E.T.A. 1400A 1st Feb.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Port Said. 271145B to BERWICK. Admiralty)

OCEAN
light fleet
carrier
MEYNELL
attendant
destroyer.

Intend OCEAN and MEYNELL should be administered
by Senior Officer Aircraft Carriers under C.
in C. Med.
(C. in C. Med. 271157A to OCEAN.)

French
Tanker
VAR for
Indo-China.

Concur with your 261215.
(C. in C. Med. 271158A to Comar Algiers.)

A.F.D. 32
damage
and repairs
prior to
proceeding
to Trinidad.

F.O.G.M.A.s. 261839. Prior to recent damage,
arrangements were that Commander D.L.Anderson
would visit Oran shortly to inspect A.F.D. 32
and advise C.N.O. regarding tugs, material
and personnel required to tow dock to Trinidad.
In view of damage now sustained as detailed in
F.O.G.M.As. 211224. Jan. repairs at Gibraltar
must be affected prior to ocean tow. If such
repairs would cause little delay it would be
convenient if American tugs could collect dock at Oran tow to
Gibraltar and hold her there whilst splits in plating are
patched. It would be appreciated if Comnavnaw could arrange
for Commander Anderson after visiting Oran to proceed to
Gibraltar to discuss this matter with F.O.G.M.A.
(C. in C. Med. 271221 to F.O.G.M.A.)
(See 280902).

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

Sail in KEMPENFELT with WIZARD in company at
2030B/28th to Gibraltar. Speed 14 knots.
E.T.A. 0900A/3rd Feb.
(N.O.i.c. Port Said 271630B to Capt. (D) 27.)

F.S. BARFLEUR
A.M.C. on
passage
to Far East.

Sail at 0600B/28th to Aden routed as safe
navigation permits. Report your time departure
from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees
in this signal. No liaison party.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Port Said 271645B to BARFLEUR C. in C.
E.I.)

27.1.1946.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Closing down bases and establishments in India will make the retentions of a Flag Officer as S.O.R.N.E.(I) unnecessary after 1st March.

S.O.R.N.E.(I). 2. Propose Rear Admiral Bevir should strike his flag about that date.

3. Captain P Mordern? will then become S.R.N.O. Bombay and will also relieve Captain Farquhar as Commanding Officer BRAGANZA about mid-April.

4. About 1st July, anticipate Bombay can be reduced to Commander's Command.

(C. in C.E.I. 270759 to Admiralty. S.O.R.N.E.(I).) *See 051032 Feb-1946*

ENCHANTRESS sloop on passage to U.K. from B.P.F. Your 271025. Propose sailing from Trinco for Aden 290800Z S.O.A. 12 knots. E.T.A. Aden 070600Z.

(A) Aden/Port Said Gibraltar.
(B) 13th Feb.
(C) Not known.
(ENCHANTRESS 271200Z to C. in C.E.I.)

SMITER G.P.Carrier on passage to U.K. 548 C of 29.12.45 sail from Aden as follows.

(A) 1700 C 27th.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 16 knots.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 271210C to SMITER.)

JASMINE Corvette on passage to U.K. and for reserve. Intend following programme for JASMINE on passage to U.K. All dates Feb. unless shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Trincomalee. | 26th Jan. |
| 6th | Aden. | 8th |
| 13th | Suez. | 13th |
| 13th | Port Said. | 15th |
| 23rd | Gibraltar. | 25th |
| 2nd March | Chatham. | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said and Gibraltar.
3. Canal transit 13th Feb.
(C. in C.E.I.271225 to C.C.O. Trinco. Admiralty.)

TULIP Corvette for U.K. and reserve with F.T. 27. Cancel my 131156 not to all. Intend following programme for TULIP and F.T.27 on passage to U.K. All dates Feb. unless shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Colombo. | 29th Jan. |
| 2nd | Bombay. | 3rd |
| 10th | Aden. | 11th |
| 17th | Suez. | 17th |
| 17th | Port Said. | 18th |
| 19th | Alexandria. | 21st |
| 25th | Malta. | 27th |
| 3rd March | Gibraltar. | 5th March. |
| 9th March | Portsmouth. | - |

2. Fuelling at all above less Suez and Alexandria.
3. Canal transit 17th Feb.
4. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to onward sail FT.27 to Chatham.
(C. in C.E.I. 271228 to Trincomalee.) *See 271238 Feb (Med)*

War Diary.

27.1.1946.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

NIGELLA
Corvette
for return
to U.K.
and
reserve.

Intend following programme for NIGELLA on passage
to U.K.

All dates Feb. unless shown otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Trinco. | 26th Jan. |
| 5th. | Aden. | 7th. |
| 12th. | Suez. | 13th. |
| 13th. | Port Said. | 15th. |
| 20th. | Malta. | 22nd. |
| 27th. | Gibraltar. | 1st March. |
| 6th March. | Devonport. | |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said and Gibraltar.

3. Canal transit daylight 13th Feb.

(C. in C.E.I. 271238EF to N.O.i.c. Trinco. Admiralty.F.O.Ceylon.)

Movements.

1. SUSSEX and PETARD sail from Samarang p.m.

28th Jan. and arrive Batavia 0900 29th.

2. Intend GLASGOW sails from Sourabaya p.m.

31st Jan. to arrive Singapore a.m. 3rd Feb.

(SUSSEX 271835GH to C. in C. E.I. Admiralty.
F.O.M.F.A.)

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Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

SPURN POINT
M.S.(L.S.)
on passage
from
Vancouver
to U.K.

SPURN POINT sailed from Esquimalt B.C. 0040Z
27th Jan. to Balbao by safe coastal navigation
for onward routeing to New York, B.A.D. Wash.
232201Z not to all refers.
2. S.O.A. 9.5 knots. E.T.A. Balboa C.Z. 1230Z
13th Feb.
(C.O.P.C. 270126Z to U.S. Sha. 188. Admiralty.)

Far East and Australia.

RANEE
E.C.
Trooping.

Departed Fremantle 1009Z/27 Jan. RANEE for
Colombo F.O.S.A. 150637 refers. Route direct.
S.O.A. 6 knots. E.T.A. Colombo 1200Z/4th Feb.
(N.O.i.c. Fremantle 271007Z to F.O. Ceylon.
C. in C.E.I.S.)

28.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

C. in C.
Med. in
LIVERPOOL
visit to
Tangier
and
Casablanca.

LIVERPOOL flying flag of C. in C. Med. with MUSKETEER and MARNE in company arrived Tangier 0915A 27th Jan. and will leave 1800A 29th Jan. for Casablanca, E.T.A. 0930A 30th Jan. (F.O.G.M.A. 281109A to C. in C. Med.(Malta.))

MIRROR
Cable ship
repair
programme.

My 231046 Jan. repair (A) completed.
(2) Ship sailed 1100A/28 Jan. to undertake repair (B). This break has been localised in position 36. 43 N. 12. 13 E. which is in danger area. Cable was diverted clear of minefield in Nov. 1943.

(3) Unless instructions are received to contrary, ship will carry out repair work in this position. (F.O.G.M.A. 281135A to C. in C. Med. Malta.)

South Atlantic.

KING GEORGE V. F.O.S.A's. 020121Z.Jan. As a result of 24 hours battleship delay at Fremantle intend to amend programme on passage as follows:-
to U.K.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Leave.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 7th Feb | Capetown. | 9th Feb. |
| 19th Feb. | Freetown. | 20th Feb. |
| 1st March. | Portsmouth. | |

This will enable each watch to have a turn of leave at Capetown. (KING GEORGE V. 280625Z to C. in C.S.A. Admiralty. N.O.i.c. Freetown.)

CAISTOR
CASTLE
Escort for
L.C.I.(L)
on passage
to Bermuda.

Intend to sail CAISTOR CASTLE for Freetown at 1200 Jan. 28th in accordance with your 271302 not to CAISTOR CASTLE.
(Capt. i/c. W. Af. 280934 to F.O.G.M.A.)
(See 301615Z (A & W.I.))

28.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TRUMPETER with personnel ex GRADISCA ashore on Gavdo Is. Crete. Sail at 1400A 28th Jan. by Bizerta War Channel and thence West of Sardinia to Toulon and there disembark GRADISCA draft. 2. Speed 16 knots appropriate Medri routes. Report E.T.A. to Premar 3 repeated Comlab, Almed, S.T.O. Toulon, B.N.L.O. Toulon. C. in C. Med. Malta. 36 hours in advance. 4. On completion of disembarking draft at Toulon proceed as direct as safe navigation permits to Gibraltar reporting E.T.A. 5. Acknowledge. (C. in C. Med. 280838 to TRUMPETER.)

A.F.D. 32 damaged at Oran. A.A. C.S. Oran not Addee. pass S.N.F.O. U.S.N.O. in C. Oran. F.O.G.M.A.s. 261839/ not to all refer. Comdr. Anderson Budocks arrives Oran today 28th Jan. to assist in making plans. Comdre Anderson authorized to proceed Gibraltar. U.R. 271221 being passed to non adees. refers. (Comnavnaw 280902 to C. in C. Med.) / Comdr. Anderson to visit Oran to inspect A.F.D. 32.

Re operational control of Dodecanese. Your 121016. Request you will signal soon your reasons for proposing to leave S.N.O.D.E.R. under the command of F.O.L.E.M. At first sight it would seem more economical to place him under your direct command. (Hd. of M.1. 281224 to C. in C. Med.) (Reply 301519)

Re payment of Greek S/M at Malta which are employed on A.S. training. Your 271043(N.T. in W.D.) Your representations regarding the case of the Greek Submarines at Malta have been re-considered but it is regretted that no exception can be permitted in their case. (Hd. of W.G.F.281716 to C. in C. Med.)

Movements. Port Said Jan. 28th arrivals BULOLO. Departures BERWICK F.S. BARFLEUR, KEMPENFELT, WIZARD. (N.O.i.c. Port Said 281725B to Admiralty.)

/F.S. TEMPETE...

28.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. contd.,

F.S. TEMPETE
and SIMOUN
destroyers
for
Cherbourg.

1. Marine Paris has ordered that F.S. TEMPETE and F.S. SIMOUN be stationed at Cherbourg.
2. Ships will be routed by Comar Oran on completion of repairs of SIMOUN about Feb.1st.
3. Request concurrence.
(Almed 281755A to C. in C. Med. C. in C. Plymouth.)
(See 311430A)

INDOMITABLE
trooping.

Immediately on arrival about 0600B 30th sail to Aden and Colombo. Report your T.O.D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal.
(N.O.i.c. Port Said 281830 to INDOMITABLE.Admt. C. in C. Med. C. in C.E.I.)

BERWICK
Trooping.

Your 252205. Unless call at Gibraltar is essential, BERWICK is to proceed direct to Plymouth.
(Admt. 281849 to BERWICK.)

Itn. S.S.
GRADISCA
ashore on
Gavdo Is.
Crete.

Report on GRADISCA. Numbers 1 and 2 holds flooded but have filled slowly. Fresh water tanks abaft number 2 hold showing brackish. Vessel making water aft due to pounding.
2. Bower anchor has been laid out and stern anchor laid out to prevent unnecessary pounding.
3. Intend berthing on portside of GRADISCA. Put whatever pumps aboard necessary to drain holds. Clean sand ballast and inspect tank tops.
4. It is hoped from little information now available that tank tops may be strengthened to float her to port.
(SALVENTURE 282155B to C. in C. Med.)
(See 290830B)

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28.1.1946.
Monday.War DiaryFOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.8th M.S.
Flotilla.My P.C.S. at 0130Z Jan. 29th 08 38 N. 85 03 E.
270 degs. 10 knots. E.T.A. Trincomalee 0077EF
Jan.30th. Ships in company ROWENA, MOON,
PROVIDENCE, SEABEAR.
(M.S.8 290814F to F.O. Ceylon.)ERNE
A.A.Sloop
on passage
to U.K.
from B.P.F.548C of 29.12.45. Sail from Aden as follows:-
(A) 0630/29 TL.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 10 knots.
(N.O.i.c. Aden 280850 to ERNE. Admty. C. in C.E.I.
C. in C. Med.)GLASGOW
Cruiser.548C of 29th Dec. Arrival GLASGOW.
(Sourabaya C.C.O. 280856GH to Admiralty.)LOCH TARBERT
Frigate
with M.F.V's
on passage
to Borneo.548C of 27th Dec.
Take M.F.V's 1076 (S9) 1560 1552 1548 1525 1512
1129 1147 1109 1173 1176 1194 1193 1133 1022
1114 and 1199 under your orders and sail from
Cochin as follows:
(A) 1200EF on 28th Jan. 1946.
(B) Singapore for onward routeing to Labuan.
(C) R/V with M.F.V's 1113 and 1123 at a
position 10 miles 270 degs. from Colombo breakwater and proceed
taking these craft under your orders. S.O.A. 7 knots.
(F) Call at Penang for water and provisions LOCH TARBERT to
report P.C.S. of convoy daily. Report to F.O.M.F.A. Singapore
E.T.A. at position 01 degs 12 mins 11 secs N. 103 degs 52 mins
32 secs.E. Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Cochin. 280932 to LOCH TARBERT.)S.S.EMPIRE
GARDEN
(tanker)
damaged
by fire.Fire in EMPIRE GARDEN has caused serious damage
to accommodation and engine room. Repairs are
estimated to take at least one month.
(F.O.M.F.A. 281144 to C. in C.E.I)Italian
ERITREA(Sloop)
(Submarine
tender) on
passage to
Mediterranean.548C of 29.12.45. Sail from Aden as follows:
(A) 0630C/29.
(B) Suez for onward routeing.
(C) 12.5 knots.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 281250 to ERITREA (I.S.)
Admiralty. C. in C.E.I.)THYME
corvette
with BARNABY
(B.D.V.)
in tow for
U.K.548C of 29.12.45. Take BARNABY in tow and sail
from Aden as follows:
(A) 0630C/29th.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) Best with tow.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 281251C to THYME.)

/FLAMBOROUGH...

28.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd..

FLAMBOROUGH HEAD Intend following programme for FLAMBOROUGH HEAD on passage to U.K. all dates Feb. unless shown otherwise.

| <u>Maintenance ship on passage to U.K.</u> | <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | - | Colombo. | 30th Jan. |
| | 9th. | Aden. | 10th |
| | 15th. | Suez. | 16th |
| | 16th | Port Said. | 17th |
| | 18th | Alexandria | 23rd |
| | 3rd March. | Gibraltar. | 5th March. |
| | 10th March. | Chatham. | - |

2. Ship will call at Makalla on passage to Aden.
3. Ship staff will carry out boiler clean Alex.
4. Canal transit daylight 16th Feb.
5. Fuelling at Aden, Alex and Gibraltar.
(C. in C.E.I. 281649EF to FLAMBOROUGH HEAD. C. in C. Med. N.O.i.c. Port Said.)

28.1.1946.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

BURGES
frigate
with L.C.I.
Flotilla
for return
to U.S.A.

Cancel my 231457 (N.T. in W.D.) Jan. intend
F.D.T. 13 and L.S.T. 200 to proceed in company
with BURGES and first flight of 280 L.C.I.
Flotilla F.D.T.13. to proceed direct for Norfolk
on reaching latitude 36 degs. North.
(C. in C.A.W.I.281430Z to Admiralty.)

GARDINER
and BERRY
Frigates
on passage
to U.S.A.
with L.S.T's.

My 222259Z to Admiralty (R) C. in C. Lant not to
all.
2. My P.C.S. 271200 G.M.T. 38. 16 N. 52 35. W.
270 10 weather 3876 2276.
3. Approx E.T.A. GARDINER Boston 31st. BERRY
Philadelphia 31st L.S.T. 416 and F.O.T. 217
Norfolk Feb. 1st. L.S.T. 238 New York Feb.1st.
Exact E.T.A. will be signalled.
4. Intend detaching GARDINER and BERRY a.m. 30th.
to destinations. L.S.T. and F.O.T. continue west in company
S.O. in 416 detaching L.S.T. 238 for New York as convenient.
(GARDINER 281605Z to C. in C. Lant.)

Far East and Australia.

Transfer
of Flag
A.C.l.

Intend flag of A.C.l. shall be transferred from
INDEFATIGABLE to IMPLACABLE 0800K 31st Jan.
2. C. in C. is requested to make necessary
signal.
(A.C.l. 280232Z to C. in C. B.P.F. F.O.i.c.(S)
V.A.(Q))

PENN
air target
ship.

Your 270530/Nov.(N.T. in W.D.) C. in C.E.I's
241511 and A.M. 261448 Jan. As there appears
to be no need for PENN as Air Target ship at
Singapore request report whether PENN would
not be preferable to AIRE as S/M Target Vessel
and involve less structural alteration.
(A.C.N.S. 281227 to C. in C.B.P.F.)

War Diary.

29.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

SCOUT, Intend to sail SCOUT 1900A/29th Jan. via Necri
accommodation routes to Swansea.
ship, on (2) Speed 13, E.T.A. to be reported.
passage from (3) Ship will call at Vigo 1200A/31st Jan. for
E.I. to U.K. fuel and water and will resume journey before
for scrapping. dark unless information is received prior to
1600Z from C. in C. Plymouth that weather fore-
cast across Bay of Biscay is unfavourable.
(5) Ship is to signal P.C.S. and weather report
in accordance with A.F.Os. 1/45, article 29, at 0600Z and 1800Z
daily to F.O.G.M.A., repeated C. in C. Plymouth, until crossing
43 N. then to C. in C. Plymouth, both repeated Admiralty.
(F.O.G.M.A., 291102A to SCOUT, C. in C. Plymouth.)

CAISTOR My 271302.* Sailing of landing craft delayed.
CASTLE, CAISTOR CASTLE is to proceed direct to Las Palmas
escort for to arrive by 0700Z/2nd Feb. at which time L.C.I.(L)
L.C.Is. on 387 is to sail with all landing craft in exe-
passage to cution of previous orders.
Bermuda. (2) C. in C. A.W.I. is now requested to arrange
relief escort at approx. 1100Z on 8th Feb.
(3) CAISTOR CASTLE and L.C.I.(L) 387 acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A., 291628A to CAISTOR CASTLE, L.C.I.(L)
387.) See 291641 (S.Atlantic) and 311952A.
* Capt. W.Af. to sail corvettes to R/V with
L.C.I.(L) 387 and three other L.C.I.(L).
Your 291628A. Received and understood.
(S.O. L.C.I.(L) 387, 291723 to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic.

COLOSSUS, COLOSSUS reports she has 202 ratings due to be
light fleet discharged to U.K. by end of April in accordance
carrier, re- with short cast number two.
fitting Cape- (2) Understand this matter was discussed with
town, discharg East Indies drafting authorities before ship
of ratings. left Colombo.
(3) For example effect of loss of these ratings
in various departments will be as follows -
A. Air. 70 out of 160 maintenance ratings will
be lost. B. Engine Room. Leading Stokers will be reduced from
36 to 14. 8 of 24 Stokers due for relief have been performing
Leading Stokers duties. C. Artisan. 10 ratings mostly entirely
inexperienced will be left out of normal complement of 18.

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29.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

COLOSSUS,
light fleet
carrier, re-
fitting Cape-
town, dis-
charge of
ratings.
(Contd.)

(4) In accordance with Admiralty instructions loss of efficiency has already been accepted. Further loss of efficiency by the discharge of these ratings may well result in the ship becoming at least partly non-operational.

(5) Estimated completion date of COLOSSUS refit is end of March no reliefs are available on S.At. Station.

(6) Unless reliefs can be provided it is for consideration that ship proceeds to U.K. on completion.

(7) Written report follows by air mail.

(C. in C. S.A., 291443 to Admty., C. in C. E.I.)

Movement.

Departure CAISTOR CASTLE 1800/28th for R/V 28
N. 23 W. escort route as detailed Gibraltar.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 291641 to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

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29.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operational control of Dutch S/Ms on passage to Holland.

Your 261010 (East Indies). Admiralty agrees to accept operational control of O.23 and TROMP from Port Said to Holland. (Hd. of M.I., 290608 to C.M.R. London.)

I.S. GRADISCA, Further to my 282155. At 0400B stern mooring of ashore on Gavdo Is. Crete. GRADISCA carried away, and vessel's stern swung inshore. Heavy swell is driving her further on to the beach all the time. GRADISCA has a list of 16° to starboard which is tending to increase.

(2) Further to REGARD? intend to disembark main body of crew and request vessel to accommodate same.

(3) It is impossible to go alongside so am using launches to transfer pumps to GRADISCA.

(SALVENTURE, 290830B to C. in C. Mediterranean.)

Am proceeding in ORION to Alexandria. JERVIS remains as S.O. present at Gavdo. ORION has embarked 106 crew of GRADISCA. Balance remaining on board number about 140 who could be accommodated in JERVIS and SALVENTURE in an emergency. Another accommodation ship is therefore not required SALVENTURE's 290830 refers.

(2) JERVIS has 56% fuel remaining at 0800B today Tuesday.

(3) With urgent necessity of progressive salvage of GRADISCA assistance to CAPTIVE cannot at present be great. She is in no immediate danger provided weather remains fair and portable pumps continue to function satisfactorily.

(4) British personnel still in GRADISCA are Staff Liaison Officer, Purser, O.C. Troops and two Military Warrant Officers.

(C.S. 15, 291545B to C. in C. Med., JERVIS.)

Further to my 290830B. GRADISCA is now resting on a shelf with a list of 17°.

(2) Attempts to pull her off this shelf to an even keel have so far failed. She is firmly fixed and the pounding has to a great extent ceased.

(3) Her engine room which was nearly dry this morning, has now flooded and all power is off.

(4) Water is rising in number 3 hold. As this hold contains valuable medical supplies, we are endeavouring to save these by pumping.

(5) We shall try to dry number 3 hold and engine room before making any further attempts to pull her off.

(6) Am lying to both anchors with a towing spring on her stern to hold her up as much as possible.

(SALVENTURE, 291804B to C. in C. Med., JERVIS.) See O11942B

LONDON, cruiser, trooping.

Immediately on arrival about 0700B/30th sail to Aden and Colombo. Report your time of departure from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all in this signal.

(2) My 281830B to INDOMITABLE is also being passed for information. (Acknowledge.) (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 290831B to LONDON.)

/Disposal...

War Diary.

29.1.1946
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Disposal of H.M. ships in Med. Inter Island transport Dodecanese, etc.

In anticipation of Admiralty approval F.O.L.E.M. is requested to take action on 4th Feb. to dispose of H.M. ships as follows.
A. LANNER and CRESCENT MOON to B.M.A. Dodecanese. F.O.L.E.M.'s 121952 Dec. my 211110 (N.T. in W.D.) and 141715 Jan. refer.
B. KENNET sell locally preferably through B.S.D.M. M.E. for scrap failing which sink. My 141804 (N.T. in W.D.) Jan. refers.
(C. in C. Med., 290915 to Admty., F.O.L.E.M.)
in Admiralty 081304 Feb. Col Med

3rd and 14th D.Fs., Med. Policy.

When C. in C. Mediterranean takes over direct control of the Greek area on Feb. 1st, it is intended to concentrate the 14th D.F. in F.O.L.E.M.'s area, and to detach ships of the 3rd D.F. from the Central Mediterranean to the Greek area as necessary.

(2) To implement this policy, BRISSENDEN on completion of repairs, will be sailed to Piraeus, and JAVELIN, after disembarking draft at Malta, will join D.14 in the Levant.
(C. in C. Med., 290948 to F.O.L.E.M., S.B.N.O.(G), JAVELIN, BRISSENDEN, Capt. D.14, Capt. D. 3.)

Interception illegal immigrants by TALYBONT destroyer.

My 191315* not to F.O.I.L. Charts retrieved from ENZO SERENI alias RODINE indicate -
(1) Vessel sailed Savona a.m. 7th Jan. and passengers were embarked at that port.
(2) Vessel well equipped with navigational aids including W/T receiver and possibly a transmitter.
(3) Voyage of 1500 miles was made without stopping to refuel or reprovision in slightly over 10 days.

(4) On challenge, Master declared ship to be Portuguese, but produced no evidence in support thereof.
(F.O.L.E.M., 291019 to C. in C. Med.)

* ENZO is cover name for RODINE registered ^{Savona} ~~SAVONA~~ and sailed Messina for Palestine on maiden voyage.

British Naval Mission to Greece. Duties and responsibilities of.

Information is requested whether Their Lordships are yet in a position to lay down the duties and responsibilities of the British Naval Mission to Greece.

(2) S.B.N.O. Greece has represented that, in the absence of an agreement between the two Governments he is placed in a difficult position as his official position as head of mission has not yet been defined.

(3) The views of the then Prime Minister to Greece, Admiral Voulgaris (?) were forwarded to Admiralty under submission number 4532/Med. 45/659/21/3 of the 8th Oct. 1945.

(C. in C. Med., 291151 to Admty., S.B.N.O. Greece.) *see 271237 Feb.*

4021227/March.

/VIOLET...

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29.1.1946
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

VIOLET,
corvette,
on passage
to U.K. &
reserve.

Sail at 0800A/30th Jan. by appropriate Medri
routes to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K.
(2) Speed $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots or better reporting E.T.A.
(4) Acknowledge.
(C. in C. Med., 291153 to VIOLET, Capt. D. Malta,
V.A.M.)

Visit of
Fr. F.O. 4th
Division to
Dakar, and
transfer of
personnel.

If SS? MONTCALM is to transport personnel to
Dakar and FORT DE FRANCE ship carrying flag of
Rear Admiral Jaujard F.O. 4th Cruiser Division
is to leave Toulon Feb. 1st for Dakar calling
eventually at Casablanca. Request concurrence.
(Almed, 291215 to C. in C. Med.) See 300958.

29.1.1946.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Gunboats Intend to sail from Port Soudan at 0530B 30th
for E.I. from taking Western inshore route, speed 9 knots,
Med. E.T.A. Aden a.m. 3rd Feb.
(SCARAB 291117B to N.O.I.C. Port Said.)

Following route is submitted for passage of Gunboats from
Aden to Colombo.

Masira, Karachi, Bombay, Cochin, Colombo.

2. Range of COCKCHAFFER is approximately 800 miles which is
limiting factors.

3. Fuel and fresh water will be required at all ports.

4. Earnestly request berths alongside as Capstan and Cable
gear are unreliable. Maximum draught $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

(SCARAB 291133B to C. in C.E.I. Admiralty.)

FREESIA 548C of 29.12.45. Sail from Aden as follows:-
corvette (A) 0830C/30th.
on passage (B) Suez for U.K.
to U.K. (C) 10 knots.
and reserve. Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 291120C to FREESIA.)

MONTCLARE 548C of 29.12.45. Sail from Aden as follows:
destroyer (A) 0900C/30th.
depot ship (B) Suez for U.K.
on passage (C) 12 knots.
to U.K. (G) Commodore Fleet Train is on board.
Acknowledge.
(N.O.i.c. Aden. 291125C to MONTCLARE. Admiralty.)

M.F.V. 516. No reply having been received to my 211110 (N.T.
should be under Med? in W.D.) Dec. M.F.V. 516 may be turned over to
Army for administration and maintenance in
anticipation of subsequent Admiralty approval.
(C. in C. Med. 291901A to F.O.L.E.M.)

FLAMBOROUGH 548C of 29th Dec. 1945. Sail from Colombo as
HEAD Escort follows:
maintenance ship (A) As convenient a.m. 30th Jan.
on passage (B) Aden.
from B.P.F. (C) 10 knots.
to U.K. (G) Onward routeing to U.K.
Acknowledge.
(F.O. Ceylon 291226 to FLAMBOROUGH HEAD.)

/ENCHANTRESS...

29.1.1946.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

ENCHANTRESS
sloop
on passage
to U.K.
from B.P.F.

Intend following programme for ENCHANTRESS on
passage to U.K. All dates Feb. unless shown
otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Depart.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| - | Trinco. | 29th Jan. |
| 7th | Aden. | 8th. |
| 12th | Suez. | 13th |
| 13th | Port Said. | 15th |
| 22nd | Gibraltar. | 26th |
| 2nd March | Portsmouth | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said, Gibraltar.

4. Canal transit 13th Feb.

(C. in C.E.I. 291726EF to Admty. C. in C.Med. F.O. Ceylon.)

Request from
French for
allocation of
H.S. CAP ST.
JACQUES.

H/Q Sacsea commission No. 1. Saigon 6376 Q (Mov.)
Ref. our 6350 Q (Mov.) of 24 Jan. to 1000 24th.
Both replies not yet received would be most
grateful your comments earliest.
Agreed P.S.T.O. S.E.A.C.
(H.Q. Alfsea 291800 to Troopers.)

29.1.1946.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

FROBISHER
Cadet
training
ship.

Left Grenada Monday 28th Jan. arrived Barbados
Tuesday 29th Jan.
(FROBISHER 290800Q to C. in C.A.W.I)

STOCKHAM
frigate
returned
to U.S.A.

E.T.A. Cape May 2100Z/31.
(STOCKHAM 292145Z to B.A.D. Wash. Comnavu.
B.N.L.O. Philadelphia.)

Far East and Australia.

GAMBIA
cruiser
programme
for trooping
to U.K.

Following programme submitted by GAMBIA is based
on 20 knots trooping trip in view of number of
U.K. ratings returning home E.T.D. Sydney
28th Feb.

| <u>D.O.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>D.O.D.</u> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 5th March | Fremantle. | 7th March. |
| 14th " | Colombo. | 17th " |
| 22nd " | Aden. | 24th " |
| 27th " | Port Said. | 30th " |
| 3rd April. | Gibraltar. | 5th April. |
| 8th " | U.K. | |

3. Propose to approve.
(N.Z.N.B. 290045 to Admiralty)
(See 301843.)

UNDINE
and
TENACIOUS
destroyers
for U.K.

Request you will sail UNDINE, Senior Officer, and
TENACIOUS at 1700K 5th Feb. for U.K. carrying out
following programme.

| <u>E.T.A.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>E.T.D.</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 7th Feb. | Melbourne. | 11th Feb. |
| 16th Feb. | Fremantle. | 18th Feb. |
| 28th Feb. | Trincomalee. | 2nd March. |
| 9th March. | Aden. | 9th March. |
| 13th March. | Suez & Transit. to Port Said. | 15th March. |
| 18th March. | Malta. | 20th March. |
| 23rd March. | Gibraltar. | 25th March. |

28th TENACIOUS arrive Devonport.
29th March UNDINE arrives Chatham.

3. S.O.A. 14 knots.
(F.O.S.A. 290801 to A.C.N.B.)
(See 300651.) 7090225Z

/China...

29.1.1946.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.contd.,

China
British
position
weak.

My impressions after visit to Chungking Canton and (3 corrupt groups) are that British Government is not attaching sufficient importance to our position in China.

(2) Our Naval representation ashore is very weak and there are few Consuls. The Government has put forward no big men with wide central powers on commercial and shipping side.

(3) Unless such men get going quickly I feel we shall lose our position.

(4) There are few merchant ships and until ships start running trade will not start, and I should have thought that L.S.Ts. or various types of Naval ships could be utilized.

(5) I do not think the difficulties with Chungking are great provided we show we can do something.

(C. in C. B.P.F. 290823 to Admiralty.)

Hong Kong
taking over
of camber
for berthing
H.D.M.L.'s.

Ref. para. 4 of F.O.W.A. B.P.F's No. W.A.P. 28/2302 of 7th Dec. subject taking over of Wellington Barracks Hong Kong also desired that R.N. should take over small camber adjacent to Wellington Barracks, and at present belonging to R.A.F.C. required for berthing of H.D.M.L's and other small craft.

2. Request this may be taken up with War Office with question of Wellington Barracks. Letter follows.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 290923Z to Admiralty.)

DEVONSHIRE
cruiser
trooping.

Departed Fremantle 0900A 29th Jan. DEVONSHIRE for Colombo. Route direct. S.O.A. 19/7 knots. E.T.A. Colombo 0300Z/5th Feb.
(N.O.i.c. Fremantle 291030AZ to F.O. Ceylon.)

U.S. Pacific
Summary 50.
Op. Naval
Units.

South Pacific.
VINCENTNES.
Southeast Pacific.
None.
Pacific Coast.

MASSACHUSETTS, ALABAMA, TICONDEROGA, SARATOGA, INTREPID, HORNET, BON HOMME, RICHARD, YORKTOWN, HANCOCK, BUNKER HILL, SHANGRI LA, VELLA GULF, SUWANNEE, WHITE PLAINS, BOGUE, RUDYERD BAY, SALAMAUA, HOGGART BAY, SAGINAW BAY, WINDHAM BAY, WAKE ISLAND, SIBONEY, BHIROKO, PUGET SOUND, KULA GULF, LUNGA POINT, TULAGI, MAKASSAR STRAIT, COWPENS, INDEPENDENCE, QUINCY, NEW ORLEANS, TUSCALOOSA, CHICAGO, CANBERRA, FLINT, ST. LOUIS, SAN JUAN, AMSTERDAM, OAKLAND, DAYTON, SPRINGFIELD, ASTORIA, TUCSON, 24 DD, Enroute U.S. TEXAS, SHIPLEY BAY, CHENANGO, SANTEE, STEAMER BAY, MATANIKAU, HOLLANDIA, KWAJALEIN, GILBERT ISLANDS, MUNDA, ANZIO, CASABLANCA, MANILA BAY, SAN JACINTO, BELLEAU WOOD, BOSTON, LOUISVILLE, WICHITA, NASHVILLE, WILKES - BARRE, RENO, PASADENA, 5 DD. Enroute Pearl: BARNES, NASSAU, 3 DD. At Pearl. SAIDOR, SITKOH BAY, SARGENT BAY, 22 DD.

/North Pacific....

29.1.1946.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia. contd..

U.S. North Pacific.
Pacific None.
summary 50. Southwest Pacific.
Op. Naval BIRMINGHAM, ATTU.
Units. Central Pacific.
NEW JERSEY, IOWA, BOXER, ANTIETAM, RIO, CAPE
GLOUCESTER, PRINCE WILLIAM, BALTIMORE, BREMERTON,
COLUMBUS, LOS ANGELES, TOPEKA, OKLAHOMA CITY,
DULUTH, ATLANTA, HOBART, ACHILLES, ARGONAUT, 51 DD.
Non operational at sea. Enroute U.S. None. Enroute Pearl. None.
(C.N.O. 291730 to Admiralty. Comnavu.)

A.F.D.20. H.M.T. ENTICER and H.M.T. ENIGMA towing A.F.D.20
escorted by H.M.S. CRANE departed Menulwarin
0200Z 29th Jan.
2. Direct route S.O.A. 4½ knots.
3. E.T.A. Morotai 2100Z 15th Feb.
(CRANE 290204Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Hong Kong For Chiefs of Staff.
W/T receiving 1. Owing to the limited space available in
and Hong Kong and new territories for erection of the
transmitting aerial systems, request for modern W/T receiving
stations. and transmitting stations proposal has been made
by the Hong Kong Communications board that early
consideration should be given to services,
Government and Cable and Wireless sharing
receiving and transmitting sites with a view to adapting
simultaneous shared use of large aerial arrays.
2. Before detailed plans are made for this project it is
requested that (a) agreement in principle may be given, (b) views
of combined signal board London may be obtained, (c) some
indication of future R.A.F. and Army communications requirements
in the colony may be given.
3. It is emphasised that the local communications board feel
that communal siting, and in particular communal Rhombics or
other arrays, is the only way by which Hong Kong can solve
the local problems presented by limitations of space and
geographical conditions, and by which the high standard required
of modern communications can be achieved for commercial
purposes and the services.
4. If both receiving and transmitting sites cannot be achieved,
it is considered priority should be given to a receiving site.
5. The main advantages are considered to be (a) maximum
utilization of limited space, (b) economy, (c) possibility of
integration of communications, (d) economy in local line
facilities, e.g. for Keying and control purposes.
6. An early reply is requested in order that planning may
proceed, either on the above lines or independently as before.
(C. in C. Hong Kong. 291356Z to Cabinet Offices.)

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

GENERAL.

Disposal of officers. The following revised programme to 31st March, 1946 for the dispersal of officers, in the branches shown is promulgated for information and necessary action.

2. A.G.M. 682A 12th Nov. A.G.M. 870A 21st Dec. and A.G.M. 977A 14th Jan. are to be amended accordingly.

| (A) <u>Commissioned Officer.</u> | <u>Group.</u> | <u>Latest disposal date</u> |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Engineers. (including Warrant and ex Warrant Officers.) | 15 to 20 21 to 24. | 28th Feb. 31st Mar. |
| (2) Air Engineers. (including Warrant and ex Warrant Officers.) | 33 to 56 37 to 43 | 28th Feb. 31st Mar. |
| (3) Supply. | 22 23 24 | 28th Feb. 14th Mar. 31st Mar. |
| (4) Cypher. | 31 32 33 | 28th Feb. 15th Mar. 31st Mar. |
| (5) Chaplains. (Church of England) | 23 to 28 29 to 32 | 28th Feb. 31st Mar. |
| (B) <u>W.R.N.S. Officers.</u> | | <u>Latest dispersal date</u> |
| (1) Education and E.V.T. | 28 to 35 | 31st Mar. |

(D.C.N.P. (2nd S.L.) 301132 to A.G.M. Home & Abroad 37A (B2)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ZEST
destroyer.

Intend to sail ZEST 1200A 30th Jan. via Necri route to Portland.
2. Speed 14. E.T.A. 1900Z 2nd Feb.
7. ZEST acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 300949A to ZEST. C. in C. Portsmouth Admiralty. N.O.I.C. Portland.)

INCONSTANT
destroyer
on passage
to Istanbul
for transfer
to Turks.

Intend to sail INCONSTANT 1400A 31 Jan. via Medri routes to Malta for O/R Istanbul. A.M. 242353 Jan. refers.
2. Speed 14. E.T.A. 1130A 3rd Feb.
5. INCONSTANT acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 301541A to C. in C. Med. (Malta.). V.A. Malta.)

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

PEVENSEY CASTLE You are to return to Freetown leaving A.S.R. A.S.R. Stn. Station at 2359 Jan. 31st. Signal E.T.A. and requirements on arrival.
(Capt. i/c W. Af. 300955 to PEVENSEY CASTLE.)

WILTON Intend to sail WILTON from Freetown at 1800 Jan. 30th to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K. calling at Las Palmas for fuel and water. Navigation as safety permits S.O.A. 14 knots. E.T.A. Las Palmas a.m. 4th Feb. E.T.D. Las Palmas p.m. 4th Feb. E.T.A. Gibraltar a.m. 7th Feb. WILTON acknowledge and sail to comply.
(Capt. i/c W.Af. 301516 to F.O.G.M.A.)

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Damage from
German
ground mines
precautions
to be
taken.

My 120934A/Nov. (not to all) is cancelled as it is now considered that the slight risk in un-degaussing ships may be accepted.

2. Further wiping of ships is not necessary.

3. Coiled merchant ships may continue to switch on D.G. as hitherto and so far as possible equipment is to be maintained in working order subject to vessels not being delayed.

4. D.G. ranging and treatment of non-British merchant ships at British and British controlled ports if requested by owners may be undertaken only so far as degaussing facilities retained for warships permit and under danger of existing financial agreement

5. This signal does not apply to warships.

(C. in C. Med. 300850 to F.O.L.E.M. V.A.M. F.O.G.M.A. F.O.I.L. (Cancelled by 011119 Feb.)

My 120934A (not to all is cancelled) Risk to undegaussed ships is now slight and manpower considerations and need for most economic use of (?shipping) make it necessary for this risk to be accepted.

2. It is therefore no longer obligatory in the Mediterranean for Merchant ships to be degaussed either by coiling or wiping when proceeding declared danger areas, provided Medri are adhered to.

3. As degaussing of British, Allied and Neutral Merchant ships is (?no longer) obligatory wiping and/or ranging should only be carried out when requested by agents and then only so far as facilities retained for warships permit and under terms of any existing financial agreement.

4. Coiled Merchant ships whose D.G. Equipment is in working order should be advised to use it as hitherto, as their safety against magnetic mines will be increased thereby. No major repair to D.G. Equipment are to be undertaken, but it should be maintained in working order so far as is possible subject to vessels not being delayed and subject to the term of any existing financial agreement.

5. This signal does not, apply to Warships whose D.G. Equipment is to be operated and maintained as hitherto.

B.R. 825 refers.

(C. in C. Med. 300855 to F.O.L.E.M. V.A.M. F.O.G.M.A. Comar Algiers.)

Re transfer
of personnel
to Dakar.

Concur your 291215/ being passed to Admiralty and C. in C.A. and W.I. subject to agreement of other Allied Naval Area Commanders concerned.

(C. in C. Med. 300958 to Almed. F.O.G.M.A.)
(/ Re s.s. MONTCALM to transport personnel.)

Palestine
destroyer
patrol.

You may temporary cease continuous patrol and substitute one destroyer to show flag off the full length of the coast every third day.

(2) Occasionally in fine weather a destroyer is to anchor off Jaffa or Telavi.

(3) One destroyer should be kept at Beirut.

(4) This temporary change of policy is so far as possible to be treated as secret.

(F.O.L.E.M. 301320 to S.N.O. Haifa (Afloat.))

30.1.1946.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. contd...

Re operational control of Dodecanese.

Your 281224 Jan. The transfer of the area of the S.B.N.O. Greece from F.O.L.E.M. to C. in C. Mediterranean was proposed in order to
(A) Bring the Naval Chain of Command into line with that of the Army since Greece is under G.H.Q. C.M.F.

(B) To assist in the reduction of F.O.L.E.M.
2. The Dodecanese are however under G.H.Q. Mid East and it was accordingly decided to leave S.N.O.D.E.K. under F.O.L.E.M. Naval personnel in Dodecanese have been reduced to minimum and it is considered no economy would result from placing him under C. in C. Mediterranean.

(C. in C. Med. 301519 to Admiralty.)

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

Immediately on arrival about 1900B 31st sail to Gibraltar. Speed 16 knots. E.T.A. p.m. 5th Feb. Report accurate E.T.A. when known. Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Port Said. 302130 to SMITER. Admiralty.)

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

B.Y.M.S. 548C of 29.12.45. take B.Y.M.S. 2244, 2043, and for Singapore. 2225 under your orders and sail from Mandapam as follows:-

- (A) 1315EF 31st Jan.
- (B) Trincomalee.
- (C) 9 knots.
- (F) 0915EF 1st Feb.

(2) Com. i/c Trincomalee is requested not to delay these vessels longer than is necessary for fuelling and watering.

(3) Commander S.E. Davies D.S.C. R.N.R. is taking passage to Singapore on board B.Y.M.S. 2205 to take up his appointment vide C. in C.E.I.S. 161735EF.

(Cdr. M/S Mandapam 300850EF to B.Y.M.S. 2205.)

Force 18 548C of 29.12.45. Take M.M.S. 107, 108, 197, M.M.S. 201 under your orders and sail from Mandapam as follows:-

- (A) 1500EF 31st Jan.
- (B) Colombo.
- (C) 9 knots.

Acknowledge.

(Cdr. M/S Mandapam 300925EF to S.O. Force 18.)

Landing craft In order to effect the maximum reduction in naval in S.W. personnel and maintenance requirements, in Pacific accordance with A.M. 101922 Dec. not to all addee. reduction the following policy for L.S.T. is intended. of L.S.T. 2. S.O. Force "W" has declared all L.S.T. (2) unfit for operation and those which will not be declared afloat "total loss" are to be prepared for return to the United States authority at

Manila as quickly as possible in accordance with C.A.F.O. 1830/45.

3. A.C.N.B. is requested to release Force "A" including GLENGYLE to reach Singapore by 15th March. L.S.T.(2) of Force "A" will similarly prepare for return to U.S. authority as soon as they are released. No further L.S.T.(3) are to be sailed to join Force "A".

4. It is intended to reduce the number of L.S.T.(3) which are available (?to) F.O.M.F.A. for operational purposes as follows:-

- (a) To 26 by 1st March.
- (b) To 10 by 1st April.

5. The L.S.T.(3) so released will be returned to United Kingdom with the exception of 2 in number which will be retained for use by C. in C.E.I. These 12 L.S.T.(3) will meet the final requirements of D.C.O.D. Serial 14 from this Theatre.

6. S.O. Force "W" is requested to indicate by 15th Feb. which 28 in number L.S.T.(3) will be retained after 1st March.

7. F.O.M.F.A. pass P/L to S.A.C.S.E.A. Alfsea.

(C. in C.E.I. 301015 to S.O. Force W. F.O.M.F.A.)

(See 040132Z/Feb '46 F.E. & A.) + 182218 E.F. 211716 E.F. 241232 Feb

Accelerated release programme necessitates reduction to lowest possible figure of numbered of landing ships and craft manned by British personnel in your command.

252117 Feb-

/BULLFROG...

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies contd.,

BULLFROG
Cable ship
on passage
to U.K.

548C of 29.12.45. Sail from Aden as follows:-
(A) 1700C 31st.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 10 knots.
(I) Acknowledge.
(N.O.I.C. Aden 301730 to BULLFROG Admty.)

MULL OF
GALLOWAY
Motor
craft
maintenance
ship on
passage to
U.K.

Intend following programme for MULL OF GALLOWAY
on passage to U.K. all dates Feb. unless shown
otherwise.

| <u>Arrive.</u> | <u>Place.</u> | <u>Departure.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| - | Colombo. | 1st |
| 12th | Aden. | 12th |
| 20th | Suez | 20th |
| 20th | Port Said | 22nd |
| 5th Mar. | Gibraltar. | 6th Mar. |
| 13th Mar. | Portsmouth | - |

2. Fuelling at Aden, Port Said, Gibraltar.

3. Canal transit day light 20th Feb.

(C. in C.E.I. 301814EF to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

See 13/601 Feb.

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

S.O.S.
message.

S.O.S. Following received from GNTZ BACTRIA at 0058. In position 41 40 West, 52 30 North. There was no call sign used. Message ends. (BACTRIA 300107 to Admiralty.)

New York Maritime exchange reports following received from Lloyds London. Distress 52 30 N. 41 40 W. believed to be GEORGE E. MERRICK attention called to similarity of this position to position of MERRICK 41 40 N. 52 39 W in C.N.O. C and R 300050 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all. (C.E.S.F. 302029 to C.T.F. 24.)

Return of
GARDINER
and BERRY
Frigates
to U.S.A.

My 300830Q (N.T. in W.D.)
(2) Have detached 416 and 217 to Norfolk.
(3) BERRY and 238 will remain in company until 1200 G.M.T. tomorrow thence to Philadelphia and New York respectively.
(5) GARDINER detached for Boston.
(GARDINER 301334Q to C. in C. Lant.)
(See 311209Z.)

MICMAC
destroyer
(R.C.N.)
Escort for
L.C.I's
on passage
to Bermuda.

My 281435Z (N.T. in W.D.)
Sailing postponed until 2200Z 3rd Feb. R/V with L.C.I.(L) in 28 N. 40 W. postponed until 1100Z 8th Feb.
(C. in C.A.W.I. 301615Z to MICMAC. CAISTOR CASTLE.)

S.S.
LA SALLE PARK
in distress.

Following received at 1920Z.
S.O.S. from (V.G.G.C.) LA SALLE PARK.
Position at 1500 - 47 46 north, 41 39 west.
Steering gear out of control, struck by heavy seas.
Master.
(LA SALLE PARK No.T.O.O. to Admiralty.)

Following received from LA SALLE PARK (VGGV) position at 1547 46 North 4139 West steering gear out of control struck by heavy sea, life boat carried away.

(C.T.F. 301923 to All at weather patrols.)

Pass the following to S.S. LA SALLE PARK (VGGV)

Is your present condition critical.

(C.T.F. 26 301957 to All Atlantic Weather Patrols and Plane Guard Stations.)

Following received, begins:

From (VGGV) LA SALLE PARK.

Position at 1500/30th 47 46 N. 41 19 steering gear out of control struck by heavy seas Master..ends. Proceed to position and stand by to assist.

(C.O.A.C. 302120Z to RAVAGER.)

War Diary.

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia.

Loan of
corvette
and boom
defence
vessel to
Chinese
Maritime
Customs.

Following for D.N.I.
Your 242302. Inspector General of Chinese Maritime
Customs informs me that his instructions to
Foster Hall are contained in his telegram 252. of
23rd Jan. Suggest you ask Foster Hall to show
you this telegram and correspondence all referring
to his letter to Admiralty of 7th Dec.
(N.A. Shanghai 300150Z to Admty. C. in C. B.P.F.)

S/M's for
return
to U.K.

VIRTUE has defects which will take at least
14 days to repair at Melbourne. As it is not
considered she should sail unaccompanied intend
to retain VOX and VORACIOUS at Melbourne with her
and sail all three ships in company when ready.
2. S.O. S/M's Sydney 310002 Dec. refers.
(F.O.S.A. 300222Z to C. in C. B.P.F.)

Destroyers
sailing
for U.K.
S.O's.

My 250847~~4~~ and 290801~~4~~ Senior Officer now in
TUMULT and TENACIOUS respectively.
(F.O.S.A. 300651 to A.C.N.B. Admty. C. in C. B.P.F.)
~~4~~ Sailing URSA and TUMULT to U.K.
~~4~~ UNDINE and TENACIOUS to sail for U.K. 5th.

VICTORIOUS
A.C.
trooping.

Departed Fremantle 1010Z/30th Jan. VICTORIOUS
for Singapore. F.O.S.A.'s 180834 refers. Route
via Princes Channel Sunda and Gasper Straits.
E.T.A. Horsburgh Light 0530Z/4th Feb. S.O.A.
20 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Fremantle 301025Z to S.N.O.A. Singapore.
C. in C. B.P.F.)

M/S report.

(A) 10th M.S.F. less JEWEL and ORSAY on passage
to Kure.
(B) 180th B.Y.M.S. continuing magnetic clearance
of East Lamma Channel 4 mines exploded.
(C) Canton River. Nanaw Channel cleared and now
being widened. No mines.
(C. in C. B.P.F. 301250 to Admty. M.S.10.)

GAMBIA
cruiser
for U.K.
trooping.

Concur in programme in your 290045. It would
however be appreciated if date of arrival in U.K.
could be advanced by reducing the lengths of stops
at fuelling ports.
(A.C.N.S.(O) 301843 to N.Z.N.B. GAMBIA)
(See 010502Z Feb.)

/Trooping...

War Diary.

30.1.1946.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia contd...

Trooping programme Following is probable programme of Naval Trooping Vessels sailing from U.K. in Feb. and March. 1946.

| <u>Ship.</u> | <u>E.T.D. U.K.</u> | <u>Destination.</u> | <u>E.T.A.</u> |
|--------------|--|------------------------|--|
| BERWICK | ^{25th} 20 th Feb. | Malta, Ceylon. | ^{14th} 9 th Mar. |
| ATHELING | ^{13th MARCH} 27 th Feb. | Malta, Ceylon, Sydney. | ^{4th} 6 th Apr. |
| FORMIDABLE | 28 th Feb. ^{1st March} | Ceylon, Sydney. | ^{2nd} 1 st Apr. |
| QUEEN | 4 th Mar. | Malta, Ceylon. | 26 th Mar. |
| DEVONSHIRE | ^{14th} 10 th Mar. | Malta, Ceylon. | ^{9th} 27 th Mar. ^{April} |
| FENCER | ^{14th} 13 th Mar. | Ceylon. | ^{5th} 4 th Apr. |
| PANEE | ^{25th} 13 th Mar. | Malta, Ceylon. | ^{22nd} 5 th Apr. |
| VICTORIOUS | ^{15th} 14 th Mar. | Ceylon, Sydney. | ^{14th} 15 th Apr. |
| INDOMITABLE | ^{3rd} 25 th Mar. ^{April} | Ceylon, Sydney. | ^{3rd} 25 th Apr. ^{May} |

(D. of M. 302130 to C. in C. B.P.F. C. in C.E.I. C. in C. Med.)

*amended by 202206 Feb.
+ 122235 March.*

War Diary.

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

GENERAL.

F.O's Greenock, Glasgow, lapse of appointments. Following for information and promulgation as necessary in your commands. As from 15th Feb 1946 the appointment of Flag Officers in charge at Glasgow and Greenock will lapse. Thereafter a N.O.I.C. will remain at Greenock only, with Glasgow area reverting to C. in C. Rosyth's Sub. Command.
(Admiralty 312208B to C. in C. Med. C. in C.E.I.
C. in C.C.S.A. C. in C. B.P.F.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

GORLESTON
cutter
on passage
to U.K.
and for
return
to U.S.A.

Intend to sail GORLESTON 0930A 1st Feb. to Portsmouth.
2. Speed 12. E.T.A. a.m. 5th. Gibraltar.
7. GORLESTON acknowledge and sail to comply.
(F.O.G.M.A. 310936A to GORLESTON. C. in C. Portsmouth)

SCOUT
on passage
to U.K.
for
scrapping.

Remain Vigo. Weather forecast unfavourable for bay crossing.
3. Further signal will be made.
4. Acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A. 311030A to SCOUT.)

Corvettes
for U.K.

Sail PEVENSEY CASTLE and LANCASTER CASTLE as soon as practicable to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K.
2. A.M. 291611 and my 271302 para. 5 not to F.O.C.R.F. refer.
(F.O.G.M.A. 311154A to Capt. W.Af. Admty.)
(See 010928 Feb. (S.A.))

MAZURKA
Trawler
Air/Sea
Rescue
Force
Azores.

Intend to sail MAZURKA when ready about 3rd Feb. to Plymouth by direct route.
2. S.O.A. 9 knots. E.T.A. to be reported direct to Admiralty.
6. MAZURKA to acknowledge and sail to comply calling at Angra Terceira en route for snips mail etc.,
(S.B.N.O. Horta 311729Z to Admty.)

/Movements...

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. cont:

Movements.

SCOUT arrived 1400A Jan.31st.
(R.O. Vigo. 311740A to F.O.G.M.A.)

CAISTOR
CASTLE
Escort
for L.C.I's
on passage
to Bermuda.

Arrival of CAISTOR CASTLE at Las Palmas may be delayed by weather. My 291628A/Jan. refers.
2. Weather permitting landing craft are to sail unescorted from Las Palmas 0700Z/2nd Feb. and then as previously arranged.
3. CAISTOR CASTLE is to rendezvous with landing craft in position 28 degs nil min. North 19 degs. 40 mins. West. (R) 28 degs nil mins north, 19 degs. 40 mins. West. 1100Z 3rd Feb. An early rendezvous

may be made if weather permits.

4. CAISTOR CASTLE and L.C.I.(L) 387 acknowledge.
(F.O.G.M.A. 311952A to CAISTOR CASTLE. L.C.L.(I) 387. C. in C. A.W.I.)
(See 022323A/Feb.)

South Atlantic.

LAUDERDALE
destroyer
on passage
to Malta
to reduce
to care
and
maintenance.

Sailed LAUDERDALE to Kilindini for onward routeing.
2. S.O.A. 14 knots.
3. E.T.A. Kilindini 1400Z 5th Feb.
(Commodore Durban 310830 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

WILTON
destroyer
on passage
to U.K.
and reserve.

Arrival/Departure WILTON 1330/1800/30th
Las Palmas/Gibraltar.
(S.O.I. Freetown 311737 to Admiralty.)

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

F.S. JULES VERNE Auxiliary Repair Ship on passage to F.East. Cancel my 281840B. JULES VERNE delayed Port Said indefinitely owing to fire damage sustained p.m. 30th. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 311120B to JULES VERNE. C. in C.E.I. Admty.)

Submarines at Malta. Two recently refitted T Class Submarines can now be maintained at Malta without prejudice to refit of WOLFE. A.M. 111500 Jan. (2) Request therefore that first two submarines allocated to first submarine flotilla may be sailed for Malta as early as convenient. (3) This would have the added advantage of releasing the two Greek A/S training submarines from Malta where currency difficulties are causing complications. A.M. 281716 refers. (C. in C. Med. 311220 to Admty. F.O. S/M's.)

MORAY FIRTH aircraft engine repair ship on passage to B.P.F. Sail at 0700B 1st Feb. to Aden and Colombo report your T.O.D. from Suez and E.T.A. Aden to all addressees in this signal. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 311220B to MORAY FIRTH.) Request you will sail MORAY FIRTH (at present on passage to the Pacific) for U.K. forthwith. (A.C.N.S. 311945 to C. in C. Med. C. in C.E.I.) (See 021215 Feb.)

INDOMITABLE A.C. trooping. E.T.D. Suez 1545B today Thursday 31st Jan. E.T.A. Fairway Buoy Aden 1030 Sunday 3rd Feb. (INDOMITABLE 311340B to N.O.I.C. Port Said. Com. Aden.)

F.S. TEMPETE SIMOUN destroyers to be stationed at Cherbourg. Intend to sail F.S. TEMPETE and F.S. SIMOUN at 1400A 1st Feb. (2) Speed 15 knots. (3) Routed as in Medri and Necri. (4) E.T.A. a.m. 5th Feb. (9) (B) Will signal position daily. (C) Almed's 281755A C. in C. Plymouth's 291126A C. in C. Med's 291208A refer. (Comar Oran 311430A to PREMAR 1. Almed. F.O.G.M.A.)

187

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Movements
A.F.D.67.

Arrived PRINSES BEATRIX, NORTHWAY, BULLFROG,
FLAUNT towing A.F.D. 67. Departed MONTCLARE,
FREESIA, PRINSES BEATRIX, NORTHWAY, B.Y.M.S. 2258.
(N.O.I.C. Aden 310900C to Admiralty.)

MULL OF
GALLOWAY
Motor craft
maintenance
ship for
U.K.

Ref. 548C of 29 Dec. '45. sail from Colombo
as follows:
A. 1000EF Feb. 1st.
B. Aden.
C. 8th.
G. Onward routing to U.K.
Acknowledge.
(F.O. Ceylon 310928EF to MULL OF GALLOWAY. Admty.)

WREN
WILDGOOSE
A.A. Sloops
for Persian
Gulf.

Request Admiralty will reply to S.N.O. Persian
Gulf's 261009/. Understand that completion
dates in U.K. were:-
(A) WREN 7th Jan.
(B) WILDGOOSE mid-Feb.
(C. in C.E.I. 311046EF to Admty.)
(See 021358)
/ Can a rough date now be given when WILDGOOSE
and WREN may be expected in the Gulf.

R.T.GROWLER
with
A.F.D. 55
for
Singapore.

548C of 29.12.45. take A.F.D. 55 in tow and sail
from Rangoon as follows:-
(A) p.m. 31st Jan.
(B) Singapore.
(C) 6 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Rangoon 311101 to GROWLER.)

NEWCASTLE
cruiser
trooping.

548C of 29.12.45 sail from Aden as follows:-
(A) 0800C 1st Feb.
(B) Suez for U.K.
(C) 20 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Aden. 311726 to NEWCASTLE.)

187A Rec-2/16 Feb 46.

SECRET

311941/January

IN

From F.O.M.F.A.

RECEIVED:—

DATE 1.2.46

TIME 1838

NAVAL CODE Y BY W/T.

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.]

Addressed

Info: C.in C. E.I.
 Comic N.B. Singapore, N.O.I.C. Batavia,
 N.O.I.C. Sourabaya, C.in C. BPF, Admiralty,
 H.M.S. SUSSEX, C.S.5, Batavia, F.O.S/M.

Intend U-Boats named in A.M. 241411 shall be escorted or towed by frigate into open water and sunk by S UID.

2. Consider 200 feet an adequate depth.

3. Accede to Japanese crew to embark U-Boats for passage strict precautions to be taken against their observing operations SUID after transfer into frigate.

4. Request H.M.S. SUSSEX to sink U-Boats from Batavia and Sourabaya latter dependant on C.in C. E.I. reply to request for temporary retention of U-Boats in N.O.I.C. Sourabaya 251000 not to all other.

5. N.O.I.C. Batavia pass A.M. 241411 to H.M.S. SUSSEX and C.S.5 Batavia.

311941 see 11/819 Feb.

V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (ops)
 O.D. (9)
 M. (4)

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

Proposed transfer of M.L. 340 to Greece.

Your 141519. Navy Department concur in proposed transfer. Admiralty pass to Commaveu (B.A.D. Wash. 310351Z to Admty. Commaveu. C. in C. Med.)
/ Passing action taken by War Registry. *See 131135 Feb (Head)*

GARDINER frigate return to U.S.A.

My 301335 para (4) my P.C.S. at 1200 G.M.T. 40 28 N. 64 22 W. 314 15. E.T.A. Boston 1000/01. (GARDINER 310930Q to C. in C. Lant.)

L.S.T. 238 BERRY frigate return fo U.S.A.

Ref. GARDINER's 301335Q
(1) 1200Z detached L.S.T. 238 to New York. E.T.A. a.m. 3rd Feb.
(2) BERRY E.T.A. Delemare Bay 0600Z 2nd Feb. (BERRY 311209Z to C. in C. Lant.)

Far East and Australia.

U.S. Naval Forces strength of in Japanese waters.

Following report of present and intended strength of United States Naval Forces in Japanese Waters has been received from Flag Officer Force T.

1. Present strength.

| Type. | Number. |
|-------|---------|
| CV | Nil. |
| BB | 1 |
| CA | 2 |
| CL | 2 |
| DD | 22 |

- Note:- the 2 C.A's are shortly to be relieved by 2 C.L's bringing the total of C.L's to 4.
2. Also attached to the 5th Fleet at present but operating in the Mariana Islands are usually 1 C.V. and 8 D.D's.
3. Prospective strength.
- (A) 5th Fleet is expected to leave Japanese Waters before 1st April 1946.
- (B) After departure of 5th Fleet, any Combat Unit required to support Army of occupation will be detached from 7th Fleet and come under orders of Comnavjap. Indications are that such forces will be considerably less than those now present.
- (C. in C. B.P.F. 310313Z to Admty.)

/INDEFATIGABLE...

War Diary.

31.1.1946.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Far East and Australia. contd...

INDEFATIGABLE A.C. UNDAUNTED destroyer for U.K. Departed Melbourne 0330Z 31st Jan. INDEFATIGABLE with UNDAUNTED in company for Fremantle to comply with F.O.S.A. 110054Z/. S.O.A. 14 knots. E.T.A. Fremantle 0001Z 5th Feb. (N.O.I.C. Pt. Melbourne 310534Z to N.O.I.C. Fremantle.)
/ Sailing of INDEFATIGABLE for U.K.

PERSEUS aircraft maintenance ship
HOLM SOUND aircraft component repair ship for U.K. Request you will sail PERSEUS and HOLMSOUND for U.K. as soon as practicable. (A.C.N.S.(O) 311936 to C. in C. B.P.F. C. in C.E.I. V.A.(Q). B.P.F.) *See 201253 Feb.*

Hong Kong Re W/T communications at From Chiefs of Staff Committee. Your 291356Z has been passed to the British Joint Communications Board for examination. 2. On the assumption that the proposals are agreed in principle you should forward detailed recommendations to the British Joint Communications Board. (Cabinet Offices 311950Z to C. in C. Hong Kong.)
Note. Refers C. in C. B.P.F. 040948.