

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

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

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

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

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

Note. Commencing on 16th February 1944 the Fortnightly Reports from S.A.C.S.E.A. covering Operations, Intelligence and Planning (all Services) have been removed and bound up separately.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation
"Tungsten".
TIRPITZ and
C.A. LARSEN.

1. A report graded C.3 received to-day from Stockholm states that the casualties in TIRPITZ during the attack upon her by A/C of the Fleet Air Arm in Alten Fiord on 3rd April last were 350 killed, including her C.O. and Second-in-Command; and that the Norwegian tanker C.A. LARSEN, attacked at the same time, was completely burnt out and cannot be repaired.

Operation
"Lombard".

2. At 2144B to-day A/C from the Force under V.A.2 in VICTORIOUS attacked an enemy convoy of three escorted M/Vs. close to the S.E. of Kvamme Island (N.E. of Stadlandet, Norway) and claim to have hit all three M/Vs. and four escorting Flak ships. Two of our A/C are missing.

Enemy
mines.

3. Two magnetic and one acoustic mines were destroyed by Sweepers to-day between Beachy Head and Selsey, and three off Falmouth.

Mediterranean

4. The U.S. destroyer MACKENZIE engaged batteries in the Anzio area today.

Attack on
enemy
Aegean
convoy:
SS. SABINE,
GERTRUD and
1 destroyer
sunk, 1
destroyer
damaged.

5(a) An enemy convoy consisting of 3 ships, SS. SABINE, GERTRUD and TANAIIS, escorted by 4 destroyers and 4 escort vessels and probably 2 E-Boats, and with air escort was reported in the early hours of this morning, soon after leaving Piraeus, apparently making for Crete.
(b) PIPINOS and VOX, who were on patrol were warned. The convoy was attacked from the air this morning, but no damage was reported.
(c) A second air attack was made on the convoy this evening, north of Candia. SS. SABINE (ex Italian SALVATORE, 2,252 tons) and SS. GERTRUD (ex French GERDA TOFT 1,960 tons) were set on fire. The largest destroyer received numerous R.P. hits, causing an explosion and fire; the second destroyer received two R.P. hits, silencing the A/A guns; and one escort vessel was left on fire. SS. GERTRUD reached Heraklion where she sank in harbour, and one of the destroyers was also seen subsequently sunk in the port, either as the result of damage in today's attack or in

War Diary.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Attack
on enemy
Aegean
convoy:
SS. SABINE,
GERTRUD and
1 destroyer
sunk, 1
destroyer
damaged.
(Contd.)

an air attack on Heraklion on 2nd June. SS. SABINE was not seen again, but reconnaissance on 2nd June showed a large oil patch on the sea 20 miles north of Heraklion, with a caique standing by, and it is presumed that the ship sank. The second damaged destroyer and the two others reached Piraeus. The two smaller escort vessels had not been located by a.m./4th.

Danube.

6. 38 Wellingtons and 10 Liberators carried out successful mining operations in the Danube last night. 129 x 1000 lb. mines were dropped east of Belgrade.

Australia and New Zealand

A/S
operations.

7. It is reported that combined air and surface anti-submarine operations north of Emirau Island during the period 20th to 28th May 3 Japanese submarines were probably sunk and one damaged. (Certain of these were reported on 23rd and 27th May respectively q.v.)

Schouten
Is.

8. U.S. destroyers bombarded Mokmer Airfield, Biak today. Destroyers also continued to support ground forces near Parai in the same area.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSPolicyTransfer of
Warships on
loan to
Soviet Navy.

Request all necessary authorities be informed that ROYAL SOVEREIGN and SUNFISH, UNISON, UNBROKEN and URSULA were transferred on loan to the Navy of U.S.S.R. on 30th May. It is believed that ROYAL SOVEREIGN is being renamed ARCHANGEL but no official information has yet been received nor Russian intentions as regards re-naming of submarines. British instructional party consisting of 12 officers and 68 ratings A.M. 291839 May refers are borne in HOPETOWN for duty in ROYAL SOVEREIGN. This party being at present accommodated in COCHRANE.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 011135B to Admty.)

Following from S.B.N.O. Archangel is passed for information with reference to C. in C. Rosyth's 011135 begins. To report that while ROYAL SOVEREIGN has not officially changed her name, it is understood this name provisionally adopted, 011057. Ends.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 011409 to Admty.)

North
Russian
Convoys.

Your 290950.

It is under consideration to resume convoys to North Russia when the necessary escorting vessels can be made available.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 011323B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Sanctuaries.

A.M. 261540 May.

No justification can be seen for making either Forth or Tay sanctuaries permanent. In the last ten weeks, the former has been imposed 15 times and the latter 14 times. Blyth Sanctuary is in force from 0900 to 1800 Monday to Friday inclusive as a general rule and very rarely outside these hours. Change in category is considered unnecessary.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 011809B to Admty.)

OperationsOperation
"Enthroned".

Operation "Enthroned" Portsmouth number O/0302/104 of 11th May, carried out successfully night 31st May/1st June. All position estimated within 50 yards for longitude and 100 yards for latitude. Buoys functioned correctly on laying.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011132B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Operation
"Lombard".

Estimated positions of U-Boats at 1200Z/1st June.
(1) 4 en route Atlantic between latitudes 64° 20' N. and 65° 15' N., longitudes 04° 00' W. and 08° 00' W. These are U-Boats A and B and C and D referred to in A.M. 310935B.

(2) E. 63° 50' N. 02° 45' E. en route Atlantic via approx. 65° 15' N. 01° 00' E. at 3-4 knots.

(3) F. 63° 00' N. 03° 00' E. G. 62° 00' N. 03° 00' E. H. 61° 20' N. 03° 50' E. Last 3 boats all rather indefinite positions and may proceed to cross meridian of Greenwich anywhere between 63° 45' N. and 65° 30' N. average speed of advance 3.5 knots.

/In ...

War Diary.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Operation "Lombard". (Contd.) In addition one U-Boat sighted 2050Z/31st May is estimated en route Narvik in 64° 00' N. 06° 00' E. at about 5 knots.
(D.D.I.C., 011144B to V.A.2, C. in C. H.F., C. in C. C.C., C. in C. Rosyth.)
No.18 Group C.C. aircraft, Sunderlands, Catalinas Cansos, Liberators and possibly Mosquitoes are operating against U-Boat today in area bounded approximately by 064° N. and 063° N. and 002° E. and (005°?) E.
(C. in C. H.F., 011150B to V.A.2.)
V.A.2 311802 and your 312216 have been passed to C. in C. Rosyth for information.
(D.C., 011428B to C. in C. H.F.)
Mosquito A/C sighted between 1345 and 1530B today.
(1) Three large tankers with three small escort vessels course North, 8 knots, in 62° 55' N. 06° 47' E.
(2) Three large merchant vessels (one of 8,000 tons) with three small escorts, course North, 6 knots, in 61° 30' N. 04° 55' E.
(D.D.I.C., 011903B to V.A.2 in VICTORIOUS, C. in C. H.F.)

Operation "Tungsten". TIRPITZ and C.A. LARSEN damaged on 3rd April. Observer from Alta Fjord reports.
(1) Casualties in ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ during air attack were 350 men killed including Commanding Officer and Second in Command.
(2) C.A. LARSEN was completely burnt out and cannot be repaired. Graded C.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 011229 to Admty.)
N.I.D. Comment: (1) In view of the extensive damage to TIRPITZ and the number of ambulances brought up after the attack, it is considered that the previous estimate of about 100 dead may have been too conservative and that 350 dead may be nearer the mark. There is no information about the Captain or Second in Command.
(2) Confirmed by reconnaissance.

Operation "Pasture". Carry out operation "Pasture" tonight.
(2) Forces taking part. Force GH. Unit GH.1 - STAYNER, Unit GH.2 - M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 675, Unit GH.3 - M.T.Bs. 692 (S.O.), 691, Unit GH.4 - M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 453, 454.
(3) Object: Destruction of E-Boats by M.T.Bs. controlled by STAYNER. (4) Patrol positions - STAYNER 50° 05' N. between 01° 28' W. and 01° 37' W. to be at western end at each hour. Remainder disposed as ordered by STAYNER within 8 miles of her.
(5) Patrol from 2330/1 till 0400/2.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011332B and 011910B to STAYNER, V.53, VERNON(P), V.35, HORNET, Capt. (S) 5.)

Coastal Force Patrols. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 011532B, 011536B, 011831B, 011835B.)
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 012301.)

/Operation ...

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Overlord". Admiralty 302136. In view of EXFOR (TN) 301145 it is not now intended to use intermediate pontoons instead of Baker Dolphins for L.S.T. pierheads. It may prove necessary to use B.1 Phoenix Units with suitable fendering. (A.N.C.X.F., 011646 to Admty.)

My 291423B and F.O.I.C. Northern Ireland's 311742B. Following is A.N.C.X.F.'s 1143/X/0886/13 dated 23rd May. Begins: It has been represented that in order to reduce fire risks the undermentioned items should be landed from bombarding cruisers prior to the assault. Should Their Lordships concur it is requested instructions be issued accordingly at an early date:-

(a) Power boats (a proportion). (b) Depth charges. (c) Accommodation ladders, instructional gear, and tropical clothing which are required for normal service but could be placed in a lay apart store temporarily. Ends. (D.O.D.(H), 011734B to C. in C. Portsmouth, F.O.I.C.N.I., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

U.S. Ships and craft plus British craft with U.S. Forces are 99.4 per cent operational as of 1st June. (N.C.W.T.F., 012321B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Allied Air Activity

Proposed U.S. Air-Service between North Russia and U.K. Pitch - In the course of a meeting held here yesterday between Admiral Archer and Soviet Naval Staff the following requests were made. (1) The First four P.B.N. aircraft landed North Russia 30th May and the crews are now waiting to return to U.S. to collect further aircraft. Some of the crews will travel by air via Alaska others wish to fly to U.K. in their own P.B.N. aircraft and then to be given air passage to the U.S.A.

(2) This is the first intimation we have had of any such intention.

(3) (A) They suggest establishing a regular air service between North Russia and U.K. using their P.B.N. aircraft and crews. (B) They state this service would greatly facilitate inter-communication between their Naval Staff in U.K. and their Naval Staff in North Russia. No mention was made of any facilities being offered to us.

(4) They request early permission for their aircraft mentioned in para. 1 to proceed U.K. and ask for details of route, landing place etc.

(5) The request in para. 4 is obviously the first of many and your decision is requested bearing this and also para. 3 in mind.

(30 Mission, Moscow, 010905Z to Air Ministry.)

Bristol Channel. Owing to repeated incidents involving damage to shipping and light vessels it is requested that Fleet Air Arm and Air Ministry may be requested to suspend all air-to-air firing in Bristol Channel east of Nash Point for the next fortnight. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 011326B to Admty.)

/Radar ...

War Diary.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Radar jamming station bombed.

During the night 31st May/1st June the Radar jamming station at Mont Couple was bombed. (H.Q.B.C., 011500B.)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen.

Jan Mayen. Ju.88 flying high over defence area for 30 minutes from 1500 hours. A/A fire several times in action. Aircraft disappeared 1530 in clouds. Mission apparently A/C. (A.C.I.C., 011836B to Admty.)

Mining

Torbay on 30th May.

Cominron.7 in U.S.S. PHEASANT reports 2 acoustic mines detonated by OSPREY on 30th May using towed hammer in positions: (A) 50° 25.7' N. 03° 28.5' W. (B) 50° 25.8' N. 03° 29.4' W. (C. in C. Plymouth, 011217 and 031505 to Admty.) (Cominron 7, 020807B and 020809B.)

Portsmouth.

Report of mines accounted for in Q.Z.X.1344 on May 29th.
One acoustic in 50° 37'54" N. 00° 21' W.
On May 30th, two acoustic in 056° 8 cables and 055° 6 cables from C.3 buoy.
On May 31st, one magnetic red in 140° 4 cables from C.3 buoy.
On June 1st, two magnetic red in 065° 1 miles 4 cables and 069° 1 mile 4 cables from C.3 buoy. One acoustic in 075° 1 mile 3 cables from C.3 buoy.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011811 and 041812 to Admty.)

Falmouth.

Three mines detonated by sweepers today as follows:-
At 010832 in 50° 7'54" N. 05° 03'06" W.
At 010833 in 50° 7'54" N. 05° 03'12" W.
At 011049 in 50° 7'45" N. 05° 02'54" W.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 012047B.)

U-Boats

U-Boat sunk on 24 May.

Request you will convey Their Lordships congratulations to the crew of Sunderland R/4(c) O.T.U. on the destruction of a U-Boat on 24 May, 1944. (1st S.L., 012007B to Air Ministry.)

Shipping and Convoys

EMPIRE PROWESS

Sailed EMPIRE PROWESS for Iokanka escorted by Russian Naval Units. E.T.A. 030600B. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 012210B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

War Diary

1.6.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Gib. G.R.
Opsum
31/May. At 1505A P/202 at 1000 ft. 5 miles off shore was fired at from vicinity of Cap Malabata Tangier one burst 50 yds. on port beam no damage.
(A.C.H.Q. Gibraltar, 010330B)

SS. ST.
CERGUE. Swiss SS. ST. CERGUE leaves Marseilles 0900/4 for Gibraltar.
(D.E.W.D. 011352B to F.O.G.M.A. Info. C. in C. Med.)

Pyrotechnic
signal. Concur in the proposal in your 312010.
(F.O.G.M.A.011622B to Admty.)

Spanish
fishing
vessels. In order to avoid any possibility of error, request repetition of routeing instructions for PYSBE ship your 251830/ March para. (3) refers.
(B.N.A.Madrid 011930B to Admty.)
/ Re: Spanish Fishing Vessels to follow route A.

Blimps. 2 Navy Blimps arrived Port Lyautey 1105Z.
(Comfairshipslant, 011848)

South Atlantic

Operation
"Throttle". Following is a repetition of my 310030/ addressed to Admiralty begins:
Sailed TRENT, LEWES, BUTTERMERE, ST.ZENO, NORWICH CITY, ST.LOMAN, LADY ELSA for operation "Throttle".
My 291521 refers.
(C. in C. S.A. 011427B) / received undecypherable.

War Diary1.6.1944.
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Attack on Seven enemy merchant ships unknown number escort
Enemy Aegean vessels position 037 degs. 35' N. 024 degs. 05'
convoy E. course 120 degs. speed 10 knots.
(F.O.L.E.M. 010119C to PIPINOS, VOX, (R) Capt.
(S) One).

My 010119. 3 merchant ships 7 large escorts 7
small escorts position 037 degs. 32' N. 024 degs. (?13') E.
course 120 degs. speed 10 knots.
(F.O.L.E.M. 010346C to PIPINOS, VOX (R) Capt.(S) One.).
Enemy Convoy 037 degs. 04' N. and 024 degs. 55' E. at 0900

1st.

(2). (?Estimate) will pass close west of Santorin to arrive
Candia point of approach about 2130.

(3). Speed 8 knots. Composition probably 5 merchant ships 4
destroyers 4 UJ. Boats.

(F.O.L.E.M. 011015C to Capt.(S) 1, (R) 1st S/M. Flot.).

Convoy believed making for Candia. (VOX) keep south and
PIPINOS north of latitude 035 degs. 38'.

(Capt.(S) 1, 011045 to VOX, PIPINOS, (R) F.O.L.E.M. SICKLE).

Own air intention against enemy convoy. Attacks by 50
plus aircraft about 1900/1st about position 035 degs. 50' N.
025 degs. 12' E.

(F.O.L.E.M., 011231C to C.S.1, (R) 1st S/M. F.).

Enemy at 1300.

036 degs. 30' N. 024 degs. 50' E., course about 180 degs.

(F.O.L.E.M., 011410C to Capt.(S) 1st, (R) 1st S/M. F.).

P.R. Piraeus 0900 departed SALVATORE TANAI FAITHTRUDE 4
destroyers 4 UJ boats.

(F.O.L.E.M. 011453C to Capt.(S) 1, (R) VOX, SICKLE, PIPINOS).

Cancel restrictions in my 011045 both S/Ms. have freedom
of action to intercept convoy.

(2) There may be stragglers after air attack.

(Capt.(S)1, 011458 to VOX, PIPINOS, (R) F.O.L.E.M.(?)SICKLE).

Enemy at 1530 in 036 degs. 11' N. 025 degs. 03' E. steering
for Candia.

(F.O.L.E.M. 011606C to Capt.(S) 1, VOX, PIPINOS, (R)
SICKLE).

PIPINOS proceed direct to pass position 035 degs. 35' 024
degs. 58'.

(2) VOX keep north and PIPINOS south of latitude 035 degs. 35'.

(Capt.(S) 1, 011650B to PIPINOS, VOX, (R) F.O.L.E.M.,
SICKLE).

Operations
by 7th
M.T.B. F.

My 040911 May. /

(1) On 28th. May 7th M.T.B. Flotilla sank 3
F Lighters and one 15,000 (sic) ton Merchant ship.
Five non contact torpedoes fired depth setting
8 feet.

(2) Lieutenant Commander Hopkinson now returning to Malta via
Algiers.

(S.10, 010910).

/ Lt. Cdr. Hopkinson is now at Maddalena and supply of non
contact pistols to 10th Submarine Flotilla has commenced. 7
M.T.Bs. operating from Boston have been outfitted with non contact
pistols.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

SOM Daily 151 or (150) cipher 31st May. Top Secret.
Sitrep No.46 (2) Italy. A.1. reported that circular received at German H.Q. Vicenza (RG06) stated it was intended to use toxic and asphyxiating gases from aircraft and ground in event of Allied landing on continent. Circular stated that offensive and defensive material were to be overhauled. Comment confirmation of this report has been requested pending the arrival of which it is being treated with considerable reserve.
(Somto, No T.O.O. Recd. 1045).

Manning of Greek Fleet. Manning problem as follows your 261326. Required now to complete seagoing ships including estimate for those not yet purged 380. Total available now and in near future 950. Additional requirements forecast to end of July 350 by which time a further 600 will be available including draft from U.K. Admiralty 201827. This gives surplus over seagoing requirements of 820 which will provide minimum of 750 required for Greek relief. Requirements until end of July 1480 and total available 1550. HSPA 011207. This does not include any men who may be extracted from Greece under scheme now actually pursued. If Greek Relief is necessary before draft from England arrives intended to close all shore establishments in Middle East thereby releasing 300 men now employed ashore. Numbers given as minimum for Greek Relief only allow a very reduced effort compared with original pre-mutiny intentions.
(F.O.L.E.M., 011213C to C. in C. Med.).

Yugoslav ships. UGLIANO appears in Flag Officer Liaison's FOL/156/16 of 2nd November 1943 F.O.T.A.L.I.'s. 311025 being passed. MS 45 also shown as at Termoli but in enemy hands.
(2) F.O.T.A.L.I. is requested to remark.
y (C. in C. Med. 011708B).

Caiques sailing in the Aegean under Red Cross Flag. Add to para. one my 310901 May. On night 6th May UNSWERVING sank 25 ton Caique in Aegean. Caique marked with Red Crosses on either bow and flew a Red Cross at the Masthead in addition to the Greek Flag and German quartered pennant.
(F.O.L.E.M. 011711C).

M/S whalers lent to Greeks. Following M/S whalers were renamed and lent to the Greeks for manning only in 1943 on the dates shown:-

Old Name	New Name	Date
NOBLE NORA	SPERCHIOS	3rd September
TRANSVAALIA	EVROTAS	24th August
SILHOUETTE	ACHELOS	10th September
JOHN WILLIAMSON	ALPHIOS	15th July
SNOWDRIFT	PENIOS	15th July.

(2) These craft are earmarked in the plan for the relief of Greece and in the light of recent events it is requested that a

/ decision ...

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean

M/3 whalers
lent to
Greeks.
(Contd.)

decision may be given as to their ultimate disposal and ownership. In this connection it is understood that no specific agreement was entered into with Greeks when the transfer of flag from Norwegian to Greek took place.

3. F.O.L.E.M. 749/0017/25/7 of 22nd March 1944 not to Admiralty refers.
(C. in C.Med. 011921 to Admty.)

Passage of
German E.M.S.
vessels
through
Dardanelles.

I saw Colonel Ozkok Director of Intelligence General Staff today with object of expecting to discover what advice General Staff were given as (?to) retention of vessel of anti-S/M patrol T (?J) E.M. (?S) regarding and influencing this advice.
2. I told him 3 more E.M.S. had passed Istanbul and the Govt. would take very strong exception if these craft were allowed in Aegean.

3. We had long conversation and I put forward all possible argument including those in Foreign Office telegram No. 15 of 13th October, 1941. Your 311340 refers.

4. The Colonel told me General Staff agreed that I was right when I claimed E.M.S. Class were used (?continually) as warships by Germans in Aegean but he claimed that Turkish Govt. was also right in allowing these vessels through under Montreux Convention. And did not know how long it would be before Turkish Govt. were constrained to stop passage of these vessels as it was his opinion that in spite of the Convention Turkey as our friend could not allow their passage indefinitely. He pointed out that (?General) Staff were only in an advisory position and that action taken must be decided by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5. Diplomatic action is also in progress.
(F.O.L.E.M. please pass to Admiralty, C. in C.Mediterranean.)
(B.N.A.Ankara, 011930C.)

My 012240 and 011546 para. 2. Report was later received that Bosphorus boom was being closed permanently ships would not be allowed to proceed until tomorrow. Therefore passage which took place in darkness tonight must have been result of last minute reversing of above decision. F.O.L.E.M. please pass this and my 011546, 012240 to C. in C.Med.

(S.O.I. Istanbul 012305C to B.N.A.Ankara, (R) F.O.L.E.M. Capt. S.I., D.N.I.)

Joint Naval
Army, R.A.F.
Intel. Ap-
preciation.

Sighting a.m. 1st June of 3 M/Vs. escorted 4 destroyers and 4 other escorts southbound between Paros and Siphnos indicates Cretan Section of convoy has now at last sailed. Convoy attacked from air a.m/1 but no damage reported.

(C. in C.M.E. 011935C to S.O.I. L.E.M. W.O. (for D.M.I.))

Assessments
of attacks
on U/Bs.

Summary of attacks on U-Boats, assessed by Med. Joint assessment Board. My 042220 refers. Following attacks previously reported have been assessed as follows:

Serial 78 assessment F. Serial 86 assessment F.
Serial 88 assessment H. Serial 90 assessment G.
2. Following known sunk.

1.6.1944
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Assess- Serial 99 040358 May U.S.S CAMPBELL, PRIDE,
ments of . . . F.S. SENEGALAIS etc. off Jijelli U.371.
attacks by on Serial 105 170820 May U.S.S. ELLYSON, HAMBLETON
U/Bs. etc. with Air Co-operation 37° 47' N. 00° 16' E.
(Contd.) U.616.
Serial 107 190708 May U.S.S. NIBLACK, LUDLOW etc.
with air co-operation 37° 35' N. 01° 39' E. U.960.
Serial 108 210040 May H.M.S. TENACIOUS, LIDDESDALE
TERMAGANT and A/C off Punta Stilo U.453.
3. Following not previously reported and not yet assessed:
Serial 97A 250320 April F.S. TOULONNAISE 35° 5' N. 02° 10' W.
Serial 98 291550 April M.L.1278 41° 35' N. 9° 29' E.
Serial 100 051124 May BLACK SWAN, TEAZER, TERPISICHORE, 39° 38'
N. 18° 34' E.
Serial 101 071250 May IS CIRIO 40° 08' N. 14° 24' E.
Serial 102 131010 May EXMOOR, CROOME 35° 46' N. 02° 31' W.
Serial 103 141440 May F.S. AJACCIEUNE 38° 53' N. 07° 55' E.
Serial 104 150535 May A/C F/458 38° 09' N. 07° 55' E.
Serial 106 170815 May F.S. ALCYON 41° 48' N. 08° 29' E.
Serial 109 230803 May Liberator, COLUMBINE, BLACKFLY 35° 53' N.
05° 08' W.
Serial 110 310409 May U.S.S. MACLEISH, THORNHALL 36° 58' N. 03°
40' E.
(C. in C. Med., 012029.)

Cositintrep Discharge at Anzio continues satisfactorily. On
No. 328. 31st May some air activity and two bombs dropped
in port area but no damage to Naval installations.
2. Fire support in Ardea area on 31st May
provided by U.S. Destroyers. Troops in beach
area strong points and batteries engaged with reported good
coverage.
3. Submarine reports sinking 1000 ton salvage ship lighter and
R.Boat on 30th May and small minesweeper on 31st May during patrol
off South Coast of France.
(C. in C. Med., 012111B.)

Greek We are receiving repeated enquiries whether Greek
relief relief may be extended to Dodecanese. Request you
for will signal whether there is any objection to safe
Dodecanese. conduct being given to:-
a. South Coast of Kos. b. Nisero. c. Scarpanto
d. Kaso. e. Khalkia - approachable from
westward; bearing in mind that this would
necessitate leaving the ports free from mines.
2. Request you will also state what approaches from the Red
route should be made to any of these Islands which you may agree
to being visited.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 012154B to F.O.L.E.M. Info: C. in C. Med.) *Reply: 072109*
page 138

SICKLE Your 010959. From Antikithera channel will
proceed on the surface passing through 036° 02'
025° 04' at about 1700B 2nd.
(SICKLE, 012229B to Capt. S.1, 1st S/M F, (R)
F.O.L.E.M.)

/Proceed...

1.6.1944
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

SICKLE
(Contd.)

Proceed at normal speed in accordance with your sailing orders pass through:
A. 036° 03' 023° 51' at 1402 2nd.
B. 036° 07' 025° 25'.
2. Proceed on the surface by day at your discretion whilst south of 037° N.
(Capt. S., 012335B to SICKLE, S/M I, PIPINOS, F.O.L.E.M.)

Caique
sunk
by UNRULY.

One Caique sunk have 4 Greek prisoners on board.
(UNRULY, 012331B.)

Air
Cositintrep
326.
Attack on
K.M.S.51.

Coastal details. Convoy attacked off African coast by approx. 35 EA between 30/2350 and 31/0050. One destroyed by Beaufighters Navy report one M/V bombed and sunk, claim 3 E.A. destroyed.
(Air C. in C. Med., T.O.O. Nil.)

War Diary.

1.6.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B No.45. No fresh information. No change in
dispositions.. scale of air escort.
(C. in C. E.F., 010325.)

Firing of Pending reply to A.M. 312010*, your 271141+ April
rockets by approved for East Indies Station.
merchant (D.T.D., 011024B to C. in C. E.F.)
ships. * Re use of signals by merchant ships.
+ Re request approval of use of rockets by
merchant ships.

Naval and Following for Chiefs of Staff from Mountbatten.
R.A.F. In view of labour and material shortage it is
shore air necessary to establish priorities now as between
facilities Naval and R.A.F. airfields and other projected
in Ceylon shore air facilities in Ceylon and South India.
and S.India. (2) Request latest estimates which are immediately
available of firm Naval requirements for such
airfields and other facilities by the following
dates.

- (1) December, 1944. (ii) June, 1945. (iii) December, 1945.
(3) Request also latest estimates of aircraft carrier and
aircraft strengths in relation to the above which are likely
to be allocated.
(a) To the Eastern Fleet, and (b) As additional allocation for
particular operations under the following categories:-
(1) Aircraft carriers. (ii) Maximum embarked strength in
squadrons. (iii) Total alternative equivalent squadrons.
(iv) Fleet requirements and other special units. (v) Communi-
cation Units etc.
(4) C. in C. E.F. and Deputy Air C. in C. have seen and concur.
(S.A.C.S.E.A., 011035Z.)

5 X(E) craft. Your 261159B and 271828B May. After consultation
with C. in C. E.F. and clandestine services we
envisage various uses in addition to C.O.P.P.
for the five X(E) tropicalised craft. Before
remarking more specifically the following information is
required - (A) endurance and speed. (B) carrying capacity,
personnel and stores. (C) how transported. (D) for long trips
can she be towed, and if so at what speed. (E) dimensions and
weight. (F) will crews be available.
(S.O.E.F. Kandy, 011127Z to Admty, for C.C.O.)

War Diary

1.6.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-Boat reports. Further D/F of 191209 Enigma between 0509Z and 0522Z on 7070 and between 0533Z and 0544Z on 5660 K/cs indicates U-Boats within 60 miles of 043 degs. 00' N. 051 degs. W. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 010629Z to S.E.H.X.F. 293)

SS. PASTEUR. Diversion order. (Connav, 011335Z to PASTEUR)

SS. QUEEN ELIZABETH. Diversion order. (Cdr. 10th Fleet, 011339Z to QUEEN ELIZABETH)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 011427Z, Cominch 011505Z)

JALEA, ONICE, (Italian S/M's) Destination of JALEA and ONICE both Bermuda C. in C. Med. 261528 and Admiralty 271913 refer. (B.A.D. Washington, 011735Z to C. in C. Med.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M. attack and sighting Summary. No report since my 300631 May para. D. H.M.C. Ship attacks Contact 48.48 N. 63.17 W. at 0310Z/1st. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 012100Z)

Stragglers report No. 54. One ship arrived St. John's N.F. from HXM.292 BENTE MAERSK May 28th engine defects. (N.S.H.Q. 012148Z)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest No. 863. May 31st. Para. 13 to 18 cover South Pacific Forces. Daybreak two Battleships 3-4 aircraft Carriers, 2 Cruisers, 2 Large unidentified Warships, other smaller Warships reported Tawi Tawi anchorage. Throughout day total 100 Carrier type aircraft plus planes from Cruisers observed forming over Tawi Tawi then heading southwards. (9) Australian troops reached Mulu Harbour (3 miles southeast Uligan Harbour) 30th. Nil enemy contacted. (16) Combined air-surface anti-submarine operations north Emirau Island covering period 20-28 May states 3 Jap. submarines probably

/sunk...

War Diary

1.6.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
No. 863.
(Contd.)

sunk one damaged one attacked without observed result. This report covers previously reported attacks this area during period.

(17) Night 30-31 May M.T.B's damaged 3 heavily armoured enemy barges off New Ireland coast. Single enemy floatplane ineffectively attacked our craft.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 010954Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

(1) A/C H/59 attacked U-Boat with machine gun fire at 1140Z/31st May in 63 degs. 03' N. 03 degs. 18' E.

(2) A/C S/422 sighted periscope at 1453Z/31st May in 61 degs. 38' N. 00 degs. 25' E.

(3) A/C Q/547 attacked U-Boat with depth charges, course 000 degs. at 1534Z/31st May in 62 degs. 10' N. 03 degs. 17' E.

(4) A/C sighted U-Boat, course 045 degs. at 2015Z/31st May in 63 degs. 35' N. 02 degs. 32' E.

(5) A/C B/206 sighted periscope, course 90 degs. at 2050Z/31st May in 63 degs. 17' N. 04 degs. 40' E.

Para. D. (1) H.M.S. MIDDLETON attacked doubtful contact at 1006Z 31st May in 50 degs. 16' N. 03 degs. 21' W.
(D.D.I.C.011205B)

U-Boat
dispositions. Estimates.
(D.D.I.C.011345B, 011409B)

War Diary

2.6.1944
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation
"Lombard"

1. V.A.2 in VICTORIOUS, with FURIOUS, DEVONSHIRE, BERWICK, and seven Destroyers returned to Scapa at 2055 to-day from an anti-shipping strike off Stadlandet (Norway).

U-Boats
attacked
by A/C.

2. At 1016Z and again at 1200Z to-day A/C A/547 attacked a U-Boat about 120 miles W.N.W. of Stadlandet; and at 2350Z another U-Boat was attacked by A/C Z/4 160 miles West of Christiansund.

Enemy
Mine.

3. A Mine was detonated to-day by Sweepers at the entrance of Falmouth Harbour, and two in Torbay.

Mediterranean

ULTOR,
patrol
report.

4.
ULTOR reports that whilst on patrol off the south coast of France she sank this morning an escorted northbound heavily armed vessel of 5000 tons, suspected of being a minelayer, leaving Port Vendres. On 30th May ULTOR sank a 1000 ton salvage ship, a lighter and an R-Boat; and on 31st May a small minesweeper.

Landing on
Brac Is.

5. Last night, an assault force consisting of 1000 British and 100 U.S. troops and 2500 partisans landed on Brac Island, off the Dalmatian coast, covered by TERPSICHORE and TUSCAN with the coastal forces available. Hard fighting ensued and some prisoners were captured. Reinforcements were landed tonight. The operation was successful and the forces were withdrawn on 4 June and the night 4/5th Destroyers and coastal forces continued to provide cover throughout the operation, but encountered no enemy.

Bridgehead.

6. U.S.S. CHAMPLIN and MACKENZIE bombarded targets north of Anzio to-day, in support of the army's left flank. Return fire by a coastal battery caused no damage.

War Diary

2.6.1944
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

- HAVELLAND. 7. An official captured document states that the German blockade runner HAVELLAND was sunk by a submarine on 22nd December last, south of Honshu.
- Landing at Karkar Is. 8. Australian troops landed unopposed at Karkar Island (near Alexishafen) this forenoon.
- Solomon Is. 9. M.T.B's operated last night with gunfire against targets in North Central New Ireland and south-east Bougainville.

War Diary.

2.6.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Biscay Danger Area extension. Admiralty 111902 February which has been passed to A.N.C.X.F. In order to obtain maximum freedom of action, it is intended shortly to broadcast further extension of Bay of Biscay danger area to following northern limit:-
from 51° N. 15° W. by the parallel of 51° N. to the meridian of 11° W. thence 000° to lat. 51° 35' N. thence 090° to limit of Irish territorial waters, thence along that limit to Tuskar Rock Light, thence 090° to 05° 40' W. thence by line drawn 180° to position 51° 24' N. 05° 40' W. thence to Hartland Point.
2. Eire Government have already been warned of above.
3. After extension has been broadcast attack at sight instructions will apply north of 49° N. only when authorised by C. in C. Plymouth as provided in paras. 4, 5 and 6 of Admiralty 111902 February.
4. To avoid possible compromise of movements, surface ships encountering any fishing vessel north of 49° N. should if possible, send her in to nearest convenient U.K. port for examination and detention.
5. Aircraft should not deliberately attack fishing vessels north of 49° N. unless identified as hostile.
(A.C.N.S.H. 020041B to A.I.G.21.)

Eastern Fleet. Admiralty 311152 May para. 4B.
Reinforcement of Escort Ships. 1. Following ships are nominated CAM, DEVERON, LOCHY, MOURNE, SWALE, CRANE, HIND, KITE, PELICAN, REDPOLE.
2. None of the above ships is due for refit this year but CRANE and HIND are due for additional stiffening in accordance with Admiralty D.03468/44 of April 8th.
2. KITE is Arctic fitted.
4. Selection of MOURNE would reduce paper strength of B.2 group to 7 ships until arrival of LANCASTER CASTLE about August. Early decision on this point is requested as MOURNE is due to sail on convoy duty on June 3rd and is not due back in U.K. till July 1st.
5. All other RIVER Class Frigates and A/A sloops in my command are either refitting now, due for refit this year or due for additional stiffening.
(C. in C.W.A. 021047B to Admty.)
AWE and HALLADALE are to be ready to leave U.K. by 19th and 29th June respectively to join Eastern Fleet.
(C. in C.W.A. 021052B to N.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Use of French Naval Personnel in France. Admiralty message 311951 May para. 2. Confirmed that discussions have begun with Admiral Argenlieu on the lines proposed in paras. 3 and 4 of Admiralty message with which the Admiral is in general agreement.
2. Argenlieu has stated that he considers it impracticable to obtain any significant numbers of personnel from North Africa and takes the view that main reliance must be placed on recruiting in France itself.

War Diary.

2.6.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Use of
French Naval
Personnel
in France.
(Contd.)

3. Consequently he is organising four "Basic" port parties C.M.A. each comprising four officers and 10 ratings. The S.O. of each party will be styled Commandant de la Marine, whilst the second in command will be an officer trained in security measures by our own N.I.D. The other officers are an Engineer and a Paymaster respectively: the ratings are M.T.drivers, clerks, cooks, etc. A.N.C.X.F. is arranging with Admiralty for equipment of these parties who will in due course be attached to N.Os. i/c at captured ports. 4. In addition Argenlieu has agreed to provide three liaison officers, one for A.N.C.X.F.'s staff and one each for the staffs of the British and American Flag Officers on the far shore. He states that he has already asked Algiers for these officers. 5. Ref. paras. 5 and 6 of Admiralty message, and in view of foregoing, consider that French personnel should not be sent from North Africa without prior consultation with and consent of Argenlieu.
(A.N.C.X.F. 021202 to Admty. C. in C.Med.)

Sanctuaries.

A.M. 261540 May and your 011809. Would you consider Blyth Sanctuary being promulgated as permanently in force Monday to Friday inclusive 0900 - 1800.
(F.O.S. 021321B to C. in C.Rosyth.)

Biscay area.

W.A.G.O. 83 para. 1D and 7B. The following extension to Northern limit of the Bay of Biscay area will shortly be broadcast by Admiralty. From 051° 00' N. 015° 00' W. along parallel of 051° N. to 011° W. thence 000° to 057° 35' N. thence 090° to limit of Irish territorial waters, thence along this limit to Tuskar Rock, thence 090° to 005° 40' W. thence to Hartland Point. 2. After extension has been broadcast attack at sight instructions will apply North of 049° N. only when authorized by C. in C. Plymouth. 3. To avoid possible compromise of movement surface ship encountering fishing vessels north of 049° N. should if possible send them to nearest U.K. port for examination and detention. 4. Aircraft should not deliberately attack fishing vessel north of 049° N. unless identified as hostile.
(C. in C.W.A. 021540 to Ships.)

Flag of V.A.2. Flag of V.A.2 will be transferred from VICTORIOUS to ANSON about 2200 today. Cancel my 272017.
(C. in C.H.F. 021915B to H.F.)

2.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Lombard". Preliminary report. Convoy of 3 ships attacked close S.E. of Kvanme Island 062° 12' N. 005° 26' E. at 2144B/1st June. 3 enemy M/Vs and 4 Flak ships damaged, on 1st June. Hits on all 3 ships claimed and 4 flak ships hit by fighters. 1 Corsair, 1 Seafire missing. This operation was named "Lombard". My P.C. and S. 061° 48' N. 000° 18' E. 230° 21 kts (V.A.2 020601B to C. in C.H.F.) Scapa arrivals at 2055. V.A.2 in VICTORIOUS with FURIOUS, DEVONSHIRE, BERWICK, Capt. D.3 in MILNE, MUSKETEER, METEOR, WAGER, WIZARD, WAKEFUL, MATCHLESS. Scapa arrival at 1757 MARNE. (A.C.O.S. 022059B to H.F.)

Coastal Force Patrols. (C. in C.Plymouth 021136B.) (C. in C.Portsmouth 021414B, 021618B, 022050B, 022246B.) (C. in C.Nore 022005B.)

Action between own forces off Beachy Head on 30th May. Records in Admiralty show that a large proportion of each force mentioned in your 311849B May was fitted with I.F.F. and interrogators. Request information whether this equipment was in efficient condition or was used on this occasion. (Admty. 021144B to V.A.Dover.) *See also VA.Dover 222039B/June. page 568.*

Operation "Overlord". State of BOMBARDONS at Portland to date is: 76 fitted with double hemp strops each end and ready to go. 6 fitted one end only. 6 fitted with two single hems each end. 5 with chains. (S.N.O. Bombardon 021655 to Admty.)

1. B.A.M.S. are allocated as follows:-
 - A. 40th M.S.F. allocated to A.N.C.X.F. to consist of nine ships selected by C.S.2. Reliefs for maintenance required as stated in C.S.2's 311542B must be effected in succession from among these 9.
 - B. 3rd M.S.F. to consist of CYNTHIA, ELFREDA, STEADFAST, and two ships to be detached to Plymouth as stated in C.S.2's 131542B. This Flotilla is allocated to C. in C.Plymouth for M/S operations. It may be re-allocated at short notice for service elsewhere and individual ships may be transferred by Admiralty to A.N.C.X.F. to replace casualties.
2. 41st M.S.F. is to consist of SPEEDY, CLINTON and Fleet Mine-sweepers working up.
4. A.M. 291939B and C.S.2 311542B refer. (D.M.S. 021715B to A.N.C.X.F., C.S.2.)

The following air protection codewords are allocated to movements sailing from the Portsmouth command during operation "Overlord".

1. Assault convoys. Force G "Damask" Force J "Cubby" Force O "Cheese" Force S "Windfall" These supersede any previously allocated by Force Commanders.

2.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations

- Operation "Overlord". (Contd.)
2. Build up of convoys from Isle of Wight area. Personnel convoys "Woolsack". M.T.convoys "Radium". L.S.T. convoys "Sphinx". Coaster convoys "Gertrude".
 3. Build up convoys from Portland area. Personnel convoys "Sudbury". M.T.convoys "Macduff". L.S.T. convoys "Wardle". Coaster convoys "Armour."
 4. Build up convoys from Newhaven area. Personnel convoys "Thriller". M.T.convoys "Tideswell". L.S.T.convoys "Narkover". Coaster convoys "Dowager".
 5. L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) build up groups "Starlight".
 6. "Mulberry" tows. From Portland "Windsock". Selsey "Adult".
 7. In paras. 1 to 6 above the codeword will be followed by the convoy group or tow number and, if applicable, letter. E.G. serial number 27 in appendix one to O.N.13 will have codeword "Woolsack 1".
 8. For joiners the codeword will be that of the convoy or group being joined, followed by the number and letter. E.G.serial number 27B will have codeword "Wardle 1.W".
 9. Help messages to be made by escorts. 3 figure callsigns will not be used.
 10. H.M.Ships will not normally be allocated codewords but will make help messages as laid down in S 156/44 article 180 for ships without codewords. This will also be used by escorts of convoys which have not been allocated special codewords.
 11. Unescorted ships or convoys will make help messages by using their name or when in company the name of the Commodore's ship in plain language.
 12. Intend in coastal movements only categories one and two will be given codewords.
- (C. in C.Portsmouth 022319B to H.Q.A.D.G.B.)

Operation "Neptune".

Cominron 7 (Com. A Squad. M/S) shifted his pennant this date from U.S.S. PHEASANT to U.S.S. STAFF and will be in STAFF during operations "Neptune". (Cominron 7 022107B to C.T.F.125.)

Allied Air Activity.

Attacks by convoy air escorts.

Following rules for attacks on surface craft by aircraft escorting coastwise convoys to be brought into force forthwith.

1. Escorting aircraft are to attack any light surface craft definitely recognised as hostile and
- 2 when in doubt as to identity of surface craft

aircraft is to make immediate sighting report to A.C.H.Q. and request instructions.

(H.Q.C.C. 021550B to Groups 16 and 19.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Northern waters

German Air Force activities May 16th - 31st as reported by R/C Flight. Details. No bombing reported.

(S.B.N.O.N.Russia 020921B to C. in C.H.F.)

War Diary.

2.6.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity - Contd.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft have been over S.W. part of Island 1010. Partially foggy. A/C disappeared westerly direction. (A.C.I.C. 022016B to Admty.)

Mining.

Torbay clearance. Area designated in C. in C.Plymouth 291225B has been swept as follows. Details. Two mines swept reported in my 020807B and 020809B. (Cominron 7 020929B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Falmouth. One mine detonated by sweepers at 020630 in 50° 07' 50" N. 005° 03' 05" W. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 021925B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Technical.

Pyrotechnic signal for M/Vs. A.M. 312010 May. Concur. (A.C.O.S. 021107 to Admty.)
A.M. 312010. Concur. (C. in C.W.A. 021401B to Admty.)

Casualties & Defects.

Seidisfjord and Hjalteyri C.M.(L) stations damaged. A. The power hut of the C.M.(L) Station at Seidisfjord was gutted by fire on 8th May.
B. The control room and power hut of the C.M.(L) Station at Hjalteyri were gutted by fire on 21st May.
2. Boards of enquiry have been held and findings show that A. was due to the overheating of exhaust pipe under wooden floor and B. was due to carelessness of one rating.
3. In order to retain C.M.(L) Station at Hjalteyri on a C. and M. basis (A.M. 151041 refers) the equipment ex C.M.(L) Control Room Seidisfjord (A.M. 031949 May refers) has been shipped to Akureyri together with equipment required for power hut which latter has been supplied from C.M. base Hvitani. Action is being taken to provide suitable huts for both control room and power units. (A.C.I.C. 021820 to Admty.)

2.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

S/M's Request S/Ms proceeding to Gibraltar may be proceeding informed that the special sink at sight area to Gibraltar. laid down in F.S.L.2 Appendix 3 is not in force once S/Ms have come under my operational control and that they will not be kept informed of neutral shipping.

(2) Request it may be explained to S/Ms also that they are escorted south of 043 degs. North with the object of providing a marking vessel showing I.F.F. as a protection against our own Leigh light A/C.
 (F.O.G.M.A.021251B to F.O.S.)

SS.St.CERGUE. My 262029 May and my 011352 June refer. Both ships now reported sailing 0900 local time 6th June. Speeds 9½ and 9 knots respectively.
 (D.E.W.D.021725B to F.O.G.M.A.)

SCEPTRE, SCEPTRE reports 2 vessels sunk as previous signal. STATESMAN, After first attack 2 A/S trawlers retaliated VIGOROUS. dropping 4 depth charges fairly close. Second attack no opposition. 6 A/S trawlers sighted on 24th going to collect (?wounded) and possibly others from Bilbao. Patrol report is being forwarded to Capt. (S) 3. STATESMAN and VIGOROUS report blank.
 (S.O(S/M's) Gibraltar, 022251B to F.O.S.)

South Atlantic

South Atlantic Escort Force. While U-Boats continue as at present to pass from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean South Atlantic Escort Force is out to a clinch on CN.C.D. D.C. D.N. convoys. I see little hope of assisting with escorts referred to in your 310352/May para. 1.
 (C. in C. S.A. 021159B to C. in C. E.F.)

Re-allocation of Escorts. In view of reduction in effective strength of 13th D.F. it has been found necessary to modify para. 6 of A.M.071236/Feb:
 (2) F.O.C.W.Af. is requested to sail one escort destroyer with S/R.14 to transfer to 13th D.F. on arrival at Gibraltar.

(3) C.S. Gibraltar's 280801 not to F.O.C.W.Af. Until she can be accepted in U.K., ANTELOPE should remain at Gibraltar, complement to be reduced when ship is no longer serviceable.
 (V.C.N.S.021420B to F.O.C.W.Af. F.O.G.M.A.Info: C. in C. Med.)

2.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Sailings of Red Cross Ships. Your 291146. Red Cross ships always sail by standard route which is coastwise to Cape San Sebastian thence coastwise in Gulf of Lyons. In view of this broadcasts of the route appear unnecessary.

(2) International Red Cross Committee state some time may elapse before agreement concerning new safety measures (Admiralty message 202218 refers) can be reached with German authorities. Committee in fact anticipate that latter will object to suggested broadcasts and may make counter-proposals. In meantime six ships, namely, LOBITO, VILLA FRANCA, TAGUS, VEGA, NURIA R and AMBRIZ will be held up at Marseilles. This hold up accordingly resulting in demurrage amounting to approx. £1,000 per day but will also have the much more serious effect of causing a cessation of delivery of prisoner-or-war parcels to Marseilles. It is therefore, most important that above six ships should sail from Marseilles for Lisbon at earliest possible date, but I.R.C.C. are not prepared to agree to sailing until they receive positive assurances that they are in no danger of attack in the event of their being unable to broadcast.

(3) Request you will consult M.A.A.F. and signal urgently whether as a special case you and M.A.A.F. can agree to the above six vessels sailing from Marseilles to Lisbon in company under former conditions but without broadcasting positions. Under former conditions I.R.C.C. representative in Lisbon would give Shipping Attache, Lisbon, four days' notice of date and hour of departure from Marseilles together with estimated speed of advance. Shipping Attache, Lisbon, would then pass information to former for promulgation to all naval and air authorities concerned.

(4) Request you will pass to H.Q.M.A.A.F. and H.Q.M.A.A.F. Algiers (A.C.N.S.(F) 020057B to C. in C. Med. Info: F.O.G.M.A., B.N.A. Lisbon, B.N.A. Madrid, C. in C. Medn. at Naples)

Air Cosit- 228404. WR/600 cipher 2 June. Cite FHGCT
intrep No.327. FHGBI signed Wilson.
(Extract). Strategic details night 31 May -
1 June. 38 Wellingtons and 10 Liberators carried
out successful mining operations of the Danube east
of Belgrade dropping 129 x 1000 lb mines. 1 Liberator crash
landed at base.
(Air C. in C. Med, No.T.O.O.)

Attack on enemy Aegean convoy. Following enemy is in sight 3 destroyers bearing 240 degs. distance 8 miles P.C.S. of enemy are 035 degs. 44' N. 025 degs. 05' E. 350 degs. 11 knots.
(VOX, 020448B to Capt.(S) 1, F.O.L.E.M.)
PIPINOS passed through position 035 degs. 35' 024 degs. 45' to patrol in Western Aegean North of latitude 036 degs. 26' And West of longitude 024 degs. 30'.
(2) VOX patrolling off North coast of Crete within 40 miles of Standia Island.
(Capt.(S) 1, 022001 to PIPINOS, VOX, (R) SICKLE, F.O.L.E.M.)

Joint /...

War Diary2.6.144
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Joint Naval, Army, R.A.F. Intelligence Appreciation. Crete convoy. Photographic R/C a.m. confirmed departure SS. SABINE, GERTRUD and TANAIIS 4 destroyers 4 corvettes and 2 E-Boats. This convoy importance of which indicated by exceptional Naval and Air Defence measures was again attacked from air p.m. 1 June North of Candia. 2 merchant vessels set on fire and left stationary. 1 merchant vessel probably since arrived Candia on fire. 2 destroyers and 1 U.J. Boat damaged.
(C. in C. M.E. 022000B)

Attacks on A/C's by Spanish A/A batteries. Resident Minister Algiers reports that at recent meeting of S.A.C's Political Committee it was stated that fire of Spanish A/A batteries upon Allied A/C on A/S patrol off coasts of Spanish Morocco and Tangier constitutes serious disturbance to A/S work. Spaniards are likely to justify themselves on ground of protecting their neutrality.

(2) In order to assist F.O. in deciding best diplomatic action request report:- (a) to what extent Allied air patrols in fact fly over Spanish territorial waters in accordance with long-standing authority given by Admiralty to hunt U-Boats within Spanish territorial waters:

(b) any further general information about these incidents,
(3) Commorseafron's 171717 to F.O.G.M.A. only refers.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 021410B to C. in C. Med. F.O.G.M.A.)

Passage of German auxiliaries through Dardanelles. My 011930. I went to General Staff again this morning and pointed out 3 more K.T. Class vessels had passed Istanbul during dark hours last night and British Authorities could only look on this as an unfriendly act in view of Ambassador's request that all questionable vessels should be held for Dardanelles in Bosphorus. I added that fact of vessels passing dark emphasized this point. I also referred to contents of S.O.(I) Istanbul's 012305.

(2) I mentioned again that we had always maintained that F barges should be stopped, but it had taken German broadcast stating that these craft were in fact auxiliary vessels and very useful to war effort before Turkish Govt. refused them passage.

We now stated that K T craft came under this heading and can only surmise that Turks prefer to believe Germans to ourselves if no action was taken to prevent passage of these vessels. I applied necessity for urgent action in case of K.T. vessel now on passage to Cannakale.

(3) At end of conversation Colonel Ozkok thanked me for my frankness and assured me General Staff would made use of all my information and remarks. I have impression that advice of General Staff will be that both E.M.S. and K.T. Class vessels should be stopped.

(4) The Minister saw Secretary to General this morning without any apparent result. Interview will form subject of telegram from H.M. Ambassador to Foreign Office.

F.O.L.E.M. please pass to Admiralty, C. in C. Med.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 021830C)

War Diary2.6.1944
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd

INDOMITABLE, Further to my 301104 not to F.O.G.M:A. and A.M.
VICTORIOUS. 272018 both May. In the event of INDOMITABLE
and VICTORIOUS not bringing their own escort from
U.K. to Port Said it is requested that they may
remain with them at least as far as Gibraltar in
view of the shortage of Fleet destroyers in the Mediterranean.
(C. in C. Med. 021932B to Admty.)

Situation U.S.S. MACKENZIE engaged enemy battery in Anzio
Report area on 1st June. Target reported well covered
No.371. and fire caused on 2 positions.
(2) Night 29th May/30th May TERPSICHORE, TUMULT,
and TUSCAN carried out sweep to Cape Promontore.
One caique was sunk off Sansego Island 044 degs.
31' N. 014 degs. 18' E. Destroyers were engaged by shore bat-
teries result of return fire unobserved. No damage or casualties.
(3) A/C mined Khalkis, Portolago (Leros) and Port Naussa (Paros)
night 30th/31st May and Port Naussa night 31st May/1st June.
(C. in C. Med. 022105)

ULTOR. Further to my 010300B. All torpedoes expended.
At 0834/2nd sank escorted northbound heavily armed
vessel of 5000 tons suspected minelayer leaving
Port Vendres. Returning thro' position 042 degs
10' 007 degs. 45' at 1200/4th arriving Maddalena 0900/5th June.
(ULTOR, 022350B to Capt.(S) 10)

2.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B
dispositions. No. 46 no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F., 020320Z, 020328Z.)

Bengal
Auxiliary
Flotilla. As from the date of this signal the Bengal Auxiliary Flotilla will be (A) administered by C.C.F.E.T. (B) Operated by C. in C.E.F.
(C. in C.E.F., 020459Z.)

L.C.T.
404. No towing vessel immediately available to take L.C.T. 404 to India in view of this and monsoon reports consider it inadvisable to sail craft. Intend return to Suez with further trials en route on completion of defects. Your 061328 May refers.
(Com. Aden, 020835 to F.O.L.E.M.)

Strategic
value of
Madagascar. Following from Chiefs of Staff. Reference OZ.3888 of 25th November, 1943 and your 46988(O) of 1st December, 1943.
1. We consider that in the war against Japan there will be no increase in the strategic value of Diego Suarez and that our requirements in Madagascar will be confined to:-
a. Fuelling and repair facilities at Diego Suarez for escort vessels, and repairs to merchant ships;
b. Defence of British installations and property;
c. Full control and use of base facilities for flying boats at Diego Suarez and for G.R. land planes at Andrakaka and full use of the air base facilities at Tulear and Pamanzi.
2. Facilities for jungle fighting or combined training will not be required in Madagascar.
3. Instructions regarding reduction in garrisons are being issued by War Office.
(A.M.S.S.O., 021020Z to G.O.C. in C.E.Africa.)

U.S.S.
GENERAL
BUTNER
(for
Australia.) Departure U.S.S. GENERAL BUTNER, AMBER, PETARD, and PENN in accordance with C. in C.E.F.'s 211029 May and Cdr. S.W. Pacific Sea Fron. 280316 May.
2. - 6. Arrangements.
(Cdr. R.I.N. 021043Z.)

Establishment
for S.C.G. Your 301534 May. Numbers confirmed.
(C. in C.E.F. 021201Z to Admty.)
Note by War Reg. Circulation delayed, message originally received undecypherable.

/Cruiser...

2.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

Cruiser
dock at
Kilindini.

Your 110650 April, in view of remote possibility of a battleship dock being allocated to Kilindini at some future date, it is considered advisable to site cruiser dock in position originally proposed, provided you consider the disadvantages of this site are negligible.

2. If you concur, request confirmation of position of cruiser dock site, and the dock's orientation.
(Admty., 021539B to A.S. Kilindini.)

2.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

ARABIS. Your 011441. ARABIS is proceeding to New Zealand via Bermuda and Panama. Regret you were omitted from the address of A.M. 181509 May which is being passed to you.
(D.O.D.(H), 021147B to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

U.G.S./
G.U.S.
Convoys. C. in C. Med. 300942* concur.
(Cominch & C.N.O., 021256Z.)
* Requesting concurrence that no presentees less than 9.5 knots be accepted.

H.X.S.291. Average speed 7.75 knots. Off Oversay at 1545Z/25th May. SCORTON arrived in tow. All arrived.
(D.T.D., 021338B.)

U/B
dispositions. Estimate.
(Cominch, 021610Z.)

U/B
incidents. No report since my 302012.
(A) P.B.M. attacked U-Boat 20.35 N. 64.32 W. about 021420Z course 240.
(C) Army Liberator sighted wake and possible U-Boat diving 04.12 N. 26.43 W. 0600Z/2 course 070.
(Cominch, 022030Z.)

Disposal
of Italian
battleships. Cominch concurs in proposals contained in C. in C. Med. Naples 281126 May.
(B.A.D. Washington, 022119Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 864. June 1st. Paras. 17 to 21 cover South Pacific Forces.
(7) United States destroyer shelled and destroyed three troop laden barges in cove east of Bosnek beachhead dusk 31st. Later that night enemy planes twice over beaches involving flights of five and three aircraft. Ground situation quiet western perimeter but our forces clearing enemy from ridges behind central and eastern sectors supported by 33 Liberators dropping 80 tons explosives this area and in Mokmer Borokoe dispersal areas midday. Mitchells also helped while fighters patrolled throughout day without interception. Scheduled reinforcement and consolidation continues.

30

2.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 864. (16) Official captured document states German
(Contd.) blockade runner HAVELLAND sunk by submarine 22nd
December last off Southern Honshu.
(18) Aircobras returning from Rabaul 31st strafed
three barges also set two trucks afire south-
western Bougainville. Following night motor torpedo boats
probably destroyed empty barge same vicinity.
(20) Active patrolling continued Torokina perimeter 30th.
Elements of unit landed Tekessi River mouth advanced inland
unopposed.
(21) Although reports not yet complete, another Jap submarine
considered probably destroyed 200 miles north Kavieng by joint
Air/surface attack following initial contact early hours 30th.
(G. H. Q. S. W. P. A., 020630.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

There were no S/M attack or sighting reports for
the 24 hours to 0800Z/2.

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D. D. I. C., 021330B, 021350B.)

War Diary

8.6.1944.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

U/boat
damaged by
A/C.

1. At 0211 to-day a surfaced U/boat was straddled with depth charges by a Canso A/C. about 130 miles N.W. of Stadlandet (Norway) and at 0250 five survivors were seen in the water.

U/boat
attacked
by A/C.

2. At 0010Z today A/C. T/162 attacked a U/boat 160 miles W. by N. of Christiansund.

Minelaying

3. 185 mines were laid by A/C. last night off French ports and the Dutch Coast.

Mediterranean

Passage of
German
auxiliaries
through
Dardanelles.

4. Further German vessels of the K.T. and E.M.S. classes have passed south through Cannakale in company during the dark hours, in spite of our Ambassador's request that all questionable vessels should be held and although the Turks had undertaken to unload and search one E.M.S. vessel. B.N.A. Ankara considers there is active collaboration on the part of the Turkish Government with the Germans.

Air
operations

5(a) 36 B.24's of the Strategic Air Force attacked Omis harbour (Brac Channel, Adriatic) and 38 attacked Split Harbour today, both attacks being in aid of the partisans. 54 Baltimores of the Tactical Air Force also attacked the same targets. (b) Hurricanes of the Coastal Air Force attacked and dispersed two convoys in the Leghorn-Piombino area and claim 2 E/boats, 3 F-lighters, 2 schooners and 2 barges sunk, and one E/boat severely damaged. Spitfires attacked shipping in Porto Longone, Elba, scoring hits.

Aegean

6. Two Wellingtons laid mines last night in Mamora Bay and Naussa Bay, Paros. One other Wellington mining Khalkis failed to return.

War Diary

3.6.1944.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

C.S.5.

7. R.A. H.T.C. Walker hoisted his flag in LONDON today as F.O. of a newly formed Cruiser Squadron, the 5th C.S.

America and West Indies

C.U.,O.T.,
U.G.F.
convoys.

8. To meet increased requirements for petrol in the Mediterranean Theatre Cominch proposes that the sailing interval of the C.U. convoys be reduced to 8 days and that all O.T. convoys after O.T.15 shall be cancelled. The tankers thus made available would sail at 25 day intervals in U.G.F. convoys composed of 6 to 8 troopships and 8 to 10 tankers as far east as Naples. The Admiralty concurred.

Australia and New Zealand

Schouten
Island.

9. 10 to 20 enemy aircraft, mostly fighters, attacked shipping off Biak Island beachhead this morning. One destroyer received minor damage and had a few casualties. A/A shot down one and R.A.F. covering the beachhead 8 fighters.

War Diary3.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDS.PolicyS/M's
proceeding
to Gibraltar.

F.O.(S) 031150B see North Atlantic.

Eastern
Fleet re-
inforcements.Your 021047 para. 4.
Concur in nomination of MOURNE who should be
detached from B.2 Group accordingly.
(D.O.D.(H), 031259B to C. in C. W.A.)

Sanctuaries.

Your 021321 June. No objection. I am raising
the question of C.B. 03092(43), Appendix 1.
Para. 5 separately.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 031310B to F.O.S.)OperationsOperation
C.A.

Operation C.A. amendment No.4.

- (A) EMPEROR is added to Forces taking part.
 (B) TRACKER and PURSUER, 1st, 5th, and 6th Escort
 Group are to form Force 31. EMPEROR, 2nd E.G.,
 and 9th E.G. are to form Force 32. 3 ships of 9th
 E.G. as detailed by S.O. 2nd E.G. are to screen EMPEROR.
 (C) EMPEROR's object is fighter protection of Force 32. If Forces
 are ordered to join, fighter protection for both forces is to be
 co-ordinated by EMPEROR.
 (D) When ordered Force 32 is to proceed to waiting area SS within
 15 miles of 050 degs. 30' N. 007 degs. 00' W.
 (E) Para. 20 2nd sentence and para. 21 add EMPEROR.
 (F) Conduct of EMPEROR fighters is governed by para.22.
 (C. in C. W.A. 030057B to A.I.G.567)
 Amendment number 5. My 030057 is amendment number 4 and is
 being issued by hand message at Moelfre Bay.
 (2) Add E.G.15 to Force 31.
 (C. in C. W.A. 031105B to EMPEROR)

Operation
"Overlord".031000B Cositintrep number One.
Part 1. Land. Period to 022400B June.
Intelligence and Operations.
Nothing to report. All Infm. Signed Eisenhower.
(Exfor Main, 031057B to Admty.)Sail TANATSIDE, MELBREAK, TALYBONT so as to R/V with bombardment
group off Start Point at H-18 hours 15 mins.
(C.T.G. 124-7 031427B to TANATSIDE, MELBREAK, TALYBONT)Sailed RODNEY and SIRIUS escorted by WESTCOTT and RIOU to
R/V with NELSON at number 5 Clyde Channel Buoy at 1750B. NELSON
breaks off as requisite for Milford Haven in accordance with
C. in C. H.F's 312309. Remainder proceed to position Z. E.T.A.
0645B/5th June. S.O.A. Clyde to Lizard 15 knots, thence 18 knots

to /...

War Diary3.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperations

Operation "Overlord" (Contd.) to position A of QZL 62, thereafter 12 knots to position Z.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 031428B to A.N.C.X.F., N.C.E.T.F.).
Cositintrep number 1 031600B June - part four - nothing to report. In future part four will be issued only when there is information to forward. Each published part four will contain this wording "last part four issued was number blank". Signed Eisenhower.
(S.H.A.E.F. 031730B to Admty, Troopers, A.G.W.A.R. A.N.C.X.F.)
"Ramp". All persons having knowledge of the meaning of "Mulberry" are to be informed that plans, projects, operations and equipment pertinent to it are Top Secret and will remain so until classification is reduced by S.H.A.E.F. It is emphasised that the Top Secret classification is not automatically removed on D day.
(A.N.C.X.F. 031745B to S.N.O. Selsey, Dungeness, Peel Bank)
Your 021715B. Fan engine of SPEEDY defective and vessel operational on one boiler only.
(2) Intend defects be put in hand at Devonport, anticipated time to complete 12 days, though endeavour is being made to reduce this.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 031805 to Admty.)
Reference my 182246B/May to P.S.T.O. Clyde etc. and your 162234/May to me, both not to all addressees.
EMPIRE CRICKETER has developed stern-tube trouble, which is being investigated at Deptford.
EMPIRE ALDERNEY put back to Hull with heavy weather damaged 31st 311736B/May and 312021B/May both from N.C.S.O. Humber to N.C.S.O. Thames refer. Repairs proceeding. Expected to leave Hull p.m. 4th June via Sheerness Pier to load drums of oil and hoses. Every endeavour is being made to provide temporary replacements.
(D.S.T.032139B to A.N.C.X.F.)
032200B Cositintrep number two part one land. Period to 1200B/3 June. Intelligence and Operations. Nothing to report. All informed. Signed Eisenhower.
(Exfor Main, 032210B to Admty.)

Coastal Force Patrols. (C. in C. Plymouth 031254B, 031331B, 031742B)
(C. in C. Portsmouth 031418B, 031944B)

Operation "Kruschen". Operation "Kruschen". It would be appreciated if the following arrangements could be made.
(A) R/C in area defined in para. 1 of my 031125 extended on either side to allow for movement of the enemy into that area. This R/C to be timed so that result can be signalled to S.C.1., VICTORIOUS and FURIOUS by C. in C. Rosyth, by 1800B/5th. June.
(B) Air-Sea rescue aircraft remaining on call at Sumburgh from 2030B/5th June until strike has taken place.
(C) All aircraft within 60 miles of Fleet to show I.F.F. C.S.1 to provide 18 Group with particulars of his track.
(2) A/S Escort will not be required.
(C. in C. H.F. 031842B to 18 Group)

War Diary3.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSAllied Air Activity

Patrol. One Liberator A/C patrols area between 062 degs. 30' N. and 063 degs. 30' N. and 001 degs. 00' E. and 002 degs. 00' E. from 0800B until 1320B/3rd June (A.C.I.C. 030036B to F.O.S.)

P.R.U. Request you will convey to Squadron Leader Furness and his Spitfire P.R.U. Squadron the Admiralty's appreciation of the fine work they have carried out during the last three months under hazardous and most difficult conditions. The information they have produced has been of great value.

(1st S.L. 031555B to Air Ministry)

Following received. Repeats F.O.I.C. Cardiff 011326. Request flying personnel may be instructed to take all possible care when in vicinity of shipping.

(D.O.D. (H) 032358B. to Air Ministry)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan
Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. A/C heard south east of defence area 0430. Partially foggy weather. Ends. (A.C.I.C. 031040B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat
attacked. Nr. 2. 5 survivors in water. No debris. (A/C. S.O.A.T. 030250 to 18 Group)

War Diary

3.6.1944.
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

S/M's. Request Admiralty decision on para. one of F.O.G.M.A. 021251 observing that the present southern limit of proceeding to Gibraltar. the special sink at sight area is 42 degs. 15' N. as defined in app. 3 to A.L.M. 051103/42 of 1st August 1942.

(2) F.S.L. 2 Appendix III has just been superseded by F.S.L. 3 appendix III dated 22nd May 1944 which does not however affect the issue.

(3) It is now the practice for S/Ms. on passage to Gibraltar to be met by a surface escort shortly after entering F.O.G.M.A's. station and in view of this concur that southern limit of the special area for submarines should be 43 degs. N. (R) 43 degs. N. (F.O.(S), 031150B to Admty.).

3.6.1944.

Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Sinking of
suspected
minelayer
leaving
Port Vendres.

Very nice work your 022350.
(Capt. S.10, 030727B to ULTOR).

German
auxiliaries
transiting
Dardanelles.

Report B.4 that 2 more K.T. ships are due to arrive from Black Sea in transit for Aegean. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 030940C to B.N.A. Ankara).
A. Passage of 3 K.T. class and 3 E.M.S. class south through Cannakale without stopping in spite of fact Secretary General promised Minister yesterday that one E.M.S. class should be unloaded for searching at Cannakale.
B. The carefully timed programme for K.T. and E.M.S. to pass in to Aegean together and during night and
C. The fact that no K.T. vessel was stopped for searching on this occasion, all tend, I suggest, to prove active collaboration on part of Turkish Gov. with Germans.
2. Ambassador is seeing Foreign Minister this morning and representations he will make then will form subject of telegram to Foreign Office later today. My 021830 and S.O.(I) Istanbul's 030220 refers. F.O.L.E.M. please pass to Admiralty, C. in C. Mediterranean.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 031320C).

Daily
Opsum
No.402
1/2 June.

(Extract.)

2nd June. R/C of Heraklion harbour showed one harbour vessel on fire one merchant vessel unloading, one destroyer with salvage vessel alongside harbour. Large oil patch on sea 20 miles north of Heraklion with caïque standing by. 12 Marauders (B.26) 13 Baltimores (A.30) escort 9 Spitfires despatched in afternoon to attack ships in Heraklion. 2 Baltimores (A.30) one Marauder (B.26) returned early. Remainder bombed scoring at least one direct hit several near misses on turning vessel, other bombs falling near second merchant ship. Fire on former seen to increase. One Me. 109 seen south of Crete did not attack. Visual R/C of Heraklion early following morning reported burning vessel had sunk. My Opsum 401 striking force despatched against convoy 1st June consisted 12 Marauders (B.26) 18 Baltimores (A.30) escort 4 Mustangs (P.51) 13 Spitfires and 10 R.P. Beaufighters with anti-flak escort 16 Spitfires and 16 Beaufighters of which 14 were also armed with R.P. 2 of latter returned early. Additional: Arado 196 was damaged by Beaufighter over convoy. Night attack on Heraklion Harbour 1/2 June was made by 11 Liberators (B.24) 8 Wellingtons, Liberators (B.24) bombing first started large fire near south west quay. Bombs from Wellington fell in area of western mole and north east side of town, but ground haze and smoke obscured damage. Wellington reported missing came down in sea Tocma. 3 of crew killed.
(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 030953Z).

/SS. JOHANNA...

War Diary3.6.1944
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

SS. My 021745C*. Report B.3 JOHANNA will sail p.m.
 JOHANNA. 3rd a.m. 4th.
 (a) Destination still declared as Bourgas but in view of general movements of German vessels into Aegean Declaration may be false and vessel may proceed to Salonika to discharge.
 (S.O.(1) Istanbul, 031025C to F.O.L.E.M., Capt. S.1, D. of N.I., B.N.A. Ankara.)
 * JOHANNA ready to sail for Black Sea.

UNTIRING, Intend sailing.
 CASABIANCA. A. UNTIRING at 1730/5 through 042° 14' 007° 23' at 2000/6 and 042° 25' 005° 59' at 0800/7 to patrol in SU, SW, SX.
 B. CASABIANCA at 1800/6 through 042° 47' 007° 20' at 2000/7 to patrol in ST.
 (Capt. S.10, 031213.)

British Your 311303 May. Para. 4 of A.M. 280136 May was
 naval not intended to convey that the information is
 co-operation being passed to the Russians as a result of your
 on Danube. signal 081008 May. The Russians already hold
 C.B. 4063 and will receive the amendment referred to in para. 3 of A.M. 280136 May.
 2. The L.A. and L.A.A. Sweeps were developed at the request of the Russians who witnessed the trials.
 (V.C.N.S. 031308B to C. in C. Med.)

PIPINOS Leave patrol p.m. 5th June to arrive in 035° 49' 023° 30' at dawn 6th thence through Antikithera Channel.
 (Capt.(S) 1, 031421 to PIPINOS.)
 From position 035° 41' 023° 05' about 1401/6th proceed on the surface by day west of 022° E. to R/V with escort in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 1301/8 thence to Malta.
 2. Your surface speed is estimated as 9 knots.
 (Capt. S.1, 031435 to PIPINOS.)

UGLIANO. UGLIANO (My 011708) located at Malta employed as Fleet Fuelling Tug and manned by yard craft crew.
 2. V.A.M. is requested to report:
 A. Circumstances whereby ship obtained a British crew. His 021237 not to Admiralty.
 B. Particulars required in A.M. 170052 para. three.
 (C. in C. Med., 031636B.)

Aegean Repair of Aegean cables subsequent to Allied
 cables. re-occupation of Greece will require:-
 A. At least one and if possible two cable ships. PACIFIC and BULLFINCH provisionally intended.
 B. Two small cable repair trawlers or similar

/sized...

War Diary3.6.1944
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanAegean
cables
(Contd.)

sized vessels. Boom Defence trawlers could be used but this would delay work of recovery of redundant net defences. If time permits, consider preferable to convert two trawlers or comparable vessels locally. Selection of suitable craft now under investigation. Following equipment not available locally would be required. (Details) (F.O.L.E.M. 031647C to Admty.)

Cositintrep
No. 329.
Landing
on Brac.

During night 1/2 June an assault force consisting of 1,000 British troops, 100 U.S. (OSS) troops and 2,500 partisans landed on the island of Brac off the Dalmatian coast. Fighting in Bol area concluded. 9 U.S. (OSS) wounded. 500 Germans in Supetar area surrounded by Partisans. Fighting is in progress between Partisans and enemy southeast of Nerezisce. No further details are available. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, T.O.O. Nil, Recd. 2145.)

3.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-positions. No. 47. Area C and D. Poor quality single bearing of 275° from Colombo at 0021Z/2nd May (?June intended) indicates most advanced of 3 U-Boats northbound off East African Coast is between lats. 005° and 010° N. Scale of air escort in both areas X. Other areas. No fresh information, no change in (scales?) of air escort.
2. No. 34, 35, 36 sent R.N.L.O. Delhi only in error. A stated "No fresh information received, no change in scale of air escort". (C. in C.E.F. 030337Z.)

Convoy orders. Negative release class D ships from (?Aden) - Kilindini sections of A.K.D/D.K.A. convoys Karachi.
2. Release class A ships from above convoys. (C. in C.E.F. 030521Z.)

Naval L.T. requirements in captured ports. Remarks. 1. Your letter 44/4 Med. 00330/11 13th November 1944 are being forwarded to Admty. It is proposed that Navy Formation signals composed of either Royal Signals or specially trained R.M. Signallers should lay and operate the telephones which are essential to Naval requirements in the early stages of capture i.e. until combined L.T. plan commences to function. The equipment for this period would be light and expendable as it would be replaced after 4 to 6 weeks.
2. Request information by air mail letter of the scale of this equipment which has been found necessary under A. F.O.I.C. B. Major Najor (?Naval) Officer in Charge and C. Minor Naval Officer.
(C. in C.E.F. 030858Z to C. in C.Med.)

C.S.5. Flag of R.A. H.T.C.Walker hoisted in LONDON as F.O. 5th C.S. 3rd June 1944.
(F.O.5th C.S. 031030Z.)

C.O.M.N.A.S. Following is a repetition of my 311359* May begins: Cdre. N.A.S. East Africa reports that when remainder of A/C for U.K. are shipped in ATHENE all major F.A.A. problems will have been dealt with and he considers that any further matter arising can be dealt with by F.O.E.A.
2. Intend C.O.M.N.A.S. should return to U.K. when this has been completed and that appointment should then lapse. Ends.
(C. in C.E.F. 031315Z to Admty.)
*311359 was undecypherable.

War Diary.

3.6.1944.

Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

B.A.M.S.R. On 12th June 1944 the appointments of the B.A.M.R. and the B.A.S.R. in Washington will be merged. The appointment will be held by Rear Admiral J.W.A. Waller and he will be known as the British Admiralty Maintenance and Supply Representative. Short title B.A.M.S.R. ref. C.A.F.O. 624/42. (B.A.M.R. 031330Z.)

U/B dis-positions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. 031414Z, Cominch 031514Z.)

JALEA, ONICE. Your 011735. Request Cominch may be asked to provide escort for these submarines which are due to arrive Gibraltar 20th June. No British escort available. (D.O.D.F. 031830B to B.A.D.)

C.U., O.T., U.G.F. Convoys. To meet increased requirements for gasoline in Mediterranean Theatre propose that:
A. C.U. convoy sailing interval be reduced to 8 days, beginning with T.C.U. 28, sailing New York 16 June, thereby releasing a few tankers from the C.U.run by more economical employment of those remaining.
B. Cancellation of all O.T.convoys after O.T.15. Convoy T.O.15 to return direct to Hampton Roads instead of Aruba-Curacao area.
C. Sailing at 25 day intervals U.G.F.convoys composed of 6 to 8 troopships plus 8 to 10 tankers made available in part by A and B above (from Hampton Roads to Mediterranean Ports as far east as Naples, beginning with convoy U.G.F.12 departing Norfolk 1st July) to include tankers, minimum declared speed for U.G.F.convoys would be reduced to 14.5 knots. Early comment from action addressees is requested. Comnavaw advise in his reply what support can be given to proposed U.G.F.convoys in the Mediterranean. (Cominch 032047Z.)
Reply. Concur (A.M. 051651Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest serial No. 865. June 2nd. Paras. 11 to 13 cover S.Pacific Forces.
3. Australian troops landed unopposed Karkar Island off Alexishafen - Bunabun coast ?forenoon.
7. United States destroyers bombarded Mokmor aerodrome June 1st destroying one bomber two guns

/several...

War Diary.

3.6.1944.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest serial
No. 865.
(Contd.)

several fuel dumps. Destroyers continued support
ground forces bombarding tanks trucks personnel
near Parai same date.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 030620Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

No reports for 24 hours to 0800Z/2.
For 24 hours to 0800Z/3rd June.

Para. A. 1. A/C A/547 attacked U-Boat at 1016Z/2
in lat. 62° 53' N. long. 01° 45' E. and at 1200Z/
2 in lat. 62° 55' N. long. 01° 45' E.

2. A/C T/162 attacked U-Boat at 0010Z/3 in lat.

63° 45' N. long. 01° 55' E.

3. A/C Z/4 O.T.U. attacked U-Boat at 2350Z/2 in lat. 63° 17' N.
long. 02° 06' E.

4. A/C sighted U-Boat at 2241Z/2 in lat. 63° 30' N. long. 02° 20'
E.

(D.D.I.C. 031126B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

(D.D.I.C. 031420, 031434.)

War Diary.

4.6.1944.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation
"Lombard".

1. A B.3 report received today states that one minesweeper and the two German M/Vs HANS LEONHARDT (4174 tons) loaded with ammunition and FLORIDA (6150 tons) were sunk by A/C of the F.A.A. off Kvamme Island, near Stadtlandet, during Operation "Lombard" on the 1st June.

Mid-Channel
mine clearance.

2. M/S F. 14 (S.O. in ROMNEY) reports today having destroyed ten new German mines and cut two more adrift in the Channel midway between the Needles and Cherbourg.

Minelaying.

3. 230 mines were laid last night by our A/C off Northern French ports.

Mediterranean.

4. It is reported that R.P.Hurricanes today attacked a southbound convoy off the west coast of Italy, destroying one E-Boat, 2 barges, 1 schooner and damaging one R-Boat. French Spitfires bombed the docks and barges at Marina di Carrara.

Levant area.

5. 9 Liberators were sent last night to attack a merchant vessel in Heraklion harbour. No result is reported other than bursts in the south west quay area. Small supply vessels were attacked in the Aegean, and the harbours of Lavrion, Kos and Portolago Bay were successfully mined.

Australia & New Zealand.

Air attacks on
enemy warships
off New
Guinea and in
Philippines -
Moluccas area
2 destroyers
sunk.

6. (a). A patrol Catalina last night made two direct hits on a single enemy destroyer 20 miles north-west of Manokwari (D.I.S.134E) and left the vessel dead in the water but with her heavy A/A guns still firing.
(b). Liberators early this morning, between approx. 145 and 65 miles N.E. of Halmahera attacked enemy warships which were reported yesterday S.E. of

/Davao...

War Diary.

4.6.1944.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

Australia & New Zealand.

Air attacks on Davao Gulf steering south-eastward. Two enemy warships destroyed and 3 light cruisers were hit.
off New Guinea and in Philippines - Moluccas area and 2 destroyers sunk.
(Contd.)

Schouten Is. 7. Allied shipping off Biak Island were attacked again today by enemy aircraft. One warship (type not reported) N.E. of the Island received slight damage.

War Diary.4.6.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Transfer of
Warships to
Soviet Navy.Request following information about ROYAL
SOVEREIGN.

A. Probable date of sailing for Scapa.

B. Whether British navigating officer will be on
board for passage. If not whether C.O. wishes
ships to be boarded outside Hoxa Gate and piloted
to her anchor berth.C. Approx. length of work up required before sailing for North
Russia.

D. Nominal list of all British personnel on board.

(C. in C.H.F. 041030B to C. in C.Rosyth.)

Operations.Operation
"Neptune".041000B Cositintrep No. 3 part 1 land. Period to
2359B/3. Intelligence and operations. Nothing to
report. All infm. Signed Eisenhower.
(Exfor Main 041000B to Admty.)041200B. Intelligence and operations. Nothing to report. All
infm. Signed Eisenhower.
(Exfor Main 042200B to Admty.)Operation
"Potato".

Carry out operation "Potato" tonight.

1. Unit G.D. M.T.Bs. 252 (S.O.), 253, 257.

2. 0045B/5. 4. 49° 24' N. 00° 10' W. 6. 50° 10'
N. 00° 35' W. 8. To be north of 50° 00' N. by
0500B.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 041327B to HORNET, Capt. S.5.)

Carry out operation "Potato" tonight. 1. Unit G.C. M.T.Bs. 254
(S.O.) 255, 256. 2. 0030B. 4. 49° 44' N. 01° 45' W. 6. 50° 10'
N. 01° 20' W. 8. So as to be north of 50° 00' N. by 0500.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 041329B to HORNET.)

My 041327B and 041329B. Postponed 24 hours.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 041454B to HORNET, Capt. S.5.)

Coastal
Force
Patrols.

(C. in C.Plymouth 041328B.)

(C. in C.Portsmouth 041604B, 041622B, 041830B,
041832B, 041842B, 041957.)

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 042143B.)

Operation
C.W.

Have obtained second class bearing believed to be

enemy submarine transmitting B barred signal at

041552Z bearing 246°, series one. P.C. and S. 051°
40' N. 031° 37' W. 082° 10 knots.

(C.4 041640Z to C. in C.W.A.)

D/F bearings at 1549Z/4 indicate that H.X.F. 293 was probably
reported by a U-Boat.

(D.D.I.C. 041824B to Escorts H.X.F. 293.)

War Diary.4.6.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Allied Air Activity.

Bristol Channel. Your 011326 not to F.O.N.A.S.
Understood incidents were mainly in vicinity of Breaksey and English Welsh light vessel.
All Naval Air to Air firing is being moved from Bristol Channel in very near future. Meanwhile pilots have been instructed to exercise all possible care when in vicinity of shipping and to avoid these areas.
(D.O.D(H) 040015B to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

Operation "Overlord". Cositintrep No. 2. Part 3. Air.
Summary of operations for period 2100B hours 2nd June to sunrise 3rd June.
Total sorties 454. Details.
Enemy operations nil. Message signed Eisenhower.
(?H.Q.A.E.A.F. 040200 to S.H.A.E.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. A/C observed north of Island 0415, flying N.E.
(A.C.I.C. 041048B to Admty.)

Mining.

Mid Channel clearance. 4 mines cut in 050° 14.5' N. 001° 32.5' W.
1 mine cut in 050° 14.5' N. 001° 16.2' W.
1 exploded in sweep in 050° 16.8' N. 001° 14.5' W.
1 exploded in sweep in 050° 17.8' N. 001° 14.5' W.
All mines saw graph X star. Three sunk. Two adrift
(M/S F.14 041023B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Technical.

Pyrotechnic signal for M/Vs. Your 312010. Concur.
(C. in C.Nore 041849B to Admty.)

War Diary

4.6.1944.
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SCIPIONE
AFRICANO

Intend sailing Italian L. Cruiser SCIPIONE AFRICANO at 1600/4 G.M.T. for Las Palmas Santa Cruz and Villa Cisneros (route etc.). (F.O.G.M.A., 041411Z).

South Atlantic

Convoy
arrangements.

Intend holding Aden bound ships of convoy speed for inclusion in D.K.A.19. Subsequent to sailing of D.K.A.19 propose routeing these ships independently via Mozambique Channel to Kilindini for onward convoy to Aden. Your 030521 refers. (C. in C.S.A., 041110B to C. in C.E.F.).

SS. RIDING
MOUNTAIN
PARK.

Have met SS. RIDING MOUNTAIN PARK in approx. 004 degs. 13' N. 002 degs. 13' W. at 1200Z/4th now steering 045 degs. speed about 4 knots. No immediate assistance required as water is still in check. Steering difficult and ship sheering badly as she is down by the bow.

Am now screening. Request instructions. (KILHAM, 041300Z to N.O.I.C. Takoradi).

Reallocation
of escorts.

(1) A.M. 021420B WOLVERINE will sail with S.R.14.

(2) In view of commitments with Third Flight Selwyn regret there will be no fast escorts available for QUEEN. A.M. 281230 and 281232 refer.

(F.O.C.W.Af., 041426Z to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.).

War Diary.4.6.1944.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

SS. AGATHE, ANITA, SUZANNE. Appreciate AGATHE, ANITA and SUZANNE now ready to sail from Piraeus may be bound Rhodes via Leros. Escort may include two destroyers.

(2) Proceed now to intercept in vicinity of Kos. Do not pass east of a line joining mid-Kalimno mid-Piscopi-Saria French Torpilleurs operate east of this line.

(3) Coastal forces operate north of latitude 036° 55'.
(Capt. (S) 1, 040105 to VOX, as amended 041745B.)
Vessels referred to in my 041745 still present at Piraeus p.m./today.
(Capt. (S) 1, 042310 to 1st S/M.F.)

Daily Sitrep No.49. Yugoslavia: (a) Kornat Island reported occupied by 900 Germans.
(b) (1) Night 1st/2nd Allied assault force, 1000 British troops, 2500 Partisans, 100 U.S. O.G.S. successfully landed Brac. 2nd June, 500 Germans surrounded at Supetar. German positions all on hill tops. Fight^{ing} was still going on at 0900 today. Situation not yet clarified. No identifications yet. (Somto, 040215B.)

VOX. Examine west coasts of Kaso-Scarpanto-Saria tonight 4th/5th June and during daylight 5th*5th* and then proceed in accordance with my 040105. (Capt. (S) 1, 040915B to VOX.)
* as received.

SS. JOHANNA. My 031025. JOHANNA sailed 4th, expect enter Black Sea 0630 G.M.T.
(2) Report B.3 unidentified vessels approached Bosphorus from Black Sea.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 040925C to F.O.L.E.M., (R) Capt. (S) 1, D.N.I., B.N.A. Ankara.)

Daily Opsum. No.403. My Opsum. No.402 June 3rd. Photo R/C of Heraklion Harbour a.m. and p.m. June 3rd confirm 1 merchant vessel submerged in mid harbour and 1 destroyer sunk 1 other merchant vessel and quayside appear blackened but no structural damage to vessel apparent.
2nd /3rd June. 2 Wellingtons successfully laid mines in Mamora Bay and Naussa Bay Paros. 1 other Wellington mining Khalkis Greece failed to return cause or result of operation unknown.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., 041011Z.)

SALVESTOR, GAMTOOS. Your 161820, 162001 and 252007 being passed to C. in C. S.A. Offer of S.A.N.F. to man SALVESTOR to enable vessel to become fully operational gratefully accepted.
(2) It is however, essential that Admty. retain ability to despatch SALVESTOR to any theatre of war when her services are no longer required in the Mediterranean.

War Diary.

4.6.1944.

Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean (continued).SALVESTOR,
GAMTOOS.
(Contd.)

(5) Request information concerning terms under which GAMTOOS is serving. We understand that vessel is still South African property and is merely operating under R.N. control.
(Admty., 041138B to C. in C. Med.)

Sailing of
Red Cross
vessels.

A.M. 020057B. Geneva intimates that German agreement to measures outlined in A.M. 202218 May has been obtained and that notification of sailing of six vessels from Marseilles on June 7th has been made to you through Lisbon.

accepted.

(2) Request urgent confirmation that notice is

(Admty., 041213B to C. in C. Med.)

Para. 2 of your 041213 confirmed that northbound arrangement is acceptable.

(C. in C. Med., 141614B to Admty.)

Minefields
Corsica
- Elba.

The following minefields were observed from the air today 4th June.

(1) Lines of mines joining following positions:
(A) 042° 59', 010° 15'. (B) 042° 59', 010° 17'.
(C) 042° 55', 010° 17'. (D) 042° 55', 010° 15'
estimated depth 6 feet.

(2) Between positions: (E) 043° 01', 010° 03'. 043° 03', 010° 03'.

(3) Between positions: (G) 043° 09', 010° 00'. (H) 043° 10', 010° 02'. (I) 043° 11'15", 010° 00'30" thence in a circle radius half mile centre (J) 043° 11'30", 010° 00'.

(4) Between positions: (K) 042° 50', 009° 52'. (L) 042° 46', 009° 52'.

(5) Ref. Q.B.302 (a). Field was sighted and is estimated to extend to 043° 08'30" N.

(6) It is considered that these positions are reasonably accurate for latitude but may be up to 3 miles in error for longitude. All positions north and east.

(F.O.I.S., 041546 to F.O.W.It., C. in C. Med., (R) N.O.I.C. Maddalena.)

Attack on
Brac I.

Cositintrep No.330 part 4.

The attack on the Island of Brac continues, the Partisan Force containing the Garrison at Supetar on the north coast were forced to withdraw slightly due to artillery fire from the mainland.

Partisan Force with British support moved from Bol on the south coast toward Sumartin and now occupy covering positions on the road 4 miles west of the latter. 3 Hill Top positions 1 mile S.E. of Nerezisce were captured by Partisans and fighting continues in this area. Elements of 43 Cdo. are in the area 1 mile south of Nerezisce. 1 company of Highland Light Infantry unsuccessfully attacked Hill 778 which is 2 miles N.E. of Murvice on the south coast. During night 2nd/3rd June our troops were reinforced by 40 Cdo. less 1 troop 300 Partisans and 2 - 25 pdrs. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, No T.O.O., Recd. 1910.)

/DOLA ...

SECRET

Received after typing.

Diary,

50A.

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.)

Spanish AA Batteries firing at Allied Aircraft.

041217B/June

From F.O.G.M.A.

Date. 11.6.44.

Recd. 0155

P/L BY D/R

Addressed C. in C. Mediterranean.
Info. Comnavaw. C.M.S.F.

CR No.1074

This from F.O.G.M.A. to C. in C. Mediterranean for action and repeated to Comnavaw and C.M.S.F. Your 031450.

Allied aircraft have not in fact flown over Territorial waters on A/3 patrols except

(1) When enemy forces have been in sight or in contact. Less than five instances are known over period last six months.

(2) Accidentally owing to poor visibility. On average this has not exceeded twelve times a month. Mostly transport aircraft have been concerned. Following schedule give all recent recorded instances of Spanish Morocco firing on Allied aircraft recent examples of Spanish A.A. firing on Allied aircraft.

Date	Time	Position and Height of A/C	Location of guns	Effect of fire.
12/1/44	1750A	35 56 North 05 25 West 1 1/2 miles off shore 1000ft.	Loona PT	Two bursts one was 20 Yds. ahead other stem.
7/2/44	1820A	330T 3 miles off Spartel, 50-100 ft.	Spartel	Three puffs of black smoke at same height as aircraft. One full short by one half miles. Two burst one half mile astern. One puff of AA fire at 1000ft. 2 mls. astern of Aircraft.
7/2/44	1755A	3 miles West of Larache 50-100 ft.	Larache	

13/2/44....

(2)

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	<u>Position and Height of A/C.</u>	<u>Location of guns.</u>	<u>Effect of fire.</u>
13/2/44	1057A	35 50 North 05 59 West (4½ miles off shore)	Spartel	Caused aircraft to rock.
15/3/44	1025A	35 51 North 05 37 West (1½ miles off shore)	Gabra PT	Three inch AA within 30 yards of aircraft.
16/3/44	1720A	35 57 North 05 13 West (5 miles off shore)	Almina PT	Single burst of HAA behind and below aircraft.
16/3/44	1316A	35 57 North 05 16 West (3½ miles off shore)	Almina PT	Single burst of HAA behind and below aircraft.
27/3/44	1932A	3 140 degs. T 4½ miles Malabata PT	Malabata PT	HAA Battery inland fired two rounds accurate for range and height.
28/3/44	1724A	4 miles of Malabata PT 100 feet.	Malabata PT.	One burst of HAA exploded 500 feet above and 1 mile on aircrafts beam.
31/3/44	1938A	35 53 North 05 45 West (4½ miles off shore)	Malabata PT.	Four bursts of HAA 1 mile distant from aircraft.
19/4/44	0314B	36 30 North 03 35 West (12 miles off shore)	C. Saoratif.	White rockets fired from shore.
9/5/44	1315B	2 miles East North East Apboran Island 2100 feet.	Not seen.	Aircraft was hit by shell believed to be 20 mm. which exploded on impact and wounded Navigator.
13/5/44	0922B	35 54 North 05 45 West (5½ miles off shore)	East of Tangior.	HAA One burst 200 yards astern and two bursts 200 feet below aircraft.
15/5/44	1557B	5 miles off Spartel 700 feet.	Spartel.	One burst HAA 100 yards on starboard beam.
17/5/44	2110B	3 miles off Spartel 180 degs. T 2 miles.	Spartel	Two burst of HAA One ¼ mile behind and one 500 feet below.
24/5/44		3 miles off Larache.	Larache.	Bursts some ½ mile from aircraft.
31/5/44	1505B	5 miles off shore near Malabata	East of Malabata PT.	Several burst one within 50 yards of aircraft.

/POBN.....

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.)

(3)

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	<u>Position and Height of A/C.</u>	<u>Location of guns.</u>	<u>Effect of fire.</u>
POSN/ 6/44	1145B	2 miles West of Spartel.	Spartel.	One burst 400 yards on starboard beam below aircraft possibly 3 inch AA.

041217B

?/
HA.

Advance Copy sent Ops. O.D. Plot.
/ No trace in War Registry.

Recd. in War Registry at 1159/11.
by D/R from U.S.N.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
...C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(...)(2)
D.Map Room
Capt.Pim
U.W.R.
Ops.(2)
O.D.(5)
O.I.C.(2)
D.N.I(5)
D. of P(3)
D. of P(Q)(2)
C.C.L.S.(2)
A.L.O
M.(10)
Ad.Blake.
I.P(2)
W.D.

War Diary.4.6.1944.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.DOLA
(German)

German DOLA now anchored Bosphorus, expected to transit Aegean shortly. Description - 1200 tons, flush deck, counter stem, prominent raked funnel amidships, one mast deck house and gun mounting forward camouflaged grey and black.
(Capt. (S) 1, 041930B to SICKLE.)

Attack
on enemy
Aegean
convoy.
Auxiliaries
transiting.
Dardanelles.

Joint Naval Army R.A.F. Intelligence appreciation 24 hours to 0900/4. All times G.M.T.
(6) Aegean shipping summary. Photographic R/C 3rd June revealed following:
Crete. Candia*. Morning cover showed following of Piraeus supply convoy, SS. GERTRUD confirmed submerged in mid harbour, possibly due explosion ammunition cargo. SS. TANAIIS and quayside blackened but no visible structural damage to ship. Destroyer now seen to be sunk.

SS. SABINE still not located and therefore presumed sunk. 3 remaining destroyers arrived Piraeus by a.m. 1 TURBINE class seen in Salamis Naval Dockyard. Of escorts therefore 1 destroyer is sunk at least, 1 damaged and 2 smaller escort vessels have not yet been located.

Black Sea-Aegean. Reliable source reports 3 K.T. vessels 3 EMS and 2 ESTE class Danube craft mentioned yesterday's signal entered Aegean p.m./2nd June.
(C. in C. M.E., 042010C.)

* W.D. Note. Other reports refer to Heraklion.

Operations
"Anvil" &
"Rankin".

Concur A.N.C.X.F's 021202* para. 2 of which is confirmed.
(2) French are already experiencing difficulty in mustering sufficient personnel for port party required for "Anvil" or "Rankin".
(C. in C. Med., 042034B to Admty.)
* See Home Commands.

Situation
Report
No. 372.

(1) On 2nd June U.S.S. CHAMPLIN and U.S.S. MACKENZIE bombarded targets north of Anzio in support of Army's left Flank. Return fire by 1 enemy battery causing no damage.
(2) Coastal forces operating in the Aegean captured 100 ton caique south of Khios 1st/2nd June, night 2nd/3rd June engaged 1200 ton motor vessel north of Kos but were (? driven) off by enemy fire after obtaining a few hits. Also engaged signal station on Niseros where enemy returned fire. 2 M.Ls. slightly damaged in these operations, no casualties.
(3) P.49 (UNRULY) reports boarding and sinking small caique north of Suda on 30th May, 4 prisoners taken. P.53 (ULTOR) reports sinking 5000 ton vessel off Port Vendres on 2nd June.
(4) Party laid mines off north and east coasts of Pakos (?Paros intended) night 2nd/3rd June.
(C. in C. Med., 042129B.)

/Air ...

War Diary.

4.6.1944.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Air attack
on enemy
convoys in
Leghorn -
Piombino
area.

Part III Air Cositintrep No. 329.
Coastal Air Force. R.P. Hurricanes flew 6
missions. Attacked and dispersed 2 convoys in
Leghorn - Piombino area, claim 2 E-Boats, 3 F
lighters, 2 schooners and 2 barges sunk. 1
E-Boat severely damaged.
(C. in C. Med., No T.O.O./4, recd. 050200.)

War Diary.

4.6.1944.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B No. (?48). No fesh information. No change in
dispositions. scales of air escort.
(C. in C. E.F., 040355Z.)

F.O.C.(D).F. The broad pendant of Cdre. Arliss was struck
E.F. and the broad pendant of Cdre. Poland as F.O.C.
(D).F.E.F. was hoisted in NAPIER at 1200FG June
4th.
(F.O.C.(D).F.E.F., 041201FG.)

FISHGUARD. Ref. your 1530 my P.C.S. 009° 41' N. 050° 49' E.,
049° 12 knots. Intend altering course to 229° at
2045Z unless other reports are received.
(FISHGUARD, 041700Z to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

War Diary4.6.1944
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

U-Boat report.. D/F of 191 Group Enigma at 0601Z on 6795 K/cs. indicates U-Boat within 30 miles of 44.30 N. 44.30 W. (N.S.H.Q. 040653Z)

Stragglers' report. Stragglers arrived week ending 3rd June 28th May BENTE MAERSK, H.X.M.292. Engine defects. (N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F. 041137Z)

U-Boat Dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. 041347Z, Cominch, 041515Z)

SS. MOUNT VERNON. Diversion order. (Connav, 041612Z to A.T.199B, (?119B intended))

H.X.F.293. Inconclusive D/F at 1549 G.M.T. on 8855 K/cs of B signal may indicate U-Boat has sighted you. (N.S.H.Q. 041630Z to H.X.F. 293)

U-Boat incidents. HH. Para. B. Brazilian P.V. Radar Contact 07 degs. 50' S. 29 degs. 40' W. 041517Z. No report on 3rd. Para. D. Mariner A/C Radar Contact 06 degs. 24' S. 26 degs. 16' W. 040150Z. (Cominch, 042020.)

ANDES. NK alter course on receipt and pass through new W 047 degs. N. 044 degs. W. X. 050 degs. N. 031 degs. W. thence T omitting S. (C. in C. C.N.A. 042150Z to A.T.116)

Recommend diversion NK ANDES through 47 degs. N. 44 degs W. 50 degs. N. 31 degs. W. thence to T. (D.O.D.(H), 042217B to C. in C. C.N.A.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 866. June 3rd. Paras. 13 to 19 cover South Pacific Forces.
(2) Same time patrol Liberator saw five ships described as Destroyers 170 miles North-East Northern tip Halmahera heading South-West.
(3) Early hours another patrol Liberator reported large number enemy vessels South-East of Davao Gulf heading South-East. Later U.S. S/M. reported two groups enemy warships off Talawi Is. (midway between Davao Gulf and Northern Halmahera) heading southeast: First Group described two heavy cruisers, four destroyers, Second Group, two heavy cruisers, one light cruiser.

War Diary4.6.1944
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New Zealand

Digest 866. two destroyers, one large unidentified vessel. Noon another Liberator reported force comprising two battleships, three heavy cruisers, one light cruiser, nine destroyers disposed three groups ten miles apart covered by one bomber 100 miles east Talud Islands heading southeast.

(4) Morning 10-20 enemy A/C mostly fighters attacked Biak Island beachhead shipping off shore causing minor damage, few casualties one destroyer. One enemy fighter shot down by ack/ack, while R.A.A.F. Kittyhawks covering beachhead destroyed 8 additional fighters in combat. Unopposed landings effected by our forces morning second on two small islands off shore from Biak beachhead.

(11) Our outposts east of Aitape continue to encounter small enemy attacks also some artillery fire. M.T.B's and artillery actively countering enemy fire. Estimated total enemy casualties this area to June 2nd number 840 killed, 37 captured.

(15) Night 1-2 M.T.B's shelled Bivouac area North Central New Ireland. Natives report 30 Japanese killed.

(16) Same night other M.T.B's strafed targets along south east Bougainville while air patrols bombed strafed Kieta and Buka Passage areas.

(17) Allied troops landing on south bank Jaba River (Empress Augusta Bay) June second encountered nil enemy troops but found extensive abandoned fortifications.

(19) American troops reconnoitring Dyaul Island south of Kavieng June first found nil Japanese reported radar station wrecked by previous allied air attacks.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 040630Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
and sight-
ing summary.

Para. D. (1) Fortress A/C sighted U-Boat 0532Z/
3rd course 230 degs. in 49 degs. 00' N. 08 degs.
54' W.

(2) A/C sighted periscope wake course 320 degs.
in 49 degs. 25' N. 00 degs. 41' W.

(D.D.I.C. 041046B)

U-Boat
dispositions.

(D.D.I.C. 041345B, 041346B)

5.6.1944.

Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORTHome CommandsOperation
"Neptune".

Note. For the Plan and Details of Operation "Neptune" see War Diary of 6th June.

1(a) The four Assault Forces O, S, J and G which are to land respectively at St. Laurent, Ouistreham, Courseulles and Asnelles, sailed today from their South Coast ports according to plan; and at 2334B today A.N.C.X.F. reported that, though the weather in the Channel was less favourable than had been expected, all the Assault Forces were proceeding generally as intended and that at 1950 N.C.E.T.F. had reported the Eastern Task Force situation to be in hand though a few of the major landing craft were likely to fall astern.

(b) At 1321 the fourteen H.D.M.Ls. and three Pinnaces for the diversionary Operation "Taxable" against the Fecamp area sailed from Newhaven, followed at 2030B by the twelve M.T.Bs. of their Covering Force; and at 1950 twelve H.D.M.Ls. and one Pinnacle left Newhaven for the diversionary Operation "Glimmer" against Boulogne.

(c) The U.S. minesweeper OSPREY was mined or torpedoed in 50.12 N. 01.20 W. at 1759B and was taken in tow.

(d) Photographic reconnaissance yesterday showed the following German naval vessels in Le Havre:- One ELBING class destroyer, one WOLF class T.B., 3 MOEWE class T.Bs., one Sperrbrecher, 2 M-class minesweepers, 3 German corvettes, 7 E/R boats, 16 auxiliaries, 4 French S/M chasers, and 2 T.L.Cs.

North AtlanticTorpedo air
attack on
Gibraltar
harbour.

2(a) Between 0148B and 0700B today about 12 Italian aircraft operating from Istres (South France) were operating over Gibraltar Bay and the Straits: torpedoes were dropped. Three of the attacking aircraft crashed on the beach south of Tarragona and were identified as aircraft operated by the Fascist Republican Air Force. Spanish A/A were seen to fire. Gibraltar A/A did not fire.

(b) No damage was caused to shipping, but the detached mole was damaged from seaward. The port was closed, but was reopened p.m./today.

5.6.1944.

Monday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORTSouth AtlanticU. 505
captured.

3. U.505 has been captured. GUADALCANAL's Group (Task Group 22.3), patrolling in about 21½ N. 19½ W. (west of Rio del Oro), has been ordered to tow her to Bermuda if her condition warrants. No further details are known. (p.63)

MediterraneanTrawlers as
escorts for
ocean
convoys.

4. Owing to the withdrawal of Hunt class destroyers from the Mediterranean the shortage of escorts renders it necessary to employ certain A/S M/S trawlers as sole escorts of Ocean convoys.

Adriatic.

5. TROUBRIDGE and BLEAN last night carried out a sweep to the southern approach of Quarnero Gulf and shelled Lussinpiccolo without incident. There was slight opposition from a shore battery.

Aegean.

6. Two Wellingtons successfully mined Khalkis and Syros last night; another Wellington failed to return from minelaying at Khalkis. Rhodes harbour and Portolago Bay, Leros were bombed, bursts being seen on the Seaplane Base in Lepida Cove.

America and West IndiesU/B off
Greater
Antilles

7. The Panamanian SS. PILLORY was torpedoed and sunk this evening in 18.26 N. 67.17 W. (off Porto Rico). A surfaced U-Boat was sighted and attacked in 18.12 N. 67.35 W. early next morning.

5.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

8. In the early hours of today an unknown number of enemy torpedo bombers ineffectively attacked Allied warships east of Biak Island. Naval forces supported the Allied ground forces during the day.

Coastal
force
operations.

9. M.T.Bs. last night shelled enemy shore positions in east and south-east Bougainville; others shelled positions on the west and east coasts of New Ireland; and others destroyed 3 enemy barges in the Wewak - Broken Water Bay area.

3 tankers
sunk.

10. A U.S. submarine successfully attacked 3 tankers near Tawi Tawi anchorage this morning.

War Diary.5.6.1944.
Monday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"

Intend to sail at 1100B/5th -

CAVEROCK	-	Destination Falmouth
WILLOWDALE	-	Destination Portland
ACCRUITY	-	Destination Portsmouth
SVERRE NERGARD	-	Destination Plymouth

Escort DERBY COUNTY to join E.B.C.2.Y. at position B. Q.Z.S. 434 at 1900B/5th. DERBY COUNTY returns to Milford Haven on junction.

(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 050049B to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

Cositintrep No. 4. 042300B June. Part 3, air summary of operations for period 2100/3rd June to sunrise 4th June. Total sorties 657. Summary of targets. Details. Enemy operations: Defensive patrols 12 enemy aircraft. Signed Eisenhower. (A.E.A.F., 050055B to S.H.A.E.F.)

LEOPOLDVILLE commenced embarkation 0630/4, completed 0930/4, sailed 0955/4.

CAMERONIA commenced embarkation 1207/4, completed 1427/4, sailed 1427/4.

WORCESTERSHIRE commenced embarkation 2000/4, completed 2255/4, to sail a.m./5th for Southend.

(D.S.T.O. Tilbury, 050103B to D.S.T.)

Sailed 4th M.S.F. 0215, 31st M.S.F. 0245. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 050407B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy E.T.C.1. Departure to Spithead convoy E.T.C.1, Southend 0215B/5th June sailed SS. FORELAND, ESKWOOD, BLACKTOFT, RINGEN, SPES, KUL, CORUNDUM, TRES, BARONS COURT, SODALITY, RUNNELSTONE, SEAVILLE, BLACKWATER, NEPHRITE, ASSIDUITY, BROOMFIELD, SANDHILLBERRY DEN, KAIDA, MOORLANDS, SARD, BEECHFIELD, DICKY, WESTON, NAVIDALE, SPIRALITY, BONAWA, POLLY M, NIVERNAIS, ACTIVITY, ARDGANTOCK, SHERBROOKE, ABELFORD all fitted K.B. Commodore H.P. Campbell, R.N.R. in SS. FORELAND. Escorts FERNIE, KINGCUP, COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES, BERN, PRIMROSE, M.L.S.120, breaking off at E.A.3 Buoy thence Portsmouth to Beachy Head thence returning Sheerness WALPOLE, ORCHIS, M.L.589, 596. Codeword "Talbot". Radio distinguishing group P U. (Cdre. Southend, 050424B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep No. 5. Part 1. Land: Period to 2400B/4th. Intelligence and operations. Nothing to report. All informed. Signed Eisenhower. (Exfor Main, 051005B to Admty.)

My 050049. Sailed less ACCRUITY. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 051229B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Cositintrep No. 5. Part 3. Air summary of operations from sunrise to 2100 hours 4th June. Total sorties 1234. Summary of targets. Six coastal batteries.

/Further ...

War Diary.5.6.1944.
Monday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"

Comnavu's 301332 May. Equipment can be made available subject to no diversions being necessary to make good losses in earlier operations.

(2) Boom Carrier KIRRIEMOOR allocated for transport. Net layers and bar vessels required will have to be provided from those already allocated to you, and request Commander Hunter Blair may direct the work of these craft. (A.C.N.S.(H), 051500B to A.N.C.X.F.)

(1) My 051430B. EMPIRE SEDGE delayed with broken windlass. Repairs in hand, will sail to overtake if completed in time.

(2) My 051330B HOVE, LOWESTOFT TRADER, JUNE and STANVILLE did not sail. Intend to sail with E.B.C.3. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 051700B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy
U.1B.

Sailed Torbay section convoy U.1B. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 051715B to A.N.C.X.F.)

My 031315. Danlayer DOROTHY LAMBERT delayed sailing with boiler defects. Expected ready early a.m./6th. M.L.243 and 217 also available and held as spares. (V.A. Dover, 051907B to R.A. Force S.)

Convoy
E.B.M.2.

(A) Sailed 1130/5th. (B) Escort Group 105, SUMMERSIDE. (C) 0800B/7th. (D) Reform N.H. (E) CHARLES SUMNER, Utah, FRANKS, R.STOCKTON, GEORGE, PICKETT, JEDEDIAH SMITH, JOSIAH N. CUSHING, EZRA, WESTON, SALVOE, PEARY, JOHN S. MOSBY, BENJAMIN HAWKINS, EDWIN ABBEY for Omaha, EDWARD W. SCRIPPS, EPHRAIM BREVARD, ROBERT L. VANN, FRANCIS C. HARRINGTON, CHARLES M. HALL, WALTER H. PAGE, HORACE GRAY, STEPHEN B. ELKINS, CHARLES W. PEALE, CHARLES SUMNER, JOHN STEELE, HENRY W. GRADY, OLIVER YUCOTT, ELEAZOR WEELOCK Omaha, BERNARD CARTER Utah or Omaha. (A.N.C.X.F., 052120 and 052235B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., Forces S, O, U, J and G.)

Intend sailing CERES and CAPETOWN at time requisite to join convoy E.B.P.1 at D.1 Buoy. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 052142B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep
No. 6.

Part 1. Land: Period to 051200B. Intelligence and operations. Nothing to report. All info. Signed Eisenhower. (Exfor Main, 052200B to Admty.)

NELSON.

Request you will sail NELSON screened by DUNCAN, GOODALL, BULLEN to Plymouth to arrive by 2000 tomorrow. (2) Screen is to be detached off Plymouth to proceed as required by C. in C. W.A. (V.C.N.S., 052316B to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

/Cositintrep ...

5.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Cositintrep Part 2. Naval. (A) Enemy intelligence
No. 6. unchanged.
(B) Weather conditions in Channel less favourable than expected but Assault Forces proceeding generally in accordance with plan and N.O.E.T.F. reported situation E.T.F. in hand at 1950 although a few Major Landing Craft were likely to fall astern. Otherwise nothing to report.
(A.N.C.X.F., 052334B.)

Cositintrep Signed Eisenhower. Part 3. (Air Summary).
No. 6. (A.E.A.F., 052359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Diversions Operation "Taxable". H.D.M.Ls. 1382 (S.O.),
Operations 1408, 1396, 1405, 1055, 1085, 1403, 1056, 1411,
"Taxable" & 1280, 1009, 1075, 1047, 1064 and Pinnaces 1282,
"Glimmer". 1344, 1342 sailed at 1321.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 051650 to V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F., N.C.E.T.F.)

M.T.Bs. 611, 616, 615, 608, 699, 710, 698, 697, 602, 614, 703,
706.
Operation "Taxable". Sailed covering force

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 052030B to V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F.,
N.C.E.T.F.)

Operation "Glimmer". Sailed Harbour Defence M.Ls. 1390
(S.O.), 1060, 1279, 1410, 1413, 1379, 1071, 1310, 1414, 1420,
1049, 1058 and Pinnacle 1249.

(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 051950 to V.A. Dover, N.C.E.T.F.,
A.N.C.X.F.)

Intend sailing COURBET in tow of Tugs SAMSONIA
and GROWLER, Escorts BADDECK and CAMROSE, at 0500
on D + 1. Speed 5 knots to 50° N., thence 3
knots.

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 052245 to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary.5.6.1944.
Monday.HOME COMMANDSGeneralOperations

Coastal Force Patrols. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 050144B, 051150B, 051929B.)
(C. in C. Plymouth, 051406B.)

Operation C.W. D/F bearings at 0228Z indicate U-Boat within 40 miles of 57.30 N. 18.30 W. Probably southbound. (D.D.I.C., 051304B to Escorts H.X.F.293.)

S/M Patrols. Position of submarines at 0800/6th and movements for the following 24 hours.
(A) VISIGOTH, STYGIAN patrolling 59° 30' N. 00° 10' E. and 58° 30' N. 00° 50' E. respectively. (F.O.(S), 051711B to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity

Bristol Channel. Admty. 040015B. F.O.I.C. Cardiff has requested that these firings should be suspended until at least D plus three. I strongly concur and request necessary instructions be given to implement F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 011326B. (C. in C. Plymouth, 051548B to Admty.)

Mining

Hagelsund closed area. S.N.O. Bergen announced in local press of June 1st that anchoring and fishing are prohibited in Hagelsund within following area: North from 60° 32.77 N. 5° 16.08 E. to 60° 32.93 N. 5° 16.75 E. South from 60° 32.02 N. 5° 16.5 E. to 60° 32.42 N. 5° 17.45 E. (N.A. Stockholm, 051807 to Admty.)
O.I.C. Comment: In view of the fact that a boom, which, according to a local press report is closed during the hours of darkness, has been previously reported, it is considered probable that a controlled minefield exists here.

Casualties and Defects

JULIUS MADSEN. Intercept at 0350Z. S O S from Danish steamer JULIUS MADSEN in distress position 54.46 N. 12.41 E. Ship leak. Help needed to bale out engine room. (North Foreland Radio, 050550B to Ad. Chatham.)

CHANT 63. N.C.S.O. Middlesbrough's 050955. CHANT 63 sank in Bridlington Bay today. All crew believed safe. (F.O. Humber, 051930B to Admty.)
Departure at 2215 tug SCOTSMAN to attempt salvage of CHANT 63 floating bottom up. My 051930B refers. (F.O. Humber, 052225B to Admty.)

War Diary

5.6.1944.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Gibraltar Port is open. North of a line 270 degs. from airport runway is to be considered suspect. (F.O.C.N.A., 051304B).

Blimps in Straits. Blimps may be observed patrolling in the Straits as from p.m./6th. (F.O.G.M.A., 051648B).

5th June. Beginning night 6th June U.S.N. K type 251 feet non rigid Blimps may be operating in the Straits of Gibraltar and near vicinity. In poor visibility and at night aircraft should not approach Gibraltar at a height of less than 500 feet. (SSS A560, 051700B).

South Atlantic

Seaward defences. Your 251127. Proceed, but undertake that suitable B.D.V's. will only remain on loan so long as it is necessary to keep the defences maintained. You should make it clear that should it at any time be decided unnecessary to maintain the defences we might wish to transfer the vessels elsewhere to meet operational requirements. (A.C.N.S.(F), 051224B to C. in C.S.A.).

Capture of U.505 To ensure enemy does not learn of U.505 capture (A) if U.505 condition warrants (?tow her) to Bermuda under escort of Task Group 22.3 /, (B) emphasize to all concerned need for absolute secrecy regarding capture. (Cominch and C.N.O., 051411Z to C. in C. Lant.). / GUADALCANAL's Group, patrolling in about 21½ N. 19½ W.

Comply Cominch and C.N.O. 051411Z. Keep tanker and tug advised as to R/V. (C. in C. Lant, 051752Z to C.T.G. 22.3).

CORSICA Your 221043/April concur in removal of CORSICA from Durban. It is desired to utilise her to provide ammunition storage for Eastern Theatre second line reserves, e.g. at Kilindini, Massawa or even in Levant subject to C. in C.E.F. or F.O.L.E.M. being able to provide suitable berth and obtain a local crew to man and make necessary arrangements to move the vessel to its new station. (Admty., 051734B to C. in C.S.A.).

War Diary5.6.1944.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

- Air attack on convoy. Nr.3* My 0330. One supply vessel hit set on fire. One probably sunk. (A/C, YDUD, 050430).
+ Formers not received.
- M.S.45 (Italian) C. in C. Med. 011708 it is understood that Germans removed M.S.45 to Monfalcone prior to Allied occupation of Termoli. (F.O.T.A.L.I., 051027).
- DUILIO, CESARE, DORIA. Italian battleships at Malta are to proceed as follows:-
(A) DUILIO and CESARE to Taranto.
(B) DORIA to Syracuse.
(2) Ships are first to proceed singly to Augusta to disembark main and secondary armament ammunition. Order of leaving Malta at discretion of Italian Minister of Marine. Only one ship to be allowed at Augusta at a time.
(3) On arrival destinations, -
(A) and (B) ships to reduce to reserve. DUILIO may be used for Gunnery training. CESARE to be demilitarised but may be used as accommodation and headquarters ship. Only repairs essential to keep ships afloat to be authorised.
(4) Ships may retain H.A. ammunition and DUILIO may embark small quantities of L.A. ammunition from time to time as necessary for training purposes. Locks and box slides at Malta to be returned to ships after disembarking ammunition.
(5) V.A. Malta and F.O.T.A.L.I. are requested to arrange sailings and escorts. F.O.T.A.L.I. is requested to report arrangements for reducing to reserve and complements of ships in due course.
(C. in C. Med., 051052B).
- Trawlers as escorts for ocean convoys. A.L. N.29609/43. Owing to the withdrawal of Hunt class destroyers from this station the shortage of escorts renders it imperative to employ certain A/S M/S trawlers other than those of the 29th Trawler Group and Third Auxiliary. A/S Group as sole escorts of ocean convoys.
(2) Safety of the convoys is much prejudiced if escorts cannot decypher movements summaries and cannot maintain constant V/S and W/T watch, which is the case at present.
(3) 13 ships are concerned and it has been found necessary to lend them temporarily an increase of one sig., one tel., and one coder in order to make them operationally fit and it is requested that reconsideration may be given to the question of allowing them ocean escort complement.
(4) It is considered that increased accommodation in these ships can be provided if minor alterations are carried out on the station during short refit periods.
(C. in C. Med., 051214 to Admty.).
- M.E. Balkan Sitrep No.202 (4) Sea ops. Night 1/2 June 3 Allied Mission personnel 3 American airmen 41 Russians 5 Poles 1 Cypriot evacuated from Greece.
(C. in C.M.E., 051905C).

/ Attacks...

SECRET

Received after
typing of Diary.

64A

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.)

ULTOR: Patrol Report

051137B/June

From: S.10

Date: 9.6.44.

Recd. 0823

NAVAL CYPHER (X) by W/T

Addressed: C. in C. Mediterranean, F.O.L.E.M., V.A. Malta,
F.O.C. Gibraltar, Capt. (S) 1, Capt. (S) 10,
Info. Admiralty, R.A. Alexandria, F.O.S.

ULTOR reports

- (A) At 0657 30th May in position 43 degs. 09 mins.
06 degs. 41 mins. fired four torpedoes with non contact pistols set to 10 feet at 1000 ton salvage vessel with 400 ton lighter in tow and F. lighter all forming continuous target. Range 1500 yards. One torpedo seen to hit salvage vessel which sank. Convoy was escorted by 3 R. Boats.
- (B) At 0836 30th May in same position fired one torpedo with non contact pistol set to 6 feet at 400 ton lighter previously in tow and one of above R. Boats alongside. Range 800 yards. Torpedo seen to hit and both vessels sank leaving sea littered with buoys to which were attached portions of wire net.
- (C) At 2210 31st May in position 43 degs. 10 mins.
05 degs. 31 mins. attacked with gun 150 ton mine-sweeper range 1000 yards. Vessel blew up and sank. Nearby minesweeper and shore batteries opened fire on ULTOR forcing her to withdraw.
- (D) At 0834 2nd June in position 42 degs. 35 mins.
03 degs. 08 mins. fired 3 torpedoes with non contact pistol set to 16 feet at 5000 ton armed vessel escorted by one destroyer range 2000 yards. One heavy explosion heard at correct running range and lifeboats and wreckage observed 35 minutes later. Vessel considered sunk.

051137B

Advance copy sent Ops., O.D. & O.I.C.

1st Lord	Plot	W.D.	D.M.S.
1st S.L. (2)	O.D. (5)	I.P. (2)	D.M.S. Citadel
4th S.L.	O.I.C. (4)	U.S.N. (4)	Hydrog. (2)
V.C.N.S.	D. of P. (3)	Ad. Blake	D. of N.
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.N.I. (4)	Mr. Gleadowe	
A.C.N.S. (UF) (2)	D.T.D. (C)	D.T.M. (2)	
A.C.N.S. (W)	D.T.D. (4)	D.T.S.D.	
Naval Sec.	D.A./S.W.	D.D.O.D. (C) (2)	
U.W.R.	D.A.U.D.	C.F.M.D. (2)	
D. Map Room	D.S.D. (2)	D.M.W.D.	
Capt. Pim	M. (2)	A.M.W.	
Ops. (2)	D.P.D.	D.G.D. (2)	

BA

(109)

SECRET

Received after typing
Diary. Lot B

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.)

*Spanish AA Batteries
firing at Allied Aircraft.*

B
051603/June

From C.M.S.F.

Date 11/6/4
Recd. 0155

P/L

To C. in C. Mediterranean.
Info. Comnavaw, F.O.G.M.A.

C.R. No. 1075

Your 051450./

(a) RS/ Navy patrols fly over Spanish Territorial Waters in cases indicated contact.

(b) Spanish ackack is attack and not warning fire from batteries vicinity Point Al Goase, Tangier, Cape Spartel and Larache. No incidents reported since 20 May.

051603B

/ Not indentified in War Registry.

/ As received.

Received in War Registry at 1159/11th June, by D/R from
U.S.N.

Advance copies Ops.

O.D.
Plot

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
U.W.R.
D. Map Room
Captain Pim
Ops. (2)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (3)
D. of P. (Q) (2)
M. (10)
C.C.L.S. (2)
A.L.O.
Admiral Blake
I.P. (2)
W.D.

GMM

77

War Diary

5.6.1944.
Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Attacks on Brac. Is. Cositintrep No.331. Part Four.
The attack on Brac continues. Hard fighting continues in the hills in the centre of the Island. Evacuation of British began 4th June. Partisans intend to remain another 30 hours. Our wounded to 1200/4 approx. 250 of which 20 are British. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, T.O.O.Nil, Recd. 2045).

5.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/boat
dispositions

No.49 no fresh information. No changes in
scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F., 050322Z).

Convoy
orders.

F.O.N.I.C.419. Negative release Class D. ships
from convoys named from following dates: B.A.
forthwith, P.A. from June 6th, A.B. and A.P. from
June 7th.
(2) Release upon A ships from above.
(C. in C.E.F., 050507Z).

War Diary5.6.1944.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

GUADALCANAL'S group. Cominch Info. Comar Dakar. Your 042022Z+. GUADALCANAL group will not proceed Dakar. Tanker Escort tug and seaplane tender are all proceeding initially toward 25 N. 20 GLST to R/V with Task Group 22.3. (Cinclant, 051314Z to F.O.C.W.Af.). + ?042020 intended. Re Dakar to be used if required. N.T. in W.D.

U/boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 051327Z, Cominch 051634Z).

SS. ANDES. My 042150 and your 042217. If further diversion of SS. ANDES is necessary suggest preference be given to southerly route as about 800 men are accommodated on deck with only canvas screens as protection. (C. in C.C.N.A., 051445Z to Admty.).

SS. HENRY BERGH. SS. HENRY BERGH (U.S.) ran aground 31st May on arrival San Francisco. Total loss. (N.S.H.Q. 051552Z).

C.U.,O.T., U.G.F., convoys. Concur your 032047Z.+ (A.C.N.S.(U.T.), 051651Z to Cominch). + Re: Increased requirements for Gasoline in Mediterranean Theatre.

A/S. contact attacked. DUNDAS attacking A/S contact in 045 degs. 05' N. 057 degs. 23' W. estimated (?2) depth charges 2 Hedgehog oil on surface. (ST. BONIFACE 051545Z to A.C.I.C.). My 051545Z/. 5 Hedgehog and 3 dpeth charge attacks made by ST. BONIFACE, DUNDAS and SOREL on separate targets all Hedgehog employed late believed on bottom. Doubtful contacts by large quantities of fish. ST. BONIFACE rejoining convoy DUNDAS and SOREL remaining in 44.51 N. 57.52 W. PARS PAW claims sighted oil on surface not verified. Weather report 0043, 6570, 2363. (ST. BONIFACE, 051710Z to C. in C.C.N.A.). / Re A/S contact.

U/boat incidents. Mariner A/C Radar contact 05.35 S. 22.25 W. 0219/5. H.M.C.S. DUNDAS attacked U/boat contact vicinity 45.05 N. 57.23 W. about 1545/5.

Para.(D) P.C. 1247 has two sound contacts 23.28 N. 74.16 W. 1520/5 and 1600/5. (Cominch, 051945Z).

/ Clearance...

War Diary5.6.1944.
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies - Contd.Clearance of
Trapain,
Marsala,
and Adgara.

My 032321 May~~✓~~ inform Navy Dept., this will be instituted. C. in C.Med. 261802~~✓~~ May refers. (B.A.D. Washington, 052101Z to Admty.).
~~✓~~ Proposal that Italian Navy salvage sunken vessels obstructing ports of Trapain, Marsala and Adgara.
~~✓~~ Clearance of Trapain, Marsala.

New
C.V.E's.

Names.
 (C.V.E.No): 54 REPAER, 48 THANE, 44 PATROLLER,
 46 RANEE.
 (B.A.D. Washington, 052217Z).

U/boat
sunk 16th
March in
Gib. Straits.

The following is a preliminary assessment of U/boat encounter in Straits of Gibraltar 16th March begins:-
 "German U/boat probably sunk by U.S.N., M.A.D. Catalinas 1, 7 and 8 of V.P.63, AFFLECK and VANOC. All forces taking part are held to share equally in the credit for this success, with the exception of VANOC who contributed less than the other units" Ends.
 (2) In arriving at this assessment we have taken into account the following:-
 (a) Initial contact and good tracking by all three M.A.D.Catalinas
 (b) Probable contact on U/boat by VANOC. (c) Possible hits on U/boat by bombing attacks of Catalinas 1 and 8.
 (d) Hedgehog attack by AFFLECK which resulted in explosion and convincing surface evidence.
 (e) The statement by Prisoners of War from other U/boats, that samples of wreckage picked up came from within the pressure hull of a U/boat.
 (3) Request your comments before confirmation of assessment. (A.C.N.S.(U.T.)., 052354B). Reply see Cominch, 062045Z.

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 867.

June 4th. Paras. 15 to 18 cover South Pacific Forces.
 Patrol Catalina night 3/4th scored two direct hits on single enemy destroyer 20 miles North West Manokwari heading thereto. Destroyer left dead in water but still firing heavy A/A. Same time another Catalina strafed three small boats 30 miles East Manokwari heading west at high speed.
 (3) Early next morning 3 Liberators attacked enemy shipping to East and North east Halmahera (refers yesterday's Digest paras. 2 and 3). First Liberator sank one of two destroyers 145 miles

/ north...

War Diary.

5.6.1944.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 867
(Contd.)

north end of Northern tip of Halmahera Island. Second Liberator attacked 8 - 10 warships 110 miles N.E. of Halmahera scoring direct hits causing explosions one vessel. Third Liberator scored hits on one of five warships 65 miles Esetre* east of Northern tip Halmahera.

9. Late afternoon about 10 enemy aircraft attacked Allied shipping Northeast Biak Island. One warship sustained slight damage from near miss.

17. 3rd June ground patrol landed South Mupeka River mouth Empress Augusta Bay. Ineffective artillery fire encountered out nil Japanese contacted.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 050816Z.) *as received.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack and
sighting sum-
mary.

1. A/C M/224 attacked U-Boat course 050° at 0114Z/
5 in 45° 30' N. 09° 50' W.
Para. B. 1. U.S. Transit A/C sighted U-Boat at 1021Z
4 in 04° 56' N. 04° 06' W.
(D.D.I.C. 050854Z.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 051440B, 051451B.)

ENCLOSURE

Page 519

Disposition of German Naval Forces on 6.6.1944.
see German Documents 519.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Operation "Neptune"

1. Object: The object of Operation "Neptune" is to secure a lodgement on the Continent from which further offensive operations can be developed.

2. The Plan: (a) To assault on a five divisional front in landing ships and landing craft in the Bay of the Seine to the West of Havre.

(b) To complete the landing of the first 7 divisions on the second tide of D day and the first tide of D + 1 day.

(c) The initial objectives include the port of Cherbourg and the town of Caen.

The operation is a combined British and United States undertaking by all services of both nations.

The attack is being launched by a Western and an Eastern Task Force in adjacent sectors in the Bay of the Seine.

3. Own Forces:

(a) Western Task Force - U.S. First Army.

7th Corps	- 4th Division	Naval Force U.	Assault at Varreville
5th "	- 2 R.C.T. of		
	1st Division	" " O.	" " St. Laurent
	1 R.C.T. of		
	29th Division		
5th "	- 1 R.C.T. of	" " B.	Follow-up Force O.
	1st Division		
	2 R.C.T. of		
	29th Division		

Note: Regimental Combat Team (R.C.T.) is the equivalent of a British Brigade.

(b) Eastern Task Force - British Second Army.

1st Corps	{ 3rd Division	Naval Force S.	Assault at Ouistreham.
" "	{ " Canadian		
	Division	" " J.	" " Courseulles.
30th Corps	{ 50th Division	" " G.	" " Asnelles
	{ 22nd Armoured		
	Bde.	" " L.	Follow up.

(c) Seven Commandos of Force J and two Ranger Battalions of Force O are included in the assault.

(d) Airborne landings were to take place shortly before H hour behind the assault beaches on the flanks. An American Division was to land in the South East of the Cotentin Peninsula, near Carentan, and two British Brigades at Caen and the River Orne crossings.

(e) Warships. 165 Sloops, Escort Destroyers, Frigates, Corvettes and P.Cs. were allocated to the Assault Forces and early convoys.

(f) The assault is being supported by a Bombardment Force of 6 Battleships, 2 Monitors, 22 Cruisers, 2 Gunboats, 75 Fleet Destroyers and 16 Hunts. The majority of the destroyers were also to escort the assault convoys, joining their bombarding forces after passing the lowering positions.

(g) The approach was to be covered by 16 Destroyers and 50 Coastal Craft. Four A/S Support Groups are operating in the approaches to the Channel.

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Operation "Neptune" - Contd.

4. Command.

Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force.

General Eisenhower.

Deputy Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force

Air Chief Marshal Tedder.

Allied Naval Commander Allied Expeditionary Force

Admiral Ramsay.
General Montgomery.
Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory.

Commander-in-Chief 21st Army Group
Air Commander-in-Chief A.E. Air Force

Eastern Task Force:

Naval Commander (SCYLLA)

Rear Admiral Vian.

Commander Second Army

General Dempsey.

Commander Second Tactical Air Force

Air Marshal Coningham,
R.A.F.

Naval Force G (BULOLO)

Commodore Douglas-Pennant.

Commander 50th Division

General Graham.

Naval Force J (HILARY)

Commodore G.N. Oliver.

Commander 3rd Canadian Division

General Keller.

Naval Force S (LARGS)

Rear-Admiral Talbot.

Commander 3rd Division

General Rennie.

Naval Force L (Follow-up)

Rear-Admiral Parry.

22nd Armoured Brigade and Overheads

Western Task Force (C.T.F.122):

Naval Commander (AUGUSTA)

Rear-Admiral Kirk U.S.N.

Commander First U.S. Army

General Simpson (U.S.)

Commander 9th U.S. Air Force

General Brereton (U.S.)

Naval Force O (ANCON) (C.T.F.124)

Rear-Admiral Hall U.S.N.

Commander 1st U.S. Division (1 Brigade)

General Huebner (U.S.)

Commander 29th U.S. Division (2 Brigade)

General Gerhardt (U.S.)

Naval Force U (BAYFIELD) (C.T.F.125)

Rear-Admiral Moon U.S.N.

Commander 4th U.S. Division

General Barton (U.S.)

Naval Force B (MALLOY) (C.T.F.126)

Commodore Edgar U.S.N.

Follow-up

Remainder 1st and 29th U.S. Division

5. The Assault :

(a) The Assault and Follow-up Forces were preloaded and assembled on the South Coast between the Thames and the Bristol Channel.

(b) The five Assault Forces sailed from their assembly ports in daylight yesterday with the exception of Force U who sailed from Devon and Cornwall ports on the previous evening.

(c) Each British Assault Force was divided into some sixteen groups, each comprising 10 to 30 L.S.I., L.S.T., L.C.T. and minor landing craft.

The two U.S. Forces were divided into 4 groups each comprising a considerably larger number of ships.

(d) Groups proceeded to a departure area "Z" (15 miles South of the Nab Tower) and thence to latitude 50° 05' N., preceded by the Fleet Minesweeping Flotillas allocated to them.

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Operation "Neptune" - Contd.

6. Timetable of the Assault:

H-10 hours	The leading minesweepers to cross the latitude of 50° 05' N. and precede each Assault Force across the suspected enemy minefield to the lowering positions which are 7 - 11 miles from the beaches. Ten channels to be swept and danned, two being allocated to each assault force.
H-6 to H-4 hours	Minesweepers to pass lowering positions.
H-4½ to H-3½ hours	U.S. Landing and Bombarding Ships to reach lowering positions.
H-2 hours	First British L.C.T. and British Bombarding Ships to arrive at lowering positions.
H-100 minutes	British Landing Ships to reach lowering positions.
H-30 to H hour	Bombardment by Warships, S.P. Artillery and L.C.T.(R). Support fire by support craft.
H-5 minutes	D.D. Tanks to beach, followed by L.C.T. (AVRE) for clearing beach obstructions.
H-H+50 minutes	L.C.V.P. and L.C.A. to beach carrying infantry (preceded by L.C.A.(HR)).
H+45 minutes (approx.)	First L.C.I.(L) to beach.
H+60 minutes	First L.C.T. (Vehicles and Self-propelled artillery) to land.
H+1 hour to H+3½ hours	L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) to beach.

7. Commandos and Rangers:

Commandos and Rangers were sailed with the assault forces to carry out landings simultaneously as follows:

- (a) Five Commandos on the Eastern Flank to capture Ouistreham and to destroy crossing of the River Orne.
- (b) One Commando West of Force J to "mop up".
- (c) One Commando West of Force G to capture Port en Bessin.
- (d) Two Ranger Battalions to secure Western Flank of Omaha assault area.

8. Follow-up Forces.

Force L (British) and Force B (U.S.) were sailed from the Thames and Bristol Channel respectively so as to arrive in time to unload on the second tide today.

Follow-up Forces comprise L.S.T., L.C.I.(L) and L.C.T. Force L to divide into five groups and Force B into three groups.

9. Diversions.

Three diversionary operations were being carried out by 32 H.D. M.Ls. and 6 Pinnances, supported by air sorties, at the same time as the assaults. Troops were not to be landed. The threat was to be maintained by Radio Counter Measures, the use of smoke, and sonic warfare.

The object was to contain enemy reserves and to draw off enemy naval forces from the assault convoys.

Operation	Force	Location
"Glimmer"	16 H.D.M.L.	Boulogne on a 10 mile front.
"Taxable"	12 H.D.M.L.	Bruneval-Fecamp on a 14 mile front.
"Bigdrum"	4 H.D.M.L.	East of Barfleur.

Operation "Bigdrum" was intended to divert the attention of enemy Radar stations on the Cherbourg Peninsula from the assault forces.

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Operation "Neptune" - Contd.

10. Composition of Assault and Follow-up Forces.

(a) The Assault and Follow-up Forces comprise a total of 2,154 landing ships and craft with a total lift of 159,595 personnel and 16,715 vehicles.

(b) The Ferry Service, operating between the lowering position and the beaches comprises 1,147 Minor Landing craft and barges. In addition 220 L.C.T.(5) and (6) and 190 L.C.V.P.(U.S.), who took part in the assault, form part of the Ferry Service, thus making a grand total of 1,557 craft.

11. Bombarding Forces.

(a) Battleships and Cruisers proceeded to the Assault Area independently escorted by some destroyers and frigates, with attached minesweepers.

(b) Cruisers and above are organised into five forces. Bombarding Forces and destroyers are allocated to individual Assault Force Commanders as follows:-

Assault Force	Bombardment Force	Ship	
Eastern Task Force:			
S	D	{ WARSPITE { RAMILLIES { MAURITIUS { (C.S.2) { ARETHUSA 10 Fleets	FROBISHER DRAGON DANAE ROBERTS 3 Hunts
J	E	BELFAST (C.S.10) 7 Fleets	DIADEM 4 Hunts
G	K	{ ORION { AJAX { D.S. FLORES 9 Fleets	ARGONAUT EMERALD 4 Hunts
E.T.F. Reserve		RODNEY	SIRIUS
Western Task Force:			
O	C	{ TEXAS { (R.A. Bryant) { ARKANSAS { GLASGOW 9 U.S. destroyers	F.S. MONTCALM (Flag) F.S. GEORGES LEYGUES 3 Hunts
U	A	{ NEVADA { EREBUS { TUSCALOOSA { (R.A. Deyo) { ENTERPRISE 8 U.S. destroyers	QUINCY HAWKINS BLACK PRINCE D.S. SOEMBA
W.T.F. Reserve		AUGUSTA (N.C.W.T.F. Flag) 5 U.S. destroyers	BELLONA

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORTOperation "Neptune" - Contd.

12. Covering Forces.

(a) Distant cover outside the English Channel is being provided by C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Western Approaches and C. in C. Plymouth.

(b) Cover within the English Channel but outside the Assault Area is being given by Fleet destroyers and Coastal Forces, 16 Destroyers and 83 M.T.Bs. being allocated for this purpose.

(c) Coastal Command is providing further cover against U-Boats mainly in the Channel and its approaches, west of the line Portland-Casquets.

13. Minelaying.

Extensive minelaying operations have taken place in the last few weeks in preparation for "Neptune".

These were carried out by APOLLO, PLOVER, some M.T.B. and M.L. Flotillas, and by aircraft of Bomber Command.

14. Minesweeping.

10 Fleet Minesweeping Flotillas, each with 3 or 4 danlayers and 2 M.Ls. attached were to sweep 10 approach channels for the assault forces from 50° N. to the lowering positions.

Special channels were also to be swept ahead of the Bombarding Forces after these had passed the Approach Channels, by their attached fleet Minesweeper Flotillas.

A number of Motor M/S, B.Y.M.S., Y.M.S. Flotillas and 4 Groups of L.L. Trawlers are also engaged in supplementing the Fleet Minesweepers to sweep wide channels parallel to the beaches to provide safe anchorages and patrol areas.

15. Air Operations.

(a) The Royal Air Force, the 8th and 9th U.S. Army Air Forces and Coastal Command (including 7 F.A.A. Squadrons) are contributing a total of 561½ Squadrons, totalling 6,518 aircraft of all types.

(b) These aircraft are engaged in -

(i) Providing fighter protection for all assault groups and convoys.

(ii) A continuous fighter patrol over the cross-channel route and over the assault area.

(iii) Patrols by Coastal Command aircraft in S.W. and Eastern Approaches to the Channel to give early warning of, and protection from, enemy surface craft and U-Boats.

(iv) Providing close cover for coastal convoys off England, (by F.A.A. aircraft).

(v) Screening the flanks of the assault area by smoke laying.

(vi) Minelaying.

(vii) Air Spotting for Bombarding Ships.

(viii) Heavy air bombardment of enemy coastal batteries, beach defences, etc.

(c) The above figures do not include aircraft of Troop Carrier and Transport Commands, P.R.U. or F.R. aircraft.

16. Ancillary Operations.

Arrangements have been made as follows:-

(a) To lay ocean light buoys to mark swept channels across the Channel.

(b) To survey beaches, minor ports, wreck and anchorages with Survey Ships and Craft.

/(c) ...

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORTOperation "Neptune" - Contd.

- (c) To lay moorings for hauling off vessels that beach.
 (d) Salvage vessels and Rescue Tugs arrive today in the Assault Area to deal with damaged ships and wrecks.

17. Number of British and Allied Ships engaged in the Operation.

	Total	U.S.	Other Allies
Battleships	6	3	
Cruisers	23	4	1 Polish 2 French
Destroyers (Fleets & Hunts)	104	34	4 Polish 2 Greek 5 Norwegian 1 French
Landing Ships & Craft	4021	About 1600	
Coastal Forces (M.T.Bs., M.Ls., P.Ts. & C.G.C.)	316	90	5 Dutch 10 Norwegian 8 French
Minesweepers	277	31	
Escort Vessels	152	19 (P.C.)	7 French
Monitors, Gunboats	4	-	2 Dutch (Gunboats)
Ancillary Forces (Tugs, Salvage, etc.)	324	About 100	9 Dutch 5 French
Merchant Vessels (M.T. Ships)	224	112	
Coasters, etc.	1032	22	1 French 1 Dutch

6483
 Grand total of all Vessels - 6483.

18. Shortly before midnight last night Allied night bombers opened the assault and continued their attacks in very great strength until dawn.

The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions landed in the early hours of today according to plan, in the area between Havre and Cherbourg.

The operation of sweeping channels for the approach of the assault forces was completed shortly before dawn.

At 0600B today (half an hour before the landings of troops commenced) the wind in the Channel was west moderate, visibility 10-15 miles. The weather compelled a few L.C.T. to turn back.

The assault forces moved towards the beaches under cover of heavy bombardment from the bombardment forces (see para. 11).

/19. ...

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Operation "Neptune" - Contd.

19. Shortly before the assault three enemy torpedo boats from Havre with armed trawlers in company attempted to interfere with the operation and were driven off with the loss of one trawler and a second severely damaged. At 2101B C. in C. Plymouth reported that between 1900 and 2000 five of our A/C had sighted seven U-Boats coming out of Brest and two more from St. Nazaire, and a force of six destroyers was sighted at 2120B steering N.E. off Ushant. No other movements by German Naval Units have been reported.

20. The casualties amongst Allied ships were as follows:-

d) WRESTLER mined or torpedoed in 49.36 N. 00.28 W. at about 0823B and was towed to Portsmouth.

CORRY (U.S. destroyer) sunk by gunfire from shore batteries this forenoon off the western beaches.

SVENNER (Norwegian destroyer) with an eastern bombarding force sunk, probably by torpedo, about 12 miles west of Le Havre.

PHEASANT (U.S. minesweeper) struck a moored mine about 30 miles N.W. of Cap d'Antifer (no further details known).

M.T.B.248 sunk in collision.

Two British landing craft sunk.

U.S. L.S.T.981 mined in 180° Beachy Head 17 miles (no details known).

One merchant ship (SS. SAMBUT) was sunk in convoy E.T.M.1 by gunfire from Sangatte.

21. The landings were effected as planned. Opposition from coastal batteries was less than expected. Considerable opposition was, however, reported at O beach (U.S. landing, Eastern Task Force). By 2300B General Eisenhower reported that the Second British Army had established a substantial bridgehead.

22. The three diversionary operations (see para.9) were carried out successfully.

23. The follow-up forces L and B arrived in the assault area during the afternoon and the former commenced to land an Armoured Brigade (British).

24. The personnel ships, landing ships and craft which took part in the assault sailed for England during this afternoon to load for the build-up and take their places in the Shuttle Service. Two convoys of the ferry service turned back on account of the weather.

25. In the British sector, discharge on the beaches was interrupted this evening by the weather.

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands - General

3 enemy
destroyers
attacked.

26. At 2020 R.P. Beaufighters attacked 3 enemy
destroyers 30 miles south of Belle Ile and set
one on fire.

North Atlantic

Straits of
Gibraltar.

27. A Blimp patrol was instituted in the Straits
of Gibraltar p.m. today.

Mediterranean

Disaffection
in Greek
Navy.

28. C. in C. Med. reports that the Greek
destroyers MIAOULES and THEMISTOCLES and the
submarine chaser KING GEORGE II have been purged
at Naples of disaffected Petty Officers and
ratings. In the former ship an additional 55
ratings left the ship in sympathy against the
orders of the Commanding Officer, and were taken
in custody.

SS. ORION
(German)
sunk.

29. SICKLE obtained a hit this morning on the
German SS. ORION (4798 tons) in Doro Channel and
considers she sank the ship. In the same convoy
there was a 400 ton ship, 2 E-Boats and 4 A/S
caiques; one of these was possibly also hit.

East Indies

S/Ms.,
patrol
reports.

30. TACTICIAN, TALLY HD and SPITEFUL have
returned from Far East patrol. The two former
each laid 12 mines successfully, TACTICIAN also
sank 2 junks and brought 8 Chinese in for inter-
rogation. SPITEFUL's patrol was blank except
for a brief but accurate bombardment of Govern-
ment House, Ross Island, Port Blair.

War Diary

6.6.1944.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports.

First landings

Communique No.1.
Under the Command of General Eisenhower Allied Naval Forces supported by strong air forces began landing Allied Armies this morning on the Northern coast of France.
(S.H.A.E.F., 060940 to Agwar).

Cositintrep No.7.

061000B. Part 1, Land. Period to 052400B. Intelligence. Unconfirmed report 2 Bn., 125 Pgr. at Colombelles 0770. Operations. Allied Airborne troops landed on north coast of France in early hours of this morning according to plan. Their operations were followed by seaborne landings by Allied Forces astride the estuary of the Vire and as far east as the mouth of the Orne.
(Exfor Main, 061010B to Admt.).

Part two. Naval A.

Landing generally satisfactory. Opposition from coastal batteries less than expected. Follow up and building convoys moving according to plan.

B. Enemy light forces from Le Havre attempted to oppose our landing but were driven off with the loss of one trawler sunk and one damaged. Seven lines of mines so far reported in the assault area.

C. Casualties to our own forces.

One destroyer sunk by gunfire and one probably by torpedo. One destroyer mined but afloat. One L.S.T. mined off Hastings and a few L.C.T. returned owing to weather. Believed at least two minesweepers sunk or damaged but no further details.

D. Enemy intelligence. No major change.

(Ramsey, 061259B).

First phase reports.

P.R. sortie 16/413 1020B/6th June shows:-
Ouistreham-Courseulles (State of beaches).
Main landing at Lion-Sur-Mer.
Eight craft at beach, approx. twelve standing off.
Along beach towards Ouistreham six more craft

showing no activity. Approx. 50 vehicles on beaches East of Lion, approx. one hundred at main landing point, and vehicles seen proceeding on roads towards inland area.

St. Aubin-Sur-Mer. Many buildings along sea front. One wrecked L.C.T. off shore. Landing west of St. Aubin partly covered by smoke screen. 6 craft at beach, one standing off, and approx. 40 vehicles on beach.

Bernieres. Smoke-screens.

Courseulles-Sur-Mer. Two craft at east beach, approx. 30 vehicles ashore, and some moving off. Seven craft at west beach, three lying off, and one swamped. Approx. eighty vehicles at beach and several moving off. Harbour apparently unoccupied. Town severely damaged and burning.

Main Landing at Ver-Sur-Mer. Approx. twenty five Landing Craft at beach, approx. ten standing off as well as many L.C.P. Several hundred vehicles on beach and many more visible inshore. Much damage from bombing amongst houses inshore from beach.

(34 Wing, 061510B to H.Q.T.A.F).

/Colleville...

War Diary

6.6.1944.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

First
phase
reports
(Contd.)

Colleville taken. Saint Laurent partially occupied. Crust seems to be broken. Considerable Mortar and Artillery fire falling on beaches. Foot elements of approximately 4 Regiments ashore. At last report no artillery or Anti-Aircraft ashore. Many stranded landing craft due to surf and obstacles which were not cleared initially. Destroyers giving close gunfire support. Above for Omaha. On Utah latest reports indicate good progress. No radio reports either airborne division. No hostile air attacks yet. (N.C.W.T.F., 061927B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Western
area

Following is re-encypherment of my 061840B. Addressed N.C.W.T.F. from A.N.C.X.F. for General Bradley from C. in C. 21st Army.
(1) No news from you since your Sitrep 0730 received here 1454.
(2) Am arriving over myself early tomorrow morning.
(3) Essential I have short report here Comga Most Immediate. (A.N.C.X.F., 061959B to N.C.W.T.F.).

G.2. Summary
No.1.

Landings appear to have achieved partial tactical surprise, particularly on east coast of Cotentin where enemy probably appreciated flooding of sufficient deterrent. Enemy coastal defences clearly overwhelmed by air and sea bombardments, for opposition from coastal batteries weak except at Ouistreham and Douvres. (S.H.A.E.F., 061200 to Troopers, Agwar).

Progress to
061200B.

062200B Cositintrep No. 8, Part 1, Land. Period to 061200B. Intelligence. Unconfirmed report P.W. from 192 P.G.R. U. 0777. 1 Bn. 736 Gr. at La Breche U.U. 0980 State 726 G.R. on left. 8 Coy. 916 Gr. T. 6591 and other elements 352 Inf. Div. at Mouvaines T 8986. Operations. First U.S. Army. Inf. of 8 R.C.T. and one Bn. 22 R.C.T. of 4 Inf. Div. Landed by 1200 hrs. west of Vire Estuary East of estuary troops of 1 and 29 Inf. Divs. landed in face of considerable opposition. By 1200 hrs. Pointe Du Hoe Battery reported captured. 82 and 101 Airborne Divisions landed successfully S.E. of Cotentin Peninsula. Second British Army. All landings effected as planned and has established a substantial bridgehead. 30 Corps. 50 Div. assaulted at Le Hamel 8786 and north of Mont Fleury 9285. Opposition was less than anticipated and beach obstacles were successfully overcome only those on beach north of Mont Fleury proving a serious obstacle. The enemy in La Riviere 9386 and Le Hamel 8786 resisted strongly. Le Riviere 9386 was in our hands by approx. 1030 hrs. 231 Inf. Bde. contained enemy in Le Hamel and pushed on to Area Buhot 8684 69 Inf. Bde. overcame opposition in La Reviere and reached their first objective PT 44 9184 - PT 529085 - Mouvaines 8985. 1 Corps 3 Cdn. Div. assaulted in area Courseulles-Sur-Mer 9785 and Berniers-Sur-Mer 9985. Beach clearance proceeded rapidly although shelling and mortar fire was encountered on beaches. By 1020

/ hours...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Progress to 061200B (Contd.). hours first objective was reached and forward troops were on line 936862 to sea at 025846. By 1130 hours 7 Cdn. Inf. Bde. on right and 8 Cdn. Inf. Bde. on left were on general line 915812 to Tailville 004819. 3 British Div. assaulted west of Ouistreham. By 1050 hrs. the coast defence battery at Ouistreham was captured. 8 British Inf. Bde. pushed forward and reached area Colleville-Sur-Orne 0878. 6 Airborne Div. dropped as planned during night 5/6 June. By 0850 hours the Bridges at Benouville 0974 - Ranville 1074 and 1176 had been captured intact. H.Q. 6 Airborne Div. located at 105735 and there were indications that 3 Para. Bde. and 5 Para. Bde. were operating according to plan. (Exfor Main, 062300B to Admty.).

Communique No.2. Shortly before midnight on 5th June, Allied night bombers opened the assault. Their attacks in very great strength continued until dawn. Between 0630 and 0730 hours this morning, two Naval Task Forces, commanded by Rear Admiral Sir Philip Vian, K.B.E., D.S.O., flying his flag in SCYLLA (Captain T.M. Browning C.B.E., R.N.) and Rear Admiral Alan Goodrich Kirk, U.S.N. in U.S.S. AUGUSTA (Captain E.H. Jones, U.S.N.) launched their assault forces at enemy beaches. The Naval forces which had previously assembled under the overall command of Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, made their departure in fresh weather and were joined during the night by bombarding forces which had previously left northern waters.

Channels had to be swept through the large enemy minefields. This operation was completed shortly before dawn and, while minesweeping Flotillas continued to sweep towards the enemy coast, the entire Naval force followed down swept channels behind them towards their objectives.

Shortly before the assault, three enemy torpedo boats with armed trawlers in company attempted to interfere with the operation and were promptly driven off. One enemy trawler was sunk and another severely damaged.

The Assault Forces moved towards the beaches under cover of heavy bombardment from destroyers and other support craft, while heavier ships engaged enemy batteries which had already been subjected to bombardment from the air. Some of these were silenced. Allied Forces continued to engage other batteries. Landings were effected under cover of the air and naval bombardments, and airborne landings involving troop - carrying aircraft and gliders carrying large forces of troops were also made successfully at a number of points. Reports of operations so far show that our forces succeeded in their initial landings. Fighting continues.

Allied heavy, medium, light and fighter bombers continued the air-bombardment in very great strength throughout the day with attacks on gun emplacements, defensive works, and communications. Continuous fighter cover was maintained over the beaches and for some distance inland and over Naval operations in the Channel. Our night fighters played an equally important role in protecting shipping and troop carrier forces and in intruder operations. Allied R/C aircraft maintained

/ continuous...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Communique No.2. (Contd.) continuous watch by day and night over shipping and ground forces. Our aircraft met with little enemy fighter opposition or anti-aircraft gunfire. Naval casualties were regarded as being very light, especially when the magnitude of the operation is taken into account. (S.H.A.E.F., 062350B to Agwar).

Assault Area Reports

Area "G" (Asnelles) Com. Force G. reports in part of his corrupt signal 060915.
 (1) Longues battery neutralised.
 (2) All S.P. Artillery landed.
 (3) Beach exits established.
 (4) Enemy tanks reported 50 miles to south. (A.N.C.X.F., 061059B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., Forces S, O, U, J and G)

E.T.A. 0400B/7th. In view of traffic it has been impossible to make correct channel. G.M.3, J.M.3, and S.M.3 are all in channel 5, and will arrive in "Gold" area. (ARMERIA, 062001B to Capt. Southbound Sailings, N.C.E.T.F.).

Due to a number of major landing craft being damaged by Teller mine supplies of the following are urgently required. Details.
 (2) L.C.T. do not explode mines until going astern retracting from beach. In most cases engine rooms are flooded, holes are 2 to 3 feet across.
 (3) In view of para.2. a number of craft will have to be towed to U.K.
 (4) At present craft stranded are seriously hindering "build up". (Com. Force "G", 062347B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Area "U" (Marcouf) Sailing 061400B Convoy U.1. for Portland under command of C.T.U.125.5.1 in BARNETT, DICKMAN and EMPIRE GAUNTLET in company. Escort HOBSON (S.O.), SHUBRICK, U.S.C.G.C.16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21. BARNETT and DICKMAN to Portland E.T.A. 2200. EMPIRE GAUNTLET to Plymouth E.T.A. 07/0600. U.S.C.G.C. S 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, leave convoy at Poole E.T.A. 06/1700. Casualties in BARNETT and DICKMAN. SHUBRICK and HOBSON return Portland for reammunitioning on completion escort duties and immediate return. (C.T.F. 125, 061115B to C's. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Portland)

Task Force operation completed. Have returned as ordered.

(S.O. Big Drum, 061337B to S.O. Force U).

/ Presence...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Assault Area Reports

Presence of battery enfilading Utah Beach necessitates modification my 061810 and 061851 to 2nd T.A.F. Change air spot group 6 to read targets 5 16 and 16 able ENTERPRISE. Tent spotting aircraft to search Fontenay area for mobile battery.
(2) Pass to 2nd T.A.F. by other means.
(C.T.F. 125, 062241B to A.N.C.X.F., T.A.F.2.).

Area "J".
(Courseulles)

A. BLUESKY 22.
B. PRINCE HENRY, PRINCE DAVID, QUEEN EMMA, CLAN LAMONT, LLANGIBBY CASTLE, MONOWAL, INVICTA, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, MECKLENBURG, BRIGADIER, DUKE OF ARGYLE, ISLE OF THANET, LAIRDS ISLE for the Solent
E.T.A. 2300B/6th.
C. CANTERBURY armed tug and LADY OF MAN for Portland, E.T.A. 0100B/7th.
D. ULSTER MONARCH and ST. HELIER for Plymouth, E.T.A. 0500B/7th.
(Com. Force "J", 061510B to C's. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth, Portland).

Have added STORK to escort of L.S.D.11 sailed from "Juno" area 2000B/6th.
(Capt. Northbound sailings, 062056B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Group L.3. arrived at lowering position unmet. Will endeavour to lead L.S.T. to Rhino in areas.
(S.O. Convoy Escorts, 062355 to HILARY, U.S. L.S.T. 60).

Area "O"
(St. Laurent)

Desire fire on ?Batteries believed vicinity Port En Bessin Enfilading Omaha Beaches. Request clearance if position your front line permits.
(Con. Force "O", 061810B to Com. Force "G").

Casualty evacuation report convoy X.K.R.X. Details.
(C.T.F. 124, 062012B to F.O.I.C. Portland).

0913. Opposition Omaha Beach considerable. If required can U.S. Forces be accepted through "Jig" and "King". Most immediate N.C.E.T.F. pass to G.O.C. 21st A.G.
(Main 2nd Army, 062100B to H.Q. 2nd Army).

Direct BRISSENDEN escort OCEANWAY to Portland. Remainder of escort await further orders.
(C.T.F. 124, 062123 to WENSLEYDALE).

Sail Portland escorted by BRISSENDEN.
(C.T.F. 124, 062301B to OCEANWAY).

Area "S"

Intend Ramp should proceed in VERSATILE at 1400 tomorrow. Route T.56, arriving at "Sword" area at 1830.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061930B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Bombarding ForcesEastern
Task
Force.

As soon as destroyers complete initial bombardment at H hours send one division to act under the orders of C.S.2.
(N.C.E.T.F., 060631B to Capt. D.23.).

On turning north in 049 degs. 32' N. 000 degs. 15' W. astern convoy at 1410 RODNEY was engaged by 6 inch battery. 2 rounds 16 inch were fired in reply into Area 4631 using Radar range Cliff. Jamming was experienced on 600 k/cs. Radar signals were heard on 526 m/cs and jammed.
(RODNEY, 061503B to C.S.2.).

My 1455. On arrival spotting groups 1 and 2 and 4 being flown continuously. This is maximum effort available. Allocate as necessary Eastern Assault Force.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061803B to N.C.E.T.F.).

RAMILLIES and ROBERTS escorted by SERAPIS and VERULAM are to sail now to re-ammunition at Portsmouth by channel, 6. S.O.A. 9½ knots, E.T.A. 0530/7th.
(N.C.E.T.F. 061915B to C. in C. Portsmouth, RAMILLIES).

Request RODNEY and SIRIUS be sailed to point of arrival at 0900/7th.
(N.C.E.T.F., 061935B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Invoice "Juno" will be flown continuously until dusk arriving Assault area 0530/7th. This is maximum effort available. Task Force Cmdr. Sub. Allot Group to Assault Force, who should then detail ships for each period. This also answers N.C.E.T.F.'s. 061918.
(A.N.C.E.F., 062155B to All Bombarding ships).

Request you will sail RODNEY and SIRIUS to be at point of arrival at 0900 tomorrow. O.N.Y. 13 para. three refers. Escorts RION and WESTCOTT.
(A.N.C.X.F., 062231 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

ROBERTS has provisionally condemned both 15 inch guns, right gun stated to have fractured, left gun defect not stated.
(C.S.2, 062234B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Raise steam and be ready to pass Gate at 0300/7th. Escorts detailed BLEASDALE and RION, latter if available.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 062259B to RODNEY, SIRIUS).

Western
Task Force.

Desire Air Spot Groups for tomorrow briefed as follows H Group six targets eight A eight and two

/ TUSCALOOSA...

War Diary

6.6.1944.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombarding Forces.

Western
Task Force
(Contd.)

TUSCALOOSA. Group 8 targets eleven A12, B17
A QUINCY ?B Group 8 targets 14 A 17 and 12 A
NEVADA. Imperative that one group be briefed
for tactical use as required by Mobile Batteries.
(C.T.F. 12.5, 061810B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Request permission to proceed Portsmouth not
exceeding 8 knots owing to insecurity of 6 ft.
gun and cradle. What escort 161 985 please.
Am waiting near M. buoy position.
(EREBUS, 061900B to N.C.W.T.F.).

O'BRIEN and BARTON replace CARMICK and SATTERLEE
respectively fire support force "O".
(N.C.W.T.F., 062211B to U.S. L.C.I.(L) 503).

Covering Operations

Patrols
from
Portsmouth.

On Portsmouth one para. 38.
Cover night 6th/7th June in accordance with
Appendix One.

Unit A 3 M.T.Bs. 675 (S.O.) 689.
Unit A 4 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.) 694.
Unit A 5 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.) 454.

Unit A6 M.T.Bs. 448 (S.O.) 478. Unit C M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.) 677,
717. Unit D M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O.) 739, 742.

Cancel Unit B.

Amend position Unit C to 000 degs. Cap de la Hague 7 miles with
freedom in areas Z 128 and Z 122.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061346B and 061554B).

Patrols from
Plymouth

Patrol orders night 6th/7th on Plymouth 5, Section
1, Appendix 1, para.1.

(A) Force 27. BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), ESKIMO, PIORUN
and JAVELIN and 37th Sub. division comprising

TARTAR and ASHANTI. To comprise Force 27 under orders of D,
10 in TARTAR from time of joining.

(B) (1) 37th Sub division at 1800B today.

(D) Till 2300B/6 between (AA) 49 degs. 30' N. 6 degs. 00' W.
and (BB) 49 degs. 30' N. 5 degs. 13' W.

From 2350/6 till 0500/7 between (CC) 49 degs. 10' N. 6 degs.
00' W. and (DD) 49 degs. 10' N. 5 degs. 00' W. From 0550/7 till
further orders. Between (AA) and (FF) 49 degs. 30' N. 5 degs.
00' W.

(H) 37th Sub division and 20th division are to R/V at (BB) at
2100B today and are to man patrol lines as in (D) alone. Object
To cover shipping in channel and Cornish coast against Narviks.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 061350B to D.F.10).

Cancel my 061756B.

(2) 37th Sub division and 20th Division forming Force 27 are to
carry out patrol laid down in my 061350B.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 062040B to D.F.10).

/ On...

War Diary

6.6.1944.
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth (Contd.)
On Plymouth 5 Section 2 para.3. S.U.P.S.
(A) Southern half Z.238 Northern half Z.239.
(B) South or west of above area but not within three miles of known minefields.
(C) Crossing 49 degs. 10' N. not earlier than 0530/7th and searching eastern half of area first.
(D) Five U/boats sighted off Ushant outward bound at 1850/6th, attention is called to my 061350.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062303 to E.G.12.).

O.N. Plymouth 5, Section 2, para. 3. S.U.P.S.
(A) Z.233 and Z.229.
(B) South or East of above area.
(C) 18 knots to patrol area.
(D) See para. (D) and last part of para. (C) of my 062303.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062309 to E.G.14).

Eastern night Channel report 6th/7th June.
O.N. One para.52 (B).
(1) OPPORTUNE Z.5, ORWELL Z.7, OBEDIENT Z.8, SAVAGE Z.9, West, TROLLOPE Z.12 East, THORN-BOROUGH Z.13 east.
(2) Coastal force unit. F.N. One. 2 M.L. Z One, F.N.2, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2, F.O. One, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.3, F.O.2, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6, F.Y.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12, east, F.Y.3, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12, West, F.Y.4, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.11 south, F.Y.5, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.10, F.X.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east, F.X.3, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 West.
(3) WELLINGTON crossing over patrol 050 degs. 03' N. 000 degs. 43' E. to 050 degs. 15' N. 001 degs. 15' E.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061853B to Ships Area C).

*Wellington
(aircraft)*

Minesweeping

Proceeding to (?sea) with ASTRAL. Propose complete clearance of Channel 78 with favourable tide (?to) Aga buoy tomorrow on western edge channel 8 L position (FF) at 1200.
(2) (?All) mines swept and detonated on Western edge of Channel 7 close to Dan buoy. Further mines expected. (?Dan buoys) missing in several positions.
(M/s 7, 061833B to M/S 9, N.C.E.T.F.A.).

Your 062200. Search M.B.56 in area west of Channel one beginning first light 7th June.
(C.T.F. 125, 062321B to C.T.U. 125.9.2).

Enemy Action

Surface ships. 3 destroyers bearing 072 degs. distant 9 miles,
/ course...

6.6.1944.
TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune "Enemy ActionSurface
ships
(Contd.)

course 210 degs. My position is 49 degs. 24' N.
00 degs. 14' W.
(SCYLLA, 060557B to Portsmouth).
Send M.T.Bs. to report to me.
(SCYLLA, 060610B to N.C.T.F., E.T.F., C.S.10).

Patrol forthwith as follows:

SAVAGE Z 9 W. ORWELL Z 9 N. OPPORTUNE Z 8 N.
OBEDIENT Z 7. Message 0557 from SCYLLA refers.
(F.O.C. Dover, 060835B to SAVAGE, ORWELL,
OPPORTUNE, OBEDIENT).

Destroyers
and U/boats
off Brest.

A/C. reports indicate 3 Narvik left Gironde
River northbound today.
(2) Force 27 consisting of 20th division is to
leave vicinity of (AA) and proceed to pass
through (GG) 048 degs. 20' N. 006 degs. 01' W.
at 2230B today and thence 124 degs. 25 knots.
(3) On crossing 005 degs. W. Force 27 steer to pass through
(HH) 205 degs. Penmarch Light 7 when if nothing sighted retire
at H.S. 270 degs. as far as 006 degs. W. then 315 degs. to 007
degs. W., thence 000 degs.
(4) 37th sub division is to act in close support of Force 27
and is to join at (GG) at 230 if practical.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 061756B to D.F.10).
6 Torpedo Boats, 5 submarines, bearing 090 degs., distance
5 miles, course 270 degs. position 48.18 N. 05.22 W.
(A/C, 235 Sqdn, 061850B to 19 Group).
P.C.S. of 6 enemy vessels 48 degs. 26' N. 05 degs. 14' W.
course 040 degs. speed 0 knots. (sic.).
(A/C NOJ46, 061930 to 19 Group).
6 enemy destroyers escorting 2 U/boats which have
submerged.
(A/C 53 Sqdn, 061935 to 19 Group).
Six destroyers bearing 090 degs. distance 5 miles course
260 degs. position 48 degs. 21' N. 05 degs. 23' W.
(A/C 235 Sqdn., 061937B to 19 Group).
Six unknown vessels position 48 degs. 27' N. 05 degs. 09'
W., course 330 degs. speed 12 knots.
(A/C 206 Sqdn., 061951B to 19 Group).
Six Destroyers line ahead, course 035 degs. speed 12 knots,
position 48 degs. 23' N. 05 degs. 10' W. G.20 continue patrol.
(A/C 206 Sqdn., to 19 Group, T.O.R. 062106).
My 1920. 6 Destroyers previously reported position 48
degs. 26' N. 05 degs. 04' W., course 060 degs. speed 10 knots.
(A/C NOJ46, 062120B to 19 Group).
My 1959. Enemy previously reported position 48 degs. 32'
N. 04 degs. 47' W. course 060 degs. speed 12 knots.
(A/C, RPD 54, 062139 to 19 Group).

U/boats
from Brest
and St.
Nazaire

Navsitrep 5 aircraft have sighted 7 S/Ms. coming
out of Brest and 2 more from St. Nazaire between
1900 and 2000/6th. Convoy's moving according to
plan.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062101B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/ Circled...

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Enemy Action.

U-Boats from Brest and St. Nazaire. (Contd.)

Circled patches of oil fluorescent visible position 48 degs. 45' N. 05 degs. 24' W. Continued patrol.
(A/C 206 Sqdn. 062201B to 19 Group.)

Allied Air Activity.

Cositintrep 7 part 3, air.
Summary for period sunrise to 2100 hours/5th June.
Total sorties 1596.
Summary of targets and details of operations.
Enemy operations. 1 E/A Holland area G.F.T.
(H.Q.A.E.A. 061300B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 8, part 3, air. Summary for period 2100/5th to sunrise 6th June. Total sorties 2145.
Summary of targets and missions. Details.
Dropping and glider operations carried out with good to excellent results. 1140 para-troop carriers, 147 tugs, and 147 gliders participated.
Enemy Operations. 60 fighters and fighter bomber sorties over and near the battle area.
(A.E.A.F. 062359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Movements.

Force "Regulator". E.T.F. 860/3 para. 3 force "Regulator" sailed. (C. in C.Portsmouth 061427B to N.C.E.T.F.)

(corrupt group) E.T.A. Needles 2100 (corrupt group) (?ships in company) PRINCE LEOPOLD, PRINCE BAUDOUIN, BEN-MY-CHREE, AMSTERDAM, PRINCESS MAUD. (?Origin 061658B to C. in C.Portsmouth, (R) S.O. Force J.)

Intend to sail EULKNOR at 2230B/6th with Cdr. 21st Army Group.
2. Routed F.T. 56 to Juno Mike Beach. E.T.A. 0500B/7th.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 061756B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Arrived Portsmouth 1000B. Anchored in 210 degs 11.5 cables from Lee on Solent Tower, awaiting further instructions.
(ROCKAWAY 061802B to Comnavu.)

/21st...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"MovementsG.O.C.
21st Army
Group.

(1) General Montgomery in FAULKNER will close AUGUSTA on arrival at 0600B tomorrow, afterwards proceeding to "Juno" section M beach.
 (2) General Montgomery wishes you to inform General Bradley.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 062220 to N.C.W.T.F.).

Ramsay and
Eisenhower

A.N.C.X.F. accompanied by Supreme Commander in APOLLO will visit western and eastern assault areas in that order arriving about 1130 tomorrow and returning to Portsmouth p.m.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 062227B to N.C.W.T.F., N.C.E.T.F.).

CasualtiesL.S.T.981
mined.
SAMBUT
(Convoy
E.T.M.1)
sunk.

U.S. L.S.T.981 mined in 85 degs. Beachy Head 17 miles. Tugs are going to her assistance.
 (F.O.C. Dover, 060551B to Cdre. Force L.).
 At 0035 U.S. L.S.T.981 loaded with Serial 3786 was mined in 50 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 39.5' E. Engines out of action and is now being towed to Portsmouth by Tug LADY BRASSEY.
 At 1205 convoy E.T.M.1 was shelled when passing Dover.

Two two-gun salvos were fired from Noires Mottes battery+ first salvo hit SS. SAMBUT setting her on fire. She was abandoned and finally sunk in 51 degs. 08.6' N. 1 deg. 33.2' E. Approximately 430 survivors. Total number on board stated to have been 580. E.T.P. 1 two hours ahead of station was turned back in order to allow smoke layers to replenish with C.S.A. In spite of the convoy being strung out an extremely effective screen by escorts and aircraft was made when passing Dover at 1640. No shelling took place. No damage. All other convoys passed without incident. No interference to movement of shipping by enemy surface craft during past 23 hours.
 (V.A. Dover, 062001B to A.N.C.X.F.). + Sangatte.

WRESTLER
mined.

Request assistance for WRESTLER mined in 049 degs. 36' N. 000 degs. 28' W. Dan Layers FARNE, STERIGEL standing by.
 (M/S 7, 060823B to N.C.E.T.F. A.).

OSPREY
damaged

G. OSPREY mined or torpedoed 50.12.9 N. 01 20.4 W. at 051759B. Crew removed. Salvage tug BANNOCK has in tow.
 (C.T. 125.9.3, 060905B to KINGPIN).

L.C.T.(A).2428
damaged.

L.C.T.(A). 2428 capsized whilst under tow was stopped by gunfire. All crew and army personnel saved and on board tug.
 (JAUNTY, 061100B to Force "J").

/L.C.T.2423...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"CasualtiesL.C.T.2423
damaged.

Following from L.C.T.2423 begins:- Anchor presumed in 140 degs. (12 or 45)' N. 0 degs. 19' W. Main engine broken, fuel-tank full of water, hopes to reach 49 degs. 26' N. 0 degs. 16' W. Request instruction. Ends.
T.O.O. 061310.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 061505B to N.C.T.F.,E.T.F.).

M.T.B.248

Regret to report M.T.B.248 sunk in position 50.02 N. 00.01 W. as a result of collision damage. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061537).

L.C.M.1229
sunk.

L.C.M. 1229, F Squadron, Force "J" sunk. Crew saved.
(Poole, 061730 to N.C.W.T.F.).

L.C.T.2426
(sunk)

Following is repetition my 061555B passed at 061630B. Begins: Landing Craft Tank 2426 sunk in 049 degs. 59' 30" N. 000 degs. 27' 30" W. Resuming Patrol. Ends.
(ONSLAUGHT, 062155B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

M.L.473

M.L.473 holed striking wreckage. Intend to detach to Portsmouth with M.L.345 as escort. (M/S 31, 062220B to N.C.W.T.F., Force "O").

In order to utilise superior repair facilities at Penarth, Falmouth, Plymouth, request extensively damaged ships and craft returning U.K. be routed to Western most practicable port.
(C.T.F.127, 062239B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Salvage

Ramp. The Dutch Schuyts have broken down and proved ineffective for the raising of Phoenix Units, 7 effective pumping sets remain with no spares. It is considered that further sets should be produced as soon as possible.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061851B to Admty.).

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping

Convoy (B) 137 and 144 Escort Groups. (C) E.T.A.
E.B.C.2Z. 0700/8th. (D) Parliament JG.
(E) For Omaha - EASTWOOD, ISAAC KMICIC(?), EMPIRE
SEEDGE, EMPIRE STRAIT, ERICA, FANO, GLANTON,
JOSEWYN, JUTA, KATOWICE, KRAKOW, KYLOE, NEWLANDS,
LYSLAND, WESTBURN, ZEELAND, AARO, AVANCE, Y tanker 23, Y tanker
40, Y tanker 41.
For Utah - GRASLIN, KORDICKI, TOMSK, CIRCE II, CLAUDIUS MAGNUM,
DALEWOOD, Y tankers 25 and 26.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060750B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., F.O. Force S,
F.O. Force O, F.O. Force U, Admty., Far Shore Shuttle Control,
Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)

Convoy (B) GARTH, MEYNELL, CAMELIA, CHARLOCK.
E.T.M.1. (C) 0800B/7th E.T.A. (D) Sharp, 7L.
(E) Juno - SAMARK, SAMPHILL, CAMPEP, SAMBUT,
SAMINVER, SAMVERN, SAMMONT, SAMOS, SAMNEVA, SAMDEL
SAMZONA, SAMAROVSK, Gold, Sword, 9 L.C.I.(L).
(A.N.C.X.F., 061041B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., F.O. Force S,
F.O. Force O, F.O. Force U, Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)
My 061041B*. Following also for Sword - L.S.T.162, 163,
164, 415. 430 and one L.C.I.(L).
(A.N.C.X.F., 062210B.)
* E.T.M.1.

Convoy Sailed. (B) Escort nil. (C) E.T.A. K.1 Buoy
L.1. 0530/6. (D) Armadillo GH.
Name of ship Destination
GLENGARIFF Sword
MARCEL Sword
WESTLAND Sword
MONKSTONE Sword
SIGNALITY Juno
POLYGLEN Gold
APPRICITY Gold
NORTHGATE Gold
SCHELDE (Tug) -
JAUNTY (Tug) -
L.C.I.(L) 244 -
(C. in C. Portsmouth Turco, 061100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy (A) Sailed. (B) Escorts - LARK, CRANE,
E.T.P.1. FORESTER, KITE, QUORN, TYLER, SEYMOUR.
E.W.P.L.? (C) E.T.A. 0700B D plus 1. (D) Codeword:
Ganymede. Radio Group TJ.
(E) (1) (2)
LANCASHIRE (Odre.) Juno
CITY OF CANTERBURY Gold
DEVONSHIRE Juno
CHESHIRE Juno
LEOPOLDVILLE Gold
WORCESTERSHIRE Juno
NEURALIA Gold
CAMERONIA Gold
NEW BEDFORD Omaha
BATAVIER TWO Gold

/ (G) ...

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping

Convoy E.T.P.1. E.W.P.1? (Contd.) (G) Routed CH.11 to E.A.3 Buoy thence by KT.56. (H) AMBITIOUS at Portsmouth. (Cdre. Southend, 061104B and 061933B, 061950B to A.N.C.X.F.) My 061950B. LEOPOLDVILLE, WORCESTERSHIRE, NEURALIA, CAMERONIA, NEW BEDFORD, BATAVIERII will stage St. Helens continuing at E.W.P.1, E.T.A. 0730/8th. (A.N.C.X.F., 062253B.)

Convoy G.M. 3. Convoy G.M.3 returned owing to bad weather. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061155B to N.C.E.T.F., (R) S.O. Force G.)

Return destinations. Pass to N.C.S.Os. It is important that Masters of merchant vessels and coasters engaged in "Overlord" that are returning to the U.K. should be informed of their return destinations before sailing. (2) If there is any doubt as to the return destination of a ship reference should be made to A.N.C.X.F. (3) Ships unallocated or going into reserve on return should be directed to Solent for orders. (D.T.D., 061318B to C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, Info. A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy E.W.C.1A. (A) Sailed E.N.C.1A. (? E.W.C.1A intended). (B) 136 E.G. KEPPEL (S.O.) (C) E.T.A. 0600B/7th. (D) Homily SF. For Omaha - MOELFRE ROSE, CREW-HILL, ERNA, ROCKLEASE. For Utah - GEM, HAWAREN BRIDGE, CUSHENDUN, STUART QUEEN, WALLACE ROSE, A.S.I.S. DONAGHAMORE, Mooring Force A, Tugs ST.247, 248, 759, 761. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061358B, 061805B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., F.Os. Force S, Force O, Force U, Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)

Convoy E.B.M.3. (A) Sailed E.B.M.3. (B) 106th E.G. and 141st E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0800B/7th. (D) Decision 5A. For Omaha - LOUIS KOSSUTH, CLINTON KELLY, HELLAS, JOHN HAY. For Utah - CHARLES G. JONES, CHARLES I. POSTON, COLLIS P. HUNTINGDON, EUGENE O'DONNELL, WEBB MILLER, ABIEL FOSTER, AMOS G. THROOP, CHARLES MORGAN, CLARA BARTON, ENOCH TRAIN, JOSIAH P. LIPPINSCOTT, THOMAS B. ROBERTSON. For Gold - GEORGE W. WOODWARD. (A.N.C.X.F., 061442.)

Convoys E.B.M. 2, E.B.P.1. Request you sail 2 U.S. Coast Guard Cutters to E.B.M.2 at Z Buoy 0001 D + 1 and 3 cutters to join E.B.P.1 at Z Buoy 0230 D + 1. Cutters are to report to S.O. of Escort Group. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061442B to N.O.I.C. Poole.)

/Convoy ...

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping

Convoy E.W.C.1B.	(A) Sailed E.W.C.1B. (B) Escort (FERNIE S.O.) 131st E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0600/7th. (D) Intone KM.
	YEWGLEN Gold TEESWOOD Gold KYLECASTLE Gold LEOVILLE Gold YEWPAK Gold DURWARD Gold GALACUM Gold IPSWICH TRADER Gold VESTMANROD Juno EBRIX Juno SOUTHPORT Juno ENID MARY Juno KYLE QUEEN Juno KENRIX Juno TORQUAY Juno STADIUM II Juno GLADONIA Sword AVANVILLE Sword KYLEGORM Sword HOLBORN HEAD Sword DUNVEGAN HEAD Sword ROCKVILLE Sword 1 A.S.I.S. W.T.F. 5 Eagle ships W.T.F. 12 B/D vessels W.T.F. 3 Salvage vessels W.T.F. 6 U.S.S.T.O. W.T.F. (C. in C. Portsmouth Turco, 061602, 061955B amended 061928.)

Convoy E.T.C. 22.	(A) Sailed E.T.C.22. (B) Escorts EKINS (S.O.), CURZON, PUFFIN, FOULNESS. (C) E.T.A. 0600B D + 2. (D) Codeword Nominal. (E) (1) (2)
	ASA ELDRIDGE (Cdre.) Gold GATESHEAD Sword GLAMIS Juno BARON RUTHVEN Gold ANTIQUITY Sword ARIDITY Gold DEEMOUNT Sword TOLSTA HEAD Juno CRAGSIDE Gold JELICOE ROSE Gold EMPIRE AUDREY Omaha EMPIRE COAST Utah ARDGRYFE N.N. CHARLES TREADWELL N.N. ASHAN'I N.N. ZUIDERHAVEN (Du.) N.N. BRACKENFIELD N.N. DUNGRANGE N.N. FLATHOUSE N.N. THE VICEROY N.N. ASTERIA N.N.

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Diversions

Operations
"Frog" and
"Deer".

Neither operation "Frog" nor "Deer" will take
place.
(N.C.E.T.F., 062125B to PRINS ALBERT, ISIS.)

War Diary.

6.6.1944.

Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.General.Policy.Biscay
Fishing
Craft.

Fishing craft along the French coast between Ushant and the Gironde are causing severe inconvenience to night air patrols. Request steps may be taken to warn them to keep clear of the area. (C. in C.Plymouth 061321B to Admty.)

Warning is being issued by B.B.C. broadcast, and it is hoped leaflets will shortly be available. Your 061321 refers.
2. Some fishing vessels may not be in possession of W/T apparatus, and aircraft are not deliberately to attack these craft unless identified as hostile.

3. Such additional warning measures as are considered necessary, i.e., firing in water in near vicinity, dropping leaflets, etc., may be taken.

(Admty. 061628B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Operations.Coastal
Force
Patrols.(C. in C.Plymouth 061316B.)
(C. in C.Portsmouth 061857B.)
(F.O.C.Dover 061425B.)Enemy Air Activity.A/C over
Jan Mayen.

Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft heard east of island 0415 probably flying east. Partially foggy. (A.C.I.C. 061130B.)

Enemy Intelligence.Straits
of Dover.

Enemy shipping plotted by Radar in Strait of Dover from 0900/5 till 0900/6. Nil. (V.A.Dover 061128B.)

3 destroyers.

Position, course and speed of enemy 3 destroyers 46° 14' N. 2° 27' W. 1433 (remainder missed). (A/C 404 Sqdn. 062029B to 19 Group.)

U-Boats.

U/B report.

S.E.C. H.X.F. 293. German submarine transmitted B barred twice 2301Z, 2304Z, bearing 290° on series 7 group 3 position 052° 58' N. 017° 07' W. 184°. (S.O.C.4 062306Z to C. in C.W.A.)

Casualties & Defects.M.V. CHANT
63 (tanker)My 052225 vessel sunk in 020° 62 H Buoy 2.5 miles. (F.O.Humber 061035.)
re Tug SCOTSMAN departed to salvage CHANT 63.

/MARINA...

War Diary.

6.6.1944.

Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects - Contd.

MARINA.

M.L. MARINA has been sunk by collision with U.S.N. Craft. Report follows in due course. Request M.F.V. or similar vessel may be sent to replace her, as a craft is urgently needed for transfer of pilots. No suitable vessels are available locally. (F.O.I.C. Portland 061856B to Admty.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

U/B contact. Despatch 061055 which begins: "2 planes returning from search made simultaneous disappearing Radar contact 052146Z 37.52 N. 15.57 W. Pilot and Radioman report sonobuoys gave definite propeller noises wire recorder failed. At 060330Z during search 2 white lights sighted 12 miles apart 24 miles south-west of original contact in area previously covered. Aircraft circled one twice without being able identify when both disappeared. Now conducting search and continuous hold down unless otherwise directed propose if necessary follow up contact to vicinity 41 N. 14 W."
(C. in C. Lant, 061436Z to Cominch, C.T.F.62, Admty., F.O.C. Gibraltar, C. in C. Med. and Commorseafron, C.T.G. 22.2.)

Voyage of Spanish ships to India. Your 091830 May. Admty. have no objections to voyage by Spanish ship to Cochin and Madras but not to Karachi, Vizagapatam, Calcutta or Bombay.
(2) As, however, we cannot agree to passage through Mediterranean for some time, suggest voyage be postponed or alternatively vessel should proceed via Cape.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 062000B to N.A. Madrid.)

Spanish Fishing Vessels. PYSBE ships your 011930. Route as follows - (to Bay Bulls).
(Admty., 062056R to B.N.A. Madrid, Info. F.O.G. M.A., N.S.H.Q., Connav.)

T.G. 22.2 (BOGUE's Group). Do not proceed beyond 40 N. when east of 20 W. Your 061055 on conclusion operations against present contacts you are assigned area 43 to 48 N. and 20 to 30 W. keep interested parties accurately advised of your position and intentions. Connavzor pass to S..B.N.O. Azores.
(Cinclant Admin. Office, 062159Z to C.T.G.22.2, (R) Cominch, Connavzor, C. in C. W.A., C.T.G.22.5, Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

Navicerts for Swiss ships. Owing to congestion of Swiss goods in French ports ship navicerts are to be issued to Swiss and Swiss Chartered ships only as far as Barcelona.
(2) This does not apply to Red Cross and Relief ships.
(D.E.W.D., 062354B to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, Info. C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSSouth AtlanticEDMUNDO,
suspicious
behaviour.

Following is a repetition of my 051236Z* addressed as above, begins:
Portuguese ship EDMUNDO sailed Leixoes 12th May E.T.A. Luanda 27th May, 3 times closed convoy O.S.76 on 16th May in 24.53 N. 16.24 W. and was chased off. Her speed to this position was 11 knots but she arrived Luanda on 31st May indicating subsequent speed of 8½ knots if she remained on correct route. Suggest circumstances warrant suspicion. Ends.
(Freetown C.C.O., 060841Z to Admty.)*Previously received undecypherable.

Freetown,
repair base
torpedo
depot.

Following is repetition of my 051237Z June begins.
"Admty. (R) Cdre. in Charge from F.O.C.W.Af. Request instructions whether the need for a repair base? torpedo depot still exists at Freetown. With the impending departure of destroyers no torpedo carrying escort vessels will remain in this command.
(2) If torpedo repair base is not required propose that PHILOCTETES takes her torpedoes and all vote 9 torpedo gear home with her and that work on proposed depot should cease. A.L.C.E. in C. 05661/43/80A of 16th February 1944 and *A.M. 011731A May refers". Ends.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 061132Z to Admty.)
* Previously received undecypherable.

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Employment of Yugoslav Navy. It is likely that new Royal Yugoslav Govt. will issue express instruction to Officers and men of R.Y.N. that they are -

(a) to carry out all orders of C. in C. Med., and

(b) to operate in the Adriatic in support of Partisan forces if so ordered by C. in C. Med.

(2) If such orders are given Foreign Office are disposed to recommend employment of Yugoslav ships as follows:-

(a) ships already in hands of R.Y.N. to be employed in Adriatic with crews who volunteer for this service;

(b) if there is surplus of volunteers for ships in (a), R.Y.N. to be allowed to take over as many ex-Yugoslav ships in Italy for service in Adriatic as will absorb surplus;

(c) remaining ships in Italy not manned under (b) to be turned over to Tito;

(d) R.Y.N. personnel who refuse to serve in support of Tito to be employed outside Adriatic either in existing ships or ashore in whatever manner you think fit.

(3) All ships manned by R.Y.N. crews would fly Royal Yugoslav Flag.

(4) Risk of incidents between R.Y.N. ships and Tito forces is appreciated and Foreign Office would propose to obtain assurance from Tito that his forces would respect R.Y.N. ships acting in their support.

(5) Above is tentative for your personal information as political arrangements are not complete. It would assist Foreign Office, however, if you could say how far above suggestions are practicable and what ships you could bring into active service assuming a good number of R.Y.N. personnel volunteered for service in Adriatic. Any estimate you can make of number likely to volunteer would also be valuable.

(V.C.N.S., 060200B to C. in C. Med.)

Disaffection in Greek Navy. Following recent developments in Greek Navy:-

(1) MIAOULES has been purged at Naples of 26 ratings, including 4 P.Os. This action was taken at request of C.O. in compliance with orders issued by Greek C. in C. An additional 55 ratings left the ship in sympathy despite contrary orders from C.O. These two groups are segregated, and being sent to Alexandria. Until relief arrive MIAOULES is not fully operational.

(2) 33 ratings have been removed from THEMISTOCLES, and are being sent to Alexandria.

(3) 3 P.Os. and 11 ratings have been discharged without incident from KING GEORGE II, and will be sent to Alexandria.

(C. in C. Med., 060928.)

UNIVERSAL. Intend sailing (P.57) UNIVERSAL to Maddalena at 1300/8th.
2, 3. Route, &c.
(Cdre. Algeria, 061102B.)

CURIE. Intend sailing (P.67) CURIE to Maddalena at 1300/7th June. (2), (3) Route, &c.
(Cdre. Algeria, 061134B.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

I.R.C.C. Spanish Under Secretariat Mercantile Marine state ships. while all Spanish vessels likely to be employed by I.R.C.C. have radio sets and operators able to broadcast on 500 k/cs frequency, in most cases the sets on ships are too weak to emit signals audible in Gibraltar during daylight if made from South French region. They ask if arrangements could be made for signals to be picked up by stations in Corsica and/or Sardinia as otherwise the value of the six hourly message would be almost worthless. Your 202218 May, para. 2 refers. (B.N.A. Madrid, 061230B to Admty., Info. F.O.G.M.A., C. in C. Med., B.N.A. Lisbon.)

C.U., O.T., Concur Cominch 032047. Will provide.
U.G.F. (1) Jammer Escort. (2) British A/A Cruiser if
convoys. feasible. (3) Air cover in Mediterranean.
(4) Logistics. Alteration U.G.F. convoy
schedule by one or two days may be required at
later date to avoid coinciding K.M.F. due to
berthing limitations Naples.

Co-ordinating with Pet section a plan based on tankers loaded and destined approx. as follows is feasible.
Two Naples 80 Octane. Two Algiers split. Two Oran split.
One Bizerta split. Two Casa unspecified. Two Taranto 100 Octane. Five days turnaround at Naples. Tankers for Casa Oran, Algiers and Bizerta may carry planes to be off loaded in Casa. Then with Zed Escort to destination of wet cargo. For present U.S. Escorts will be assigned in that British Escorts not available. Assume U.G.F. convoys will continue to be escorted to Naples from U.S. Only Mediterranean Escort involved will be that for tankers onward routed to Mediterranean from Casa to discharge wet cargo C.M.S.F. and C.N.O. Assignment of tankers to Taranto is to be predicated on use of Task Force Escort passing through Messina Straits. (Comnavaw, 061436B to Cominch.)

Enemy (A) Appreciate probable enemy intentions my
ship. 061320 not to submarines.
(1) Speed 8 knots via Steno pass probably via Furni (corrupt group) but possibly via Cape Papas then via Portolago west of Kos, Piskopi to

Rhodes.

(2) May possibly enter Porto and sail later for Rhodes.
(3) Estimate arriving or passing Porto between 2200/6th and 0200/7th.

(F.O.L.E.M., 061626C to Capt. (S) 1st, S.O. Force 51, (R) M.T.B. 315, P.224, P.73, 309, SICKLE, VOX.)

SICKLE, (1) At 1140 in Doro Channel obtained one hit on
patrol ORION considered sunk.
report. Also in convoy - one 400 ton ship as EMS craft
2 E-Boats, 4 A/S caiques one other possible hit.
(2) Proceeding Kassandra area.
(SICKLE, 061957B to S.1.)

/Situation ...

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation
Report
No. 373.

Night 29th/30th May coastal force operating south of Peljesac Peninsula had inconclusive engagement with 4 I-Boats. 2 estimated damaged. Later same force was attacked by enemy aircraft and suffered slight casualties.

(2) TERPSICHORE and TUSCAN with available coastal force covered landing by Partisan and Allied forces on Brac Island night 1st/2nd June. The operation was successful, forces were withdrawn on 4th June and during the night 4th/5th June. Destroyers and coastal forces continued to provide cover throughout the operation and withdrawal but encountered no enemy.

(3) Night 4th/5th June TROUBRIDGE and BLEAN carried out sweep to Southern Approach to Quarnero Gulf and shelled Lussinpiccolo without incident. Slight opposition from shore battery.

(4) 6 enemy aircraft carried out suspected torpedo attack on Gibraltar night 4th/5th June no damage to shipping but detached Mole was damaged from seaward. Port was closed but reopened p.m./5th June.

(C. in C. Med., 062155.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

China, weekly summary. 29 May. On the Yangtze River 8 P.40s attacked a gunboat and probably sank it. (C. in C.India No T.O.O.)

U/B dis-positions. No. 50 areas A. B. E. and F. believed clear of U-Boats - scale of air escort W. Areas C. and D. up to 3 U-Boats are unfixed believed to be off the east coast of Africa and probably moving towards Gulf of Aden approaches. Scale of air escort pending further evidence - X area G no fresh information but a U-Boat may be in area. Scale of air escort X. (C. in C.E.F. 060324Z.)

TACTICIAN, TALLY HO, SPITEFUL, patrol reports. TACTICIAN Six Far East Patrol.
2. 12 mines laid successfully.
3. Two Junks sunk by gunfire and eight Chinese captured and brought into Trinco for interrogation.
4. TALLY HO Five Far East Patrol.
5. Successfully laid 12 mines. Remainder of patrol blank.
6. SPITEFUL First Far East Patrol.
7. Patrol blank except for brief but accurate bombardment of Government House, Ross Island, ?Port Blair.
(C. in C.E.F. 060651Z.)

Troop movements in Indian Ocean. For the present it is probable that escorts rather than shipping will be the limiting factor for troop and personnel movements in the Indian Ocean.
2. To assist planning both in London and India, following procedure is suggested:-
A. C. in C.E.F. to signal to all concerned a list of routine personnel convoys between Suez and Bombay, Kilindini and Cape and between Bombay and Persian Gulf, giving dates of departure relative to the K.M.F. cycle, speed of convoy, and max. number of ships which can be accepted.
B. P.S.T.Os. and Army Movements Officers then to be told by D. of S.T. and War Office that all personnel moves must be arranged so as to fall into these routine convoys unless an exceptionally high priority can be justified.
C. To enable C. in C.E.F. to balance the priorities of moves proposed other than routine, Admt. in consultation with War Office and D. of S.T. to signal in broad terms the priority of such moves.
3. Para. 2C above would not commit you to escort any particular convoy or ship rather than another, but would be intended purely to assist you in your decisions.
4. Request your remarks.
5. War Office and D. of S.T. have been consulted and agree.
(D.O.D.F. 061702B to C. in C.E.F.)

War Diary

6.6.1944
Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

- U.C.24. Your 051925. First ship detached at 060845Z in 38.41 N. 54.24 W. Speeds in order given your message 15, 14.5, 15, 14.5, 15, 15, 15, 14, 15, 15.5. W.X. 4390 4253.
(C.T.G.21.8, 061043 to Com. 10th Fleet C. & R.)
- U-Boat Dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q.Ottawa, 061330, Cominch, 061545Z)
- U.G.S. G.U.S. Convoys. Sail U.G.S.convoys 2 days later commencing with U.G.S. 46 departing New York 21st June and departing Norfolk 24 June. G.U.S. convoys will be sailed 1 day later from Port Said commencing with G.U.S.44 on 24th June estimated arrivals Norfolk Unchanged.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 061600Z to Comeastseafon)
- GALT attack on contact. Corrupt signal.
(GALT, 062015Z) See 070330Z (corrected copy)
- U-Boat sunk 16th March. in Gib. Straits. Your 052354/. Concur except consider Catalina seven should receive minor credit because of tracking assistance but no attack made.
(Cominch, 062045Z) / preliminary assessment of U-Boat encounter.
- L.23. Movement from Halifax to Digby. Arrangements.
(Cominch, 062055Z)
- SS. IRISH ALDER. IRISH ALDER in 39 N. 50? W reports bunker shortage and request permission to proceed direct, which has been granted. This is but another instance of the situation pointed out in my 212009 February/. There is no purpose in routeing neutral vessel along standard routes when such vessels sail with obviously insufficient bunkers, and are consequently forced to cut across convoy tracks or be towed in. Request appropriate action may be taken.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 062057Z to Admty.)
/ N.T. in W.D. asked for 8 June.

War Diary6.6.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New ZealandPacific
Operations
Summary.

My 302139. Summary Pacific operations for week ending 3 June. These summaries will normally be sent on Tuesdays.

Central Pacific. Land based A/C continued daily strikes against Japanese positions in Marshalls and Eastern Carolines.

North Pacific. In 4 missions Aleutian based Army and Navy A/C bombed Paramushiro Shimushu and Matsuwa and Shimushu in the Kuriles and Mitchell bombers conducted shipping strikes in the same area sinking 1 small auxiliary vessel and damaging another. No planes were lost.

South and Southwest Pacific. Army, Navy and Marine A/C attacked enemy bases in New Britain New Ireland and Northern Solomons Islands daily. At Aitape Hollandia and Wake no change and Sarmi Airfield not yet captured but extensive ground patrolling continues and M.T.B's were active in harassing shipping and shore line targets. U.S. reinforcements have been landed on Biak. Owi and Woendi Islands were occupied on 2 June without opposition. Japanese counter attacks on Biak repulsed and slow progress is being made toward Mokmer Airfield against strong enemy resistance. U.S. destroyers shelled airfield area and sank several enemy barges east of Bosnek on 1 June. About 15 Jap planes attacked our naval forces and positions at Bosnek slightly damaging 1 destroyer.

Ref. 302139 this is the first of a series of weekly reports summarising operations in the Pacific. Summary for week ending 27th May, 1944.

(Cominch, 061823) N.T. in W.D. asked for 8th June.

U-Boat
incidents.

(A) Panamanian PILLORY torpedoed sunk 18-26 N. 67-17 W. 051810. P.B.M. Radar contact followed by sighting of surfaced U-Boat course 245 speed 8 attacked 18-12 N. 67-35 W. 060550 A/A fire encountered.

(B) Bogue A/C Radar and Sono buoy contacts 37.52 N. 15.57 W. 052146.

(C) H.M.C.S. GALT attacked U-Boat contact 41.34 N. 64.22 W. about 061650. All times Z.

(Cominch, 062056Z) Position was subsequently amended to 41.24 N. 64.25 W.

Digest 868.

June 5th. Para. 14 to 18 cover South Pacific Forces.

Early hours unknown number enemy torpedo bombers ineffectively attacked Allied Warships East of

Biak Island.

(11) Night 4th-5th M.T.Bs destroyed 3 Enemy barges Wewak-Broken Water Bay Arta. (Area)

(17) M.T.B's with Catalinas co-operating strafed enemy shore positions East and Southeast Bougainville night 4th-5th starting small fires.

(18) Same night similar craft shelled shore positions Central West Coast New Ireland. Others shelling East Coast saw single enemy floatplane near Namatanai but nil attack encountered.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 060740Z)

War Diary

6.6.1944.
Tuesday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M. attack and sighting summary. Para.A. (1) A/C F/172 sighted U/boat at 2246Z/5 in 45 degs. 35' N. 08 degs. 19' W.
(2) A/C J/228 sighted U/boat at 2330Z/5th in 45 degs. 33' N. 08 degs. 56' W.
Para.B. A/C F/172 obtained A.S.V. contact at 2201Z/5 in 46 degs. 00' N. 07 degs. 29' W.
Para.C. A/C M/110 sighted possible U/boat at 1436Z/5 in 45 degs. 00' N. 10 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 061103B).

U/boat dispositions. Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 061416B, 061434B).

War Diary7.6.1944.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsOperation "Neptune"

(1) Throughout this, the second, day of our seaborne landings in the Baie de la Seine no enemy naval forces appeared in the Assault Area and by tonight all the enemy coastal batteries operating yesterday had been silenced by Allied Naval Forces. Allied A/C. of all types and in great strength closely supported our land and sea forces; landings on each of the five principal landing beaches proceeded continuously despite delays and damage to craft caused by the unfavourable weather, which however improved considerably after noon to-day; and at 2330B to-day Allied Troops were reported to have cleared all beaches of the enemy and in some cases to have linked up with Troops on their respective flanking beaches. Build-up convoys continued to arrive at the beaches; by noon today the first of their ships and craft had returned from the Assault Area to re-load; and the towing over of Corncob, Phoenix, and Bombardon equipments was proceeding according to plan. Three channels about 2 miles wide have now been swept into the Assault Area; and by 1700 today a total of 95 Enemy Mines had been swept in the Area and its Approach Routes.

(2) The intended operations of the Enemy's Naval Forces against these landings appear so far to consist in the use of U-boats in the Western Channel approaches and in attacks upon Troop Convoys by E-boats and Coastal Batteries in the Eastern Channel area. Many sightings of U-boats have been made today off Ushant; three Narvik class Destroyers are believed to have reached Brest from the Gironde; at 0115 the Destroyer OBEDIENT intercepted and attacked a group of four E-boats 40 miles S.W. by W. of Dungeness who retired eastward at high speed; and a westbound L.C.T. convoy was heavily attacked off Dover this morning by Coastal Batteries without result. L.S.T.715 was torpedoed by a U-boat at 1722B today about 15 miles N.E. of Cap Barfleur. Coastal Forces are patrolling in the Channel accordingly; and two Escort Carriers supported by Destroyers, Escort Groups, and A/C. are searching for U-boats in the Western Channel Approaches.

(3) The Naval Casualties sustained today have been as follows:-
H.M. Ships: BULOLO, H.Q. Ship. Damaged by bomb.
EMERALD, Cruiser, Damaged by near miss.
U.S. Warships: RICH, Destroyer, sunk by mine.
MEREDITH, Destroyer, damaged by mine.
GLENNON, Destroyer, damaged by mine.
M.S. 406, Minesweeper, damaged by mine.
TIDE, Minesweeper, damaged by mine.

/ Hospital...

War Diary

7.6.1944.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

Hospital ships: DINARD, damaged by mine 11 miles N.W. by N. of "J" Beach reached U.K.
ST. JULIAN, damaged by mine. Reached U.K.
A U.S. Block-ship and a Flight-Direction tender have also been damaged; while 21 Landing Craft are reported lost and 9 damaged.

(4) By 10 o'clock to-night the following Total Landings are reported to have been made:-
Troops, excluding Area "S": 85,723
Vehicles 10,139. Stores : 5,307 tons.

War Diary

7:6.1944.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

General

Operation
"Kruschen"

(5) C.S.1 in VICTORIOUS with FURIOUS, KENT, JAMAICA and 8 destroyers sailed from Scapa early this morning.

The operation was abandoned at 1143B on 8th June owing to the weather.

U/boat sightings and attacks

^{s/201} (6a) Aircraft attacked a U/boat at 0059Z today in 45.13 N. 08.30 W. (250 miles south-west of Ushant) and reported it straddled. ^{V.9552mk}

(b) In all, there were 9 U/boat sightings today in the immediate Ushant area and 2 attacks.

Mediterranean

Air attacks on Leghorn and Genoa area.

7. 106 B24's of the Strategic Air Force attacked Leghorn Harbour today and report good coverage. 64 B24's attacked Voltri shipyards (8 miles west of Genoa) with good concentration on docks, shipyards, and the industrial area. 37 B24's attacked Savona Docks (20 miles south-west of Genoa) and marshalling yards and made hits.

The Coastal Air Force attacked shipping in the Adriatic with some success.

Aegean

8. 7 Venturas bombed Rhodes last night.

East Indies

Force 66

(9) An A.U. Carrier Escort Group, known as Force 66, has been formed, consisting of BEGUM, SHAH and 6 escort vessels.

War Diary

7.6.1944.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

(10) M.T.Bs. last night destroyed a large number of houses on Tabar Island, off the east coast of New Ireland. Other M.T.Bs. were bombed by a single enemy floatplane, causing some damage.

War Diary.

7.6.1944.

Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Landings.

Cosintrep No. 8, part 2, Naval.

Landings over the beaches are now proceeding satisfactorily except in Omaha Sector, where little progress is being made.

2. No further casualties to major war vessels. Warships are beginning to return to re-ammunition.
3. First built-up convoys are approaching the anchorages and the first flights of empty landing craft are returning to the U.K. to re-load.
4. Weather has not favoured the operations of minor landing craft and has caused some slowing down in the rate of discharge.
5. Enemy intelligence. Aircraft have reported 5 submarines and 6 torpedo boats off Ushant.
(A.N.C.X.F. 070023B to Admty.)

Communique No. 3. Allied Forces continued landing on the Northern Coast of France throughout yesterday and satisfactory progress was made. Rangers and Commandos formed part of the Assaulting Forces.

No further attempt at interference with our Seaborne landings was made by enemy Naval Forces. Those Coastal Batteries still in action are being bombarded by Allied Warships.

At twilight yesterday and for the fourth time during the day our heavy bombers attacked railways, communications and bridges in the general battle area. There was increased air opposition and 26 enemy aircraft which attempted to interfere were shot down. One Allied bomber and seventeen fighters failed to return from this operation. Other enemy air activity included an attack on our Beach Forces. This proved abortive and four of a formation of twelve Ju.88s were destroyed.

From dawn to dusk the vast Allied Fighter Force maintained vigil over our shipping and over the Assault Area. This air cover was again completely successful.

Airborne operations were resumed successfully last night.

Coastal aircraft attacked German Naval Units in the Bay of Biscay.
(Unity 071120B to Agwar.)

Cosintrep No. 9, part 1, land, period to 062400B.
Intelligence P.W. from 919 Inf. Regt. captured
Cotentin landings 06 June. Operations First U.S.
Army Utah landing of troops and stores continues,

82 and 101 airborne Divs. successfully reinforced during night. Omaha very stiff fighting continues, U.S. troops have driven enemy back from beach area. St. Laurent sur Mer 6689 and Colleville sur Mer 6887 captured. Second British Army advance continued with stiffening opposition. 9 Brit. Inf. Bde. ashore in area Hermanville sur Mer 0679 - Colleville sur Orne 0778. 41 Commando captured Lion sur Mer 0681. 4 command fighting in Ouistreham where enemy elements still holding out at 1830 hrs. 27 Armd. Bde. area Colleville sur Orne H.Q. 3 Brit. Inf. Div. 087785 6 Airborne Div. 6 Airlanding Bde. landed successfully area 1077 - 1076 at 2100 hrs.
(Exfor Main 071155B to Admty.)

/Cosintrep...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.

Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Cositintrep No. 9, part 2, Naval.

A. Landings proceeding but the weather is causing some delay in unloading and damage to craft.

Conditions off the Beaches are unfavourable for the operation of small craft and an improvement in the weather must be hoped for if we are to maintain our schedule rate of discharge. Build-up convoys continue to arrive and the first ships and craft have returned from the Assault to reload.

Corncob, Phoenix and Bombardon tows are proceeding.

B. Damage by bombs has been reported from one British Headquarters ship and one United States X.A.P. No other major casualties.

C. An attack was made by E-Boats on an outward-bound convoy of L.C.T. without result.

D. The Supreme Commander and the Allied Naval Commander in Chief are visiting the Assault Area.

E. The Commander in Chief, 21 Army Group left for his Tactical Headquarters in a destroyer during the night.

F. Naval Intelligence.

Many sightings of U-Boats off Ushant suggest enemy intention to operate in the Western Approaches to the Channel with up to 20 boats, while maintaining guard against Biscay landings with remainder. Three Narvik destroyers sighted and believed to have reached Brest from Gironde. E-Boat dispositions no change. Nightly patrols from customary bases are being maintained against possible further landings. Beach obstacles everywhere as expected. Beaches not mined, but Tellermines attached to obstacles are causing damage to craft especially when retracting.

(Ramsey 071250B to Admty.)

Para. 1. Operations. Coastal defences broken through in all sectors but no information to indicate whether divisions holding coast overwhelmed.

No large scale counter attacks yet but Twenty one Panzer Div. and Twelve S.S. Panzer Div. probably both in Caen area and early counter-attack expected in suitable tank country N.W. of Caen.

(S.H.A.E.F. 072100 to Troopers, Agwar.)

Communique No. 4. Allied troops have cleared all beaches of the enemy and have in some cases established links with flanking beachheads. Inland fighting generally is heavy.

An armoured counter-attack in the Caen area on Tuesday evening was repulsed. Enemy resistance is stiffening as his reserves come into action. The landing of troops and seaborne Military supplies continues on all beaches despite the north westerly wind which has persisted since the assault.

Shortly before dawn today, light coastal forces, while sweeping to the eastward, encountered a superior force of enemy craft. Action was immediately joined and damage was inflicted on the enemy before he could make good his escape.

Enemy coastal batteries which were still in action yesterday have been silenced by Allied Naval Forces. It is not yet known whether all have been finally reduced.

/Allied...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Communique
No. 4.
(Contd.)

Allied aircraft have been directing the fire of TEXAS and GLASGOW who, together with other Allied warships, have been engaging inland targets behind the beaches.

Allied aircraft of all types and in great strength have again closely supported our land and sea forces

Early this morning airborne operations were resumed on a very large scale, supplies and tactical equipment being delivered to our ground forces.

In two operations this morning, medium and light bombers attacked large troop concentrations and Military buildings close behind the enemy line as well as gun positions in the battle area and railway lines south of the battle area.

Road, rail and other targets, including armoured vehicles, troop concentrations, gun positions and ammunition dumps were also attacked during the morning by fighter bombers.

Heavy bombers, in medium strength, attacked focal points on the road system in the area south of Caen early this afternoon.

Fighters escorted the bombers and also strafed and bombed railway yards, locomotives, trains of oil tank cars, flak towers, radio installations and airfields over a forty to fifty miles arc south and southeast of the battle area.

Continuous patrols were maintained over shipping, the beaches and the battle area. More enemy aircraft were encountered than on Tuesday and a number of them were shot down.

(S.H.A.E.F. 072330B to Agwar.)

Relay of 9th Air Force Headquarters report to N.C.W.T.F. Weather dawn to dusk 8th June, 1944 variable Strato Cumulus 3-1025-10 Base 2000 to 3000 feet. Winds north westerly 8 to 12 miles per hour decreasing during day visibility 10 miles. Disposition of German Air Force against Bridgehead expected to be completed dawn 8th June 1944. Fighters and bombers from N.W.Germany now in France and Belgium continuation of anti-shipping attacks at night can be expected.

(N.C.W.T.F. 072358B to Com. Forces O. U. B. C.T.G. 122.4, 125.8, 124.9.)

"Bigot"
procedure.

A.M. 221239 September, 1943. "Bigot" procedure in connection with Operation "Neptune" is to cease forthwith.

(Head of M.II 071757B to V.A.Dover.)

(Head of M.II 071813B to Cs. in C.)

Brest.

Navy Sitrep 6. No incident of importance. P.R.U. Brest incomplete cover, but 2 Narviks seen there.
(C. in C.Plymouth 072137B to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Assault Areas.

Area U.
(Marcouf.)

Continue magnetic and acoustic coverage of area Vermont. Insure complete coverage Bancducard on net shoal.
(C.T.F. 125 070600B to C.T.U. 125.9.4, C.T.U.125.9.6, C.T.F. 122.)

Proceed to assigned Beaches as close as possible but not closer than 5000 yards.
(T.U. 125.10.2 070955B to U.S.L.S.Ts. 284, 499, 57.)

Request DMLY (as recd.) of 2nd Pontoon Causeway three days to clear up congestion Utah Beach. Bombing sen rptg (as recd.) and occasional shell-fire delaying deliveries. Delay of some convoys may later be desirable.
(C.T.F. 125 071100B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Comply C.T.F.'s 125 071100B. Delay sailing 2nd Utah Pontoon Causeway 3 days.
(N.C.W.T.F. 071529B to F.O.C.Force U.)

Shuttle Control will become effective at 1100 hrs 8th June. Prior to that time send representatives to C.T.F.O. and C.T.F.U. for obtaining latest information. Keep C.T.G.122.4 and Cmdr. Destroyer Sqdn. 17 informed convoy movements and anchorages in order they may give you assistance.
(N.C.W.T.F. 071807 to C.T.G. 122.7.)

Relay of 9th Air Force Headquarters report to N.C.W.T.A. Weather dawn to dusk 8th June variable Strato Cumulus 3-1025-10 base 2000 to 3000 feet. Winds north westerly 8 to 12 miles per hour decreasing during day. Visibility 10 miles. Disposition of German Air Force against Bridgehead expected to be completed dawn 8th June. Fighters and bombers from northwest Germany now in France and Belgium. Continuation of anti-shipping attacks at night can be expected.
(N.C.W.T.F. 072359B to C.T.G. 122.4, 125.8, 124.9.)

Area G
(Asnelles.)

Your 062347. Repair equipment and ratings are being provided in repair ships including ADVENTURE for Gold Beaches. Ships sailing today. On 14 para. 46 refers.
2. In meantime landing craft recovery units should be able to assist.
(A.N.C.X.F. 070609B to Com. Force G.)

Mulberry due early tomorrow. If necessary to turn tows we must know by 1500 hours today. Report situation right flank and anticipated damage to Mulberry. All addressees inform Army ?C.O.I.C. if seen.
(Main Second Army 071150B to T.A.C. 30 Corps, Main 30 Corps.)

/Area...

War Diary.

7. 6. 1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Assault Areas.

Area O Master 062231B. BLUE SKY 61 sailed 0830/7, E.T.A.
(St. Laurent.) Portland 2000/7. This is secret.
(C.T.F. 124 070940B to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Have nine Rocket ships available for fire on Port en Bassin where your ships are now firing. Advise if you desire them to fire stating time and target.
(Cdr. Force O 071437B to N.C.W.T.F. Com. Force G.)

A sailed F.B.P. one A. 072200. B. Escort 111th E.G. C. E.T.A. 090900 Cardiff. D. Maritime M.V.E. BORINQUEN, GOETHALS, SIMONDS.
(C.T.F. 124 072204B to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

Eastern area.

Build-up is being prejudiced by lack of escorts. All convoy escorts still in assault area are to be sailed before dark.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071714 to N.C.E.T.F.)

In order to keep L.B.F. ships clear of approaches to the area during dark hours suggest returning ship should not be sailed to reach the area or its approach between sunset and sunrise.
(C.S.2 072108 to N.C.E.T.F.)

Will situation in Eastern Assault area permit transfer of RODNEY to N.C.W.T.F. at 0600/8th.
(A.N.C.X.F. 072337B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Western area.

Your 071836B. First attack made. Awaiting results. Further attacks will be made as necessary.
(A.N.C.X.F. 072123B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Area J
(Courseulles)

Passed L.B.V.47 stopped and anchored in 49° 55' N. 027° W. at 1725/7. 3 Flots. of L.B.V. at Juno beach
(NASTURTIUM 072244B to S.O. Force J.)

Sail allocated percentage of operational L.C.T.5's to Force J as soon as practicable.
(N.C.W.T.F. 072341B to Com. Force U.)

Bombarding Forces.

RODNEY,
SIRIUS.

Intend to sail RODNEY and SIRIUS escorted by BLEASDALE and RIOU at 0300B/7th, routed F.S. and Channel 34, thence coastal route to area Juno. S.O.A. 15 knots. E.T.A. 34 H 0830B/7th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 070025B to N.C.E.T.F.)

/Comply...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.

Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Bombarding Forces.

Comply with my 070025. Channel 34 is swept and buoyed as in O.N.17 appendix 2. Channel 56 and 78 not yet buoyed.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 070029B to RODNEY.)

Sailed RODNEY, SIRIUS. My 070025 refers.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 070402B to N.C.E.T.F.)

RAMILLIES.

E.T.A. 0445 today.

(RAMILLIES 070026B to C. in C.Portsmouth, (R) N.C.E.T.F.)

Spotting A/C.

A.A. fire from ships in assault area is causing casualties to spotting aircraft.

(A.N.C.X.F. 070844 to Ships.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols.

HAIDA and HURON pass Gate at 0800B/7th and proceed to relieve PIORUN and JAVELIN in Force 27 on Western Patrol in vicinity of position FF at 1045. On relief PIORUN and JAVELIN return to Plymouth. (C. in C.Plymouth 070003B to D/F 10.)

Have set patrol G.A.5, 000° five miles from 000° Point Barfleur 4 and G.D. 180° five miles from 055° Point Barfleur 5.
(336 Aux. M/S Group 070145 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Be north of 50.00 N. by 0430.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 070200B to Unit C.)

Am patrolling eastern side Z 110 with OFFA, RETALIUM and three M.T.Bs. Your 070129B acknowledged.
(ONSLOW 070238B to Portsmouth P.W.)

Capt. P is to establish an A/S patrol on defence line A forthwith to be maintained during daylight hours. Guard and duty destroyers are to be used.
(N.C.E.T.F. 070729B to Capt. P.)

My 070729. This patrol is to be maintained during daylight until further directions. Hunts may be substituted for Fleet when available.
(N.C.E.T.F. 072040B to Capt. P.)

Defence policy for night 7/8. V.8 - 2nd Div. 55th M.T.B. Flotilla. V.7 29th M.T.B. Flotilla. V 1st M.T.B. Flotilla (?to be) 3 miles south of established position. U.10 R 4 Q one, P. N.3, K. -
(N.C.E.T.F. 071056B to E.T.F.)

War Diary.

7. 6. 1944.

Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

Assume following disposition forthwith.

1. E.G.12 and E.G.3, in Z.239 taking Eastern half and Western half respectively.

2. E.G.11 Southern half of Z.233.

3. E.G.14 Northern half of Z.234.

(C. in C.Plymouth 071211B to E.Gs. 3, 11, 12 and 14.)

Patrols 7/8th June. O.N.Plymouth 5 section, appendix 1, para. 1.

1. A. Force 28 SALADIN (S.O.), SKATE, SCIMITAR.

B. (1) SCIMITAR 2000/7. D. HURD deep patrol -

50° 12' N. 02° 21' W. to 50° 01' N. 02° 57' W. E. (1) SKATE, (2) SALADIN. (3) SCIMITAR. H. SALADIN, SKATE leave day patrol line 2230/7 to take up night patrol as in D. by 2300/7. SCIMITAR is to R/V on night patrol line at 2300/7 as ordered by SALADIN. Force 28 is to shift patrol line 10 miles 335° at 0500/8.

2. (1) 11th E.G. Southern half of Z.233. (2) 12th E.G. Western half of Z.239. (3) 14th E.G. Northern half Z.234. (4) 3rd E.G. Eastern half Z.239.

3. Orders for Western patrol will be issued separately.

4. (a) (1) Unit G.Q. M.T.Bs. 679, 677. (2) Unit G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 430, 414. (3) Unit G.N.3 M.T.Bs. 415, 413. (4) Unit G.T. 1 M.Ls. 181, 186, 180. (b) (2) 2300/6. (d) O.N.Plymouth 5 section 1 para. 17

(1) B moving to A at 0300/8 (2) C moving to B at 0300/8 (3) D (4) E. (j) 0515/8

5. Air patrols as in my 061316B Section V from 2330/7 to 0430/8.

(C. in C.Plymouth 071343B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, SALADIN, SCIMITAR, SKATE, BLACK BAT.)

Capt. D.10th detach BLYSKAWICA, ESKIMO to Plymouth forthwith.

2. 19th division forming Force 27 to patrol in Northern half of Z.233 and Z.233 till further orders

A/S formation to be taken up when on patrol.

3. Objects, to support A/S Support Groups addressed and to cover shipping in Channel and Cornish coast against surface attack.

(C. in C.Plymouth 171353B to D.F.10. (R) E.Gs. 3, 11, 12, 14, A.N.C.X.F.)

O.N.Portsmouth one para. 38. Cover night 7/8 June.

A. ONSLAUGHT and ORIBI northern edge of Z.113 and Z.120 between longs. 01.34 W. and 01.48 W.

B. STAYNER and RETALICK in Z.110 and Z.111 between

49.45 N. 00.14 W. and 49.59 N. 01.14 W.

C. Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 452. Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 692 (S.O.) 591. Unit G.A.5 M.T.Bs. 453 (S.O.), 447. Unit G.A.6 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 689.

D. Unit G.C. M.T.Bs. 724 (S.O.), 728 in 50.13 N. 02.05 W. in Z.127

F. Beaufighter aircraft will operate south of 49.55 N. and west of 01.35 W. with freedom to attack any ship leaving Cherbourg but not to chase east of Cap Levi.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 071357B to ONSLAUGHT, ORIBI, STAYNER, RETALICK, Capt. S.5, HORNET, VERNON.)

/O.N...

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

O.N.Plymouth 5 Section 2 ships.

A. E.G.14 Southern half Z.233 and Northern half Z.234. E.G.11 Z.229.

B. Adjacent squares to patrol areas E.G.11 north, south and east, E.G.14 north and south, E.G.3 north, E.G.12 south and west. C. 2300/7th.

D. Estimate most likely enemy route is up mid-channel from position given in Admiralty's O71539.

(C. in C.Plymouth O71914B to E.G.s. 3, 14, 11, 12.)

O.N.1 para. 52B.

Eastern night Channel report 7/8th June.

1. OPPORTUNE Z.7. ORWELL Z.8. OBEDIENT Z.9 south. SAVAGE Z.10. TROLLOPE Z.12 east. THORNBOROUGH Z.13 east.

2. C.F.units. F.N. One 2 M.Ls. Z.1 F.N. Two 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N. Three 2 M.Ls. Z.3. F.N. Four 3 M.T.Bs. Z.5. F.N. Five 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.Y. Three 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12 west. F.Y. Four 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 east. F.Y. Five 3 M.T.Bs. Z.11 south. F.X. Two 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east. F.X. Three 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 west.

3. Beaufighters Ostend to Le Touquet as required. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.

(C. in C.Portsmouth O71928B to Ships in Area C.)

Force 27 take up patrol line between AA. 49° 30' N. 6° 20' W. and FF. 49° 30' N. 5° 00' W. forthwith.

2. Force 26 conform on taking over patrol tomorrow 8th, amending my O72144B accordingly.

(C. in C.Plymouth O72318B to D.F.10.)

Operation
C.A.

1. Second E.G. leaves waiting area at 1500 and proceeds towards position A. 049° 40' 009° 00' at 15 knots.

2. 5th E.G. R/V with 2nd E.G. Both groups adjust speed after R/V so as to pass through A. and arrive in position B. 048° 30' 008° 10' at 0300B/8th June.

3. PURSUER and TRACKER and 15th E.G. proceed as necessary to cover 2nd and 5th E.G. keeping to westward.

4. MATANE, SWANSEA, STORMONT proceed forthwith to waiting area PP. (C. in C.W.A. O71347B.)

Operation C.A. Forces are reconstituted as follows:-

Second, Fifth, Fifteenth E.Gs. TRACKER, PURSUER form Force 32 remainder form Force 31.

2. Own air patrols are being extended tonight to a western limit line joining, all positions N. and W. unless otherwise indicated, 049° 40' 008° 01' 048° 02' 007° 59' 046° 02' 006° 58' to locate U-Boats which left Brest night 6/7th June and may be proceeding westward.

3. Force 32 is not to cross meridian 008° to eastward before dawn 8th.

4. After dawn Force 32 search U-Boats reported during night. If no reports are received force 32 search in following areas S.W. quarter of GL. easterly half GQ. N.W. quarter GR. Force 32 is not to cross meridian 007° W. to eastward unless in hot pursuit.

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Operation
C.A.
(Contd.)

5. TRACKER fighter should assist those of PURSUER should eastward movement of force require.
6. C. in C.Plymouth's 071353, Z.233 and Z.238 lie between meridians 005° and 006° and parallels 049° 01' and 049° 30'.
(C. in C.W.A. 071757B.)

You were probably reported by enemy aircraft at 1830/7th.
(C. in C.Plymouth 071959B to Force 31.)

Cover for Force 26 comprising BLYSLAWICA (S.O.), ESKIMO, Operation C.A. PIORUN and JAVELIN are to pass Gate at 1000B/8 and proceed to take up Western Patrol in Northern half of Z.233 and Z.238 by 1300. A/S formation to be maintained on patrol.

2. Object. To cover A/S support groups addressed, shipping in Channel and Cornish Coast and forces taking part in operation C.A. against surface attack.

3. A.F. 1300B/8 Force 27 is to leave patrol and return to Plymouth.

4. From dawn/8th 2nd and 5th E.Gs. will carry out anti U-Boat operations in vicinity of 48° 00' N. 7° 30' W. supported from westward by TRACKER, PURSUER and 15th E.G. These forces will comprise Force 32. 1st and 6th E.Gs. forming Force 31 remain at waiting positions.

5. Communications. 6. Codewords.

Force 26 - "Scratch 1" till 1300/8 then "Scratch".

Force 27 - After 1300, "Scratch 2".

(C. in C.Plymouth 072144B to 10th D.F. Info. 3rd, 11th, 12th, 14th E.Gs. Ships concerned with Operation C.A. A.N.C.X.F. C. in C.W.A., C. in C.Portsmouth, Admty. 10, 19 Groups, H.Q.C.C. H.Q.A.D.G.B.)

Mine-sweeping

M.B.27 completed. 100% clearance not guaranteed owing to nearly all mines being carried by convoys. M/S 7 has given no help whatsoever and has not complied with N.C.E.T.F.'s 061644 or my 070002. Am complying with C. in C.Portsmouth's 070533.
(M/S 9 071415B to A.N.C.X.F.)

My 061331. One mine freed and sunk. Others deposited with cut sweep in 050° 06.7' N. 000° 01.6' W. Oropesa float sunk.
(M/S 7 071459B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Sweeping programme for 8th. Details.
(N.C.E.T.F. 072016 to Fleet M/S Flotillas.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy Action.

Surface craft off Pte. de Barfleur.	One unknown surface craft detected by Radar 333° Pte. de Barfleur 13 miles, course 10° speed 30 knots. (Portsmouth P.W.G. 070016 to Ships.)
	Surface craft detected by Radar in 350° Pte. de Barfleur 12 miles, speed 0 knots (sic). (Spare Force No. 1 070245 to Portsmouth P.W.)
	Hydrophone contact bearing 230°. (ONSLOW 070246 to Portsmouth P.W.)
	My 0246. Contact faded. (ONSLOW 070249 to Portsmouth P.W.)
	My 0245. Friendly coastal forces. (Spare Force No. 1 070254 to Portsmouth P.W.)
	Cancel my 0254. (Spare Force No.1 070304 to Portsmouth P.W.)
E-Boats.	Probable that 3 E-Boats have penetrated patrol to eastward. (356 Aux. M/S Group 070136 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
Minelayers.	German naval R/T minelaying signal heard at 0118. Strength of signal range under 10 miles from my position 077° 6.7 miles from St. Marcouf Islands. (EREBUS 070420B to Admty. A.N.C.X.F. N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)
Minesweepers off Ushant.	5 minesweepers bearing 090° distant 6 miles course 310°. My position 48° 03' N. 05° 48' W. (A/C LQQ 87 070915 to 19 Group.)
	My 0915B. P.C. and S. of enemy 48° 03' N. 05° 30' W: 070° 15 knots. (A/C LQQ 87 070921 to 19 Group.)
	5 minesweepers bearing 040° distant 15 miles from 48° 10' N. 05° 10' W. speed 6 knots. (A/C NOJ 63 071015B to 19 Group.)
	Enemy previously reported position 48° 10' N. 05° 05' W. Course 040° speed 15 knots. Am continuing patrol. (A/C NOJ 63 071025B to 19 Group.)
Destroyers off Brest.	3 Narviks attacked off Brest by aircraft night of 6/7th not since seen. Presumably now in Brest. (C. in C.Plymouth 071346B to Admty.)

/Enemy...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune."

Enemy Action.

Enemy
recognition
signal.

Following report graded A.1 received begins:-
German ships will carry an upright red Leuchtstab
(lamp staff) one metre long to distinguish them-
selves from Allied ships. Germans have been warned
to look for lamp staff before opening fire.
2. Comment. Similar procedure for ship/shore
recognition known to be in use in Aegean.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071836 to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.,
Forces S,O,U,L,J,G,B.)

Western
Channel.

Refer to this as my dis. 07852B. Senior ensure
that all units of your command have this infor-
mation. Estimated enemy naval capabilities against
N.W.T.F. during night June 7/8th. Submarines and
destroyers sighted proceeding from Biscay ports
and Brest indicate probability of attack in Western English
Channel and Approaches to Bristol Channel. Several T.Bs. and
Elbings in Le Havre and Brest. Enemy E-Boats minelaying ac-
tivities by air and surface craft to be expected all Channel areas
German tank landing crafts in Le Havre, Port en Bessin, Isigny
and St. Vaast may possibly attempt sortie. Attention directed
to resemblance of these craft to our L.C.Ts.
(C.T.F. 122 071903B to W.T.F.)

E-Boats
attacked by
OBEDIENT.
Convoy
E.T.M.2
and Dover
shelled.

Dover Navisitrep two.
At 0115 OBEDIENT intercepted and attacked a group
of four E-Boats in 210 Dungeness 40. They retired
to eastward at high speed. No claims.
Aircraft claims in attacks during the night:-
Beaufighters 1 E-Boat sunk. Albacores 1 E-Boat
probably sunk, one damaged.
Convoy E.T.M. 2 was heavily shelled by enemy
batteries whilst off Dover between 1040 and 1210.
Twenty salvoes totalling 53 rounds were fired
through smoke screen. No damage was sustained. R.M. Siege Regt.
replied with 12 rounds of 14" from Winnie and Pooh on Noire
Mottes Battery at Sangatte.
Enemy batteries fired 17 rounds into harbour and town at 1320
(no naval damage, 10 civilian casualties) and 5 rounds at 1800
(10 casualties). In latter case Bigbobs were straddled but sus-
tained no damage.
(V.A.Dover 072100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats
from Brest.

5 U-Boats were sighted leaving Brest between 1900
and 2100/6th. It is considered they will operate
in the Channel or Approaches to Bristol Channel.
2. 3 Narvik destroyers were sighted on a N.W.course
at 2030/6th.
(C. in C.Plymouth 070047B to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

/My...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

My 0044. Course 330° possibly U-Boat 024° (?Pte. de Barfleur) 24 miles.
(OFFA 070054 to Portsmouth P.W.G.)

Local area estimate including English and Bristol Channels.

Two or possible three U-Boats are considered on evidence of numerous A/C sightings in Ushant area to be moving to eastward in lat. 49° 10' N. long. 05° 25' W. at 1200Z/7th June.

Half a dozen about 60 miles west of Ushant west-bound.

(D.D.I.C. 071539B to A.I.G.331.)

P.R.U.Reports.

First phase report P.R. sortie 1950B/6th June. Trouville. Complete coverage show number 2 and 3 positions numbering north to south seriously damaged or destroyed, three near misses on number 4 position. Two light A/A positions seriously damaged or destroyed.
(10th Ph. Group 070330B to Admty.)

A. P.R.sortie 1445B/6th June.

B. Gatteville medium coastal battery.

Bombs well dispersed over target. No previous coverage.

- No. 1 position - no visible damage.
 - No. 2 position - no visible damage.
 - No. 3 position - two near misses damaging emplacement and probably gun
 - No. 4 position - no visible damage.
 - No. 5 position - several near misses damaging emplacement.
 - No. 6 position - probably near miss, no visible damage.
- Turret guns in front of 6 gun positions.
- No. 1 gun position - several near misses - no visible damage.
 - No. 2 gun position - near misses - no visible damage
 - No. 3 gun position - no visible damage.
 - No. 4 gun position - no visible damage.
- (67th T.R/C Grp. 070420B to Admty.)

Air Activity.

Smokelaying
in Dover
Straits.

Experience has now shown that the smokelaying by Swordfish of 819 Squadron is essential to the successful passage of large ship convoys through the Dover Strait in conditions of high visibility by day.

/Today...

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS."Operation "Neptune".Air Activity.

Smokelaying Today 32 sorties were flown by these aircraft to in Dover cover the passage of convoy E.T.M.2 and it is Straits. anticipated that further sorties will have to be (Contd.) flown late p.m. to cover the passage of E.T.C.3. 2. In effect this work will preclude these aircraft from executing their proper role to attack enemy shipping the Dover Strait by night. 3. It is therefore requested that further Albacores of 415 Squadron be made available at Manston so that at least 6 sorties can be flown and 3 aircraft kept at readiness per night. This is considered to be especially necessary as no surface craft are available to form a striking force (V.A.Dover 071741B to A.N.C.X.F.)

1. Understand V.A.Dover is now pressing for continuance of smokelaying operations by Swordfish for indefinite period although original requirement was stated to be for D day only. Only Squadron available is 819 which is earmarked primarily for offensive operations against E-Boat and is fitted V.H.F. and specially trained to operate under G.C.I. control. Smokelaying operations are already seriously interfering with primary task of 819 Squadron. I consider this unacceptable and have instructed A.O.C.16 Group accordingly. 2. Have investigated possibility of using Avengers but find this impracticable. Swordfish Squadrons in 19 Group are fully occupied on essential convoy escorts. 3. If continuance of smokelaying is considered essential I must ask for reinforcement by 1 more Swordfish Squadron. (H.Q.C.C. 071915B to Admty.)

Enemy Estimate of future enemy air activity. Long range activity. bombers, 180 sorties up to 0600 including anti-shipping A/C. Up to 300 sorties in 24 hrs. probable targets shipping and beaches. Fighter bombers up to 100 sorties beaches and ground targets. Fighter sorties 300 to 500 according to weather conditions. (A.N.C.X.F. 072119B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Movements.

FAULKKNOR. Sailed FAULKKNOR 2315. (C. in C.Plymouth 070120B to N.C.W.T.F.)
E.T.A. 0600/7th. HAMBLEDON in company. MAGPIE with seriously wounded military calling Portsmouth en route. (HIND 070154B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

HUDDERSFIELD Sailed at 0500B/7 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN to R/V tug TOWN. HUDSON. HUDSON and tow in psn. B. Q.Z.S.434 at 1000B/7 and escort to Utah area. N.C.W.T.F. is requested to sail HUDDERSFIELD TOWN to Milford on completion. HUDDERSFIELD TOWN routed by route P and Channel 56. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 070545B to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

COURBET. My 052245, sailed. (F.O.I.C. Portland 070730B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Duff...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.

Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Movements.

Duff reports L.S.Ts. lost half their tows last night as follows:

L.S.T. 621 060° Nab Tower 2. L.S.T. 519 050° 31' N. 000° 01' W. L.S.T. (279?) 050° (31'?) N. 000° 08' W.

(Capt. S.S. 071236B to A.N.C.X.F.)

QUINCY.

When directed by Comcrudiv Seven proceed at high speed to Portland proceeding via Channel 2, route R, area Z and Channel A. Replenish ammunition and fuel. Return at high speed to Utah as directed by C. in C. Portsmouth arriving in area Utah by sunset 8th June.

(C.T.F. 125 071240B to QUINCY.)

Operation L.1.

B. CAMPBELL, VIVACIOUS, CLARKIA, MIGNONETTE, PINK. C. E.T.A. Nab Tower 2000. E.T.A. Southend 1030/8. D. Dulcimer. E. L.S.T. 215, 239, 180, 1721 to tow L.S.T. 361, 324, 302, 421, 520, 72, 416, 11, 238. F. L.S.T. 21, 230, 180, 17 casualties. L.S.T. 215 prisoners CAMPBELL, VIVACIOUS and one corvette escorting Tilbury Section.

(Capt. Northbound Sailing 071344B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

RAMILLIES.

Intend to sail RAMILLIES escorted by SWIFT and VERULAM about 1800 today 7th for E.T.F. area, routed F.U. 78, S.O.A. 17 knots, E.T.A. 2300B/7th. (C. in C. Portsmouth 071711B to N.C.E.T.F.)

CARMICK,
GHERARDI.

U.S.S. CARMICK and U.S.S. GHERARDI are to pass the Gate at 2200B/7th and proceed to assault area. (C. in C. Plymouth 071753B to U.S.S. CARMICK, U.S.S. GHERARDI.)

Port Facilities.

Ramp.

Sailings, for D+2 confirmed as three A.1 Phoenix to both Mulberries.

Whale for Mulberry A confirmed, and for Mulberry B as follows. 4 J.1. 1 reconstructed A.2 number 593 if ready otherwise increase J.1. From four to 6. 1 K.1 2 F.1. Sailing for D+3 (9th) confirmed for Mulberry A as in my 061229. For Mulberry B Phoenix 3 A.1. Whale 1 C.1 1 S.F.1. 2 J.1 or 1 A.2 depending on D+2.

All sailings for 9th are subject to availability of tugs returning from Far Shore.

(A.N.C.X.F. 071306B to S.N.O. Selsey, Peel Bank.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Port Facilities.

Western block ship planted with bows in 85670
88080 stern in 85570 87975. 20 minutes elapsed
between blowing and settling during which time
ship slewed 115°. Charges appear too small (hole
approx. 2 feet diameter) and sited too near waterline so that
whenship listed only one side flooded. B. C. D. and G. Blank.
E. Bombardon moorings progressing satisfactorily.
F. Survey of Corncob line show serious discrepancy necessitating
postponement of further sinking, but anticipate proceeding a.m.
tomorrow. Preliminary survey shows Phoenix area as expected.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B 071954B to Mulberry movements.)

(S.N.O.T. 070012, see next page.)
Casualties.

BULOLO
damaged.

BULOLO hit by one bomb at about 0605 which burst
just outside operations room. 2 R.A.F. Officers
and 1 Naval rating killed. Ship can continue to
function as H.Q. ship except possibly for bombard-
ment control for which ALBRIGHTON is already
standing by.
(S.O. Force G 070643B to N.C.E.T.F.)

L.S.T. 715
torpedoed.

British L.S.T. 715 torpedoed about 0300B/7th. All
personnel saved. 2 wounded. All publications
saved. Cargo burned. Ship abandoned. Position
49.50 N. 00.53 W. at 0700B. Still afloat. All
personnel being transferred to nearest Hospital
Ship by S.C.R. 29.
(HAMBLEDON 070730B to Cdr. Force B.)

L.S.T. 715 reported torpedoed and abandoned afloat
at 0300/7 in 49° 50' N. 00° 53' W. Request you
will send tug.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071722B to N.C.W.T.F.)

PHEASANT
mined.

Hit mine 315° 4 miles St. Marcouf. Have picked
survivors.
(PHEASANT 070740Z to C.T.U. 125.9.3.)

SUSAN B.
ANTHONY
damaged.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY damaged by explosion in 49.33 N.
00.47 W. Request landing craft may come and take
off troops.
(LAPWING 070807B to N.C.W.T.F.)

SVENNER
(sunk 6th
June.)
C.Bs.
compromised.

Liaison Signalman of SVENNER reports it was impos-
sible to destroy or dispose of S.Ps. and C.Bs. when
ship was torpedoed on far side. Ship last seen
settling in shallow water. Compromise considered
likely.
(F.O.I.C. Southampton 070915B to Admty.)

/FRANCIS...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

L.C.A. 998,
935, 959.

L.C.A. 998 sunk on operations, request replacement.
L.C.A. 935 and L.C.A. 959 have hull damage beyond
capabilities of Flotilla staff, request both may
be replaced.
(S.N.O.T. SS. EMPIRE GAUNTLET 070012.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.

Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

FRANCIS C.
HARRINGTON.

Mined. Request immediate assistance for casualties
Ends. Bearing 213°, class 2.
(FRANCIS C.HARRINGTON Recd. 070938.)

L.S.T. 523
damaged.

L.S.T. 523 with tow collided with U.S. 0900. Holed
starboard bow 4 feet length just above water line.
One compartment flooded, ship otherwise seaworthy,
carrying on normal duty.
(F.D.T. 216 071035B to N.C.W.T.F.)

L.C.T. 2229
damaged.
L.C.T. 2255
disabled.

061930 sighted derelict L.C.T. 2229 submerged
beyond Salvage. Towed L.C.T. 2255 loaded and dis-
abled to Bay of Seine. Patrolling there now.
Request instructions.
(A.T.R. 15 071120 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Your 071120. Proceed to assistance of large L.C.T.
in 183° Beachy Head 47 miles. If loaded tow to
Assault area, if empty tow to Portsmouth. Report.
N.C.E.T.F. pass to A.T.R. 15.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071325B to A.T.R. 15.)

L.C.As. 853,
879, 911 &
1069 sunk.
L.C.As. 1063
and 1068
stranded.

Following L.C.A. from 551 Flotilla have been lost
on operation "Neptune": 853, 879, 911 and 1069
all sunk.
1063 and 1068 stranded on Dog Green Beach amongst
obstacles.
Remaining 12 L.C.A. of Flotilla are being repaired
by ships staff.
Request replacements for 6 L.C.A. lost.
(S.N.O.T. EMPIRE JAVELIN 071213 to FOLIOT.)

DINARD
mined.

Sailed hospital ship DINARD independently by
routes F and T and Channel 56, speed 17 knots,
for Juno area. E.T.A. 1815B/7th.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 071432B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Hospital ship DINARD position at 1610 G.M.T. 49.35
N. 00.35 W. Am in tow endeavouring to make harbour.
R.A.F. informed. From Burnham on Sea Radio.
(DINARD to Niton Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 071759.)

Following received from Niton Radio. Received
1615 G.M.T. begins: S.O.S. de Hospital ship DINARD
Struck mine, position 49.31 N. 0.35 W. Send
assistance.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 071815B to Admty.)

Send rescue tug (?to) DINARD mined in 049° 31' N.
000° 35' W.
(N.C.E.T.F. 071916B to N.C.Force G, CATTISTOCK,
Capt. P. E.T.F.)

/Take...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

Take DINARD to U.K. via reverse route.
(C.T.F.124 072215B to GAIRSAY.)

16 L.C.A. L.S.I. (L) report following L.C.A. lost or damaged
craft lost. EMPIRE ANVIL 9 lost and 3 damaged. EMPIRE
5 L.C.A. GAUNTLET 1 and 2. EMPIRE JAVELIN 6 and nil.
craft Intend to replace in full from O.R.P. Plymouth
damaged. except EMPIRE ANVIL received eleven.
(FOLIOT 071644 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

U.S.L.C.I. (L) 2 broken down barges in approx. 04(?) Cap
83 damaged. Barfleurlight 23 miles. M.L.214 proceeding
Portland with (?damaged) U.S.L.C.I. (L) 83.
(M.L.214 071745B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

ST. JULIAN. From ST. JULIAN. Here struck mine off French
coast. My main aerial gone (unread).
(Niton Radio Recd. 071827 G.M.T.)

All aerials gone. Here trying to salvage vessel.
(ST. JULIAN to Niton Radio No T.O.O. Recd. 072014.)

EMERALD EMERALD oil fuel tank (severity 48 tons) leaking
damaged. from near miss.
(C.S.10 072126B to N.C.E.T.F.)

WEST Following has been read by Burnham W/T.
HONAKER. Torpedoed by enemy plane. Remainder unread.
No bearing obtained. R.A.F. informed.
(WEST HONAKER No T.O.O. Recd. 072234.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy Sailed from Exmouth at 0035B/7th.
U.B.2. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 070045B.)

Convoy A. Sailed. B. ELKINS, CURZON, PUFFIN, FOULNESS.
E.T.C.22. C. E.T.A. 0600B/8th. D. Nominal. E. for Sword
GATESHEAD, ANTIQUITY, DEEMOUNT, CHANT 69. For Juno
GLAMIS, TOLSTA HEAD. For Gold ASA, ELDRIDGE,
BARON RUTHVEN, ARIDITY, CRAGSIDE, JELlicoe, ROSE.
For Omaha EMPIRE AUDREY. For Utah EMPIRE TOAST. Expect to join
from Isle of Wight. For Sword DICKY, BEECHFIELD, WESTON,
BLACKWATER. For Juno SPIRALITY, CORUNDUM, NAVIEDALE, KAIDA,
MOORLANDS, BROOMFIELD. For Gold BERRYDEN, BON,AWE, SPES. Also
ALNWICK and CHANT 20. (another version says CHANT 22.)
(A.N.C.X.F. 070201B.)

/Convoy...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy
E.T.C.22W.

124, 819 and PENNYWORT are to escort E.T.C.22W weighing 1330/7th routed by F.U.78 to E.T.F.area. 2. LAVENDER and PENNYWORT acknowledge. (C. in C.Portsmouth 070511B to LAVENDER, PENNYWORT.)

A. Sailed E.T.C.22W. B. Escort nil. C. E.T.A 0600/8. D. Fatima K.A. E. SPIRALITY Juno, NAVIDALE Juno, KAIDA Juno, MOORLANDS Juno, SARD Juno, NEPHRITE Juno, BROOMFIELD Juno, BEECHFIELD Sword, DICKY Sword, WESTON Sword, BLACKWATER Sword, BERRYDEN Gold, BONAWE Gold, SPES Gold, SEA SALVOR E.T.F. LINCOLN SALVOR E.T.F., FOREMOST 18 E.T.F. (C. in C.Portsmouth (Turco) 071555, A.N.C.X.F. 072109B.)

Convoy
E.T.M.2.

A. Sailed. B. Escorts MACKAY (S.O.), SOUTHDOWN, POPPY, STATICE, VERVAIN, POTENTILLA, M.L.113, M.L.171. C. E.T.A. 0700B (D+2). D. Codeword "Stay-sail". Radio distinguishing Group QF. E.

1.	2.
FORT CREVECOEUR (Cmdre.)	G.
FORT DEARBORN	G.
WILLIAM A.JONES (U.S.)	S.
IGNATIUS DONNELLY (U.S.)	G.
LEE S. OVERMAN (U.S.)	J.
FORT KASKASKIA	G.
JOHN A.SUTTER (U.S.)	S.
JOHN E.WARD (U.S.)	G.
WILLIAM PHIPS (U.S.)	J.
GEORGE WYTHE (U.S.)	G.
MATTHEW T.GOLDSBORO (U.S.)	J.
CHARLES W.ELIOT (U.S.)	G.
CYRUS H.K.CURTIS (U.S.)	J.
ROBERT LANSING (U.S.)	G.
HANNIBAL HAMLIN (U.S.)	J.
WILLIAM CARSON (U.S.)	G.
PARK BENJAMIN (U.S.)	J.
WILL ROGERS (U.S.)	G.
HENRY AUSTIN (U.S.)	J.
ROBERT HENRI (U.S.)	G.
JOHN E.SWEET (U.S.)	J.
WILLIAM L.MARCY (U.S.)	G.
CAP TOURANE	S.
THYSVILLE (Bel.)	G.
FORT ST. CROIX	J.
FORT WALLACE	J.
FORT BILOXI	J.
ASCANIUS	J.
ALBATROSS	S.

G. Routed C.H.11 to E.A.3 Buoy thence by K.U.78. (Com. i/c Southend 070601B, A.N.C.X.F. 071410.)

/Hospital...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Hospital carriers
DINARD,
DUKE OF LANCASTER.

Number X/0800/18A of 13th May 1944. DINARD has been substituted for DUKE OF LANCASTER and should be sailed for Juno as soon as possible. Ships will remain transposed in programme given in above memorandum until further orders.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071100B.)

4 transports. Turco.

Vessel	Commen- ced Emb.	Completed Emb.	Numbers Emb.	Sailed.
DEVONSHIRE	1500.3.6	1715.3.6	1979	1800.3.6.
LEOPOLDVILLE	0630.4.6	0930.4.6	2115	0955.4.6.
CAMERONIA	1125.4.6	1427.4.6	2684	1430.4.6
WORCESTERSHIRE	2015.4	2255.4.6	2635	0712.5.6

"Numbers embarked" given above have yet to be checked with Military.
Further details will follow.
(D.S.T.O.Tilbury 071110B.)

Sailings from E.N.T.F. Capt. Northbound Sailings now situated at southern extremity Channel 78. Northbound convoys should assemble in accordance with O.N. east 13 Section C para. 26.
(N.C.E.N.T.F. 071237B to E.N.T.F.)

?Sealed orders. Ref. O.N.4 para. 46, sealing is no longer necessary.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071239B to C. in C.Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C.Nore.)

Report No.5 7th June, 1944.
General progress. E.B.M.3. Arrived Isle of Wight 0800. E.T.A. U.S. Sector 0500/8.
E.T.M.1. Arrived British Sector 0700.
E.B.P.1. Arrived U.S.Sector 0830.
E.T.C.2Y. Arrived 0700.

E.B.M.2. Arrived 0800 - U.S.Sector. E.T.P.1. Arrived 0930.
E.T.C.2Z. Arrived 0700. E.W.C.1A. Arrived 0600. E.W.C.1B. Arrived 0830. Sailings.
E.B.P.2. Sailed approx. 2115/6. E.T.A. 0800/8. Composition as in A.N.C.X.F's 062115.
E.T.M.2. Sailed 0600 - E.T.A. 0700/8. Composition as in A.N.C.X.F's 171410 and Cdre. Southend's 070601.
E.B.C.2W. Sailed 1900/7. E.T.A. 0600/8. Composition as in A.N.C.X.F's 071925.
E.T.C.22W. Sailed 2100 - E.T.A. 0600/8. Composition as in A.N.C.X.F's 072109.
E.T.C.3. Sailed 1540. E.T.A. 0500/9. Composition as in Cdre. Southend's 071541.

/E.W.P.1...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Report No.5
General
progress.
(Contd.)
E.W.P.1. Intended to sail 2359. E.T.A. 0630/8.
Composition as in A.N.C.X.F's 062253 plus EMPIRE
ARQUEBUS, EMPIRE CROSSBOW, BIARRITZ.
E.B.C.3. Sailed 1330/7. E.T.A. 0600/9. Compo-
sition as in A.N.C.X.F's 071335.
E.T.C.22. Sailed 0100/7. E.T.A. 0600/8. Compo-
sition as in A.N.C.X.F's 070201.
General. 2. MAID OF ORLEANS, CLAN LAMONT and BEN-MY-CHREE under
repair in Southampton.
3. Casualties - in addition to SAMBUT. A. SUSAN B. ANTHONY damaged
in E.B.P.1. B. FRANCIS C. HARRINGTON damaged in E.B.M.2.
C. DINARD and ST. JULIAN mined en route from Southampton to
British beaches. Towing arrangements are in hand.
4. PRAGUE and LADY CONNAUGHT sailed.
(M.W.T. (Buco) 071244B.)

Convoy
E.B.C.2W. A. Sailed. B. Escort nil. C. E.T.A. 0600/8.
D. Exodus Y.G. E. JOFFRE ROSE Utah, WESTDALE Utah,
BEESTON Utah, WHEATCROP Utah, TOPAZ Utah, CHORZOW
Utah, MONKSVILLE Omaha, TARCOON Omaha PEBBLE Omaha
VLIESTROM Omaha.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 071437.)

Convoy
J.M.4. E.T.A. J.M.4 convoy 0230/8. S.O.A. 4 knots.
(MIMICO 071915B to Capt. Southbound Sailing.)

Convoy
E.B.C.2W. A. Sailed. B. Escort Nil. C. E.T.A. 0600/8.
D. Exodus Y.G. For Utah. JOFFRE ROSE, WESTDALE,
BEESTON, WHEATCROP, TOPAZ, CHORZOW. For Omaha.
MONKSVILLE, TARCOON, PEBBLE, VLIESTROM.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071925B.)

Convoy
F.B.P.1B. A. Sailed. B. 115 E.G. C. E.T.A. Z Buoy 0200/8th
to R/V F.B.P.1A. If contact not made E.T.A. Port-
land 0330/8th for onward routing. D. Judge.
5. Oboe. E. LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE, DEVONSHIRE,
CITY OF CANTERBURY.
(Capt. N.S. 072021B.)

Refugees.
O.N.13 para. 63. Refugees must not be embarked
for U.K. in craft other than those specially
allotted and sailed to shoreham.
(A.N.C.X.F. 072127 to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F. F.O.
Forces S, O and U. Cdres. Force J and G.)

Convoy
F.W.L.3. A. Sailed. B. 104 E.G. and 132 E.G. IX 572 and
COMMANDANT D'ESTIENNE D'ORVES (GQBB.) C. E.T.A.
Nab Tower 0900/8. D. Neapolitan P.J. E. L.S.T.
377, (7503), 370, 406, 237, 301, 320, 367, 363, 8,
11, 368, 383, 198, 261, (7384), 63, 312, 540, 360,

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy 364, 423, 303 and Coaster NORIHGATE. F. L.S.T.
F.W.L.3. 370 (1) 4 (2) 13. 503 (1) 1, 301 (1) 7 (2) 4 (3)
passage in. 384 (3) 1, 367 (1) 9, 303 (1) 70, 312
(2) (7212) (3) 93. 312 (2) 10, (3) 100. 304 (1) 1
(2) 3. 364 (3) 500. L.S.T. 364 and 423 also have
casualties number not known. Not all L.S.T. contacted.
2. E.G.104 and 132 will part company Nab and proceed The Nore.
(Capt. Northbound Sailing 072200B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Convoy U.B.3 less LORD MIDDLETON sailed from Exmouth.
U.B.3. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 072202.)

Arrival 1. Difficulty experienced a.m. today in checking
report. individual arrivals as convoys ignored swept
channels and arrived over a front of 5 miles.
2. Arrival report. E.W.C.1B composition not known.
E.T.C.2Y 16 ships, E.T.C.2Z 18 ships, E.T.M.1 11
ships (one sunk)*. E.T.P.1 4 ships, C.O.B.1 (4) and (5) 14 ships,
DURBAN, O.R.P. KRAKOWIAK, DEW. Above arrived without sailing
signals being received except for E.T.M.1. Unless sailing signals
are received and convoys instructed to close Capt. Southbound
Sailings routeing and collective signals are most difficult to
compile.
(Capt. S.S. 072359B to A.N.C.X.F.) * SS. SAMBUT.

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicyProposed
U.S. Air
Service
between
N. Russia
and U.K.

Air 486 7th June our 010905. Ref. paras. 1, 2, 4 and 5 Soviet Naval Air Arm now state that they are sending all crews back to U.S. via Siberia/Alaska and will therefore not want any facilities from us.

(2) They are still interested in the air service as mentioned in para. 3 and at a meeting today undertook to provide details.

(3) Head of the Naval Air Service conveyed informally best wishes for success of A.E.F. (30 Mission, 071130Z to Air Min.)

Convoy
R.A. 60.

In view of your 290930 May suggest R.A.60 should be deferred until sailing of convoys to north Russia is resumed and escorts can be employed on both outward and homeward journeys.

(2) R.A.60 as at present plan would necessitate provision of all available H.F. destroyers and if possible 2 escort carriers in order to escort 6 merchant ships including EMPIRE BARD now believed capable of only 6½ knots station keeping speed.

(3) Consider this uneconomical use of forces particularly undesirable at present time.

(C. in C. H.F., 071133B to Admty.)

*Convoy not to be run (see p. 199)*ROYAL
SOVEREIGN
renamed
ARCHANGEL.

Ref. my 011135. Admiral Levchenko has officially informed me that the battleship ROYAL SOVEREIGN was renamed ARCHANGEL by the Russians after the transfer on May 30th to the Navy of U.S.S.R. Intend adopting this name in communication with ship and request change of name may be promulgated. (C. in C. Rosyth, 071227B to Admty.)

Biscay
Danger area
extension.

Ref. A.M. 020041. Announcement made. Attack at sight instructions now in force. (Admty., 071844B.)

Defence of the United Kingdom

Scapa.

My enclosure to letter 508/OSB/2/3 dated 15th April, 1944 part 2, para. 2. INVERLANE was sunk in Burra Sound on May 30th.

(2) During the operation the whole situation was reviewed and it is established that further blocking to make this Sound midget-proof is necessary.

(3) Intend to raise one suitable block ship from the eastern entrances for this purpose. Am proceeding in anticipation of covering approval. Estimated time to complete two months.

(4) Immediate steps are being taken to obstruct gap with wires.

(5) Old anti-torpedo nets and wires will also be used to obstruct the side channels.

(A.C.O.S., 071138B to Admty.)

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDSOperations

Operation "Kruschen". Scapa departures C.S.1 in VICTORIOUS with FURIOUS, KENT, JAMAICA, Capt. (D) 3 in MILNE with METEOR, MUSKETEER, MATCHLESS, WHELP, WIZARD, WAGER, WAKEFUL.

(A.C.O.S., 070439B.)

Operation postponed owing to fog. Intend to retire west of Shetlands, return if weather prospects are favourable a.m. tomorrow by same route flying off at 1459B. Request latest information by 1231B. My P.C.S. 061° 32' N. 002° 11' E., 252°, 20.

(C.S.1, 072001B to C. in C. H.F.)

British Air Activity

Attacks. P.C.S. of enemy 47.39 N. 04.57 W. course 230°, speed 8 knots result of attack unobserved. (A/C C/S MZL20, 070135B.)

Attack 2 unknown vessels 45° 28' N. 3° 21' W. (A/C JRC45, 071910.)

Enemy Air Activity

A/C over Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft heard South Island flying west. Weather foggy. (A.C.I.C., 071008B.)

A/C over Iceland. Unidentified aircraft plotted north of Keflavik 064° 00' N. 022° 34' W. at 1112. Plot faded 060° N. of Keflavik at 1136, with aircraft steering course north-west. (A.C.I.C., 071440B.)

Reports on air attacks. More detailed information of air attacks than is normally given in signalled reports is required as soon as possible after an attack. To achieve this an initial report of enemy air attacks is to be made by signal to Admiralty as soon as possible covering the following points:-

(a) Time, date and position of attack. (b) Ships (s) or convoy attacked. (c) Number and types of enemy aircraft. (d) Type or types of attack, to include height of attack and number of missiles released. (e) Ships sunk or damaged and weapon causing damage. (f) Number of enemy aircraft destroyed - (1) by fighters (2) by ships. (g) Whether fighter direction was carried out by escort. (h) R.C.M. used by our ships and by enemy.

(2) This signal should be sent by the Senior Officer in the case of attacks on ships at sea or by the Naval Authority in Charge in case of attacks on harbours and anchorages.

(3) This signal should be followed by Form S.1515 in accordance with C.A.F.O. 973/43.

(A.C.N.S.(W), 072258B to A.G.M. H. and A. 168 A-B-3.)

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDSEnemy Reports

- 6 ?Destroyers off Brest. P.C.S. of enemy 6 unknown vessels 48° 45' N. 4° 15' W. based on a fix obtained within half-an-hour 0000 course 096° speed omitted. (A/C 103 U.S.N. Squadron attacked 19 Group, 070017B.) Believe 6 destroyers. (A/C C/S JGG16 103 U.S.N. Sqdn., 070030.)
- 2 destroyers. P.C.S. of enemy 46° 55' N. 2° 45' W. based on a Gee fix obtained within half-an-hour of 0300 course and speed omitted. (A/C SYG17, 070316.)
- My 0315B (? 070316 intended). Enemy previously reported position 46° 53' N. 02° 40' W. course 320°, speed 25 knots resumed control. (A/C SYG17, 070350B.)
- 6 destroyers. Position course and speed of 6 enemy destroyers 47° 00' N. 2° 40' W., 030°, 20 knots. (A/C NOJ18, 070446B, 070510B.)
- Spanish fishing trawlers. 22 Spanish fish trawlers 44° 49' N. 02° 29' W. no speed. Request instructions. (A/C JOJ41, 071020B to 19 Group.)
- 4 destroyers. 4 destroyers bearing 110° distant 3 miles course 270° speed 20 knots position 48° 50' N. 5° 33' W. (A/C SGZ46, 071558Z.)
- Cruiser NUERNBERG class. Enemy Warships. Cruiser NUERNBERG class sighted both by air R/C at 1000/7th and by surface craft, later course 100° in position eastward of Moen Denmark. A.2. (N.A. Stockholm, 071751.) Comment: NUERNBERG may have been on visit to Copenhagen and is probably now returning to E. Baltic.

U-Boats.

- U/B in Bay of Biscay. Your 062306Z. Admiralty fix places U/B in Bay of Biscay. (D.D.I.C., 070445B to S.O. C.4.)
- U/B report. H/F D/F naval enigma message of 45 group bearing 115 estimated 100 miles 2nd class 5100 k/cs. My P.C.S. 052° 51' N. 025° 00' W. 000°, 9 knots. Weather report. (HDSTE, 071938B to Admty.)
- Your 071938B. D/F of transmission on 5100 k/cs at 1738Z fixed in 47° 40' N. 05° W. (D.D.I.C., 072140B to HDSTE.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Unexplained
explosions.

Information required in connection with all
unexplained explosions.
(C. in C. W.A., 071149B.)
Transferred to Standard Forms of Report Folder.

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Contraband
Control.

My 311803 May. M.E.W. desire that vessel outward bound from Mediterranean shall not be selected locally for interception automatically each month but only when so requested.
(D.E.W.D., 071743 to F.O.G.M.A.)

Air torpedo
attack on
Gibraltar
5th June.

229677. 30417/JIC cipher 7th June. Sitrep. Following for period 29/5 up to and including 4/6. Nothing to report. 5/6 Between 0148B and 0700B 9 to 12 enemy aircraft were operating over Gibraltar Bay and the Straits. Visual evidence is scanty but confirms that several aircraft flew over Bay at low level dropping torpedoes. Portions of one torpedo have been recovered. Three attacking aircraft crashed on beach just south of Tarragona and were identified as aircraft operated by Fascist Republican Air Force. He.17 S believed to have constituted part of Force. Spanish A/A were seen to fire. Gibraltar A/A did not fire.
(G.O.C. in C. Gibraltar, 071915B.)

POLLENZA.

In agreement with Foreign Office arrangements were made in September 1941 to sail ex Italian ship POLLENZA. Owing to misunderstanding in this Embassy sailing was cancelled at last minute. F.O.G.M.A.'s untimed signal 21st September 1941 addressed H.M.A. Madrid repeated Admty. 105 refers. If you consider you are in no way bound by oral agreement with Spaniards about which H.M.A. was specifically informed during one of his visits to Gibraltar and that local authorities will not create trouble H.M.A. agrees to ship being sailed.
(B.N.A. Madrid, 071930B to F.O.G.M.A.)

SS. ST.
CERGUE
(Swiss).

My 021725 Steamship ST. CERGUE now sails 0800/11.
(D.E.W.D., 071932B to F.O.G.M.A.)

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Caiques flying Red Cross Flag. Your 310901 May. No organisation is known for supply of Islands by caique under Red Cross. There is a certain amount of clandestine caique traffic carrying food but Swedes and Greeks are aware that this is entirely at their own risk and is quite unauthorised. They are also aware that they are liable to be sunk at sight and accept this position. We have had no information previously to indicate that such traffic displayed Red Cross.
(2) Request repetition of last sentence of your para. 3.
(Admty., 070039B to F.O.L.E.M.)

Dugi I. This is a Freedom paraphrase of Som Daily Sitrep No.52.
II. Reports from Fd. Yugoslavia: Germans are reported to have evacuated Dugi Island by C.C.O.F. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, No T.O.O., Recd. 0930.)

VOX. Leave patrol a.m./9th passing through position 036° 15' 026° 49' at 0500/9th June thence on the surface at your discretion through position (A) 035° 56', 025° 42'. (B) 035° 54', 023° 37' to arrive in position 035° 49', 023° 29', about dawn 10th.
(Capt. (S) 1, 071015 to VOX.)
Proceed with all despatch to be close south of Santorin by 0200/8th.
(Capt. (S) 1, 071217B to VOX.)
Request VOX proceeds forthwith patrol south of Santorin.
(F.O.L.E.M., 071307C to Capt. (S) 1.)

Enemy vessel. Appreciate enemy probably now in Portolago.
(F.O.L.E.M., 071057C to Capt. (S) 1st., S.O.51, (R) P.73 VOX, M.T.B.309, M.T.B.315.)

Sailings of Red Cross vessels. B.N.A. Madrid's 061230. There are 500 k/cs per second stations at Maddalena, Cagliari and Algiers better placed than Gibraltar to receive these messages.
(C. in C. Med., 071109B to Admty., B.N.A. Madrid.)

ULTOR, patrol report. ULTOR reports:
(A) At 0657/30th May in 43° 09' 06° 41' fired four torpedoes with non contact pistols set to 10 feet at 1000 ton salvage vessel with 400 ton lighter in tow and F lighter all forming continuous target. Range 1500 yards. One torpedo seen to hit salvage vessel which sank. Convoy was escorted by 3 R-Boats.
(B) At 0836/30th May in same position fired one torpedo with non contact pistol set to 6 feet at 400 ton lighter previously in tow and one of above R-Boats alongside. Range 800 yards. Torpedo seen to hit and both vessels sank leaving sea littered with buoys to which were attached portions of wire net.

/ (C) ...

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

ULTOR, patrol report (Contd.) (C) At 2210/31st May in 43° 10', 05° 31' attacked with gun 150 ton minesweeper range 1000 yards. Vessel blew up and sank. Nearby minesweeper and shore batteries opened fire on ULTOR forcing her to withdraw.
(D) At 0834/2nd June in 42° 35' 03' 08' fired 3 torpedoes with non contact pistol set to 16 feet at 5000 ton armed vessel escorted by one destroyer range 2000 yards. One heavy explosion heard at correct running range and lifeboats and wreckage observed 35 minutes later. Vessel considered sunk.
(S.10, 051137B)

Enemy shipping. R/C a.m. today showed - (1) TANAIS at Candia moved to outer side and apparently ready to sail. (2) ORION at Mitylene. (3) 6 ESTE, 1 MAGDA barge at Port Iero.
(Capt. (S) 1, 071502B to 1st S/M.F.)

Passage of German auxiliaries through Dardanelles. Joint Naval R.A.F. Intell. Appreciation. All times G.M.T.
Reliable source reports 6th June, 16 armed craft from Black Sea lying Port Iero. Crews state vessels disarmed Varna and rearmed Lemnos. Comment: Probably armament concealed under deck cargo timber during passage of Straits. Morale of crews reported low.
(C. in C. M.E., 071925C.)

UPSTART. Intend (P.65) UPSTART sail 1745/9th through 041° 56', 008° 03' at 0345/10th 043° 16', 007° 50' at 0200/11th to patrol in Zone SS.
(Capt. (S) 10, 071945 to C. in C. Med.)

Extension of Greek relief. There are no physical objections to extension of relief to five places mentioned in A.M. 012154 provided S.S.s and not caiques are used and only always one ship is in area at any time. However situation is such that any additional relief allowed will indirectly assist enemy in his supply problem and ease the difficult situation created by our constant attack on his shipping. Abuse of this relief in order to assist with the supply of Rhodes and Crete via Scarpanto would be difficult to prevent.
(2) Consider Kaso and Scarpanto should be approached from position E* of Black route, south-east Kos (Kos harbour should not be used) Nisero and Khalkis should be approached from Cape Krio or Red route.
(3) To avoid hampering and surface action against enemy shipping in this area this relief shipping must keep to a very strict time table which must reach F.O.L.E.M. at least four days in advance so that coastal forces operating there can be given ample warning. R.A.F. agree with above.
(F.O.L.E.M., 072109C to Admty.)
* Position P not E. (F.O.L.E.M., 131810C.)

War Diary7.6.1944
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesU/B
dispositions.

No. 50 area G. doubtful report received from fishermen that U/Boat was sighted in Gallandu Channel, Northern (?Strait) 1130Z/5th June. Scale of air escort remains X. Other areas. No fresh information. No change in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 070329.)

5X(E)
craft.

Your 011127 not to F.O.S. I would like to discuss this question fully with you during my forthcoming visit to Eastern Fleet. Suggest keeping all details till then.
(F.O.S. 071232B to S.A.C.S.E.A.)

Force 66.

Force No. 66 has been allocated to the AU Carrier Escort Group consisting of BEGUM, SHAH and the following ships of the 60th Escort Group, TAFF, LOSSIE, FINDHORN, NADDER, CAUVERY, GODAVARI.
(C. in C.E.F. 071404Z.)

Shortage
of F.A.A.
pilots.

Your 311126 para. 2 B.A.D. Washington 021703 Feb. reported four pilots being sent for ILLUSTRIOUS and four to the E.F. Pool taking passage in RANEE. It is not known in Admiralty how these pilots have been absorbed.

2. A small number of additional Corsair pilots will be sent from U.S.A. periodically but the numbers are likely to be few in view of the heavy programme for forming Corsair Squadrons in U.S.A. A conversion course to Corsair is now operating in U.K. and will be producing pilots in about four weeks.

3. Ten Seafire pilots will leave U.K. for E.F. in a few days' time. They will be available either for conversion to Corsairs in Ceylon or to replace any Corsair pilots who may have been diverted to 889 Squadron.

4. With reference to A.M. 151936/March increase in I.E. for fighter squadrons in the Eastern Fleet has thrown a heavy strain on the organisation and it has not yet been possible to meet it with our present resources especially at this time when the F.A.A. has extraneous commitments for "Overlord".

5. There is also an acute shortage of T.B.R. pilots which will persist for several months.

(D.N.A.O., 071854B to C. in C.E.F.)

L.C.Ts.
for
Brahamaputra
River.

Reference A.M. 231917/May and S.A.C.S.E.A. 310555/May*. Request you will report date called for by Comminch in his 232202/May.
(Admty. 072051B to C. in C.E.F.)

* Need for L.C.Ts. on Brahamaputra River.

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

GALT, attack on contact. Following is corrected copy of my 062015 begins: Initial contact hydrophone effect. Attacked doubtful echo contact. Contact not regained. Amended position of attack 041° 24' N. 064° 25' W. Completed boxed search depth 3 miles swept 12 miles south present course and speed 000° 14 to join MELVILLE. A/S training defective. Aircraft joining. Your 061830 refers. (GALT, 070330Z to C. in C. C.N.A.) MELVILLE in company. Your 061826 refers. Searching area. A/S repaired. (GALT, 070101Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)

Rockets and gunfire sighted. Sighted 3 series of white rockets from surface craft and gunfire position latitude 24.08 N. longitude 83.43 W. 0125/7 G.M.T. returning to harbour Key West. ((WDET) EDOUARD JERAMEC, 070500Z to Connav.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M attack and sighting summary. (GALT see 070330Z.) (N.S.H.Q., 070905Z.)

SS. NIEUW AMSTERDAM. Diversion order. (D.O.D.(H), 071139B to NIEUW AMSTERDAM.)

SS. ANDES. Diversion order. (D.O.D.(H), 071151A to ANDES.)

SS. MOUNT VERNON. Diversion order. (D.O.D.(H), 071153B to MOUNT VERNON.)

SS. MARIPOSA. Diversion order. (D.O.D.(H), 071247B to MARIPOSA.)

U/B dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 071440Z, Cominch, 071605Z.)

Instructions to British Forces and U.S. Forces working under one command. C.R.No.1411. The following procedure has been agreed upon with the Admiralty (a) when U.S. Forces under U.S. Operational Control are operating in the Mediterranean and British Atlantic Strategical Zones the situation may arise in which the Senior Officer of the U.S. Forces at the request of the British Authorities detaches part of his force to carry out some specific task.

War Diary.

7.6.1944.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Instructions to British Forces and U.S. Forces working under one command.
(Contd.)

(b) In doing so the S.O. of the U.S. Forces is responsible for informing the British Authorities whether he is transferring to them operational control of the U.S. ships being detached during the time they are carrying out the specific task.

(c) The S.O. should normally transfer such operational control to the British Authorities. He should only retain command himself when particular circumstances and his own local knowledge of the situation make this desirable.

(d) Should the British request be made to a higher authority than the Commander of the Force concerned the higher authority will carry out the procedure outlined above.

(e) Instructions on similar lines are being issued by Admty. to British Forces operating under similar circumstances in the U.S. Atlantic Strategical Zone.

(Cominch & C.N.O., 071907.)

Suggestions contained in your 312046 May are concurred in and instructions issued to U.S. Navy Forces by my 071907.

(Cominch & C.N.O., 071910Z to Admty.)

N.T. in W.R. at 0200.

U/B incidents.

Para. C. U.S.S. JACOB JONES attacked sound contact 39.25 N. 63.12 W. 071552Z.
(Cominch, 072040Z.)

U/B report.

This re-encyphers my 072253 begins: A.T.C. C.54 Nr.943 route Harmon from Azores reported sighting vessel possibly freighter or mother ship 071245Z 42.53 N. 36.38 W. headed N.W. This was probably

U.S.S. SEA CLOUD. Plane also reported sighting one S/M 071302Z 43.10 N. 37.13 W. on surface no way on S/M crashed dived black exhaust smoke observed. Same plane sighted second S/M 071322Z 43.33 N. 38.10 W. on surface course 130 true.
(C.T.F.24, 072310.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 869.

June 6th. Paras. 16 to end cover South Pacific Forces.

(6) After dark 15 Liberators bombed single heavy cruiser south coast Waigeo Island (north of Sorong) scoring two possible hits on stern three near misses.
(8) Two patrol Liberators early hours 5th unsuccessfully attacked enemy force described one battleship, one light cruiser, 3 destroyers between Halmahera and Waigeo Island course unknown.
(13) Naval forces supporting ground forces Biak area 5th bombarded enemy shore positions blowing up ammunition dump setting two fuel dumps afire. Total enemy dead Biak Island number nearly 950.

War Diary.7.6.1944.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New ZealandDigest 869.
(Contd.)

- (18) M.T.Bs. attacked barges off north-east coast New Ireland night 5th/6th.
 (19) Same night other M.T.Bs. saw possible submarine entering Buka Passage.
 (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 070930Z, amended 080704Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGNS/M attack
and sighting
summary.

- Para. A. (1) Ushant area.
 A/C Z/235 sighted 5 U-Boats with 6 escorts course 270° seen to dive at 1647Z/6th in 48.18 N. 05.23 W.
 (2) A/C E/53 sighted 2 U-Boats with 6 escort course 040° seen to dive at 1720Z/6th in 48.26 N. 05.14 W.
 (3) A/C P/248 sighted 1 U-Boat course 270°, seen to dive at 1821Z/6th in 47.28 N. 03.43 W.
 (4) A/C sighted U-Boat at 0007Z/7th in 48.33 N. 04.41 W.
 (5) A/C sighted 3 U-Boats course 260°, one fought back, at 0013Z/7th in 48.27 N. 05.12 W.
 (6) A/C L/53 sighted U-Boat course 050° which fought back at 0204Z/7th in 48.35 N. 06.05 W.
 (7) A/C L/53 sighted U-Boat at 0225Z/7th in 48.30 N. 05.30 W.
 (8) A/C L/53 sighted U-Boat at 0310Z/7th in 48.35 N. 06.12 W.
 (9) A/C L/53 sighted and attacked U-Boat course 000° at 0314Z/7 in 48.33 N. 05.23 W.
 (10) A/C U/63 attacked U-Boat course 080° at 0430Z/7th in 48.20 N. 05.05 W. Ushant area summary:- sightings 9; attacks 2.
 (11) Nazaire - Pallice area: A/C of 224 sighted 2 U-Boats course 270° at 2320Z/6th in 46.21 N. 02.53 W.
 (12) A/C U/502 attacked U-Boat course 270° at 0230Z/7th in 46.55 N. 03.26 W.
 (13) Bay of Biscay area: A/C S/201 sighted U-Boat at 2205Z/6th in 45.17 N. 08.25 W.
 (14) A/C attacked straddle at 0059Z/7th in 45.13 N. 08.30 W.
 (15) Channel area: Surface force seen by A/C N/110 to be attacking at 1224Z/6th in 49.26 N. 06.02 W. Total: sightings 11, attacks - air 4, surface 1.
 (16) Northern area: A/C D/333 sighted U-Boat course 000° at 0850Z/6th June in 62.55 N. 00.10 W.
 (D.D.I.C., 071235B.)

U/B Estimates.
 dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 071409B, 071429B.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

1. The build-up of our Land Forces over the five Assault Beaches continued steadily throughout today in improving weather. Ships of the "Corncob" Convoys have arrived and are being sunk in position and the first "Mulberry" tows have arrived in the Assault area. Work on the two U.S. Beaches O and U is about 24 hours behind schedule, but has much improved during today; and on the three British Beaches S, G and J where about half the Ferry Service Craft arrived today, it is hoped, given fair weather, to make up the initial 24 hours delay.

2. (a). During last night Enemy E-Boats operating in four groups entered the Assault area off Cap Barfleur and sank two Landing Craft from which all personnel were saved; and three of the E-Boats were repeatedly hit before all were driven off. Several more E-Boats were also attacked in the Dover area early today, when one was damaged by OBEDIENT one sunk by A/C, and two damaged by A/C and beached off Le Treport.

(b). Several U-Boats left Brest during last night. One of them was attacked by SKEENA about 35 miles N. by W. of Ushant at 1130 today and possibly damaged; and of ten U-Boats sighted by A/C today in that area six were attacked by A/C and two were probably destroyed. Tribal destroyers are patrolling the North Brittany coast tonight in case the four destroyers known to be in Brest should attempt to move to the eastward; and two forces of Coastal Craft are operating tonight to the south and north of Guernsey. In the English Channel area there was still no evidence of any U-Boat north of 49.40 N. or east of 04.00 W.

3. Naval casualties today were as follows:-
LAWFORD, H.Q. ship in J area, bombed and sunk.
British Landing Craft, one sunk and two damaged.

Operation
"Kruschen".

4. At 1143B today C.S.1 in VICTORIOUS informed C. in C.H.F. that, in view of local fog, he had abandoned Operation "Kruschen" and at 2202 he returned to Scapa with Force 8.

Large
convoy.

5. Convoy H.X.S. 294 now homeward-bound from North America consists of 118 M/Vs including one rescue ship.

ITEM 1

Operation File

(From N. I. D. 4)

Account of Destroyer Action Near BIAK
8.4.44.

At 0300/8 destroyers SHIKINAMI, URANAMI and SHIGURE with a total of 570 Army personnel embarked and each towing one landing barge, left SORONG for BIAK with a screening force of the destroyers SAMIDARE, HARUSAME and SHIRATSUYU.

At 1223/8, Northwest of MANOKWARI about 14 aircraft attacked in groups of 2, bombing and strafing from low altitude. Four aircraft were shot down, HARUSAME received a near miss and sank in 5 minutes: 74 survivors were picked up. SHIRATSUYU developed a leak in her fuel tanks as a result of machine gun fire and had 11 men wounded. SHIKINAMI had 6 killed and wounded. The 3 barges were abandoned.

At 2145/8, in spite of a report that an Allied Force of 4 battleships, 4 cruisers and 8 destroyers had been sighted North of Biak heading West, the Japanese force proceeded at full speed (26 kts.) for the unloading point at KORIMA Bay. At 2225/8, 25 miles Northwest of the unloading point, 4 cruisers, 8 destroyers and one possible battleship were sighted by moonlight at about 12 miles. The Japanese reversed course, and headed west at full speed, the Allied force split into two groups and pursued, opening fire at 2327/8 at a range of from 12 to 20 kilometres. Contact was lost at about 0210/9 near NAPIA Island. SHIGURE was hit and sustained slight damage.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

6. Destroyers bombarded Lussinpiccolo harbour last night and also swept the entrance to the Gulf of Quarnero, but without encountering any enemy.

Air
Operations.

7. (a). 52/56 escorted B.17s of the Strategic Air Force attacked submarines and workshops at Pola today.

(b). Coastal Command aircraft operated successfully against shipping off southern France, destroying a 500 ton coaster and damaging a 1000 ton ship, and off the Dalmatian coast where a 100 ft. schooner was destroyed.

Aegean.

8. (a). H.D.M.L. 385 captured a 40 ton caique last night, between Kos and Samos. 18 escorted aircraft attacked shipping in Heraklion harbour today. A 1500 ton merchant ship was near missed but photo R/C later today showed no sign of damage. Bombs also fell on shore and amongst caiques assembled in the harbour.

(b). One Wellington successfully laid mines in Mamora Bay, Paros last night.

Australia & New Zealand.

9. G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. reports that in the early hours of today a U.S. submarine successfully attacked an enemy force described as 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers heading southeast from Davao Gulf, Mindanao, Philippines. No further details are known.

4 enemy des-
troyers sunk
off New Guinea.

10. This afternoon 10 Mitchells attacked 7 enemy warships, described as 2 light cruisers and 5 destroyers off the north coast of Vogelkop Peninsula, Dutch New Guinea, heading towards Biak Island. It is reported that 4 destroyers were sunk and a fifth damaged. The escorting Lightnings intercepted 10 enemy fighters and destroyed at least 5 of them. (p. 206)

War Diary

8.6.1944.
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Cositintrep
10.

From Ramsay signed Eisenhower.

- A. The build-up over the beaches continues in improving weather conditions.
- B. RODNEY and RAMILLIES sailed for the Assault area and other ships continue to return for re-ammunitioning.
- C. Both X-craft (marking submarines) have returned safely.
- D. Corncob convoys have arrived and ships are in process of being placed. Phoenix and Bombardon tows are proceeding Whale tows start tonight.
- E. Three broad channels approx. two miles wide have now been swept into the Assault area and buoyed.
- F. Casualties. Two U.S. Minesweepers reported damaged by mines. Two Hospital Carriers, DINARD and St. JULIAN reported mined but are believed to be still afloat. One L.S.T. now reported sunk by torpedoes last night. No other major casualties.
- G. Coastal Command. Six promising attacks were made by Coastal Command on U/boats referred to in Cositintrep No.9, Section F. Two separate attacks were made on a force of three destroyers resulting in damage.
- H. Naval Intelligence. No major changes.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080020B).

Communique
No.5.

Bayeux has fallen to our troops which have also crossed the Bayeux-Caen road at several points. Progress continues despite determined enemy resistance. Fierce armoured and infantry fighting has taken place. Contact has been established between our seaborne and airborne troops. The steady build-up of our force has continued. During the night forces of E/boats made unsuccessful attempts to interfere with continual arrival of supplies. Support fire from Allied warships continued throughout yesterday. Our airforces have given invaluable support to the ground troops on all sectors of the front. Advantage was taken of favourable weather over Northern France yesterday afternoon and evening to attack enemy rail and road centres, concentrations of men and material, and to bomb airfields and other targets up to 100 miles in advance of our troops. More than 9000 sorties were flown in tactical support of land and naval forces. Out for the second time yesterday, heavy bombers with fighter escort in the late afternoon attacked airfield northwest of and rail road bridges and focal points in the area from the Bay of Biscay to the Seine. The bombers encountered no enemy fighter opposition but our fighters reported shooting down 64 enemy aircraft in combat and destroying more than a score on the ground. After bombing rail and road objectives in the immediate zone of operations, medium and light bombers flying as low as 1000 feet just behind the enemy lines strafed gun emplacements and crews staff cars and trains. Allied fighter bombers and fighters were

/ also...

8.6.1944.

Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Communique
No.5.
(Contd.)

also extremely active flying armed reconnaissance over the assault area covering naval operations and carrying out low level attacks on bridges north of Carentan and in the Cherbourg Peninsula. Coastal aircraft attacked naval enemy units in the Bay of Biscay and Channel areas at least two E/boats were sunk.

Last night heavy bombers in strong forces continued attacks on railroad centres at Acheres Versailles and Massy-Palaiseau and Juvisy on the outskirts of Paris and a concentration of enemy troops and transports some twelve miles south of the assault area. Anti-tank guns, motor transports and considerable supplies were delivered to our ground troops by very strong air transport and glider forces.

Small enemy air formations attempted attacks on the beaches and night intruders appeared over East Anglia.
(S.H.A.E.F., 081100B).

Cositintrep
No.11.

Part 2 Naval.

A. British Sector.

Satisfactory progress has been made in clearing up the beaches and opening up beach exits.

Enemy bombing efforts on shipping and beaches during daylight has been negligible.

In general, after 24 hours delay due to weather, discharge on the beaches started yesterday evening. Given fair weather for 48 hours it is hoped that the programme will be caught up. Owing to weather L.S.T. and some coasters have had to dry out, no resulting damage so far reported. In some cases it has been necessary to use shuttle service L.C.T. to replace those of the Ferry service swamped or not yet arrived from the Western Task Sector. About 50% of ferry service craft expected have now arrived and started work.

Corncob convoys have arrived to time and the sinking operation has commenced.

The first Mulberry tows have arrived.

B. U.S. Sector.

It is estimated that both beaches are about 24 hours behind schedule. Landing of troops and equipment now continuing with only minor interference. The whole situation has much improved during the last 24 hours.

Some mines have been swept near the banks.

C. Numbers of Troops, Vehicles and stores landed.

In 24 hours up to 2100/7th June:-

Gold - 11660 men, 2300 vehicles, 800 tons of stores.

Juno - 21400 men, 3200 vehicles, 2500 tons of stores.

Utah - 10735 men, 1469 vehicles, 807 tons of stores.

No numbers received from Sword and Omaha.

D. Casualties.

H.M.S. LAWFORD H.Q. Ship of Group "J" one bombed and sunk U.S.S. TIDE, minesweeper, mined. No other major casualties.

E. Convoy E.T.M.2 was heavily shelled by enemy coastal guns when passing through the Straits of Dover, but no damage was sustained.

F. Coastal Command. Night 7th/8th June. U/boats. 11 sightings west of Brest in Bay of Biscay. Eight attacks, two claimed

/ destroyed...

War Diary8.6.1944.
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Cositintrep destroyed and two probably destroyed.
No.11. Surface shipping - Channel and Dutch coast - 1
(Contd.) E/boat destroyed, three damaged, two minesweepers
hit, one with cannon only. Hits claimed on one
M/V and near misses on another.
G. Intelligence.

E/boats from Boulogne in action during the night have entered
Havre, their place in Boulogne being taken by others from Ostend.
Three E/boats from Cherbourg damaged during the night actions
leaving probably not more than ten operational.
(Ramsey, Sgd. Eisenhower, 081455B).

Navsitrep 7. U/boat which had first been detected at 2045/7th
was attacked by SKEENA at 1130/8th in 49 degs. N.
05 degs. 30' W. and one hit claimed with Hedgehog
resulting in oil and air bubbles. This U/boat
had fired seven torpedoes at 12 Escort Group during the hunt.
Escort group 12 sighted another U/boat at 2000/8th in 48 degs.
54' 5 degs. 32' 2 ships are hunting. Nine sightings of U/boats
by aircraft between 47 degs. 30' 49 degs. 20' E. of six degs. W.
last night, six attacked two probable kills. P.R.U. shows
now three Narviks and one Elbing in Brest. Tribal destroyers
are carrying out sweep on north coast of Brittany in case they
attempt to come east tonight. Two forces of coastal craft opera-
ting in Channel Islands area tonight, one south and one north of
Guernsey.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 082100B).

Dover Convoy E.T.C.3 passed through Straits during the
Navisitrep night. At 2345 a number of small vessels were
Three. detected 5 miles S.W. of Cape d'Alpreche, steering
south at 0020 they increased to 30 knots and
altered course to 325 degs. Beaufighters attacked
without result. The enemy split into two parts
OBEDIENT was vectored and intercepted four E/boats in 177 degs.
Beachy Head, 37 miles at 0130. One E/boat reported damaged.
At 0208 THORNBOROUGH in Z.13 east vectored her unit to intercept
the second part, a brief engagement followed and the enemy
retired to the coast, touch being lost. At 0230 THORNBOROUGH
reported four E/boats 300 degs. Cap d'Antifer ZQZ 1 mile, course
185 degs. speed 39 knots this was passed to Portsmouth.
At first light Recoe sighted 9 E/R-boats off Le Treport. Four
attacks were made upon them by Typhoons of 137 Squadron. Claims
1 sunk 2 damaged and beached.
Convoy E.T.M. 3 passaged through Straits at 1030 without incident
under cover of smoke.
(V.A. Dover, 082101B).

Communique British and Canadian troops are continuing to
No.6. make progress. Repeated enemy attacks against the
6th Airborne Division have been held. The
American bridgeheads are being gradually enlarged.
The enemy is fighting fiercely. His reserves
have now been in action along the whole front.

/ With...

War Diary

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Communique
No.6.
(Contd.)

With the safe and timely arrival of Merchant convoys and improvement in the weather unloading of supplies is proceeding at a satisfactory rate. Development of the Allied Beachhead continues. The supply by air of arms to our Airborne Troops early this morning was completely successful.

Last night enemy E/boats operating in four groups entered the Assault Area and attempted to interfere with our lines of communication. A series of running fights ensued and the attacks were successfully beaten off. Three of the enemy were seen to be repeatedly hit before they escaped. During the early hours of today E/boats were attacked off the French and Belgian Coast by Coastal Aircraft. One E/boat was sunk and three others sunk or severely damaged.

Our air assault in support of the land and naval forces against a wide variety of tactical targets has continued uninterruptedly and in very great strength. The enemy air effort is as yet on a limited scale but some opposition from flak has been encountered. Ceaseless patrols were maintained over the immediate battle positions by our fighters and fighter bombers. As targets presented themselves small units broke off from the main patrolling force to dive-bomb and strafe armoured columns, troop movements and gun positions. Other fighters covered shipping against air and sea attack.

Behind the Combat zone other fighter bombers ranged over the country in a deep belt many miles south and southeast of the battle area attacking armoured vehicles motor transport and troop concentrations. Other targets included railways fuel dumps airfields and canal locks on the River Seine. Rocket firing planes attacked a tank concentration west of Caen.

Our heavy bombers in very strong force struck at railway focal points, railway yards and airfields well beyond the battle area this morning. Medium and light bombers took advantage of the improved weather and made many sorties in the Normandy area against rail and road targets.

Our aircraft have flown approx. 27,000 individual missions in the period from dawn June 6 to midday today. 176 enemy aircraft have been destroyed in the air in the same period our losses were 289 aircraft.

(S.H.A.E.F. 082330B).

Assault Area

Area U.

Info. addressee please place this message in C.N. broadcast.

Unless otherwise directed stations and parties for tomorrow as follows -

HAWKINS Station 7 shore party 377. TUSCALOOSA Station 9 shore party 39. NEVADA Station 11 shore party P N G S 6 also air spot group 8 call Hippo.

/ BLACK...

War Diary8.6.1944.
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Assault Area

Area U
(Contd.)

BLACK PRINCE Station 13 shore party 42.
ENTERPRISE usual station control party as today.
JEFFERS station 1 party 33.
AFFEY station 3 party 34. GLENNON station 5 party 38.
SOEMBA station 2 part 29. BARTON station 4 party 31.
All ships on station prior sunrise.
(C.T.G. 125.8, 080111B to All His Task Group Info: Com Task Force 125).

Special Intelligence Report 2 30 heavy magnetic mines detonated in boat lanes on seaward side of banks by minesweepers 7th June. Line pattern bearing 315T from St. Marjoun. Mines held 1200 pounds TNT made splashes 300 feet high by 600 feet diameter. Extremely coarse tangling between 50 and 90 milligauss. All but two exploded between tails. Detonation in area previously swept suggests time activation device.
(C.T.F. 125, 080620B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Western area M.Z.5.
(A) Corncob Gooseberry 1 Cob 2 section 1 arrived. Siting commenced 080800B. C Gooseberry 2 ships sited berths 43 44 45 46 47. Siting delayed due to enemy long range bombardment causing evacuation gun crews during night and cessation siting during night tide. Expect complete Gooseberry 2 second tide D plus 2.
(E) Moorings. 9 moorings for 8 Bombardons laid.
(F) General surveys completed. Gooseberries 1 and 2 survey Bombardon completed survey started west and outer Phoenix break-water survey TN. Bridging delayed to waiting clearance under water obstacles and elimination enemy snipers on cliffs.
(C.T.F. 128, 081227B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Following is repetition of Com. Force U. 080631.
"Along North End S Red beach wooden boxes set into sand 50 feet apart back of sea wall with sand ramps down to beach. Boxes contain miniature tanks 3½ feet long 18 inches high filled with 200 pounds TNT. Tanks trail wire and are telephone controlled by electrical signal causing tanks to run down beach to water's edge against landing craft".

(A.N.C.X.F., 081411B to S.H.A.E.F.).
Reference C.T.F.125. Valuable Intelligence Reports Nos. 2 and 3.
Are samples available for examination, if so where.
(A.N.C.X.F., 081423B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Request immediate delivery of another Flotilla M.M.S. to Utah Beach to cope with numerous magnetic mines. Send extra tails. Three M.M.S. now inoperative for lack of tails.
(C.T.F. 125, 081430B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Occasional heavy shell falling transport area

/ indicates...

War Diary8.6.1944.
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Assault Area

indicates probable moving up mobile batteries. Consider may be essential obtain additional DD and cruiser replacements to ensure continued pressure along coast. Increased need for E/boat protection as DD are being lost or sent for ammunition. (C.T.F. 125, 081620B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Re N.C.W.T.F. 072341B+ sailed 10 U.S. L.C.T. E.T.A. Force J 2300B/8. All remaining L.C.T. Squadron O sailed to Forces J and S 7th June. (C.T.F. 125, 081909B to Com. Force J).
+ Re sail allocated percentage of operational L.C.T.5's to Force "J".

Request favourable action. C.T.F.125 despatch 081430B. Am moving Task Force 125 closer to Utah beach all M.S.F.S. including Y.M.S's. being used LL and SA sweeping that area. (N.C.W.T.F., 081951B to A.N.C.X.F.).

(1) Trawler Depot ship being sent a.m. 9th June. (Your 081446/ refers).

(2) 205 M.S.F. will be sailed as soon as possible. Your 081951* refers.

(3) Despatch boat message follows to Commander M.S.W.T.F. (A.N.C.X.F., 082250B to N.C.W.T.F., Commander M/S W.T.F. in U.S.S. CHIMO (R) C. in C. Portsmouth).
/ N.T. in W.R. * Re movements of T.F.125.

Beach O Casualty evacuation report. Convoy F.P.L.4. (C.T.F. 124, 081800B).

This is re-encypherment of (U.S.) Cdr. T.G.124.7 despatch 081730 begins:-
Report with your group to H.M.S. CAPETOWN at 0735 049 degs. 26' N. 000 degs. 58' 06" W. (C.T.G.124, 082000B to KEPPEL).

Bombarding Forces.

RODNEY Your 072337/. Not until return of WARSPITE to E.T.F. area. (N.C.E.T.F., 080454B to A.N.C.X.F.).
/ Transfer of RODNEY to N.C.W.T.F.

Heavy gun ships Your 071933 not to all. Have only one long range heavy gun ship on each front today. Hope to be able to reinforce you tomorrow Friday. (A.N.C.X.F., 080835B to N.C.W.T.F.).

NELSON NELSON is placed under the orders of A.N.C.X.F. forthwith. (1st S.L., 081020B to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C.Plymouth)
/ Pass....

8.6.1944.

Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombarding Forces

NELSON
(Contd.)

Pass gate at 1630B/8th June and proceed by standard route to Portsmouth placing yourself under order of A.N.C.X.F. on arrival.

(2) Report E.T.A. and S. of A. before sailing.

(3) LA SURPRISE and LA DECOUVERTE are to proceed as escort until relieved by ROWLEY and HOLMES thence act in accordance with my S.O.E. 154.

(4) Codeword for fighter protection Liege.

(5) Communication 6 U/boats have been sighted in channel.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081127 to NELSON).

Spotting
A/C grounded

Weather conditions have grounded spotting A/C. (A.N.C.X.F., 081904B to All Bombarding ships taking part in Operation "Neptune".)

Ships to
re-ammunition

Cruisers and destroyers not actively employed on gunfire support who can be spared from Assault area are now to be sailed for re-ammunitioning ports vide O.N.8. Para.24. After re-ammunitioning they will be kept at short notice, to return and a system of reliefs will be initiated.

(A.N.C.X.F. 081942B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.).

HAWKINS

O.N.14 para.46. Request HAWKINS may be released so as to arrive in E.N.T.F. area not later than 13th June.

(N.C.E.T.F., 082312B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Spotting
groups

Desire Air Spot Groups for tomorrow briefed as follows:-

Group 6 targets 4 co-ordinate 3 5 5 1 3 7
TUSCALOOSA.

Group 7 area east and south of Mountebourg for 3 Mobile Batteries and gun positions 1/2 mile south and west of Valognes for QUINCY.

Group 8 target co-ordinates 4 1 1 0 2 4 and 3 7 4 0 8 6 HAWKINS. HAWKINS has by other means.

(?Origin, 082315 to A.N.C.X.F., T.A.F.2.).

Covering Operations

Sweep by
Tribals off N.
Brittany
coast.
(Force 26).

Amend my 072144B HAIDA, HURON remain on patrol. Join and form part of Force 26 on their arrival. (C. in C. Plymouth, 081055B to 10th D/F, (R) to Shore Authorities concerned in U.K. 3rd, 11th, 12th, 14th E Groups).

TARTAR, ASHANTI leave patrol now and return to Plymouth with despatch. My 072144B and 081055B refer.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081232 to 10th D.F.).

/ Information...

8.6.1944.
Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Sweep by Information R/C. 7th June shows 2 Narvik one Tribals off N. Elbing operational at Brest. 3rd Narvik probably Brittany coast there.
 (Force 26) (2) Intention to intercept enemy destroyers if they move up channel.
 (Contd.) (3) Execution. 10th D.F. forming Force 26 is to leave vicinity (FF) as requisite to pass through (JJ) 048 degs. 59' N. 004 degs. 28' W. and thence to reach (KK) 049 degs. 00' N. 003 degs. 58' W. at

2145B today 8th.

(4) From (KK) Force 26 is to sweep at 20 knots advance to (LL) 048 degs. 52' N. 004 degs. 23' W. and is then to turn and patrol between (LL) and (KK) until 0400/9th when if no further information Force 26 is to steer towards Plymouth.

(5) Disregard A.M. QZX 1256, 1275, 1280, 1283, 1289 if necessary. Do not enter other minefields.

(6) Aircraft support will be signalled. Own Coastal forces operating in Channel Is. Area.

(7) Communication. ON C.O. 1 (one). Organisation 2 is to be assumed at 1800B. A guard is to be maintained on 2300 k/cs. (C. in C. Plymouth, 081637B to 10th D.F.).

My 081637 CA? proceeding direct to reach (KK) at 2200 omitting (JJ).

(2) 20th Division is to be stationed 2 miles to seaward of 19th Division while patrolling between (KK) and (LL).

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081947B to Force 26).

Amend (KK) to read 049 degs. 00' N. 003 degs. 48' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 082150B to Force 26).

Shift patrol line 5 miles to northward.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 082236B to Force 26).

Operation C.A. Two ships of each group are to be detailed to continue hunt remainder resume patrol E.G.3. in northern half Z239 and E.G.12 in southern half. (Forces 31,32)

(2) Estimate U/boats furthest on will be in centre of Z229 at noon today and sightings indicate several more U/boats left Brest last night and will probably pass through patrol areas.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081017B to E.G.3, E.G.12, Info, E.G.11, E.G.14, A.N.C.X.F., Admiralty, C. in C. W.A., 19 Group, 10 Group).

You have been reported by enemy aircraft.

(2) Enemy long range aircraft are active and could reach you at 1030.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081019B to Force 31).

Amend para.4. of my 072144B Force 32 are waiting near 048 degs. 30' N. 010 degs. 30' W.

(2) U/boat sighted in Z 237 at 0030 and in Z (214?) at 2045/7th. (C. in C. Plymouth, 081027B to 10th D.F.).

Proceed towards position 048 degs. 42' 007 degs. 35' at 15 knots.

(C. in C.W.A., 081207B to 32nd Force).

6th E.G. proceed forthwith to R/V with TRACKER,

/ PURSUER

War Diary8.6.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

PURSUER and E.G.15th in 049 degs, 01' 007 degs. 50' at 2000B/8th. 6th E.G. take over screen of Carriers 15th E.G. proceed Belfast on relief via Q.Z.L.58.

(C. in C.W.A. 081226B to Ships concerned with Operation C.A.).

My 081207 to Force 32 only. Force 32 carry out A/S search when east of longitude 009 degs. W. Aircraft may be employed to assist Force 32 is to withdraw to arrive vicinity waiting position WW 040 degs. 05' 008 degs. 10' by darkness 8th June.

(2) Force 31 less 6th E.G. proceed so as to arrive in vicinity waiting position XX 049 degs. 30' 007 degs. 15' by dawn 9th June.

(3) My 081226 6th E.G. is to form part of force 32 as from 2000B/8 at which time 15th E.G. leaves force.

(C. in C.W.A., 081338B to Ships concerned with operation C.A.).

Carry out Jamma (?Gamma intended) search 872 N of December '43 refers.

(A) 14th E.G. 49.22 N. 5.26 W. to 49.00 N. 05.12 W.

11th E.G. 49.36 N. 4.41 W. to 49.14 N. 4.25 W.

(B) 066. (C) 1600/8th. (D) 14th E.G. 24 hours 11th E.G. 14 hours.

NOTE: Distance apart of ships should be for submerged U/boats by day and night.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081348B to E.G.11, E.G.14, Info. E.G.3, E.G.12, A.N.C.X.F., Admiralty, C. in C. W.A.).

Cancelled 082130.

Operation C.A.

Cancel last sentence of para. one of my 081338 and substitute during night 8th/9th June 2nd E.G. carry out A/S search in area GK and north west half of area GL, 5th E.G. carry out A/S search in area GF and north west half of G3.

(2) At dawn if not in contact with enemy or searching for a reported U/boat 2nd E.G. is to search in north east half of area GK, 5th E.G. search in south west half area GF.

(3) TRACKER, PURSUER and 6th E.G. patrol day and night in vicinity of line dividing area GF and GK.

(4) During 9th June Force 31 search in south east half of area GA ZS details of air co-operation follow.

(C. in C.W.A., 081637B to Ships concerned with Operation C.A.).

My 081226+ CALM is to join E.G.6 temporarily.

(C. in C.W.A. 081642B to Ships concerned with operation C.A.)

EMPEROR S.O. E.G. 1st S.O. E.G.9th report fuel state forthwith

(2) On next occasion of breaking W/T silence S.O's. of escort groups and carriers of Force 32 report fuel state.

(3) Report in accordance with W A G N 910 N.

(C. in C.W.A., 081659B).

Your were probably reported by enemy aircraft at 1520B/8.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081719B to Force 31).

Your position was probably reported by enemy aircraft at 1520B.

(D.D.I.C., 081720B to Force 32).

+ Instructions for 6 E.G. and 15 E.G. N.T. in W.D.

Cancel my 081640 and amend paras. 3, 4 and 5 of my 081549 as follows:-

/TRACKER...

War Diary

8.6.1944.
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

TRACKER, PURSUER, 2nd, 5th and 6th E.G. 49.01
07.50 thence to vicinity 49.05 08.10.
EMPEROR 1st and 9th E.Gs. Leave vicinity 50.30
08.30 at 2200 to 49.30 07.15 10 knots.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081852B). / N.T. in W.D.
asked for 10th June.

My 281935 Carry out Gamma search 872 N. of
December 43 refers.

(A) 14th E.G. 49.23 N. 05.23 W. to 49.01 N. 05.
08 W. 11th E.G. 49.43 N. 04.19 W. to 49.21 N.

04.05 W.

(B) 066. (C) 2200/8th. (D) 14th E.G. 24 hours 11th E.G. 8 hours.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081950B to E.G.11, E.G.14).
+ Presume patrol areas by 2100.

Capt.
Patrol

Capt. M.L. Power C.B.E. has assumed duty as
Capt. Patrol in (corrupt) today Thursday at 1800
during the absence from the British Assault area
of Capt. A.F. Pugsley D.S.O.

(2) Commander J.S.M. Richardson D.S.O., H.M.S. VENUS is to
assume duty forthwith as S.O. 26th D.F.
(N.C.E.T.F. 081110B to E.N.T.F.).

Patrols -
Dover
units.

O.N. Dover 67.
F.N.1 M.Ls. 573, 125, Z1.
F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 437, 418, 436, Z.2.
F.N.3 M.Ls. 213, 128, Z.3.
F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 231, 235, 229, Z.5.
F.N.5 M.T.Bs. 354, 358, 262, Z.6.

F.U.1. H.M.S. OPPORTUNE Z.7. F.Q.1. M.T.Bs. 602, 614, Z.8.
south. F.U.3. H.M.S. OBEDIENT Z.9 south F.U.4 H.M.S. SAVAGE Z.10,
F.Y.1 H.M.S. TROLLOPE / Z.12 east, F.Y.2, M.T.Bs. 699, 705, Z.12
east F.Y.3. M.T.Bs. 700, 710.
(V.A. Dover, 081235B). / As received.

Patrols
French
side.

Defence policy for night 8th/9th. V.5 to be 3
miles south of established position. First C.F.
Flotilla. Call sign G.L. V.7 29th M.T.B.F. Call
sign G.L. 4 V.8 55th M.T.B. F. Call sign G.M.
U.10, R.3. Q one. (?Shore) extended to Beachy Head

C. one N.2. K. Duty and guard destroyers keep listening watch
on 8200 k/cs if fitted with T.C.S.
(N.C.E.N.T.F., 081249B to E.N.T.F.).

Patrols
Portsmouth
units

O.N. Portsmouth one para.38. Cover night 8th/
9th.
(A) ONSLOW, OFFA, northern edge Z.113 between
01.26 W. and 01.36 W. OFFA Northern edge Z 120
between 01.41 W. and 01.50 W.

/ (B)...

War Diary8.6.1944.
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols (B) STAYNER G.F. 1 in Z. 111 O.N. 01.14 W. between 49.45 N. and 49.51 N. RETALICK G.F.2 in Portsmouth units Z.110 on 01.14 W. between 49.53 N. and 49.59 N. (Contd.) (C) Unit G.F. 3 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.) 454. Unit G.F.4 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.) 691, 690. Both with STAYNER in Z 111. Unit G.F. 5 M.T.Bs. 448 (S.O.) 478. Unit G.F.6 M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O.), 739, 742. Both with RETALICK in Z 110.

(D) Unit G.C. M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O.), 206, 207 060 Cap de la Hague 6 miles in Z.122.

(F) Force G.F. routed outward via Channel 1 Para.(A) to be in position by 2200B.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081300B to HORNET, Capt.S.5, VERNON (P), ONSLOW, OFFA, STAYNER, RETALICK).

My 081300 amend para.(A) to read ONSLOW, OFFA northern edge Z 121 ORIBI, ONSLAUGHT, northern edge Z 114.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081545B).

Following received from Capt. (D) 17th. Following patrol is established at 2300/8th. From north west corner Z 121 to north east corner Z 114 in sub division disposed 090 degs. 6 miles apart in the order west to east ONSLOW and OFFA, ONSLAUGHT and ORIBI, SCOURGE and SCORPION. S. of A. 15 knots turn every half hour being at westerly end at each hour. 081755 ends. Passed for information.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 082022B to RETALICK, STAYNER, N.C.W.T. F., S.O. Force U, S.O. Force O, A.N.C.X.F.).

Channel Is. P.C.W.O.120.

patrols. 1. (A) Unit G.O. 1 M.T.B. 94 (S.O.), 90, 227, 239, 415, 416.

(B) 2030B/8. (C) (RR) 327 degs. Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330 (SS) 216 degs. Cap de la Hague 9 to arrive 0130 (D) (SS) to (TT) 309 degs. La Corbiere 8 to arrive 0330B/9.

(E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(F) 0330B/9 from (TT) (G) Keeping eight miles clear of Les Hanois to 667 Dartmouth.

(H) Constant 2300 k/cs G.O.1 Wrecker.

(2) (A) Unit G.O.2 M.T.Bs. 96 (S.O.), 98, 92, 91, 430, 414, 413.

(B) 2015B/8. (C) (XX) 270 degs. Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330 thence to arrive (YY) 282 degs. La Corbiere 9 by 0130.

(D) Area between La Corbiere and Barnouic Bank (E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols (F) 0330B/9 from (ZZ) 210 degs. Barnouic Light 4 (G) Course 335 degs. until daylight, thence to Dartmouth. (H) Constant 230 kc/s G.O.2 Sodden.

(3) Attention to Q.Z.X's. 1324, 1310. Disregard Q.Z.X's. 1289, 1277, 1256.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 081251B to M.T.B. 94, 96, 98, 90, 227, 92, 239, 91, 430, 416, 415, 414, 413, N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Patrols
Plymouth
units.

Following are patrols to be manned 8th/9th June
O.N. Plymouth, 5 section 1 Appendix 1, para.1.
(1) (A) Force 28 SALADIN (S.O.), SCIMITAR, SKATE.
(B) (1) SKATE 2000/8. (D) Hurd deep patrol 50
degs. 12' N. 02 degs. 21' W. to 50 degs. 01' N.

War Diary.

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Forces.

Patrols
Plymouth
units.
(Contd.)

02° 57' W. (E) (1) SCIMITAR (2) SALADIN.
(3) SKATE (H) SALADIN, SCIMITAR leave day patrol
line 2230/8 to man patrol line as in (D) by 2300/8
SKATE is to R/V at 2300/8 as ordered by SALADIN at
0500/9 SALADIN is to part company and proceed to
Dartmouth. SCIMITAR take SKATE under his orders
and shift patrol line to ten miles in direction
335°.

- (L) As in my 060950B. (M) Force 28 Popcorn SALADIN on parting company Popcorn 1.
- (2) (A) (1) Unit G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 745, 726. (2) Unit G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 735, 743. (3) Unit G.N.3 M.T.Bs. 673, 713. (4) Unit G.T.1 M.Ls. 183, 259 280. (B) (2) 2300/8. (D) (1) Northwest corner Z.200. (2) North edge Z.205. (3) North edge Z.212. (4) North edge Z.217. (J) 0515/9 (L) (1) (2) (3) D.C.O.15. Call signs G.N.1 to 3 (4) 2300 k/cs call sign G.T.1. (M) Height I to IV.
- (3) O.N.Plymouth 5 Section 1 Appendix 1 para. 2.
- (P) Wellington. (Q) 2330 /8 to 0430/9. (R) (1) 49° 50' N. to 50° 00' N. 02° 44' W. to 02° 08' W.
- (2) In area between 50° N. and French coast and between 3° 30' W. and 7° W.
- (3) Swordfish will patrol convoy route. (S) Aircraft may illuminate and attack in area given in O.N.Plymouth 5 section 1 para. 12 east of 4° W. and north of 49° 40' N. (T) (1) 19 Group R/C wave V.H/F R/T World Guard. (2) 19 Group R/C wave 2410 k/cs. R/T. (3) 2410 k/cs R/T. Call signs (1) W/T R/T. P.M.V.40, QUICKTIME.
- (C. in C.Plymouth 081301B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, BLACK BAT, SALADIN, SCIMITAR, SKATE.)
- O.N.Plymouth 5 Section 2. S.U.P.S.
- (A) E.G.3 Northern half Z.233. E.G.12 and E.G.14 Northern half of Z.233. E.G.11 Z.229. (C) By 1930/8th.
- (C. in C.Plymouth, 081513B to E.G.3, E.G.12, E.G.11, E.G.14.)
- (2) 15th Escort Group 49° 01' N. 07° 50' W. 000° 15 knots.
- (3) TRACKER, PURSUER, 6th Escort Group, vicinity 48° 42' 07° 35' W.
- (4) 1st Escort Group, EMPEROR, 9th Escort Group, vicinity 50° 30' N. 09° 00' W. 50° 31' N. 08° 01' W.
- (5) 2nd Escort Group, 5th Escort Group, vicinity 48° 42' N. 07° 35' W.
- (C. in C.Plymouth 081549B to Admty.)
- Cancel my 081513 resume previous patrol areas by 2100.
- Further signal follows.
- (C. in C.Plymouth 081935B.)

Operation
K.N.26.

Unit G.A. M.T.Bs. 250 (S.O.), 247, 246, 251 are to sail at 1630B/8th and proceed via route F.U.78 to British assault area reporting to SCYLLA on arrival before carrying out operation K.N.26. Collective call sign G.A. Constant watch 2450 k/cs. (C. in C.Portsmouth, 081444B to V.14.)

/O.N.1...

War Diary

8.6.1944.
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Eastern O.N.1. para. 52 (B).
Night (1) F.U.1. OPPORTUNE Z.7, F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.9 S.
Channel Report F.U.4 SAVAGE Z.10. F.Y.1 TROLLOPE Z.12 E. F.X.1
8th/9th June. THORNBOROUGH Z.13 E.
(2) C.F. Units:
F.N. 1 2 M.Ls. Z1, F.N. 2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2.
F.N.3 2 M.Ls. Z.3, F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.5, F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6,
F.Q. 1 2 M.T.Bs. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 E. F.Y.3 2 M.T.Bs. Z.11
S. F.Y.4 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 W. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 E. F.X.3 2
M.T.Bs. Z.13 W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081916B).
My 081916B.
Amend position of F.Y. one and F.Y. two to Z.13 E. F.X. one
and F.X. two to seven miles west of Z.15.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 082225B).

Minesweeping

Minesweepers of Force O except 4th M.S.F. now
operate under Cdr. M/S West in CHIMO who will
co-ordinate all sweeping in Western Task Force
area.
(C.T.F. 124, 081106B).

Enemy Operations

Reports of (C. in C. Portsmouth, 080014B, 080015B, 080036B,
E/boats 080101B, 080131B, 0231B, 0240, 080320B, 080501B,
in Channel. A.N.C.X.F. 080113B, S.O. 31st S/M. F. 081914).

E/boats Plot Nr. 1 A. Surface craft detected by R.D.F.
engaged between 025 degs. Cap d'Antifer 25 miles probably
4 E/boats course 240 degs. speed 30 knots.
Plot Nr. 1 B. Surface craft detected by R.D.F.
bearing 012 degs. Cap d'Antifer 27 miles probably
4 E/boats course 220 degs. speed 30 knots.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, No T.O.O. to N.C.W.T.F.,
N.C.E.T.F.).
Nr 1A, Nr 1B Z/ Patrols engaging.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 080214B).
Z/ Signification "contact faded".

Reports of Position of enemy 48 degs. 14' N. 4 degs. 48' W.
enemy off (A/C, KRO 25, 080230B, A/C SYB 97, 080245B, A/C
Brest NFY 12, 080248B, A/C RUZ 15, 081935)
Peninsula

/ Enemy...

158

War Diary8.6.1944.
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Operations

Enemy shipping plotted by Radar in the Dover Strait.

From 0900/7 to 0900/8.
(Details) Extracts:-
E.69 D. Four size A from Calais at 2315 westbound at four knots, turned off Cap Gris Nez at 0245. Entered Calais at 0510. Attacked at 0211 and 0335 by two Beaufighters, one of which claims a probable hit.
E.71 D. Twelve size A from five miles north of Cap d'Alprech southbound at thirty five knots.

Divided into two parts at about 0105. Part one engaged by OBEDIENT 37 miles south of Beachy Head and identified as four E/boats. Results of engagement not yet known. Part two proceeded south south west and faded at 0129 in position 173 degs. Beachy Head forty one miles. Two Beaufighters attacked at 0124 and 0150. Not hits claimed.
(V.A. Dover, 081102B).

German ships - distinguishing mark.

Following report graded A one received begins:
German ships will carry an upright Red Leuchstab (Lamp Staff) one metre long to distinguish themselves from allied ships. Germans have been warned to look for Lamp Staff before opening fire.
(2) Comment. Similar procedure for ship/shore recognition known to be in use in Aegean.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081200 to Admiralty, C. in C. Portsmouth, F.O.i/c Portland, F.O.i/c Falmouth, F.O.i/c Milford Haven, N.O.i/c Dartmouth, F.O.(S) 10 Group, H.Q.B.C., Capt.(S) 3, Capt. (S) 5, Ships at sea maintaining W/T watch on broadcast C.N. and/or Plymouth Port Wave, Ships in harbours between Portsmouth and Milford Haven who will be proceeding to sea or coming to short notice for operational purposes during next 12 hours).

2 French small craft.

Sighted 3 French small craft 48 degs. (25' or 28') N. 06 degs. 00' W. course 245 degs. 5 knots at 1637 no guns.
(A/C 110 U.S. Sqdn., 081700B).

Forecast of enemy activity.

Enemy naval capabilities night 8th and 9th June remain same. My 071852B/. Be on alert for enemy aircraft showing markings similar to ours.
(N.C.W.T.F., 081819 to W.T.F.).
/ N.T. in W.R.

9 destroyers off Pte de Penmarch

Nr.3. Position of 5 destroyers 48 degs. 30' N. 5 degs. 17' W.
(A/C C/SMGC 35, 082035B to C.O.A.1).
P.C. and S. of 5 enemy destroyers 48 degs. 20' N. 5 degs. 20' W. 2040 360 degs. 25 knots.
(A/C, C/S, MGC35, 082035B to 19 Group).

Nr.5. 4 destroyers and 2 unidentified small ships in addition to 5 previously reported position 48 degs. 20' N. 5 degs. 20' W. course north speed 20 knots.
(A/C, C/S, MGC 35, 082245B to 19 Group).

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

U/B
attacked
off Pte de
Penmarch.

My 0130. Enemy previously reported are trawlers
flak ships 10. My 0200 have attacked U/B with
depth charge had not submerged. Lost touch with
U/B last seen position 47 degs. 50' N. 05 degs.
15' W. 1 Friendly aircraft present.
(A/C KRO25, 080305B to 19 Group.)

A/S re-
inforcements
required.

In order to provide sufficient Support Groups to
cover U-Boats working up Channel and at same time
cover the North Cornish coast request an
additional 2 anti-submarine Support Groups may
be placed under my orders to operate initially
on North Cornish coast from 0800B/9th.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081541B to Admty. (Tactical
Urgency).)

Air Activity

Smoke laying
in Dover
Straits.

Admty. attach importance to requirement for day-
light smoke laying in Straits of Dover. V.A.
Dover's 071741 and H.Q.C.C.'s 071915 refer.
Coastal Command can only continue to meet this
at the expense of effort against U-Boats and/or
E-Boats which it is most important to maintain.

(2) Request you will consider placing the requirement for smoke
laying aircraft for Dover as a Naval requirement from A.E.A.F.
on high priority.
(A.N.C.S.(H), 081220B to A.N.C.X.F., Info. H.Q.C.C., A.E.A.F.,
C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover.)

Cositintrep
9 part 3.
Air.

(H.Q.A.E.A.F.A., 071600B.)

Enemy air
effort.

Expected scale of enemy air effort for 24 hours.
Long range bomber and torpedo sorties tonight 150
24 hours 300. Fighter bombers 200 sorties by
day against ground forces or shipping. Fighters
600 sorties on Bomber escort and defensive sorties.

(A.N.C.X.F., 081725 to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)
Am being shadowed by one enemy aircraft bearing 070 degs.
height 1000 feet. Codeword "Vanderbuilt". My P.C.S. 319 GF
45 170 degs., 14 knots.
(WASKESIU, 081746B to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.8.6.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Movements

A.M. 020009*. Regret destroyers cannot be spared by the date quoted. If sailing can be delayed 48 or 72 hours should be able to meet requirement.

(A.N.C.X.F., 080845 to Admty.)

* Top Secret Hush Distribution.

E.G.105 and
SUMMERSIDE.

105 E.G. and SUMMERSIDE P.C.S. 254 Portland
Bill 17 - 264° - 14.

Proceeding in accordance with O.N.13 appendix 3.
(WANDERER, 080859B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 081127B*. Codeword "Leige" sailed.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081811B.)

* T/S distribution - N.T. in W.D.

Reliefs.

My No. X/0672/15 of 1st June. Assume stage 2
by noon Saturday as follows:-

(A) N.C.W.T.F. sail Hunts and Trawlers to
Portsmouth.

(B) N.C.E.T.F. sail all destroyers except 8 Fleets and 4 Hunts
to Portsmouth (50 per cent reliefs will be available there).

(C) C. in C. Portsmouth sail 4 A/S Trawlers to N.C.E.T.F. as
reliefs.

(D) C. in C. Nore sail 4 Corvettes to N.C.E.T.F.
(A.N.C.X.F., 082145B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Casualties

Two vessels seriously damaged by underneath water
explosion mountain area two miles west of Mason
line, we are unable to tow DD we are standing
clear of DD who has anchored. DD requires a tug
immediately the other vessel requires assistance
immediately.

(C.T.U. 125.9.3, No T.O.O./8 to C.T.F. 125.)

YEZO

Proceed at daylight by route U to 050° N. to search
and tow back disabled craft to Portsmouth.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 080011B to YEZO.)

U.S.S.

HARDING.

HARDING struck submerged object. Damaged to
propellers and sound dome only. From vibration
believe blades damaged both propellers. Without
excessive vibration ship able to make 15 knots.

Ship will remain in assault area approx. 48 hours
to expend balance of ammunition. Request you arrange for dry-
dock on arrival in U.K. Repair of ship urgent. Return to
assault area immediately on completion urgent repairs.
(N.C.W.T.F., 080105B to C.T.F.127.)

/Your ...

War Diary.8.6.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties

- U.S.S. HARDING
(Contd.) Your 080105 HARDING can be docked at Plymouth on her return.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081111.)
- H.S. DINARD,
ST. JULIEN. Have you sufficient salvage vessels and rescue tugs to deal with DINARD and ST. JULIEN.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080121B to N.C.T.F.E.T.F.)
- SS. WEST
HONAKER. Following has been read by Burnham W/T.
HR - Keeping skeleton crew proceeding to destination not in immediate danger of sinking. Master Now sinking and abandoning ship.
Acknowledged by Niton Radio. No bearing obtained R.A.F. informed. From Burnham Radio.
Cancel my last message proceeding to destination.
(KDFX (WEST HONAKER), No T.O.O. Recd. 0134.)
- Landing craft attacked. 23 unloaded L.C.T.(4) S of my squadron reporting. Regret to report loss of L.C.T.875 by enemy action last night no survivors and serious damage to L.C.T.921. L.C.T.921 ordered Yarmouth Road E.T.A. 1700 under escort of L.C.T.1048. L.C.T.921 has (one ?) casualty wounded. Was sailed in accordance with C.T.F. 124's sailing signal 071448B not to all addressees without escort.
(Q.L.C.T., 081604B to N.O.I.C. Portland, Turco Portland, (R) C.T.F.124, Q.L.C.T.H.Q.)
Q.L.C.T. reports attack by E-Boats and possibly aircraft at about 0110/8 in position 49.55 N. 00.45 W. L.C.T.875 sunk with all hands. L.C.T.921 severely damaged and one wounded proceeds to Yarmouth Roads.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 082035.)
- CHANT 60. Minimum requirements message.
CHANT 60 capsized after damage. Cargo Octane 73. Request relief for Juno area.
(N.C.E.N.T.F., 081733 to Admty.)
Subsequently this was corrected to CHANT 6. (p.372)
- L.C.As. FOLIOT's 071644* not to all.
It is intended that craft lost or damaged in the L.C.A. Flotillas embarked in L.S.I.(L) shall as a temporary measure, only be replaced from operational pooled reserve at Plymouth if the number of operationally fit craft remaining in any L.S.I.(L) is less than 12. The empty davits will be available for lifting damaged craft from the assault area if required.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081747B to Admty., Info. FOLIOT, EMPIRE ANVIL, EMPIRE JAVELIN, EMPIRE GAUNTLET, AN.C.X.F., Comlan crab 11th Phib.)
* Reporting loss or damage to L.C.As.
- One L.C.I.(L). One L.C.I.(L) adrift in 049° 34'36" N. 000° 27' 12" W. appears deserted.
(MIMICO, 081848B to Cdr. J.) /POB ...

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

POB. POB broken down 240° Beachy Head 2 miles.
WINDSOR towing Newhaven. Request tug to relieve
WINDSOR.
(STARWORT, 082005B to N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

Port Facilities

Pluto. Proceed in execution of previous orders
to Port en Bessin.
(A.N.C.X.F., 081140B to S.N.O. Pluto.)

Mulberry B, report. Ramp 5. (a) number 1, 7 and 8 successfully
planted today Thursday. Total 4. Resounding
necessitated Corncob line being adjusted to 092°
(true) from berth 1. Gooseberry extension will
be straightened and detached mole moved seaward
maintain width entrance.
(b) Number 34 and 33 planted. Total 2.
(c) Blank. (d) 4 connected, total 4. (e) VFON moorings
proceeding satisfactory. (f) Anticipate 2 further Corncobs
planted tonight. (g) Forecast required D FF 4 sailings.
Whale - F one, 3 in number. Phoenix A, 4 in number.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 081924B.)
Ramp add Whale requirements: C.1, 4 in number. Para.
(g) of my 081924 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 082334B.)

Shipping and Convoys

E.P.L.1. (A) Sailed. (B) GLAISDALE. (C) 1600/8.
(D) Wardale. (E) For Omaha - L.S.T. 374, 317,
310, 6.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 080101B, A.N.C.X.F. 080529.)

E.W.P.1. (A) Sailed. (B) Escort 116 E.G. (S.O. STORK).
(C) E.T.A. 0630/8. (D) Acorn HG.
DESPATCH E.T.F.
ADVENTURE "
NEW BEDFORD Omaha
BIARRITZ E.T.F.
DEVONSHIRE "
WORCESTERSHIRE "
CAMERONIA "
LEOPOLDVILLE "
EMPIRE ARQUEBUS "
EMPIRE CROSSBOW "
SOUTHERN PRINCE "
BATAVIER II Gold
(C. in C. (P) Turco, 080245.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.B.C.4. (A) Sailed. (B) 139 E.G. (C) 0600/10.
(D) Dragonfly. For Utah - ORANMORE, CLEMENT T. JANE, MAJORCA, SIAK, DRAKE, EAST COASTER. For Omaha - THESEUS, MUNIN, SKUM, ASHMAN, J. CLOUH, LILIAN ONE, BRANMOSE, CARRICK COAST, ANTRIM COAST, SAINT BEDAN, FIRE QUEEN, PORTIA, KYLE BANK, GRETA FORCE, EMPIRE SHOAL. (A.N.C.X.F., 080253B as amended 091125B, 091938B and 100433.)
- Convoy Arrived.
J.M. 4. (Capt. S.S., 080255B to A.N.C.X.F.)
- E.C.M.1. (B) 107th E.G. (C) 0600/9th. (D) Terrific XI. (E) LUCY STONE - Utah. LUCIEN B. MAXWELL - Utah. U.S.L.S.T.197, U.S.L.S.T.326, U.S.L.S.T.381 all for Portland. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth, 080404B.)
- E.T.M.3. (A) Sailed. (B) Escorts CUBITT (S.O.), POPPY, STATICE, M.L.114. (C) E.T.A. 0700B (D + 3). (D) Codeword Dictator. Radio distinguishing group 80.
(E) (1) (2)
FORT SLAVE (Commodore) J
FORT PIC G
FORT CHARNISAY S
OCEAN VISION G
SAMNESSE J
OCEAN VOLGA G
BRADFORD CITY J
FORT HENLEY G
EMPIRE GENERAL J
OCEAN VENGEANCE G
GEORGE DURANT (U.S.) J
EMPIRE EARL G
FORT NORFOLK J
EMPIRE PORTIA J
L.S.T.9 N.N.
(G) Routed C.H.11 to E.A.3 Buoy thence by K.U.78. (Cdre. i/c Southend, 080608B.)
- E.W.L.1. (A) Sailed. (B) TOMPAZIS. (C) E.T.A. 1300/8. (D) (E) 2 L.S.Ts., 1 A.S.I.S., L.S.E.2. (A.N.C.X.F., 080926.)
- Escort Groups. Escort Groups reports for further duty to Cdre. Shuttle Control in CAPETOWN approx. position 049° 26' N. 000° 53' W.
(?V.A. Dover or C.T.F.124, 081145B to S.O. E.G. 105, 140, 137, 106, 144, 141, 107, 113, 112, 155, CURZON, EKINS, PUFFIN, FOULNESS, BRESSAY, COLL. (R) U.S.C.T.G. 122.7, U.S.C.T.F.124.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.B.C.5.	(B) 140th E.G. (E) Name of ship	(C) 0600B/11.	(D) Radical F.C. Destination in France by sectors.
	Via Spithead -		
	NATO		Utah
	ULSTER HERO		Utah
	LARCHFIELD		Omaha
	NJORD		Omaha
	ISBJORN		Omaha
	MARSWORTH		Omaha
	BRIARFIELD		Omaha
	CAPITO		Utah
	DENBIGH COAST		Omaha
	SCHELDT		Omaha
	EMPIRE FORELAND		Omaha
	EMPIRE CLIFF		Omaha
	EMPIRE CADET		Juno
	Direct -		
	JUSTIN DOANE		Utah
	MOSES GAY		Utah
	KALEY		Omaha
	KIMBALL HARLOW		Omaha
	COXWOLD		Omaha
	Misc. Ships -		
	AINA		For London
	PRINCESS IRIS		For Falmouth
	KINGSBOROUGH		For Falmouth
	PACIFIC		For Par
	BRANDARIS		For Truro
	PATRIA		For Falmouth
	GOLDFINCH		For Plymouth
	DONA FLORA		For Southampton
	(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 081200B.)		

E.T.M. 3. (A) Sailed. (B) CUBITT (S.O.), POPPY, STATICE, M.L.114. (C) E.T.A. 0700B/9. (D) Dictator B.O. (E) For Juno - FORT SLAVE, SAMNESSE, BRADFORD CITY, EMPIRE GENERAL, GEORGE DURANT, FORT NORFOLK,

EMPIRE PORTIA.
For Gold - FORT PIC, OCEAN VISION, OCEAN VOLGA, FORT HENLEY, OCEAN VENGEANCE, EMPIRE EARL.
For Sword - FORT CHARNISAY.
Additional 1 L.S.T. from Isle of Wight.
(A.N.C.X.F., 081258.)

F.T.C.1. (A) Sailed. (B) 6th E.G. and (?OPPORTUNE), GENTIAN and (? PENNYWORT) anticipated E.T.A. Nab 0400/09 E.T.A. Southend 0130/10. (D) Astoria V.C. (E) EMPIRE SHOAL (BCGY), LAMBTONIAN (EDPC), SLEMISH (MCZL), CORSEA (GFWQ), MARCEL (BMYM), THYRA III (MKGF), GLENGARIF (GZCG), OLEV (MLSR), CHELWOOD (GSNT), REIAS (BLZY), REDCAR (MJXS), SEDULITY (MLMZ). Signal ITY L.C.T.(4) Establish.
(Capt. N.S., 081400B.)

War Diary.

8.6:1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.C.P.
Convoys.

Following is a repetition of my 081006 begins:
U.S. Army's authorities state that it is not intended to load and sail any L.S.I.(L) from Plymouth in E.C.P. convoys before Sunday 11th June, when cycle will commence as in para. 1 of my 071644.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081407B.)

Administration

R.A. Administration. R.A. Administration has transferred to SOUTHERN PRINCE today Thursday berthed in Juno area. Signals originated by R.A. Administration will be made from N.C.E.T.F.(A). Signals for R.A. Administration until further directions be routed to N.C.E.T.F.(A) in SOUTHERN PRINCE. (N.C.E.T.F., 081112B to E.N.T.F.)

Cable ships.

Intend to sail cable ships IRIS and ALERT and BRAGE LESLIE to carry out Task 1 as in O.N.14 section G from South Bourne at 2359B/8th.
(2) Routed B.S. and Channel 34, speed 5 knots. Expected time of arrival 2000B/9th.
(3) Escort ARMERIA, LORD AUSTIN, HUGH WALPOLE and VICTRIX R/V with cable ships at N.3 Buoy at 0100B/9th.
(4) Codeword "Globe".
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 082015B.)

Re-allocations.

C. in C. Portsmouth and Plymouth are requested to implement following re-allocations as ships become available from present duties:-
(A) LA COMBATTANTE and COTTESMORE to V.A. Dover.
(B) DUFF, TORRINGTON and SEYMOUR from Escort Groups to Coastal Force Control Ships.
(C) 5 Hunts from W.T.F. to C. in C. Portsmouth, my 082145* not to all addressees refers.
(D) 6 Corvettes from Portsmouth to C. in C. Plymouth as additional escorts to Coaster convoys.
(A.N.C.X.F., 082152B.)
* Re Stage 2.

Cargoes for coasters.

Orders for loading.
(Etousa, 082200.)

8.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicy

British Forces in U.S. Atlantic Zone. When British Forces under British operational control are operating in the U.S. Atlantic Strategical Zone the situation may arise in which the Senior Officer of the British Forces at the request of the U.S. Authorities detaches part of his force to carry out some specific task.

(2) In doing so, the Senior Officer of the British Forces is responsible for informing the U.S. Authorities whether he is transferring to them operational control of the British ships being detached during the time they are carrying out the specific task.

(3) The Senior Officer should normally transfer such operational control to the U.S. Authorities. He should only retain command himself when particular circumstances and his own local knowledge of the situation make this desirable.

(4) Should the U.S. request be made to a higher authority than the Commander of the Force concerned the higher authority will carry out the procedure outlined above.

(5) Instructions on similar lines are being issued by Cominch to U.S. Forces operating under similar circumstances in the Mediterranean and British Atlantic Strategical Zone.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 082215: A Message 178A.)

Operations

Operation "Kruschen". Air R/C has established continuous low clouds with local fog as far as longitude 002° 40' E. Am abandoning operation "Kruschen" and returning with Force 8 east of Orkneys and Shetlands. E.T.A. Hoxa 2130.
(C.S.1, 081143B to C. in C. H.F.)

Coastal Force Patrols. (V.A. Dover, 081237B, 081239B.)

S/M Patrols. (1) Position of S/Ms at 0800B/9 and movements following 24 hours.
(A) STYGIAN, VISIGOTH as in my 051711.
(F.O.(S), 081652B to Admty.)

U-Boats

U-Boat disabled. My 2350. U/B on surface apparently disabled circling in 45° 15' N. 04° 10' W. Flare 385.
(A/C PTS80, 080045B to 19 Group.)

U-Boat reported (Convoy O.N.S.239) Submarine bearing 020 at 1153Z.
(Ship No.37 in O.N.S.239 to Commodore. Recd. 081427.)

Shipping and Convoys

Large Convoy. (1) H.X.S.294. (2) 2nd June. (3) 1000Z/10th.
(D.T.D., 081655B to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Proposed
Standard
Route.

In order to obviate the necessity of re-routing G.U.S. convoys to make an Azores R/V following new standard route is proposed. 1. 35 N. 10 W.
2. 36 N. 22 W. 3. 37 N. 30 W. 4. 37.20 N. 40.01 W.
5. 36.45 N. 50.01 W. 6. 34.40 N. 63.01 W.
7. 36.01 N. 69.02 W.
(F.O.G.M.A. 081141B to Admty.)

Air torpedo
attack on
Gibraltar
5th June.

My 050412B.

1. Now established attack carried out by about 12 Italian Savoia Marchetti S.M. 79 Aircraft normally based North Italy but operating from Istres South France. Between 0200B and 0700B/5th June three or four aircraft dropped torpedoes in Bay one of which exploded against detached mole at 0211B causing some damage and five minor casualties. A second torpedo type unknown reported ran aground in River Guadarranque North of Bay. No damage to shipping. Spanish A.A. was observed to fire.
2. At 0214 U.S. Naval Vessels 23 miles southwest Gibraltar sighted single aircraft flying low from northeast. Object dropped from aircraft was followed three minutes later by heavy under water explosion aircraft retired northwards.
3. Between 0300 and 0330 a single aircraft flew low across Bay and splashes were reported area has been swept for mines without result.
4. 3 S.M. 79 aircraft crashed south of Tarragona on return journey.
5. Portion of stabilising tail of aerial torpedo found floating near point of explosion on detached mole examination shows tail definitely from Whitehead 18 inch Italian torpedo number 200/450/536 Normali. Piece of air vessel also found near point of explosion confirms type of torpedo as ordinary aerial torpedo definitely not circling type but may have been angled. Torpedo not fitted S.I.C. pistol since air vessel not magnetised. A similar portion of stabilising tail found floating one mile north of Algeciras.
6. Mole damaged by underwater explosion seaward side at point 360 feet from south end of mole. About 1500 tons masonry dislodged towards harbour forming tunnel shaped cavity through mole measuring on sea side 40 feet along and from 10 feet above to 20 feet below sea level.
Special report in accordance A.F.O. 3541/1940 para. 1F will be forwarded as soon as possible.
(F.O.G.M.A. 081644.)

South Atlantic.

M.Ls. for
French.

My 051251Z* May and Admty. 051235. Pendant Nos. of the four motor launches involved should read 244, 266, 271, 302.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 080830Z.) *re Proposal to turn over 4 M.Ls. to French.

Pyrotechnic
signal.

Concur in your 312110* May.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 081548 to Admty.)
* Presume 312010 May intended.

War Diary.

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Employment
of Yugoslav
ships.

Your 061930. A.M. 060200 para. 2 concur.
The success of these proposals will depend entirely on extent of good will of Tito vis a vis R.Y.N.
2. Presumably ex R.Y.N. ships if manned by Partisans will fly Partisan flag.
3. Number of ships available as in my 311025 May. (F.O.T.A.L.I. 081245B to C. in C.Med.)

S.O.M. Daily
Sitrep No. 54.

G/191 cipher 8 June. 229887.
3. Yugoslavia. A. Germans reported withdrawn from Kernat and Olib Islands 5/8 June.
D. Reported from Slavonia that 6 boats 20 barges destroyed 20 May by mines laid night 19/20 May in Danube.
(S.O.M.T.O. 081900B.)

Enemy
shipping.

13 miscellaneous cargo vessels, probable mostly E.M.S.type, reported in Port Tigani 7th June. 2 cargo vessels of indefinite size reported in Port Vathy.
2. Destination vague possibly Piraeus.
(Capt. S.1 081905 to SICKLE.)

ORION reported at Potamos. 2. LOLA sailed Istanbul a.m. 7th for Aegean.
(Capt. S.1 082145B to SICKLE.)

Yugoslav Navy. The substance of Admt. 060200 has been discussed with six senior Royal Yugoslav Naval Officers. Their reactions are as follows:-

- A. the prospect of active employment was welcomed.
B. Orders received direct from their King will be obeyed implicitly whatever policy these orders may project.
C. The R.Y.N. Officers have confidence in the discipline and loyalty of their men and consider therefore that calling for volunteers for service in any particular area is undesirable and unnecessary.
D. To reassure R.Y.N. ratings however that active support of Partisans is the policy of their King the R.Y.N. Officers consider that a declaration to this effect should come from London. Commander Saksida has asked to be flown to U.K. for this purpose but I have informed him that this cannot be granted in the near future.
2. There are over 700 R.Y.N. personnel at Malta and Alexandria which is sufficient to man all ships already turned over to the R.Y.N. and the ex-Yugoslav ships not yet transferred.
3. The question of what ships could be brought into active service will be investigated. Intend sending Lieut. Comdr. D.Farrer to F.O.T.A.L.I. to report on state of ships with a view to finding suitable employment. It must be stressed however that the Yugoslav ships are of little fighting value, largely unarmed and the majority require docking.
(V.A.Malta 081907.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B
dispositions.

No. 52. No fresh information. No change in
scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 080337Z.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 081442Z, Cominch 081540Z.)

H.X.292.

Average speed 9 knots. Off Oversay at 1740Z/1st,
all arrived.
(D.T.D. 081750B.)

Stragglers
report No.55

Two returned New York from H.X.S.294 LAUHLAN
MCKAY June 2nd. Steering gear trouble. TROJAN
(Pan.) June 3rd. Unable to maintain convoy speed.
One returned Norfolk from U.G.S.44. SAMBAY June
2nd. Engine defects.
(N.S.H.Q. 081944Z.)

SS. QUEEN
MARY.

Diversion order.
(Connav 082026Z to QUEEN MARY.)
Regret my 082026* dispatched prior receipt your
081819Z*
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R 082250Z to Admty.)
* Routes for A.T.122 N.K. N.T. in W.D. of 081819Z.

Control of
fire from
ships.
(bombardment.)

Following from Chiefs of Staff.
1. Admiralty have now received from C. in C.Med.
codes and procedures as now in use in Mediterranean
Theatre.
2. We think it undesirable to reach final agreement
on any of these codes and procedures for adoption
in all theatres until the experience gained in the
assault phase of "Overlord" has been carefully studied.
(A.M.S.S.O. 082050Z.)

U.S.Chiefs are investigating practicability of ultimate adop-
tion of combined method for adjusting both naval and artillery
gunfire, and are considering incorporating in one standard code
and procedure desirable features of the various codes and proce-
dures now in use.

3. We will inform U.S. C.O.S. that you agree that whole subject
should be considered later in light of experience gained in "Over-
lord".
(J.S.M.Washington 082215Z to A.M.S.S.O.)

U/B inci-
dents.

Para. C. A.T.C. aircraft sighted U/B which crash
dived 43.10 N. 37.13 W. 1302Z/07 exhaust smoke
observed. Later sighted U/B course 130 on surface
43.33 N. 38.10 W. 1322Z/07.
(Cominch 082135Z.)

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 870.
June 7th.

- Paras. 11 to 16 cover South Pacific Forces.
2. Australian troops advancing northwest along New Guinea coast reached Kokukba 30 miles south-east Hansa Bay. Patrols reported Karkar Island clear of enemy 6th.
 3. American troops Biak Island with strong artillery support attacked Mokmer Aerodrome morning reaching objective before noon. This afternoon (1 group missing) continued southwards to beach where intense machine gun and rifle fire encountered from north-west and northeast.
 7. United States submarine successfully attacked three tankers near Tawi Tawi anchorage morning 5th.
 8. Additional details Liberator attacks enemy shipping northeast Halmahera night 3/4 (refer Digest 867 para. 3) states total two destroyers sunk three light cruisers damaged.
 10. Photographs confirm one probable hit scored AOBA class heavy cruiser off Waigeo Island by Liberator strike evening 6th (refer para. 6 yesterday's Digest).
 16. Afternoon same date patrolling Corsairs saw wake possible submarine entering Shortlands area from northwest.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 080640Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack &
sighting
summary.

- Para. A. 1. Mosquito A/C attacked U-Boat at 0530Z/7 in 45° 49' N. 02° 53' W.
2. A/C D/206 sighted U-Boat at 0610Z/7 in 48° 27' N. 05° 05' W.
 3. A/C B/224 sighted 2 U-Boats at 0007Z/7 in 48° 33' N. 04° 51' W.
 4. A/C V/53 sighted U-Boat, course 030° at 0246Z/7 in 47° 00' N. 02° 40' W.
 5. A/C G/228 attacked U-Boat with depth charges at 2133Z/7 in 45° 42' N. 04° 12' W.
 6. A/C R/228 attacked U-Boat at 2150Z/7 in 45° 15' N. 04° 10' W.
 7. A/C S/224 attacked U-Boat course 240° at 2245Z/7 in 49° 17' N. 05° 45' W.
 8. A/C F/502 attacked U-Boat course 350° at 0013Z/8 in 47° 40' N. 05° 20' W.
 9. A/C G/224 attacked U-Boat with depth charges, course 270°, at 0015Z/8 in 48° 46' N. 06° 15' W.
 10. A/C F/502 attacked U-Boat at 2352Z/7 in 47° 46' N. 04° 53' W.
 11. A/C G/224 attacked U-Boat course 295° at 0050Z/8 in 48° 26' N. 05° 47' W.
 12. A/C O/58 sighted U-Boat at 2340Z/7 in 47° 55' N. 05° 20' W.
 13. A/C C/224 sighted U-Boat course 270° at 2348Z/7 in 48° 22' N. 05° 05' W.
 14. A/C O/58 attacked U-Boat with depth charges at 2355Z/7 in 47° 43' N. 05° 16' W.
 15. E.G.12 sighted two periscopes and four torpedoes at 1845Z/7 in 48° 57' N. 05° 31' W.

/Para. B...

War Diary.

8.6.1944.

Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack &
sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

Para. B. 1. A/C obtained disappearing contact at
2324Z/7 in 49° 14' N. 05° 22' W.

Para. D. 1. Fisherman reported U-Boat at 1130Z/5
in 07° 00' N. 73° 00' E.
(D.D.I.C. 081210B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.

(D.D.I.C. 081435B, 081525B.)
Amended 091449B.

9.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1.(a). The weather has again deteriorated since yesterday; but steady development continues on each of the five beachheads where landings today have been as follows:-

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores
Area S.			
Area J.	5,680	5,170	1,470 tons
Area G.	2,500	32	2,000 tons
and at 1800 today the cumulative figures in Area U were	51,376	3,145	7,538 tons

In area S intermittent bombing, shelling, and sniping have slowed down the landings, and the work in Area G was hampered by a shortage of Ferry-Craft broken down or swamped; but in Areas J, O and U today the rate of discharge has improved. Minelaying by E-Boats last night is suspected off the Northern flank of area U.

(b). The sweeping of a fourth broad Approach Channel to the Assault area was completed today; all the "Gooseberry" Blockships had arrived by noon, and those in place are already providing some shelter against the weather; "Mulberry" tows are arriving without reported loss; and the laying of cross-channel communication-cables nears completion.

Enemy
Action.

2. Destroyers. Between 0120 and 0400 today our Covering Force 26, consisting of ~~nine~~ ^{eight} destroyers (S.O. in TARTAR), intercepted four enemy destroyers 32 miles W.N.W. of Ile de Bas and, though TARTAR was hit and damaged, by 0520 had driven one enemy ashore in flames on the Ile de Bas and had sunk another. The remaining two escaped into Brest; but one of these is known to have been hit repeatedly and is thought unlikely to be operationally fit for some time.

3. E-Boats. Between 0200 and 0300 today E-Boats were operating on the western flank of the area off Cap Barfleur and also on the eastern flank off Cap d'Antifer. At 0300 the escorts of a personnel convoy drove off one group which had sunk two L.S.Ts. off Cap Barfleur. and at daylight Typhoon A/C off Cap d'Antifer attacked another group of four E-Boats of which one is claimed sunk and two damaged and beached.

4. U-Boats. An eastbound U-Boat sighted at 1518B today 43 miles N.W. by N. of Ushant was attacked by RESTIGOUCHE of E.G.12 without observed result. Two other U-Boats were sighted today in that area; and at 1551B the Admiralty considered that probably

/not...

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy
Action.
(Contd.)

not more than ten U-Boats were operating in the Western Channel Approaches.

General.

N. Russia
convoys.

5. It was decided today that Convoy R.A.60, returning the six M/Vs now remaining in North Russia, will not be run in the near future.

Mediterranean.

Air Opera-
tions Italy.

6. (a). Aircraft of the Strategic Air Force dropped 155 tons on Porto Marghero today.
(b). The Tactical Air Force immobilized a destroyer with direct hits at Porto Ferraio today.
(c). Wellingtons of Coastal Air Force bombed Corfu harbour installations.

Civitavecchia.

7. (a). A port party was established at Civitavecchia today. The quays are reported blown up and the port area badly damaged.
(b). Coastal forces unsuccessfully attacked a corvette and a merchant vessel off Elba last night. Shore batteries engaged our forces, but caused no damage.

Aegean.

8. (a). Coastal forces captured a caique in the Aegean last night.
(b). SICKLE reports slight casualties during a gun action off Mitylene on 4th June. In the Doro Channel on 6th June she attacked a convoy of miscellaneous craft, sinking one small merchant ship with torpedo and obtaining one other possible hit.

/(c)...

9.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Aegean
(Contd.)

- 8.(c). VIVID attacked SS. TANA (French) at 0310B today in 35.55 N. 25.11 E. (40 miles N.W. of Candia) when the ship was in company with a motor lighter and 2 R-Boats. Two hits were estimated and wreckage was sighted.
- (d). 8 Liberators bombed shipping and harbour installations at Heraklion last night.
- (e). Two Wellingtons successfully mined Syros and Rhodes.

East Indies.

U/Bs. S.E.
of Aden.

- 9.(a). SS. CAROLA (Colombo for Fremantle) reports sighting a submarine at 0810 G.M.T. today in 02.05 S. 74.49 E. (about 120 miles S.E. of Aden.) CAROLA proceeded on her voyage and no report of attack has been received.
- (b). SS. PETER SILVESTER (Colombo for Fremantle) reported a U-Boat this morning in 10.20 S. 74.40 E. (90 miles E.S.E. of Aden) and stated that the U-Boat surfaced and fire was exchanged. PETER SILVESTER proceeded on her voyage.

China.

- 10. On the south China coast today a U.S.Liberator sank two large freighters. Two U.S.Liberators sank one and probably a second large freighter on the southeast China coast and bombed Swatow docks.

176

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Australia & New Zealand.

New Guinea.

11.(a). Last night M.T.Bs. destroyed 4 barges off the southeast coast of Murchu Island and gunned and rocketed enemy positions along the Wewak-Aitape coast and off-shore islands.

(b). 17 Bostons attacked shipping at Manokwari, today and sank or set on fire three small freighters and several smaller vessels.

Schouten Is.

12. An Allied cruiser and destroyer Task Force covering Biak Island last night encountered and chased an enemy force described as 5 destroyers northwest of the island, but was unable to close the range and abandoned the chase after 3 hours, near Makin Is. (150 miles northwest of Biak Island). One enemy destroyer was possibly damaged. There was no damage to the Allied force.

177

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Cositintrep Number 12 part 2 Naval.

A. General. Improved weather has been fully utilised but period of absolute calm would still be acceptable. Discharge on beaches has speeded up, and progress been made with beach organisation and facilities. Minesweeping proceeding satisfactorily. Three broad approach channels now available, reducing risk of loss or damage by mines to ships straying off previous narrower channels.

Sinking of Corncobs continues under less difficult conditions, mooring of Bombardons proceeding.

Port En Bessin Harbour and quays virtually intact. Preliminary reconnaissance for Pluto site in progress.

Port facilities at Ouistreham may be of more value than previously thought.

During last night attempts to attack on the flanks of approach channels to the assault area were made by four groups of E-Boats, the first two of which were damaged and driven off. The third group attacked on the eastern flank with persistence, and the action continued intermittently for two hours before the enemy retired on Havre. We lost one L.C.I.(L) sunk but military personnel and the crew were all saved. A fourth group attacked on the western flank and sank one enemy LCT. of a northbound convoy.

B. British Sector. General improvement in whole situation continues, but programme not yet caught up.

C. U.S. Sector. Unloading proceeding rapidly on Utah beaches, which are in excellent condition. Omaha Situation improving but difficulties still exist.

Detection of heavy magnetic mines in inshore boat routes has caused increase in the minesweeping task.

D. Troops, etc. landed. Omaha - 41,928 men, 2,670 vehicles, 900 tons stores (up to 2200/7).

Sword - Number of men unspecified but up to programme, 500 vehicles, 1300 tons stores. Other reports not yet received.

E. Casualties. U.S. Destroyer MEREDITH, Mine damage, possible loss. U.S. Destroyer GLENNON, Mine damage possible loss.

U.S. Destroyer Escort RICH, Sunk by mine.

F. Coastal Command. During the afternoon two U-Boats were sighted and attacked 40 miles North of Ushant with unobserved results.

G. Intelligence. No important change.

(Ramsay, 090112 to Admty.)

Loading of Landing Ships and craft in the Build-up in the Isle of Wight area has up to the present been very disappointing.

(2) The number of L.S.T. and L.C.T. loaded up to the end of D+2 is 28 and 222 respectively as against 34 and 231 planned for D+1 alone in O.N.13.

(3) This is due to the following causes. (A) Conditions for unloading on beaches have delayed the return of Landing Craft.

(B) Craft out of action for Dockyard repair through damage on beaches now number 11 L.S.T. and 121 L.C.T.

(C) Small defects being made good in the collecting area.

(D) Delays in loading as set out in my 031152B (being passed to Admiralty) which have been fully discussed with 21st Army Group.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 090142B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Communique /...

9.6.1944

Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports.

Communique No.7. Allied troops have continued to make progress in all sectors, despite further reinforcement of German armour. Landings have continued on all beaches and by-passed strong points of enemy resistance are being steadily reduced. During yesterday, there was desultory firing from some coastal batteries, which were again silenced by gunfire from Allied warships. Allied A/C continued to support Naval and land forces by attacks on a variety of targets. Late in the day, weather over Northern France caused a reduction in the scale of air operations. Rocket firing fighters attacked German E-Boats in the Channel leaving one in a sinking condition. For the first time since 1940 Allied Air Forces are able to operate from French soil.
(S.H.A.E.F. 090930B to A.G.W.A.R.)

This is part one of my 091153B/June.
Enemy minelaying area Pountain contains serious threat my gunfire support northern flank 7th Corps. German is creating mine-barrier to prevent our further northerly deployment and is mining at night areas occupied by our gunfire ships preceeding daylight. If he limits our northern boundary or succeeds in driving ships south of present mason line then 7th Corps will lose naval gunfire on his seaward flank. My area screen was heavily engaged last night with E-Boats around point M.D. and Moons destroyers inside San Marcouf Islands drove back German tank landing craft. We suffered no losses and believe enemy was damaged, extent unknown as yet. So far no penetration screen has occurred.
(N.C.W.T.F. 091152B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep No.13 Part 2 Naval.
A. General. Last night at 2251 A/C of coastal command sighted four enemy destroyers off Ushant on a northerly course. It was appreciated they were possibly attempting to attack shipping in the channel. An allied destroyer force including British Canadian and Polish Units under Captain Basil Jones, R.N. in TARTAR successfully intercepted before daylight in 48 degs. 59' N. 04 degs. 44' W. and a running fight ensued. After ten minutes an unlucky hit on TARTAR caused sufficient disorder to enable the enemy to open range. About 0500 when effective action rejoined enemy scattered and two escaped in darkness although believed not without damage. By 0520 one enemy had been driven ashore in flames on Ile De Bas, the other repeatedly hit was lost to sight and her loss is considered probable. Sweeping of fourth broad channel to assault area completed. Both Hospital Carriers damaged by mine on 7th June have reached harbour safely. One will be in service again within a week. Gooseberries progressing sufficiently to provide some shelter in further adverse weather.
B. British Sector. Gold. Discharge prejudiced by shortage of ferry craft through breakdowns and swamping during bad weather conditions.
Juno. Discharge more rapid.
Sword. Slowing of discharge due to intermittent shelling and sniping. Discharge by L.S.T. drying out has proved successful.

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

C. U.S. Sector Omaha. Unloading conditions improving. Some additional casualties to landing craft.

Utah. Unloading proceeding rapidly.

2nd and 90th Divisions completed landing Enemy dropped mines from A/C.

E. Casualties. L.S.T.499 mined and sunk, L.S.T. 376 and 314 torpedoed and sunk.

F. Coastal Command. In addition to sighting enemy destroyers above, one U-Boat was attacked north of Ushant and two in Bay of Biscay with unobserved results.

G. Intelligence. The loss of two Narvik Destroyers as reported above leaves only one Narvik and one Elbing in Brest and two Narviks in the Bay. The latter believed operationally unfit. Survivors from E-Boat S.139 ex Cherbourg have been landed at Portland.

Twenty Naval prisoners-of-War from Harbour defence Company of Ouistreham, including the Commandant, were captured drunk in the shelter to which they repaired when the landings commenced. Signed Eisenhower.

(Ramsay, O91457B to Admty)

Between 0120 and 0400 this morning Force 26 of British, Canadian and Polish destroyers engaged 3 Narviks and one Elbing destroyer off North Breton coast. One enemy ship was sunk, one driven ashore on fire, 2 escaped to westward probably damaged. Slight damage sustained by TARTAR and a few casualties. 141 survivors from German destroyer picked up this afternoon and being brought in by INCONSTANT. 3 sightings of enemy S/Ms in western channel area by A/C of 19 Group last night of which one was attacked. 12th E.G. sighted a S/M at 1518/9th in 049 degs. 10' N. 004 degs. 58' W. and are hunting. Convoys proceeding according to plan and without undue interference. (C. in C. Plymouth, O92102B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Communique No.8. American Troops are across the Carentan Volognes Road in several places and have cut the Broad Gauge Railway to Cherbourg.

Further gains have been made West and Southwest of Bayeux. Fighting is severe in the Area of Caen where the enemy is making a determined effort to stem the advance. The weight of armour on both sides is increasing and heavy fighting continues in all Areas. The enemy strong points previously bypassed have now been eliminated. The weather has deteriorated but our beachheads are being steadily developed. Poor visibility and stormy weather reduced Allied air activity to a minimum over the battle area to-day.

Before dawn this morning TARTAR, ASHANTI, HAIDA, HURON, BLYSKAWICA, JAVELIN ESKIMO, PIORUN and JAVELIN in company, intercepted a force of German Destroyers which had previously been reported off Ushant by Coastal A/C.

The enemy were sighted and our ships turned towards them, avoiding their torpedoes. In the course of the action, at times conducted at pointblank range, TARTAR passed through the enemy's line. One enemy Destroyer was torpedoed and blew up A second was driven ashore in flames. Two other escaped after receiving damage by gunfire.

TARTAR/...

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

TARTAR sustained some damage and a few casualties but continued in action and has returned safely to harbour.

Unsuccessful attempts were again made after dark by E-Boats to enter the assault area both from the East and West. They were intercepted and driven off by light coastal forces. Off the Pointe De Barfleur in a short gun action hits were observed on two of the enemy before they escaped.

During the night Destroyers under the command of Rear-Admiral Moon, U.S.N. intercepted a force of heavily armed enemy craft between the Mainland and the Isles De San Marcouf, and drove them off.

During the 24 hours to 0800 this morning, 46 targets were engaged by Allied Warships. Spotting for these shoots was carried out both by A/C and military forward observer officers, who had been landed with the assault troops.

BELFAST and FROBISHER have done considerable execution on enemy concentrations. This morning FROBISHER neutralized two enemy batteries and destroyed an ammunition dump.

(S.H.A.E.F. 092330 to A.G.W.A.R.)

Bombardment Forces.

WARSPITE,
 NEVADA.

My 080835. WARSPITE is being sailed to Western Task Force at 1600 to-day.

(2) On return of NEVADA to Western Task Force WARSPITE is to join Eastern Task Force.

(3) N.C.E.T.F. to sail one other battle ship to Spithead on relief by WARSPITE.

(A.N.C.X.F. 090947B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

After expending outfit of 15 inch ammunition now on board, A.B. and Y turret guns of WARSPITE who is now returning to assault area will require exchange. Request provisional arrangements be made for this to be done in the Clyde.

(A.C.C.X.F. 091143B to Admty.)

Intend sailing WARSPITE at 1600B to-day for W.T.F. area. Routed F.S. and Channel 34, S.O.A. 16 knots E.T.A. 2115/9th. Escort VIRAGO and STORD.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 091320B to N.C.W.T.F.)

NEVADA take FITCH, WALKE, TANATSIDE, MELBREAK and TALYBONT under your orders pass the Gate at 0800/10th June or as soon as ammunitioning is completed and proceed by standard route to position Z and thence to assault area.

(2) TANATSIDE, MELBREAK and TALYBONT are to be detached when off Portland with orders to proceed to Portsmouth.

(3) If ammunitioning is completed earlier than 0800B/10th pass the Gate as necessary informing your escorts accordingly.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091841B to NEVADA, FITCH etc.)

181

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombardment Forces

WARSPITE,
NEVADA.
(Contd.)

WARSPITE report to Com. Force U for firing support duties. From end channel 34 proceed approximate course 258 true toward following route F.50 in PRAIRIE Area and request anchorage from U.S.S. BAYFIELD.

(N.C.W.T.F. 092033B to WARSPITE)

Your 091841B, my 091745B. Advance 15. E.T.A. 2000/10.

(NEVADA, 092304B to C. in C. Plymouth)

St. Lo.

Railway guns now seen southwest of Saint Lo at 474625, believed 250 M/M, range 50000 yards. Air action in hand.

(A.N.C.X.F. 091320B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Eastern Area.

Ships are to (?be) prepared to carry out following types of fire:-

(A) against pockets of resistance surrounded by our own troops. F.Os.B. will not call for fire on such targets unless accompanying risk to own

troops has been submitted to and concurred in by local military commander. Against pockets of resistance normal D.G.R. procedure will not be used.

(B) Defensive fire may be called for on key points to delay or destroy surprise enemy attacks. Wherever possible, ships will be ranged in previously on these key points by their F.Os.B. Calls for defensive fire by one or more ships will be made by H.Q. ship and are to take priority over any other type of fire. (N.C.E.T.F. 091448B to S.O. Forces, S.J.G. C.S.2, C.S.10)

Area "S".

Airspot. One and 2. Counter 0545 until dusk. Mobile batteries within range of beach becoming numerous.

(S.O. Force "S", 091553 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Your 091132. Owing to large number of F.O.B's deployed it is desired to have 6 destroyers available for bombardment every day.

(2) Any destroyers required for duty division by day should be additional.

(3) Propose to retain SAUMAREZ, SWIFT, VERULAM, IMPULSIVE, ISIS, SLAZAK.

(S.O. Force "S", 091731B to N.C.E.T.F.)

War Diary9.6.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. O.N. Plymouth 5 Section 2 S.U.P.S.
 (A) 11th E.G. shift patrol line 24 miles 066 degs.
 14th E.G. Shift patrol line 12 miles 066 degs.
 My 081950 refers.
 12th E.G. Z.239 Eastern Half.
 3rd E.G. Z.237 Z 232.
 (B) Nearest group to close sightings, Senior Officer taking charge as necessary.
 (C) 11th E.G. 0800/9th. 12th E.G. 0600/9th.
 3rd E.G. 1000/9th. 14th E.G. 0800/9th.
 (D) From sightings, majority of U-Boats have now left Bay Ports. It is expected that some will be proceeding up Channel whilst others fan out on to South Coast Convoy Routes. Estimated average speed $2\frac{3}{4}$ knots.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 090029 to E.G's 3,11,12,14, D.F.10)

Your 081541. Reinforcements will be provided when necessary but it is not considered this time has yet arrived.
 (V.C.N.S.090057B to C. in C. Plymouth)

3rd, 11th and 14th E.G. carry out Gamma searches length 24 miles at right angles to an enemy course of 066, centre position of searches to be 49.26 N. 04.28 W. 50. 05 N. 02.22 W. 49. 42 N. 03.39 W. respectively.
 All groups to arrive new patrol line by 1700/9.
 (2) 12th E.G. southern half of Z233 and northern half of Z233 from 1300.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 091133B to E.G's 3,11,12,14)

11th E.G. consisting of 5 escort Destroyers (S.O. in OTTAWA) will be operating on the dividing line between Plymouth and Portsmouth Commands from 1700 to-day. My 091133 refers. It is proposed that this group should be operated by you from time of taking up patrol.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 091156B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

L.J.S.13 - 1324. My P.C.S. 049 degs. 47' N. 003 degs. 16' W. 100, 26.
 (E.G.11, 091430B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Night Patrols for 9th/10th June: O.N. Plymouth 5 Section 1 Appendix 1 para. 1.
 (1) (A) Force 28, SALADIN, SKATE.
 (B) (1) SALADIN 1900/9. (D) HURD Deep patrol 50 degs. 04' N. 2 degs. 47' W. 49 degs. 44' N. 3 degs. 16' W.
 (E) (1) SALADIN. (2) SKATE.
 (H) SALADIN relieve SCIMITAR on day patrol ordered in my 081301B. SCIMITAR then proceed Plymouth. At 2215/9 SALADIN, SKATE take up night patrol line as in (D).
 At 0500/10 shift patrol line 10 mins in direction 335 degs. Take full A/S precautions.
 (L) As in my 060950B.

War Diary9.6.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

(2) (A) (1) Unit G.N. 1 M.T.Bs 717, 664.
 (2) Unit G.N. 2 M.T.Bs 676, 719.
 (3) Unit G.N.3 M.T.Bs 743, 727.
 (4) Unit G.T.1. M.Ls. 181, 186.

(B) (11) 2300/9. (D) (1) North Edge Z.205. (2) North Edge Z.212
 on 50 degs. 13' N. (3) Western Edge of Z.212. (4) North West
 corner Z.217. (J) 0515/10.

(3) O.N. Plymouth 5 Section 1 Appendix 1 para. 2.
 (P) Wellington (Q) 2330 to 0430. (R) (1) 49 degs. 52' 02 degs.
 35' to 49 degs. 43' 03 degs. 05' W.
 (2) West Of 02 degs. 20' W. (3) Swordfish will patrol convoy
 route.

(S) Wellington may illuminate and attack in area South of line
 joining 49 degs. 52' N. 02 degs. 35' W. and 49 degs, 43' N. 03
 degs. 05', W.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 091716B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

Shift patrol line 18 miles in direction 065 degs.
 11th E.G. is not now patrolling close eastward of
 you.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 092331B to SALADIN, SKATE)

Action off
 Ile de Bas.
 Two Enemy
 Destroyers
 destroyed.
 One Enemy
 Destroyer
 damaged.
 TARTAR
 damaged.

4 destroyers bearing 240 degs. distant 3 miles
 course unknown. My position 48 degs. 58' N. 04
 degs. 19' W.
 (TARTAR, 090130 to Scapa W/T)
 My 0130. Enemy's course and speed are 270 degs.
 30 knots.
 (TARTAR, 090138)
 My 0130. Enemy's course and speed are 245 degs.
 30 knots.
 (TARTAR, 090140)

Am engaging one enemy destroyer. HURON and
 ASHANTI in company. My position 048 degs. 59' N
 004 degs. 44' W. Enemy course and speed 100
 degs. 30.
 (HAIDA, 090300 to TARTAR)

1 Destroyer bearing 125 degs. 9.5 miles, course
 070 degs. Position 023 Ile de Vierge 20 miles.
 (HAIDA, 090352 to TARTAR)

Course 010 degs. speed 28.
 (HAIDA, 090354 to TARTAR)

One destroyer position 334 Ile de Bas 9 miles,
 course 060 degs. speed 25.
 (HAIDA, 090358 to P.W.G.)

Am engaging one enemy destroyer. My estimated
 position is 021 Ile de Bas 15, enemy course 225
 degs.
 (HAIDA, 090445 to Devonport P.W.G.)

9.6.1944

Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

4 enemy destroyers engaged. Due to temporary damage TARTAR lost touch about 10 minutes after beginning of engagement. Present estimate 2 of enemy blown up. Other 2 repeatedly hit. 20th Div. joining HAIDA last in touch with enemy destroyers steering 100 degs. TARTAR in 049 degs. 08' N. 004 degs. 33' W. following 20th Div. course 100 degs. 25 knots.
(Capt.(D) 10, 090448B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Leading ships of 10th D.F. 7 miles. Engaging remaining enemy destroyers in 49 degs. 00' N. 03 degs. 55' W.
(TARTAR, 090500 to Devonport P.W.G.)

My 0445. One enemy destroyer beached on Ile de Bas.
(HAIDA, 090520 to Devonport P.W.G.)

My 0445. One enemy destroyer on fire.
(HAIDA, 090523 to Devonport P.W.G.)

At about 0120/9, Force 26, TARTAR (S.O), ASHANTI, HAIDA, HURON, BLYSKAWICA, ESKIMO, PIORUN, JAVELIN, encountered an enemy force of four ships, probably 3 Narviks and 1 Elbing 20 miles N.W. of Isle de Bas. These had previously been sighted off Brest by A/C of 19 Group. The British Force was in two Divisions, 19th and 20th, disposed to starboard. Enemy was sighted after Radar contact and range closed to 5000 yards, enemy approaching end on and on opposite course to 19th Division led by TARTAR. TARTAR turned to N. and opened fire. Enemy were apparently surprised, and also turned to N. firing torpedoes. In combing tracks of these 19th Division closed to point-blank range, TARTAR in fact passing through enemy's line between 1st and 2nd Ship. She turned up and engaged leader, was herself hit by heavy H.E. shell which caused large fire abaft the bridge. Enemy was also heavily hit by TARTAR. The action then developed into a melee, during which ASHANTI torpedoed an enemy destroyer, which blew up a few minutes later after a 2nd torpedo. HAIDA and HURON engaged an enemy Destroyer of Narvik class who was making to the eastward and chased her without gaining. This enemy, however, broke back to the westward and was then forced ashore off Ile de Bas and left heavily on fire and aground. The 20th Division were engaged with one or two Destroyers, but the details of their action are somewhat obscure. Two enemy appear to have escaped to the westward, but from preliminary reports it seems probable that they were damaged in the melee. Some damage and casualties were suffered by TARTAR, the other ships being untouched except by a few splinters. There were 4 killed and 9 Cot and 4 non Cot cases of wounded in TARTAR.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091435B to Admty.)

As a result of an action in the Ile de Bas Area early to-day between 10th D.F. and a German Force consisting of 3 Narviks and one Elbing6, two Narviks have been destroyed and one damaged.
(2) Covering force is being kept in harbour at short notice tonight and when circumstances permit.
(3) Operation C.A. para. 30 refers.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 092354B to C. in C. W.A.) Operation /...

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces.

Operation C.A. Avenger A/C in TRACKER are to be used on anti-submarine patrol. Threat by enemy surface forces is considered negligible.
 (C. in C. W.A. 091006B to Ships in C.A.)

Operation C.A. Para 18 and Appendix One. Area of Operations is extended 80 miles direction 315 degs. and sub-divided into 14 additional squares of 40 miles sides. Squares are lettered JA to JN, JA being next to GA and JG next to HF. JH is north western square of all.
 (C. in C. W.A. 091624B to A.I.G. 567)

Patrols to be taken up by dark tonight. 5th E.G. area G.F. Second E.G. area JB. First E.G. south east half JA and North West half GA. 32nd Force carriers on line between GF and JB. 31st Force carriers in vicinity 049 degs. 55' 007 degs. 20'. New areas are given in my 091624.

(2) If groups are in contact 3 ships are to remain and remainder proceed as in para.1.

(C. in C. W.A. 091703B to Ships in C.A.)

Search in following areas from dawn 10th June if not in contact with enemy or searching for a reported U-Boat. First E.G. South quarter of JA and West Quarter of GA. Second E.G. North East half of JB 5th E.G. North East half of GF. Carriers as necessary to cover respective forces.

(C. in C. W.A. 092330B to Ships in C.A.)

Patrols from Dover. My 081239. Request you will sail ORWELL to Z.9 South and OPPORTUNE to Z.10 to-day.
 (V.A. Dover, 091034 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

(1) O.N. Dover 52. Western limit. Cancel and substitute from Worthing to position 49 degs. 40' N. 00 degs. 12' W. thence 090 degs. to French

Coast.

(2) O.N. Dover 59. Patrol Z.10 Column 1 amend to read Z.10 West. Add new Patrols.

Patrol No.	Centre position.	Direction.	Patrol Area from position.	Thence.
Z.10 South	000 degs. 10 miles from centre position Z.16.	Blank	Blank	Blank
Z.16	313 degs. Cap D'Antifer 16 miles.	Blank	50 degs. N. 0 degs. 00'.	180 degs. 10 miles 270 degs. 9 miles, 355 degs. 10 miles, 090 degs. 9.5 miles.

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrol No.	Centre position.	Direction.	Patrol Area from position.	Thence.
Z.17	287 degs. Cap. D'Antifer 11.2 miles.	As requisite within 2 miles	49 degs. 50' N. 0 degs. 00'.	180 degs. 10 miles. 270 degs. 8 miles. 355 degs. 10 miles. 090 degs. 9 miles.

(V.A. Dover, 091348B to Dover Forces, SAVAGE, ORWELL, OPPORTUNE, OBEDIENT, THORNBOROUGH, TROLLOPE, SEYMOUR, S.O.51st M.T.B.F. S.O. 59th M.T.B.F.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth 1 para. 38. Cover night 9th/10th.
 (A) ONSLOW, OFFA between positions 49.50 N. 01.00 W. and 50.02 N. 01.00 W. patrolling singly.
 (B) STAYNER G.H.1 in Z.111 on 01.14 W. between 49.45 N. and 49.51 N.
 DUFF G.H.2 in Z.110 and Z.114 between position 49.52 N. 01.17 W. and 49.54 N. 01.26 W.
 (C) Unit G.H.3. M.T.B. 451 S.O. and 478 Unit G.H. 4 M.T.B. 675 S.O. 689 both with STAYNER in Z.111.
 Unit G.H.5 M.T.B. 452 S.O. and 447 Unit G.H. 6 M.T.B. 690 S.O. and 692 both with DUFF in Z.110 and Z.114.
 (D) Unit G.D. M.T.B. 212 S.O. 207 and 208 in Z.121.
 (F) Force G.H. routed out by channel 1.
 Paragraph (A) to be in position by 2200B, remainder by 2300.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 091521B to HORNET, Capt. S.5., VERNON, ONSLOW, OFFA, STAYNER, DUFF.)

11th Escort Group is acting as A/S killer group in Portsmouth Command excluding assault area. Signal report attack by or sighting U-Boats in above area should be repeated to 11th Escort Group unless they are in self evident code. Position must always be given. Escorts pass to coastal forces.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 091659B to Ships)

Proceed and establish A/S patrol in rectangular area between St. Catherine's Point and 050 degs. 15' N. 000 degs. 30' W. Preference should be given initially to South Western edge of swept channel. In the event of any convoy or ship being attacked by S/M you are to proceed immediately to their support unless contrary orders are received providing attack is within limit of command and out of assault area.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 091710B to E.G.11)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 9th/10th.
 (1) F.U.1 SAVAGE Dusk Patrol Z.3, Z.5.
 F.U.2 ORWELL Z.8 South. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE Z.11 W.
 F.Y.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 West. F.X. SEYMOUR Z.17.
 Eleventh E.G. Rectangle St. Catherine's Point to 50 degs. 15' N. 00 degs. 30' W.
 (2) C.F. Units.

War Diary9.6.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

F.N.1 2 M.Ls Z.1, F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs Z.2.
 F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs Z.4. F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs Z.6.
 F.Q.1 2 M.L's. Z.7. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs Z.12 West.
 F.Y.3 2 M.T.Bs Z.10 South. F.Y.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.16.
 F.X.2 3 M.T.Bs Z.17.

(3) Wellington cross over 50 degs. 03' North 00 degs. 43' E. to 50 degs. 15' N. 01 degs. 15' E. Beaufighters Calais to Ostend, Boulogne to Dieppe.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 092007B to Ships in Area "C")

O.N.1 para. 52(B).

Western night Channel Report 9/10th June.

(1) Eleventh E.G. Rectangle St. Catherine's Point to 50 degs. 15' N. 00 degs. 30' W. G.A. ONSLOW, OFFA, 5 miles eastward Z.110. G.H.1 STAYNER Z.111. G.H.2 DUFF Z.110, Z.114 SALADIN, SKATE, Z.206 East Z.213 West. 14th E.G. Z.217 South Z.218 East Third E.G. Z.224 to Z.228. Twelfth E.G. Z.233 South Z.234 North.

(2) C.F. Units. G.D.3 M.T.Bs Z.121. G.H. 3 G.H. 4 two M.T.Bs each Z.111. G.H.5 G.H.6 two M.T.B's each Z.110, Z.114 G.N.1 two M.T.B's Z.205 North. G.N.2 M.T.B's Z.212 North. G.N.3 two M.T.B's Z.212 West. C.T. 1 two M.L's N.W. Corner Z.217.

(3) Albacores and Beaufighters Cherbourg area south of 49 degs. 50' North and West of 01 degs. 35' West. All areas West of 02 degs. 20' W. North of French coast excluding Channel Islands.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 092051B to Ships in Area "C")

Engagement with E/R boats.

(1) E.T.C.4 and E.T.M. 4 passed Dover without incident in low visibility.

(2) At 0153 Unit F.Y. 2 vectored by TROLLOPE intercepted 5 E/R boats in position 040 degs. Cap D'Antifer four miles.

After brief engagement during which hits were obtained on the enemy, E/R boats retired under cover of shore batteries which forced our unit to withdraw. M.T.B. 705 sustained 3 casualties and slight damage.

(V.A. Dover, 092100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Mining

Area U.

Following has been read: Contact mine detonated in 49 degs. 27' N. 01 degs. 05' W. 091102B. (Plymouth, 091327B to Admty.)

Mines have been exploded in vicinity of 49.32.3 N. 01.11.9 W. and eastward. Consider this area mined by enemy last night.

(N.C.W.T.F.091847B to W.T.F.)

Eastern Area.

M.T.Bs. 725, 714?, 749 and 724 will report to you at 2130 tonight with orders to lay mines in Scallops area between 2300 and 0100. Request you will order time routeing and subsequent patrol.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 091609B to N.C.E.T.F.)

9.6.1944

Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

My 091547B and 091609B. Postponed 24 hours.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 091824B to N.C.E.T.F.,
M.T.B.F.64)

Enemy Action

Convoy
attacked.
Two L.S.T.
craft sunk.

Radar contact position 308 deg. Pointe de Barfleur
4.5 (?Am investigating 4 unknown vessels - speed
nil.).
(A/C. G.F.1, 090011 to Portsmouth)

My 0011. 8 E-Boats course 280 degs.
(A/C. G.F.1, 090018 to Portsmouth)

Position 040 degs. Pointe de Barfleur 2 miles,
course 135 degs. speed 35 knots.
(A/C G.F.1, ?090021 to Portsmouth)

Position of enemy 145 Pointe de Barfleur 3 course
145 degs. speed 10 knots. Contact lost. Am
returning to patrol position.
(A/C. G.F.1, 090050 to Portsmouth P.W.)

Enemy position 063 Pointe de Barfleur 10 speed nil.
(A/C G.F.1, 090113 to Portsmouth P.W.)

?2 E-Boat. 2 L.S.T.'s torpedoed 049 degs. 48' N.
000 degs. 52' W.
(BEAGLE, 090242 to S.O. Force "O")

My 0242. E-boats driven off, Am picking up
survivors.
(BEAGLE, 090345 to S.O. Force "O")

Have large number survivors on board. Rescue
work proceeding. Where shall I make for on
completion.
(BEAGLE, 090500 to Portsmouth P.W.G.)

E.T.A. 0945. Survivors 150, 12 dead will be
buried at sea, 27 injured require treatment, 5
stretcher cases.
(BEAGLE, 090804 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

L.C.T. (4)
608
damaged.

L.C.T. (4) 608 reports that during outward passage
night of 7/8 June he was engaged by E-Boats and
torpedoed forward and extensively damaged but
sufficiently seaworthy to return U.K. Load which
was R.A.F. regiment stores was transferred to M.T.22.
(Capt. M/S.090041B to N.C.E.T.F.A.)

Enemy /...

War Diary

9.6.1944
Friday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

- Enemy Convoy. Radar contact 210 degs. Cap D'Antifer 3 miles, probably convoy. Enemy course is 030 degs. speed 12 knots.
(A/C F.X.1, 090058 to Portsmouth P.W.)
- Convoy attacked on 8th June. L.C.T.875 sunk. L.C.T.921 damaged. Q.L.C.T. reports attack by E-Boats and possibly A/C at about 080110 in 49.55 N. 00.45 W. L.C.T.875 sunk with all hands. L.C.T.921 severely damaged and one wounded proceeds to Yarmouth Roads.
(F.O.I.C.Portland, 090923B to A.N.C.F.)
- E-Boats sighted. At least two E-Boats were flushed at Southern limit of 771 Q.Z.X. while escorting E.C.P.1 at 0300 to-day. Enemy retired westward at high speed under smoke cover.
(HIND 091209B to N.C.W.T.F.)
- Destroyer sighted. Position of 1 enemy destroyer is 49 degs. 09' N. 03 degs. 35' W. course 090 degs.
(A/C L.J.S.13, 091324B to 19 Group)
- Enemy Radar Signal. New enemy Radar signal heard for short period a.m. to-day. Details.
(2) Signal assumed to be from one of the Griz Nez Stations shifted in frequency to clear present jamming band.
(3) Intend to jam this signal during passage of convoys if it appears to be used for gun control purposes.
(V.A. Dover, 091846B to A.N.C.X.F.)
- Three E-Boats sighted. Three unknown vessels position 48 degs. 52' N. 03 degs. 48' W. course 330 degs. Flak used.
(A/C.LBZ.20, 091922B to 19 Group)
- My 1922. Three E-Boats, course 310 degs.
(A/C.LBZ.20, 092100B to 19 Group)
- Launch sighted. P.C.S. of enemy 3 M.T.B 48 degs. 55' N. 03 degs. 59' W. 330 degs. 15 knots. German.
(A/C. NGR.72. 092028B to 19 Group)
- My 2028. Enemy previously reported Launch, position 40 degs. 56' N. 03 degs. 59' W. course 310 degs. speed 15 knots.
(A/C. NGR.72, 092140B to 19 Group)
- My 2110. Contact lost with launch last seen 48 degs. 56' N. 03 degs. 59' W. course 310 degs. speed 15 knots. Probably returned.
(A/C NGR.72, 092257B to 19 Group)

190

9.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune"Enemy Action

A.S.V. contact. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 47 degs. 02' N. 04 degs. 45' W.
(A/C NOO, 89, 092354 to 19 Group)

U-Boats

U-Boats reported. Am proceeding to close U-Boat reported by A/C KSD.28. My position 038 G.K.15.
(STARLING, 090900B to C. in C. W.A.)

U-Boat sighted on the surface. Dived. Bears from me 142 degs. 2 miles. My position now is 049 degs. 08' N. 005 degs. 42' W.
(QU'APPELLE 091518Z to Plymouth)

Am proceeding to hunt for U-Boat located by H/F D/F bearing 210 degs. approximate distance 20 miles. My position 234 G.F.15.
(BICKERTON, 091530B to C. in C. W.A.)

Your 091530. If your intercept was at 1315Z on 5100 K/cs ignore, as bearings from land stations fix the U-Boat near Ushant.
(D.D.I.C.091638B to BICKERTON)

Your 091638B. Confirmed intercept was at 1315Z. Am resuming sweep.
(BICKERTON, 091720B to Admty.)

Western Approaches and Channel.

In local area of English Channel and Western Approaches unknown number of U-Boats probably not more than ten, W. of long. 02 degs. 00' W. and S. of a line joining lat. 50 degs. 20' N. long 02 degs. 01' W. and lat. 50 degs. 00' N. long. 04 degs. 00' W. and lat. 49 degs. 35' N. 09 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C.091551B to A.I.G.331)

U-Boat attacked by RESTIGOUCHE.

My 091518B. S/M sighted 049 degs. 05' N. 005 degs. 42' W. appeared to have just surfaced on course 100 degs. S/M submerged and position was swept over by group. Contact gained by one Hedgehog attacked by RESTIGOUCHE produced no hits. Contact lost and never regained in spite of square search and curve search on furthest on position on assuming course 030 degs. to 090 degs. Many contacts on shoals of fish made asdic conditions extremely bad. Search continuing until 2300B when night patrol will start across presumed line of advance of S/M.
(E.G.12, 092120B to C. in C. Plymouth).

191

9.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"P.R.U.

Dieppe.

Request P.R. of Dieppe.
(D.D.I.C. 090135B to R.A.F. Benson)Cherbourg,
St. Malo,
Lesardrieux,
Brest.Request P.R. of Cherbourg, St. Malo, Lesardrieux
and Brest as soon as possible, with priority to
Brest and Cherbourg. Object to locate enemy
destroyers.
(D.D.I.C. 090439B to R.A.F. Benson)Allied Air ActivitySmoke
laying in
Dover
Straits.Admiralty's 081220B.
(1) A.E.A.F. are unable to provide aircraft for
smoke laying in the Straits of Dover.
(2) Do not consider this requirement warrants the
specific allotment of A/C, but request you trans-
fer 10 Albacores 415 Squadron now located Bolt
Head to Manston to be employed primarily onanti E-Boat operations but to be available to assist with smoke
when required.(3) In event of E-Boat attacks developing against Coastal Convoys
in Plymouth Area, these A/C should return Bolt Head.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091141B to H.Q.C.C.)Operations
summary
8th June.Summary for period sunrise to 2100 hours 8th June.
Total Sorties 3573. Summary of targets.
Details.Coastal Batteries; 16 Lightnings on Gatteville 31
by 1000 Excellent, 16 Lightnings on Morsaline 23
by 1000 good to excellent, 12 Lightnings on Aigre-
mont 20 by 1000 excellent, 36 Thunderbolts on Montebourg 45 by
500 Good.Enemy operations: 83 Fighters, one Fighter Bomber over Northern
France mainly in beachhead areas.
(A.E.A.F. 091420B to S.H.A.E.F.)Your 082357 and 091732. U.S.N.A.L.O. to Ninth
American Air Force and Squadron Commander wish to
raise following points.

- (1) Reduction in pilots and ground crews at Lee will adversely
effect operations of remaining Naval fighter spotting aircraft.
- (2) Type of aircraft is considered unsuitable for type of
missions already carried out in view of recent German fighter rein-
forcements against which it is defenceless. Ends.
- (3) Vulnerability of aircraft to flak will necessitate their
operating at heights in excess of that possible with fighters
this reduces chance of observing impromptu targets.
- (4) Operation of aircraft for ship at anchor considered impractic-
able under conditions existing in Assault area.
- (5) U.S. Navy strongly recommends present system should continue.
I shall suspend action in signal 091732 pending your remarks.
(A.N.C.X.F. 092320B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Summary /...

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Allied Air Activity

Summary
8/9th
June.

Summary for period 2100 hours 8th June to sunrise 9th June, 1944. Total Sorties: 1153. Summary of Targets, Details. Enemy Operations: 72 Fighters over Beachhead, 2 R/Cs Scillies and Brest. (A.E.A.F. 092330B to S.H.A.E.F.)

A/C
evacuating
casualties.

DAKOTA C. 47. A/C will be employed evacuating casualties by daylight commencing a.m. tomorrow A/C will fly over assault area but will comply with published restrictions to flying. (A.N.C.X.F. 092359B to Ships)

Enemy Air Activity

Estimate
to 10th
June.

Estimate of enemy air activity for 24 hours, long range bomber 160 to 180 Sorties by night. Fighter Bomber 200 of which proportion may be by night. Single engined Fighter Force believed capable of one thousand Sorties defensive and escort in the event of large scale land fighting. (A.N.C.X.F. 092225B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Movements

Reliefs.

A.N.C.X.F.'s 082145B. When will those Trawlers and Corvettes arrive in E.T.F. Area. What are their names please. (N.C.E.N.T.F. 091134B to C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth)

Briefing of
craft and
convoys.
Sailing
signals.

ties.

A.N.C.X.F. is fully aware that considerable difficulties and delays have occurred in Assault Area during past few days due to (A) Craft and Convoys being insufficiently briefed regarding their destinations. (B) Late or incomplete receipt of Convoy or craft sailing signals. (2) (1) (A) is being taken up with sailing authorities. (3) Difficulties in (1) (B) are inherent in a short sea passage and special measures are being adopted to overcome them so far as possible. These are. (A) Return destinations in U.K. of ships in Convoy will not be included in outward sailing signals but will be given to ships as at present by sailing authorities. Changes in destination since Convoy sailed will however be communicated by signal. (B) Arrivals of Convoys and landing craft groups in the Assault Area are not required but reports are to be made when Convoy states that ships have fallen out or become casualties en route.

9.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Movements

Briefing of
craft and
convoys.
Sailing
signals.
(Contd.)

(C) A.N.C.X.F. will continue to despatch outward sailing signals for Convoys before ships have sailed from Isle of Wight Area. This must mean some approximation and accepts the fact that details may subsequently require correction.

(4) As operation progresses it must be expected that there will be an increasing number of cases in which arrival signals and loading forecasts etc. will not tally, but everything that can be

done will be done by authorities in U.K. to expedite discharge in France.

(5) Sailing signals for return ships Convoys to U.K. should similarly be made as early as possible and prefixed Important, this is to give time for ships from Isle of Wight Area to join Convoys to the Wings.

(A.N.C.X.F. 091631B to N.C.E.T.F. & W.T., F.O's or Cdrs. Forces, S, O, U, J, G, British Assault Area and West. N.O.I.C. Gold, Juno, Sword, Omaha, Utah.)

It appears that some difficulties and delays have been caused in the Assault Area due to landing craft groups and ship convoys being insufficiently briefed regarding their destinations. It is essential that all ships and S.O. of Escort are informed of the particular Assault Force Area to which they are being sailed. Cases in which it is not possible to obtain this from Military authorities should be represented to A.N.C.X.F.

(2) Attention is also invited to O.N.13 Appendix Six as amended Convoys are not to arrive in Assault Area between Sunrise and Sunset.

(A.N.C.X.F. 091634B to F.O.I.C.'s London, Portland, Southampton, CARDIFF, MILFORD HAVEN, FALMOUTH, C. in C.'s Nore. Ports-mouth)

x ports AD

Port Facilities

Sailings for
British
Section.

O.N.14, section K. 55 Units including 19 tug units have been sailed to date sailings to-day Friday suspended on account of weather. Request information (A) if further equipment is required at present. (B) Priority placed on arrival. (A.N.C.X.F. 091735B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Whale
Units.

Ramp. Any Whale Units not sailed owing to lack of Tugs are to be given priority over lists for D+4 and D+5 in my 071716 and 091222 respectively. (A.N.C.X.F. 092247B to S.N.O. Selsey, S.N.O. Peel Bank, Tug Control Lee.)

War Diary.

9.6.1944.

Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

RICH,
MINSTER,
GLENNON,
MEREDITH,
CORRY.

Report of inspection by Commodore Sullivan on following vessels suffering battle damage. Destroyer escort RICH broken in two by mine. Both sections sunk bow section struck second mine before sinking. British net vessel MINSTER sunk by mine and submerged to top of deck house. Salvage both vessels impracticable. Destroyer GLENNON hit by mine and nearly broken in two just off number two stack. After section sunk and resting on bottom but hinged to buoyant forward position by some bottom plating. Work at this time impracticable as other mines are suspected in area. Believe action of tide will soon cause complete rupture. Anchors being laid out to keep forward position from drifting ashore when broken loose. Will probably tow forward section to U.K. when conditions permit. Destroyer MEREDITH hit by mine or torpedo in way of bulkhead between after engine-room and after fire-room. 60% loss of longitudinal structural strength in way of damage. Both engine-rooms and after fire-room flooded. List about 15°. Vessel towed vicinity San Marcouf Isle and anchored. When conditions permit and if vessel does not break up and sink before, ship will be lightened and strengthened for towing to U.K. Destroyer CORRY sunk by repeated hits enemy shells. Upper works above water. Further inspection will be made when area is safe to work divers. Much Ordnance equipment and other topside installations can be removed.
(N.C.W.T.F. 090033B.)

KELLET.

KELLET grounded 0129B/9 on Peveril Ledge, Swanage Bay.
2. Ship holed forward making water request salvage tug. Further signal will be made.
(S.O. 4th M/S F. 090212B to Admty. Portland C.C.O., A.N.C.X.F. C. in C.Portsmouth, N.C.W.T.F.)

My 090212 seat of damage 27 bulkhead.
Compartments before and abaft this bulkhead open to sea. Portable pumps transferred into ships keeping water level down.

2. Attempts are being made to place cement boxes over hole in ship's bottom.
3. Ship is on even keel.
4. Further reports will be made.
(S.O. M/3s. Force M 090436B.)

My 090212 and my 090436 have floated. Am anchoring in Swanage Bay.
(M/S 4 091037B.)

CHANT 60.

My 081733B. Crew of CHANT 60 returned to U.K. in SS. EMPIRE CROSSBOW within few hours of ship capsizing and is not available for interrogation. Officer who rescued them reports conversation with crew giving following probable causes of loss.

Subsequently this was corrected to CHANT 6. 5027 372 15.6.44 /A...

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

CHANT 60.
(Contd.)

A. Ship was leaking, but inflow was controlled by ship's pump. Master hoisted Flag L International on arrival which received no attention. No further action apparently taken.

B. Ship's pump choked, inflow of water could not be controlled and ship capsized.

2. Instability of ship considered due to leak causing presence of slack water in compartments other than cargo holds, and water in cargo holds forcing up cargo thus raising centre of gravity.

3. Recommend Masters of CHANTS be given fuller information regarding stability of their ships under various conditions.
(N.C.E.T.F.A. 091637B to Admty.)

MINSTER.

MINSTER struck mine and sank in Utah area 8th June.

C.O. one other officer and about 12 ratings survivors all of whom have been sent to U.K. C.O. recovered all S.Ps. and Charge Documents and has transferred them to BLACK PRINCE.

(Com. Force U 092355B to Admty.)

Shipping & Convoys.

F.W.M.(?)
F.W.C.1.

A. Sailed. B. GLENEARN, ALBERNI, M.L. (253?).

C. E.T.A. Nab 0700/9th. D. DULCIMER, LL (E) THORNABY, ANTICOSTI, EMPIRE NUTFIELD, SKEL, with Force Stanley, Force Vilks, EMPIRE HEARTH, SOBORG, MONKSTONE, PATRICIA, 1 coaster not contacted

L.S.Ts. 410, 420, 164, 408, 430, 450, 529 (F) 420 (1) 70 (2) 29 (3) 50. 164 (1) and (2) 99.
(Capt. N.S. 090050B.)

E.C.P.1.

B. 112 E.G. less SPRAGGE and STOCKHAM plus LA SURPRISE and LA DECOUVERTE to Z.

C. 0700/9. D. Patch Y. Q. E. for E.T.F. ST. HELIER, expects join E.C.P.1 for W.T.F. LADY OF MANN, CANTERBURY.

(A.N.C.X.F. 090115.)

F.P.L.2.

38 L.S.Ts. with casualties and P.O.W. (details.)

Ship	Stretcher Casualties.	Walking Cases	Prisoners.
350	29	24	93
372	16	17	0
375	4	5	0
496	76	20	3
498	14	3	0
502	27	38	0
506	77	55	10

(C.T.G.122.7 090219B.)

196

War Diary.

9.6.1944.

Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Shipping & Convoys.

- Convoy
E.C.P.1W A. Sailing. C. E.T.A. p.m./9. E. W.T.F.
EMPIRE LANCE, EMPIRE MACE, EMPIRE RAPIER, DUKE
OF ARGYLL.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091012B.)
- E.C.P.1W. A. Sailed. B. Escort UNDAUNTED, KELVIN,
TORRINGTON. C. E.T.A. 1930/9. D. Redruth N.L.
E. EMPIRE MACE, EMPIRE RAPIER, EMPIRE LANCE, DUKE
OF ARGYLL (corrupt group) W/T. F. U.S. ship
ROCKAWAY sailed in company.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 091016B, as amended 091451B.)
- F.T.M.2. A. Sail. B. CUBITT, STATICE, POPPY, M.L.148.
C. E.T.A. onward 1930/9th Southend 1030/10th.
D. S.T. Wildfire T.S. E. SAMARK, SAMPHILL,
SAMPEP, SAMZONA, SAMAROVSK and L.S.Ts. for
Tilbury and Isle of Wight. F. 5 L.S.Ts. with
casualties and F.O.W.
(Capt. N.S. 091030B.)
- E.T.C.3. A. Sailed. B. WALPOLE, ORCHIS, PRIMROSE, M.Ls.
909, 120. C. E.T.A. Nab 2000/9th Newhaven 0215/10
Southend 1415/10th. D. NEAPOLITAN, P.J. (E)
CORGLIN, RIO DE ORO, BROOMLANDS, KNOWLTON,
GLENDINNING, EMPIRE LOUGH, JERLAND, DICK SHERWOOD, MISTER THERM,
WINONA, KEYNOR, GRANBY, EMPIRE LAGOON. M.L.120 will escort Isle
of Wight Section.
(Capt. N.S. 091200B.)
- Convoy
E.T.C.4. A. Sailed. B. COTTESMORE, CLOVER, GLEANER. C. E.
T.A. 0600B/10. D. Reservist P.B. E. For Gold
CHARLES SALTER, CYRUS SEARS, for Juno BIRKER FORCE,
WALNUT BEND, CHANT 26, for Sword WESTOWN, for Port
en Bessin, GLEN. Expect join from I.O.W. (E.T.C.4W)
for Gold BUCKLAW, ORTOLAN, H.W. WALKER, FLATHOUSE, EILIAN HILL,
ST. ANGUS. For Juno ASHANTI, CLARA MONKS, BRACKENFIELD,
ZUIDERHAVEN, ARDGRYFFE. For Sword BOSTON TRADER, ASTERIA, THE
VICEROY.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091241B.)
My 091241B. Convoy E.T.C.4 following joined in addition
in E.T.C.4W for Juno, DUNGRANGE for Sword CRESCO, for Gold
ELIDIR, CYRUS SEARS, for Port en Bessin BEAL. Following did not
join EILIAN HILL, ST. ANGUS, CLARA MONKS.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091741B.)
My 091241 and 091741 delete CYRUS SEARS, WALDO HILL,
BEAL, ELIDIR, ORTOLAN.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091935B.)
- F.W.P.1Y. A. Sailed. B. CRANE. C. E.T.A. Nab 1820/9th.
D. Asphalt 9W. E. GLENEARN.
(Capt. N.S. 091320B.)

/E.T.M.4...

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- E.T.M.4. A. Sailing. B. CAMPBELL, VIVACIOUS, GODETIA, MIGNONETTE. C. E.T.A. 0700/10. D. Scent. E. For Gold LLOYD CREST, EMPIRE STUART, EMPIRE CALL, OCEAN COURIER, TREVIDER, EMPIRE PLOUGHMAN, FORT ESPERANCE, L.S.T. 361, 324, 238, 520. Sword MALAYAN PRINCE, L.S.T. 11, for Juno FORT BRUNSWICK, EMPIRE PICKWICK, MARWARRI, FORT GIBRALTAR, OCEAN VISTA, EMPIRE DEED, L.S.T. 302, 421. (A.N.C.X.F. 091607B.)
- F.W.L.5. A. Sailed. B. BERN, U.S. C.G.C. 38. C. E.T.A. Nab 0200B/10th. D. Moribund XV. E. L.S.T. 264, 215, 73, 60. F. L.S.T. 73 (1) 30, 60 (1), 159 (2), 6 (9) C.G. 39 will be detached at (?) Z and proceed independently to Poole. (Capt. N.S. 091645B.)
- F.B.P.L. Para. A. Sailed F.B.P.L. Para. B. E.G.136 KEPPEL (S.O.). Para. C. 0230/11th. Para. D. Maritime M.V.E. MARINE RAVEN Swansea, EXCHEQUER Swansea. (C.T.G.122.7 091655B.)
- Convoy F.P.L.3B. A. Sailed. WALKER (S.O.) HONEYSUCKLE, LINCOLNSHIRE Grain. C. Portland 100430 Southampton 100235. D. Peculiar H.T. E. For Portland L.S.T. 6, 310, 317, 495, 532, 533 for Southampton, L.S.T. 25, 344, 345. F. 8 L.S.Ts. with casualties and L.S.T. 317 carries 30 merchant seaman survivors from M.V. COURAGEOUS. (Far Shore Shuttle Control 091914.)
- E.C.M.2. A. Sailed. B. E.G.105. C. E.T.A. 0600/10. D. Escalator. F. For Utah JAMES B.WEAVER, WILLIAM N.PENDLETON, THOMAS WOLFE, JAMES A.FARRELL, JOHN A.CAMPBELL, H.G.BLASDEL, G.W.GOETHALS, FLORENCE CRITTENDEN, JAMES CALDWELL, HENRY S.LANE. For Omaha HENRY M.RICE, DAN BEARD, Wm. N. LORING, JEREMIAH O'BRIEN. LOUIS MARSHALL. (A.N.C.X.F. 091922.)
- F.W.P.1Z. A. Sailed. B. BLANKNEY. C.E.T.A. Nab 0100/10th. D. Astoria, V.C. E. (?GLENROY). (Capt. N.S. 091930B.)
- E.C.P.2. A. Sailed. B. 11th E.G. LAPWING, PELICAN, NARBOROUGH, RUPERT, MENDIP. C. 0700/10. D. Patch 2 Y.Q. E. For Omaha VICTORIA, PRINCESS MAI, DUKE OF WELLINGT N. For Utah EMPIRE BATTLEAXE, EMPIRE CUTLASS, EMPIRE BROADSWORD. (A.N.C.X.F. 092003.)

War Diary.

9.6.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

E.X.P.2.

Intend sailing A. at 0030B/10. B. 115th E.G.
C. E.T.A. 0630. D. Armadillo G.H. E. For Juno
ISLE OF GUERNSEY, PRINCE HENRY. For Sword
MEKLENBURG.
(A.N.C.X.F. 092038B.) (As amended 101302.)

F.W.M.2 &
F.W.C.2.

A. Sailed. B. LARK, CHELMER. C. E.T.A. Nab
0745/10th. D. Eardrum (?L). E. CYRUS, H.K. CURTIS,
HENRY AUSTIN, SAMOS, GARSFIELD, IPSWICH TRADER,
APRICITY, GATESHEAD.
(Capt. N.S. 092045.)

F.B.P.2B.

A. Sailed. B. E.G.102. C. E.T.A. Position Z 0230B,
9th to R/V with F.B.P.2A, if contact not made
E.T.A. Nab 0330B. D. Magnesium K.T. E.
WORCESTERSHIRE, LEOPOLDVILLE, BIARRITZ, EMPIRE
CROSSBOW, EMPIRE ARQUEBUS.
(Capt. N.S. 082145B.)

Administration.

Transfer O.N. Support Group operational control of
C. in C. Portsmouth forthwith, also 1st M.T.B.
Flotilla to Portsmouth Command today.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091115B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

9.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

Biscay Danger Area Extension. Correct A.M. 071844. Attack at sight instructions now apply when authorised by C. in C. Plymouth. Para. 3 of A.M. 020041 refers. (Head of M.I., 090001B to A.I.G.21.)

Convoy R.A.60. Your 071133 passed to Admiral Archer. Concur. (2) Request you will plan accordingly. (V.C.N.S., 090305B to C. in C. H.F.) My 181732 May. It is not now intended to run Convoy R.A.60 in near future. (C. in C. H.F., 091203B to C. in C. W.A.)

VICTORIOUS, INDOMITABLE. VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE will sail from the Clyde on 12th June to join the Eastern Fleet. (2) C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail ships for Clyde in time to embark passengers stores and mails. A.M. 022015 not to all refers. (3) A.N.C.X.F. is requested - (a) to detail four destroyers to escort VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE to Gibraltar; (b) to sail the four destroyers as requisite to Moville to fuel. (V.C.N.S., 090343B to C. in C. H.F.) Admiralty's 090343. UNDAUNTED, VIGILANT, URCHIN from Londonderry are to R/V with VICTORIOUS, INDOMITABLE from Clyde p.m./12th as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock. (C. in C. W.A., 092152B to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Defence of the United Kingdom

Scapa. Your 071138. Approved. (D.L.D., 091156B to A.C.O.S.)

Operations

Proposed operations. My 181732 May. It is not now intended to run convoy R.A.60 in near future. (2) Offensive and diversionary operations are however under consideration with object of preventing move into the Atlantic of large

U-Boat Force now on coast of Norway and on North Russian Convoy Route.

(3) It would be much appreciated if FENCER and STRIKER could take part in these operations which it is hoped to start about 15th June.

(C. in C. H.F., 091203B to C. in C. W.A.)

C. in C. H.F. 091203B. FENCER and STRIKER are allocated.

(2) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail FENCER to arrive Scapa on June 13th.

(3) C. in C. H.F. is requested to provide destroyer escort for FENCER from 058° N. as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock.

(C. in C. W.A., 092355B to C. in C. H.F.)

/Biscay ...

200

9.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Biscay A/S
operations.

U.S. T.G. 22.2, U.S.S. BOGUE, 5 destroyers. in
vicinity of 045° 01' N. 021° 40' W.
(C. in C. W.A., 091320B to Ships.)

Enemy Air Activity

Scapa.

At 1508B/9 a Spitfire sighted 1 unidentified A/C
very low over Deer Sound, course S.E. Spitfire
attempted to investigate and chased for 20-30
miles to the west. A/C was faster than
Spitfire and escaped in cloud. A/C thought by pilot to be
single-engined and was almost certainly hostile. Visual R/C
of Flow possible. No Radar plot or ground sight obtained.
(A.C.O.S., 091808B to Admty.)

Shipping and Convoys

M/Vs. from
Pentland to
N. Minch.

Until U-Boat reaction to present operations is
clearer no merchant ships, other than fish
carriers and fishing craft are to sail unescorted
between Pentland Firth and the North Minch.
(2) Ships from southward are to be routed to
Methil or Loch Ewe accordingly. Ships may be
transferred from F.N. to E.N. convoys at sea
when convenient.
(D.T.D., 091322B to C. in C. W.A.)

War Diary.

9.6.1944.

Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

POLLENZA. Lloyds Surveyor's report state ex Italian POLLENZA unable to proceed under own power and only capable of being towed short distances in calm weather. Your 071930 refers.

2. M.W.T.R. Gibraltar has suggested to M.W.T.London that ship be towed to Malaga and ship and cargo sold or bartered or that ship be towed back to Gibraltar after discharging cargo for docking and reconditioned for eventual towage to U.K. In view of Surveyor's report M.W.T.R. does not consider second alternative worth while.

(N.O.I.C. Gibraltar 091146B to B.N.A.Madrid.)

Spanish
Fishing
Vessels.

My 171145 May. Pysbe Company enquire if in event fuel is made available by Spanish authorities they would be allowed to discharge and reload salt in Bay of Bulls in order to avoid further voyages to Louisberg. This would save large quantity of gas oil which is in very short supply. N.S.H.Q. 222000 May refers.

(B.N.A.Madrid 091245B to Admty.)

SS. BALDUR
(sunk 23rd
May.)

At the beginning of the attack No. 61* was underway. Your 061746 refers. Later after altering course to north vessel stopped under a high cliff. It was not observed that vessel had stopped under a loading gantry in the cliff. After the attack loading gantry could be seen as vessel had settled down partially submerged and resting on the sea bed in about 8 fathoms.

081143 Ends.

(F.O.S. 091844B.)

Footnote: My 061746 was a personal signal to F.O.G.M.A. asking for certain details of the sinking of SS. BALDUR.

*SS. BALDUR.

War Diary.

9.6.1944.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SICKLE. At 0632B P.C. and S. of one 1500 ton ship 2 M.L., 3 seaplanes was (9039°) 40' (9024°) 36' 145° 8 knots.
2. Unsuccessfully attacked enemy north of Lemnos. (?Am) proceeding with despatch to intercept in Doro Channel.
(SICKLE 090749B to Capt. S.1.)
Unless you are in contact with the enemy in your 090749 proceed to position 038° 56' 024° 10'.
(Capt. S.1 091139 to SICKLE.)

6 Red Cross ships to sail from Marseilles. Your 041213B June* and 202218 May+. 2 Red Cross ships require to have W/T fitted. Can arrange this in Lisbon if I given an undertaking that sets will be immediately replaced from U.K. Can I give this guarantee.
(N.C.S.O.Lisbon 091222B to Admt.)
* re Notification of sailing of 6 vessels from Marseilles on June 7th.
+ re Naval and Air Authorities to be kept informed of sailing of Red Cross Ships - vessels to broadcast time of sailing and speed.

Forthcoming operations. An officer of some standing and experience, preferably with knowledge of French is required for fuelling duties in Corsica and Sardinia in connection with forthcoming operations.
2. Request you interrogate Master of SAN CLAUDIO, with due regard to security, to ascertain if he has any suitable candidates either for nomination or as volunteers.
3 - 5. Arrangements.
(C. in C.Med. 091407 to C.S.Gibraltar.)

VOX. Leave patrol about 0101/10th passing through Antikithera Channel to arrive in 035° 41' 023° 06' about 0502/11th.
(Capt. S.1 091705B to VOX.)
From position 035° 41' 023° 06' about 0502/11th proceed to R/V with escort in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 1059/13th.
2. Dive by day on 11th thence on surface at 9 knots.
(Capt. S.1 091710 to VOX.)

Caiques sailing in Aegean bearing Red Cross markings. Following is repetition para. 3 my 310901 begins. Request information whether Admiralty has record of any organisation for supply of Islands by caique under Red Cross auspices. If not, propose to give instructions that Red Cross markings on such vessels are to be ignored and craft sunk or captured. Ends. Your 070039.
(F.O.L.E.M. 091821C to Admt.)

203

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

SS. CRISTINA. Spaniards inform me SS. CRISTINA is expected to sail Sete for Barcelona June 13th. Will N.A. Lisbon please confirm.
(B.N.A. Madrid 092100B to C. in C. Med.)

Situation report 374. 1. U.S.P.C. 559 shot down twin engined bomber while on patrol off Anzio night 5/6th June.
2. Night 7/8th June H.D.M.L. 385 captured 40 ton caique between Kos and Samos.
3. SICKLE reports slight casualties during gun action off Mitylene on 4th June, in Doro Channel on 6th June attacked convoy of miscellaneous craft sinking one small M/V with torpedo and obtaining one other possible hit.
4. Aircraft laid mines night 3/4th June at Lavrion, Kos and Portolago, Leros, night 4/5th June at Syra and in Khalkis Channel and night 7/8th June in Marmora Bay, Paros.
(C. in C. Med. 092227.)

VIVID.

Attacked merchant ship assumed ^{TANAIS}~~TANA~~ is in 035° 55' 025° 11' at 0310B/9th June course 360°. In company one motor lighter, 2 R-Boats. Estimate 2 hits wreckage sighted.
(VIVID.092351B to Capt. S.1, F.O.L.E.M. 1st S/M F.)

War Diary.

9.6.1944.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

No. 53. Areas A. B. E. F. believed clear of U-Boats, scale of air escort W. Areas C.D. Up to 3 U-Boats may be moving northwards along East African coast. Scale of air escort X. 1 of these U-Boats possibly sighted off

Anjouan Island, 0800Z/6.

Area G. No fresh information, but a U-Boat may be in this area. Scale of air escort X. (C. in C.E.F. 090354Z.)

SS. CAROLA,
U/B sighting.

SS. CAROLA reports sighting S/M 0810 G.M.T/9 in 002° 05' S. 074° 49' E.

2. Kilindini pass to Air H.Q.E.A. (C. in C.E.F. 090908Z.)

Your 090852Z*, received on 1300 transmission as 445 k/cs unreadable. Submarine periscope and wake observed mounting at 0750 G.M.T. not sighted since. My position 1530 G.M.T 002° 43' S. 075° 27' E. Now steering from that position for position F at 8½ knots. ((HPRE) CAROLA 091530Z.) * N.T. in W.R.

Reception
of minor
landing craft
in India.

1. Request that ships carrying minor landing craft be routed as follows:- (details).
5. It is essential that the permanent base staffs are available in Indian ports before craft commence arriving on the station. My 091159 June refers. (C. in C.E.F. 091208 to Admty.)

SS. PETER
SILVESTER,
U/B report.

SSSS de PETER SILVESTER. Lat.10.20 S. long. 74.40 E. Submarine surfaced exchanged fire. ((KFNK) PETER SILVESTER No T.O.O/9 Recd. 1231.)

9.6.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

British &
U.S. Forces
working
under one
command.

Your 071910. Instructions issued to Royal Navy
in A.M. No. 178A, timed 082215.
(A.C.N.S.H. 090602B to Cominch & C.N.O.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M
attack &
sighting
summary.

No report since my 070905Z.
C. Fishing vessel sights submarine surfaced at
12 knots in 42.45 N. 68.55 W. at 1955Z/8th.
(N.S.H.Q. 090946Z.)

SS. NIEUW
AMSTERDAM.

Diversion order.
(D.O.D.H. 091339B to NIEUW AMSTERDAM.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 091402Z, Cominch 091627Z.)

U.C.T.25.

Observing Convoy routed by route B through Canadian
area request consideration be given to "Chop"
convoy to me during transit and all relevant infor-
mation passed.
(C. in C.C.N.A. 091420Z to Com. 10th Fleet C. & R.)

Your 091420Z. Regret cannot concur.
(Com. 10th Fleet 092009Z to C. in C.C.N.A.)

C.V.Es.

Cancel my 032017 May and 181655 May.
2. It is now hoped to sail C.V.Es. as follows to
U.K.

Ship	Convoy
RAJAH	T.C.U. 30
SMITER ARBITER	C.U. 31
REAPER	C.U. 33
To Casablanca Q.U.G.S.45	
TROUNCER	U.G.S.46
PUNCHER	U.G.F.13

(B.A.D. 091641Z.)

Convoy
O.N.F. 238.

48 ships including JOHN P.POE arrived New York
9th June.
(P.D. New York 091708Z.)

U.C.T.25.

Request Admiralty divert (details).
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 091921Z.)

U/B incidents.

Para. D. Fishing vessel sighted surfaced U-Boat
which submerged after 15 minutes speed 10, 12
course west 42.45 N. 68.55 W. 081955Z. U-Boat
contact reported 17.50 N. 75.06 W. 091720Z.
(Cominch 092056.)

9.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.-Contd.

T.G.21.7 CINCINNATI, Cortdiv 17, Cortdiv. 12 HOUSATONIC. Escort convoy T.C.U.28 scheduled depart New York and Boston 17/18 June for U.K. and return escorting U.C.T.28 when directed by Admiralty. Comdes. designate four ships, of Cortdiv. 12 escort Boston section to R/V designated by P.D.New York. Previous orders modified accordingly. (C. in C.Lant 092246Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 871 June 8th. Paras. 13 to 17 cover South Pacific Forces. Early hours U.S.submarine successfully attacked enemy force described two cruisers, two destroyers heading southeast from Davao Gulf. 6. Afternoon 10 Mitchells attacked seven enemy warships described two light cruisers, five destroyers off Central North coast Vogelkop Peninsula heading towards Biak Island. Four destroyers claimed sunk, fifth damaged. Escorting Lightnings intercepted 10 enemy fighters destroying five plus one probable. 9. Evening 2 - 3 enemy torpedo bombers ineffectively attacked Allied landing craft off southeast coast Biak Island. 10. Night 7/8th M.T.Bs. destroyed two northbound enemy barges off Mukhu Island. Next morning single enemy fighter ineffectively bombed similar craft off Aitape. 17. Night 6/7th M.T.Bs. destroyed large number houses Tabar Island off East coast New Ireland. Single enemy floatplane bombed similar craft same night causing some damage one casualty. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 091000Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack & sighting summary. Para. A. 1. A/C Z/105 sighted U-Boat, course 160°, at 1255Z/8 in 49° 00' N. 04° 41' W. 2. A/C T/547 attacked U-Boat course 240° at 1437Z/8 in 48° 58' N. 05° 23' W. 3. E.G.12 sighted U-Boat at 1800Z/8 in 48° 54' N. 05° 32' W. 4. A/C P/105 attacked U-Boat at 1312Z/8 in 46° 38' N. 05° 53' W. 5. A/C P/461 sighted U-Boat at 2237Z/8 in 47° 15' N. 06° 50' W. 6. A/C B/120 attacked U-Boat, course 010° at 2345Z/8 in 49° 10' N. 05° 30' W. 7. A/C of 461 Sqdn. attacked U-Boat course 060° at 0004Z/9 in 47° 11' N. 06° 26' W. 8. A/C F/120 sighted U-Boat course 080° at 0640Z/9 in 49° 09' N. 08° 37' W. 9. A/C F/330 sighted U-Boat at 2130Z/8 in 62° 48' N. 02° 51' E. 10. A/C G/461 attacked U-Boat course 330° at 2256Z/8 in 46° 10' N. 04° 30' W. Para. B. 1. ELIJAH KELLOGG sighted U-Boat at 1153Z/8 in approx. 51° 40' N. 21° 00' W. Para. C. 1. U.S.Fighter A/C sighted U-Boat at 1705Z/8 in 50° 10' N. 01° 48' W. 2. Belgian Spitfire A/C sighted U-Boat at 1730Z/8 in 50° 09' N. 00° 19' W. (D.D.I.C. 091153B.)

U.740
sum A

U/B dis-positions. Estimates. (D.D.I.C. 091449B, 091458B.)

207

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsOperation "Neptune"

General.

1(a). Landings at each of the five beaches proceeded throughout to-day and, in spite of the grounding of our Fighter A/C by the weather yesterday, Enemy A/C interference to-day has been negligible. In Area S Enemy Mobile Batteries within range of the Beach became numerous and were reported to need constant attention; and the U.S. Beach U, as well as the Minesweepers still operating off it, was frequently shelled. In Area G (Asnelles) the Gooseberry Block-ships were expected all to be sunk in position to-day; and in Areas J and O the unloading rates improved. DRAGON and many other ships and Destroyers throughout the Assault Area continued to give gun-support to the Armies.

(b) The Total Landings to-day have been as follows:

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores
Area S	600	403	2135 Tons
Area J	6290	1528	2613 Tons
Area G	6000	1300	3800 Tons
Area O			
Area U			

Enemy
Action.

2(a) Allied warships have maintained their activities on the Western and Eastern flanks of the Assault Area; where Enemy appearances have been as follows:

(b) Destroyers: One Enemy Destroyer was sighted N.W. of Ushant at 0133, and three off Cap d'Antifer at 0317; while at 2112 our A/C reported two Destroyers leaving Havre.

(c) E-Boats: Several groups of E-Boats were operating early this morning to the North and West of the Cherbourg peninsula, and two were sighted off Cap Barfleur at 2340 to-day. One E-Boat has probably been sunk and several damaged, and two Coasters in a south-bound Convoy are reported sunk.

(d) U-Boats: At 1235B to-day an A/C of 206 Squadron attacked and sank a U-Boat close off the North coast of Ushant, three survivors being seen; and at 2201 Ships of E.G.3 made six Hedgehog attacks upon a U-Boat about 20 miles E.S.E. of Start Point. At 1132 to-day the Admiralty considered that the leading U-Boats may have passed the Portland/Cap La Hague line, and at 1430B it was thought that as many as six might possibly have arrived as far East as the longitude of St. Catherines Point. It is intended that one Support Group should be in readiness to hunt as required to the South and West of the Isle of Wight; that a strong A/S Patrol should operate on the Portland/Cap La Hague line; and that the Coastal Convoys West of Start Point should be well supported.

Casualties/...

10.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties.

3. The casualties sustained to-day have been as follows:-

H.M. Ships: The French Destroyer MISTRAL sunk by shore Batteries. (not confirmed)
HALSTEAD, Frigate, damaged by Torpedo
M.T.B. 448 sunk by own Forces off Cap Barfleur.

U.S. Ships: P.C. 1261, S/M Chaser, lost.

M/V's: The Coasters BRACKENFIELD and DUNGRANGE sunk by E-Boats.

Landing Craft: 4 British and 7 U.S. reported lost.

General.

Midget S/Ms suspected in Scapa Flow.

4. At 2000 there were indications that two midget S/Ms entered Scapa Flow through Switha, and there were possible further indications of these vessels entering to-day. S/Ms were also reported off the Orkneys. Offensive counter measures were put in force, but without result, and the incident was probably a false alarm. Major units of the Home Fleet proceeded to Rosyth to-day as a precautionary measure.

Diversion by C.S.1.

5. The 1st C.S., BERMUDA, SHEFFIELD and JAMAICA, who carried out practices in the North Sea to-day proceeded this evening to create a diversion about 58 N. 01.40 E.

Coastal Craft Operation off Ijmuiden.

6. The 58th M.T.B Flotilla, patrolling between Texel and Ijmuiden engaged 4 large trawler type patrol or escort vessels in the early hours of to-day off Ijmuiden and sank 4 of them. M.T.B. 681 was sunk and 723 had minor damage in the engagement.

10.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

UNTIRING, patrol report. 7. UNTIRING reports that she sank an 800 ton U-Boat off Ciotat (between Toulon and Marseilles) to-day and probably sank a similar one yesterday off Cape Sicie (near Toulon) Note. A.F.H.Q. Algiers describes these U-Boats as small torpedo boats: they are apparently a type of corvette.

Adriatic. 8. In Mljet Channel last night coastal forces blew up one R-Boat and damaged one I-Boat. One M.G.B. was damaged and had some casualties.

Raid on Brac Is. 1/2 June. 9. A.F.H.Q. Algiers reports that the object of the raid on Brac Island on the night 1/2 June was to assist the situation in Bosnia by a diversionary attack. Results are impossible to assess from reports received. A small party of British troops has been landed to search for Allied prisoners.

Air Raid on Anzio. 10. A U.S. Destroyer and a U.S. minesweeper suffered some damage during a heavy air raid on Anzio port and anchorage last night. L.S.T. and L.C.I.(L) also sustained superficial damage.

M/S FIRMAMENT lost. 11. F.O.L.E.M. reports that the minesweeper FIRMAMENT grounded on Hydrographer Shoal (off Alexandria) on 30 May and salvage is impracticable.

Aegean. 12. A/C attacked off Seriphos Island last night two small merchant vessels in convoy, causing an explosion on board one vessel and damaging one escort vessel and a caique with cannon fire.

Raid on Sulet Is. 12(a). An Allied party landed at Sulet Island last night (Yugoslavia), shelled Grohole and withdrew without loss before first light after causing heavy damage to the German-occupied area. This is the first employment of these tactics to combat the recent enemy policy of concentrating island garrisons in strong points.

Australia and New Zealand

Attack on enemy main units. 13. G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. reports that this evening, a U.S. S/M successfully attacked an enemy force described as 3 battleships and 4 cruisers with destroyers, heading south near Sibutu Passage (off North-east Borneo). No further details are known.

14. U.S. Mitchells sank a merchant vessel and 7 smaller ships in Manokwari harbour, New Guinea, to-day.

10.6.1944
Saturday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military situation. SHGBI. Summary G2, No. 4.
In spite of further enemy reinforcements Bridgehead being extended in nearly all sectors. Panzer Lehr Div. identified in 12 SS Sector trying to regain Bayeux Caen Road. 17 SS probably arrived in Beachhead area and likely it will be employed on left of Panzer Lehr to prevent extension American Beachhead. Enemy must appreciate our intention to link Calvados with Cotentin and is certain to reinforce wedge which he has at Carentan.
Enemy now apparently beginning to appreciate our main effort is in Normandy and though still prepared for diversions elsewhere is preparing to bring up all available mobile reserves commensurate with minimum security in other areas. Fact however, that 116 Panzer Div. and two Panzer Div. have not yet moved suggests enemy nervous about Pas de Calais area.
Estimated P.o W. total 6,000 from commencement operations but this figure at present unconfirmed. No details concerning enemy tanks and equipment destroyed.
(S.H.A.E.F. T.O.O. Nil, Recd. 0340.)

Communique No. 9. American troops have captured Isigny. Despite unfavourable weather conditions the disembarkation of further men and material was uninterrupted.
Withstanding heavy enemy attacks delivered yesterday morning by Infantry and Armour British and Canadian troops stood firm in the Caen Area.
Our forces have made contact with strong enemy forces near Conde Sur Seulles.
There is continuous fighting in other sectors.
Adverse weather during daylight yesterday confined our air activity to limited patrols over the immediate battle area and to coastal aircraft operations. An enemy destroyer driven ashore off Batz in the Brest Peninsula earlier in the day by Naval surface forces was attacked and left a smouldering hulk. One enemy aircraft was shot down twenty miles off Brest by anti-E-Boat patrols flown over Western Channel waters.
Last night a strong force of heavy bombers, eight of which are missing attacked enemy airfields at Fleres Rennes Laval and Le Mans in northwestern France and the railway centre at Etampes. Light bombers pounded enemy communications in the rear of the battle zone. Weather conditions remained unfavourable.
Night fighters and intruder aircraft shot down four enemy planes over the beachhead.
Coastal aircraft are co-operating with Naval surface forces in a vigorous offensive against U/Boats which are threatening to attack our lines of communication to the assault area.
(S.H.A.E.F. 101100)

Communique No. 10. Allied progress continues along the whole of the beachhead. Treviers in our hands. On the Eastern sector, severe fighting is in progress against strong enemy armoured forces. In the Cherbourg Peninsula our advanced patrols are west of the main railway in several

/places...

211

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Communique
No. 10.
(Contd.)

places. In the Carentan Sector, heavy fighting continues. Intensive air operations in support of our ground and Naval forces were resumed this morning in better weather. Heavy bombers attacked enemy air fields in Brittany and Normandy. Their fighter escort remained in the zone of operations strafing enemy armour and transport. Other fighters attacked similar targets over a wide area. Our medium bombers and their fighter escorts twice attacked targets close behind the enemy. These included road and rail transport, troop and tank concentrations, bridges and communication centres. Wide spread air cover was maintained over our beaches and the Channel. Few enemy fighters were seen but flak was heavy at many points. According to reports so far received 3 enemy aircraft have been destroyed. 7 of our fighters are missing. Further troop-carrying and support operations to our forward formations were completed during the morning. Allied Warships have maintained their activity on the Eastern and Western flanks of the assault area in support of our ground forces. Last night, enemy E/boats operated to the west of the assault area. They were intercepted by light coastal forces and a number of brief engagements ensued. Some damage was inflicted on the enemy. Neither damage nor casualties were sustained by our forces. Enemy patrol vessels heading toward the assault area this morning were attacked off Jersey by our coastal air craft, which also dispersed a cluster of E/Boats. An unsuccessful attack was made by enemy A/C on an Allied Merchant Convoy. One of the enemy was destroyed by gunfire from WANDERER. There was no damage to the convoy or its escort.

(S.H.A.E.F. 102330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Naval
situation.

Cosintrep Number Fourteen Part two Naval.
A. General.

Re de Bas Action, 9/6.

It is now confirmed by C. in C. Plymouth that the second enemy destroyer thought probably destroyed in action off Ile De Bas yesterday morning was, in fact, sunk. Probing of E/Boat groups on flanks of Channels to Assault areas continues.

At 0300 yesterday morning escorts of a personnel convoy drove off one Group, which retired at full speed under smoke cover, on the Western Flank. At daylight Typhoons attacked another Group of four close N.W. of C. D'Antifer and claim one sunk, two damaged and beached. During the passage of convoy through Dover Strait last night another Group was detected and driven off before attack could develop.

Amongst many actions in gun support RODNEY and RAMILLIES assisted 3rd British Division in holding enemy counter attack, BELFAST supported the advance of 3rd Canadian Division, FROBISHER neutralised two enemy batteries and hit ammunition dump in Houlgate Area. Many shoots spotted by forward observer bombardment parties, amongst whom percentage of casualties regrettably high. Losses in L.S.T. are considerably lower than allowed for in planning, but in L.C.T. lost and damaged rather higher. About 75% of damage to latter and minor L.C. generally attributable to weather rather than enemy. Portsmouth and Southampton

/face...

212

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval
situation
(Contd.)

face strain in repairing craft.
No losses reported in Mulberry tows arriving
Assault area.
Laying of cross-channel communication cables
nears completion.
B. British Sector.

In Sword area bomb hits on beach destroyed petrol and one
ammunition dump.

Juno beaches now increasing in capacity.

C. U.S. Sector.

Minelaying on Northern flank of Utah suspected. In actions
arising, E-Boats and enemy T.L.C. have been damaged and driven
off, without inflicting damage on U.S. ships.

WARSPITE has been sent to reinforce bombarding ships during
absence of NEVADA, re-ammunitioning.

D. Troops etc. landed.

Juno - 5680 troops, 5170 vehicles, 1470 tons stores.

Gold - 2500 troops, 32 vehicles, 2000 tons stores.

E. Casualties. MINSTER (netlayer) mined and sunk. L.S.T. 536
damaged.

F. Coastal Command. Reduced patrols on account of weather.

P.R.U. R/C showed beached enemy destroyer on Ile de Bas with 10%
list and no sign of life.

G. Intelligence.

All the enemy main units, with the exception of the TIRPITZ, are
believed to be in the Eastern Baltic. The NARVIK destroyer now
in Brest is known to have been hit repeatedly in the action on
the morning of 9th June and it is considered that she cannot be
operationally fit for some time.

(Ramsay,,100147B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No. 15, part 2, Naval.

A. General. Sightings of enemy submarines in the
Western Channel area are reported. Hunting Groups
have been disposed accordingly. Actions against

E-Boats have again occurred during darkness on both flanks of
Assault Approach Channels resulting, as far as is known, in loss
of two southbound coasters. Enemy lost one E-Boat probably sunk
and several damaged. DRAGON and many other ships and destroyers
active in giving gun support to the armies. One large type
PHOENIX unit was mined and sank when in tow nearing Juno Beach.

B. British Sector. In spite of grounding of our fighters through
weather yesterday, enemy interference by aircraft attack was
negligible.

Gold - Anticipate "Gooseberry" completed today.

Juno - Unloading proceeding at best rate.

Sword - Enemy Mobile Batteries on the flank and within range of
Beach are becoming numerous and need constant attention.

C. U.S. Sector.

Utah - Unloading proceeding smoothly in spite of frequent enemy
shelling of Beaches and area to Seaward. Minesweeping continues,
but is also under fire.

Omaha - Unloading rate improving.

D. Casualties. F.F.S. MISTRAL sunk by shore gunfire. *(Not confirmed)*

E. Coastal Command. Beaufighters attacked the Destroyer beached
on Ile De Bas obtaining many hits, probably ensuring complete
destruction. One U/Boat was attacked and one Ju.88 shot down.

213

10.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

F. Intelligence. No change in enemy dispositions. Prisoners have been captured from 67 Marine Flak Abteilung (Arromanches) and 260 Marine (Flak Abteilung) from a small Flakship sunk at Arromanches). 140 prisoners have also been picked up from the destroyer sunk in the Channel action. (Ramsay, 101455B to Admty.)

O.N.One, para. 52 (A), Navisitrep for 24 hours ended 2359/9.

A. Not known. B. 50. C. 2924.

D. SAUMAREZ, SWIFT, SERAPIS, ISIS, IMPULSIVE, SLAZAK, VERULAM. E. None. F. None. G. Beaches under sporadic shellfire and bombing. Slight damage to ships and craft in anchorage from near misses. One Ju. 88 shot down during night. 12 L.C.T. (S) transferred to Gold area. (F.O. Force 'S' 101941B to M.C.E.T.F.)

Navisitrep 8. U/Boat sunk by S/C 3 miles off Ushant 1235B/10th. Nothing else of interest to report.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 102100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep one six, part 3. Air summary for period 2100 hours 9th June to sunrise 10th June, 1944. Total sorties: 352. Summary of targets. Enemy operations: 31 fighters on defensive patrols France, 4 on Channel R/C, 100 long-range bombers over beachhead. (A.E.A.F., 102230B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Bombardment Forces

AJAX Transfer to Force 'S' for bombarding duties now. (BULOLO, 100639B to AJAX.)

WARSPITE Your 091143. Arrangements have been made for this to be done at Rosyth as it cannot be undertaken in the Clyde. (D.O.D.H., 101818, to A.N.C.X.F.)

This work is now being done at Rosyth. A.N.C.X.F. 091143 refers. (D.O.D.H., 102320B to C. in C.W.A.)

ORION, ARGONAUT. Additional to reports of good shooting earlier Cdr. 2nd Army has expressed to me supreme satisfaction at your shooting this morning. (N.C.E.T.F. 102338B to ORION, ARGONAUT.)

214

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering OperationsA/S
patrol,
Portland/
C. la Hague.

Assume following patrol forthwith. Centre of patrol line $50^{\circ} 12' N. 02^{\circ} 00' W.$ Patrol North and South five miles either side of centre position. Action in accordance with my 091710B is postponed.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 100007B to 11 E.G.)

Your 0531. Regret your 091710* not decoded until 100550, due to corrupt D.G. My P.C. and S. at 0600 $050^{\circ} 01' N. 002^{\circ} 37' W. 073^{\circ} 12$ knots. (S.O.E.G. 11, 100645B to C. in C. Portsmouth)
* 11th E.G. to establish A/S Patrol.

FAME, INCONSTANT proceed forthwith to assume patrol allocated 11th E.G. in my 091133. Remainder of Group will follow.

2. 3rd E.G. relieve 14th E.G. Patrol Area.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 100938B to E.G. 14, E.G. 3.)

C. in C. Plymouth requested to transfer 11th Escort Group to C. in C. Portsmouth and to send a Group to relieve 11th Escort Group on approx. line Portland/Cap La Hague, with another Group in support to westward.

(V.C.N.S. 101123 and 101535B.)

2nd and
5th E.Gs.

I am handing over 2nd and 5th Escort Groups to you now. Request you will issue necessary instructions to them. Estimate of fuel stocks remaining in both groups 9 days at 12 knots.

(C. in C.W.A. 101140B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Patrols
from
Plymouth.

Amend my 100938.* Shift centre position 25 miles further east to $49.52 N. 03.04 W.$ forthwith, taking up new patrol at maximum A/S sweeping speed.

2. If 14th E.G. obtains contact you are to detach one sub-division to join 14th E.G. at best speed in order to maintain the barrier south of

Portland.

3. Attention is called to Q.Z.X.1324 and 1310.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 101216B to E.G. 3.)

* re FAME and INCONSTANT to proceed followed by remainder of Group.

P.C.W.O.120.

A. Unit G.O.3, M.T.Bs, 90 (S.O.), 92, 98, 94, 227, 239.

B. 2045B/10.

C. (RR) 328 Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330 (SS) 214 Cape De la Hague 12 to arrive 0130.

D. From (SS) sweep S.W. to arrive (TF) 212 La Corbiere 4 at 0400.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. 0400B/11.

/G. ...

215

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

G. From (TT) on course 292° at 25 knots for one hour thence to Dartmouth.
 H. Constant 2300 Kc/s - G.O.3 - Wrecker.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101218B to M.T.Bs., concurred N.O.I.C., Dartmouth.)

Night patrols 10th/11th June. P.C.W.O. 120.

A.1. G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 720, 677.
 2. G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 726, 743, 735.
 3. G.N.3 M.T.Bs. 716, 678.

4. G.T.1 M.Ls. 159, 184, 157.
 B. 2300/10. D.1. In the vicinity 209° Portland Bill 14 miles
 2. In the vicinity 090° Start 24 miles.
 3. In the vicinity 126° Start 13 miles.
 4. In the vicinity 209° Start 16 miles.
 F. 0515/11.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101327B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, BLACK BAT.)

Eastern
Area.

Defence policy for night 10th/11th. V.1. 1st
 C.F. Flotilla Call sign George Love. V.2 29th
 M.T.B. Flotilla Call sign George Love four.
 V.9 Area Tunny north east of 0° 05' W. 64th
 M.T.B. Flotilla Call sign George Mike four.

- V.8. To be 2 miles south of established position 55 M.T.B.
 Flotilla Call sign George Mike. U.(?12 or 14). Tunny north
 west of 0° 05' W. R.5.R.7 from B.10.U.B.15 Q.1 P.N.2
 2. 64th M.T.B Flotilla leaving A1 berth at 2330 and proceeding
 direct to their area at 18 knots.
 3. Capt. P. is to detail available destroyers between U.14
 R.5 and R.7.
 (N.C.E.T.F. 101312B to E.T.F.)

Amend my 101312 as follows:

Delete V.1, V.2, U.14, R.5, R.7. Insert V.7
 14th M.T.B. Flotilla 5 miles 145° 29th M.T.B.
 Flotilla 180° 2 miles and 1st (corrupt Group)

- Flotilla 270° 4 miles from established position. U.6 2 fleets
 in berth B. 2 armed trawlers B.11, U.14, 2 fleets area Pike.
 R.7, 4 Hunts in area Tunny N.W. of 000° 05' W. Para. 3 delete
 R.5 add new paragraph 4.
 (N.C.E.T.F. 102117B to E.T.F.)

Operation
C.A.
(Force 31)

My 100943* and my 101101. As carriers (?group
 omitted) that they do not now require additional
 escort I am resuming patrol in area allotted to
 Force 31,
 (S.O.E.G.9, 101325B to C. in C.W.A.)
 * Re joining TRACKER, SWANSEA and STORMONT in
 company. Positions given.

S.O.E.G. 6.101715. WASKESIU and CAM part
 company from TEME forthwith.

2. GROU part company from TRACKER when ships of
 ninth E.G. join and proceed to Liverpool at best
 speed.

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

3. CAPE BRETON part company from TRACKER forthwith to R/V with S.O.E.G.6. My 101708 para. 2 refers.

(C. in C.W.A. 102016B to Ships in C.A.)

Operation "Tunnel".

Operation "Tunnel" is to be carried out tonight in accordance with Memo. OPTU.

2. Information Enemy. 1 Narvik, 1 Elbing probably in Brest, 2 Narviks in Bordeaux area. Of these probably only Elbing operational.

Auxiliary patrol vessels operate off Morlaix. About 6 M-Class minesweepers and 15 E/Boats in Cherbourg. From numerous A/C sightings about 10 U/Boats, some of which may have been sunk, attempting to make passage from Ushant to Isle of Wight area, and may be encountered anywhere West of 2° 30' W.

Information Own. 3rd, 12th, 14th E.G. on A/S sweep as signalled. Coastal Force patrols as signalled. A/S air patrols of Western Channel are being flown at a density of one A/C every 30 minutes.

3. Execution. Force 26 consisting of HAIDA (S.O.) HURON, ASHANTI, JAVELIN is to pass the Gate at 2100B/10 and proceed to pass through position (WW) 020° Les Heaux 10 at 0130B/11.

4. From (WW) Force 26 is to sweep at 20 knots through (XX) 49° 03' N. 03° 40' W. to (YY) 48° 53' N. 04° 20' W. with object of destroying enemy coastal shipping.

5. On reaching (YY) if no information of enemy has been received Force 26 is to return to Plymouth.

8. Attention is called to Q.Z.X. 1298, 1330, 1355, 1341.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 101618B to HAIDA, HURON, ASHANTI, JAVELIN.)

Patrols from Portsmouth.

WENSLEYDALE, BLANKNEY, and BRISSENDEN proceed forthwith with despatch to carry out anti-E-Boat patrol in arc 78 between 050° 10' N. and 049° 48' N. Return at daylight. S.O. arrange patrols and report intended disposition.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 101930B and 102057B.)

O.N.1, Para.52. (B) Western Night Channel Report 10th/11th June.

1. 11th E.G. rectangle St. Catherines Point to 050° 15' N. 000° 30' W.

G.B.1, SCORPION. G.B.2, SCOURGE. G.B.3, STORD, G.B.4, ORIBI. G.B.5, ONSLAUGHT. On line 5 miles East of Z.109, Z.110, Z.111. G.H.1. DUFF, G.H.2 RETALICK, Z.110 2nd E.G. Z.242, Z.236 and to coast. 5th E.G. Z.237, Z.232 and to coast 12th E.G. Z.233 south Z.234N., 3rd E.G. Z.212 to Z.214, Z.206, Z.207 14th E.G. Z.200 to Z.202. 2. C.F.Unit. G.H.3, G.H.4, 2 M.T.Bs. each Z.111. G.H.5, G.H.6, 2 M.T.Bs. each Z.110. G.D.3 M.T.Bs. Z.121. G.N.1, 2 M.T.Bs. N.E. Corner Z.205, G.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. N.E. Corner Z.212. G.N.3 2 M.T.Bs. N.W. Corner Z.212. G.T.1 3 M.Ls. Z.217 N.3. Alcores Cherbourg - Cape De La Hague. Liberators all areas West of 002° 20' W. North of French Coast excluding Channel Is.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 101941B to Ships in Area "C".)

/C.N.1...

217

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations.

C.N.1. Para 52 (B)

Eastern Night Channel Report 10th/11th June.

1. F.U.2 ORWELL Z.3 Z.5 F.U.4 OBEDIENT Z.8 south
F.U.1 SAVAGE Z.11 West F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 West

F.X.1. TROLLOPE Z.17.

Eleventh E.G. Rectangle St. Catherines Point to 50° 15' N. 00° 30' W.

C.F. Units. F.N.3 2 M.Ls. Z.1, F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2,
F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.4, F.N. 5 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.7
F.Y. 2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 West. F.Y.3 2 M.T.Bs. Z.10 South,
F.Y.4, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.16. F.X.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.17.3. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N.
01° 15' E. Beaufighters Boulogne to 00° 30' E. and Gravelines
to Hook.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 101947B to A.I.G.508.)

My 101947B. Amend disposition as follows:-

Para. 1. F.U.1 Z.10 South F.Y.1 Z.17. F.X.1 Z.16.

Para. 2. F.Y.2 S.17 F Y.3 Z.11 South. F.Y.4 Z.12
West F.X.2 Z.16.Add WENSLEYDALE, BLANKNEY, BRISSENDEN. Long. 00° 28' W. between
49° 47' and 49° 56' N.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 102217B to A.I.G.508)

Enemy ActionE/Boats
engaged
on Barfleur/
I.O. Wight
line.3 E/Boats in 354° Pointe de Barfleur 10 miles.
(S.O. 341st Aux. M/S Gp. 100029B.)Plot N.R.2. Position 350° Pointe de Barfleur
9 miles, course 080° speed 35 knots.
(ST. HELIER, 100041.)My 0041. Plot NR.2. Probably 7 E/Boats
contacted.
(ST. HELIER, 100044.)Am engaging E/Boats in 030° Pointe De Barfleur
8 miles, course 270°.
(ST. HELIER, 100055.)Am engaging E/Boats in 350° Pointe de Barfleur
5 miles. Course 240°.
(ST. HELIER, 100114.)Plot NR.4. Bearing 40 Pointe de Barfleur 6
miles. G.A.3. Am engaging E/Boats, course 270°
(ST. HELIER, 100245.)Plot NR.4 driven off by G.H.3 steering 270°,
325 Pte. de Barfleur 7.
(ST. HELIER, 100250.)

/Enemy...

218

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Enemy destroyer. P.C.S. of one enemy Destroyer 48° 58' N. 5° 41' W. 030° 25 knots.
(A/C C/S KNO 89 100133)

3 E/Boats N.W. of Cap la Hague. 3 E/Boats course 360° position 50° 05' N. 02° 25' W.
(OTTAWA 100140B.)

E/Boats off Barfleur. Plot No.3. My 0217. Four E/Boats, course 320° 030° Pte. de Barfleur 1.5 miles.
(G.H.1 100226 to Portsmouth P.W.)

Destroyers off Cap d'Antifer. 3 Destroyers, position 227° Cap D'Antifer 16 miles course 270°.
(N.C.E.T.F. 100317 to E.T.F.)

Enemy destroyers are making forces in 225° Cap D'Antifer, speed 25 knots, course 170°.
(N.C.E.T.F. to Capt. P. E.T.F. T.O.R. 100331.)

Five E/Boats S.W. of Lorient. Position 5 destroyers 47.00 N. 05.00 W.
(A/C JNC.80 101320B to 19 Group.)

My 1320. 5 E/Boats, course 240° speed 15 knots. Flak.
(A/C JNC 80 101330B to 19 Group.)

Enemy recognition procedure. During the action off the French Coast on the night of 8th/9th June on two occasions between 0130B and 0236B enemy destroyers flashed the figure 6 at TARTAR and HAIDA respectively on a light similar to our "Intermediate" lantern. This would appear to have been the challenge in their recognition procedure.
(Capt. D.10, 101810B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Three Vessels off Ushant. NR.1. Vessel unknown position 48° 18' N. 05° 00' W., course 360° speed 15 knots.
(A/C RPD 67 101838 to 19 Group.)

NR. 2. Enemy previously reported are 3 unknown vessels. Flak encountered.
(A/C RPD 67 101855 to 19 Group.)

NR.4. Type one flak ship, 2 small craft, position 48° 48' N. 05° 07' W. speed 8 knots, line astern various course.
(A/C RPD 42 101940 to 19 Group.)

219

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Nr. 1. P.C.S. of enemy 3 (?flakships) 48° 25' N.
5° 13' W. 315° 15 knots.
(A/C NOJ 40 101950 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 5. Type one Flak ship 2 small craft position
48° 34' N. 05° 07' W., 210° 8 knots.
(A/C RPD.42 102140 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 6. My 2140. Enemy vessel patrolling in G.
North of Ushant.
(A/C RPD.42 102155B to 19 Group.)

My 2126. Correct position 48° 30' N. 05° 07' W.
(A/C RPD.42 102230 to 19 Group)

Destroyers
from
Havre.

2 enemy Destroyers leaving harbour Havre reported
by A/C.
(SCYLLA 102112 to Portsmouth C.C.O.)

Three
M/Vs.

P.C.S. of 3 merchant vessels 49° 08' N. 05° 34' W.
210° 8 knots.
(A/C RPD 42 102126 to 19 Group.)

Enemy
Force
West
of St.Nazaire.

Nr.1. Position of enemy 3 destroyers, 2 E/Boats
47° 03' N. 04° 57' W. course 060 speed 15 knots.
(A/C NXL 50 102235 to 19 Group)

Shadowing 2 destroyers, 3 sloops, 47° 01' N. 04°
57' E. course 030° 15 knots.
(A/C NLX 50 102315 to 19 Group.)

E/Boats off
Cap Barfleur.

Bearing 335° Pte. de Barfleur 4½ miles unknown
type, course 100° speed 35 knots.
My position is 015° Pte. de Barfleur 7.5 miles.
(A/C 3 UVR 102340B to Portsmouth PWG.)

My 2340. Probably 5 E/Boats.
(A/C 3 UVR 102343 to Portsmouth PWG.)

2 E/Boats steering 100° from Pte. de Barfleur.
(A/C 3 UVR 102347B to Portsmouth PWG.)

U/Boats

One submarine on surface bearing 200° distance
1 mile 315° LEH* 35 miles.
(CLOVER 100455 to COTTESMORE)
* Undecypherable (as received).

A/S
arrangements.

Appreciate it possible that leading U/Boats have
passed line Portland/Cap La Hague.

220

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U/Boats

A/S arrangements. 2. Present Admiralty intentions
 a. Place one Support Group at disposal of C. in C. Portsmouth to hunt as required South and West of Isle of Wight.
 b. Form strong A/S patrol in approx. line Portland/Cap La Hague.
 c. Support coastal convoys West of Start Point.
 d. Watch for further U/Boats closing from Westward.
 A.M. 101123 and 101127 refer.
 (V.C.N.S. 101132 to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth, V.A. Dover, H.Q.C.C.)

U/B sunk off Ushant. Nr. 2. My 1220* have attacked U/B with depth charge, sunk, continued patrol until P.L.E.
 (A/C 206 Sqn. Attached 19 Grp. 101235B.
 * re U/B on surface in 48.30 N. 05.04 W. N.T. in W.D.)

Nr. 3. My 1235 3 survivors.
 (A/C 206 Sqn. 101340B.)

U/B dispositions. In English Channel no fix on any U/Boat but possibly about six between longitudes of St. Catherine Point and of Start Point and between latitudes of Cap de la Hague and of Start Point. There may be three or four to S.W. of Cornwall.
 (D.D.I.C. 101430B to A.I.G.331, Cominch.)

Sweeps by E.G.1 and E.G.6. First E.G. is to leave present area so as to pass through 049° 05' 005° 45' at 0200B/11th thence sweeping North West into area GA. From area GA first E.G. is to proceed so as to commence search in North Eastern half of area JB by 1200B/11th.
 2. 6th E.G. negative (OUTREMONT) and TEME is to R/V as ordered by S.O. E.G.6 and carry out search in South Western half of area J.A.
 (C. in C.W.A. 101708B to E.G.1, E.G.6.)

U/B in Western Channel. HART reports enemy S/M transmitting a naval Enigma message at 2145. 1st Class German 172° estimate over 30 miles in ground wave. P.C.S. of HART 258° Portland Bill 7 miles 084° (as received) Speed 14 knots.
 (F.O.I.C. Portland, 102101B.)

Following from HART. (As last)
 (F.O.I.C. Portland, 102145 to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F.)

221

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Air Operations

Attack on E.C.M.2. Codeword "Escalator". Am being attacked by enemy aircraft. My P.C.S. 49° 40' N. 3° 43' W. 192° 9 knots. (E.C.M.2, 100412B.)

Maple Minelaying operations. Thanks for appreciative message. Very glad to learn that task before curtain was raised has been of assistance to the Allied Navies in the combined undertaking now staged. (A.O.C. in C. Bomber Command, 101620B to A.N.C.X.F. S.H.A.E.F.)

Ju.88 shot down 9th June. One Ju. 88 shot down by PURSUER's Wildcats in position 250 JB at 1845B/9th. (TRACKER, 101735B.)

Estimated enemy effort. Estimated enemy air effort next 24 hours long range bombers 120 sorties. Probable that part of single engine fighters now employed as fighter bombers. Fighter and fighter bombers 1000 sorties including possibly 60 fighter bomber sorties by night. (A.N.C.X.F. 101917B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., C.S.2, C.S.10.)

Casualties

TRACKER, TEME in collision. Have been in collision with TEME position 049° 27½' N. 007° 10' W. OUTREMONT standing by and will take TEME in tow. Request additional escorts may be detailed from Force 32 to escort carriers. No apparent damage to TRACKER. (TRACKER 100300B to C. in C.W.A.)

TRACKER reports she has been in collision with TEME in 049° 27' N. 007° 10' W. TRACKER proceeding. CAM stands by TEME. (S.O.E.G.2, 100332B.)

My 100300 it appears there may be damage to my hull and consider am unable to exceed 10 knots and damage should be examined. (TRACKER, 100357B.)

P.C.S. 049° 29' N. 007° 06' W. 048° 7 knots. TEME in tow. No danger under present weather conditions. (OUTREMONT, 100701B.)

My 101435. TEME holed and flooded between frames 52 and 60. All generators and both boilers out of action. 9 officers 51 ratings

222

10.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties

in (L.N.2146) TEME 64 ratings in OUTREMONT 8 in (L.N.697) TRACKER 14 missing. Ship not making any water. CAM in company. (S.O.E.G.6, 101715B.)

Landing craft losses. GJ.2 092130*. Flotilla Officer 590 L.C.A. returned June 7th with following craft: 1002, 873, 708, 712, 716, 1102, 1285. Following craft sunk: 1072, 107, 671, 965. Officer and crew 965 safe. Following craft missing: 874, 876, 690 and 874 expected today. All returned craft state C but expect to be A.1 by June 17. (Capt. G.J.2 in SQUID, 101100B.) * N.T. in W.R.

3 B.Y.M.S. C.T.F.124 reports that 3 B.Y.M.S. numbers 2155, 2181 and 2154 have engine and gun equipment trouble and require repair facilities. If 167th M.S.F. can be spared C.T.F.124 and originator (corrupt group) sailing them to assembly port for dock repairs and replenishment of about 3 days' duration. If you cannot spare 167th M.S.F., the 3 inoperative ships will be sailed to Portland. (C.T.F.122, 101613B to Capt. M/S W.)

GROU GROU has developed defects in port condenser. No. 1 boiler showing 20 grains per gallon increase in chloride in 16 hours. (TRACKER 101659B to C. in C.W.A.)

U.S. losses. CR. No.508. Recommend you release to Press (unless inability to notify families of casualties renders such a course undesirable) the loss of the following by types in the first four days. Three DD the CORY, MEREDITH and GLENNON. One DE THE RICH. One P.C. No. 1261 and one AM THE TIDE. On receipt of information from you as to date and time, Admiralty will make joint release. Also took up with Admiralty release of three L.S.T. Numbers 314 x 376 and 499 x and five L.C.I.(L) numbers 85 x 92 x 93 x 416 and 494. These also being commissioned vessels. Admiralty intention is not to announce the loss of any of their landing craft or landing ships. Request Department's policy in this regard. In despatch to Admiralty (information Comnavu) state whether or not names and numbers of ships will be included in Departments release or whether just the types and numbers. Accurate reports of casualties are being forwarded as received but are delayed because survivors are scattered among rescuing ships and in ports both in France and in the U.K. (Comnavu, 101809.)

223

10.6.1944
Saturday.War DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune".Administration

14 U.S. You are to sail 14 U.S. Coast Guard Cutters as
C.G. follows to E.N.T.F. (Arrangements)
cutters. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 101700B.)

Shipping and Convoys

Servicing During Sustained Movement operational Merchant
and repairs. vessels returning from France to load at East
Coast ports North of the Thames particularly
Coasters may call in at Southend for servicing,
repairs or to land casualties.

2. In such cases it is requested that boarding reports should
be collected and their contents disseminated through Thames
Turco.

(D. of S.T. 100009B to F.O.I.C. London, Info. P.S.T.O., S.E.
Coast, D.S.T.O. Hull.)

F.P.L.3. Arrived 0630.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 100650.)

E.T.M.5. Sailed. B. AVONDALE (S.O.) COTSWOLD, NARCISSUS,
OXLIP, M.L.588, M.M.S.17.
C. E.T.A. 0700/11. D. Stratum P.C.
E. For Gold, FORT WRIGLEY, FORT LIVINGSTONE,
FORT ASSINIBOINE, EMPIRE CELIA, FORT YALE, FORT RELIANCE,
L.S.T.425, 428, 199, 30. For Juno, EMPIRE RHODES, FORT
TREMBLANT, COOMBE MILL, EMPIRE BRUTUS, FORT MCPHERSON, FORT
POPLAR, EMPIRE NEWTON, FORT MCMURRAY, L.S.T.42, 416.
(A.N.C.X.F., 100724.)

E.B.C.5. A. Sailed. B. 140th E.G. C. E.T.A. 0600/11.
D. Radical. E. For Utah, JUSTIN, DOANE, MOSES
GAY. For Omaha, KALEV, KIMBALL HARLOW,
COXWOLD, expected to join in E.B.C.5W for Utah
RAFTSUND, PARKWOOD, HARPTREE COMBE, NORMANDY COAST, KITZERBURG,
ANDORI, For Omaha PRASE, CRESCENDO, BENTARBERT, JADE,
DOWNSHIRE.
(A.N.C.X.F. 101215B as amended, 101614.)

E.T.C.5. A. Sailed. B. HALSTED, CLEMATIS, KINGCUP,
FERNIE. C. E.T.A. 0600/11. D. MOCKING BIRD.
E. For Gold TULLY, CROSBY, HALO, ROWAN,
ST. ANGUS, ORTOLAN. For Sword GURDEN GATES,
For Juno, CHANT 7, PASS OF BALLATER, BENJAMIN SHERBURN.
Salvage Vessels SUCCOUR, GALLEONS REACH, expected to join in
E.T.C.5W for Juno TROMP, CHANNEL QUEEN, for Gold EMPIRE BANK,
for Sword ALACRITY, SUMMITY, KINGSHAVEN, CLARA MONKS, EILIANHILL,
ASIS, BEDENHAM.
(A.N.C.X.F., 101303, 101918, 102349B)

/E.C.M.3 ...

224

War Diary10.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

E.C.M.3. A. Sailed. B. 108th E.G. C. 0600/11 E.T.A.
D. Welkin. E. For Utah STANTON H. KING, FRANCIS
ASBURY, L.S.T.332 and 56. For Omaha GEO. STEERS,
EDWARD D. WHITE, JOHN MERRICK, JOSEPH E. JOHNSON,
ROBERT TOOMBS, JOHN R. PARK, JOSEPH PULITZER, BELVA LOCKWOOD,
ARTHUR SEWELL, L.S.T.50, 58, 286 and 294. For ?L.S.T.527, 162.
(A.N.C.X.F., 101919, Amended 110020B.)

Sustained movements plan. Amendment to O.N. pars.51. Following plan for L.S.T. daily sailing is to be substituted for that in O.N.13 para.51 as from 0001/11th British London and Tilbury 10 Gosport 10 Southampton 10 U.S. Southampton 13 Portland 15 total 58.
2. L.S.T. Hards in Southampton to be allotted as follows British S.2 U.S. S.1 and S.3.
3. O.N.13 para. 54 amend return destinations as follows F.T.M. convoys 11 to Thames remainder to Isle of Wight F.C.M. convoy 7 and 8 to Portland F.P.L. convoy 6 to Isle of Wight 7 to Portland and proportionately.
4. L.C.T. in Isle of Wight area. Loading should be carried out as far as possible throughout in proportion 2 British at Gilkicker Point to 1 U.S. at Calshot so that if delay occurs they will be evenly shared.
5. Turcos have authority to load and sail an increased number L.S.T or L.C.T. if this can be done without reference to Buco.
(A.N.C.X.F., 101921B.)

E.C.P.3 W. B. 113 E.G. C. E.T.A. 0700/11. D. Patch 3.
E. For Utah MOUWAI, EMPIRE BROADSWORD, for
Omaha EMPIRE SPEARHEAD.
(A.N.C.X.F. 101953 as amended 110022B.)

E.X.P.3. A. Sailed. B. STORK, REDPOLE, HOTHAM.
C. E.T.A. 0700/11. D. Thriller. E. For Gold
BIARRITZ, for Juno BRIGADIER. Joining E.X.P.3W
for Gold CHESHIRE, EMPIRE HALBERD, for Juno
MAID OF ORLEANS.
(A.N.C.X.F. 101955.)

My 101955. Following also sailed in E.X.P.3 W. BATAVIER II
for Juno NEW BEDFORD for Gold.
(A.N.C.X.F. 102259.)

F.W.P.1. A. Sailed (S.O. In WANDERER) E.G.112. B. E.G.105
C. E.T.A. 0300B/11th Southampton. D. Antelope.
E. DUKE OF ARGYLL, EMPIRE RAPIER, EMPIRE LANCE.
(C.T.G.122.7, 102110B.)

/F.W.M.1...

225

10.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.W.M.1. A. Sailed. B. 155 E.G. (S.O. CELANDINE)
 M.Ls. 344, 1391, 572. C. E.T.A. Southampton,
 0500B/11. D. December Sq. E. HELLAS, JOSHUA
 P. LIPPINCOTT, EUGENE O DONNELL, JOHN STEELE,
COLIS P. HUNTINGTON, AMOS THROOP, CHARLES POSTON, ABIEL FOSTER,
CHARLES C. JONES, ENOCH TRAIN, WEBB MILLER, HENRY W. GRADY,
CLINTON KELLY, STARKENBORGH, WALLACE ROSE, U.S.C.G.C.3, JOHN
WESTON (M.T.215).
(C.T.G.122.7, 102110.)

E.T.M.5W. Sailed 2010/10 HEATHER escorting L.S.Ts. 52, 279,
 538, 427, E.T.A. 0700/11.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth,(T) 102223.)

10.6.1944.
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

Appointments. Vice Admiral Sir Henry Moore K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.
C. in C.H.F. has been appointed Commander in Chief Home Fleet
V.A.2. B.S. (with the acting rank of Admiral) to date 14th
June 1944 and will wear his flag in DUKE OF YORK.

(2) The appointment of Vice Admiral Commanding
2nd Battle Squadron will lapse from 14th June.
The duties laid down in H.G.O. one para. 2 (A) will be carried
out by C.S.1 who will act as second in command Home Fleet for
the present. The duties in para. 2(B) will be carried out by
C. in C.

(3) Fleet Carriers will be administered by C. in C.
(4) This information is not to be communicated to the press
until the public announcements have been made.
(C. in C.H.F., 101035B to H.F.132).

Allocation of A/S Support Groups. It is intended that allocation of A/S support
groups to Commands will be made by Admiralty
who will keep close watch on U/boat situation
as a whole.

(2) Cs. in C. are requested to consult Admiralty
Tracking Room as necessary and if they consider
their needs are not sufficiently met to inform Admiralty
accordingly.

(3) This does not preclude temporary transfer of operational
control between Commanders in Chief as necessary to meet
particular situations or urgent requirements of A.N.C.X.F.
(V.C.N.S. 101114B to C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Plymouth,
C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, Info A.N.C.X.F.)
C. in C.W.A. is requested to transfer two Groups to
Plymouth which may be required to revert to C in C.W.A. at short
notice.

(V.C.N.S. 101127).

Certain Fri- Your 091249*. AWE, HALLADALE and BELLWORT may
gates and be retained for temporary service in your command.
Corvettes. 2. Concurrence of N.S.H.Q. for the temporary re-
tention of ST. THOMAS has been requested.
3. INMAN may be withdrawn from present duties
forthwith.
(V.C.N.S. 101414B to C. in C.W.A.)
*N.T. in W.D.

Movements.

Home Fleet Scapa departures, C. in C.H.F. in DUKE OF YORK,
battleships with ANSON, HOWE and FURIOUS escorted by MILNE,
and FURIOUS. MARNE and MATCHLESS.
(A.C.O.S. 101954B.)

/FURIOUS,..

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements - Contd.

FURIOUS,
INDOMITABLE,
(for Eastern
Fleet.)

A.M. 090343. Route.
(D.O.D.H. 102053B.)

Operations.

Diversion
by C.S.1.

On completion of practice about 1500 today 10th June request you proceed with 1st C.S. BERMUDA, SHEFFIELD and JAMAICA to create diversion as follows: 1. by Q.Z.S. 66 thence to pass through following positions PP. 058° 54' N. 001° 00' W. QQ. 057° 10' N. 000° 55' E. RR. 057° 25' N. 001° 40' E. SS. 058° 05' N. 001° 40' E. thence return Scapa through PP.
2. In order to be sighted by North Sea Zenit you should pass QQ. at 0300B and SS. at 0630B/11th June.
3. Break W/T silence on ship shore frequency as convenient on 2 occasions between QQ. and SS.
4. STYGIAN is on patrol in vicinity 058° 14' N. 00° 20' E.
5. Admiralty pass to H.Q.C.C. C. in C.Rosyth pass to No. 18 Group.
6. Acknowledge.
(C. in C.H.F. 101224B, 101334B to C.S.1.)

Operation
C.W.

On joining O.N.M.240 take DUNCAN, GOODALL and BULLEN under your order to carry out operation C.W. BULLEN has C.W. orders on board for you.
2..Group is to sweep ahead of O.N.M.240 until 0800B/12th and is then to return eastward. So as to sweep ahead of K.M.S.54/O.S.80 (S.O.E.G.B.4) which R/V at Oversay at 1730B/12th course 280° 7½ knots
3. 2 British S/MS join K.M.S.54 at Oversay and will be stationed in line ahead 3 cables port beam of Commodore.
(C. in C.W.A. 101255B to BULLDOG, (R) DUNCAN, S.O.E.G.B.4, GOODALL, BULLEN, Admty. Cdre. WESTERN ISLES, H.Q.C.C. S.O.E.G.C.2. No. 15 C.C. Cmdr. D.W.A.)

Proposed
operations.

FENCER is to proceed as requisite to comply with C. in C.W.A. 092355 in time to reach position 058° 15' N. at 0215B/13. C. in C.H.F. is requested to sail escort to R/V in this position.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 101436B to FENCER, C. in C.H.F.)

Coastal craft
operation
off Ymuiden.

Preliminary report of M.T.B. operations last night 9/10th June.
1. 58th Flotilla M.T.Bs. 687 (S.O.) 681, 683, 666, 684, 723 ordered to attack any enemy shipping found between Texel and Ymuiden.
2. Weather. Wind S.W. force 3 sea 33 visibility 3 cables in heavy rain.
3. At 0130 four large trawler type patrol or escort vessels contacted by Radar at 10000 yards in 52° 40' N. 4° 32' E.

/Flotilla...

War Diary.

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Coastal craft operation off Ymuiden. (Contd.)

Flotilla closed unobserved to 400 yards. Four boats fired torpedoes. Three trawlers seen to blow up and sink. During withdrawal 681 hit in pool petrol tank became detached and proceeded independently on 3 engines. 684 with one engine defective also lost touch.

4. Remaining 4 boats reformed for second attack as 723 still had torpedoes. At 0230 about 5 trawlers found using searchlights and picking up survivors. 723 made good attack on trawler silhouetted by searchlight. Trawler seen to sink.

5. At 0350 on homeward passage burning vessel sighted to northward. Flotilla closed and found 681. Entire crew except one rating picked up from rafts. At 0431 681 blew up and sank leaving no trace. At 0504 Flotilla set course for base.

6. Claim. Four large trawler type vessels seen to sink.

7. Casualties. 681 one killed, one missing believed killed, 6 wounded. 723. One wounded, all ratings.

8. Damage. 681 sunk, 723 minor damage.

9. Only C.Bs. required for operation were on board 681 and were undoubtedly destroyed.

10. Ten 21 inch Mark VIII two star torpedoes expended. All fitted with C.C.R. pistols.
(C. in C.Nore 101645B.)

SATYR. P.214 (SATYR) sailed from Lerwick 2002B/10 through 090° Muckle Flugga 10 miles thence through 067° 00' N. 005° 01' W. thence direct to patrol in area bounded by 068° and 067° N. and 005° and 010° E (F.O.S. Lerwick 102004B to S/Ms operating north of 51° N.)

Allied Air Activity.

A/C at Reykjavik. Russians ask you to allow up to 8 P.B.N. aircraft to be held at Reykjavik instead 4 which we understand is present limit. Have explained that reason only 4 at time probably danger tangible gales but Russians accept this risk. Grateful you agree, as Russians worried about bottle-neck at Gander. (30 Mission, Moscow 101700Z to Air Ministry.)

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C over Jan Mayen. Reported by Jan Mayen. He.111 observed north of island 0450. Fire opened from north defences hits obtained aircraft disappeared north direction. T.O.O. from Jan Mayen 100530Z.
(A.C.I.C. 101434B.)

229

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

Midget S/Ms
in Scapa
Flow,
(suspected.)

1. At 2000 indications were that two Midget submarines entered the Flow through Switha.
2. Trials this morning at similar state of the tide proved negative.
3. Offensive counter measures in force. Nothing sighted yet.

(A.C.O.S. 101147.)

Submerged submarine reported 1505B/10th June off southwest corner of mainland of Orkneys approaching Hoy Gate.
(A.C.O.S. 101519B to C.S.1, C. in C.H.F.)

Sitrep 1900/10th June.

1. At 1215 type 135 contact close to Hoy Gate vessel followed by audible scraping noise on vessel's bottom no indication of direction. Comment, possibly midget submarine.
 2. At 1315 Army lookout sighted a periscope between Switha and South Ronaldshay.
 3. At 1442 crossing of half Cantick Sound Guard Loop by what is considered to be a small degaussed submarine.
 4. Several contacts attacked in flow with no positive results.
 5. Offensive operations continue.
- (A.C.O.S. 101936B.)

Casualties & Defects.

ROSE.

When at anchor off Cowes at 0500B/10th June L.C.T. 7091 collided with us. Considerable damage sustained to ships bow. Stem cut through about 3 feet above water line and adjacent plates from waterline up to six feet above waterline on both sides damaged. Leakage temporarily stopped with wedges and ship will proceed on duty as necessary. Request permanent repairs at first opportunity. Expect docking necessary.
(ROSE 101045B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

H.S.L.2506
damaged.

Regret to report H.S.L.2506 severely damaged by underwater explosion at approx. 1300 today when in 000° Berry Head 2.5 miles, and towed into Brixham by M.T.B. 664 and beached. Casualties 3 stretcher cases and 6 walking cases.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 101523B.)

ARCHER.

A.M. 151307 and 281859 both May and F.O.I.C. Liverpool's 071044. Refit of ARCHER has been postponed.
(D.O.D.H. 101749B.)

Shipping & Convoys.

SS. QUEEN
ELIZABETH.

Diversions order.
(D.O.D.H. 101145B to QUEEN ELIZABETH.)

SS. QUEEN MARY.

Diversions order.
(D.O.D.H. 101150B to QUEEN MARY.)

SS. PASTEUR.

Diversions order.
(D.O.D.H. 101153B to PASTEUR.)

230

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Neutral
shipping,
Atlantic
route.

F.Os.I.C. pass to N.C.S.Os.
Neutral Vessels. Amend A.M. 211859 October
1943 as follows:-
Para. 6. Add - "(d) St. Thomas, Virgin Islands
for bunkering. (e) Galveston."
Para. 7 (b) Add "Galveston" after "Pensacola".
(d) After "Caribbean" add "including St. Thomas,
V.I." (f) Add "Galveston" after "Pensacola".
(D.T.D., 101635B.)

South Atlantic

ST. WISTAN.

(Corrupt group) bars in starboard chamber fires
have dropped. Am endeavouring to replace and
pack same as with port and centre fires. One
donkey engine broken down. Submit that in view
of other defects already on record that ship is completely
unable to perform efficiently normal A/S duties.
(ST. WISTAN, 102130 to N.O.I.C. Takoradi.)

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Employment
of Yugoslav
ships.
(Contd.)

many of the craft concerned are known to be of little value and that well trained men would be wasted in them although they might be useful to the partisans who are anxious to obtain them. Further, in view of the state of British manning it would be a pity to miss an opportunity of re-

placing British personnel by trained men capable of taking on their job.

3. 1366 Med. 0070/1 of 1st March para. 3 (not to F.O.T.A.L.I.) Med. 00160/1 of 29th March (2325 00160/1 of 29th March to Admiralty) para. 4 V.A.Malta's 191811 and F.O.T.A.L.I.'s 311025 both May and my 031636 June, last not to F.O.L.E.M. refer.

4. If British small craft such as corvettes were allocated to the R.Y.N. they would not be suitable for use in direct support of Tito at present but at a later stage they might be required for this purpose. There would thus be an interim period during which differences might be composed in which contact between the two Yugoslav factions was only on a very limited scale.

5. Ref. para. 2D of A.M. 060200. It will be noted V.A.Malta does not expect trouble of this nature, but there must in my opinion be no question of objectors being allowed to choose their type of service. My experience with Greek ships impels me to insist that personnel must either obey orders or suffer disciplinary action.

(C. in C.Med. 101921B to Admty.)

* No trace file.

UNTIRING.

1 defective torpedo remaining. E.T.A. 0900/12th keep 5 miles south of (P.67's) CURIE's route. One 800 ton U/J Boat probably sunk 9th Cape Sicie. One 800 ton U/J Boat sunk 10th Ciotat.
(UNTIRING 102213B.)

233

10.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

- SS. YORK (U.S.Tanker.) H.290 J serious boiler defect cannot arrive destination. Alone permanent breakdown, present speed 5 knots. Advise.
(K.X.W.B.) YORK, 100200Z to Admty.)
- U-Boat dispositions. Number 54. Indian Ocean D/F bearing between 1507Z and 1606Z/9th indicates U-Boat within 250 miles of 008 degs.S. 098 degs. E. 2 vessels made SS SS message from position (?150) mile south east of Addu Atoll at 0650Z and 0850Z/9th which confirms presence of U-Boat in this area.
Lettered area. No fresh information, no changes in scale of air escort.
(C. in C. E.F. 100338Z)
- ? Position given in para. 2 and para. 4 of my 070606, should read (F) 018 degs. 10' N. 066 degs. 20' E.
(C. in C. E.F. 100417Z)
N.T. in W.D. asked for 12 June but not supplied.
R/V position 018 degs. 10' N. 066 degs. 20' E. 143 degs. 1000Z/14th June reference your 070606 para. 2 confirmed.
(Comrin, 100449Z. to C. in C. E.F.)
- Command of mixed Dutch and British Forces. A.M. 311902 May. I consider the agreement made in Singapore in 1941 outlined in para.3. of above Admiralty Message was probably based on the fact that at that time the ratio of Dutch to British Naval Forces in the area was much higher than it now is or can be in S.E.A.C.
(2) I recommend the following arrangements:
(a) When the Senior Dutch Officer and the Senior British Officer are of different equivalent Ranks the duties of Senior Office of the combined force would be performed by the Officer holding the higher equivalent rank.
(b) When the Senior Officer and the Senior British Officer are of the same equivalent Rank the duties of Senior Officer of the Combined Force should normally be performed by the British Officer.
(3) I informed Admiral Helfrich of my views as in para.2 above in April. He expressed his opinion that the Singapore agreement should apply in S.E.A.C. I then explained that the arrangements in para. 2 B would not necessarily be a hard and fast rule but that I would arrange the Officer selected to Command a mixed Force would be the one most suitable to carry out the particular task allocated to that force.
(C. in C. E.F. 100919Z to Admty.)

234

10.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Merging of
Appointments
of the B.A.
M.R. & B.A.
S.R. in
Washington.

Your 081808. Confirmed that all arrangements have been made for amalgamation. Our 031330 should have been sent as from B.A.D. and not B.A.M.R. (B.A.D. 100005Z.)

ST. THOMAS.

A.M. 021836 May and C. in C.C.N.A.'s 061445. All support groups are now engaged in active operations in the Bay and approaches to the Channel, in support of Operation "Neptune". Admiralty appreciate that U-Boat offensive may develop in the N.W. Approaches. 2. To avoid withdrawing vessels from support group request your concurrence to defer sailing of ST. THOMAS to join C.3 group until situation clarifies. (V.C.N.S. 101425B to N.S.H.Q.)

Admiralty 101425. Concur. C. in C.C.N.A. can spare ST. THOMAS temporarily. Request date of release to C.3 may be signalled when known.

(N.S.H.Q. 102102Z to Admty.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 101448Z, Cominch 101615Z.)

SS. IRISH
CEDAR.
?IRISH ALDER

Further to my 062057 following is recoded version of IRISH CEDAR's 101320 in 38° 16' N. 63° 26' W. getting short of bunkers request permission to proceed direct. 2. Permission has been granted. (N.S.H.Q. 101715.)

U/B
incidents.

Para. B. U.S.S. SOLOMONS held Radar contact 40 minutes 23.22 S. 16.38 W. commencing at 100600Z estimated course 115 speed 17. Para. C. Mariner Radar contact 10.20 S. 27.12 W. 100255Z. (Cominch 102048Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 872,
June 9th.

Paras. 14 to end cover South Pacific Forces. 6. Night 8/9th M.T.Bs. destroyed four barges off Southeast Muschu Island also strafed rocketed enemy positions along Wewak - Aitape coast and offshore Islands. Shore fire encountered from Coastal Batteries.

War Diary.10.6.1944.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia & New Zealand.Digest 872
June 9th.
(Contd.)

8. Allied Cruiser-Destroyer Task Force covering Biak Island night 8/9th encountered enemy force described five destroyers northwest Biak Island. Enemy force immediately turned northwest at high speed. Allied destroyers unable to close range to less than six miles in three hours chase abandoned pursuit vicinity Mapia Islands (150 miles northwest Biak Island). One enemy destroyer possibly damaged during chase. Nil damage our forces. Two other destroyers searched initial contact for possible barges sinking one barge possible loaded with personnel.

17. Night 8/9th M.T.Bs. strafed Tinputz Harbour northern Bougainville.

18. Noon 9th enemy submarine seen 25 miles N.W. Forokina. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 100810Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.S/M attack
& sighting
summary.

Para. A. 1. A/C Y/10 sighted U-Boat course 040° at 0715Z/10 in 46° 55' N. 04° 57' W.
2. A/C O/311 over U-Boat course 210 at 0535Z/10 in 48° 34' N. 05° 56' W.
3. A/C G/103 sighted periscope course 164° at 1136Z/9 in 49° 28' N. 03° 20' W.

4. H.M.C.S. QU'APPELLE sighted U-Boat on surface which dived. H.M.C.S. RESTIGOUCHE subsequently attacked U-Boat at 1318Z/9 in 49° 06' N. 05° 41' W.

5. A/C P/10 over U-Boat course 310° at 0549Z/10 in 48° 02' N. 06° 45' W.

6. A/C V/58 attacked U-Boat course 175 with depth charges at 0205Z/10 in 46° 30' N. 04° 50' W.

7. Pan. CAROLA reported submarine at 0750Z/9 in 02° 05' S. 74° 49' E. 8. Am. PETER SILVESTER reported SSSS exchanging fire at 1031Z/9 in 01° 20' S. 74° 40' E.

Para. B. 1. A/C saw destroyer attacked escort group drop 3 depth charges at 1533Z/9 in 49° 35' N. 06° 46' W.
2. A/C saw Liberator fire and release depth charges at 1738Z/9 in 49° 50' N. 06° 55' W.
3. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 2154Z/9 in 47° 02' N. 04° 45' W.
4. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0104Z/10 in 46° 01' N. 03° 39' W.

Para. C. 1. Possible U-Boat sighted at 0800Z/6 in approx. 12° 10' S. 44° 30' E.
2. Fishing vessel sighted U-Boat at 1955Z/8 in 42° 45' N. 68° 55' W. (D.D.I.C. 101205B.)

U/B dis-
positions.Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 101454B, 101502B.)

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1(a) At 2330 to-day, S.H.A.E.F. reported that seaborne supplies to the Assault Area had continued to arrive at a satisfactory rate during the last 24 hours and that, in spite of adverse weather, the Allied Forces had fully maintained their supporting operations, including the bombardment by Warships of Enemy Mobile Batteries and concentrations.

(b) In the British Sector all the "Gooseberry" Block-Ships have now been sunk in position and Coasters are berthing and discharging inside them. In Area G Port-en-Bessin became available to-day for Coasters up to 10ft.6" draught; and a R/C of Ouistreham at the mouth of the River Orne in Area S. shows that the port may be made workable shortly and the beaches there are being cleared.

(c) In the U.S. Sector all the "Gooseberry" Block-ships are now also in position in Area O; but in Area U, from which about 5000 casualties had been evacuated at 2200 yesterday, all work has been delayed by heavy enemy shelling which only ceased this afternoon after a particularly effective bombardment by ARGONAUT and ORION. Up to Noon to-day a cumulative total of 93,917 Troops, 10,568 Vehicles, and 7,053 Tons of Stores had been landed on Beach O; and, up to this afternoon the total cumulative landings have been as follows:

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores
British Sector:	207,907	30,417	40,000 tons.
U.S. Sector :	<u>159,235</u>	<u>19,811</u>	<u>19,961</u> tons.
Totals :	<u>367,142</u>	<u>50,228</u>	<u>59,961</u> tons.

Enemy
 Action.

2(a) E-Boats. E-Boat activity at the full scale of the Enemy's resources continued on both flanks of the Assault Area last night. On the Western flank, in one of several confused actions off Cap Barfleur, one E-Boat was sunk by DUFF, another set on fire, and others damaged, and H.T.B.448 was sunk; and the U.S. L.S.T. 538 was torpedoed in a convoy. On the Eastern flank two E-Boats and five R-Boats were engaged at 0044 to-day off Havre by M.T.B's of the 55th Flotilla who probably sank one E-Boat and badly damaged two others.

(b) U-Boats. At 0623 to-day a U-Boat was attacked by a Liberator A/C 60 miles South of Plymouth; another Liberator sighted a U-Boat breather-pipe in the same area; at 0801 a further possible U-Boat sighting was reported 20 miles North of Cape de la Hague; and at 1250 a U-Boat was reported 21 miles South of St. Catherines Point.

(c) At 1346B the Admiralty considered that there were probably then about six U-Boats in the Channel between 01 degs. W. and 04 degs. 30' W. and one or two off the South coast of Cornwall.

War Diary

11.6.1944
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune".

- Casualties. 3. Naval casualties to-day have been as follows:
H.M. Ships M.G.B.17, Sunk, possibly by mine, in
Eastern Area. M.T.B's 98 and 712 damaged.
U.S. Warships. PARTRIDGE, Tug, sunk near 58 B Buoy.
- Prisoners. 4. Up to this evening a total of 6,825 Prisoners
of War have been sent to the U.K. since the
Operation began.

General

- Home Fleet. 5. C. in C. H.F. in DUKE OF YORK with ANSON, HOWE,
FURIOUS, and three Destroyers arrived at Rosyth
at 0719B to-day from Scapa. At 1901B to-day
A.C.O.S. reported that no further sign had been
seen of the suspected Midget S/M at Scapa.
- Diversionsary
Operation. 6. The diversionsary operation off Aberdeen was
carried out early to-day by C.S.1 in KENT with five
other Cruisers who was sighted, as intended, by
several Enemy A/C.

Mediterranean

- Civitavecchia. 7. C. in C. Med. reports that an approach channel
to Civitavecchia has been swept and the first
convoy is expected p.m. to-day. A motor mine-
sweeper was damaged in the harbour by a mine to-day.
- 8(a) TUSCAN and TUMULT carried out a sweep in the
Adriatic last night and shelled Lussinpiccolo.
(b) Coastal forces sunk an F. lighter south of
Vada Rocks last night. Other craft operated off
Elba, but sighted no shipping: they were engaged
unsuccessfully by shore batteries.

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

SS. HELEN
MOLLER.

9. C. in C. Eastern Fleet reports that SS. HELEN MOLLER (Colombo for Fremantle) was sunk by a U-Boat at 1823Z on 5 June (the date was first reported as 6 June) in 04.28 S. 74.45 E. (120 miles north-east of Chagos Is., Indian Ocean). On 13 June N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll reported that the ship was torpedoed in 04.18 S. 74.30 E.

China

10. A cruiser was damaged and a large freighter was sunk by U.S. Liberators off the south China coast to-day. Yesterday one small freighter was sunk and two damaged off the coast.

America and West Indies

11. The Dutch tanker CASANDRA was attacked with machine gun fire from a surfaced U-Boat at 0700Z to-day in 12.07 N. 69.16 W. (off Curacao).

Australia and New Zealand

12. U.S. destroyers last night bombarded enemy positions in the Flagalawa Bay area, 30 miles south-east of Kavieng whilst M.T.Bs shelled the east Cape area.

War Diary.

11.6.1944.
Sunday

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Cositintrep
No. 16 part
2, Naval.

A. General. Between 0400 and 0500 yesterday convoy for U.S. Sector was attacked by dive bombing and glider bombs, but received no damage, a He. 177 was shot down by WANDERER, and one of the convoy, the U.S. merchantman JAMES B. WEAVER, shot down a glider bomb. Port en Bessin now available for coasters up to 12 feet draught. After intense bombardment by ORION and ARGONAUT at 0800/10th enemy tanks and infantry were reported moving rapidly southwards for Tilly-sur-Seulles, fifty seven bombarding ships had been re-ammunitioned by p.m. 10th, some incidents of mine dropping by enemy aircraft near shipping off beaches have been reported. Mulberry assembly proceeding at good pace.

B. British Sector.
Gold, unloading rate can still be improved.
Juno, smoother working develops.
Sword, sporadic shelling of beaches and anchorage from mobile batteries, and light aircraft attacks.
Gooseberry completed.

C. U.S. Sector. No new reports.

D. Troops etc. landed. Gold, 3000 personnel, 200 vehicles, 2250 tons stores. Juno, 4000 personnel, 1173 vehicles, 2250 tons stores other reports not received.

E. Casualties. Coaster BRACKENFIELD and coaster DUNGRANGE sunk in convoy south of Eastern Assault Channel possibly by E-Boats.

F. Coastal Command. Liberator attacked and destroyed a U-Boat 5 miles north of Ushant at 1220/10th survivors were seen swimming.

G. Intelligence. Nothing to report.
(Ramsay Sgd. Eisenhower 110016B and 120025.)

Communique
No. 11.

As the result of an armoured thrust British troops have reached Tilly-sur-Seulles. Naval guns yesterday lent effective support to our advance in this sector.

Further west, American forward troops are everywhere, south of the flooded areas in the Lower Aure Valley. High ground between Isigny and Carentan has also been taken by American forces.

In the vicinity of Caen the enemy has made no progress against our positions despite continuous and vigorous attacks. To the northwest of Carentan, we have crossed the Merderet River and, overcoming enemy resistance, have made further progress. Allied aircraft pounded road and rail targets and airfields yesterday and last night in support of ground forces. Heavy day bombers attacked airfields and inflicted considerable damage to rolling stock, bridges and armoured vehicles. Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed. After escorting the bombers formation of fighters attacked road and rail traffic, destroying an ammunition train. From these operations 23 fighters are missing.

Medium bombers, sometimes flying at 200 feet in the absence of enemy air opposition bombed and strafed field guns and armoured vehicles. Considerable damage was inflicted in the Falaise and St. Lo area.

/Fighter...

240

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Communique
No. 11.
(Contd.)

Fighter bombers and fighters attacked rail yards at Laval and Le Mans at ground level. At Avranches armoured vehicles and a train were targets. In these operations 15 enemy fighters were destroyed.

Last night heavy bombers attacked rail centres at Orleans, Dreux, Acheres and Versailles. There was strong opposition and six German aircraft were destroyed. Twenty bombers are missing.

Our night fighters were active and six German bombers were destroyed, five of them over the battle area.
(S.H.A.E.F. 111100B.)

Cositintrep
No. 17, part
2 Naval.

A. General. E-Boat activity to full scale of enemy resources continued during the night. A number of running and confused actions developed of which full details are not yet available. Preliminary reports indicate one E-Boat sunk, one on fire near Barfleur and a number damaged.

Our casualties, one M.T.B. sunk, one frigate and one M.V. damaged.

B. British Sector. All Gooseberries completed. After large scale bombardment of yesterday and retirement of enemy it appears that long-range gun support will be at a premium. This condition already exists in the Gold area. Unloading improved yesterday although weather not so favourable.
C. U.S. Sector. Omaha Gooseberry laid, but Utah delayed by shelling from heavy battery which ceased fire p.m. after being engaged by ships. Its neutralisation, however, not yet certain. Unloading over both beaches increased in speed. Approx. 5000 casualties have been evacuated from this sector up to 2200 last night.

D. Casualties. HALSTED (frigate) torpedoed now in tow. M.T.B. 448 sank north of Barfleur. U.S.L.S.T. 543 damaged, probably by mine. 1 M.V. name unreported, torpedoed and damaged.

E. Coastal Command. A surfaced U-Boat was attacked by Liberator at 0623 this morning 60 miles south of Plymouth. In the same area another Liberator reported sighting a U-Boat breather pipe. A possible U-Boat sighting at 0801 was reported 20 miles north of C. de la Hague. Attacks by Wellingtons, who claimed hits, were made on surface craft in the early morning off Dieppe and Ostend, and also on a group of five E-Boats off Cherbourg.

F. Intelligence. Sightings of U-Boats suggest that up to twelve may now be in the Channel east of 06° W. Further reinforcements are likely to be on the way.
(Ramsay Sgd. Eisenhower 111409.)

Communique
No. 12.

Good progress has been made on the right. Our troops are now fighting in the outskirts of Montebourg. To the southwest of the town we have held enemy counter-attacks attempting to stop our advance west of the main Cherbourg railway. American troops have liberated Lison

/and...

241

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Communique
No. 12.
(Contd.)

and have advanced several miles southward on a broad front. In the vicinity of Tilly sur Seulles there is heavy fighting. The enemy has strong armoured forces in this area and is stubbornly resisting our advance along the River Seulles. A particularly effective bombardment was carried out in this area by ARGONAUT (Capt. E.W.L. Longley-Cook, C.B.E.R.N.) and ORION (Capt. J.P. Gornall, R.N.) Allied warships also gave support to the armies yesterday by bombarding mobile batteries and enemy concentrations.

This morning the Allied Forces continued their supporting operations in spite of adverse weather. Strong forces of heavy day bombers attacked airfields, bridges, gun positions, and other targets ranging from the battle area to the vicinity of Paris. Objectives in the Pas de Calais were also bombed, they were escorted by a strong force of fighters which attacked enemy tanks and lines of communications.

Medium bombers, fighter bombers and fighters attacked many targets behind the battle area including two railway bridges over the River Vire, military trains, railway sheds and yards, armoured cars, and troop concentrations. Fighters maintained patrols over the battle area and shipping in the Channel. There was little enemy opposition in the air, though intense flak was met at some points.

Seaborne supplies are arriving at a satisfactory rate. Enemy E-Boats were active again during the night and a number of brisk gun actions ensued during which one of the enemy was destroyed. Several of the enemy were damaged by gunfire before they evaded the pursuit. Early this morning our coastal aircraft attacked enemy E-Boats off Ostend and left two of them on fire.

(S.H.A.E.F. 112330.)

Cositintrep
18 para. 3
Air.

A.I. 543 11 June 1944. Summary for period 2100/10 to sunrise 11. Total sorties 1574, 9th Air Force 449, Second T.A.F. 790, A.D.G.B. 335. Six long range bombers suspected minelaying East Anglian coast, two R/C Thames Estuary; over U.K. no enemy aircraft plotted but at 110245B June 6. (Corrections: Cositintrep 17 should read period sunrise to 2100/10. Eisenhower.)
(H.Q.A.E.A.F. 112359.)

Assault Areas.

U.S. Sector.

Build up convoy programme is being prejudiced by delay in turning round escorts. If unloading of personnel convoys is delayed some at least of their escorts should be sent back independently.
(A.N.C.X.F. 111018B to N.C.W.T.F.)

/British...

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Assault Areas.

British
Sector.

Navy East 16. Cables have been laid along a line 332° true from position 049.21 N. 000.42 W. Vessels anchoring off Port en Bessin are to take precautions to avoid damaging cable. (N.C.E.T.F. 111111B to S. & A. E.T.F. Area.)

Naveast 20...A swept route known as Channel D is established as follows for use by ships on passage through areas Sword, Juno and Gold. Centre-line passes position of Aga Light Buoys

L.6, D.7, D.8, D.9 and D.10. Width one mile. Ships are to keep to their starboard of the channel.

2. The anchoring of ships in assault areas, and the assembly of northbound convoy is to take place within the area of this channel.

3. The above channel and regulations will be brought into force noon Monday 12th.

(N.C.E.T.F. 112055B to S.&A. E.T.F. Area.)

Requirements of the Eastern Task Force are now:

A. Fleets 1. Force S.6, Forces G and J 2 each.

B. Hunts 4.

C. Battleships, escort 4.

2. Request these figures may be worked to until the Eastern Flank is progressed to the eastward.

3. Position (?today) in the E.T.F. is A. Fleets 15, B. Hunts 2, C. Battleship escort 1.

(N.C.E.T.F. 112148B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Vessels loaded for Port en Bessin should not exceed max. draught 10 except* 6 inches and 27 feet 6 inches beams.

(S.T.O. Gold 112247B to D. of S.T.)

*as recd.

Bombardment Forces

EMERALD.

If you require fuel you should await arrival oiler RAPIDOL which has been called forward from Portsmouth.

(N.C.E.T.F.A. 110018B to EMERALD.)

BELFAST.

O.N.8 para. 20. BELFAST anchored in Spithead at 0010/11, but ammunition lighters and oilers were not placed alongside until 0715/11. Request I may be informed of the time when it is expedient to arrive at Spithead so as to avoid loss of bombarding time.

(C.S.10 110947B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Your 110947. Owing to high damage rate to tugs and lighters S.A.S.O. has now been instructed not to move lighter until 1st light owing to difficulty of manoeuvring them in darkness.

(A.N.C.X.F. 111523B to C.S.10.)

/Houl...

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Bombardment Forces.

Houl Gate
Battery.

Photograph R/C shows Houl Gate Battery emplacement one and 6 occupied casemates 3 and 4 probably intact all other emplacements and casemates not usable.
(A.N.C.X.F. 111002B to N.C.E.T.F.)

ENTERPRISE.

This is a re-encypherment of my 111031B addressed C.T.F.125. When ENTERPRISE ammunition expended about 1500 today direct ENTERPRISE proceed Portsmouth replenish ammunition about 1200 rounds H.E. Furnish C. in C.Portsmouth E.T.A. Return Utah area by 1800 Tuesday. Codeword "Soldier". ENTERPRISE acknowledge.
(N.C.W.T.F. 111035B to C.T.F. 125.)

WARSPITE.

WARSPITE will be required to exchange her 15 inch guns at Rosyth when she has expended ammunition now on board.

(A.N.C.X.F. 111127B to N.C.E.T.F.)

A.M. 101818 to A.N.C.X.F. Exchange of six in number 15 inch guns can be undertaken to complete in four weeks. Anticipate time could be reduced to three weeks if one Chargeman and six Fitters experienced in this work and four Labourers can be loaned. No men from Vickers are at Rosyth and this firm has to date always undertaken a large proportion of the gun mounting work on capital ships.

(A.S.Rosyth 111200B to Admty.)

It is intended that WARSPITE should be sailed when available for Rosyth eastabout. A.M. 101818 not to all refers. 2. A.N.C.X.F. is requested to inform C. in C.Nore when WARSPITE is ready to sail and C. in C.Nore is then requested to arrange details of passage.

(A.C.N.S.H. 111223B to A.N.C.X.F.)

On completion of bombarding duty WARSPITE is to be sailed to Nore for onward routeing to Rosyth N.C.E.T.F. to provide 2 escorts one to Nore one to Rosyth WARSPITE is to pass Dover at 0400 and owing to total restrictions in Nore Command is to be sailed not later 13th June early information your intention. My 111127 refers.

(A.N.C.X.F. 111527B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Following is a repetition of my 111658 begins:
Capt. P. (R) JERVIS, GLAISDALE, SIOUX from S.O. Force J.

Your 111403 and my 111216. No objection to keeping JERVIS and SIOUX tomorrow. Ends.

(S.O.Force J 112210 to Capt. P.)

244

War Diary.

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Force 26: On reaching position 48° 55½' N. 04° 10' W. if
patrol off no enemy information Force 26 is to return direct
Ile de Bas. to Plymouth omitting YY.

(C. in C.Plymouth 110200B.)

BLYSKAWICA take ESKIMO under his orders to form
Force 26, pass the Gate at 1215B today and pro-
ceed at 25 knots to position AA. 49° 13' N. 3° 01' W. Thence
patrol between AA. and BB. 49° 04' N. 3° 46' W.

2. Keep west of 3° W. unless in contact with the enemy.
3. Object, destruction of enemy ships. Estimate one ELBING
still in Brest.

4. Further orders will be signalled.

5. Codeword "Pimms".

6. Communications, collective R/T callsign Force 26 Bankside.
(C. in C.Plymouth 111042B.)

ASHANTI take JAVELIN under his orders pass Gate at 1900B
today 11th and proceed to join Force 26 at 2230B in position BB.
49° 04' N. 3° 46' W.

2. When ships have joined Force 26 to continue patrol as in my
111042B (passed to 10th D.F.)

3. 3rd E.G. is hunting U-Boat reported at 1045 today in 49°
24' N. 3° 24' W.

4. Communications. As in my 111042.

Callsigns.

39th Sub. div.

W/T

D.P.H.

R/T

World-wide

(BLYSKAWICA & ESKIMO)

40th Sub. div.

N.Y.L.

Parkhill

(ASHANTI & JAVELIN.)

5. Codeword. ASHANTI and JAVELIN till joined "Pimms 1."

(C. in C.Plymouth 111453B to 10th D.F.)

Plymouth:
Night pat-
rols 11/12th
June.

P.C.W.O. 120. A. 1. G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 664, 719.
2. G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 673, 713, 677. 3. G.N.3 M.T.Bs.
679, 717. 4. G.T.1 M.Ls. 181, 186, 180.

B. 2300/11. D. 1. In the vicinity of position
209 Portland Bill 14 miles. 2. In the vicinity
of position 090° Start 24'. 3. In the vicinity
of position 126° Start 13'. 4. In the vicinity
of position 209° Start 16'. F. 0515/12.

H. 1. 2. 3. D.C.O. 15 Callsigns G.N.1, G.N.2,
G.N.3. 4. 2300 k/cs. Callsign G.T.1.

Codeword "Sodden I to IV".

(C. in C.Plymouth 111230B.)

Coastal
Force sweep
off Channel
Is.

P.C.W.O. 120. A. Unit G.P.1 M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.),
726, 727, 743. B. 2030B/11. C. RR. 326 Les Hanois
12 to arrive 2330 SS 163 Alderney Light 8 to
arrive 0130. D. From SS sweep S.W. to TT 120 St.
Martins Light 9. E. Destruction of enemy shipping
and patrols. F. Area to be left in time to be 15
miles N.W. of Les Hanois by first light. G.
Return north of Guernsey. H. Constant 2300 k/cs
G.P.1 Manganese.

(C. in C.Plymouth 111318B.)

245

11.6.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

British Sector: defence policy for the night 11/12th. V.8 55th M.T.B. 515 $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles 205° and 1st C.F. Flotilla $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles 305° from established position. V.7 29th M.T.B. Flotilla 2 miles 180° from established position. V.13 VERULAM, VIRAGO, SWIFT $050^\circ 35' N. 000^\circ 05' W.$ and $050^\circ 35' N. 000^\circ 15' W.$ Not to cross (?lat) $050^\circ 33' N.$ except in pursuit of the (corrupt group). URANIA (?and) 2 destroyers $050^\circ 30' N. 000^\circ 30' W.$ and $050^\circ 37' N. 000.25 W.$ V.14 OFFA GLAISDALE remain under way in vicinity of B.3 and B.5 berth. They are not to proceed outside the defence line unless ordered to counter attack. Q.1P extended to C.1 berth. N.2. 2. Coastal Force Callsign First C.F. Flotilla G.L. 29th M.T.B. Flotilla G.L. 4 55th M.T.B. Flotilla G.M. (N.C.E.T.F. 111407B amended 111821B to E.T.F.)

Portsmouth cover night 11/12th. O.N. Portsmouth one para. 38. Cover night 11/12th. A. ONSLOW, OFFA, ONSLAUGHT, ORIBI. On long. $01^\circ 00' W.$ between lats. $49^\circ 47' N.$ and $50^\circ 06' N.$ SCORPION, STORD, in channel 78 between A and B buoys. B. STAYNER G.A.1 in Z.115 on $49^\circ 50' N.$ between $01^\circ 26' W.$ and $01^\circ 35' W.$ TORRINGTON G.A.2 in Z.111 on $49^\circ 50' N.$ between $01^\circ 13' W.$ and $01^\circ 22' W.$ C. Unit G.A. 3 M.T.Bs. 413 (S.O.), 416. Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.), 692, both with STAYNER in Z.115. Unit G.A.5 M.T.Bs. 414 (S.O.) 413. Unit G.A.6 M.T.Bs. 704 (S.O.), 702., both with TORRINGTON in Z.111 not to proceed east of line 035° from Pte. de Barfleur. D. Unit G.B. M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 714. Initial position 080 Pointe de Barfleur 4 miles. Not to proceed west of line 035° from Pointe de Barfleur unless in action. Unit G.C. M.T.Bs. 206 (S.O.), 205, 210 initial position 070° Cap de la Hague 5 miles. In Z.122 west of $01^\circ 42' W.$ Unit G.D. M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 454, 478 initial position 280 Cap Levi 5 miles. Not to proceed east of line 330 from Cap Levi whilst south of $49^\circ 50' N.$ or west of $01.42 W.$ unless in action. E. TALYBONT in vicinity of position $49^\circ 43' N. 00^\circ 22' W.$ TANATSIDE in vicinity of position $49^\circ 50' N. 00^\circ 18' W.$ Constant watch on 375 and 2450 k/cs. F. Destroyers to be in position by 2200B. ONSLOW to report dispositions of Force GH by 2200B. Force GA and Unit GB. routed out by Channel one to be in position by 2300B. Units G.C. G.D. via Needles to be in position by 2340B avoiding Q.Z.Y. 463. G. Destroyers addressed acknowledge. (C. in C. Portsmouth 111509B.)

Patrols from Plymouth: E.G.3. Resume patrol given in my 101216B. (C. in C. Plymouth 111823B to E.G.3.)

/Western...

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Western Night Channel report 11/12th June. O.N.1 para. 52B. 1. 11th E.G. Rectangle St. Catherines Point to 50° 15' N. 00° 30' W. G.H.1 ONSLOW, G.H.2 OFFA, G.H.3 ONSLAUGHT, G.H.4 ORIBI O.N. 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 06' N. G.A.1 STAYNER Z.115. G.A.2 TORRINGTON Z.111. 14th E.G. Z.200 Z.201 Z.202. 3rd E.G. Z.215. 15th E.G. Z.244, Z.219. 2nd E.G. Z.236, Z.242.

2. C.F.Units. G.A.3, G.A.4, 2 M.T.Bs. each Z.115. G.A.5, G.A.6, 2 M.T.Bs. each Z.111. G.B.2 M.T.Bs. Z.111 south G.C.3 M.T.Bs. Z.122. G.D.Z.115 south. G.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. N.E. corner Z.205. G.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. N.E.corner Z.212. G.N.3 2 M.T.Bs. N.W.corner Z.212. G.T.1 3 M.Ls. Z.217 north.

3. Controller Alacores Cap la Hague to Cape Levi aircraft all areas west of 02° 20' W. north of French coast excluding Channel Islands.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 111907B to S. & A.in Area C.)

Eastern Night Channel report 11/12th June. O.N.1 para. 52B. 1. F.U.4 OBEDIENT Z.3, Z.5. F.U.2 ORWELL Z.8 south. F.U. 3 OPPORTUNE Z.10 west F.U.6 COTTESMORE Z.11 west. F.Y.1 TROLLOPE Z.13 east. F.U.7 MELBREAK Z.16. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH S.W. Edge Z.17. TALLYBONT vicinity 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. TANATSIDE vicinity 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W. SCORPION STORD Channel 78 between A and B Buoys. 11th E.G. Rectangle St. Catherines Point to 50° 15' N. 00° 30' W.

2. C.F.Units. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N. 2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.N.3 2 M.Ls. Z.7 F.Y.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12 west. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east. F.Y. 3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 west F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. with THORNBOROUGH.

3. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E. Beaufighters Boulogne to 00° 30' E. and Gravelines to Hook.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 111918B to S.& A. in Area C.)

Force 28: SCIMITAR is to pass the Gate at 0600B/12th June and act as additional escort to tanker COWRIE in accordance with my 111610B*. Not to all addressees (copy to SCIMITAR).
A2. On parting company with COWRIE at Harland Point SALADIN and SCIMITAR are to form Force 28 and proceed to take up A/S patrol in Area Z.232, Z.237.

3. Communications. Collective R/T callsign Force 28 "Flaskett".
(C. in C.Plymouth 111950Z to SALADIN, SCIMITAR.)

Minesweeping.

16th M/S Serial M.B.32. S.O. M/S 16 report completion of Serial M.B. 32 delayed by presence of anti sweeping devices in area between A. all following positions are N. and W unless otherwise indicated. 049° 43.5' 000° 47.4'.

247

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Minesweeping

16th M/S: B. 049° 43.1' 000° 50.0'.
 Serial C. 049° 39.7' 000° 51.3'
 M.B.32. D. 049° 40.1' 000° 48.6'
 (Contd.) 16th M/S are remaining in Assault Area today
 Sunday to replenish sweeping gear continuing
 clearance at first light tomorrow Monday.
 ILFRACOMBE has been detached to R/V buoy laying
 vessels and escort them to Assault Area. C. in C. Portsmouth
 decode S.O. M/S Es 16 110629.
 (Capt. M/S West 111110B to A.N.C.X.F.)

M/S 14 Comply with A.N.C.X.F. 111443* not to all
 addresses to reach F.1 Buoy at 1000/12th thence
 to carry out searching sweep route S and Channel
 34.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 111955B to M/S 14.)
 * N.T. in W.R.

Serial M.B.34. Area swept to a depth of 3 miles from
 M.B.34, Northern limit. 2 mines today in 050° 14' 24"
 PANGBOURNE's N. 001° 31' 30" W. and 050° 14' 30" N. 001° 29'
 report. 00" W. 1 was dragged and detonated in sweeping
 outside area, the second one sunk by rifle fire.
 Flotilla anchoring St. Helens Road.
 (PANGBOURNE, 112041B.)

Enemy Action

3 destroyers Nr. 1. Position of enemy 3 destroyers 2 E/Boats
 2 E/Boats in 47° 05' 05° 00' W. course 350° speed 10 knots,
 Bay of position by GEE.
 Biscay. (A/C SYG 98, 110022)

M.T.B.448 Nr. 1 B Engaged by Unit GH 3 in 340° Pte. De
 sunk. Barfleur 5 towing West regret M.T.B.448 sunk in
 O40 Pte. De Barfleur 5½. CBs destroyed
 (corrupt group).
 (3 UVR (Portsmouth local) 110055B)

Radar Unknown Radar contact bearing 186° 9 miles course
 Contact. S.W. speed 7 knots my position 110° Start Point
 12.5.
 (3 HFY, 110101B.)

2 E/Boats 2 E/Boats bearing 055° my position 290° Cap.
 (attack on D'Antifer 28 miles.
 E.T.C.5, (HALSTEAD, 110141.)
 see
 casualties.

/E/Boats...

248

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

E/Boats engaged off Barfleur. NR. 1B. 310° Pte. de Barfleur 5 miles course 270° speed 35 knots. (3 UVR 110217B to Portsmouth W/T.) Unit GH 4 engaging plot NR.2, Position 060° Pte. de Barfleur 4 miles. (3 UVR 110312.)
4. E/Boats in 110° Point de Barfleur 8 miles speed unknown. (3 UVR 110402.)

Attack on Enemy M/S off Channel Is. by Unit G.O.3. Attack completed 7 trawlers. Result unknown. (M.T.B.98, 110230B.) My 110230*. Enemy position is 030° Sark 5 miles. (M.T.B.98, 110305 to C. in C. Plymouth.) * N.T. in W.R. at time of circulation. My P.C. and S. North 20 West Les Hanois 12 miles. (M.T.B.98, 110445B.)

During night of 10/11th Unit G.O.3 carried out sweep in Channel Islands area. Force split into two divisions N. of Guernsey and proceeded towards position 212 Cap de la Hague 12. Fog then closed down, reducing visibility 50 to 100 yards. North of Little Russel Channel, a trawler was encountered by second division who fired star shell but was almost immediately lost in fog. 2nd Div. lost touch with each other and with 1st Div. while endeavouring to get into position attack. Later M.T.B.98 who was then alone, obtained Radar contact, and sighted four ships in Great Russel Channel. M.T.B.98 fired both torpedoes at 300 yards and was engaged simultaneously by enemy with gunfire; she was holed in many places and C.O. and First Lt. both wounded, not seriously. Result of his attack not known. Enemy appeared to be large trawlers or possibly M class M/S. M.T.B. 98 returned safely, also remainder of force who had seen nothing. (C. in C. Plymouth, 111310B.)

U/Boats

Operation C.A. - E.G.5: A/U search. Proceed with despatch to search for Submarine last located in approx. 49.21 N. 04.16 W. at 0120/11th.
2. Estimated course between 059° and 070° speed 1½ to 4 knots but probably about 2.
3. Boat will probably use Snort by night. (C. in C. Plymouth, 111021B to E.G.5.)
Your 111021B. Area searched between 049° 30' N. 049° 07' N. and as far east as 003° 22' W. In absence of instructions intend patrolling Z 218, Z.219, Z.223, Z.224 during night. (S.O.E.G.5, 111833B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Your 111833 omit Z.223 otherwise approved. (C. in C. Plymouth, 112241B to E.G.5.)

/If...

11.6.1944

SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U/Boats

Operation C.A. - E.G.5: A/U search. (Contd.)

If not hunting leave present patrol at 0600/12th and sweep from position 49.36 N. 04.00 W. in A.252 direction as far as 05.07 W. and thence in A 213 direction as far as 48.50 N. then resume patrol in Z.237 Z.232 unless otherwise ordered. (C. in C. Plymouth, 112316B to E.G.5.)

E.G.14: patrol Barfleur - I.o.W.

If not already investigated carry out sweep as far as 01.30 W. to cover possible sighting of periscope in 49° 59' N. 02° 00' W. at 0632/11th. Resume patrol on completion. (C. in C. Plymouth, 111130B, to E.G.14.)

U/B on Barfleur - I.o.W. line.

Sighted U/Boat dived 050° 15' 001° 14' at 1250. (BRISSENDEN 111259 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Operation C.A. - Gamma search in W. Channel approach.

It is appreciated that U/Bs may attempt to enter English Channel from Atlantic.

2. U/Bs will probably use Schnorkel if wave height from trough to crest is less than 6 feet A.M. 98A 231853 May refers.

3. S.O. 6th E.G. take 6th and 1st E.Gs. under his orders and carry out gamma search W.A.G.M. 872N. 291133 December refers.

A. 050° 00' 007° 30' 049° 20' 007° 30'. B. 090°.

C. As soon as Group have joined. D. Until further orders.

4. Under Schnorkel condition at night and by day distance apart of ships 2 miles. Under Non-Schnorkel condition at night distance apart 4 miles. In order to conserve a S. of A. of ships by day not more than 10½ knots, by night not more than 13½ knots.

(C. in C.W.A. 111326B to E.G.1, E.G.6.)

U/B situation in Channel.

In English Channel 2 A/C attacks and an attack by E.G.3 establish presence of U/Boats in the area between longitude 01° 00' W. and 04° 30' W. probable total number about half a dozen. A.S.V. contact 0522Z/11 may indicate one moving E. within 20 miles of latitude 50° 30' N.

longitude 07° 00' W.

Probably one or 2 off coast of S. Cornwall.

(D.D.I.C. 111346B to A.I.G.331, Cominch.)

Search by GATINEAU.

C. in C. Portsmouth, 111505B reads - U/Boats in position 173° S.C.P.21 at 1250 search forthwith. (OTTAWA, 111535B to GATINEAU.)

/Attack...

250

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U/boats

Attack by JMNO.96 111100* Sector from southeast to north
E.G.3 of position swept without result. Dan Buoy
near was found in position 049° 26' N. 003° 24' W.
Guernsey. Request confirmation that U/boat was seen on
the surface and her course on sighting.
(E.G.3, 111725B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
* N.T. in W.R.

Navsitrep/10 at 0120/11th Wellington in 049° 23' N. 004°
19' W. sighted a Snort in operation. 12th E.G. in vicinity
saw Leigh Light and hunted but could get no A/S contact A/S
condition very bad 3rd E.G. attacked U/Boat in 049° 49' N. 003°
19' W. with 6 Hedgehog producing one large bubble at 2201/10th.
Echo sounding suggests S/M on bottom.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 112109B to A.N.C.X.F.)

U/B attacked RIOU has confirmed contact on U/boat in 49° 58' N.
off Lands 05° 33' W.
End. (RODNEY, 112130B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Following received from RIOU.
Consider my attacks were definitely a success.
S/M contact located position at time of attack
49° 59' N. 05° 32' W. Considered two S/Ms were operating in
company as I obtained second excellent contacts about 3 miles
further east. 2209 Ends.
(RODNEY, 112240B.)

Air Operations

E.T.M.5 Convoy E.T.M.5 attacked by A/C bomb dropped 1
attacked. ship believed damaged in position 58C Buoy.
(KATHERINE, 110420B.)

- a. 0304/11th June. 300° Cap D*Antifer 32'
- b. Southbound convoy of Liberty Ships (number unknown)
- c. One to three Ju.188.
- d. Three attacks from up moon at 3000 feet A/C flying in from astern of convoy using one glider missile fitted with blue stern light in each attack.
- e. Apparently none.
- f. Nil.
- g. No fighter direction. Enemy window detected after attack completed.

(BRISSENDEN, 111701 to Admty.)

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Movements

H.Q. 2nd Army. Raise steam and be ready to proceed by 0700/12th. H.Qs. staff Second Army (25 officers and 6 other ranks) will embark for passage at 0645. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 111846B to BELFAST.) Your 111846* BELFAST sailed at 1430 in accordance with my 111353+. Suggest you use ORION. (C.S.10, 112144B to C. in C. Portsmouth.) * BELFAST to be prepared to sail at 0700/12th. + Not received. BELFAST E.T.A. Assault Area 1100 Monday with Second Army staff on board. (A.N.C.X.F. 111917B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Port Facilities

H.Q. of N.O.I.C. Mulberry have been transferred from ARISTOCRAT to H.M.S. DESPATCH which is berthed in GOOSEBERRY III and telephone communication with Thorney Island. (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B. 112041B to Cdre. Commanding 121 Force.)

Casualties and Defects

Attack on E.T.C.5: HALSTED and one M/V torpedoed. Request you will send tugs EMPIRE FOLK and GOOLE TEN to assist HALSTED and one M/V both torpedoed near 58D Buoy. HALSTED is in tow of FERNIE. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 110606B to N.C.E.T.F.) Capt. SS. 111140* HALSTED entering harbour damaged. Report name and fate of merchant ship in E.T.C.5 torpedoed at same time if known. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 111636B to Capt. SS. KINGCUP, HALSTEAD, FERNIE, N.C.E.T.F., A.N.C.X.F.) * No trace.

U.S. L.S.T. 543 torpedoed. Banc de Merville torpedo hit. Think U/boat masthead man reported saw probable periscope. (U.S.L.S.T.543 111030B.)

? Unit C. (corrupt group) 513 abandoned 284° from 58C. Buoy. Have taken in tow proceeding Mulberry "B". (STORM, 111230B, to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

M.G.B.17 lost. Navisitrep (C) 400 tons. (F) M.G.B.17 lost as result explosion possibly a ground mine in approx. 049° 22' 000° 36' W. (G) Commenced unloading 1 coaster by Dukw. Remaining items blank. (? N.O.I.C. Mulberry B. 111750.)

252

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- BEALE Your 110048 and my 091741. (A) BEALE reported sailed in E.T.C.4 W. for Port en Bessin. (A.N.C.X.F. 110627 to N.C.E.T.F.)
- E.C.P.3 W. Now sailed.
B. TANATSIDE, TALLYBONT, MELBREAK.
C. E.T.A. 1800/11.
D. Acorn 2 R.
E. EMPIRE SPEARHEAD, EMPIRE BROADSWORD, MONOWAI. All for W.T.F. (A.N.C.X.F. 110759B.)
- Landing My 110945 part 2 final p.p. 110940. L.S.T.319, ship 238, 8, 322, 403, 540, (?259), 21, 520, 159 for convoy. Tilbury, L.S.T.11, 405, 17, 368, 367, 320, 421, 365, 165, 363, 175, 361 towing L.C.T. (5), 70, 77, for Isle of Wight (F) FORT CHARNISAY (3) (?2) L.S.T.208, (1) 74, (2) 20, (3) 12 L.S.T.367 (3) plus L.S.T.320, (1) 19. L.S.T.165 (3) 800 L.S.T. 175 (1) and (2) 73 (3) 2 L.S.T.11 and 405 not contacted. (Capt. N.S. 110945B.) Note:- Part one of this signal not received in Admiralty.
- F.C.M.1 A. Sailed.
B. E.G.111 (S.O. in LAPWING) M.L.1387, M.L.1409.
C. E.T.A. Southampton 1300/11th, Portland 1300/11th. E.T.A. Plymouth, 0600/12th, Falmouth 0800/12th.
D. Rondo X B.
E. CLARA BARTON, CHARLES SUMNER, BENJAMIN HAWKINS, CHARLES M.H., HORACE GRAY, LUCY B TONE, GEORGE E. PICKETT, JEDIAH SMITH, ROBERT E. PERRY, JOHN S. MOSBY, EDWIN ABBEY, L.S.Ts. 357, 316, 315, 230, 381, 392, (?06?).
Details of casualties and P.o.W. in L.S.Ts. (C.T.G.122.7 111030B.)
(U.S.)
- F.T.C.4. Sailed.
B. LLANDUDNO, DUNBAR, M.M.S.17, M.L.217, 243. C.G.25 detach at Z Buoy for Poole,
C. E.T.A. Nab 2315 (?12th).
D. Moribund (?XU).
E. NIVERMAIS, BEAL, DEEMONT, VESTMANROD, BONAWA, TORQUAY, L.S.T.302 towing L.S.T.536.
F. L.S.T.302 (1) (? and) (2) (corrupt) L.S.T. 536 not contacted. All ships for Portsmouth area. (Capt. N.S. 111115B.)
- F.T.C.4(A?) Sailed.
A. F.T.C.4 (?A)
B. NORTHERN FOAM .
C. E.T.A. Nab 0545/12th.
D. Astoria VC.
E. Tug SCHELDE L.C.T.(A) 2236 towed by H.M.S.

/NORTHERN FOAM...

253

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

F.T.C.4 (Contd.) NORTHERN FOAM.
(Capt. N.S. 111150B.)

Bristol Channel ports. Ships due to load Bristol Channel ports 12th June can you advise if there is likely to be much delay if so are you sending substitutes as cargoes waiting (F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 111215B to Buco.)

E.T.M.6. Farshore Shuttle Control.
A. Sailed E.T.M.6.
B. GARTH, MEYNELL, CAMELLIA, CHARLOCK, M.L.112, M.M.S.182.
C. E.T.A. 0700B/12.
D. Southfleet 9E.
E. For Juno: DEMETRION, FORT FINLAY, EMPIRE LANKESTER, OCEAN ANGEL, EMPIRE FALSTAFF, VANCOUVER CITY, L.S.T.359, L.S.T. 530, L.S.T.528.
For Gold: OCEAN STRENGTH, DERRICUNIHY, EMPIRE PITT, EMPIRE GLADSTONE, EMPIRE GREY, LAMBROOK, STANRIDGE, L.S.T.493, L.S.T.137, L.S.T.176, L.S.T.379.
For Sword: FORT ROMAINE.
For Omaha: BRITISH STATESMAN.
(A.N.C.X.F. 111317.)

Oil tankers. Pass to F.Os. I.C., N.Os. I.C. and N.C.S.Os. Signals relating to overseas and coastal oil tankers proceeding to the Isle of Wight area should be repeated F.O.I.C. Southampton and N.C.S.O. Hamble.
(D.T.D. 111400B to C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth)

E.B.C.8. Sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 111400B to 10,11 Groups, H.Q.A.D.G.B., A.N.C.X.F.)

E.T.C.6 Buco. My 101146* for "RIANO" read "ROXANO".
(Cdre. 1/c Southend, 111704B.)
* E.T.C.6 N.T. in W.D.)

H.C. DUKE OF ROTHESAY. Sailed Hospital Carrier DUKE OF ROTHESAY E.T.A. Nab. 2330/11.
(Capt. N.S. 111850.)

Convoy. My 111725*. Have formed convoy of 24 ships. Intend using Codeword X-Ray.
(ZV 111922B to N.C.W.T.F.) * N.T. in W.R.

/Convoy...

254

War Diary11.6.1944
SundayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

Convoy A. Sailed convoy E.C.M.4.
E.C.M.4. B. 106th E.G.
C. 0600/12th.
D. Susie OJ.
E. For Utah: FRANCIS DRAKE, JAMES I. MACKAY,
GOLD FINCH, L.S.T.288, 7, 515, 539, 532.
For Omaha: JIM BRIDGER, L.S.T.355, 54, 504, 616, 235, 288.
Joining Southampton E.C.M.4 W. for W.T.F. DAVID CALDWELL,
ELMER SPERRY, EDWARD M. HOUSE, JOSEPH STOREY, JOHN G. WHITTIER,
SAM COLT, GEO. DEWEY, JANE LONG, JAS. WOODROW.
(A.N.C.X.F. 112016B.)
My 112016. Add to E.C.M.4.
For Utah: JOHN F. STEFFEN, L.S.T.494.
For Omaha: L.S.Ts. 980, 529, 389, 61, 506.
(A.N.C.X.F. 112316.)

Convoy My 112100 part 2 final PP T.O.O. 112039 KAIDA,
BARONS COURT SOUTHPORT, KENRIX, ENID MARY,
STADION II, SPIRALITY, DICKY, POLLY M. ARDGANTOCK,
WALNUT. (?)
(Capt. N.S. 112100B.) Pt. 1 of this message not
yet received in Admty.

F.W.P.3. A. Sailed convoy F.W.P.3.
B. Escort LA SURPRISE (S.O.) LA DECOUVERTE
QUEEN (?) ON FOUR.
C. E.T.A. 12/0200.
D. Platinum PX.
E. EMPIRE BATTLEAXE, EMPIRE CUTLASS, EMPIRE MACE.
(C.T.G.122.7 112125B.)

Convoy Sailed 1630B June.
F.B.C.1.11. B. E.G.138 (S.O.) in WATCHMAN.
C. E.T.A. as below.
D. Feldspar R.W.
E. For Southampton - CUSHEIDEN, BLUEHILL,
TOPAZ, ROCKLEASE, CORAL QUEEN, STALEY BRIDGE, MOELFRE, (ROSE ER A?
EMPIRE JOHN, EMPIRE HUMPHREY, E.T.A. 12.0830B. For Fowey -
MARI, THE PRESIDENT, MONKSVILLE, SARNIA, BIDASSOA, SKARV.
E.T.A. 12.1930. For Llanelly - ST. RULE E.T.A. 13/2030B.
For Sharpness - CITRINE E.T.A. 14/0030B. For Port Talbot -
LOTTIE R.13/2030B. For Portishead - MORE CAE, E.T.A. 13/2300.
For Cardiff - KRAKOW E.T.A. 13/2330B. For Swansea - HEIEN.
E.T.A. 13/2030B. For Penarth - KATOWICE E.T.A. 13/2300B.
For Newport - KMICIC E.T.A. 13/2300B.
(C.T.G.122.7 112130B.)

E.O.P.4. Sailing.
B. 112th E.G.
C. E.T.A. 0600/12.
D. Sudbury UQ.
E. For Utah: LADY OF MANN, For Omaha: DEVONSHIRE,
LLANGIBBY CASTLE, INVICTA.
(A.N.C.X.F., 112201B.)

War Diary11.6.1944
SundayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.4. A. Sailing.
 B. 114th E.G.
 C. E.T.A. 0800/12th.
 D. Woolsackol
E. For Sword: PRINCE CHARLES, PRINCE BADOUIN.
For Juno: ISLE OF GUERNSEY
For Gold: PRINCESS MARGARET, H.M.S. QUEEN EMMA, NEURALIA.
(A.N.C.X.F. 112202B.)

E.B.C.6. A. Sailed.
 B. 141st E.G.
 C. E.T.A. 0600B/12.
 D. Wafer K.F.
E. For Utah: HENRI GERLANGER, LABAN HOWES, KENTISH COAST,
CASTLE COOMBE, THE EARL, GRANGETOFT, NUGGET, EILDON, HELDER.
For Omaha: EDINA, SINCLAIR, GRENAA, HIGHWEAR, GRANFOS,
TORFINJARL, MAHEFJELL, BARLEY FOSTER, MAMMY.
(A.N.C.X.F. 112203.)

E.T.C.6. A. Sailed.
 B. DAKINS, SWEETBRIAR, SUNFLOWER.
 C. E.T.A. 0600/12.
 D. Jujitsu.N.H.
E. For Gold: CORDALE, ZELO, MARGA, STAUNCH, HEROINE, GENERAL
BIRDWOOD, BONA, BUCEPHALUS, ROXANNE, MARIE ELIZABETH, TOCSIN,
MARIE JOSE ROSETTE, GOEREF, JERN LAND, STRATHALLADALE, MIRABELLE,
GLENDINNING, STRATHFINELLA, CHOICE, YEWMONT, BENGUELA, CARNALEA,
LOWESTOFT, TRADER.
For Juno: ALGOL, HEIRE (Nor.), EMPIRE ALDERNEY, CITY OF
CHARLEROI, ZUIDLAND, BREM, SERENITY, ASIETY.
For Sword: GUERNSEY QUEEN, TUDOR QUEEN, MARCEL, OLEV, REIAS,
THORNABY.
For Port En Bessin: ROSE MAME (?ROSEMARIE)
(A.N.C.X.F. 112235.)

F.C.P.I. A. Sailed 111230.
 B. Escort CARMICAAEL 43.
 C. E.T.A. 0030/12th.
 E. (ACHERNAR?) 453 13 stretcher, 5 Ambulatory.
 (C.T.F. 122.7, 112300B.)

E.X.P.4 Sailed 2330/11.
 (N.O.I.C. Newhaven 112338.)

F.W.M.2. A. Sailed 1230/11.
 B. E.G.123 ROCHESTER S.O., M.L.907.
 C. E.T.A. 0300/12.
 D. Paramount 5.
E. For Southampton: ALERT, SPITHEAD, JUTA, FRANK R. STOCKTON,
OLIVER, WALCOTT, ERICA, L.S.T.321, 412 with 330 tow, 303, 198,
130.
For Portland: L.S.T. 391, 59, 501, 49, 230, 287, 282.
For Poole: U.S.C.G.C.

/details...

11.6.1944

Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.W.M.2
(Contd.)

Details of casualties and P.o.W. in L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G.122.7, 112341B to C. in C.Portsmouth,
F.O.I.C. Portland, Info, A.N.C.X.F., Admty.,
C.T.F.122, C.T.F.124.)

257

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

SUNFISH,
UNBROKEN,
UNISON,
URSULA.

My 011135. Vice Admiral Levchenko informs me that on transfer SUNFISH, UNBROKEN, UNISON and URSULA have been renamed B.1, B.2, B.3 and B.4 respectively.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 111104 to Admty.)

ARCHANGEL

V.A. Levchenko informs me:

A. He intends sailing ARCHANGEL for Scapa at 1900/16th June.

B. Length of time to be spent at Scapa will depend on acceptance dates of destroyers vide N.O.I.C. Tyne's 101026 June.

C. A British party consisting of 8 Officers and 44 ratings including staff interpreters will accompany ship to Scapa.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 111233B to Admty.)

North
Russia.

Only Russian coal available here is of poor quality and reduces efficiency of ships. British coal is, therefore, required for CHILTERN, crane ships, icebreakers, own boats, and reserve for all purposes including merchant ships.

2. Request an initial stock of 5000 tons may be sent in next convoy (Admty. 101630 refers) for delivery at Archangel and Murmansk.

3. This stock would require to be kept topped up with part cargoes of ships in convoys as at present.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 111620B to Admty.)

Movements

DUKE OF
YORK,
ANSON,
HOWE,
FURIOUS.

Your 101954B. Arrived.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 110719B to A.C.O.S.)

Operations

Operation
DB.

Intend following operation DB. Object to convoy relief personnel and stores to Spitzbergen.

2. Forces taking part, JAMAICA and 2, W/Class destroyers as detailed by Capt. D.3. To be called Force 1.

3. D. Day is day JAMAICA sails from Clyde and will be 16th June unless otherwise ordered.

4. Preliminary movements. JAMAICA to leave Scapa D minus 3 and proceed to arrive Greenock a.m. D. minus 2. JAMAICA load stores and 2 landing craft and embark personnel, as arranged by N.O.I.C. Greenock.

5. JAMAICA sail from Clyde on D day to pass position AA 062 degs. 25' N. 005 degs. 00' W. at 1600B/D. plus 1.

258

11.6.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations

- Operation "DB" (Contd.)
6. 2 Destroyers sail from Scapa a.m. D. day and proceed to Skaalefiord to fuel. These destroyers to sail so as to R/V with JAMAICA in position AA.
7. Force 1 to proceed so as to pass Cape Linne ice Fiord 1300B/D plus 4.
8. Force 1 is to enter Adventfiord as ordered by JAMAICA and carry out unloading of stores and discharging of personnel at Long Yearby.
9. If possible this is to be completed by early a.m. D plus 5 and Force 1 is to sail for Scapa to arrive D plus 9 fuelling at Faeroes if necessary.
10. If necessary JAMAICA is to supply fuel to destroyers while in Adventfiord.
12. Admiralty pass to "Ploughshare" as necessary.
(C. in C.H.F. 110047B to Admty.)
(D.O.D.H. 111954B to "Ploughshare")
A.M. 172053/May. JAMAICA will arrive Greenock a.m. 14th June to embark L.C.Vs and stores.
(D.O.D.H. 111810B to R.A.C.O.B.)
- Biscay A/S operations Have obtained A.S.U. contact in 45 degs. 23' N. 02 degs. 54' W.
(A/C N.L.X.50 110140B to 19 Group.)
P.C.S. of 3 mine sweepers 45 degs. 40' N. 01 degs. 40' W. 330, speed 10 knots.
(A/C JPH 18, 110322 to 19 Group)
- Nr.1. P.C.S. of enemy 4 E/Boats 45 degs. 49' N. 04 degs. 07' W. 150 degs. 15 knots.
(A/C WJR 6 110545B to 19 Group.)
T.G.22.2.7 U.S.S. BOGUE and destroyers vicinity 044 degs. 15' N. 024 degs. 10' W. T.G.22.5, U.S.S. CROATAN 5 destroyers vicinity 044 degs. 08' N. 038 degs. 20' W. to vicinity 044 degs. 01' N. 040 degs. 02' N. 18 knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 111302B to Ships.)
Disappearing Radar contact 100302Z at 46.18 N. 23.28 W. Periscope sighted 0711Z/11 at 46.54 N. 20.35 W. If weather clears sufficiently intend search to approx. 47 N. 18 W. tonight and then if no further contact proceed area. Weather reporters searching for one reported to my southwestward en route.
(C.T.G.22.2, 111310Z to N.S.S.)
Nr.1. Position of 2 enemy trawlers 45 degs. 15' N. 03 degs. 08' W.
(A/C PKC 35, 111855 to 19 Group.)
- Diversal onary operation by C.S.1. Para. 3 of your 101224. My P.C.S. at 0301, 057 degs. 10' N. 000 degs. 55' E. 060 degs. 20 knots. STYGIAN passed 2334/10th in 058 degs. 04' N. 000 degs. 01' W.
Weather.
(C.S.1., 110316B to C. in C.H.F.)

/Zenit...

259

War Diary11.6.1944
SundayHOME COMMANDSOperations - Contd.

Zenit. Not yet seen. My P.C.S. 057 degs. 51' N. 001 degs. 40' E. 000 degs. 20 knots. E.T.A. Hoxa Gate 1610.
(C.S.1, 110547B to C. in C.H.F.)

Diversion was carried out in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 101224. The North Sea zenit was not detected, but several A/C detected between 1900 and 0230 were not showing I.F.F. One unknown came within 5 miles of the Squadron at 0218B.
(C.S.1, 111545B to C. in C.H.F.)

Operation CW. On detaching from K.M.F.32 proceed as requisite to join force carrying out operation C.W., S.O. BULLDOG.
2. Force will be returning from Westward to sweep ahead of K.M.S.54/O.S.80 (S.O.B.24) which R/Vs at Oversay 1730B/12th, course 280 degs. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.
3. 2 British S/Ms joining K.M.S.54 at Oversay stationed in line ahead 3 cables on port beam of Cdre.
(C. in C.W.A. 111132B to OXFORD CASTLE.)

S/M Patrols. Positions of S/Ms at 0800B/12th and movements for following 24 hours.
A. STYGIAN on patrol vicinity 58 degs. 28' N. 00 degs. 52' E.
B. VISIGOTH patrolling vicinity 59 degs. 32' N. 00 degs. 12' E.
E. SATYR 65 degs. 40' N. 03 degs. 50' W. probably on surface 10 knots through 67 degs. N. 05 degs. W. and 68 degs. N. 05 $^{\circ}$ E. probably diving by day when east of Greenwich meridian.
(F.O.S. 111751B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen. Jan Mayen reports A/C heard south-east of defence area 0430 flying east.
(A.C.I.C. 110950B to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy Destroyers. 5 destroyers bearing 045 degs. course 090 $^{\circ}$ speed 13 knots. My position 090 degs. RB 15 miles.
(Nore Local, 110106B to Nore P.W.G.)

U/Boats

Scapa. My 101936B and my 102008B. No further incidents.
Suspected (A.C.O.S. 110901B to Admty.)
Midget S/M 1900/11th June. No further incidents.
(A.C.O.S. 111901B to Admty.)

U/B sunk by A/C. My 1530. U/B previously reported course 345 degs. 06', 63 degs. 07' N. 00 degs. 26' E. Have

/attacked...

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

U/Boats

U/B sunk
by A/C.
(Contd.)

attacked U/B with depth-charge, estimate
straddle hits. U/Boat circled and sank. 35
survivors in water. Request instructions.
(A/C JGTB 111545B to 18 Group.)

Shipping and Convoys

E.N. and
W.N. Convoy
Escorts.

C. in C.H.F. 101604. Intend to reinforce
escorts of E.N. and W.N. convoys between Cape
Wrath and Dunnet Head. Extra escorts will be
available for anti-U/Boat operations.
(A.C.O.S. 111526B to C. in C.W.A.)

11.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

- PARIS,
GRANT. 1. Your 011048 (N.T. in W.D.) para. 1.
Presume PARIS and GRANT are Danube ships or
barges now in enemy hands.
(Remainder of message deals with river sweep.)
(D.T.M. 11118B to C. in C. Med. F.O.L.E.M.)
- CONSTANTINOS. SS. Schooner CONSTANTINOS 30 feet mast grey-green
sailed yesterday from Heraklion for Sirina and
Casteloriso.
(Capt. S.1, 111715 for N.I.D.)
- Cositintrep 338. Destroyers bombarded Lussinpiccolo harbour night
7th June/8th June and also swept entrance to
Gulf of Quarnero but encountered no enemy.
2. Night 8th June/9th June coastal forces
captured caique in Aegean.
3. R boat blown up and I/Boat damaged by coastal forces in
Mljet channel night 9th June/10th June. One M.G.B. damaged,
some casualties. Cositintrep 338 part 2 signed Wilson Cite
F.H.R.N.A. Cositintrep 337 not issued.
4. Civita Vecchia port party established 9th June quays
reported blown up and port area badly damaged. Approach
channel has been swept and first convoy expected p.m. 11th June.
5. U.S. destroyer and U.S. minesweeper suffered some damage
during air raid on Anzio port and anchorage night 9th/10th June.
L.S.T. and L.C.I.(L) also sustained superficial damage.
6. H.M. S/Ms report sinking 1500 ton merchant vessel in
Aegean on 9th June and U.J. boat off south coast of France on
10th June. Another U.J. boat also probably sunk off French
Riviera on 9th June.
(C. in C.Med. 111931.)
- Mideast Balkan Sitrep No.208. Athens. Agent reports. 7th June 40 ton H.V.
AGHIA PARASKEVI sabotaged and sunk. Explosion
totally destroyed engine and ship.
4. Sea Ops. NTR.
(C. in C. M.E. 112000C.)
- VICTORIOUS Request your intended S. of A. A.M. 090343 refers.
(C. in C. Med. 112306B to VICTORIOUS.)

262

War Diary11.6.1944
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U/B Number 55 Area C. There is indication by poor dispositions. quality D/F bearing that a U/Boat was "key pressing" in the approach to the Gulf of Aden Area 2158Z/10th June scale of air escort Y. Other lettered areas no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. Indian Ocean both vessels mentioned in my T.O.O. 100338 have reported proceeding on voyage.
(C. in C.E.F., 110247.)

U/B Following has been read on 500 kc/s from (KOZH) report. RIVER RAISIN. Track sighted 110205 position 1806 N. (Sic.) (Colombo W/T No T.O.O./11.) (W.D. note: Correct position was 18.06 N. 62.49 N. See further signal C. in C.E.F. 120324Z.)

HELEN A. HELEN MOLLER. B. 04 degs. 28' S. 74 degs 45' MOLLER E. at 1823Z/6 June. C. U/Boat. D. Torpedo. (sunk 6th E. One. F. 43 survivors. Nine Europeans and June) 34 Asiatics. G. No. H. Not established but believed Nor. J. and K. Went down with ship. M. Risk of compromise considered nil. N. Chief officer. (C. in C.E.F. 111103Z) Cf. N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll 130651Z which gives a different position.

Operation Intend to sail convoy JC. 52A at 0430Z/19th to "Toddy". arrive Chittagong at 0430Z/25th. Route by normal coastal land and Rumble route.
2. Convoy will comprise VARELA, VARSOVA, ELLENGA, RAJULA and RISALDAR.
3. Escort SUTLEJ, KISTNA, SNOWFLAKE and VIOLET.
4. - 7. Various arrangements.
(C. in C.E.F. 111142Z.) See amendment 130351Z.

263

11.6.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

N.S.H.Q. S/M
attack and
sighting
summary. No report since my 090946Z.
Para. D. A/C obtains A.S.V. contact in 49.32
N. 36.41 W. at 2350Z/9th.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 110716Z.)

U/B report. Definite Sonar contact 42.36 39.53 beginning
0835Z. Held and attacked intermittently since.
(C.T.G. 22.5, 111200.)

Stragglers
Report. Stragglers arrived week ending 10th June - Nil.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 111357Z.)

U/B
dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 111338Z, Cominch, 111630Z.)

SASKATOON. You may sight Portuguese SAN MIGUEL p.m./today
Sunday steering 320°.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 111459Z to SASKATOON.)

ARABIS. You may sight U.S. Tanker HAT CREEK a.m./today
Sunday steering 360°.
(N.S.H.Q., 111540Z to ARABIS.)

C.U.
convoys. Sail convoy T.C.U.28 16th June and succeeding
C.U. convoys at 8 day intervals. My 032047
refers.
(Cominch, 111840Z to ?Comeastseafon.)

U/B
incidents. A. U.S.S. BOGUE sighted periscope 46.54 N. 20.35
W., 0711/11th.
B. U.S.S. BOGUE Radar contact 46.18 N. 23.28 W.,
0302/10th. U.S.S. CROATAN series of attacks
on Sonar contact 42.36 N. 39.53 W. commencing
0835/11th. All times Z.
C. Du. Tanker CASANDRA attacked by machine gunfire from
surfaced U/B 12.07 N. 69.16 W., 0700/11th.
D. Brazilian Corvette HENRIQUE DIAS attacked sound contacts 25.
25 S. 47.08 W., 0245/10th and 24.38 S. 46.40 W., 0905/10th.
(Cominch, 111948Z.)

11.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 873. June 10th. Paras. (16) to (18) cover South Pacific Forces.
(2) Evening another submarine successfully attacked enemy force described three battleships, four cruisers plus destroyers heading south vicinity Sibutu Passage (off north-east Borneo).
(6) Morning two Aircobras co-operating with motor torpedo boats bombed strafed enemy camp area midway between Aitape and Wewak.
(14) Night 9th/10th motor torpedo boats strafed eight possible beached camouflaged barges off Korim central north-east coast Biak Island.
(17) Night 8th day 9th U.S. M.T.Bs. shelled enemy shore positions north and south-east Bougainville coast.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 110850Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. A. (1) A/C K/206 attacked U-Boat previously sighted by A/C V/248, course 120, at 1015Z/10 in 48° 30' N. 05° 30' W.
(2) E.G.12 reported U-Boat seen to dive at 2235Z/9 in 48° 49' N. 05° 09' W.
(3) A/C J/224 sighted U-Boat, course S.E. and attacked with D/Cs. at 2125Z/10 in 49° 15' N. 04° 45' W.
Para. B. (1) A/C had Radar contact at 2335Z/9 in 48° 54' N. 05° 15' W.
(2) A/C G/612 had Radar contact at 0229Z/10 in 47° 32' N. 05° 32' W.
(3) H.M. Ships attacked contact and sighted P/S at 1210Z/10 in 50° 50' N. 00° 48' E.
(4) A/C Q/304 had Radar contact at 0108Z/10 in 49° 12' N. 04° 43' W.
(5) A/C G/461 had A.S.V. contact at 2340Z/10 in 45° 23' N. 02° 54' W.
(6) A/C sighted convoy E/V dropping D/Cs. at 1320Z/10 in 50° 20' N. 03° 30' W.
(7) E.G.3 attacked possible U-Boat at 2001Z/10 in 49° 49' N. 030° 19' W.
(8) A/C had Radar contact at 2301Z/10 in 50° 08' N. 03° 24' W.
(9) A/C had A.S.V. contact at 0522Z/11 in 50° 36' N. 07° 10' W.
Para. C. (1) A/C G/224 dropped D/Cs. on exuding oil at 0445Z/10 in 48° 30' N. 05° 55' W.
(2) A/C N/103 sighted moving oil slick at 1830Z/10 in 48° 57' N. 04° 25' W.
(3) A/C dropped D/C on oil patch at 1847Z/10 in 50° 00' N. 04° 34' W.
Para. C. Submerged U-Boat sighted approaching Hoy Gate, Orkneys at 1305Z/10.
(D.D.I.C., 111247B.)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 111430B, 111446B.)

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). At 2330B today S.H.A.E.F. reported that the fusion of the five beachheads in the Assault area is now complete and that, in consequence, a coastal strip about sixty miles long is firmly in our hands. By means of slight advances made today by British troops east of Caen and by U.S. troops in the Cotentin the depth of this strip is being steadily increased; and throughout today Allied warships have given deep supporting fire in the centre, and close support on the flanks, of the several Armies engaged. At about noon today the Prime Minister in KELVIN visited the Assault area for a few hours; and at 1259 GLASGOW arrived from Portsmouth in the eastern sector with the H.Q. Staff of the Second Army.

(b). An east to west Channel, to be swept daily for ground mines, was established today in the Assault area.

The landing figures during the last 24 hours have been as follows:-

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores
Area J	8,853	968	4,051 tons
Area S	1,300	439	2,800 tons
Area O	8,445	2,360	8,429 tons

Assault areas.

2. (a). British Sector. The situation both off and on the beaches is reported to be clarifying with a consequent improvement in the rate of building-up and in areas J and S, in spite of the occasional dropping by A/C of ground mines which are difficult to sweep, coasters and M.T. ships can now be discharged at the rate at which they arrive. In area S today indeed the arrivals of these ships were insufficient to employ the Ferry Service fully. The Gooseberry Block ships now all in place were reported by N.C.E.T.F. today to be "a 100% success".

(b). U.S. Sector. In spite of intermittent bombing and shelling the unloading rate throughout the U.S. Sector is believed to have largely increased today.

Enemy Activity.

3. (a). E-Boats. E-Boat activity during last night was on a slightly reduced scale and appears to have been confined to the Eastern Flank where, north of Cap d'Antifer, several E-Boats were active between 0200 and 0430 among our Patrols. Two groups were twice engaged by MELBREAK there and forced to retire, and other groups were similarly driven off by M.T.Bs. and TROLLOPE in four separate actions in one of which M.T.B. 697 sustained seven casualties.

(b). U-Boats. No sightings of U-Boats have been reported today in the Channel; but two were seen at 0108Z by A/C northbound in the Ushant area

266

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy
Activity.
(Contd.)

one eastbound South of Cape Clear at 0745Z, and one at 0945 about 130 miles S.W. of the Scillies: and at 1425B today the Admiralty considered that up to ten U-Boats may be operating in the Channel and its approaches from the meridian of Greenwich to 010° W.

General.

4. VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE sailed from the Clyde today, to join the Eastern Fleet.

North Atlantic.

U/B sunk
by T.G.22.5
U.490

5.(a). At 0835Z yesterday U.S.S. CROATAN's group commenced a series of attacks on a Sonar contact in 42.36 N. 39.53 W. (mid-North Atlantic.) At 0102 today the group sank a U-Boat in 42.23 N. 39.56 W. (440 miles W.N.W. of Flores) and took the C.O. and 60 other prisoners.
(b). A U.S. army aircraft reported 3 submarines in 42.35 N. 36.20 W. at 1423Z today.

Mediterranean.

Mines off
Italy.

6. During recent minesweeping operations to establish a new channel between Naples and Anzio 89 mines were swept by the 12th Minesweeping Flotilla 33 were swept by B.Y.M.S. off Terracina.

267

12.6.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

7. BLACKMOOR and EGGESFORD encountered 4 E-Boats in 43.31 N. 15.52 E. (Yugoslav coast) last night and sank one, taking 10 prisoners.

Aegean.

8. 7 Venturas bombed Rhodes harbour last night and one Wellington successfully laid mines in the harbour.

Australia & New Zealand.

9. Four enemy aircraft attacked Allied ships co-operating with ground forces off Biak Island this forenoon and damaged one destroyer.

10. Allied M.T.Bs. in St. George's Channel were bombed last night by a single enemy aircraft and suffered minor damage.

12.6.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval situation. Cositintrep number 18, part two. Naval. (A) General. In north-westerly wind evening of 10th Gooseberries 3 and 4 provided good shelter for unloading. All corncocks have gone down on even keel and remained upright. N.C.E.T.F. reports opinion that Gooseberries are 100% success as planned and placed. Reconnaissance of Ouistreham shows port may be made workable shortly. HALSTED, damaged by torpedo, reached harbour in tow.

(B) British Sector. General overall increase in discharge rates.

(C) U.S. Sector. In period from D day to night of D + 4 enemy air activity consisted of small raids during twilight or darkness only. Bombs and mines dropped, but only mines inflicted damage to ships.

(D) Troops etc. landed.

Gold	6,000	Personnel	1,300	Vehicles	3,800	tons stores
Juno	6,290	"	1,528	"	2,613	" "
Sword	500	"	403	"	2,135	" "
Omaha	78,668	"	8,538	"	4,581	" "
						(Cumulative to 2000, 10th June)
Utah	51,376	"	3,145	"	7,538	" "
						(Cumulative to 1800, 9th June)

(E) Casualties. U.S. L.S.T. 538 damaged but arrived Juno. M.G.B. 17 sunk, accidental explosion. (Correction: Cositintrep 16, para. (F) for Start Point read Eastern Assault Channel).

(F) Coastal Command. Nothing to report in "Neptune" area.

(G) Intelligence. Enemy dispositions: Dutch ports - 14 E-Boats, 28 T.L.C. (III)? Ostend - 4 E-Boats. Boulogne - 15 E-Boats, 3 T.L.C. (III). Dieppe - 8 T.L.C. (III). Havre - 1 destroyer (ELBING), 4 torpedo boats (one in dry dock), 3 E-Boats, 7 T.L.C. (III). Cherbourg - 11 E-Boats (probably 3 damaged), 7 T.L.C. (III). Brest - 1 NARVIK damaged, 1 ELBING, 10 x 5000 ton U-Boats. Biscay - 2 destroyers (one effective), 5 x 500 U-Boats, 10 larger types. (Ramsay, 120025 amended 121502B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No. 19, part 2, Naval.

(A) General. E-Boats activity last night reduced slightly in scale, but several actions occurred in which preliminary reports indicate ARMERIA (Corvette) was hit aft by torpedo and one Phoenix sunk.

Bombarding ships were active. Amongst those giving gun support were NEVADA, NELSON, SAUMAREZ and SERAPIS.

(B) British Sector. Situation off and on beaches is clarifying, with resultant improving progress in build up.

Juno and Sword considered capable of discharging M.T. ships and coasters at rate balancing the arrival of shipping. Occasional dropping of ground mines in anchorages from aircraft is occurrent.

(C) U.S. Sector. Enemy aircraft over transport area from 0300 to 0415/11th June, dropped flares and bombs. One large bomb 400 yards from U.S.S. BAYFIELD.

Utah rate of unloading in increasing, although one beach being shelled yesterday by unlocated enemy battery.

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

(E) Casualties. U.S.S. PARTRIDGE sunk, believed torpedoed by E-Boat at 0220/11th June (see Cositintrep 17, para. (A)).
ARMERIA damaged by torpedo. [Incorrect, see 122359, below]
U.S.S. L.S.T.496 sunk believed by mine.

76
(p. 3/2) CHANT 60 capsized and sunk.

(F) Coastal Command. E-Boats and M class minesweepers were attacked off Flushing and S. of Boulogne, one E-Boat set on fire
(G) Intelligence. No change.
(Ramsay, 121502B to Admty.)

Sitrep No. 11.

- (1) Build-up today satisfactory except in Force S where arrivals of M.T. ships and coasters were insufficient to employ fully the ferry service.
- (2) Some L.S.Ts. are coming over without full upper-deck cargoes.
- (3) Bombardment Forces in support of the left flank have been fully employed with good results. Ships and craft engaged include KELVIN, NELSON, RAMILLIES, cruisers, destroyers and landing craft gun and flak. BELFAST and DIADEM engaged targets in area Juno, ROBERTS and ORION in area Gold.
- (4) A number of bombs were dropped in the anchorage by F.W.190 without damage to shipping.
- (5) From tomorrow in clear weather fighter cover over the assault area to be reduced with squadrons maintained at readiness.
- (6) Gave approved restricted fishing by licenses to fishing boats off Port en Bessin in daylight hours.
(N.C.E.T.F., 122335B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep No.20, part 2. Naval.

- (A) General. No outstanding incidents. Routine of build up stabilising.
- (B) British Sector. Unloading proceeding steadily.
- (C) U.S. Sector. In last 24 hours unloading rate believed to have been largely increased.
- (D) Troops etc. landed

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold (24 hrs. ended 1800/11)	7,254	2,200	4,400 tons
Juno (24 hrs. ended 2000/11)	5,800	1,497	3,376 "
Utah (24 hrs. ended 1800/10)	10,814	988	2,448 "
Omaha (24 hrs. ended 1200/11)	15,249	2,030	2,472 "
Bessin (24 hrs. ended 1200/11)	890	111	278 "

In so far as can be calculated from available reports the cumulative figures for British Sector up to 2359/11th June and U.S. Sectors up to 1800/10th June are:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Sector (D + 5)	207,907	30,417	40,000 tons
U.S. Sector (D + 4)	141,218	12,671	14,567 "

- (Note: British figures for stores are approximate).
(E) Casualties. Report in Cositintrep No.19, part 2, Naval that ARMERIA (Corvette) has been torpedoed is incorrect.
(F) Coastal Command. Nothing to report. (G) Intelligence. No change.
(Ramsay, 122359B to Admty.)

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation ReportsMilitary
situation.

Communique No.13.

The American advance east of the Vire River has continued into the Foret de Cerisy.

In the Cherbourg Peninsula enemy mobile batteries have been under a heavy fire from Allied warships,

and some further progress has been made west of the inundated valley of the Merderet River.

Intense fighting against German armour continues in the Tilly-sur-Seulles area.

Air operations were curtailed sharply after midday yesterday, when cloud and rain obscured much of the battle area.

After escorting heavy day bombers, our fighters joined fighter bombers and rocket-firing fighters in attacking oil tanks, rail centres, and road and rail traffic, including several hundred railroad cars, tanks and armoured vehicles. From these operations 24 aircraft, including three heavy bombers are missing. During the night heavy bombers struck rail centres at Nantes, Evereus and Tours, and a railway bridge at Massy-Palaiseau south of Paris.

Allied medium and light bombers and rocket-firing aircraft hammered rolling stock, a ferry terminal and road transport. Intruder aircraft operated with success over enemy airfields in Holland and France.

(S.H.A.E.F., 121100B to Agwar.)

General
situation.

Communique No.14.

The fusion of our beachheads is now complete and a coastal strip some sixty miles long is firmly in our hands. Its depth is being increased steadily.

Slight advances were made east of Caen.

American troops in the Cherbourg Peninsula have made further progress to the north and west. Additional road crossing over the coastal inundations are in our hands.

Further east the enemy was driven from the whole of the Foret de Cerisy. Fierce fighting between British and enemy armoured units continued between Tilly-sur-Seulles and Caen. Allied warships have been giving deep supporting fire in the centre and close support on the flanks of our armies.

Striking in very great strength, our aircraft today hammered enemy airfields and communications over a 400 mile arc from St. Nazaire to Lille. Armed reconnaissance, and medium level bombing missions were flown from the tip of the Cherbourg Peninsula over the battle area and south-eastward to Juvisy. The largest single striking force of heavy day bombers ever dispatched from England struck this morning at a broad belt of sixteen airfields, from Dreux to Lille, and at six rail bridges in the St. Nazaire and Paris areas. Strong forces of fighters, which escorted the bombers, scored against a variety of rail targets on their return flight.

The rail system focusing at Rennes was a major target for the day, with fighter bombers severing in numerous places the railway lines leading to the city. Meanwhile medium and light bombers carried out a succession of attacks on the railway installations there and highway junctions to the south of the battle area.

/Rocket ...

War Diary.12.6.1944.
Monday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation ReportsGeneral
situation.
(Contd.)

Rocket-firing aircraft attacked the military ferry at Berville-sur-Mer. A ferry boat and a pier were left burning. Other rocket-firing planes on armed reconnaissance struck at a variety of armoured targets and motor transport in the combat zone.

Batteries at La Parnelle and at Joulime, both near the tip of the Cherbourg Peninsula, were attacked shortly before noon. Our fighters continued their patrols over the beach and adjacent channel waters. Eleven enemy aircraft were destroyed in this area, for the loss of eight of ours.
(S.H.A.E.F., 122330B to Agwar.)

Prisoners
of war.

Cases of unduly friendly attitude towards prisoners embarked for U.K. have been reported. This raises morale and has a serious adverse effect on subsequent interrogations. Immediate steps are to be taken to prevent this.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121253B to All ships.)

Assault Areas.

U.S. Sector.

Southbound traffic to W.N.T.F. should be routed via Channel 34 until further notice.
(N.C.W.T.F., 120011B to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F., Info. C.T.F.125,

C.T.G.124.4, C.T.G.122.4, C.T.G.124.9, C.T.G.125.8.)

With allocation 30 U.S.C.G. Cutters to N.C.W.T.F. cannot maintain more than 5 in area continuously.
(Cdr. U.S. C.G. Resflot I., 121202B to N.C.W.T.F.)

My 111018. Essential that escorts sail from Assault Area within 12 hours of arrival. All escorts now in area are to be sailed before dark tonight Monday.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121652B to N.C.W.T.F.)

British
Sector.

Naveast 21* amend para. 2 of Naveast 20* to read: The anchoring of ships in Assault Areas and the assembly of northbound convoy is not to take place within the area of this channel.

(N.C.E.T.F., 121310B.)

* T.O.O. 112055B June.

Your 112148 passed to Portsmouth and V.A. Dover. Para. 2 (A) and (B) agreed to for the present.

Battleship escort southbound will be provided by

A.N.C.X.F. Northbound from E.T.F. Destroyers. System of reliefs is to be arranged by V.A.D.H.F. BLEASDALE and CATTISTOCK will join you a.m./Tuesday when 5 Fleets and one Escort should return.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121848B to N.C.E.T.F.)

272

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Bombarding Forces

BELFAST. Cancel my 111846.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 120408B to BELFAST.)

WARSPITE. Request you route and sail WARSPITE passing Dover 0400B/13th, thence by Q.Z.S.460, 459, 458, 468, 151, 400, 401, 402, 277 to East Dudgeon, thence Q.Z.S.444, to 12A Buoy, thence by Q.Z.S. 380, 289, 290, 334, 321, 175, 152 to Oxcars Gate. Ship to keep to western half of Q.Z.S.402 and 277.
(2) SOUTHDOWN will R/V Sandheads Buoy Category one until dark 13th.
(C. in C. Nore, 121030B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Intend to sail WARSPITE at 2200 today for Rosyth.
(2) Routed Q.Z.S.384, 488, 485, 460 and thence as in C. in C. Nore 121030. S.O.A. 18 knots to pass Dover at 0400B/13th.
(3) Escort HOLMES and VENUS. VENUS will turn over escort to SOUTHDOWN at 0345B on meeting and return to Portsmouth.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 121202B to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Guns in 'A' and 'B' turrets only are to be changed in WARSPITE.
(2) Ship is urgently required operationally. Request you will report anticipated time to complete.
(3) An experienced changeman is being sent from Devonport to assist. Your 111200B refers.
(D.O.D.(H), 121655B to A.S. Rosyth.)
A.S. Rosyth 111200. Request estimate of time that would be saved if only four guns were exchanged instead of six.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121843B to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Your 121655. 17 days provided not delayed by gale which prevents use of crane.
(A.S. Rosyth, 122005 to Admt.)
My 121202. Sailed 2136.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 122304B to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Eastern Area. Your 120717. Intend RODNEY to remain Spithead until she is required to relieve NELSON in Assault Area. Unless a vital need for service of both ships simultaneously arises 16-inch H.E. supply situation is tight and there are now only 125 rounds available in reserve. ROBERTS to expend all useful ammunition before relief.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121257B to N.C.E.T.F.)

My 081942. Request you will state what you consider to be the minimum number of Cruisers now required in the Eastern Assault Area.
Surplus ships will be retained in U.K. at short notice and arrangements for sailing them to relieve those in the Assault Area will be made by A.N.C.X.F. upon receipt of information from you that ships are being sailed to re-ammunition or for any other purpose.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121447B to N.C.E.T.F.)

/If ...

273

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Bombarding Forces

If "Neptune" situation permits it is proposed to sail NELSON to U.S.A. in U.C.27 where she will refit at Philadelphia.

(2) The necessary reduction in complement should be effected before sailing. A.L.N.11003/44 of 24th May refers.

(3) If opportunity occurs NELSON should reduce outfit of ammunition at Plymouth before sailing to the following quantities:

16" - 900 rounds (all A.P.C. being retained on board).

6" - one half outfit.

4.7" - one quarter outfit.

2 pdr. - one half outfit.

Other natures full outfit.

(V.C.N.S., 121618B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Covering Forces

Patrols

from

Plymouth.

(1) P.C.W.O.120.

(A) Unit GP.1, M.T.Bs.94 (S.O.), 90, 91, 239, 227. (B) 2030B/12. (C) (RR) 326⁸ Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330, (SS) 163 Alderney Light 8 to arrive 0130. (D) From (SS) sweep S.W. to (TT) 110° St. Martins Light 11'. (E) Destruction

of enemy shipping and patrols. (F) Area to be left in time to be 15 miles N.W. of Les Hanois by first light. (G) Return north of Guernsey. (H) 2. Attention to Q.Z.X.1324, 1310.

(3) Unit is not to proceed south of (TT) unless in contact with the enemy.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 121252B.)

Night patrols 12th/13th June. P.C.W.O.120.

(A) (1) GN.1 M.T.Bs.720, 719. (2) GN.2 M.T.Bs. 748, 727, 743. (3) GN.3 M.T.Bs.679, 676.

(4) GT.1 M.Ls. 488, 183, 179.

(B) 2300/12. (D) (1) In vicinity 126° Start 13'. (2) In vicinity 090° Start 24. (3) In vicinity 209° Portland Bill 14 miles. (4) In vicinity 209° Start 16'. (F) 0515/13.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 121255B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, BLACK BAT.)

Unless hunting, following movements are to take place starting at 0500 tomorrow Tuesday.

(1) 14th E.G. relieve 3rd E.G. centre position of Gamma search 49.48 N. 03.10 W. On relief

by 2nd E.G. return to Plymouth for lay over.

(2) 3rd E.G. relieve 14th E.G. centre position of Gamma search 50.07 N. 02.23 W.

(3) 2nd E.G. relieve 14th E.G. centre position of Gamma search 49.48 N. 03.10 W.

(4) Force 28 relieve 2nd E.G. in Z.236 Z.242 and on relief by 12th E.G. resume patrol in Z.237 Z.232.

(5) 12th E.G. on sailing sweep convoy route to patrol area Z.236 Z.242.

(6) 5th E.G. maintain present Gamma search centre position 49.09 N. 05.26 W.

/Note 1 ...

274

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Note 1. Gamma searchers are to allow for a speed of enemy of 2 knots length of patrol and speed of ships is to be arranged at Senior Officer's discretion to give the widest barrier with 100 per cent theoretical efficiency with ships available.

Note 2. Start Point Gamma area is to cover Hurd Deep keeping clear of own minefields.

Note 3. Portland Gamma area. Ships are not to cross South of 50 N. except in pursuit.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121650B to E.Gs.3, 12, 14, 5, 6.)

Information. Own. 3rd, 5th and 14th E.Gs. will be operating in mid-channel between 2° W. and 6° W. Coastal Forces will be patrolling north-east of Guernsey.

Enemy. One ELBING probably in Brest. E-Boats at Cherbourg. M Class minesweepers in Channel Island.

Intention. (2) BLYSKAWICA (S.O.) and ESKIMO forming Force 26 and HAIDA (S.O.) and HURON forming Force 27 to operate in the Ile de Base - Channel Island area tonight 12th/13th June with following objects: (a) Destructions of enemy ships. (b) Raising the alarm among enemy defences in the Channel Islands and adjacent coast.

Execution: (3) Forces 26 and 27 under command of BLYSKAWICA are to pass Gate at 2000B today and proceed to reach (AA) 49° 11' N. 3° 55' W. at 2330. At (AA) BLYSKAWICA is to detail Force 27 to act as ordered below, and Force 26 is to proceed to establish patrol between (BB) 49° 03' N. 3° 29' W. and (CC) 48° 55' N. 4° 12' W. At 0500B/13 if no further information Force 26 is to leave centre of patrol line and return to Plymouth at high speed.

(4) When detached at (AA) Force 27 is to proceed to pass through (DD) 000 Roches Douvres Light 4 at 0200B/13 S.O.A. 15 knots, thence through (FF) 49° 08½' N. and 2° 30' W. (GG) 48° 59' N. 2° 30½' W. and thence to pass between Barnouic Light and Maurice Bank not later than 0430 and thence at high speed to Plymouth.

(5) S.O.A. of Force 27 when east of 2° 50' W. to be 15 knots unless in emergency. Area 2½ miles radius round 49° 03' N. 2° 35' W. is only to be entered if in contact with enemy.

(6) Force 27 is to carry out W/T procedure to comply with A.N.C.X.F. 121055B. Copy to Forces 26 and 27.

(7) Forces 26 and 27 are to act independently after passing (AA) and should only support each other if called upon or if clearly necessary.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 121708B and 121932B to D.F.10.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 12th/13th.

(a) ONSLOW G.F., OFFA G.F.2, ONSLAUGHT G.F.3, ORIBI G.F.4 on longitude 01.00 W. between 49.47 N. and 50.06 N. SCORPION G.H.1, STORD G.H.2 in Channel 78 between A and B Buoy.

(b) STAYNER G.A.1, in Z.115 on 49.50 N. between 01.26 W. and 01.35 W. RETALICK G.A.2 in Z.111 on 49.50 N. between 01.13 W. and 01.22 W.

275

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.)

(c) Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O.), 447.
Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 689 (S.O.) 675 both with STAYNER in Z.115.
Unit G.A.5 M.T.Bs. 415 (S.O.), 431.
Unit G.A.6 M.T.Bs. 721 (S.O.) 702 both with RETALICK in Z.111. Not to proceed east of line 035 from Pte. de Barfleur.

Unit G.A.7 3 H.D.M.Ls. in vicinity 49.50 N. 01.22 W.
(d) Unit G.B. M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O.), 739, 742. Initial position 080 Pointe de Barfleur 4 miles. Not to proceed west of line 035 from Pte. de Barfleur.
Unit G.C. M.T.Bs. 209 (S.O.), 208, 211. Initial position 070 Cap de la Hague 5 miles in Z.122 west of 01.42 W.
Unit G.D. M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 454, 478. Initial position 280 Cap Levi 5 miles not to proceed east of line 330 from Cape Levi whilst south of 49.50 N. or west of 01.42 W. unless in action.
(e) Following under orders of V.A. Dover.
BLEASDALE in vicinity 49.43 N. 00.22 W. WENSLEYDALE in vicinity 49.50 N. 00.18 W. BRISSENDEN in Z.16 initial position 49.56 N. 00.14 W.
(f) Destroyers to be in position by 2200B. ONSLOW to report disposition of Force G.F. by 2200B. Force G.A., Units G.B., G.O., G.D. routed via Needles and position 50.10 N. 01.45 W. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 121327B.)

O.N.1, para. 52 (B).

Eastern Night Channel Report 12th/13th.

(1) F.U.6 COTTESMORE Z.3 Z.5. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE Z.8 South. F.U.4 OBEDIENT Z.10 West. F.U.1 SAVAGE Z.11 West. F.Y.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 East. F.X.1 TROLLOPE X.13 East. F.U.8 BRISSENDEN vicinity 49° 56' N. 00° 14' W. BLEASDALE vicinity 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. WENSLEYDALE vicinity 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W. G.H.1 SCORPION, G.H.2 STORD Channel 78, between A and B Buoys. 11th E.G. Rectangle St. Catherines Point to 50° 15' N. 00° 30' W.
(2) C.F. Units. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2 F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.N.7 2 M.Ls. Z.7. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 East. F.Y.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12 West. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 East. F.X.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 West.
(3) Controlled aircraft Ostend to Le Touquet as required. Beaufighters Boulogne to 00° 30' E. and Calais to Hook. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 121936B to Ships in Area C.)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B).

Western Night Channel Report 12th/13th.

(1) 11th E.G. rectangle St. Catherines Point to 50° 15' N. 00° 30' W.
G.F.1 ONSLOW, G.F.2 OFFA, G.F.3 ONSLAUGHT, G.F.4 ORIBI on 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 06' N.
G.A.1 STAYNER Z.115. G.A.2 RETALICK Z.111. SALADIN, SCIMITAR Z.237, Z.232.
3rd E.G. Z.212 to Z.214, Z.206 to N.W. corner Z.208.
13th E.G. Z.201, Z.202. 5th E.G. Z.233, Z.234, Z.238, Z.239.
2nd E.G. Z.236, Z.242.

276

12,6,1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

(2) C.F. Units. G.A.3 2 M.T.Bs. Z.115.
 G.A.4 2 M.T.Bs. Z.115. G.A.5 2 M.T.Bs. Z.111.
 G.A.6 2 M.T.Bs. Z.111. G.B. 3 M.T.Bs. Z.111
 West. G.C. 3 M.T.Bs. Z.122. G.D. 3 M.T.Bs.
 Z.115 West. G.N. 12 M.T.B. N.W. corner Z.212. G.N.2 3
 M.T.Bs. N.W. corner Z.212 (N.3 2 M.T.Bs. N.E. corner Z.205).
 G.T.1 3 M.Ls. Z.217 North.
 (3) Aircraft all areas west of 02° 20' W. north of French coast
 excluding Channel Islands.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 121943B to Ships in Area C.)

Eastern
Area.

Policy for night 12th/13th June.
 V.9 Tunny south from north-west to south-east .
 29th M.T.B. Flot. First C.F. 55 M.T.B. Flot.
 U.14 Tunny north. U.9 between B.3 and B.5
 berths. R.5. Q.1.(1) P extended to C.1 berth.
 N.2. (2) Destroyer to be detailed for patrol
 by Capt. P.
 (N.C.E.T.F., 121226B.)

Minesweeping

M.Ls.

Your 121041B. Intend that M.L.465 should be
 retained by S.O. M/S. Flotilla 31st, M.L.454 to
 be attached Cdr. Task Force 122.9 till arrival
 M.L.212. M.L.300 is being sailed to Portland
 to make good defects.
 (Cdr. M/S. Force, 122341B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Enemy ActionDestroyer
on Ile de
Bas.

Request immediate low level oblique P.R. of enemy
 destroyer grounded in approx. 310° 1 mile from
 Ile de Bas Light.
 (D.D.I.C., 120053B to R.A.F. Benson.)

E-Boats on
east flank
of Assault
Area.

Am engaging E-Boats bearing 160° distant 2.5
 miles 320° Cap d'Antifer 23 miles.
 (C/S AA, 120207.)
 2 unknown vessels bearing 025° distant one mile
 position 310° Cap d'Antifer 16 miles.
 (C/S FU7, 120229.)
 Enemy course and speed are 120° 35 knots.
 (C/S FU7, 120219.)

4 E-Boats bearing 360° distant 10 miles. My position 283°
 Cap d'antifer 18.
 (TALYBONT, No T.O.O./12. Recd. 0331.)

/Dover ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

E-Boats on
east flank
of Assault
Area.
(Contd.)

Dover Navisitrep 7.
Convoys E.T.C.7, 35.7 and F.T.C. with C.E.272
passed without incident, AVONVALE reports a Ju.88
attacked F.T.M.2 at 0500/12 near North Goodwin
Buoy with one torpedo which failed to run.
Several presumed E-Boats were active amongst
patrols north of Cap d'Antifer between 0200 and
0430.

MELBREAK in 2 16 engaged two groups at 0207 and 0338 forcing
them to retire on southerly course.

M.T.B.698, 705 vectored by TROLLOPE in 213 East opened fire on
4 E-Boats at 0208. These retired to southward under smoke,
one further action by this Unit took place at 0228 and another
by TROLLOPE at 0421. Both withdrew on southerly courses, no
damage or casualties to our forces.

At 0003 M.T.B.709 and 697 vectored by THORNBOROUGH to position
267° Cap d'Antifer 9.5 miles sighted surface craft at 1500 yards
believed friendly. Latter opened fire at 0011 when M.T.Bs.
showed fighting lights and withdrew northwards seven casualties
in M.T.B.697.

(V.A. Dover, 122259B.)

E/R Boat
engagements
in eastern
Channel &
Straits.

Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in the
Dover Strait from 0900/11 to 0900/12.
E.22D. Two vessels size unknown, patrolling
Dunkirk to Gravelines from 0034, faded off Dunkirk
at 0435. Possibly these were the vessels attacked
at 0438 and 0445 by Beaufighters who report 20
E/R boats and claim one of them left on fire.
E.27D. Two size A (unreliable) from 6 miles

south of Boulogne at 0445 northbound at 9 knots, entered
Boulogne at 0530. Attacked by Beaufighters who report 6 E/R
boats and claim R.P. strikes on leading boat and rear boat left
smoking.

(2) E-Boat activity reported by patrols in Z.10, Z.13, Z.16
and Z.17 from 0219 to 0347.

Results of engagements not yet known.

(3) Radar conditions normal but rendered difficult at times by
rainstorms in mid-channel.

(V.A. Dover, 121041B.)

Operation
K.N. 28.

Unit G.B. M.T.Bs. 725 (S.O.), 724, 749 and 728
sailed from British Assault Area to carry out
operation K.N.28. At 2359B/10th Unit was fired
upon from the north-west and chased by three unknown
destroyers when two miles from position of lay.

Unit scattered and M.T.Bs. 724, 749 laid mines in Scallops while
M.T.B.728 jettisoned mines in a safe condition in the same area.

(2) M.T.B.725 laid mines in Scallops plus (sic) at 0020B/11th
and was again chased to the north-east at 0030B/11th by three
destroyers: and fired upon at 0312B/11th when endeavouring to
return to the patrol area ordered. While to the north-east of
this area, M.T.B.725 was engaged twice by light craft thought to
be friendly coastal forces, at 0345 and 0445.

(3) M.T.Bs. 724, 749, 728 proceeded to south of patrol area and
remained until daylight.

/(4) Unit ...

War Diary.

12.6.1944.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Operation K.N. 28.
(Contd.)

(4) Unit G.B. suffered slight damage. Casualties 1 rating killed, 1 officer seriously wounded and 2 ratings slightly wounded.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 121246B.)

Enemy recognition procedure.

D.10's 101810. No concrete evidence available to substantiate that numerals are used for this purpose.
(2) Possible explanations are as follows:-
(a) In the German Signal Book, tactical 6 shewn as TR.6 is used to denote a particular warship taking part in a particular operation. This may have been used if the German warship believed the two British warships were part of the German Flotilla.
(b) An attempt may have been made to simulate the British procedure, viz. Flag 6, denoting "Cease Fire".
(D.S.D., 121723B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

4 destroyers in western Channel.

Four unknown destroyers course reported to be 170° speed 25 knots position 049° 29' N. 004° 03' W. position based on Gee fix obtained within half-an-hour of 2300.
(A/C C/S RPD36, 122306.)

2 E-Boats leaving Cherbourg.

Aircraft reports 2 E-Boats leaving Cherbourg to eastward at 2000B.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 122118 to N.C.W.T.F., N.C.E.T.F.)

U-Boats

2 contacts off Lizard.

RIOU reports two submarine contacts at 2130/11th in vicinity of 49.58 N. 05.33 W. Although these are likely to be known wrecks full precautions are to be taken.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 120041B to Escorts of E.B.L.8)

Operation C.A. -
E.G. 5 -
Gamma patrol in western Channel Approach.

Establish Gamma patrol, see 872N.
(A) Centre position 49° 09' N. 05° 25' W., length 24 miles at right angles to enemy course.
(B) 034°. (C) Not later than 1200/12th.
(D) Until further orders.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121028B to E.G.5.)

Operation C.A. -
E.G. 1 -
Gamma search in Western Channel Approach.

Am proceeding to close submarine report by aircraft call sign OEJO12's 0955B. BALFOUR and BENTLEY in company. My P.C.S. 061° JB 14 281° 19 knots E.T.A. position 1415B, A/C homing me.
(2) Reference your 111326B, at S.O. E.G.6's request had assumed duty of S.O. both group in

/accordance ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Operation C.A. - accordance with A.F.O. 2478/42 and propose resuming that responsibility on return from hunt pending further instructions.
E.G. 1 - Gamma search (S.O. E.G.1, 121059B to C. in C. W.A.)
in Western Channel (Your 121059. Return to your patrol forthwith.
Approach. (C. in C. W.A., 121251B to S.O. E.G.1.)
(Contd.) S.O. E.G.1's 121059. Ships have been ordered to resume Gamma search.
(C. in C. W.A., 121318B to Admty., Capt. (D) Belfast.)

Your present search is designed to cover a probable passage area effectively. I do not wish to impair its efficiency by pursuing a scent more than 2 hours old on arrival of searching vessels. But if a reliable report is received within 2 hours steaming of any part of your forces then the nearest group should be sent to search.

(C. in C. W.A., 121456B to Ships at sea taking part in Operation C.A., Info. S.O. E.G.15, S.O. E.G.9.)
Your 121559B. My P.C.S. 102° JB 21 miles, 000°, 11 knots.
E.G.6 in company.
(E.G.1, 121801B to C. in C. W.A.)

Schnorkel apparatus. In recent sightings in Channel following features have been observed of Schnorkel apparatus
(1) Actual pipe normally indistinguishable until very close and then appears as mushroom head very near surface of water. (In flat colin).
(2) Exhaust appears to bubble up from underwater and produce very noticeable thick brown cloud of oily smoke estimated visible at 5 miles in clear weather and light wind.
(3) Aircraft have obtained Radar contact at 2½ miles from 1000 feet but no Radar contact was obtained by surface craft fitted with 271Q at this range although the smoke was in the illumination from Leigh Light. No evidence of maximum range at which it can be picked up by 271Q which will certainly depend on weather and length of tube exposed.
(4) Schnorkel appears to be fitted with sensitive warning device as S/M has invariably submerged completely on the near approach of air or surface craft.
(5) No H.E. heard at 2 miles. No evidence at shorter ranges.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121355B.)

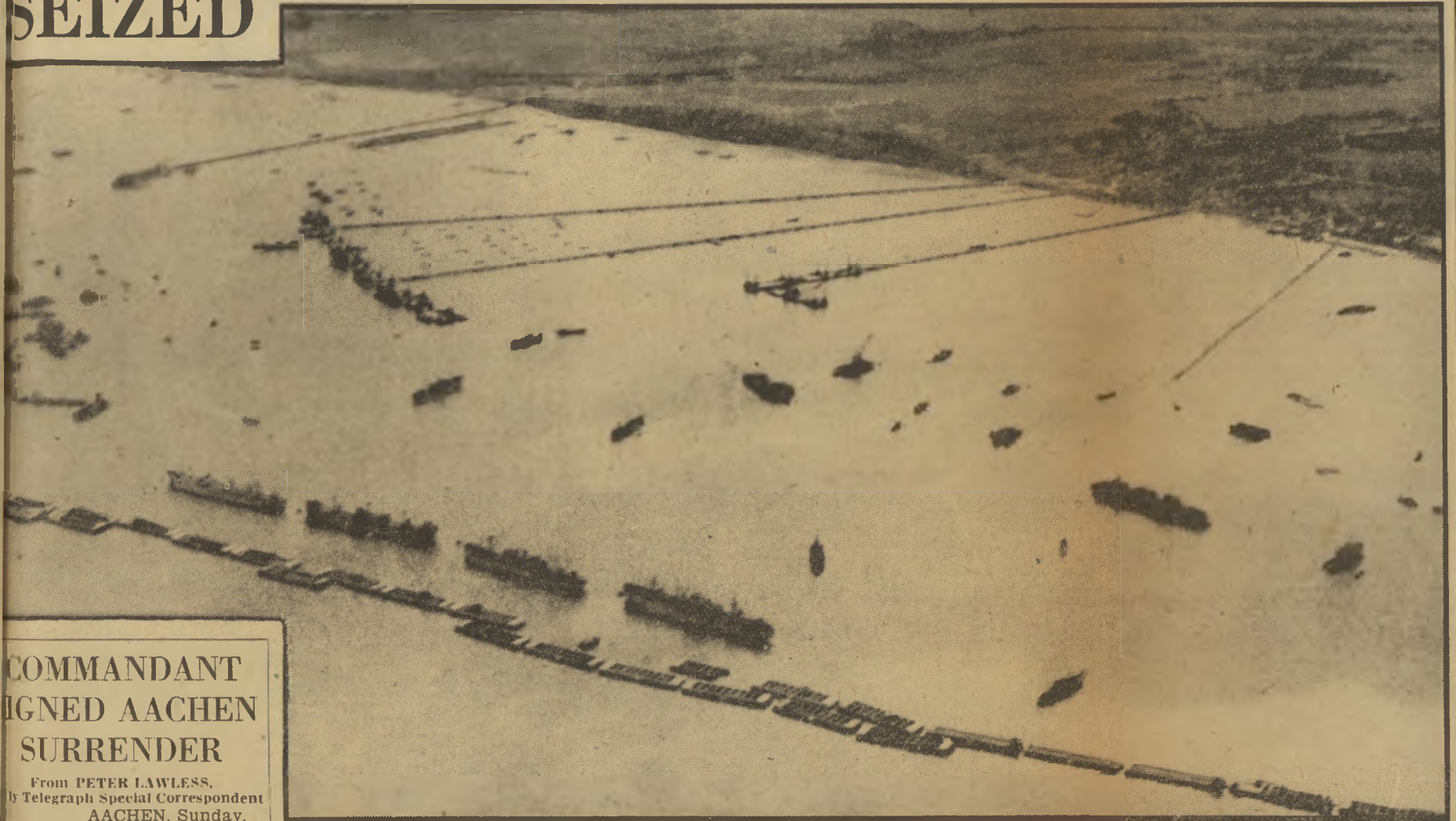
It is probable that the top of the Schnorkel tube is fitted with a search receiver capable of detecting type 242. Under "Schnorkel conditions" use of type 242 should be minimised.
(C. in C. W.A., 121938B to Ships concerned with operation C.A.)

U/B dispositions. In Western Approaches to and in English Channel up to ten U-Boats between longitudes 10° 00' W. and 00° 01' W. and north of latitude 49° 00' N. Two northbound in Ushant area sighted by aircraft 0108Z/12th June.
One eastbound 49° 45' N. 09° 25' W. from sighting of periscope 0745Z/12th June.
(D.D.I.C., 121425B. to A.I.G.331, Cominch.)

/Contact ...

SEIZED

PREFABRICATED PORT ON COAST OF FRANCE : FIRST PICTURES



COMMANDANT SIGNED AACHEN SURRENDER

From PETER LAWLESS,
Daily Telegraph Special Correspondent

AACHEN, Sunday.
Col. Gerhardt Wilck, Commander of the City of Aachen, conditionally surrendered himself and his troops at 12.06 p.m. yesterday. Two American prisoners of war were released to make contact, and shortly afterwards Col. Wilck, with between 200 and 400 of his men, marched to our lines.

The colonel and his staff went to the garrison H.Q., where terms of surrender were discussed with Lt.-Col. John Corley, who spoke for the regimental commander in the name of the divisional commander.

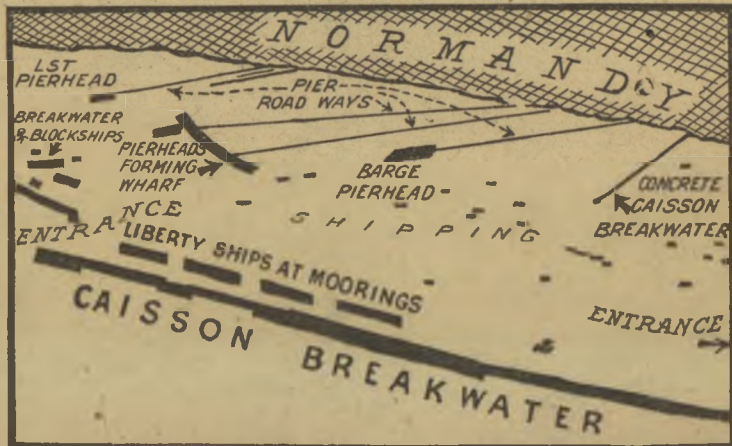
The German signed the following statement:
"I, Col. Gerhardt Wilck, commander of the German garrison of Aachen, hereby surrender as of this hour all troops, arms, material and fortifications under my command to the United States Army. It being agreed that all the said troops will be treated as prisoners of war."

Likewise, the medical personnel, the sick and the wounded are turned over for disposition in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929.

All these troops have been disarmed.

READY TO GIVE IN

The first pictures are now released of the prefabricated harbours, which played such an important part in the invasion of France, as related in The Daily Telegraph last Monday. This is a general view of the port in position at Arromanches. Below is an explanatory diagram. Other striking pictures appear on Page Five.



MR. CHURCHILL BACK FROM MOSCOW

LORD SWINTON HOME: GOING TO MONTREAL

By Our POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
Mr. Churchill, looking fit and well, returned to Britain by air shortly before dusk yesterday from his visit to Russia.

The Prime Minister, who was in the uniform of an air commodore of the R.A.F., landed at an airfield near London.

He was met by Mrs. Churchill, Viscount Swinton, newly-appointed Minister for Civil Aviation, Marshal of the R.A.F. Sir Charles Portal, Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal Sir Roderic Hill, Air Vice Marshal G. A. C. Collier, Deputy A.O.C.-in-C. Transport Command, and Air Vice Marshal A. L. Fiddament, Senior Air Staff Officer, Transport Command.

CIVIL DEFENCE CUTS IN SOUTH ENGLAND NOW

50 P.C. LONDON STAFF

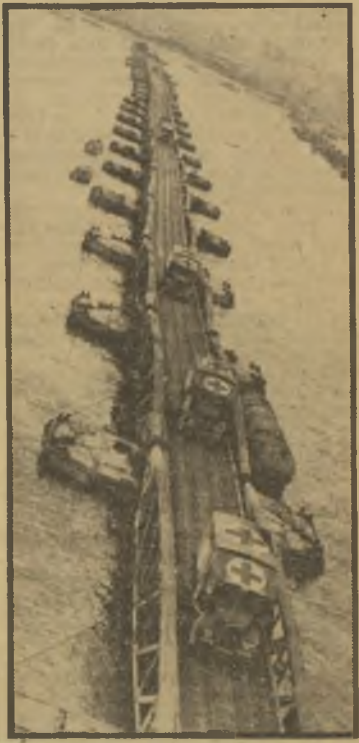
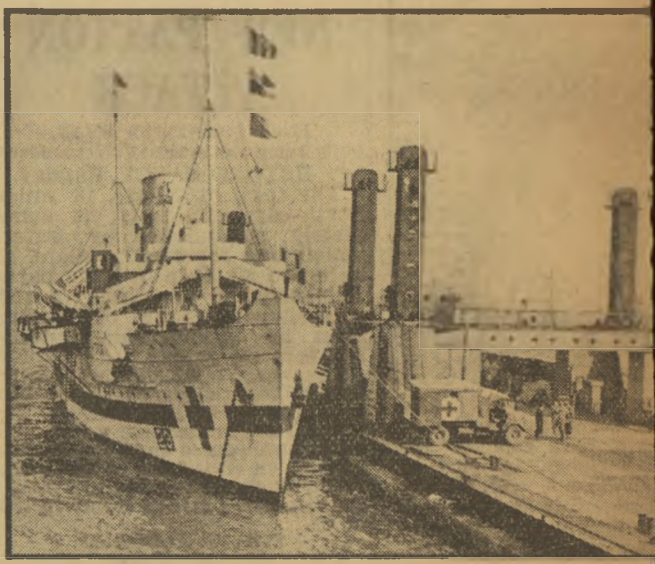
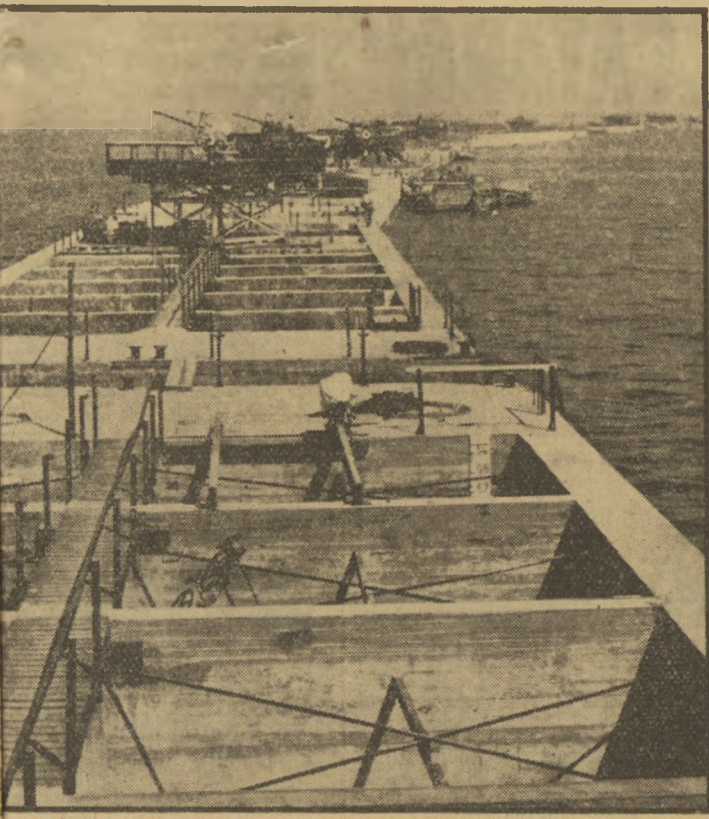
The London, Eastern, Southern and South-Eastern regions are now to be included in the reductions in the Civil Defence general services which have already begun in other parts of Great Britain.

"The progress of the war makes it no longer necessary to maintain the same scale of preparation as hitherto in these regions," says an official announcement issued to-day by the Ministry of Home Security.

In the London region the number of whole-time personnel will be reduced by half, in other areas by one-third to two-thirds. In some areas only a small nucleus of whole-timers will be retained. Members so released will be under no obligation to undertake part-time service, and will be eligible for all future demobilisation benefits.

write, Chem
W.C.2
to Productio
vertising age
sound gener
giving part
E.C.4
Semi-Senior
Staff Bure
City 2781
lady or gen
pared by firm
London
P., c.o. Str
quired by Ci
Must be exp
ary require
C.4.
broker's offic
necessary.
required, to
UR required
Daily Teles
and-Typist
ng, progr
prospects.
wages re
C.4.
damages of
Junior
orning to 1
are would su
ply S. We
W.I.
our Aldgate
anches, Gov
st. W.I.
ts have vacan
Junior Sho
or girl.—W
ampton Hou
ts in City r
st (some inc
Also a Junio
required, C
TOR (fema
cia scheduled
red, age, exp
Daily Te-eg
Juniors and
—State age
Daily Teleg
Some prev
ney or wage
ent position.
ions. to Ch
E.12.
(female), full
deduced firm
e, available
y Telegraph
Ltd., 140
services of
Invited to a
Clerks with
and industry
evidence and
Telegraph, R
Cosmetic Ho
and-Typist (I
excellent pros
s. 6. S
WOMAN, o
for filling a
Permanency
age and exp
E.C.4
Typist, with
routine, req
ood post for
Ltd., 49, St
4434).
s required
Apply to
W.I.
for wages an
—State age,
B.8144, Hal
NORTHAMPTON
of jewellery
Permanency
(full) partic
ey & Co.,
C.4.
PIST requ
edge of rep
ven (H). P
pects. Reply
nce and sa
ol's, Aldw
YPIST requ
Company.
nee of advan
ection to
F. G Ltd
London, S
by appointin
neral office
of chemical
ng.—Write,
required,
65), Africa
for record
Age no obs
C.4.
YPIST (m
master office.
girl, want
Feltham
(girl) requ
contractors
ey-st. W.I.
H SECRET
led for the
bourne Br

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH AND M



The prelabricated in this country, Normandy and as the problem of su every form of supp time. Photograph impression

Left: The enormous co breakwater. In the ce at a pierhead; below th piers, while on the righ from

PARIS TREASON TRIALS OPEN TO-DAY

COLOSSAL TASK FOR JUDGES FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT PARIS, Sunday.

In the frigid atmosphere of the Assize Court of the Palace of Justice facing the Seine, the first of several thousand men and women accused of collaboration and treason during the German occupation of France will come to trial at one p.m. to-morrow.

NAZIS MA VILLAGER

From L Daily Teleg

Detailed account of the villages have now been taken by professional men, who are the victims. New facts in many instances. The researches are full authentic story. Distomon, near Leva In Comen on Aug. 16

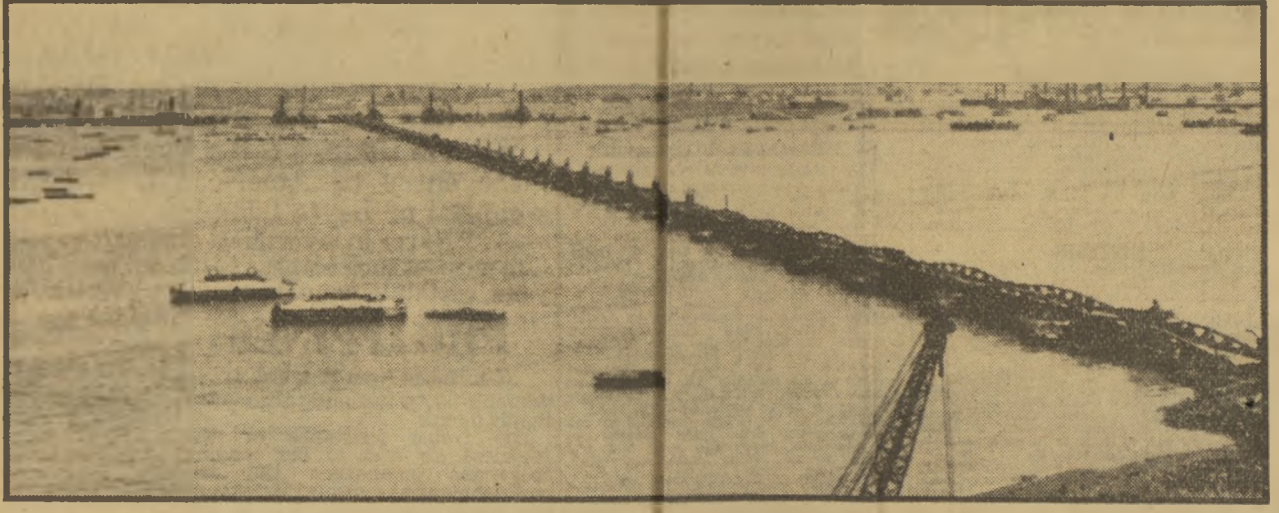
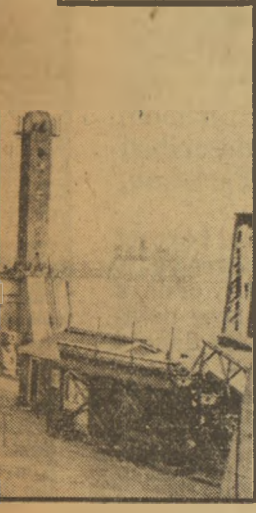
Call or write, Chen...
 (her sex) to Productio...
 End advertising agan...
 but sound general...
 Write, giving par...
 Telegraph E.C.4...
 Senior or Semi-Senior...
 Taylor St... Burea...
 81...
 tent

nd
 ours

HOW ALLIES USED PREFABRICATED HARBUR OFF COAST OF NORMANDY

Y AUCTIO...
 HE, MANSON...
 11. Telegrams...
 hold fol. Sales...
 D -PLACE, W...
 (prepaid), post...
 ine JEWELS...
 eed., and Jewe...
 sources. On v...
 DECORATIV...
 and Porcelai...
 Mr Arthur Du...
 View 2 day...
 English SILV...
 uthbert Swin...
 of a Lady, di...
 View two day...
 PICTURES...
 Earl of Moun...
 echele House...
 the property...
 Modern Pictur...
 the late Georg...
 us sources.

PORTANT J...
 elies Buchan...
 rtin, Miss...
 lmer-Wilson...
 Mrs. M. J...
 s and Furs...
 preceding...
 DECORATI...
 the propert...
 Fine Engl...
 leman, deca...
 by Order of...
 uthbert Sw



...-55, New Bardo...
 manufactured in sections
 towed across to the coast of
 assembled there, simplified greatly
 applying the invasion forces with
 port in great quantities and a short
 now released give a vivid
 of the whole achievement.

MASSACRED GREEKS
 SEARCH FOR REVENGE

MARSLAND GANDER,
 Telegraph Special Correspondent
 ATHENS, Friday (delayed).
 Lists of German massacres in Greek
 have been collated by a commission of Greek
 observers have corroborated the
 of this body have now revealed the
 of Comeno, in Southern Epirus, and
 1943.

8th ARMY DRIVE
 CLEARS ITALY
 COASTAL AREA

50 SQ. MILES TAKEN
 From JOHN WALLIS,
 Daily Telegraph Special Correspondent
 CESENA, Sunday.
 In a great week-end drive,
 British and Dominion troops of
 the Eighth Army have captured
 some 50 square miles of enemy-
 held territory south of the Savio
 River. Only a small enemy pocket
 at Cervia, a seaside town south
 of the river's mouth and 13 miles
 from Ravenna, still remains to be
 cleared.
 Our men advanced through
 flooded fields and marshes, past
 one dismantled pumping station
 after another. The roads had
 been blown up every few miles by
 the retreating German First
 Parachute Division, and no
 bridges remained.
 They are now engaging the enemy
 on the large salt pans east and
 south-east of Cervia.
 Our advance began when a

GERMANS CUT
 OFF IN SOUTH
 BALKANS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT
 MOSCOW, Sunday.
 The capture simultaneously of
 Belgrade and Debrecen, north-
 east Hungary, is viewed in
 authoritative military circles
 here as a grave blow for the
 enemy.
 With the liberation of Belgrade
 by the joint forces of the Rus-
 sians' Third Ukrainian Front and
 Marshal Tito's Army of Libera-
 tion, the entire German grouping
 in the southern part of the
 Balkan peninsula is completely
 isolated.
 The agreement necessary for
 the operations for the liquidation of
 these trapped forces jointly by the
 Red Army and the Allied Forces
 landing in the Balkans, together
 with the Yugoslav and Greek
 Patriots, was reached in the course
 of the military part of the recent
 negotiations here between Mr.
 Churchill and Marshal Stalin.
 MORE GERMANS TRAPPED
 More than 200 miles almost due

From All Quarters
 WEEK'S DIVORCE:
 400 ACTIONS

Although the Michaelmas term is
 only just over a week old the judges
 of the Divorce Division have already
 tried more than 400 cases. To-day
 they will dispose of another 150.
 A record total of 3,407 actions faced
 the judges when the term started on
 Oct. 12. There are likely to be a
 substantial number unheard by
 Christmas. All the eight judges of
 the Division have been sitting in
 London, seven dealing with divorce
 and one with Admiralty work. This
 week-end Mr. Justice Henn-Collins
 left for Liverpool to start the hearing
 of Assize divorce cases there to-day.
 "The Great Dictator," the Chaplin
 film, was seen for the first time by
 Italians in a Rome cinema.
 Sir Samuel Runganadhan, High
 Commissioner for India in London,
 is on a visit to Indian troops in
 Italy.
 New Mayor of Calais.—M. Jacques
 Vendroux, brother-in-law of Gen. de
 Gaulle, has been appointed Mayor
 of Calais.
 Burning Coal Dumps.—Fires have
 been burning for several months in
 open-cast (surface) coal dumps in
 Derbyshire.
 Two Soldiers Escape.—Two soldiers
 undergoing sentences in Durham
 Gaol escaped from an outside work

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Contact
off Nab
Tower.

WHITSHED has firm contact in 164° Nab Tower
14 miles request immediate relief.
(C/S THN, 122350B to Portsmouth.)

Air Activity

Estimated
enemy air
effort next
24 hours.

Long range bombers 120 to 150 sorties.
Fighters and fighter bombers 500 plus up to 40
sorties at night.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121913B.)

Attack on
F.T.M.2.

V.A. Dover, 122259B - see Enemy Action.

Movements

L.T. 2,
S.T.763.

Have you any information as to whereabouts of
L.T.2 and S.T.763, N.O.I.C. Gold pass to N.O.I.C.
Mulberry "B".
(A.N.C.X.F., 121105B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.,
C.T.F.128, N.O.I.C. Mulberry "B".)

PRINCE
LEOPOLD,
BIARRITZ,
I. OF
THANET.

(A) Sailing at 2300/12. (B) FORESTER, QUORN,
KITE. (C) E.T.A. Juno and Gold 0630/13. (D)
Thriller changing to Woolsack at Z area 169
changing to 874 at Z area. (E) (1) PRINCE
LEOPOLD, BIARRITZ, ISLE OF THANET. (2) Gold,
Gold and Juno respectively.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 121756B.)

Port Facilities

Progress
report.

M.P.5A Corncob.
(A) Gooseberry 1 completed under continual enemy
shellfire. Tracing of survey complete installa-
tion being forwarded by despatch boat.
(B) Phoenix Units sited in berth one through six
berth twelve and berths twenty through six, average time
one hour per unit for placing and sinking.
(C) Whale A.2 and B.2 sections sited western pier. A.1, B.1
sections sited centre pier.
(D) Bombardon Units sited berths thirteen through nineteen and
berths one through nine Weazy moorings. Twenty one Bombardon
moorings laid.
(F) Mulberry tows are being delayed six to twelve hours at end
of Channel five fix off Mulberry "B" due to incomplete routing

/instructions ...

281

War Diary.12.6.1944.
Monday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Port FacilitiesProgress
report.
(Contd.)

instructions. This causes unnecessary delays in tug turn around.
(G) Anticipated requirements. Prepared to receive per day (?ATO) eight Phoenix (448?) Whale Fridget Rains prepare ATO receive first two L.S.T. Pier Heads.
(C.T.F.128, 120240.)

Casualties and DefectsUnit 630
sunk.

Unit 630 sunk 0055 3 men aboard lost, wreckage possibly adrift proceeding destination serial S 7000.
(ATR.13, 120300B to N.O.I.C. Mulberry "B".)

Tugs
SESAME,
PARTRIDGE.

Ramp. Tugs SESAME and PARTRIDGE apparently lost in neighbourhood 58D Buoy. Whale tow 513 and 528 reported (? word missed) and in tow Tugs STORMKING and SUPERMAN respectively. Whale tow S.54 and S.59 now considerably overdue.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry "B", 120502.)

Navsitrep. (C) 600 tons. (F) Tug SESAME believed sunk in vicinity 58D Buoy. Whale in tow safe. (G) J beach commando arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry "B", 121919B.)

IONIAN
SHELL,
NORMAN.

The following is a repetition of my 121618B. M/V IONIAN SHELL cable barge NORMAN reported broken down probably in Channel 34. Request you will either arrange tow or send barge LESLIE to take shore end of cable.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121659B to N.C.E.T.F.)

NELSON
(U.S.
Destroyer)
torpedoed.

Contact which torpedoed NELSON last night had following characteristics. First Radar contacts varied from 4,000 to 8,500 yards. Weak pips. Approach speed 15 slowing to about 8. When challenged by NELSON fired torpedoes and retreated at speed from 25 to 30 knots under smoke screen and zig-zagged. Strong pips on retirement. Marked difference in pips on approach and retreat suggest W Boats. All destroyers advised that enemy answer to challenge his salvo of guns and torpedoes.
(C.T.G. 122.4, 121825B to ?).

*
CHANT 60
(tanker).

N.C.E.T.F. 081733B reported CHANT 60 capsized in Juno area. CHANT 60 now loading at Hamble for Juno. Request clarification.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121845B.)

* *Subsequently this was corrected to CHANT 6 see P. 372, 15-6-44.*
/L.B.V.51 ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties and Defects

L.B.V.51,
L.B.V.16.

Following is N.O.I.C. Utah's 120805 to A.N.C.X.F. and Admty. for Info. Begins: L.B.V.51 and L.B.V.16 Convoy U.6 sunk from stress of weather during passage from U.K. both crews safe. Personal gear crew lost. Ends. (C.T.F.125, 121845B.)

L.C.I.(S)
504.

Following received from S.O. L.C.I.(S) begins. L.C.I.(S) 504 now reported sunk. Fate of crew unknown. T.O.O. 101435B June. Ends. (COPRA, 121847B.)

L.C.G.(L) 10. O.N.1, para. 52. (A) For 24 hours ended 2359/11. A. 1000. (B) 90. (C) 2500. (D) SERAPIS, SWIFT, VERULAM, VIRAGO, IMPULSIVE, ISIS. (E) SAUMAREZ. (F) Nil. (G) Sporadic shelling of beaches continues. L.C.G.(L) 10 damaged by shellfire. 2 L.B.Fs. have entered Quistreham Canal. Depot ship DANAE arrived. ARETHUSA attacked by F.W.190 undamaged. (F.O. Force S, 122152.)

SS. BRITISH
ENGINEER.

BRITISH ENGINEER damaged by suspected mine, parts of which are on board at 2150 in 050° 10' N. 000° 59' W. Damage not serious, tanker proceeding under own steam to East Solent, escorted by AZALEA. (VESPER, 122241B.)

Shipping and Convoys

Delay to
ships
loading
Bristol
Channel
ports.

Your 111215. Hope ships will be available for loading in next two or three days. M.W.T. do not intend to provide replacements unless U.S. Army consider stores position serious, which, it is understood here is not the case. (A.N.C.X.F., 120037 to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

E.P.L.5.

(A) Sailed. (B) BEAGLE, M.L.347. (C) E.T.A. 1800/12. (E) For Utah - L.S.T.515, 539, 532, 531, 75, 510, 533, 5, 369, 48, 49. For Omaha 372. (A.N.C.X.F., 120125.)

F.X.P.3.

Your 111830B. BIARRITZ and BRIGADIER arrived 0200/12. (N.O.I.C. Newhaven (Turco), 120250 to Capt. N.S.)

F.C.M.1.

BUCO. C.T.G. 122.7 111050 arrived 0230. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 120755.)

/PRAGUE ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

PRAGUE. Sailed 120336.
(T.U. 129.2.4, 120911B.)

F.T.M.5. (A) Sail. (B) GARTH, CHARLOCK, M.M/S.14.
(C) E.T.A. Nab 1845/12th, Southend 0930/13th.
(D) Wildfire TS. (E) EMPIRE PICKWICK, OCEAN
VISTA, ROBERT LANSING, FORT BRUNSWICK (corrupt)
LMARCY LESS OVERMAN, FORT GIBRALTAR, L.S.T.428, 503, 337, 497,
199, 30 all for Tilbury. L.S.T.60, 427, 72, 416 for Isle of
Wight. (F) L.S.T.60.(1) 1 (3) 9 L.S.T.427 (3) 111 L.S.T. 72
(1) 9 (3) 215 L.S.T.416 (1) and (2) 42.
(Capt. N.S., 120945B.)

Use of close range A/A. Request you will instruct all merchant ships sailing to Assault Area as follows:-
(A) By night, at dusk and dawn close range A/A fire from merchant ships is totally prohibited whilst in Assault Area.
(B) Same restrictions apply by day in Assault Area except in the case of direct attack bombing or attack by fighters on individual ships.
(C) No ship is to open fire with close range weapons merely because other ships are seen to be doing so.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121057B to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Nore.)

F.T.C.5. (A) Sail. (B) MEYNELL, CAMELLIA, M.M/S.219.
(C) E.T.A. Nav 2200/12th, Southend 1330/13th.
(D) J.5.O. (E) Tugs QUEENS CROSS and EMPIRE
FOLK, BEACHFIELD, ACTIVITY, OL(?STEAD) for
London. THORNABY, BOSTON TRADER, WESTOWN for Poole. Tug
SUPERMAN. MEYNELL will detach with Solent section rejoining
Group bound (? the Nore).
(Capt. N.S., 121115B.)

Revised convoy timings. (A) Experience has shown the dangers from E-Boat attacks on convoys in the swept channel at night and also that the joining of convoy section in the dark is impracticably (? impracticable intended) the following revised convoy timings are to be introduced as quickly as possible after receipt of this signal, sailing authorities informing intermediate authorities.

(B) Name of Port. Convoy.	Approx. time of departure	Time of passing Area Z or R/V.	Time of arrival in France
The Nore -			
E.T.C.	0200	0600	1700
E.T.M.	1700	1230	2000
Newhaven -			
E.X.P.	0300	0630	1100

/Portsmouth ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Revised con- (B) Continued.
voy timings.
(Contd.)

Name of Port. Convoy.	Approx. time of departure	Time of passing Area Z or R/V.	Time of arrival in France
Portsmouth -			
E.C.M.W.	0800	1330	2000
E.B.C.W.	2200	0600	1600
E.X.P.W.	0300	0630	1100
E.C.P.W.	0300	0700	1100
E.W.L.	0100	0430	Noon
E.P.L.W.	Midnight	0500	Noon
E.T.M.W.	0800	1230	2000
E.T.C.W.	0000	0600	1700
Portland -			
E.P.L.	2100	0500	Noon
E.C.P.P.	0200	0700	1100
E.C.M.P.	0400	1330	2000
Plymouth -			
E.C.P.	1700	0700	1100
E.C.M.	2000	1330	2000
Bristol Channel -			
E.B.C.	2300	0600	1600

(C) F.T. convoys are to be sailed to arrive at E.A.3 Buoy before dark.

(D) F.C. convoys are to be sailed to arrive at A.1 Buoy before dark.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121259B.)

Returns & reports. Now that conditions off the beaches are more normal it is most necessary that more attention should be paid to:-

(A) Despatch of comprehensive return convoy sailing signals.

(B) Immediate reports of all casualties to ships including names and craft. Both these are of great importance to the build up as action must at once be taken in the U.K. on this information if the planned programme is to be maintained.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121529B.)

F.B.M.4. (A) Sailed. (B) Blank. (C) E.T.A. Southampton 2030B/12th, Swansea (07030)/14th, Barry 0730B/14, Falmouth 1130B/13th, Plymouth 0730B/13th, Isle of Wight Area 2030B/12th. (D) L.9.D. (E) For

Southampton - GEORGE E. CRAWFORD, GEORGE E. BADGER, DAVID STARR, JORDON WILLIAM TILGHMAN, ELKIN, WILLIAM M. PENDLETON, EDWIN SCRIPPS, PEARL HARBOUR, THOMAS SCOTT, JOE IAT CUSHANG, J.G. ROSS, JAMES L. ACKVSON, STEVEN ELKINS, ELIHU RCOT, FLORENCE CRITTENTON, G.W. GOETHALS, EMPIRE BROADSWORD, L.S.T. 380, 284, 527, 383, 162, 318, 346, 312.

For Swansea - JOSVEYN, EMPIRE SEDGE. For Barry - KYLOE, ZEELAND.

For Newport - ROBERT L. VANN. For Plymouth - JOHN HAYS.

For Falmouth - LEWIS KOSSUTH, JAMES B. WEAVER. For Portland -

/L.S.T. ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.B.M.4. (Contd.) L.S.T.491, 294, 56, 326. For Isle of Wight Area for onward routing to Thames (No casualties aboard):- L.S.T.521, 543, 682, 983.
(F) L.S.T.491, 294, 56, 326, 346, 312 - Details of casualties and P.O.W.
(C.T.G.122.7, 121529B.)
- Forecasts required. It is understood that the programme of sailings of personnel ships given in my 101616 has had to be amended by the substitution of U.S.S. DICKMAN for EMPIRE JAVELIN in E.C.P.6 to cover an increase in the lift required.
(2) A troopship less valuable than this A.P.A. might have been substituted had prior notice been received here, where the central control of the personnel ships for the operation rests.
(3) It is therefore requested that you will obtain from the U.S. Authorities a forecast of the troop lift required each day for the next week, and pass this by signal to M.W.T. Buco. This should be kept up to date as necessary. The troopships allocated will then be promulgated by signal from here.
(M.W.T. (Buco), 121624B to P.S.T.O. Devon and Cornish Ports.)
- BENJAMIN HAWKINS. Intend to sail at 0500/13 BENJAMIN HAWKINS for Utah to join E.C.M.6 at Eddystone R/V. Codeword to R/V Quirk thence Zodiac.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121631.)
- F.X.P.4. (A) Sailed. (B) 114 E.G. (C) Nab 0045/13th, Newhaven 0200/13th. (D) NEAPOLITAN PJ.
(E) H.M.S. PRINZ CHARLES, H.M.S. QUEEN EMMA, ISLE OF GUERNSEY, PRINCESS MARGARET, PRINCE BAUDOIN, URALIA.
(Capt. N.S., 121802B.)
- Unloading at night. To permit unloading at night merchant ships may use eighteen hatches while working but lights must be shielded from above and turned out during Red alert.
(N.C.W.T.F., 121813B to C.T.G.124.11, C.T.G.125.10, C.T.F.124, C.T.F.125, Info. N.C.E.T.F., A.N.C.X.F.)
- E.T.C.7. (A) Sailed. (B) Escorts WINDSOR, CURZON.
(C) E.T.A. 0600/13. (D) Deborah. (E) For Gold - FOLDA, SYDAKER FIVE, BRYNHILD, RICHARD BEARSE, S.N.A.8, CORBRIDGE, ZEALAND, MAPLE FIELD, HOVE, YEW TREE, BENGUELA. For Juno - EMPIRE SETTLER, EMPIRE WRESTLER, EMPIRE TROTWOOD, JIM ARBROATH, WESTON. For Sword - EMPIRE CRICKETER, DORIAN ROSE, ROWAN FIELD, SOLLUND.
(A.N.C.X.F., 121831.)

286

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- E.T.M. 7. (A) Sailed. (B) MONTROSE, WHITSHED, BORAGE, LOOSESTRIFE. (C) E.T.A. 0700B/13. (D) Lincoln. (F) For Gold - FORT BEDFORD, OCEAN VAGRANT, L.S.T.287, 52, 534.
For Juno - SAMSIP, INDIAN CITY, OCEAN VIGOUR, EMPIRE HEYWOOD, CASIMIR-PULASK, EMPIRE DUKE, SAM HOUSTON, SAM YORK, EMPIRE CANYON, L.S.T.295, 535, 522.
For Sword - EMPIRE CAPULET, EMPIRE FARMER, FORT FORK, L.S.T. 327. Expect to join six more L.S.T. (A.N.C.X.F., 121832.)
- Convoy F.B.C.2. (A) Sailed 121115B. (B) Escort 107th E.G. plus K.68 (S.O. in K.582). (C) E.T.A. Southampton 0200B/13, Swansea 1000B/14, Barry 1200B/14, Fowey 1300B/13, Bristol 1400/14. (D) Warship Q.L. (E) For Southampton - NEWLANDS, FLUOR, BEESTON, GEM. For Grimsby and Thames (to join Thames at Isle of Wight) EMPIRE STRAIT (corrupt group). For Swansea - FANO, THORE, HAFTE. For Barry - WESTBURN. For Fowey - EDLE. For Bristol - LYSLAND. C.T.Fs. 122, 125, 124 have for info. by hand. (C.T.G. 122.7, 121915B.)
- F.W.M.5 and F.W.C.5. (A) Sailing. (B) WAVENEY, ALGONQUIN, MIMICO and (? 11th) E.G. (C) E.T.A. Neb 0800/13th. (D) Moribund XU. (E) F.W.M.5 EMPIRE RHODES, EMPIRE DEED, EMPIRE CALL, OCEAN VISION, OCEAN VOLGA, EMPIRE PLOUGHMAN, L.S.T.44, 419.
F.W.C.5 EMPIRE BANK, HERBERT WALKER, RELAS, ZUIDERHAVEN, WALNUT BEND, GWENTHIES BROOMFIELD, EDENSIDE, DURWARD, NEPHRITE, SANDHILL. (F) L.S.T.44. (2) One. (Capt. N.S., 122015B.)
- E.C.P.5. (A) Sailed. (B) Escorts 111th E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0700/13. (D) Patch. (E) For Omaha - EMPIRE JAVELIN, CANTERBURY, PRINCESS MAUD, EMPIRE MACE as N.M.S.S. H.M.S. ST. HELIER. (A.N.C.X.F., 122025.)
- E.B.C.7. (A) Sailed. (B) 142 E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0600/13. (D) Reform. (E) For Utah - GIRONDE, SAMUEL VERY. For Omaha - KOLSDAL, ASHBELL, HUBBARD, WILLIAM BURSLEY, BRITISH ENGINEER, expects join E.B.C.7W for Utah ULSTER HERD, CAPITO, NATO. For Omaha EMPIRE FORELAND, LARCHFIELD, NJORD, ISBJORN, BRIARFIELD, MARSWORTH, DANBY COAST, SCHELDT, EMPIRE CLIFF. (A.N.C.X.F., 122105B.)
- E.X.P.5. (A) Expect to sail E.X.P.5. (B) Escort FORESTER, QUORN, KITE. (C) E.T.A. 0630/13. (D) Woolsack. (E) For Gold PRINCE LEOPOLD, BIARRITZ. For Juno ISLE OF THANET. (A.N.C.X.F., 122106B.)

/Loading ...

12.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"
Shipping and Convoys

Loading and sailing. My 311743B May. Owing to difficulty of forecasting movements of ships returning from France A.N.C.X.F. does not intend to issue any further signals nominating ships for routine M.T. ship or stores coaster convoys unless a departure from build up plan is entailed. Sailing authorities should load ships without further orders when they return to their ports and sail them when loaded in next appropriate convoy unless otherwise ordered at the time by A.N.C.X.F. or in the case of stores by C.O.T. Etousa or War Office.

(2) W.M.T. will continue to nominate personal ships by signal as at present.

(3) A.N.C.X.F. will signal details concerning stores ships which are to be sailed in E.T.M. and E.B.C. convoys as directed. Ships sailed in latter will transfer to E.C.M. convoys at Falmouth.

(A.N.C.X.F., 122214B.)

E.C.M. 5P. (A) Sailed. (B) 105th E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0600/13.
(D) Martello. (E) For Utah - J.E.B. STUART,
LOU GEHRIG, JOHN HENRY, WATERGATE, L.S.T. 317,
311, 393, 400. For Omaha - L.S.T. 28, 310, 505,
ROBERT DUNDAS, E.C.M. 5W no sailings.
(A.N.C.X.F., 122225B.)

Diversions

Diversionsary sweep. It is intended to carry out a diversionsary sweep in support of military operations tonight 12th/13th June it is requested that you will detail two destroyers fitted with R.C.M. if possible to proceed as follows:-

(a) To pass through position 49° 30' N. 3° 25' W. at 2359/12.
(b) To pass between Guernsey and Roches Douvres reaching longitude 2° 25' W. approx. at 0300/13.

(2) It is required that Radar stations in Guernsey and Jersey should react to the presence of surface craft approaching.

(3) Two officers have been sent to you with suitable bogus wireless traffic and are available for embarkation for this operation should you so wish.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121055 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

VICTORIOUS, Intend sailing VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE from
INDOMITABLE. Clyde as necessary to R/V with UNDINE S.O.,
UNDAUNTED, VIGILANT and URCHIN in 270 degs.
Oversay 6 miles at 2200B/12th, thence to comply
with A.M. 090343B June. Routed as in A.M.102052B
June. S.O.A. 17 knots. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1900B/17th.
(N.O:I.C. Greenock, 121018B to Admiralty).

Sailed VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE in accordance with my
121018B June to comply with A.M. 090343B June. Neither to all
addressees. Codeword SCURRY.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 121438 to Admty.).

Scapa Here is my 120602 repeated Sitrep 0600/12th
suspected June no further incident. Have reverted to
midget normal.
S/M. (A.C.O.S. 121044B to Admty.).

Operations

Operation (1) Para.9. 385 kc/s will be used in areas A and
"C.W." B as well as area C until further orders.
(2) Swordfish and Avenger aircraft are unable to
transmit on M/F.
(3) Some Catalina and Wellington aircraft are
unable to communicate on 2410 k/cs.
(4) Cmdre. (D) W.A., Cmdre. W. Isles and Captains (D) are to pass
this message to ships subsequently detailed for operation C.W.
from respective bases when possible.
(C. in C.W.A., 120012B to BULLDOG, OXFORD CASTLE, BULLEN,
GOODALL, DUNCAN).
Sweep ahead of O.S.80 until convoy reaches 055 degs. 26' N.
011 degs. 01' W. thence proceed with group to carry out search
in area C.
(2) If enemy is fitted with Schnorkel it will probably be used
if wave-height from trough to crest is less than 6 feet.
(C. in C.W.A., 121756B to BULLDOG).

Biscay A/S T.G.22.2, U.S.S. BOGUE operating with 5 destroyers
operations vicinity 047 degs. 01' N. 017 degs. 59' W.
U.S.S. CROATAN 5 destroyers T.G.22.5, 40 degs.
38' N. 035 degs. 50' W., 056 degs. 14 knots.
(C. in C.W.A., 121411B to ships).

Operation Your #10047. para.2. WHELP, WAGER detailed.
D.B. (Capt. (D) Scapa, 121542 to C. in C.H.F.).
C. in C.H.F. 110047.
Personnel and stores are as follows:
(a) 5 officers and 20 other ranks (army) and 5 naval ratings.
Total 30.
(b) Stores 150 deadweight tons, 240 shipping tons. Details.
(6) Capt. Hovdenak is taking passage out and return in JAMAICA.
(D.O.D.H., 121945B to F.O.i/c. Greenock).

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

SOLVIKEN From Military Intelligence Norwegian Shipping Casualty.
It is reported Norwegian cargo vessel SOLVIKEN 2398 tons was torpedoed sunk off Nordkyn on 25th May. Graded B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 121204 to Admty.).
O.I.C. Comment. Only Norwegian SOLVIKEN listed is of 3502 G.T.

Enemy shipping. Increased offensive against enemy shipping appears to have brought about following changes.
Recent changes on Norwegian coast. (1) Roueting. (A) Stavanger. Vessels now skirt Bokne Fjord by way of Ombo Fjord, Finnøy Fjord and Hille Fjord.
(B) Stadt. Convoys now pass Stadt only at night or at sunset. Vessels keep as close inshore as possible.
(2) Additional escort. Recent reports have indicated stiffening of escort past vulnerable areas.
In late May a convoy of 6 vessels had an escort of 12 patrol vessels when passing Stadt. 2 of these were modern escort vessels and remainder converted trawlers.
Delay to shipping has thus been caused at Christiansund often for some days when as many as 30 vessels have collected.
(3) Accoustic mine sweeps. Accoustic mine sweeps now issued at Christiansund to northbound German M/Vs. Graded C.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 121214 to D.N.I.). * For Comment see next page.

Swedish west coast. Declaration of mined areas and announcement of extinction of certain coastal lights is almost certainly part of already existing plan for advanced state of readiness on Sweden.
Recent precautions. (2) Swedish on earlier occasions have shown apprehension regarding defence of West Coast and there are many implications to show they fear being involved in possible incidents (?starting) and eventual intrusion of British Naval Forces in Skaggerak.
(3) German nervousness of British assault on Denmark or adjoining waters has on occasions quickly produced a reaction of nerves in Sweden. The last occasion was April 30th when O.C. GOTHENBURG in state of jitters sank his block ships without instructions.
(4) The present precautionary measures in my opinion may be due more to a number of events such as invasion threat, British warnings to fishermen of occupied countries and other matters demanding extreme vigilance by Swedish defences, than due to one specific reason. I hope to inform you more definitely in a day or two.
(N.A. Stockholm, 121501 to D.N.I.).
N.I.D. Comment: The Swedish Prime Minister announced on 11th June a considerable strengthening of defences in view of a possible extension of the Anglo American offensive against Northern Europe.
(2) The Swedish Press suggests that the Russian offensive against Finland will be co-ordinated with British operations against Denmark or Norway.
(3) Swedish precautions are known to include:

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Swedish west coast Recent precautions. and 58 degs. 28' N. 11 degs. 10' E. (N.A. Stockholm, 130927 to D.N.I.).

(a) Extension of minefields into outer territorial waters in the Kattegat (57 degs. 15' N. to 58 degs. 25' N.)
(b) Extinction of lights, and
(c) compulsory pilotage and navigation by day only in the same area.
(d) Guardships in 57 degs. 13' N. 12 degs. 00' E.

Allied Air Activity

Baltic ports R/C.

In view of the possibilities of break out from Baltic by enemy main units and unreliability of sources of intelligence other than P.R.U. request that reconnaissance of Baltic Ports may from now on receive higher priority.
(C. in C.H.F., 122352B to Admty.).

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen

Report by Jan Mayen. A/C heard east of defence area 0430Z. Weather partially foggy.
(A.C.I.C., 120922B to Admty.).

Casualties and Defects

SAILOR KING, ACHIEVABLE.

At 0925 today SAILOR KING collided with ACHIEVABLE whilst sweeping operations were being carried out. SAILOR KING damaged to water line port side in way of Aft Bulkhead of engine room. Immediate docking required. ACHIEVABLE sustained slight stem damage. Not leaking, can carry on with operations.
(S.O. M/R Drifters, Tilbury, 121055B to Com. M/S London).

Shipping and Convoys

FORT VERCHERES

SS. FORT VERCHERES sailed from Dvina Bar 2000B/11th escorted by Russian Destroyers. S.O.A. 8 knots My101105C refers.
(S.B.N.O. Archangel, 121051 to S.B.N.O. North Russia).

*Comment on N.A. Stockholm 121214.
O.I.C. Comment: (A) Believed correct. Report has been received from other sources. (B) This is probably correct. Para. 2. Extra escorts and accumulation of shipping at Christiansand (South) has been noted by P.R.U. Para.3. No information, but no British minelaying has taken place recently off Norwegian coast.

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

4 trawlers on loan to Portugal. F.O.G.M.As. 271704 (not to S.B.N.O. Azores) and B.N.A. Lisbon's 231143. Approved for ERISKAY and GRUINARD at Lisbon to be allocated to Gibraltar trawler force.

Presume F.O.G.M.A. can arrange for trawlers to be sailed from Lisbon to Gibraltar using his own

resources.

(2) F.O.G.M.A. is requested to report details of ratings necessary to complete manning.

(3) Runner crews will be sent to Horta for CAPE PORTLAND and VASCAMA. Total for two trawlers will be six officers and fifty eight ratings. Further signals will be sent regarding date of arrival. After transfer vessels should be sailed for Liverpool.

(4) As regards stores and equipment presume Portuguese will hand trawlers over in normal running condition.

(Admty., 122029B to F.O.G.M.A.).

South Atlantic

Independent sailings

This is a repetition of my 121018.

C.S.A. Lourenco Marques C.S.A. Beira repeat Admty.

C. in C.E.F., F.O.i/c E. Africa, N.O. i/c Durban.

Southbound ships may be sailed independently as far as Durban.

(C. in C.S.A., 121047B to C. in C.E.F., F.O.i/c E. Africa, F.O.i/c Durban, Admiralty).

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Staging in Appian. Further to my 241401 April and with Mediterranean reference to F.O.L.E.Ms. 251315 May N.O.I.C. Massawa 251815 and Com. Aden's 040929 June. (2) Intend amended staging in Mediterranean as follows:

- (A) Main staging ports. (i) Gibraltar. (ii) Algiers. (iii) Ferryville-primarily to be used for hull repairs. Comnavnav is being approached on use of U.S. Landing Craft Base Bizerta. (iv) Malta-primarily to be used for engine repairs and storing so as to allow minimum interference with Fleet work in dockyard (v) Alexandria. (vi) Massawa. Question of use of Massawa or Aden has been carefully considered and subject to remarks of C. in C.E.F. propose Massawa as final staging port before passage of Indian Ocean. Repair facilities required will include repair ship, to N.L. docks and one 750 ton dock earmarked for Aden. A.M. 180600 May and para.6. of A.M. 162236 April refer. F.O.L.E.M. is requested to remark further.
- (B) Present facilities of Port Said, Saunders and Suez to be used if and when required.
- (C) Benghazi not to be used except as sheltering port in same way as ports in para.1(b) of my 241401 April.
- (D) In view of length of passage and climatic conditions between Canal and Massawa, Port Sudan to be used as a provisioning and rest port for all craft, but no repair facilities to be provided F.O.L.E.M. is requested to signal proposals.
- (E) Main staging ports to have permanent repair party of one Sub. Lieut. (E) 2 C.E.R.A. and 8 E.R.A.
- (F) Complete flotilla maintenance parties to be embarked in every 12 craft and all to carry generous supply of ship board spares including propellers.
- (G) All craft to be fully provisioned and men fitted up before leaving U.K.
- (C. in C. Med., 121054 to Admty.).

VICTORIOUS Your 112306B 17 knots E.T.A. Gibraltar 1900B/17 18 knots Mediterranean 17 knots thereafter. (VICTORIOUS, 121130B to C. in C. Med.).

SICKLE P.C. and S 4 merchant ships 3 destroyers 2 E/boats
Enemy 037 degs. 41' 025 degs. 04' 110 degs. 8.
* convoy (SICKLE, 121255B to Capt.(S) 1st, F.O.L.E.M.,
(CAROLA, ANITA, 1st Sub. Flot.).
AGATHE etc.) By 0801 today CAROLA AGATHE and ANITA 5 destroyers
and 1 trawler had sailed from Piraeus.
(Capt.(S) 1, 121542 to SICKLE, VIVID).
Photographic R/C Piraeus a.m. 12th. CAROLA, ANITA, AGATHE and 3
destroyers departed. Appreciate destination probably Dodecanese.
(F.O.L.E.M. 121558 to Capt.1st Sub. S.O. 51 Force).
Leave patrol as requisite to arrive in position 035 degs.
41' 023 degs. 16' about 2102/16th. You may proceed on the surface
by day at your discretion.
(2) Pass east of Levitha and west of (?Stampalia).
(Capt.(S) 1, 121734B to SICKLE).

* Details of German convoy and escort - G.D. 433

/ CAROLA...

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean (continued)

SICKLE Enemy CAROLA, ANITA, AGATHE one other M/V 3 destroyers
convoy (CAROLA, 2 R/boats passed Steno Pass 1400C/12th.
ANITA, AGATHE (2) (?Above) probably routed via Cape Papas Nikaria
etc.). south of Patmos to Porto Lago speed 8 knots.
(Contd.) (3) M.T.Bs. patrol accordingly tonight 12th/13th
keeping east longitude 026 degs. 25' E. repeat
026 degs. 25' E.
(F.O.L.E.M., 121756C to S.O. Force 51, (?Capt.
S/Ms. Med.).

UNIVERSAL, Intend (P.57) UNIVERSAL to sail at 1735/13th to
CURIE. patrol in SU and SW routed through 042 degs. 17'
007 degs. 15' at 1959/14th and 042 degs. 25' 006
degs. 05' at 0601/15th.
(2) CURIE (P.57) to patrol in S.X. from 0700
15th.
(Capt.(S) 10, 121417 to C. in C. Med., CURIE.).

Convoy Commencing with U.G.S.46/G.U.S.44 minimum declared
speeds speed of acceptance for U.G.S. G.U.S. ships
inside Mediterranean will be raised to 9½ knots.
Only exception will be that on occasions ships of
8½ knots will be accepted between Algiers and
Bizerta provided C. in C. Med. is informed 48 hours before convoy
concerned is scheduled to pass Europa point.
(2) In general it is intended to (declare?) U.G.S. convoys at a
S. of A. of 9 knots to G.U.S. convoys at a S. of A. of 8½ knots.
(3) Approximate timing of R/V will be as follows, D day being
day of passing Europa Point for U.G.S. convoys and the day of
sailing from Port Said for G.U.S. convoys: U.G.S. Oran 2030 D+1
Algiers 1700 D+2 Bizerta 0700 D+4 Augusta R/V 1700 D+5 Port
Said A.M. D+10.
G.U.S. Augusta R/V 0900 D+5, Bizerta 1700 D+6, Algiers 0830 D+8,
Oran 0730 D+9, Gibraltar 1030 D+10.
(4) It is intended that U.G.S.46 will pass Europa Point on 9th
July, G.U.S.44 is being sailed from Port Said on 24th June.
Thereafter normal 10 day cycle will be continued.
(C. in C. Med., 121602B amended 151422).

Situation (4) 89 mines have been swept by 12th M/S
Report Flotilla during operations to establish new
No.376 channel Naples to Anzio M. 33 mines swept by
B.Y.M.S. off Terracina.
(C. in C. Med., 122205).

Cositintrep A Corvette and Merchant vessels were unsuccessfully
No.339 attacked by Coastal Forces off Elba night 8/9th
June. Shore batteries engaged our Forces but
caused no damage.
(2) Night 10/11th. Coastal Forces sank one F.Lighter south of
Vada Rocks second F. Lighter believed to have gone aground. Other
craft operating off Elba sighted no shipping but were engaged
by shore batteries no damage.

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Cositintrep
No.339
(Contd.)

(3) A Motor minesweeper was damaged in Civita-vecchia Harbour by mine on 11th good progress on preparation of Hards.
(C. in C. Med., 122209).

M.T.Bs. off
Porto Lago.

Following is a repetition of Comaro I 122040 begins:

"Addressed VIVID repeated A.H.S. 3 M.T.B. 315, M.T.B.309 Capt.(S) One, F.O.L.E.M. From Comaro I.

M.T.Bs. will be operating in the vicinity north and west of Porto Lago tonight. A.H.S. 3 leaves Sirina 2100 tonight stops Kandeliusa to pick up S.B.S. thence south of Niero to Cape Krio arriving dawn. 122040" Ends.
(F.O.L.E.M., 122258C to VIVID).

295

12.6.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Refit of
ILLUSTRIOUS

The following factors have altered the situation since I originally proposed in my 010156 April that the refit of ILLUSTRIOUS should be carried out at Durban commencing about mid June.

(A) The earliest date ILLUSTRIOUS can reach Durban is now the end of July.

(B) The necessity for reserving refitting capacity in United Kingdom for "Overlord" casualties would appear to have been greatly reduced.

(2) The main item in the refit of ILLUSTRIOUS is the re-tubing of her boilers. It is now estimated this will take at least two or probably three months if done at Durban. At the same time it is now apparent from A.M. 271205 May that although the ship will thus be immobilised for three months it will not be possible to carry out during this long period any of the following essential modernisation and alterations.

(A) Modernisation of Radar equipment.

(B) Modernisation of gunnery equipment particularly fitting remote power controls of pom-pom mounting and latest refinements for blind Radar control of H.A. armaments.

(C) Raising funnel uptakes as already done in FORMIDABLE.

(D) Installation of Action Information system.

(E) Reduction of fire risk by replacement of steel fittings for wooden fittings.

(3) I therefore most strongly recommend that whilst ILLUSTRIOUS is immobilised during her re-tubing this opportunity be taken to carry out a thorough refit. It is now clear that this can only be done in U.K. or U.S.A.

(4) If a decision is taken to refit ILLUSTRIOUS at home it is estimated that a considerable portion of the stores and equipment already in shipping for South Africa for her could be utilised for other services the balance being shipped back to U.K. as opportunity offers. Boiler tubes for ILLUSTRIOUS are now in Trincomalee.

(C. in C.E.F., 120309B to Admty.).

U/boat dispositions Number 56 area E - U.S. Tanker RIVER RAISIN reported torpedo track in position 018 degs. 06' N. 062 degs. 49' E. 0200Z/11th June. Pending full details consider probably false. Scale of air escort remains W. Other areas no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F., 120324Z).

U.852 Salvage operation on U.852 were concluded on 6th June on which date lighter sank at moorings alongside U/boat with two salvage pumps on board. Salvage party returned to Kilindini Commander F.

Pitt, arrived in SENNEN on 11th June with following additional gear recovered.

(1) Navigators sight book. (2) Electrical equipment.

(3) Specimens of resilient mountings (4) Cabinets for two radar units. (5) Set of U/boats own as fitted diagrams of all pumping flooding blowing air conditioning and other installations and all electrical circuits.

12.6.1944.
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U.852
(Contd.)

?Latter have been photographed before despatch to Admiralty. Suggest salvage operations be recommenced by salvage vessel after monsoon with object of sealing ends of U/boat and pumping out to recover gear remaining but not to float her. Gear hoped to recover includes -

(a) Books, papers, letters. (b) Wireless and direction finding gear. (c) Asdic and Hydrophone. (d) Search receiver. (e) Torpedo pistols and remains of torpedoes. (f) Engine room fittings.

Detailed report is being sent. Cdr. Pitt is of opinion with which I concur that operation has reached point where expert salvage organisation with experienced salvage divers is necessary. (Com. Aden, 121510Z).

U/boat
report

Have obtained 3rd Class H/F D/F bearing of U/boat transmitting naval enigma message of 40 groups at 1609Z and 1614Z bearing was 086 degs. frequency 10815 k/cs signal strength 3 estimated distance for my position 001 degs. 58' S. 041 degs. 40' E. (FISHGUARD, 121618Z to C. in C.E.F.).

297

War Diary12.6.1944
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies.

- T.G.21.7. My 092246Z modified. Depart New York and Boston 16th/17th June.
(C. in C. Land, 120347Z to C.T.G.21.7)
- Announcements of ship losses. American arrangements for announcing losses of ships (in Operation "Neptune").
(Comnaveu, 120907)
- C.U.26. Off Oversay at 1030Z/10th June. All arrived.
(D.T.D. 121043B)
- RIO PICO. (1) H.X.S.294. (2) RIO RICO (U.S.).
(3) 11th June. (4) Collision damage.
(N.C.S.O.St. Johns N.F. 121137Z)
- N.S.H.Q.S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. D. R.A.F. Ferry Command A/C sights S/M in 46.20 N. 58.30 W. at 1718Z/11th.
(N.S.H.Q. 121300Z)
- U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 121401Z, Cominch, 121547Z)
- U.C.26. U.C.26. Presenters estimated total 44 comprising 30 U.S. Tankers, 12 U.S. Dry Cargo and one each British and Norwegian. Request you will indicate top limit.
(D.T.D.121418B to Connav)
- NELSON. Subject to your concurrence and if "Neptune" situation permits it is proposed to sail H.M.S. NELSON TO U.S.A. in U.C.27.
(V.C.N.S. 121554B to Cominch)
- T.G.22.2 U-Boat hunt. Your 111310Z (N.T. in W.D.) If in hot pursuit stay with S/Ms until you arrive at 15 West. Keep those interested accurately advised of your movements. Upon discontinuing present hunt return to Norfolk.
(Cinclant, 121614Z to C.T.G.22.2)
c.f. Cominch, 122120Z)
- C.U. Convoys. One. Cominch confirms E.T.D. T.C.U. 28 as 16 June and succeeding C.U. convoys at 8 day intervals (see his 111840 programme for each convoy will be. Leave U.S. D day arrive U.K. D plus 11 leave U.K. D plus 17 arrive U.S. D plus 28.

War Diary12.6.1944
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies - Contd.

C.U. Two. Arrival and departure dates U.K. are
Convoys reckoned from Oversay. Arrival mean U.K. Port E.g
(Contd.) Liverpool being one day later and departure same
port one day earlier.
Three. This programme is prepared for planning
purposes only. All dates (other than departures
U.S.) will be accelerated if favourable conditions permit fast
passages and turn rounds.
four. Agreed B.M.S.M. B.A.D. Am promulgating.
(B.A.S. Washington, 121640Q to War Office)

SS. QUEEN Diversion order.
ELIZABETH. (Cdr.10th Fleet, 122003Z to QUEEN ELIZABETH)

H.S. HOPE, U.S. Navy Dept. has designated 2 Hospital Ships
MERCY. U.S.S. HOPE and US.S. MERCY. (Description.)
(Cominch, 122006)

U-Boat All times Z. 0.490
incidents. Para. A. CROATEN Group sank U-Boat 42.23 N.
39.56 W., 120102. C.O and 60 prisoners recovered.
Para. D. Unidentified Merchant Ship S/M contact
10.19.59 N. 74.17 W. prior to 121545. Blimp
sighted periscope feather 19.56 N. 73.19 W. 121410.
(Cominch, 122120Z)

ANONA ANONA reported total loss in storm Saturday 10th
lost. entire crew rescued by U.S. Army Crash Boat and
expect land landing Gulf Port about 2300/12th.
(C.S.A. New Orleans, 12215(?)Z)

U.G.F., O.T. Refer my 032047 Comeastseafroen sail at intervals
Convoys. of 27 days U.G.F. convoys composed of troopships
and tankers with minimum declared speeds of 14.5
knots from Hampton roads to Mediterranean ports,
beginning with U.G.F.12 departing Hampton Roads
1 July. C. in C. Lant provide escort.
Sailing interval of 27 days for U.G.F. convoys is (?predicted)
on a Naples turnaround of 6 days. Refer Comnavnaw 061438 not
to all. Tankers from U.G.F. convoys may be diverted under Task
Force escort for Taranto discharge provided departure of convoy
from Naples is not delayed thereby.
O.T. convoy after O.T.15 are cancelled. Comnavnaw arrange return
of convoy T.O.15 to Hampton Roads as escort presently assigned,
O.T.15 is required for convoy U.G.F. 13 sailing 28 July, convoy
T.O.15 should arrived Hampton Roads not later than 16th July.
Should it be impossible to discharge all ten tankers in O.T.15 in
time to meet this date, return of up to 3 tankers in G.U.S. convoy
is authorised.
(Cominch, 122155Z)

12.6.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies - Contd.

3 U-Boats in mid-North Atlantic." Following is F.O.N.F's 122224Z to C. in C., C.N.A. (R) N.S.H.Q. At 1423Z/12th U.S. Army A/C sighted 3 S/Ms partially submerged, periscopes showing, in 42.35 N. 36.20 W. 220 degrees. Pilot is positive of identification." (C. in C. C.N.A.122306Z)

Australia and New Zealand.

Digest 874. June 11th. Para. 4. to 17 cover South Pacific Forces. Previous night Aircobras co-operated with M.T.Bs attacking Mus Chu Island. (17) Morning 11th single enemy S/M contacted off Cape Torokina. (G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 121008Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. A (1) A/C S/224 sighted two U-Boats course 270 degs. at 0100Z/12th in 48 degs. 12' N. 05 degs. 54' W. (as amended 131150B). (2) A/C K/502 sighted U-Boat at 0106Z/12 in 47 degs. 00' N. 04 degs. 52' W. (3) A/C F/59 sighted U-Boat at 0745Z/12 in 49 degs. 47' N. 09 degs. 40' W. (4) A/C B/162 attacked U-Boat course 355 degs. at 1315Z/11 in 63 degs. 07' N. 00 degs. 26' E. (5) HELEN MOLLER torpedoed at 1823Z/6 in 04 degs. 28' S. 74 degs. 45' E. Para. B. (1) H.M.Ship attacked contact at 1930Z/11 in 49 degs. 59' N. 05 degs. 32' W. (2) H.M. ship attacked contact at approx. 1930Z/11 in 49 degs. 59' N. 05 degs. 27' W. (3) A/C J/103 sighted wake and possible periscope at 2006Z/11 in 49 degs. 33' N. 02 degs. 40' W.

(4) /...

300

12.6.1944
Monday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and
sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

(4) Avenger A/C attacked U-Boat with depth charges
at 0422Z/12 in 49 degs. 59' N. 02 degs. 22' W.
(5) A/C G/855 attacked U-Boat, course 090 degs.,
at 0423Z/11th in 49 degs. 59' N. 02 degs. 10' W.
(6) H.M. ship sighted U-Boat at 1050Z/11 in 50
degs. 15' N. 01 degs. 14' W.

Para. C. (1) A/C attacked moving oil patches with
bombs at 0426Z/12 in 49 degs. 40' N. 09 degs. 40'
W. (2) Ferry Command A/C sighted U-Boat at

1718/11 in 46 degs. 20' N. 58 degs. 30' W.
(D.D.I.C.121032Z)

U-Boat

Estimates.

dispositions.

(D.D.I.C. 121421B, 121432B)

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) The capture to-day by U.S. Troops of Carentan has materially strengthened the link already established between the two beachheads O and U of the Western Sector; and the build-up throughout the area was reported to-day to be progressing satisfactorily. At 1430 the enemy shelling of Beach U was reported to be decreasing; and at 2330B to-day more than 10,000 prisoners had been taken.

(b) To meet a possible enemy counter-attack against Carentan heavy ships were concentrated today off the estuary of the Vire; and two Landing Barges have entered the Ouistreham - Caen Canal.

(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Beaches:	238,910	35,987	61,202 tons
U.S. Beaches:	<u>188,304</u>	<u>26,251</u>	<u>43,973 "</u>
Total:	427,214	62,238	105,175 "

Enemy Action.

2(a) E-Boats. The usual E-Boat activity took place during last night on both flanks of the Assault Area. Four are claimed to have been destroyed and several damaged by A/C off Cherbourg; and three to have been sunk and three more damaged by A/C between Le Touquet and Boulogne.

(b) U-Boats. A U-Boat was attacked at 1242B today by MOOSEJAW off Lyme Bay, and another 14 miles S.E. by S. of St. Catherines Point was reported by SCOURGE at 2316B to have been probably damaged. At 1433B the Admiralty considered that there were probably three U-Boats between the Assault Area and the Isle of Wight, another three or four between Cap de la Hague and Ushant, and one or two more to the south of Cape Clear.

Casualties.

3(a) At 0445 today the Destroyer BOADICEA, escorting Convoy E.B.C.8, was hit by two torpedoes from a Ju.88 A/C about 12 miles S.W. of Portland Bill and sank in three minutes. Twelve survivors including two Officers, were landed at Portland by VANQUISHER.

(b) At 0750 today the Battleship WARSPITE, on passage from the Assault Area to Rosyth to change guns, struck a mine 15 miles East of Walton-on-Naze, but was able to proceed at 8 knots under her starboard engine and hopes to reach Rosyth tomorrow. There were no casualties.

Prisoners.

4. At 1800 today a total of 9,933 Prisoners of War had been sent to the U.K.

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

General

Flies.

(Flying Bombs)

5. Between 0033 and 0416 today about 70 rounds were fired into the Folkestone area by Enemy Shore Batteries, apparently to cover the flight of a number of radar-controlled enemy A/C from the Blanc Nez area to U.K., two of which were seen in flight over the Channel by an M.T.B. on patrol at the East Varne Buoy at 0405 and 0410 respectively. Two more of these A/C were seen to crash in the sea, one at 0450 and the other at 0457, but several more were seen from Dover to cross the coast near Folkestone. This is the first occasion upon which these weapons have been used against the U.K. *First flying bomb in UK fell at Swinacombe, 4 1/2 miles west of Gravesend, at 0418. (See R.A.F. Narrative, Vol 7, page 83)*

Iceland.

6. The A/S F/D Station at Grof was closed down on the 5th June.

U-Boat sunk by A/C.

7. At 1010 today a Canso A/C sank a U-Boat about 120 miles N.N.W. of Muckle Flugga (Shetlands), survivors being seen in the water.

South Atlantic

Independent sailings.

8. After the departure of Convoy D.K.A.20 from Durban northbound ships may sail independently as far as Beira.

BIRDLIP sunk.

9. The A/S trawler BIRDLIP, which operated from Freetown was torpedoed and sunk at 2335 today, it is believed in the same position as SS. ST. BASILE was torpedoed an hour later (off Liberia, see 14th June, para. 5.)

** German documents 471 show time of attack by U.547 as 0139/14th*

Mediterranean

10. Four B.26 aircraft attacked shipping in Leghorn harbour today; subsequent photographs showed two vessels down at the bows.

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

China

11. A 250 ft. freighter was sunk off the east coast of China today by U.S. Liberators. Yesterday two freighters were damaged at the mouth of the Yangtze.

Australia and New Zealand

12. M.T.Bs. operating off the north coast of Biak Island last night sank 3 barges laden with supplies.

13.6.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military
Situation.

Communique No. 15.

After two days of hard fighting, American troops have liberated Carentan, the possession of which materially strengthens the link established between our two major beachheads.

In the Tilly Sector strong enemy resistance continues. Steady progress has been made in other areas although there have been no marked advances.

The build-up is progressing satisfactorily.

Railway targets and enemy troops and vehicles were the main objectives of our aircraft which struck again in great strength throughout the afternoon and evening yesterday.

Fighters patrolled the beach areas and the channel. Other fighters destroyed a number of enemy aircraft on the ground. (S.H.A.E.F. 131100B to Agwar.)

Communique No. 16.

Allied troops have advanced generally in all sectors, particularly south of Bayeux between the Foret de Cerisy and Tilly sur Seules.

More than 10,000 prisoners have now been taken.

Deteriorating weather today slowed down our air offensive, but escorted heavy day bombers continued their attacks on airfields to the west of Paris. Medium bombers were also active.

E-Boats which had been attacked off Boulogne early in the morning by coastal aircraft were again hit later in the day by rocket and cannon-firing fighters. In these engagements at least 3 enemy ships were sunk and others were left on fire or badly damaged.

(S.H.A.E.F. 132330B to Agwar.)

Naval
Situation

Cositintrep No. 21, part 2, Naval.

A. General. WARSPITE was mined off Harwich this morning: last reported proceeding under own power at slow speed. There was increased enemy air activity during the night and glider bomb attacks were reported by WANDERER and VIMY to northwestward of C. Barfleur, and FAME south of Portland, all between 0400 and 0450 this morning. At 0445 BOADICEA blew up and sank south of Portland Bill, possibly torpedoed by A/C. The usual E-Boat activity took place but the enemy appears to have been driven off before he could reach our supply routes or penetrate the assault area.

B. British Sector. Nothing to report.

C. U.S. Sector. Shelling of Utah Beach reported decreasing.

D. Troops etc. landed. Mulberry B, though still under construction, has made initial report of 600 tons of stores landed.

E. Casualties. WARSPITE damaged by mine. BOADICEA sunk. U.S.S. NELSON (destroyer) damaged, torpedoed.

F. Coastal Command. Wellingtons made two attacks on group of 17 E/R Boats off Flushing last night, also on 3 E-Boats off Dieppe.

No U-Boats sighted in usual Biscay and West Channel Patrols.

G. Intelligence. Estimated TIRPITZ shortly capable of limited movement but two months before she can undertake offensive action.

(Ad. Ramsay 131430 to Admty.)

305

13.6.1944.

Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Bombarding Forces.Release of
Cruisers.

It is desired that the following order of priority may be followed when releasing Bombarding Force Cruisers: ORION, AJAX, ARETHUSA, BLACK PRINCE, BELFAST, (ARGONAUT, BELLONA, DIADEM), (GLASGOW, MAURITIUS, SIRIUS), (EMERALD, ENTERPRISE, SCYLLA, DRAGON, GEORGES LEYGUES, MONTCALM.) (V.C.N.S. 130040B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Western area.

My O.P. plan 244 modified as follows:
Task organisation add sub para. H. C.T.F. 129 support force Batdiv. 5 Crudiv. 7 GLASGOW, ENTERPRISE, BELLONA, BLACK PRINCE, MONTCALM, GEORGE LEYGUES, SOEMBA, Desron 60, Desron 10, PLUNKETT, BORUM, MALOY. Under 122. 4 area screen add Desrons 17 and 18. Delete units as shown above from groups and units to which previously assigned., Delete shore party O and Landing Force O, shore party U and Landing Force U. Para. 3, add sub para. H. Support the first U.S. Army with Naval gunfire as called for. Assist in anti-aircraft protection of shipping in W.N.T.F. Assault area. Furnish escorts for fire support ships. Be prepared to meet any strong enemy surface attack. This modification effective 0800B/15th June. (N.C.W.T.F. 132357B.)

Covering Operations.Patrols from
Plymouth.

My 121708B. Amend para. 3 and 4 as follows. Force 26 is to R/V with Force 27 in position JJ. 49° 20' N. 03° 40' W. at 0600 and then patrol on a line 090° - 170° to a distance of 15 miles on each side of position JJ. until further orders. (C. in C.Plymouth 130300B to Forces 26 and 27.)

Information. Own. 2nd, 3rd and 5th E.G. operating in mid Channel. Coastal forces operating north of 49° 10' N. from 0030/14 keeping east of 3° W. Enemy. As in my 121708B.

Intention. 2. Force 26 HAIDA (S.O.) and HURON. Force 27 PIORUN (S.O.) and ASHANTI to operate in the Ile de Bas - Jersey area tonight.

Object. 13/14th June to intercept and destroy enemy ships.

Execution. 3. Force 27 to pass Gate at 1600B today to reach JJ. 49° 29' N. 3° 15' W. at 1900 and then to patrol from JJ to KK 49° 12' N. 3° 30' W.

4. Leave vicinity of KK as requisite to pass through DD 000 Roches D'Ouvres Light 4 at 2330 and thence through FF 49° 06' N. 2° 30' W. to patrol between GG 48° 57' N. 2° 27' W. and HH 48° 57' N. 2° 45' W.

5. At 0400B/14 if no information proceed between Barnouic Light and Maurice Bank to R/V with force 26 at 0600 in LL 49.20 N. 3.40 W.

6. Area 2½ miles radius round 49° 03' N. 2° 35½' W. is only to be entered if in contact with enemy.

7. Force 26 is to pass the Gate at 2000B today and proceed to

/reach...

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

reach centre of patrol lines between BB. 49° 03' N. 3° 29' W. and CC. 48° 55' N. 4° 12' W. at 0001/14th and then to patrol on this line.

8. At 0500 if no further information Force 26 leave patrol to R/V Force 27 as above. After R/V both Forces under command of HAIDA are to patrol 15 miles 090° and 270° from LL. 9. Until 0600/14 each Force is to act independently, only supporting each other if called on or if clearly necessary. (C. in C.Plymouth 131324B to D.F.10.)

Night patrols 13/14th. P.C.W.O. 120.

A. 1. G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 720, 678.

2. G.N.2. M.T.Bs. 676, 719.

3. G.T.1 M.Ls. 181, 183, 180.

4. G.T. 2 M.Ls. 186, 157, 159.

B. 2300/13. D. 1. In vicinity 179° Portland Bill 11'.

2. In vicinity 227° Portland Bill 20'.

3. In vicinity 209° Start 16'.

4. In vicinity 146° Start 13'.

F. 0515/14.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131330B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, BLACK BAT.)

P.C.W.O. 120.

1. A. Unit G.O.1, M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 743, 727, 745.

B. 2030B/13. C. RR. 250° Casquets 12' to arrive 2330, SS. 163 Alderney Light 8' to arrive 0100.

D. From SS. sweep S.W. to TT. 090° Sark Light, 5 miles.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. Area to be left in time to be 5 miles N.W. of RR. by 1st light.

G. Return north of Guernsey.

2. A. Unit G.O.2, M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 717, 713, 677.

B. 2015B/13. C. XX. 270 Les Hanois 9 to arrive 2330, thence keeping 8 miles south of Guernsey to YY. 326 La Corbiere 8 to arrive 0130.

D. Area between St. Peter Port and La Corbiere, unit is not to proceed south of 49° 10' N. unless in action with the enemy.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. Area to be left in time to be in 320 Les Hanois 15 at 1st light.

G. By reverse route keeping east of 3° W. until first light.

(C., in C.Plymouth 131402B to M.T.Bs. N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

19 Group Beaufighters will operate against shipping in Channel Island area until 2315 today.

2. Do not pass DD. before 2330 unless ordered.

Endeavour reach GG. by 0030, and then reduce speed if desired. My 131324B para. 4 refers.

3. Two fighters will be on patrol in your vicinity from 2100 till last light today. Four fighters will escort forces 26 and 27 from 0600/14.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131816B to Force 27.)

My 131402 and 131457. 1. Cancel units G.O.1 and G.O.2. 2. Units G.N.1 and G.N.2 at immediate notice in harbour from 2300. 3. Unit G.T.1 and G.T.2 at half hour notice in harbour.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131904B to Forces 26 and 27, E.Gs. 2, 3 and 5.)

307

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Eastern Channel.

One size E six Size C from Boulogne at 0005 south-bound at 11 knots. Turned off Berck sur Mer at 0235 and entered Boulogne at 0505. Attacked by two Albacores and two Swordfish. Results not yet known.

Three size A (unreliable) from twenty three miles northwest of Dieppe at 0235 zigzagging on a northwesterly course. Speed 15 knots. When in position 170° Beachy Head 28 miles plot became confused owing to technical fault in Radar Station with the result that interception was missed. Track re-appeared ten miles to the northeastward at 0324 on a northeasterly course speed 30 knots and faded 13 miles southwest of Boulogne at 0435. Possible E-Boats minelaying. Attacked by 3 Beaufighters and later by eight Typhoons who sighted four E-Boats three of which they claim to have destroyed or seriously damaged.

Twelve size A off Boulogne from 0625 to 0715 identified by Typhoons as 10 E/R Boats.

2. Considerable E-Boat activity reported by patrols off Cap d'Antifer. BRISSENDEN reports having set one E-Boat on fire.

3. Radar conditions very good.

(V.A.Dover 131138B to Admty.)

O.N.Dover 67.

F.N.1 M.Ls. 213, 128 Z.1. F.N.2 M.Ls. 466, 452 Z.2. F.U. SAVAGE Double Patrol Z.3, Z.5. F.N.4 M.Ls. 254, 276 Z.4, Z.6. F.N.7 M.Ls 101, 102 Z.7. F.U.

COTTESMORE Z.8 south. F.U. OPPORTUNE Z.10 west. F.U. LA COMBATTANTE Z.11 west. F.Y.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 east. F.Y.2 M.T.Bs. 699, 703 Z.12 east. F.Y.3 M.T.Bs. 611, 615, 613 135° Z.12 west 2 miles F.X.1 TROLLOPE Z.13 east. F.X.2 M.T.Bs. 706, 710 Z.13 east. F.X.3 M.T.Bs. 602, 614, 616 045° Z.13 west 2 miles. 2. BRISSENDEN 314° Cap d'Antifer Lt. 20.5 miles. MELBREAK 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. WENSLEYDALE 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W.

Patrols to be three miles in direction 180° and 360° either side of respective patrol positions turning at Northern end at the half hour.

(V.A.Dover 131302B.)

My 131302. Amend to read SAVAGE Unit F.U.1. COTTESMORE Unit F.U.2, OPPORTUNE Unit F.U.3, LA COMBATTANTE Unit F.U.4
(V.A.Dover 131644B to Ships.)

My 131302B and 131644B, OPPORTUNE and SAVAGE exchange patrol and designations.
(V.A.Dover 131836B to Ships.)

• My 131302. Amend patrol as follows:

F.U.1 OPPORTUNE double patrol Z.3, Z.5.

F.U.2 COTTESMORE Z.7.

F.U.4 LA COMBATTANTE double patrol Z.8 south to Z.9

south. F.U.3 SAVAGE double patrol Z.10 south Z.11 west.

2. Delete all reference to BRISSENDEN and Coastal Craft. Frigates and remaining destroyers as in my 131302.

(V.A.Dover 131958B to Ships.)

/My...

13.6.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

My 131302 add 1. First C.F. Flotilla 55 M.T.B. Flotilla, 29 M.T.B. Flotilla, and 1st Div. 14 M.T.B. Flotilla south of 049° 32' N. and east 000° 24' W.

2. Duty destroyer Divn. between lat. 049° 40' N. 049° 32' N. and east of 000° 24' W.

3. Guard Dest. Divn. between lat. 049° 40' N. 049° 28' N. and long 000° 40' W. 000° 24' W. A.S.A. Division. (V.A.Dover 132001B to Ships.)

Shall have to leave patrol at 0445 or earlier depending on weather to comply C. in C.Portsmouth's 131816.

(MELBREAK 132130B to V.A.Dover.)

My 131302. Add TANATSIDE (G.H.1) and TALYBONT (G.H.2) patrolling east of Channel 78 between A and D Buoy.

(V.A.Dover 132214B to Ships.)

THORNBOROUGH Radar out of action. Am patrolling with THORNBOROUGH in company. Z.13 E to 000 Z.13 E.6, turning northern end every hour.

(TROLLOPE 132320B to V.A.Dover.)

Eastern Assault Area.

Defence policy for night 13/14th. V.2 First C.F. Flotilla. V.7 55th M.T.B. Flotilla 180° 2 miles from established position. V.8 First division 14th M.T.B. Flotilla 305° 2 miles and 29th M.T.B. Flotilla 205° 3½ miles from established position. U.14 TUNNY north. R.5 PIKE. Q.1. N.3.

2. Captain patrol will detail destroyer for U.14. R.5.

3. 2nd Division of 14th M.T.B. Flotilla will operate to eastward of Trout Line leaving F.1 berth at 2315 and through the Trout line at F.1 at 0030.

(N.C.E.T.F. 131244B to E.T.F.)

Patrols

O.N.Portsmouth 1 para. 58. Cover night 13/14th. from PortsmouthA. ONSLOW (G.D.1) OFFA (G.D.2) ONSLAUGHT (G.D.3.)

ORIBI (G.D.4) on long. 01.00 W. between 49.47 N. and 50.06 N. TANATSIDE (G.H.1) TALYBONT (G.H.2) patrolling east of Channel 78 between A and D Buoys.

B. RETALICK (G.D.1) in Z.111 on 01.15 W. between 49.44 N. and 49.50 N. DUFF in Z.122 on lat. 49.50 between 01.47 W. and 01.56 W.

C. Unit G.B.2 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.) 692.

Unit G.B.3 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.), 694.

Both with RETALICK in Z.111, not to proceed west of 01.29 W. unless in action.

/Unit...

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.) Unit G.D.4, 3 H.D.M.Ls. in vicinity 49.44 N. 01.15 W.
Unit G.F.2 M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 701.
Unit G.F.3 M.T.Bs. 704 (S.O.), 714.
Both with DUFF in Z.122, not to proceed east of 01.42 W. unless in action.
D. Unit G.M. M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 454, 478, initial position 280 Cap Levi 5 miles, not to proceed east of 01.29 W. or west of 01.42 W. unless in action.
E. Following under orders of V.A.Dover: MELBREAK in vicinity 49.43 N. 00.22 W. WENSLEYDALE in vicinity 49.50 N. 00.18 W.
F. Destroyers to be in position by 2200B. ONSLOW report disposition of Force G.D. by 2200. Forces G.B. and G.F. and Unit G.M. routed via Needles and position 50.10 N. 01.45 W. Unit G.B.4 direct from Poole to 50.10 N. 01.45 W. and thence to patrol position. Force G.F., G.B and Unit G.M. to be stopped between 2245B and 2305B during Beaufighter sweep from Barfleur to Cap de la Hague.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 131430B.)

O.N. one, para. 52B.

Eastern Night Channel Report 13/14th.

1. SAVAGE Z.3, Z.5. COTTESMORE Z.8 south.

OPPORTUNE Z.10 west. LA COMBATTANTE Z.11 west.

F.Y.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 east. F.X. 1 TROLLOPE Z.13 east.
BRISSENDEN 314° Cap d'Antifer 20½ miles MELBREAK vicinity 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. WENSLEYDALE vicinity 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W.
C.H.1 TANATSIDE G.H.2 TALYBONT east of Channel 78 between A and D Buoys. BEAGLE, VENUS, ALGONQUIN, SCOURGE, vicinity Z Buoy.
2. C.F. Units. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1, F.N.2 2 M.Ls. Z.2. F.N.4 2 M.Ls. Z.4, Z.6. F.N. 7 2 M.Ls. Z.7. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 east. F.Y.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12 west. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east. F.X.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 west.
3. Beaufighters Boulogne to 00° 30' E. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 132007B to A.I.G.508.)

My 132016B. Para. 1 add - 3rd E.G. Z.200, Z.201.

2nd E.G. Z.212, to Z.214, Z.206 to N.W.corner Z.

208. 5th E.G. Z.233, Z.234, Z.238, Z.239. 12th

E.G. Z.242, Z.236. Para. 2 add - G.N.1 2 M.T.Bs.

Z.200 north. G.N.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.205 north. G.T.1, 3 M.Ls.

Z.217 north. G.T.2, 3 M.Ls. N.W.corner Z.212.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 132102B to A.I.G.509.)

O.N.1 para. 52B.

Western night Channel report 13/14th.

1. BEAGLE, VENUS, ALGONQUIN, SCOURGE vicinity Z

buoy. G.D.1 ONSLOW, G.D.2 OFFA, G.D.3 ONSLAUGHT,

G.D.4 ORIBI on 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 06'

N. G.B.1 RETALICK Z.111. G.F.1 DUFF Z.122 north.

2. C.F.Units. G.B.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.11, G.B.3, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.111.

G.B.4, 3 H.D.M.Ls, S.W. Corner Z.111. G.F.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.122

north. G.F.3, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.122 north G.M.3, M.T.Bs. Z.115 west.

310

War Diary.13.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

3. Aircraft all areas west of 02° 20' W. north of French coast excluding Channel Islands. Avengers on coastal convoy route. Beaufighters in Z.203, Z.209, Z.210. Controlled Albacores Barfleur to Alderney.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 132016B to A.I.G.509.)

Minesweeping.

- Eastern area. B.A.A.D.O. 14. 1st, 6th, 7th, 9th and 15th M/S Flotillas are available for tonight.
(Capt. M/S East 131152B to N.C.E.T.F.)
- Mid-Channel. One mine detonated in 050° 08' 18" N. 001° 09' 24" W. Area now swept to an average depth of 5 miles from northern unit. Total mines to date 9.
(PANGBOURNE 131331B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action.

- E-Boats off Cap Barfleur. 3 E-Boats bearing 170° distance 3 miles. My position 052° Pointe de Barfleur 14 miles.
(G.F.1 130014 to Portsmouth.)
- 3 E-Boats 49° 46' N. 01° 00' W.
(VIDETTE 130015 to Portsmouth.)
- My 0023. Bearing 140° distance 4.5 miles. My position 065° Pte. de Barfleur 16 miles.
(G.F.1 130024 to Portsmouth.)
- Minesweepers off Cap Barfleur. 3 minesweepers 320° Pointe de Barfleur 3 miles course 090° speed 12 knots. G.A.8. Attack completed, result doubtful. Have expended all ammunition.
(G.A.1 130044 to Portsmouth.)
- E-Boats off Cap d'Antifer. 8 E-Boats 350° Cap d'Antifer 8 miles, course 270°, speed 35 knots.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 130022 to Ships.)
- Surface craft detected by Radar bearing 175° distance 4 miles. My position 285° Cap d'Antifer 18.5 miles.
(MELBREAK 130120 to Portsmouth.)

/Enemy...

311

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy Action.

Enemy course and speed 355° 30 knots.
(MELBREAK 130122 to Portsmouth.)

My 0120 unknown number of E-Boats.
(MELBREAK 130124 to Portsmouth.)

Position three enemy E-Boats 50.00 N. 00.52 E.
(A/C 130315 to 16 Group.)

My 0315. Position 50.00 N. 00.52 E. stationary.
(A/C 130355 to 16 Group.)

CAMROSE
attacked.

Am being attacked by E-Boat. My P.C. and S. are
58 D 185° four knots.
(CAMROSE 130105 to Portsmouth.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat
attacked.

Am attacking U-Boat in 50.25 N. 03.01 W.
(MOOSEJAW 131242B to Portsmouth.)

MOOSEJAW's 1242B. HOTSPUR, INCONSTANT detached
to assist.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 131325B to Ships.)

FAME 1325. Detach 2 ships to relieve HOTSPUR,
INCONSTANT hunting in 050° 25' N. 003° 01' W.
(?C. in C.Plymouth 131504B to VEGREVILLE.)

A/S Patrol. Following ships are to form A/S patrol on meridian
001° W. between 049° 47' N. and 050° 06' N. from
daybreak tomorrow, ONSLOW, OFFA, TANATSIDE,
TALYBONT, WENSLEYDALE.

2. ONSLAUGHT and ORIBI return to harbour on relief by Hunts.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 132335B and 140729.)

U-Boat
situation.

English Channel situation still not clarified, but
probably three between Isle of Wight and Beachhead
One reported by MOOSEJAW off Lyme Bay not yet
verified.

Probably three or four between areas of Cap de la
Hague and Ushant. One or two within 30 miles of lat. 49° 40' N.
long. 09° 00' W. probably eastbound.
(D.D.I.C. 131433B to A.I.G.331.)

A/S sweep.

My 131302. On completion LA COMBATTANTE to carry
out A/S sweep of convoy route from meridian of
Greenwich to approx. 2 mile south west C.1 A Buoy.
(V.A.Dover 131558B.)

/"Schnorkel"...

312

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

Schnorkel Gear. Following is gist of C. in C. Plymouth 121355. In recent sightings in channel following features have been observed of Schnorkel apparatus.

- (1) Actual pipe normally indistinguishable until very close and discrepancy quoted outbreak Mushroom Head X near surface of water (in flat calm).
 (2) Exhaust appear to bubble up from underwater and produce very noticeable thick brown cloud of oily smoke estimated visible at 5 mile in clear weather and light wind.
 (3) Aircraft have obtained Radar contact at 2½ miles from 1000 feet but no Radar contact was obtained by surface craft fitted with 271Q at the range although smoke was in illumination from Leigh Light. No evidence of maximum range at which it can be picked up by 271Q which will certainly depend on weather and length of tube exposed.
 (4) Schnorkel appears to be fitted with sensitive warning device as S/M has (? invariably) submerge completely on near approach of air or surface craft.
 (5) No H.E. heard at 2 miles. No evidence at shorter ranges.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 132029B to Ships.)
 98 A. T.O.O. 231853. It is estimated that Schnorkel is unlikely to be used in sea whose height from trough to crest exceeds about 6 feet.
 (2) As a temporary measure on the occasion of making weather reports in accordance with A.F.O.S. 285/44 ships on the Home Station east of 015° W., but not including the Irish Sea, are to follow such reports by the word suitable or unsuitable according to whether weather is suitable to allow Schnorkel or not.
 (C. in C. W.A., 132359B to Ships.)

Contact. Am investigating contact position 147° St. Catherine's Point 14½ miles.
 (SCOURGE, 132205B to Portsmouth.)
 Consider S/M damaged.
 (SCOURGE, 132316B to Portsmouth.)

Allied Air Activity

Air Corridors. The following corridors are established for use by non-operational aircraft between the U.K. and Continent corridor. No.1 Dungeness to Le Touquet. No.2 Eastbourne to Le Treport. No.3 Eastbourne to St. Valery en Caux. No.4 Littlehampton to Etretat. No.5 Selsey Bill to a point due north of Bayeux. No.6 Selsey Bill to Barfleur. No.7 Christchurch to Barfleur. No.8 Lulworth to Cap de la Hague. No.9 Lyme Regis to Cap de la Hague.
 (2) Corridors are ten miles in width and aircraft will keep to the right.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 131738B.)

/Cositintrep ...

313

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Allied Air Activity

Cositintrep 22, part three, Air.
 Summary for period 2100B hours 12th June to
 sunrise 13th June. Total sorties 1790.
 Summary of Targets. Details.
 Enemy Operations. 60 fighters and bombers over
 North France and beachhead.
 (Leigh-Mallory, 132359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Enemy Air Activity

Off
 Cherbourg
 Peninsula. . Enemy aircraft bombing, position 070° Pte. de
 Barfleur 24 miles.
 (A/C 3HFY, 130220B to Portsmouth.)

Am being attacked by enemy aircraft 070° Pte. de
 Barfleur 25 miles.
 (WANDERER, 130409B to Whitehall W/T.)

Am being attacked by enemy torpedo bombers.
 My position now is 50° 11' N. 02° 33' W.
 (FAME, 130455B to Devonport PWG.)

LAPWING
 attacked. Plot No.1 Patch five attacked by glider bombs
 at 34B Buoy.
 (LAPWING, 130428 to Portsmouth W/T.)

VERITY
 attacked. Enemy aircraft bombing 148° St. Catherines Point
 35 miles.
 (VERITY, 130436 to Portsmouth.)

VERITY was in West Africa

Movements

Excessive
 speeds. Ramp complaints have been received that ships
 and craft are passing Mulberry tow at H.S.
 causing damage and danger to personnel riding
 the tows.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 131445 to Ships.)

Hospital
 Carriers. Request you will sail in E.X.P.6W, Hospital
 Carriers now in St. Helens Roads as follows, to
 arrive a.m./14th June.
 LADY CONNAUGHT to U.S. Sector.
 BATAVIER II and NEW BEDFORD to British Sector.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 131845 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

BOADICEA sunk. Following report received from N.O.I.C. Portland. BOADICEA was hit by 2 torpedoes fired by Ju.88. She blew up from the engine room forward sinking in 3 minutes. 2 officers, 10 ratings survivors picked up by VANQUISHER and landed at Portland. (C. in C. Plymouth, 131314B to Admty., A.N.C.X.F.)

BOADICEA was sunk at 130445 by two torpedoes from Ju.88 A/C south of Portland Bill. 12 survivors were rescued by VANQUISHER. (C. in C. Plymouth, 132100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Landing Craft on 6th June. So far as can be ascertained casualties to Force S Landing Craft on D day were as follows:-

Craft	Sunk or destroyed	Missing	Damaged
L.C.T.	1	1	22
L.C.T.(A)	-	-	5
L.C.I.(L)	-	-	7
L.C.I.(S)	8	1	12
L.C.A.	11	-	5
L.C.A.(H.R)	8	-	1
L.C.M.	3	5	-
L.C.P.(L)	2	-	1

(F.O. Force S, 131358 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Nine L.C.A. craft lost. Nine L.C.A. of 550 Flotilla embarked in SS. EMPIRE ANVIL were lost during recent operations Nos. 655, 788, 849, 913, 1028, 1074, 1082, 1088, 1144. (FOLIOT, 131556B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Enemy Artillery Craft at Isigny. Artillery boat German mounting 2-88 m.m. guns, one 37 m.m. and 2-20 m.m. (? guns) hit by bomb and is aground alongside quay at Isigny. Impractical to refloat as back is broken and hole in starboard side. Army Port Engineer stripping armament and dismantling to clear quay and will not discontinue operation. Hull. Armament and engine will be available for examination by technical experts for about one week and an early examination is suggested. (C.G. 1st U.S. Army, 131945B to A.N.C.X.F.)

13.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

Phoenix Unit S.50. Tug CHEERLY reports that Phoenix Unit S.50 towed by ALLEGIANCE disappeared about 0300/11th. (N.O.I.C. Mulberry "B", 130030B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

MONARCH. MONARCH damaged by gunfire from American destroyer. Damage believed considerable. Request instructions. (TRENTONIAN, 130325B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

My 130325. MONARCH anchored 049° 29.5' N. 000° 51.5' W. Cable shot away but mark buoy being laid. MONARCH seaworthy but without compass. After disposing injured intend (? leading) MONARCH to Portsmouth. (TRENTONIAN, 130710B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

WARSPITE. Mined one mile North of 54 Buoy 051° 52' N. 001° 41' E. (WARSPITE, 130750 to Nore PWG.) Tugs are being sent from Harwich and Great Yarmouth. SOUTHDOWN pass to WARSPITE. (C. in C. Nore, 130826B to WARSPITE.)

WARSPITE mined in approx. one mile North of 54 Buoy at 0748. Ship is proceeding to destination at 8 knots. (C. in C. Nore, 131235B to Admt.)

WARSPITE escorted by SOUTHDOWN and HOLMES at Number 4 Buoy 1215, speed 8 knots. (C. in C. Nore, 131240B to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

Tug HEADLAND from Humber will meet you about 1830 and proceed in company to destination. (C. in C. Nore, 131457B to WARSPITE.)

P.C.S. at 2000 East Dudgeon Buoy northbound 10 knots with starboard engine only. E.T.A. Firth of Forth Bridge 2100B tomorrow. Estimate can pass Bridge for clearance up to 2115. Request tugs and dockyard pilot attend off A Buoy. No casualties. Estimated deepest draught 35 feet. (WARSPITE, 131829B to C. in C. Rosyth.) *(Arrived Rosyth 2032/14)*

Landing Barges. The following landing barges which sailed from Poole and Plymouth on D - 1 and D day have failed to report to Omaha and Utah sectors.

Convoy O.4: L.B.V. 225, 53, 100, 79, L.B.O. 16.
Convoy O.5: L.B.V. 28, 104, 42, 64, 66, 92, 203, 39, 55, 93, 136, 168. L.B.W. 8. L.B.E. 8, 29, 46.

Convoy U.5: L.B.O. 79, 11. L.B.W. 4.

Convoy U.6: L.B.W. 6. L.B.V. 230.

It is requested that I may be advised whether any of these barges have reported to Gold, Juno or Sword sectors and whether any of them have arrived in British ports. It is requested that all available landing barges allocated to Forces O and U which are in British ports or with other Forces may be sailed to Omaha and Utah sectors at the first opportunity. (Com. Landing Barges West, 131030B to Admt.)

/BOADICEA ...

(p 314)

316

War Diary13.6.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.C.M.1. A. Sailed Convoy.
 B. Escort SCARBOROUGH (S.O.) HUDDERSFIELD TOWN,
 SWITHA, PETUNIA, BEAGLE, M.L.247.
 C. E.T.A. Southampton 0830 Portland 0830.
 Portsmouth 0600. All B.13th.
 D. Bridle U.V.
 E. For Southampton: JAMES A. FARREL, HARRY PERCY, CYRUS
 MCCORMICK, JAMES CALDWELL, EPHRAIM, BREVARD, JOHN A. CAMPBELL,
 FRANCIS C. HARRINGTON, LOUIS MARSHALL, G.H. BLASDEL, L.S.T.511,
 281, 47, 402, 404.
 For Falmouth; LUCIAN B. MAXWELL.
 For Portsmouth: L.T.2, L.S.T.134.
 For Portland: L.S.T. 283, 332, 509, 523, 58.
 F. Casualties 1200.
 (C.T.G.122.7 130035B.)
- F.T.M.6. Sailed.
 B. MONTROSE, WHITSHED, BORAGE, LOOSESTRIFE,
 M.L.139 detaching with Isle of Wight section.
 C. E.T.A. Nab 1830/13th Southend 0905/14th.
 D. Astoria V.C.
 E. LURCHCREST, FORT MC.MURRAY, OCEAN COURIER, FORT KASKASKIA,
 FORT HENLEY, NEW BEDFORD for Solent (?) EMPIRE STUART, KICKEARL,
 WILLIAM CARSON, EMPIRE BRUTUS, COOMBE HILL, L.S.T. for Tilbury
 176, 541, 364, 493, 359, 379, 335, 336, 367, 175, 55, L.S.T. for
 Isle of Wight 73, 423, 323, 164, 517, 53, (?) 530, 291, 430, 137
 towing one L.C.T.(1)
 F. L.S.T.73(1) 34 (3) 2 L.S.T. 423 (1) 89 (2) 49 (3) 5 L.S.T.
 323 (3) 195 L.S.T.164 (1) 36 (2) 8 (3) 2 L.S.T.517 (1) 61 (3)
 4 L.S.T. 53 (3) 53 L.S.T. 530 (1) 5 (3) 25.
 (Capt. N.S. 130930B.)
- F.T.C.6. Sailed: A. F.T.C.6.
 B. GENTIAN, VICTRIX and M.L.344. GENTIAN
 will proceed Nore unless relief escort is sent.
 C. CHORLEY. Q.C.
 E. TEESWOOD, SAINT ANGUS, SODALITY, ARDGRYFFE, ASSIDUITY.
 Fourteen Trawlers (corrupt group) B one (corrupt group) making
 group.
 (Capt. N.S. 131100B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- E.C.M.7. Pass to N.C.S.Os.
 Bucu convoy E.C.M.7 sails Falmouth 1700/14th.
 Time of passing Area Z and arrival in France as
 in A.N.C.X.F.'s 121259B.
 (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 131135B.)
- Code and Value of ships code boards and destination boards
 destination of shuttle service has been amply proved if used
 boards. correctly. Request all concerned be informed of
 importance of filling in board for each voyage and
 displaying it throughout passage.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 131204 to A.I.G.510, Cmdre. Southend,
 F.O.I.C. Falmouth, N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

/F.T.C.5 ...

317

13.6.1944
TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.T.C.5. Following ships arrived Thames;
SS. BOSTON TRADER, SS. SAMOS, SS. EMPIRE HEARTH.
(Cdre. i/c Southend, 131416B.)
- E.B.C.10. Sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 131515B.)
- LAVEROCK - Order LAVEROCK to proceed with E.W.L.8 weighing
E.W.L.8. from St. Helens Roads 0100B/14 (S.O.LAVENDER)
sailing orders being sent by N.C.S.O., A.N.C.X.F.'s
131129* not to all and on 16 Appx. X11 D Serial
14 refers.
(C. in C. Portsmouth (T) 131522.)
* Request LAVEROCK be sailed to Mulberry B.
tomorrow 14th.
- E.T.C.8. A. Sailed E.T.C.8.
B. WALPOLE, ORCHIS, MIDDLETON.
C. E.T.A. 0600/14.
D. TALBOT.
E. For Gold: HETTON, GLENCAIRN, WATSON,
FERRIS, GLADONIA, APRICITY.
For Juno; SEDULITY, HAWARDEN BRIDGE, EVELYN WOOD, STANLEY
FORCE, EBRIX, CHANT 60.
For Sword: FEHJA, DAGENHAM, ABILITY, CHANT TWO, SIGNALITY.
For Yapton, IPSWICH TRADER.
For E.T.F., WESTLAND, SOJOURNER.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131535.)
- Turco. SS. SOJOURNER sailed in error with
E.T.C.8 W. order her to return by reverse route
her destination should be Omaha.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 131710B to WALPOLE)
- My 131515* E.T.C.8 delete STANLEY Force add for
Sword, PELITO, GLEIDENNING.
(A.N.C.X.F. 132039B.)
* Presumably 131535. N.T. in W.D. Asked for 14th/6
- My 131535B and 132039B convoy E.T.C.8, delete
WESTLAND.
(A.N.C.X.F. 132331.)
- E.C.142. Para. A. Sailed from 3.
B. E.C.142, 1225 U.S.C.G.T.13, U.S.C.G.T.45
Trawler SKYE (S.O. in VESPER 155)
C. E.T.A. Portland 0100B/14th Barry 1200B/15th
Southampton 0100B/14th Plymouth 1100B/14th Tilbury to meet
Thames convoy at Isle of Wight Falmouth 1600B/14th.
D. (CORINTHIAN?) GS.
E. F.O. Falmouth SHANTON KING FRANCES, ASBURY, for Southampton
JEREMIAH OBRIEN, DAN BEARD, JOHN R. PARK, EDWARD D. WHITE,
JOSEPH PULITZER, ROBERT TOOMS, THOMAS WOLFE, AVANGIE.

/Estuary...

War Diary

13.6.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.C.142
(Contd.)

Estuary L.S.T. 94369, 2851286, 374, 388, 344, 197
389, 325, 139 for Plymouth HENRY F. RICE, JESSE,
APPLEGATE, LILLEA, for Llanelly BROCKLEY, COOLER,
for Barry CLAUDIUS MAGNIN, for Portland L.S.T.
502, 516, 355, 350, 529, 761, 133, 262, 50, 420,
504, 5754, 292, 288, for Tilbury L.S.T.980.

F.	Ship	Casualties	Walking Cases	P.o.W.
	502	20	5	0
	355	18	4	6
	350	2	0	0
	529	11	1	1
	262	78	32	0
	50	0	1	0
	50	40	0	355
	57	95	58	4
	292	129	34	4
	288	7	2	0
	285	0	1	0
	286	66	20	0
	289	2	1	0
	388	125	39	21
	197	24	4	0
	325	0	0	68

(C.T.G.122.7 131913B.)

F.W.G.6 My 132015 Part Q.
F.W.H.6 Sailed:
a. F.W.G.6 and F.W.H.6.
b. GRENVILLE, URANIA, FURY, BADDECK, RIMOUSKI,
CALGARY, TUXEDO, M.L.269, U.S.C.G.4, 20 and 21
detached at ZXP Poole.
c. E.T.A. 0745/14th.
d. Magnesium KT.
e. F.W.M. 6 FORT YALE, FORT PIC, WILL ROGERS, OCEAN VENGEANCE,
EMPIRE NEWTON, VANCOUVER CITY, FORT ASSINIBOINE, EMPIRE FALSTAFF,
EMPIRE LANKESTER, FORT ESPERANCE, FORT LIVINGSTONE, OCEAN ANGEL,
FORT MACPHERSON, FORT POPLAR, FORT ROMAINE, BATAVIER 11, L.S.T.
308, 215, 528, F.W.C.6, FLATHOUSE, TROMP, KYLE, CASTLE RINGEN,
CHANNEL QUEEN, SEA VI (KING?) E.CORUNDUM, PASS OF BALLATER,
ESKWOOD, EMPIRE CADET, Tug EMPIRE LARCH, SARD.
f. L.S.T.308.
Sailed:
a. F.W.C.6 and F.W.M.6
1. 223. 2. 98(?) 3. 4 L.S.T.215 (1) 16 (2) 3 L.S.T.
528 (1) 22 (2) 6.
(Capt. N.S., 132015B.)

E.B.C.8. A. Sailed. B. 143rd E.G. C. 0600/14
D. Decision AM. E. For Utah: JERNFJELD
SENE, THE BARON.
For Omaha: A.S.K. FREEMAN, HATCH, LEKA, HELMOND.
(A.N.C.X.F. 132037.)

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.C.M.6. (A) Sailed.
(B) MOOSEJAW, ACONIT, KRIEZIS, LA SURPRISE.
(C) 0500/14. (D) ZODIAC H (E) For Utah,
ROBERT E PEARY, EDWIN ABBEY, BENJAMIN HAWKINS, C.P. HUNTINGDON,
AMOS THROOP, CHARLES D. POSTON, L.S.T.508, 375, 490.
For Omaha. JOSEPH LIPPINCOTT, EZRA WESTON, CHARLES JONES, WEBB
MILLER, CLINTON KELLY, JEDEDIAN SMITH, EUGENE O'DONNELL, CHARLES
HALL.
(A.N.C.X.F. 132040).

Ships One of the reasons why we are falling behind with
proceeding the planned build up is that a large number of
to wrong ships have returned to the Solent which should
destinations have continued to other ports. This results in
their later arrival at their loading port and
outward convoys during next few days will not be
up to strength for this reason. It is essential that all masters
be impressed with the vital importance of returning to their
destination as ordered before sailing unless otherwise directed
by Naval Authorities later. It is also essential that no
opportunity be lost of sailing to their proper destinations ships
which inadvertently may return to another port. The build up
depends directly on both these points.
(A.N.C.X.F., 132147B).

F.W.M.4. A. Sailed F.W.M.4.
B. E.G.105 (S.O.), WANDERER, DIANELLA, RENONCULE,
PORT ARTHUR, and M.L. 1058.
C. E.T.A. Southampton 0930B/14th, Portland same
time. (D) JASK RABBIT LD (R) LD. (E) For Southampton M.T.
BELVA LOCKWOOD, M.T. GEORGE STEERS, M.T. JOHN G. WHITTIER,
M.T. JOHN MERRICK. For Portland L.S.T. 25, 515, 400, 75, 351,
532, 533, 372. Add to ships for Southampton L.S.T. 165, 510,
405.

(f) L.S.T.	Stretcher	Ambulatory	P.O.W.
510	76	76	None
515	142	45	165
351	None	31	None
372	40	102	5

(C.T.G. 122-7, 132321).

F.C.P.3. (A) Sailed F.C.P.3.
(B) E.G.111. S.O. in U.62.
(C) E.T.A. 2100 B 14 Plymouth.
(D) SQUIRE A V EASY.

For Southampton - EMPIRE SPEARHEAD (Commodore), EMPIRE MACE.
For Portland - CANTERBURY, ST. HELIER.
For Plymouth - PRINCESS MAUD.
(C.T.G. 122-7, 132325).

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Diversions

Diversionsary - Diversionsary sweep by HAIDA and HURON last night sweep. to eastward of Roches D'Ouvres proved uneventful. A number of pyrotechnics were seen on shore in the vicinity of St. Malo and on west coast of Cotentin peninsula. The programme of W/T transmission was carried out.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 132100B).

Administration

Destroyers A.N.C.X.Fs. 121848 not to all addressees. Force Commander report names of destroyers it is intended to sail. Retain Fleet as follows:-
Force 'S' 6, Force 'G' and Force 'J' 2 each.
(2) Hunts in E.T.F. are transferred herewith to operational control of Capt. Patrols.
(3) KEMPENFELT Capt. (D) 26th D.F. as Capt. Patrols will be retained in addition to numbers shown in para. one above until WAVENEY returns.
(4) All destroyers surrendered should be used as required by Capt. N.S. for escort duties on passage.
(N.C.E.T.F.(A), 131121B to S.O. Force 'S', S.O. Force 'J', S.O. Force 'G').

Operation of Hospital Carriers Delays in turning round Carriers have abrogated programme given in No. X/0800/18A of 13th May, 1944.
(2) In future instructions for the sailing of Hospital Carriers will be issued by M.W.T. (Buco) in consultation with A.N.C.X.F. to meet requirements of army allocation to British and U.S. Sectors remaining as before except where casualties to ships necessitate adjustment. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to implement sailing programmes. It is important that carriers are sailed from Southampton to anchorage as soon as disembarkation and other essential items have been completed.
(3) Reference O.N.13 Para. 60 whilst air menace is relatively small but risk of E/boat attack persists carriers should be sailed both outwards and homewards so that passage south of latitude 50 degs. 20' N. is made in daylight carriers remaining off beaches for one night.
(A.N.C.X.F., 131206B).

Tids N.C.E.T.Fs. 112322.*
Of 15 Tids manned by British Army and detailed for duty on far shore ECLAIR is defective, but remaining 14 have sailed and all are expected to have arrived by p.m. tomorrow.
(2) It is intended to make available a further 8 Tids at present manned by R.N.Ps. crews in the Portsmouth Area, as soon as they are no longer required for despatch of Mulberry.
(3) Every effort is being made to procure more shallow draft tugs for far shore duty.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131655) *N.T. in W.R.

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Russian visit to Operation "Neptune". Gen. Burrows from Firebrace.
(1) For viewing "Neptune" Admiral Kharlamov and self were embarked MAURITIUS. Vasiliev and Shara-pov with naval interpreter in WARSPITE. Every possible facility afforded Russians including shore of German shelling. All possible information supplied and officers H.M. ships went out of their way to give Russian guests best show possible. We were 9 days embarked including 2 days off beaches during which MAURITIUS and WARSPITE took part in bombardment of sea and shore targets. Returned London 8th June.
(2) Russians expressed great admiration at magnificent organisation of operation and were undoubtedly much impressed with what they saw, especially with complete command of sea and air.
(3) Russian officers expressed gratitude to Admiral Paterson Commanding 2nd Cruiser Squadron and to captains of ships in which they were accommodated. Only incident was short sulk by Vasiliev at lack of news from beaches.
(4) Consider visit most successful in every way. It has put Soviet Mission even more heavily in our debt. I rubbed in this point to Kharlamov who said he had information that you would be given a visit to front.
(War Office, 131230B to British Mission, Moscow).

Defence of U.K.

Iceland. A.S.F.D. Grof closed down as from 5th June.
A.S.F.D. My 141402 May and Admty. 130510 May refer.
station (A.C.I.C., 132134B to Admty.).
at Grof closed.

Operations

Proposed Operation Request you prepare to carry out operation on following lines sailing from Scapa about Monday 19th or as soon as sufficient destroyers are available.
(2) Object. To influence the enemy to retain in Norwegian waters large U/boat force now located there.
(3) Intention (A) To simulate convoy bound for North Russia.
(B) To take advantage of situation created by (A) to destroy U/boats. (C) To maintain threat of invasion to coast of Norway.
(4) Force available. ROYALIST, SHEFFIELD, STRIKER, FENCER, and five destroyers.
(5) Method (A) force to proceed along normal North Russian convoy route until within about 100 miles of probable U/boat concentration when convoy R/T traffic is to be represented.
(B) A/S air search and striking forces to operate from carriers in conjunction with group of destroyers in hope of surprising U/boats on surface proceeding to attacking position ahead of convoy.
(C) Cruisers and carriers to manoeuvre clear of U/boat concentration as far as possible.
(D) On completion of A/S operation force to steer towards coast of Norway endeavouring to be sighted by enemy air R/C. and breaking W/T silence if necessary to attract attention before returning to Scapa.

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Proposed
operation
(Contd.).

(6) Request you arrange for FENCER, STRIKER and destroyers to exercise together and prepare and rehearse plan for dummy convoy R/T traffic to include imaginary U/boat sighting and emergency manoeuvre on appropriate frequencies. C. in C.W.A. 021851 November refers. Use of R/T trainer at Twatt may assist. (C. in C.H.F. 131148B to R.A.E.C.).

Operation
"C.W."

Unless ordered to sweep ahead of convoys carry out search in areas C and B alternately varying the area in which dark hours are spent.

(2) When searching report at 0700 daily prefixed important anticipated area you will be searching at 1000 and 2300.

(3) Following are approximate times of convoy passing through area. U.G. 26 at 1300/16th at Oversay. H.X.S. 294 at 0200/18th in 010 degs. W. C.U.27 at 1800/18th in 010 degs. W. (C. in C.W.A., 131227B to BULLDOG).

Allied Air Activity

R/Cs.
requested

Request P.R.U. of Gydnia at first opportunity and thereafter once weekly, also twice weekly of Swinemunde, Kiel and Copenhagen to locate main units. (D.D.I.C., 131748B to R.A.F. Benson).

Enemy Air Activity

Radar
controlled
A/C.
Dover shelled.

(1) Following report received from M.T.B. on patrol at East Varne buoy today 13th June. "At 0405 a bright horizontal moving flame was sighted which started from a point approx. north of Boulogne. General course was west. At 0410 from the direction of Blanc Nez appeared a similar bright horizontal moving flame.

This object passed unit 1 to the northward, course west, height 1500 feet. Estimated speed 220 knots. Observation of the object was difficult due to the brightness of flame. The following were observed:-

(I) A rocket shaped missile. (II) Probably two little wings which gave A/C. impression.

Following was heard: A steady rattling noise which could be heard when angle between line of sight and line of flight was 45 degs. this rattling noise gave the impression that the observed object was self propelled.

After reaching the coast the object appeared to turn to port and observation then ceased.

At 0457 a similar object crashed in to the sea S.W. of No.7. buoy.

(2) These same missiles thought at the time to be aircraft were seen from Dover to emerge from intense flak near Cap Gris Nez area and cross the coast in the neighbourhood of Folkestone, height approx. 1000 feet, speed 150/200 knots.

323

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Radar controlled A/C. Dover shelled (Contd.) (3) The above particulars are confirmed by another M.T.B. who reports a total of four, the last of which crashed at 0450. (4) Between 0033 and 0416/13th enemy shore batteries fired approx. 70 rounds mainly into the Folkestone area, 18 so far being reported as having fallen in the town area, the remainder having fallen in to the sea short of the harbour.

The following batteries are identified as taking part in the shelling.

Position Nos. 38/7875A, 38/7366A, 38/6869, 38/6866A,

(5) Object of shelling may have been:

(A) Cover plan. (B) To keep A/A Defences inactive on line of flight of gliders.

(V.A Dover, 131234B to Admty., Info. Air Ministry, A.D.G.B., 11 Group R.A.F.).

Enemy Intelligence

E/boats off Dutch Coast. Position of 17 E/boats 51 degs. 13' N. 02 degs. 41' E.

(A/C, PVAH, 130025 to 16 Group).

My 0025. 17 E/boats position 51 degs. 17' N. 2 degs. 52' E., course 240°, 20 knots.

(A/C, PVAH, 130123 to 16 Group).

North Norway Soviet Visual Photographic report 10 enemy merchantships left Hammerfest area proceeding southwest during the night 12/13 June. Ships were not in convoy, their movements being covered only by patrols. 11 more merchantships were observed in Reppe Fiord at 0125C/13th. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 131249B to Admty.).

Oil situation Report deteriorating German Oil Situation in northern area.

(A) From intercepted conversation between Kauffman and Horne it is just learnt that oil reserves can only last for 5 months even with great economy. Additional restrictions are being introduced - especially for small vessels. Graded C.3.

(B) Reported from Horten Norway that distribution for Civil Industries decided upon on May 25th has since been suddenly cut by 18 per cent. Graded B.3.

(C) Meanwhile tanker transport from Germany to Norway continues and Swedish vessels under normal charter are again augmenting this service to Oslo. Graded A.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 131726 to Admty.).

The following is M.E.Ws. comment:-

(a) As Kauffman is head of the German Shipping Organisation (R.K.S.) the report presumably refers to oil for bunkering merchant shipping. The identity of Horne is at the moment obscure. This report, therefore, may well correctly portray the position. It is to be expected that restrictions would be imposed upon supplies for small craft, since such supplies are likely to have originated from the synthetic plants, over 50% of the output

/of...

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Oil situation (Contd.) of which has recently been more or less seriously interrupted. (It is not known whether the under boiler fuel at present being consumed by the Navy and Mercantile Marine is the coal-tar oil or mineral fuel oil. If N.A. Stockholm could provide this information, it would be most useful especially in view of the present dislocation in Roumania).
(b) We have no reason to doubt this report. It fits in with other reports and is a natural result of damage sustained by the oil industry.

Shipping and Convoys

Protection of O.S./S.L. Convoys. Under the present circumstances Western Approaches has no escorts available to provide screen for Carriers and consequently none can be employed except in convoy. BITER and TRACKER have landed their aircraft to reinforce operation C.W. STRIKER and FENCER are lent to C. in C. H.F. leaving VINDEX, CAMPANIA, NAIRANA and ACTIVITY.
(2) Assault Carriers are far better equipped for protection of O.S./S.L. convoys against air threat from Bordeaux.
(3) Assault Carriers are no longer required for operation C.A. since the few support groups left to this Command are operating in areas well covered by shore based air (?craft).
(4) It is understood R.A.E.C. desires the return of the Assault Carriers to his command.
(5) In view of above circumstances is it intended that protection of O.S./S.L. convoys be carried out by surplus carriers given in para.1 or by the Assault Carriers. The latter is obviously desirable if threat from Bordeaux is considered.
(C. in C.W.A., 130104B and 130958B to Admty.).

Swedish shipping Understand from B.B.C. that movements of Norwegian Fishing Vessels are now restricted. Presume this to be part of general cover plan. Suggest similar restrictions on Swedish shipping in particular eastbound traffic through Faeroes. Admiralty 111620 refers.
(C. in C.H.F., 131508B to Admty.).

FORT VERCHERES Arrived Kola Inlet SS. FORT VERCHERES. Your 121051 refers.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 132131B to S.B.N.O. Archangel).

325

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Portuguese
Fishing
vessels.

4th and 5th Groups have reached Greenland Banks.
My 071212X refers.
(2) My 241052 May (not to Cdr. 10th Fleet) this vessel has arrived Greenland Banks.
(3) Admiralty please pass to Cdr. 10th Fleet. (N.A. Lisbon, 131248B).
X Trawler SANTA MARIA MADALENA will leave Newfoundland Banks for Greenland Banks.

ST. CERQUE

My 071932 ST. CERQUE now sailing 0800/18th June. (D.E.W.D. 131938B to F.O.G.M.A.).

South Atlantic

Independent
sailings

After departure D.K.A. 20 ships may be sailed independently northbound as far as Beira. (C. in C.S.A., 131013B).

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Aegean Aircraft reports convoy of 9 ships position
Enemy 037 degs. 25' N. 026 degs. 07' E. course 12 degs.
convoy. speed 6 knots at 0200.
(CAROLA, (Capt.(S) 1, 130321 to VIVID).
ANITA, Enemy passed Cape Papaïos Nikaria 0200 course 130
AGATHE etc.) degs. speed 5 knots or better. Cancel longitude
restriction my 121756B para.3.
(F.O.L.E.M., 130327C to M.T.B. 315, M.T.B.309,
(R) S.O. Force 51, Capt. (S) 1, SICKLE).
ANITA, AGATHE, CAROLA one coaster 3 destroyers 2 escort
vessels and 3 launches crossed Portolago 0705 today.
(Capt. (S) 1, 131320 to VIVID).
P.R. Porto Lago 0830/13th shows ANITA, AGATHE, CAROLA, 3
destroyers, one coaster, one U.J. boat, one E.M.S., 3 R boats or
E boats entering harbour.
(2) Appreciate convoy or part of it may sail p.m. today 13th
routed west of Kos, West Nisero either side of Piscopi to Rhodes.
Speed 8 knots or less.
(3) Own intentions - (A) P.77 (VIVID) patrolling between
Kandeliusa and Cape Daphni Kos unless otherwise ordered by Capt.
(S) 1st.
(B) M.T.Bs. patrolling Piscopi area clear of P.77 (VIVID) but
M.T.Bs. be prepared to shift patrol to West Kalymnos if ordered.
(C) Air Striking Force start back 0300/14th wherever enemy
located. M.T.Bs. leave patrol at 0300 to be clear of this.
(F.O.L.E.M. 131326C to Capt.(S) 1, S.O. Force 51, (R) VIVID,
M.T.B.315, M.T.B.309, Air H.Q. E.M.,H.M.S. BERKA, GAMBUT).

Air Spits and Hurricane scored direct hit on E/boat
operations in Korcula Harbour, destroyed one M/T.
(M.A.A.F. 130838B).

Turkey Situation vis-a-vis the war.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 131300C). See Lion Copy.

F.A.A. As it appears likely that the three Assault
aircraft Carriers will be in the Mediterranean for some
to operate time arrangements are in train and will be
under T.A.F. concluded on receipt of assurance that this is
in accordance with Admiralty policy for approx.
thirty per cent of the aircraft from each

Squadron to operate under the temporary control of Tactical Air
Force.
(2) Although this may entail some losses it is considered that
this should be accepted in exchange for the valuable operational
experience in T.A.C.R. and close support to be gained.
(3) Lack of low looking radar in these ships so restricts
their operational value that majority of aircraft are now based
ashore in North Africa under operational control of M.A.C.A.F.
for Sector defence and for exercises the carriers exercising
on the rare occasions that escorts can be provided.
(4) Request immediate information regarding policy mentioned
in para.1.
(C. in C. Med. 131604 to Admty.).

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.)

Turkey: Situation
vis-à-vis the war.

TOPSECRET

131300C/June

From B.N.A. Ankara

Date 15/6/44

Time 0419

N.S.C. O.T.P. BY W/T

Addressed F.O.L.E.M.

Repeated: C. in C. Mediterranean, Admiralty

Following from Admiral Kelly.

Discussed situation with General Orbay Chief of General Staff.

Turks anxious to help about stopping passage of German craft through Straits and hope that we accept their proposals of legal advice which will enable them to hold vessels up indefinitely without infringing Montreux Convention.

(2) Concerning entry of Turkey in the war the situation has changed so definitely in the last 4 months that Turkey could come in with much less material assistance than in February. Had supplies continued during these 4 months Turkey's need would now have been practically completed.

(3) Turkey will never come in to do nothing as last proposal. They would ask to form part of definite Allied plan he suggests (? occupation) of Thace and action (? beyond).

(4) Bulgars are not feared even with present armament and though united against Turks are hopelessly divided against Russia.

(5) He has not increased troops in Thace but has greatly increased their armament though the majority of his modern equipment is not mobile on account of lack of tractors. This would be their first need.

(6) He is most anxious for resumption of good relations as he feels Turkey's future attitude (? must) be decided in very near future.

131300C

Advance Copy D.N.I.

1st Lord
1st S.L.(2)

D.F.S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(F)

Sec.

D. of P.(2)

Hd. of M.(33)

D.C.D.(H)(4)

D.C.

D.N.I.(4)

D.D.I.C.(2)

Ad. Herman Hodgo

Hd. of M.F.(L)

MMB/
G2

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.)

131327Z/June.

From. C. in C. E.F.

Date. 13.6.44.

Recd. 2057.

NAVAL CYPHER (X) PLUG (C. in C. SETTINGS) BY W/T.

Addressed. Admiralty.

Repeated. C. in C. Ceylon.

N.T. & W.D.

With reference to A.M. 011610 paras one and two (R) confirmed. Paras two (B) and two (C) confirmed, see remarks below.

2. Priorities as between the services are constantly under review and I am satisfied that every possible effort has been and is being made to secure labour locally and from India. In spite of these efforts a shortage remains and it cannot be expected that delays involved in completing naval works will be rectified substantially unless supplies of skilled labour can be made available from other theatres.

3. Major items affected are as follows.

Description.	Target Completion Date.	Anticipated Completion Date with labour at present available.
1. Destroyer Dock.	April, 1945.	August 1945. (A)
2. Destroyer Dock. Ancillary bldgs.	April 1945.	Target date (A)
3. Refitting berth.	July '44.	Cannot start without additional labour.
4. Anti Sub. centre.	Now.	October or November '44.
5. Lake side Site No.2. Storage,	Now.	October '44.
6. Norris Cold Storage,	Now.	Cannot start without additional labour.

Cont. 7.

Description.	Target Completion Date.	Anticipated Completion Date with labour at present available.
7. Chatham Camp Phase One 1500 Men Phase Two 1500 Men.	Now.	Feb. 1946

TRINCOMALEE.

8. Naval Base,	Now.	No date can be estimated as present labour force quite inadequate.
----------------	------	--------------------------------------------------------------------

KANTALAI.

9. R.N. Air Station.	Dec. '44.	1946.
----------------------	-----------	-------

10. R.N.A.S. Naval Stores.	Dec. '44.	Feb. '45. (A)
----------------------------	-----------	---------------

KATUKURUNDA.

11. Second runway Racecourse R.N.A.S	Now.	March '45.
-----------------------------------------	------	------------

12. Reconstructing runway July '44		Cannot start until labour available
------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------

Note (A) Dependent on arrival of additional labour which has been allocated.

A.M. 152241 May also refers.

131327z, 140923 Z

1st Lord.	Hd. of M.(2)	Dep. Contr.	}
1st S.L.(2)	C.E. in C.	Under Sec.	
D.F.S.L.	D. of L.	C.E. in C.	
4th S.L.	Ad.Blake.	Hd. of L.	
5th S.L.	D. of L.D.	Hd. of CL Br.	
V.C.N.S.	I.P.(2)	P.	
A.C.N.S.(F)	W.D.	D. of D.	
A.C.N.S.(UT)(2)	Hd. of C.L.	E. in C.	
Fin. Sec.	P/L.	Hd. of SWR (3)	
Civil Log.	D. of D.		
Nav. Sec.	E. in C.		
D.C.W.A.E.			
P.F.O.			
D. of P.			
D. of P.(O)(2)			
P.A.S.(F)			
N.A. 1st S.L.			

327

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Movements of Troop Transports. S.T.Os. will communicate arrival and sailing of Troop Transports henceforward collectively in a bi-weekly signal dispatched separately from the position signal respecting other merchant vessels. (2) S.T.Os. will continue to signal particulars of embarkation but no mention is to be made therein of the date or time of vessel's actual or projected sailing or movements. (P.S.T.O. Med., 131803).

VICTORIOUS, Intend VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE proceed Algiers
INDOMITABLE. without entering Gibraltar.
(2) Request endeavour be made to improve on time given in VICTORIOUS's 121130 not to all addressees as desirable that ships arrive Algiers not later than 1600B/18th.
(3) Route. (5) Five destroyers of 13th D.F. as detailed by F.O.G.M.A. will take over escort south of Europa Point.
(6) VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE screened by destroyers of 24th D.F. will sail from Algiers at 1630B/19th.
(C. in C. Med., 132332B).

13.6.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/boat dispositions No.57 all areas no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. (C. in C.E.F.,130313Z).

Operation "Toddy" Amend sailing date of J.C.52A to read 0430Z June 20th. E.T.A. Chittagong 0430Z/26. Paragraph (B) of my 111142 refers. (C. in C.E.F.,130351Z).

EMILE BAUDOT (Cable ship) The continued employment of the EMILE BAUDOT on this station has been under consideration. 87% of her crew have been absent from U.K. for over two years and a number declined to sign a new agreement AF.0251/44 in April expressing a wish to return to the Merchant service. In view of these facts and her extremely slow speed it is proposed that she be relieved at an early date by a larger and faster cable ship. (C. in C.E.F. 130604Z to Admty.).

HELEN MOLLER. (b) 004 degs. 18' S. 074 degs. 30' E. 2330 FG. 5th. (c) One medium size submarine. (d) Torpedo, ship broke in 2 and sank. (e) One. (f) 26 from one lifeboat and one raft. (g) Capt. i/c. (h) S/M. sighted on the surface message warning 2330 FG 5th. (i) None. (j) Not known. (k) Thrown overboard. (l) Yes. Very deep water. (m) At little risk of compromise. (n) Senior radio operator. (o) Not known. (N.O.i/c Addu Atoll, 130651Z). c.f. C. in C.E.F. 111103Z which gives a different position.

Fire risk at Madras Further to my 301117 May. Proposal being examined by M.W.T. involves transfer of white oils for (a) Chittagong ag Madras. (B) Calcutta in the Palk Straits. (2) It is considered that the fire risk at Madras will still remain too high and it is therefore proposed that all transshipment should take place in the Palk Straits. (3) In this case only tankers to enter Madras would be those necessary to meet Madras requirements. (C. in C.E.F.,131144Z to Admty.). / As received.

Routine personnel convoys In view of the great increase of troop movements together with requirements on respect of transport of other personnel such as Poles and P.O.W. it is considered most necessary to institute routine personnel convoys on this station. Before signalling detailed programme referred to in Admiralty 061702 request your early remarks on following general outline. (2) Ships connecting with MKF and KMF convoys. (A) Fast troop convoys over 15 knots to be run to and from Aden and Bombay and Aden and Kilindini. In order to allow ships

/ coming...

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Routine
personnel
convoys.
(Contd.)

coming out in a K.M.F. to return, the following M.K.F. ships will not be able to go beyond Bombay and Kilindini. Troops to be transhipped at these ports for onward passage in convoy if escorts are available, otherwise in ships sailing independently or in trade convoy with reduced numbers.

(B) By the allocation of the fast escorts available to the fast convoys there should be no need to limit number of ships.

(3) Intermediate convoy. ?One the Aden-Bombay run it should be possible to run an intermediate convoy limited to two personnel ships so timed that escorts can be used for duty with main fast convoys.

(4) Troop sailings U.S.A. India. To be maintained on 20 day cycle via Australia as at present.

(5) Troop movements within the station.

(A) Kilindini to Ceylon. One convoy about every two months when escorts can be made available.

(B) Persian Gulf-Bombay and vice versa. If trade is in convoy troopships to be included in trade convoy possibly carrying reduced numbers. If trade is not in convoy then troop convoys of up to three personnel ships once a fortnight either way.

(C) Persian Gulf to south and ?East Africa. No escorts available but ships to take advantage of trade convoys sailings if established so as to carry more than unescorted numbers.

(D) Ceylon to Chittagong. Escort can be provided but only at the expense of trade convoys.

(6) It must be noted that if the foregoing is accepted movements such as that of NEA HELLAS from Durban to Kilindiri and DUCHESS OF RICHMOND and BOISSEVAIN from India to East Africa cannot in future be provided for until further reinforcements arrive on the station.

(C. in C.E.F.,131322Z to P.S.T.O.I.).

U/boat
report

By D/F at 1609Z on 13th June on 14425 kc/s.
Position of German U/boat was 015 degs. S. (051 degs or 082 degs.) E. poor fix.
(C. in C. E.F.,131845Z).

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

N.S.H.Q. S/M. attack sighting summary. Para.D. U.S.A.T.C. A/C. sights submerged U/boat course 160 degs. speed 5 knots in 48.15 N. 59.18 W. at 2108Z/12th. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 130736Z).

Convoy U.C.26 Your 121418B about 45 acceptable U.C.26. (Com. 10th Fleet C & R., 131344Z to Admty.).

U/boat report Ref. 1200Z/13. Attack on fishing vessel at 0630Z/13 located one about 42 degs. 50' N. 65 degs. 20' W. Another in general area south or east of Nova Scotia. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 131415Z to S. and A.concerned).

U/boat dispositions Estimates (Cominch, 141530Z, 141611Z).

U/boat incidents and shipping casualties Portuguese MARIANELA Marine casualty presumed sunk 36.00 N. 63.47 W. a.m. 10th. (A) Fishing vessel LARK shelled by surfaced U/boat 42.50 N. 65. 20 W. 130630. All times Z. (D) C.T.C. repeat (?A.T.C.) plane sighted three partly submerged U/boats 42.35 N. 36.20 W. 121423 course 220. P.C.1254 attacked sound contact 11.40 N. 78.49 W. 131340. (Cominch, 132108Z).

U.S.S. MOUNT BAKER. On arrival U.S. load MOUNT BAKER in Norfolk area accordance separate C.N.O. despatch. Sail her to report for temporary duty 8th Fleet arriving Mediterranean not later than 20th July. (Cominch, 132154 to Cinclant).

NELSON Concur Urdis 121554B. N.Y.D. Philadelphia will be ready to receive ship. (Cominch, 132155Z to Admty.).

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 875. June 12th. Paras. 20 to end cover South Pacific Forces. (3) Midmorning four enemy aircraft attacked

/ shipping..

331

13.6.1944.
TuesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New Zealand - Contd.

- Digest 875 shipping off Biak damaging one destroyer. Preliminary report reveals our fighters intercepted six enemy aircraft over Biak destroying three plus two probables.
- (4) Australian patrols advancing westwards along northeast New Guinea coast reached Dagoi 12 miles south east Hansa Bay without enemy contact.
- (5) Bostons with Lightning Escort bombed strafed Moemi Aerodrome west coast Geelvink Bay starting many fires with smoke rising to 4,000 feet. Nil interception encountered.
- (6) Preliminary reports indicate Bostons Thunderbolts Aircobras R.A.A.F. Beauforts attacked personnel areas gun position Wewak-Hansa Bay coast.
- (7) Afternoon Mitchells sank four small freighters two large luggers Geelvink Bay while other Mitchells sank single large lugger probably sank single freighter off North Coast Vogelkop Peninsula.
- (12) STRIKE reported one light cruiser, 6 Liberators aforementioned probable destroyers 8 cargo vessels Truk Area.
- (13) M.T.Bs. shot down single enemy fighter East of Owi Island (southeast Biak) night 11th/12th. *(page 264)*
- (16) Reference Digest 873 para.2. further report stated battleships sighted leaving Tawi Tawi evening 10th with four cruiser plus destroyers appeared Musashi Class.
- (18) Reference Digest 872 para.4. further reports state six additional small craft destroyed by Boston attack 9th.
- (22) United States Navy destroyers bombarded enemy positions Flagalawa Bay area thirty miles southeast Kavieng night 10/11 while M.T.Bs. shelled east Cape area.
- (23) Single enemy aircraft bombed M.T.Bs. Saint Georges Channel night 11th causing minor damage.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 130938Z).

872, p. 234,
but para 4
not quoted.

Operations Alexishafen. Australian tps. continued unopposed to 9th June. adv. north reaching Tobanum 7 miles N.W. Malala Harbour 8th June. 2nd June our tps. landed unopposed Bison Bay Karkar Island. Circuit of island completed without contact.

Maffin Bay. Night 3/4th June U.S. amphibious patrol landed 1500 yards west Sarmi. Patrol to Sarmi Village observed small groups unarmed Japanese but no contact. Enemy casualties Maffin Bay area to 7th June killed 1734 captured 19.

Biak Island. 7th June U.S. force by passing enemy holding high ground north Paria and Ibdi captured Mokmer airfield.

General. 8th June enemy attempted reinforce Biak Island by means run destroyer from Halmaheras resulting 4 destroyers sunk one damaged. Considered no reinforcements reached Biak. Possibility that major units enemy fleet observed Halmahera area engaged transporting army reinforcements: this additional evidence enemy's immediate intention building up defences in vital Halmahera area. (H.Q. Melbourne, 131700K).

13.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M. attack
and sighting
summary

Para.A. (1) A/C G/86 sighted U/boat at 1911Z/12 in 62 degs. 47' N. 02 degs. 00' W.
(2) A/C B/162 sighted U/boat at 0120Z/13 in 64 degs. 10' N. 00 degs. 11' W.
(3) CROATEN Group attacked U/boat at 0102Z/12 in 42 degs. 23' N. 39 degs. 56' W.
(4) A/C S/224 sighted 2 U/boats course 270 at 0100/12 in 48 degs. 12' N. 05 degs. 54' W.
Previously reported in A.M. 121032Z in para. A. (1) position corrected.
Para.B. (1) A/C P/38 sighted U/boat on surface course S. to S.W. at 0515Z/12 in 49 degs. 22' N. 03 degs. 00' W.
(2) A/C of 11 Group sighted submerged U/boat, course 270, at 1214Z/12 in 50 degs. 07' N. 01 degs. 40' W.
(3) A/C of 39 Wing sighted U/boat, course 300 at 1220Z/12 in 50 degs. 05' N. 00 degs. 30' W.
(4) A/C of 39 Wing sighted U/boat, course 300 at 1229Z/12 in 49 degs. 58' N. 00 degs. 35' W.
(5) Fighter A/C sighted U/boat at 1810Z/12 in 50 degs. 02' N. 01 degs. 12' W.
(6) Fighter A/C sighted U/boat at 1910Z/12 in 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 15' W.
(7) WHITSHED obtained from contact at 2150Z/12 in approx. 50 degs. 26' 00 degs. 52' W.
(8) A/C J/415 sighted U/boat at 2213Z/12 in 50 degs. 06' N. 00 degs. 56' E.
Para.C. (1) RIVER RAISIN reported torpedo track at 0200Z/11 in 18 degs. 06' N. 62 degs. 49' E.
(D.D.I.C. 131150B).

U/boat Estimates
dispositions (D.D.I.C., 131426B, 131441B).

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsGeneralC. in C.H.F.
V.A.2 B.S.

3a. Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Moore K.C.B, C.V.O., D.S.O. today assumed the appointment of C. in C. Home Fleet.

b. The appointment of Vice-Admiral Commanding 2nd Battle Squadron lapsed from today. C.S.1 will act as Second in Command Home Fleet for the present. The fleet carriers will be administered by the C. in C.

Seydisfiordur closed.

4. All Naval establishments in Seydisfiordur (Iceland), except one C.W. Post of three ratings in the town, were finally closed down today and the stores and personnel evacuated.

South AtlanticU/B off
Liberia.

5. The French SS. ST. BASILE was torpedoed at 0030Z today and sank later in 05.00 N. 09.14 W. (off the coast of Liberia) (c.f. 13th June para. 9)

MediterraneanMining off
Italy.

6. Medium bombers of the tactical Air Force today attacked block ships in Leghorn harbour.

7. During the clearance of Civita Vecchia approach channel and anchorage 42 mines were swept by the 12th M/S F. and 2 ground mines were destroyed by M.M/S inside the harbour. 18 mines were cut by B.Y.M.S. and M/S M/Ls during the sweeping of the Anzio-Civita Vecchia inshore channel.

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

Staff
of C. in C.
E.F.

⁸C. in C. Eastern Fleet reports that his staff requires reorganising and strengthening to deal with the work involved by expansion of the fleet, the expansion of facilities to meet the needs of the fleet and of bases for landing ships and craft, and the additional work resulting from the establishment of a Supreme Commander in this theatre.

Australia and New Zealand

9. Before dawn today 8 Liberators bombed Iolong Seaplane Base, Moluccas. ⁷ *Haley*

336

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Naval.

Cositintrep No.22, Part 2, Naval.

A. General. Preliminary R/C's for "Tombola" show that at Port-En-Bessin the operation is practicable and at St. Honorine no insuperable difficulties exist.

B. Troops etc. Landed.

The last received report from the Naval Commander Force U gave corrected figures to 1800/11th June cumulative figures on best available information for the three British sectors and two U.S. sectors up to p.m. 11th June are.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno and Sword	207,907	30,417	40,000 tons.
Omaha and Utah	159,235	19,811	19,961 tons.
Total (D+5)	367,142	50,228	59,961 tons.
Last reported daily totals to times specified are:-			
Gold (24 hours ended 111800)	7,254	2,200	4,400 tons.
Juno (24 hours ended 122125)	8,853	968	4,051 tons.
Sword (24 hours ended 122359)	1,300	439	2,800 tons.
Omaha (24 hours ended 121200)	4,010	2,369	8,549 tons.
Utah (24 hours ended 111800)	2,768	5,110	2,922 tons.

Note: Figure for Utah may be misleading through embodying above mentioned revision and correction)

C. Casualties. SS. BRITISH ENGINEER (Tanker) - damaged by mine.

D. Coastal Command. In addition to previous report of last night's activities, attacks by Beaufighters in Gris Nez area have resulted in following claims:-

2 E/R Boats probably destroyed, two seriously damaged, 7 slightly damaged, one minesweeper or trawler set on fire and two others damaged.

(Ad. Ramsay, 140014B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No.23 Part II Naval.

A. General. Last night ASHANTI, and PIORUN attacked a convoy of unspecified composition

S.W. of Jersey and claim two ships sunk and two damaged. An action also took place N.W. of Cherbourg in which it is believed that one Minesweeper was sunk by our Coastal Forces. No damage in any of these actions reported from Allied Ships.

E-Boats were active off Boulogne Area, but made no attempt to cross the Channel, and were probably an anti-Invasion patrol with possible minelaying.

Possible U-Boat contacts S.E. of St. Catherine Point and S. of Littlehampton have been investigated and attacked. No confirmation that these were genuine.

Night of 12th/13th occasional fairly strong A/C attacks on ships in the Assault Areas included mine dropping. No ships reported damaged, but AUGUSTA claims one A/C destroyed.

At 0416/13th enemy batteries fired 70 rounds into Folkestone Area possibly as cover for launching pilotless A/C. A convoy passing Dover was also shelled but without damage.

B /...

337

14.6.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

B. Mulberry "B" discharged 1000 tons 12th June.

C. Casualties. Nil.

D. Coastal Command. At 0215 this morning a Wellington attacked five E-Boats successfully 15 miles N.W. of St. Valery, one E-Boat claimed sunk and three damaged. Last night at 2337 a Liberator, which failed to return, reported from 30 miles S.W. of Ushant the sighting of a U-Boat which was attacked immediately afterwards by a Wellington and a large explosion was seen.

E. Intelligence. Three L.C.T.(III) were captured in Port-En-Bessin and one at Isigny. Their equipment is being examined locally. Ouistreham Locks are undamaged and our craft can enter the Caen Canal. Use of this Harbour must await the movement of our Eastern Flank to the Eastward.
(Ad. Ramsay, 141419 to Admty.)

Military.

Communique No.17. West of Tilly-sur-Seuelles our armour found the enemy flank and struck south with great effect.

Advance patrols of our forces have now reached Caumont despite vigorous reaction on the part of the enemy. In the sector between Tilly-sur-Seuelles and Caen armoured clashes continued to take place. There is strong enemy pressure in the Carentan area.

Early yesterday evening, after a midday lull caused by bad weather, Allied A/C resumed the offensive in one of the most concentrated efforts since the opening of the campaign. Enemy Fighter opposition was sporadic but many of our A/C encountered strong anti-A/C fire.

Beachhead patrols continued throughout the day and evening. During the night our fighters shot three enemy A/C attacking the beachhead.

(S.H.A.E.F. 141100B to AGWAR)

General.

Communique No.18. The armoured battle continued in the Tilly-Caen area. The enemy has counter-attacked constantly in a furious attempt to stem our advance. We are holding

firm and vigorously searching out weak points in his attack. In the Cherbourg Peninsula the enemy is fighting fiercely. His heavy counter-attacks in the north have forced us to give some ground in the vicinity of Montebourg.

Further south we have made some gains. An enemy counterthrust on Carentan has been repulsed.

In one of their most active mornings allied air forces to-day operated almost unopposed from the Brest Peninsula to Belgium and Holland and penetrated deep into Eastern France. The effort of heavy day bombers exceeded even yesterday's figures.

Fighters, fighter-bombers and Rocket-firing fighters some of them operating from bases in Normandy gave close support to troops in the Cherbourg Peninsula cutting railroads and attacking large enemy convoys. Other fighters scored rocket hits on barges and batteries. Coastal A/C harassed E-Boats near Le Touquet. Shortly after midnight 7 enemy M-class minesweepers were intercepted west of the Minquiers Rocks by

PIORUN /...

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

General
 (Contd.)

PIORUN and ASHANTI while on patrol. Action was joined at about 3,000 yards, the enemy being illuminated with star shells. The enemy vessels were repeatedly hit and scattering some of the south shelter under the guns of the coastal batteries on the island of Jersey. Of the 7 enemy vessels engaged 3 were observed to sink and one was seen to receive such damage that its survival is considered unlikely. Of the remaining three 2 were left stopped and burning fiercely. *(see Summary Document 471)* Northeast of Cap de la Hague 3 enemy patrol vessels were intercepted and attacked early this morning by light coastal forces. The first ship in the enemy line was hit with a torpedo and the second set on fire.
 (S.H.A.E.F.142330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Bombarding Forces.

ORION. A.M.130014. ORION can be released forthwith.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 142205B to Admty.)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Portsmouth. Your 132130. Proceed at 0420 in accordance with order from C. in C. Portsmouth.
 (V.A. Dover, 140130B to MELBREAK)

O.N. Portsmouth One para. 38 cover night 14/15th.
 (A) ONSLOW (G.A.1) OFFA (G.A.2) 49.54 N. between 01.38 W. and 0147 W.
 TANATSIDE (G.B.1) TALYBONT (G.B.2) WNXX WENSLEY-DALE (G.B.3) 01.00 W. between 49.45 N. and 50.00 N.
 (B) STAYNER (G.C.1) in vicinity of 49.50 N. 01.53 W. DUFF (G.D1) 01.15 W. between 49.44 N. and 49.50 N.
 (C) Unit G.C.2 M.T.B's 205, 210, 211. Unit G.C.2 M.T.B's 209, 208, 207. Unit G.C.4 M.T.B's 249, 251. Unit G.C.5 M.T.B's 721, 702, 696. Unit G.C. H.D.M.L's 1297, 1085, 1060, 1390. All with STAYNER in Z.122. Unit G.D.2 M.T.B's 415, 413, 414. Unit G.D.3 M.T.B's 675, 689. Both with DUFF in Z.111.
 (F) Forces GC and GD via Needles and 50.10 N. 01.45 W. Unit G.C.6 direct to reach 49.46.20 N. between 0152 W. and 01.54.20 W. at 2345B. TANATSIDE report disposition Force GB. Force GB to be in position by 2200B, remainder by 2300B.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 141418B)

O.N.1 para. 52(B). Western Night Channel report 14/15th June.
 (1) BEAGLE, VENUS, ALCONQUIN, SCOURGE vicinity Z buoy.
 G.A.1, ONSLOW, G.A.2 OFFA Z.121 Z.114.

339

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

G.B.1, TANATSIDE, G.B.2 TALYBONT, G.B.3 WENSLEYDALE O.N. 01 degs. W. between 49 degs. 45' and 50 degs. N. G.C.1 STAYNER Z.122, G.D.1 DUFF Z.111. 3rd E.G.Z.200, Z.201. 2nd E.G. Z.212 to Z.214, 5th E.G. Z.233, Z.234, Z.238, Z.239. Z.206 N.W. Corner Z.208. 13th E.G.Z.242, Z.236.

(2) C.F. Units. G.C.2 3 M.T.B's. G.C.3 3 M.T.B's. G.C.4 2 M.T.B's. G.C.5 3 M.T.B's. G.C.6 4 H.D.M.L's all Z.122. G.D.2 3 M.T.B's. G.D.3 3 M.T.B's both Z.111.

(3) A/C all areas west of 02 degs. 20' W. north of French Coast excluding Channel Islands Avengers on coastal convoy route. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 141858B to Ships in Area "C")

O.N.1 para. 52 (B) Eastern night Channel Report 14th/15th June..

(1) F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3 F.U.7 COTTESMORE Z.7 Z.8 South. F.U.1 OPPORTUNE Z.10 W. F.U.2 ORWELL Z.11 West. F.Y. 1 TROLLOPE Z.12 E. F.X. 1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13 E. BRISSENDEN between 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. and 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W. BEAGLE, VENUS, ALCONQUIN, SCOURCE vicinity Z Buoy.

(2) C.F. units. F.N.1 2 M.Ls Z.1 F.N.2 3 M.T.B.s Z.2. F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.5 2 M.Ls Z.5. F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs Z.6, F.Y. 2 2 M.T.Bs Z 12 E. F.Y.3 3 M.T.Bs Z.12 east. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs Z.13 E. F.X. 3 3 M.T.Bs Z.13 W.

(3) WELLINGTON cross over 50 degs. 03' N. 00 degs. 43' E. to 50 degs. 15' N. 01 degs. 15' E. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 141909B to Ships in Area "C")

Your 141418. North to South WENSLEYDALE, TANATSIDE, TALYBONT 5 miles apart, line ahead patrol. (TANATSIDE, 141920B to C. in C. Portsmouth.

My 141858B Para. 2 add G.N.1 2 M.T.B North East Corner Z.212, G.N.2 2 M.T.Bs North West Corner Z.200. G.T. 1 2 M.L. Z.217 N. G.T.2 2 M.Ls, Z.212 North. (C; in C. Portsmouth, 142249B to Ships in Area "C")

Western Night Channel Report 14/15th.

G.N.1 2 M.T.B's N.E. Corner Z.212. G.N.2 2 M.T.B's N.W. Corner Z.200. G.T.1 2 M.L's Z.217 North. G.T.2 2 M.L's Z.212 North.

(C. in G. Portsmouth, 142249B to Ships in Area "C".)

Patrols from Dover.

- Propose detach THORNBOROUGH to Portsmouth to repair Radar as weather may preclude boarding of repair staff at Newhaven. (TROLLOPE, 140415B to V.A. Dover)

O.N. Dover 67. F.N.1 M.L.467, 276 Z.1. F.N.2 M.T.B.437, 436, 432 Z.2. F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3 F.N.4 M.T.B. 204,231, 240 Z.4. F.N.5 M.L.573,125 Z.5. F.N.6 M.T.B. 354, 358, 359 Z.6

F.U.7 COTTESMORE double patrol Z.7 Z.8 south. F.U.1 OPPORTUNE 180 degs. Z.10 West 3 miles. F.U.2 ORWELL Z.11 W. F.Y.1 TROLLOPE Z.12 E.

F.Y /...

340

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

F.Y.2 M.T.B's 602, 614 Z 12 E.
 F.Y.3 M.T.B's 699, 700, 703, 135 degs. Z.12 W.2 miles. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13 E.
 F.X.2 M.T.B. 613, 616, Z.13 E.
 F.X.3 M.T.B. 706, 697, 705, 045 degs. Z.13 W.2 miles. BRISSENDEN from position 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. to position 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.
 (V.A. Dover, 141240B)

TROLLOPE 132320. Repair completed. Am sailing as requisite to R/V C.2 A buoy at 2100B.
 (THORNBOROUGH, 141717B to V.A. Dover)

My 141359. 29th, 55th and 1st C.F. Flot. south of 049 degs. 30' N. and east of 000 degs. 14' W.
 (2) Duty Destroyer Division patrolling south of 049 degs. 40' N. and West of 000 degs 08' W.
 (3) Guard Destroyer Division south of 049 degs. 40' N. and West of 000 degs. 24' W. as A division.
 (V.A. Dover, 142055B)

Patrols from Plymouth. Nothing to report. Intend leaving area at 1000 to rejoin Escort Group 2. LOCHY in company.
 (LOCH FADA, 140507B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Weather permitting units G.O. 1 and G.O.2 are to carry out patrol in accordance with my 131402B.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 141323B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

Information. Own. As in my 131324B.
 Enemy. As in my 121708B. U-Boats have been reported in the Channel as far East as 1 deg. 30' W.

Intention. (2) Force 26, BLYSKAWICA (S.O) ESKIMO and PIORUN to operate in the Triagoz-St.Malo area tonight.
 Object. (3) To intercept and destroy enemy ships.
 Execution. (4) Force 26 is to pass Gate at 1945B to-day and proceed through (AA) 49 degs. 02' N. 3 degs. 00' W. to reach (BB) 48 degs. 58½' N. 2 degs. 52' W. at 0015B/15th.
 (5) From (BB) Force 26 is to sweep through (CC) 48 degs. 52' N. 2 degs. 23' W. to (DD) 49 degs. 01' N. 2 degs. 27' W. and thence back through (CC) to reach (BB) at 0400.
 (6) After passing (BB) Westbound sweep through (AA) to pass (FF) 49 degs. 01' N. 3 degs. 28' W. at 0500 and thence to reach (GG) 49 degs. 24' N. 3 degs. 40' W. at 0600.
 (7) On reaching (GG) carry out patrol 15 miles 090 degs. and 270 degs.
 (8) Area 2½ miles radius round 47 degs 03' N. 2 degs 35½' W. is only to be entered if in contact with enemy.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 141459B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Force 26 BLYSKAWICA, ESKIMO, PIORUN sailing Plymouth 1945/14th and proceed to patrol in Z.209, Z.210, until 0400/15th when Force 26 withdraws to patrol in Z.215, Z.219, Z.224 until further orders.

(2) Units G.O. 1 and G.O.2 will patrol as in my 131457.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 141539B to E.G's 2, 3 and 5)

Shift /...

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Shift patrol at dark tonight to new centre position 49.20 N. 06.00 W allowing for course of enemy of 030 degs.

(2) If not hunting GOODSON and KEATS proceed Plymouth at daylight 15th to oil.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141742^B to E.G.5)

My 141323B and 141539B. Cancel units G.O.1 and G.O.2.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141833B to Force 26, E.G's 2, 3, and 5, N.O.I.C.Dartmouth)

Night Patrols 14th/15th June. P.C.W.O.120.

- (A) (1) G.N.1. M.T.B's 716, 678.
- (2) G.N.2 M.T.B's 717, 713. (3) G.T.1 M.L's 186, 180. (4) G.T.2, M.L's 157, 159.
- (B) 2300/14. (D) (1) In vicinity 088 degs. Start 24'
- (2) In vicinity 195 Portland Bill 12. (3) In vicinity 209 Start 16'. (4) In vicinity 119 Start 14'. (F) 0515/15.
- (C. in C. Plymouth, 141842B to N.O.I.C.Dartmouth)

Eastern Sector.

Duty division tonight VERULAM, SWIFT, VIRAGO, IMPULSIVE.
(S.O. Force "S", 140648B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Naval policy for night of 14th/15th June.

- V.7 29th M.T.B. Flotilla 2 miles south established position.
- V.8. 55th M.T.B. Flotilla 2 miles 305 degs. and first C.F. Flotilla 3½ miles 205 degs. from established position.
- U.14 TUNNY N. R 5. Q one. P extends to C one berth. N.3.
- (2) Capt. Patrol to detail Destroyers for U.14 and R.5.
- (3) 64th M.T.B. Flotilla will proceed in company with Destroyers (U.14) to TUNNEY (north west) then independently to TUNNY (north east).
- (N.C.E.T.F. 141252B and 142121B to E.T.F.)

Assault Area Radar cover.

To improve Radar conditions and fighter protection now that shore G.C.1 are set it is intended operate F.D.T.13 between 12D and 13E buoy C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail BURDOCK to R/V 12 (3 groups missing) 0015th and N.C.W.T.F. is requested to sail F.D.T.13 to conform. To provide max. close Radar cover for both assault areas N.C.E.T.F. is requested to place F.D.T.217 in central position.
(A.N.C.X.F. 141551B to N.C.W.T.F., N.C.E.T.F.)

Mining

General.

In order to make the best use of available Fleet Minesweeping Flotillas and to make Flotillas

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Mining.

General. available for future Operations it is intended to make following arrangements. To come into force when ordered by A.N.C.X.F.

(A) Routine search of Assault Area and channels thereto:- Flotillas to work on schedule of which following is typical day. 1st Flotilla leave Portsmouth Search to 14 H Buoy remain in W.T.F. Area for night. 6th Flotilla leave W.T.F. Area for E.T.F. Area searching Inter Task Force Area channel on route. 14th Flotilla leave E.T.F. Area search 58 channel to Portsmouth. 31st Flotilla replenishing Portsmouth. Two ships of each Flotilla to be normally absent boiler cleaning and for refitting. (B) 11th U.S. Flotilla and 40th Flotilla to be available in W.T.F. and E.T.F. Areas respectively ships being sent to Plymouth and Portsmouth respectively in rotation for rest and replenishment. (C) 9th M.S.F. to be allocated to C. in C. Portsmouth, with 4th M.S.F. on completion of present operation. 15th M.S.F. to be allocated to C. in C. Plymouth on completion of present operation. These Flotillas will be subject to recall if the situation so requires. (D) 18th M.S.F. to return to Portsmouth to prepare for entry into Cherbourg. (E) 7th Flotilla to E.T.F. and 31st to W.T.F. for clearance Operations in Assault Area until required for opening up of channels to captured Ports. 2 ships to be normally absent at Portsmouth and Plymouth respectively for boiler cleaning and replenishment. (2) Danlayers to conform to Flotilla routines. (3) C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to co-ordinate routine in (A) above. (4) Movements of ships in Flotillas in (B) and (E) to be arranged direct between Task Force Commanders and C's in C. concerned. (A.N.C.X.F. 141204B)

Approach QZY 463 all east of 001 degs. 17' 30" W. completed.
C hannel. West of this an area bounded by line joining following position remains to be cleared.

(a) 050 degs. 08' 30" N. 001 degs. 40' 12" W.
(b) 050 degs. 10' 48" N. 001 degs. 41' 00" W.
(c) 050 degs. 12' 30" N. 001 degs. 17' 30" W.

1 mine cut today in 050 degs. 12' 30" N. 001 degs. 20' 30" W.
Mine sunk.
(PANGBOURNE, 142125B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Western Short circuit sweeping of inshore channel from L.6
Sector. buoy to Utah inner anchorage completed to-day.
Negative. This channel in future referred to as L channel is one mile wide and will be swept daily from L.6 buoy 276 degs. true 9.9 miles through 12Z buoy thence 280 degs. true for 6.5 miles to Utah inner anchorage. Sweeping also carried out in MOUNTAIN. Fire support channel three. OREGON, OHIO, ARKANSAS. All negative report follows concerning sweep inshore in VERMONT. C.T.F.122 122026B refers. Area suspected in C.T.F.122 132257B covered 8

times /...

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Western
Sector.

times. Magnetic and acoustic. Negative.
Western side channel 14 including channel 12
searched Cropesa 50% to 50 degs. North.
Negative. M.S.14 reports A/C wreckage ten miles
North of position quoted in C.T.F. 141447B. Con-
sider this channel safe.
(C.T.G.122.9, 142156B)

Enemy Action

Three
Minesweepers
sunk and
three
damaged by
ASHANTI
and
PIORUN.

Estimate 2 M/S sunk 2 damaged and on fire star
shell of both ships expended.
(ASHANTI, 140230B to C. in C. Plymouth, HAIDA)
Well done, Request R/V at (LL) Forces 26 and 27.
Return to Plymouth in company.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 140331B to Forces 26 and 27)

*(German data -
see G.D. 471)*

Force 27. PIORUN, ASHANTI encountered 6 or 7
M. class M/S at 0030/14 when in position GG.
Enemy were in 2 groups of 4 and 3 on a Northerly
course and were detected by Radar at a range of
7,000 yards as they were just west of Minquiers Rocks. Force 27
closed and opened fire at 3,000 yards, PIORUN firing 5 torpedoes
at 0050, one of which scored a hit. The enemy were soon slowed
down and on fire scattered, 2 may have escaped to the Northward.
Force 27 steamed up and down between the West of Minquiers Rocks
and a point about 7 miles South of St. Helier, engaging the
enemy, now in 3 groups, stopped and burning.
About 0150 one of those who had escaped to the Northward was
sighted returning and was quickly sunk at point-blank range.
Our Force then came under accurate fire from the batteries on
Jersey, and retired to the South, sinking another enemy to the
N.W. of Minquiers. As our Force withdrew to the Westward at
0230, 2 heavy explosions were seen from the burning enemy.
Of the 7 enemy, 3 were seen to sink, one probably sank 2 were
left heavily on fire and stopped, and one may have escaped.
Only 6 call signs heard on "Headache". PIORUN received slight
superficial damage, 2 seriously wounded and 2 slightly wounded.
ASHANTI - no damage, no casualties.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141249 to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in the Straits
of Dover from 0900/13 to 0900/14. 1 Size D and 8
size A from Boulogne at 2355. Divided into
2 parts at 0005. (Part.1) Southbound at 12 knots.

Faded at 0210 7 miles West of Berk Sur Mer. Reappeared at 0307.
Entered Boulogne 0440. It was possibly this track which was
attacked by a Wellington A/C at 0227 about 6 miles S.W. of Berk
Buoy. Part 2 Northbound operated between Boulogne and Cap
Gris Nez between 0005 and 0350 at 6 knots entering Boulogne at
0355. Beaufighter A/C attacked shipping possibly part of E.91
D off Boulogne at 0450. Results now known.
(V.A.Dover, 140934B to Admty.)

344

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats.

Contact
 attacked.

ALGONQUIN is joining you to assist hunt.
 (VENUS, 140637 to ROCKAWAY)

ALGONQUIN has joined. Has contact. Attacking.
 All my depth-charges expended.
 (ROCKAWAY, 140937B to Portsmouth W/T)

Your 141037. Consider contact non-S/M wreck.
 ROCKAWAY returning to harbour. Remaining in
 contact until further orders.
 (ALGONQUIN, 141135B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Am returning Portsmouth area to replenish depth
 charges and fuel. As no wreckage or oil brought
 to surface after repeated attacks by ALGONQUIN
 and ROCKAWAY contact now considered to be sunken
 wreck. ALGONQUIN maintaining contact.
 (ROCKAWAY, 141150B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

My 1107 and ALGONQUIN's 1055. ALGONQUIN resume
 patrol. VENUS 1208 resume patrol. Obtain oil
 sample if possible.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 141251B to VENUS)

My 140250 and 141208. Consider contact was a
 wreck. One 227X depth-charge fired by BEAGLE
 failed to explode in 147 degs. S.C.P.14.8.
 Consider this safe as 2 10 (Group missing) pattern
 failed to explode it.
 (VENUS, 141508B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Gamma
 search in
 Western
 Channel.

My 111326. Amend limits of Gamma Search as
 follows: 049 degs. 55' N. 007 degs. 30' W. to
 049 degs. 05' N. 007 degs. 30' W.
 (2) S.O. E.G. one report to A.I.G.569 by 1600/14th
 June anticipated P.C.S. at 0001B/15th and 0500B/15th;
 (3) 15th E.G. is to search on north-south line on
 longitude 006 degs. 54' during dark hours to-
 night and is to join first and sixth E.G. after dawn 15th June.
 (C. in C. W.A. 141227B to Ships in C.A.)

Channel
 Situation.

In English Channel area D/F at 1350Z/13th June
 indicated one to S.W. of Guernsey. No other
 report reliably fixing any one of about half a
 dozen others possibly between longitudes 06 degs
 00' W. and 00 degs. 30' W..
 Considerable movement continues in approaches to Brest, and it
 is appreciated that by now re-inforcements from E. Atlantic
 may be approaching Western Approaches to English Channel.
 (D.D.I.C.141346B to A.I.G.331)

U-Boat /...

345

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

U-Boat reported off Roches Douvres. U-Boat (German) transmission at 1332Z on series 8 estimated by operator to be in my vicinity. Can this be confirmed by shore bearings. (E.G.5, 141550B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Your 141550. Not confirmed.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141721 to E.G.5)

Transmission at 1332Z T.O.O.1512B on series 8 considered to be by U-Boat in vicinity 049 degs. (?05') N. 003 degs. 00' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141729B to E.G's 2, 3, 5 and 12)

U-Boat by D/F at 1332Z/14 within 20 miles of 49 degs. 05' N. 3 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 141830B to A.I.G.331)

Your 141935. Hunt in present area as presence of S/M considered probable. Movement to comply with my 141742 may be delayed until tomorrow.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 142210B to E.G.5)

Sightings of "Schmorkel" Gear. Three fairly definite sightings of "Schmorkel" have been made but full reports not yet received.
(A) By 12th E.G. at 1917/8th June, smoke sighted at range of 3 miles coming out of rain squall. Fire opened. Although U-Boat was hunted for about 4 hours, until group was ordered to withdraw to avoid NARVIKS, no echo obtained.
(B) By Wellington at 0120/11th who obtained contact at 2½ miles but was out of position to attack when first illuminated and unable to regain contact.
(C) By 12th E.G. who sighted smoke in illumination of (B) above at about 2½ miles but were unable to obtain Radar contact or any other form of contact after light was extinguished and therefore made no attack.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141603B to Admty.)

Channel Islands area. One U-Boat sighted at 1230 to-day in St. Peter Port, Guernsey.
One U-Boat placed by D/F at 1532 within 20 miles of 47 degs. (?49 degs. intended) 05' N. 3 degs. 00' W.
(2) Wellington Beaufighter and Albacore A/C will operate in Channel Island area tonight North of 49 degs. 10' N.
(3) Expect escort by 2 Spitfires from 2045 till last light and from 0600/15.
(4) Force 26 is not to proceed north of 49 degs. 10' N. when east of 3 degs. W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141926B to Force 26.)

Request U-Boat sighted in St. Peters Port Guernsey p.m. to-day, be accepted as bomber target with high priority.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 142218B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Contact /...

346

14.6.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

- Contact attacked. Attacking doubtful contact in 245 degs. New Brighton 9.4 miles. (M.L.490, 142037B to N.O.I.C.Portland)
- A/S Patrol. Ships addressed establish A/S patrol on meridian of 001 degs. W. between 049 degs. 43' N. and 050 degs. 05' N. from daybreak tomorrow. (2) ONSLOW and OFFA return to harbour when relieved by ONSLAUGHT and ORIBI about 1100. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 142239B to ONSLOW, OFFA, TANTATSIDE, TALYBONT, WENSLEYDALE.)
- Contact attacked by HIND. Am engaging promising A/S contact in 198 degs. Start Point 3. HAMBLEDON joining me in hunt following suspected torpedo attack. Swordfish assisting. (HIND, 142255B to C. in C. Plymouth)
- U-Boat reported. Have obtained a bearing by H/F D/F believed to be of enemy S/M transmitting a Naval Enigma Signal 3rd Class (German) 252 degs. operator estimates over 30 miles but in ground wave sense determined, 8 groups at 2146Z. Another bearing 2nd class (German) 238 degs. near (considered ground wave) distance not estimated sense determined 8 groups at 2157Z. My position 092 Portland Bill 15. (LONDONDERRY, 142359B to Portsmouth, C.C.O)

Enemy Air Activity

- Western Sector. One enemy A/C has been observed dropping mines in 49 degs. 44' N. 00 degs. 51' W. (LA SURPRISE, 141130 to N.C.W.T.F.).
- Convoy attacked. "Moribund" being attacked by enemy A/C in 49 degs. 46' N. 00 degs. 38' E. (MIDDLETON, 142300 to Portsmouth)

Port Facilities.

- Western Sector. Breakwater completed. Intend to sail additional 12 A.B.B. to westward in line with present Breakwater and with a three hundred foot opening as passage. BRITTAY will lay Secen Buoy (brought)(?) on board on D + 12. Request LEONIAN may be sailed with final moorings so as to arrive at Mulberry A.D.+ 13. Request compliance. (C.T.F.125, 140122B to A.N.C.X.F.)

C.T.F./...

14.6.1944
Wednesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Port Facilities.

C.T.F.125's 140122. No more Bombardon moorings are to be laid for the present. Decision on position of remaining units will be made when further experience has been obtained. It is unlikely that any Bombardon will be available for use in other than Mulberry areas.
(A.N.C.X.F. 141030B to C.T.F.128 and 125)

Casualties and Defects

L.C.T's 684
and 897.

NORTHWAY has on board L.C.T. 684 and 897. L.C.T. 684 sustained damage by 2 mines exploding under bottom causing damage and weakening of structure flooding of engine room. 897 was damaged by mine explosion abreast engine room which flooded this compartment.
(N.C.E.T.F. 140954B to Admty.)

L.C.T.967
sunk.

Following from S.O. 23rd L.C.T. Flotilla. Begins. Report total loss of L.C.T. 967 by mine in 308 degs. Ile de St. Marcouf 2 miles. All survivors except one seaman placed on board U.S.S. BAYFIELD. Time of occurrence 0920/13th. Ends.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 141258B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Corvette
blown up.

A/C reports Corvette blown up 195 degs. Selsey Bill 12. Ships in vicinity investigate.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141534)

Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.6.

A. Sailed. B. STORK, REDPOLE, HOTHAM. C. E.T.A.1100B/14. D. Woolsack. E. For Gold PRINS ALBERT, PRINSES ASTRID. For Juno. BRIDADIER. For W.T.F. LADY CONNAUGHT. For E.T.F. BATAVIER II.
(A.N.C.X.F.140030)

E.C.P.6.

A. Sailed. B.113th E.G. C. E.T.A.1100/14. D. Patch. E. For OMAHA, LADY OF MANN, VICTORIA, EMPIRE RAPIER, GLENROY. For Utah, J.T.DICKMAN, EMPIRE CROSSBOW.
(A.N.X.C.F. 140126)

Proceed now to R/V E.C.P.6 in position 180 degs. Portland Bill 3 miles at 0300.
(F.O.I.C.Portland, 140221 to GREY GOOSE, MARINUS, LADY OF MANN, (R) Escort E.C.P.6)

E.P.L.7. /...

348

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.L.7. A. Sailed. B. SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA.
 C. 1200B/14. D. Wardle. E. L.S.T.239, 501,
 381, 59, 134, 332 all for Utah.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 140224B)
- E.W.L.8. A. Sailed. B. Escort ARMERIA, LAVENDER.
 C. E.T.A.1300/14. D. Barnabas.
 E. For Eastern Task Force Area L.S.T.11,491,
 312, 540, 364 29, 60, 326, 72, 377, Tug
 A.T.R.15, H.D.Vs, CAVEROCK, ATALANTA salvage vessel YEZO, Eagle
 ships WHIPPINGHAM, THAMES QUEEN.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 140824B)
- F.T.M.7. Sailed. A. F.T.M.7. B. TOMPAZIS, ALBERNI,
 WINDSOR, CURZON, M.L.141, U.S. C.G. 2, 10, 28
 and 36 detaching for Poole, TOMPAZIS and M.L.
 141 with Portsmouth ZH. C. E.T.A. Nab. 1845B/14
 Southend 0930B/15th. D. WILDFIRE T.S. E. DEMETERTON, R.M.
 CELIA, T.R. EVIDEE, LA MB (?) RO (?) OK (?LAMBROOK) SAMS (?)
 IP (?SAMSIP), l.s.ts for Tilbury 408, 409, 52, 519, 512, 200,
 261, 535, 385, 295, 416, L.S.T's for Isle of Wight 406, 302,
 542, 165, 80, 1, 524, 208, 279, 303, 534, 368, 265.
 F. L.S.T. 366(3) 9 L.S.T. 304 (1) 75 (2) 18 (3) 2 L.S.T. 80 (1)
 968 L.S.T. 421 (3) 50.
 (Capt. N.S. 140945B)
- F.T.C.7. Sailed. B. WALPOLE, ORCHIS for Tilbury
 Section M.L.1416 CHASSEUR 41 for Isle of Wight
 section. (C) E.T.A. (Nab?) 22(50?) 14th New-
 haven 1730/15th.
 D. Judge 5 Oboe. E. THE VICEROY, SUMMITY, ALACRITY, KONSHAVN,
 GALACUM, MARCEL, SERENITY, SHERWOOD, RUNNELSTON, WESTON.
 (Capt. N.S. 141115B)
- E.T.M.8. A. Sailed. B. Escorts MACKAY, VERVAIN,
 POTENTILLA,, CUBITT, PRIMROSE, ROSE.
 C. E.T.A. 2000/14. D. Taboo. E. For Gold
 SAMARK, OCEAN VIGIL, SAMZONA, COTTON MATHER.
 SAMAROVSK, L.S.T. 537, 309, 373, 21, 338, 319, 8, 962, for
 Juno SAMPHILL, L.S.T. 229, 498, 386, 209, 157,51, 159, 413,
 521, for Sword, SAMPEP, A. FRANK LEVER L.S.T.2, 360, 331, 307,
 266, 347, 356. for E.T.F. L.S.T. 164, 9, 423, 367, 60, 72,
 982.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 141125B)
- F.C.M.7 W. A. Sailed. B. Escort DIANTHUS. C. E.T.A.
 1845/14. D. Bayonet. E. for OMAHA, CHARLES
 SUMNER, ABIEL FOSTER CLINTON KELLY, CHARLES HALL,
 ENOCH TRAIN, CLARA BARTON, L.ST.404, 527.
 for Utah GEORGE PICKETT, CHARLES D. POSTON.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 141127B)
 My 141127 E.C.M.7 W. add L.S.T. 506.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 141337B)

Mismuster /...

349

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Mismuster Convoys. Experience has shown that sailing of Mismuster Convoys to Isle of Wight Area for onward routing leads to considerable delays in return of ships to their appropriate loading ports.

Mismuster convoys are not to be sailed from the Assault Area in future unless conditions there are abnormal. Ships for return to U.K. ports should be included in appropriate daily convoys which must be sailed and routed from the Assault Area to their respective terminal points.

It is also important that escorts should return to their correct bases as any diversion affects subsequent convoys. (A.N.C.X.F. 141155, to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Ships sailing to wrong sectors in France.

A number of instances have occurred of ships and craft having been sailed to and in some cases having discharged at wrong sectors in France.

(2) The Supreme Commander has directed that Senior Military officers of forces being embarked should attend convoy conferences to assist in preventing ships proceeding to incorrect

destinations.

(3) Procedure for determining correct destination should be as follows. (a) For ships when embarkation commences military embarkation staff officer will inform the appropriate movement or transportation control headquarters who will inform the local D.S.T.O. and W.S.A. in case of U.S. ships. D.S.T.O. will inform master of ship of his destination and also pass this to N.C.S.O. who will include a similar instruction in the masters orders. N.C.S.O. should also inform local Turco.

(B) For craft when embarkation commences embarkation staff officer will inform hardmaster of destination. Hardmaster will inform Captain of craft and local Turco.

(4) All concerned must pay the greatest attention to this matter which is of the utmost importance.

(A.N.C.X.F. 141539B and 151218)

F.T.C.6.

Southend 14th June. Arrival from Convoy F.T.C.6. TEESWOOD, SODALITY, ARDGRYFFE negative SAINT ANGUS and ASSIDUITY. Capt. N.S. 131100B refers.

(Cdr. i/c Southend, 141716B)

Recognition Signals.

40 "V". Minor War Vessels recognition signals may be issued by Sailing Authorities to vessels which do not fly the White Ensign and which proceed independently at night.

(2) If this is done instructions are to be given in the use of these signals.

(3) The above arrangements do not mean that failure to reply to a challenge is proof of enemy character.

(A.N.C.X.F. 141733B to All S. & A. concerned.)

A.E.B.C.9.

Sailed. B.144th E.G. C.0600/15. D.Chancellor. E. for Omaha, MARIE, HILDUR I.

350

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

A.E.B.C.9
(Contd.)

AVANCE I, EMPIRE RESISTANCE, CALVIN, COGGINS,
VULCANUS. for Utah, MARIE. Joining
Southampton E.B.C.9 W. for Utah, DONA FLORA,
FAGERBRO, JUNE.
(A.N.C.X.F. 142002)

F.G.M.5.

C.T.F.121, 125, 124 have (A) sailed convoy
F.G.M.5 1130/14.
(B) 143 E.G. (CORNELIAN, BLUEBELLE, PEARL),
121 E.G. (SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA, M.L.255 LL plus

U.S.C.G.3 and 8).

(C) E.T.A. Portland 0100/15 Southampton same time, Falmouth
1700/15. (D) NANTUCKET IYE. For Portland L.S.T.27,492, 317
For Southampton DAVID CALDWELL (VI Comdre) SAMUEL COLT, JANE
LONG, WILLIAM W. LORING, JAMES WOODROW, GEORGE DEWEY, JOSEPH
JOHNSTON, L.S.T. 311, 539, 393, 365, 301, 505, 410. For
Falmouth, FRANCIS DRAKE (Comdre) JAMES MACKAY.
(F) L.S.T. 317, 249, 65, 110. L.S.T.492, 3 None, 205,
L.S.T. 393, 169, 41, 5, L.S.T. 505, 17, 6, 4.
(C.T.G.122.7, 142045B)

Convoy

(1) Very early information of northbound convoys
information. E.T.A. in area Z is required.

(2) In future a short Loxo signal prefixed
immediate is to be made to C. in C. Portsmouth
and A.N.C.X.F. in the following form "Sailed

F.T.M.10 E.T.A. Z 1400" the normal sailing signal is also to
be made.

(3) Such messages should normally be passed by circuits NAN11
to NAN 14 if practicable.

(A.N.C.X.F. 142303B)

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

REVENGE or MALAYA. An immediate requirement has arisen for either REVENGE or MALAYA to act as Bombarding ship. Request you will hold a conference on these ships tomorrow, Thursday, 15th June, to decide what essential items need be carried out and also to give an estimate of time for the work to be done.
 3. The ship will require to be stored and provisioned for approx. 3 mths. and with full outfit of ammunition. Speed of 14 kts. can be accepted. All 4" guns will need to be changed. (V.C.N.S. 141839B, to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Operations

Operation C.W. Your 131227B (A) 1000 Area C.2 to C.1. (B) 2300 Area C.2 to B.(?4). When in appropriate Area request approval to investigate Donegal and Sligo Bay at 1st light. My position 135CC 30. Weather. (BULLDOG, 140600B to C. in C.W.A.)
 Your 140600. Approved to search Bays. 2. When in a convenient Area and Group is composed of 5 or more ships, one may be detached at daylight to Moville to top up, rejoining before dark. (C. in C.W.A. 141152B to BULLDOG.)

Biscay A/S operations. U.S.S. CROATAN, (U.S.T/G 22.5) 5 destroyers vicinity 047 degs. 02' N. 031 degs. 04' W. T/G 22.2, 5 destroyers 045 degs. 23' N. 033 degs. 50' N. 254 degs. 14 knots. (C. in C.W.A. 141329B to Ships.)

Operation DB. My 110047. 1. Outward route Red through following positions. AA. 062 degs. 25' N. 005 degs. 00' W. BB. 067 degs. 00' N. 007 degs. 10' W. CC. 071 degs. 00' N. 005 degs. 05' W. DD. 077 degs. 50' N. 006 degs. 50' E. 2. Adjust speed to pass CC. about 0200 D plus 3 to avoid Zenit. 3. Return by route Red unless otherwise ordered. (C. in C.H.F. 142049 to JAMAICA.)

Enemy Air Activity

Spitzbergen. Enemy air R/C on 4th June and 14th June at 0445 and 0620 respectively. ("Ploughshare" 141000Z to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence

PRINZ EUGEN and two Pocket Battleships. About 0900 today air R/C located 2 pocket battleships and PRINZ EUGEN carrying out exercises North Rupa Dantzig area. 2. One pocket battleship was with PRINZ EUGEN in line ahead steering due west, and 20 miles to Northeastward was other pocket battleship steering 100 degs. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm, 141701 to Admty.)

352

14.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Oslo.

B.2 Report 13th June. Following now stationed in Oslo Fiord:-
6 T 1 Class torpedo boats. One E/Boat depot ship and 8 E/Boats.
(D.D.I.C. 141954B to C. in C. H.F.)

353

14.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Lisbon
trawlers.

Admty. 122029* para. 4.
Lisbon trawlers will be in normal running condition boilers were cleaned recently.
(N.A.Lisbon 141202B.)
* re ERISKAY and GUINARD at Lisbon to be allocated to Gibraltar (I) Trawler Force.

Blimps.

Blimps K.134 and K.109 arrived Lagens, Azores, 1345Z/14.
(Comfairships Lant 142219Z.)

South Atlantic.

SS. ST.BASILE. ST. BASILE (French) torpedoed at 140030Z* position
BIRDLIP. 005° 00' N. 009° 14' W. 37 survivors, 6 missing.
Ship sank 140545. TURCOMAN in company operationally ineffective. P.L.E. 3 days. No contact with BIRDLIP since 132335Z when BIRDLIP called 13 R/T desiring to pass message.
(INKPEN 141133Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

ST. BASILE torpedoed and sunk at 0545A/14th in position 05.03 N. 09.14 W. 37 survivors picked up, 6 missing. Trawlers searching area.

(F.O.C.W.Af. 141533Z to Comar Dakar.)

Note. Different latitude.

* German Document 471 shows time of attack by U.547 was 0139/14th.

CONFIDENTIAL

IN 353^A

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.)

*Received by W/D after
typing of Diary.*

141115B/June.

From : N.A. Lisbon.

Date: 15. 6.44

Recd. 2146.

NAVAL SPORE CODE (N1) BY CABLE.

To : S.O. (I) Gibraltar
Info Admiralty, B.N.S.O. Azores.

Ministry of Marine communicates S.S. CARVALHO ARAUJO leaves Lisbon 20th repetition 20th June for Ponta Delgada and Horta with troops. Sailing again from Lisbon 5th repeat 5th July for Ponta Delgada with troops. Troops will be transported on return in both cases.

141115B.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
U.W.R.
D. Map Room
Capt Pim
Ops (2)
Plot.
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (3)
D.N.I. (5)
D.T.D. (2)
D.T.D. (C)
M. (2)
D.E.W.D. (3)
A.L.O.
W.D.

Advance copy sent Ops, O.D., O.I.C.

38
CE

354

War Diary.14.6.1944.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Shortage of
A.A. ships.

In view of the shortage of A.A. ships in this Command it is requested that consideration may be given for the Western Approaches A.A. ship with the K.M.F. convoys continuing to Naples and returning with the same numbered M.K.F. convoy. (C. in C. Med. 140951 to Admty.)

Aegean, enemy
convoy
(CAROLA,
ANITA, AGATHE,
etc.)

My 131326. All convoys seen in Porto Lago 0700/
14th. Appreciation and own intention the same.
(F.O.L.E.M. 141144C to Capt. S.1, S.O. Force 51,
(R) VIVID, A.H.Q.E.M., M.T.Bs. 315, 309, Group
212, Berka, Gambut.)

Ship in my 131320* still present Port Laki at
0545 today.

(Capt. S.1 141158B to VIVID.)

* re ANITA, AGATHE, CAROLA.

1. P.C. and S. of 1 merchant ship probably AGATHE and 3 destroyers at 1921B was $036^{\circ} 40' 026^{\circ} 54' 140^{\circ} 7$ knots.
2. Endeavoured attack but detected inside screen before firing.
3. Retiring to S.W. for night.
(VIVID 142156B.)

(?Stragglers) Porto Lago 1200/14th convoy present. CAROLA discharging.

2. Appreciate AGATHE, ANITA may sail as in my 131326.
3. Own intentions tonight 14/15th. A. VIVID and M.T.Bs. as my 131326. B. Wellington R/C with flares. C. Air strike east of Piskopi starting 0345. D. (corrupt group) M.T.B. keep clear of air strike.

(F.O.L.E.M. 141834C to Capt. S.1, S.O. Force 51, (R) VIVID,
A.H.Q.E.M. M.T.B. 315, M.T.B. 309, 212 Group, Berka, Gambut.)

Joint Naval Army R.A.F. Intelligence appreciation.

6. Aegean shipping summary. Ph. R/C 13 June limited to Dodecanese revealed Leros, Porto Lago. By a.m. arrived major supply convoy from Piraeus comprising SS. CAROLA, ANITA, AGATHE, 1 coaster probably CELSIUS, 3 destroyers, 1 corvette, 1 E/R Boat. By p.m. CAROLA moved mid harbour unloading into Pioneer landing craft while ANITA and AGATHE lying off north shore and CELSIUS at Jetty showing no evidence unloading. Comment. Possibly transfer Rhodes intended. Visual R/C Leros a.m. 14 June however indicates convoy still present. Also present p.m. 13 June 1 F-Lighter, 6 Magda barges, 8 Pioneer landing craft of which 2 probably arrived from Partheni 3 armed launches and 2 E.M.S. class escorts. Coaster KALYDON and caique DOXA moved by a.m. to Partheni where still present p.m. with 4 launches 40 feet and 1 possible Pioneer landing craft. Comment. Above represents highest total Leros for considerable time.
(C. in C.M.E. 141840C.)

Italian war-
ships at
Mahon.

Following upon representations made to M.F.A. regarding Spanish responsibility for safety of Italian warships, Chief of Naval Staff has informed me that ships at Mahon have been moved to Naval Base and he also mentioned possibility of net defence of port.
(B.N.A. Madrid 141215B.)

/ULTOR...

14.6.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

ULTOR,
CASABIANCA,
UPSTART.

ULTOR sails at 1729/16th routed through 043° 06' 007° 28' patrol in SS.
2. CASABIANCA leave patrol to pass 042° 52' 007° 06' at 0330/16th, 042° 09' 007° 37' at 2000/16th to arrive Maddalena at 0900/17th.
3. UPSTART to move into ST. at 0400/16th.
(Capt. S.10 141525.)

Som Daily
Sitrep No.
61.

2. Albania. A.1. 200 Germans are said to have landed from 2 sailing ships at Sarande (R.38) 11 June and carried out extensive demolitions in the harbour. 60 M.T. brought a further German Force from Delvine (R.48) to Sarande on the same day and returned 12 June.
(Somto 141700B.)

UNSWERVING.

UNSWERVING sailed from Malta at 1801B/14th to pass through Antikithera Channel during night 16/17th thence west of Stampalia to patrol in north Aegean north of lat. 038°.
(Capt. S.1 141802.)

Minesweeping
in Danube.

Technical.
(F.O.L.E.M. 141822C to Admty.)

U.S.S.
PHILADELPHIA.

Damage to PHILADELPHIA was result of collision with U.S.S. LAUB. C.S.Naples 261819 May refers.
2. Details of damage in V.A.M. 301700 May, which with Commavnaw 091016 and my 101510 are being passed. A.M. 101942* refers.
(C. in C.Med. 142007.)
* Requesting details of damage to PHILADELPHIA, completion of VINDICTIVE to be delayed.

Situation
report No.
377.

1. Night 10/11th June. TUSCAN and TUMULT carried out sweep and shelled Lussinpiccolo. Slight return of fire.
2. BLACKMORE and EGGESFORD encountered 4 E-Boats in position 043° 31' N. 015° 52' E. night 11/12th June, one E-Boat sunk, 10 prisoners taken.
3. During night 11/12th June coastal forces on patrol were engaged by battery off Viareggio. No damage. No sightings.
4. During clearance of Civitavecchia approach Channel and anchorage 42 mines swept by 12th M/S F. 2 ground mines were destroyed by M.M.S. inside the harbour, 18 mines cut by B.Y.M.S. and M/S M.Ls. during sweeping of Anzio - Civitavecchia inshore channel.
(C. in C.Med. 142213.)

356

14.6.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

No. 58. Lettered area. No fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. Indian Ocean. D/F bearing at 2039Z/12th and 1609Z/13th indicates U-Boat off N.E. coast Madagascar. D/F bearing at 1707Z/12th indicates U-Boat may be in Addu Atoll area.

(C. in C.E.F. 140341Z.)

SS. HELEN
MOLLER.

My 111103 for 061823Z read 051823Z.

(C. in C.E.F. 141151Z.)

Staff of
C. in C.E.F.

I consider the time has now arrived when a re-organisation and strengthening of the staff of C. in C.E.F. is necessary to deal with the work involved by the expansion of the fleet, the expansion of facilities to meet the needs of the fleet, and of bases for landing ships and craft. To this must be added additional work resulting from the establishment of a Supreme Commander in this theatre. Organisation of staff.

2. The following are my proposals for the re-organisation of the staff.

3. Chief of Staff to be assisted by four Assistant Chiefs of Staff for: A. plans, B. trade, C. personnel, D. material and maintenance.

4. Proposals to implement above appointments.

(C. in C.E.F. 141351 to Admty.)

Naval Base,
Diego Suarez.

C. in C.E.F. 021303 (May intended) which is being passed to C. in C. Med. Approved in principle to make reduction in two stages as proposed. Stage one may be put in hand forthwith.

2. C. in C.E.F. para. 5 approved.

3. Further signal will be sent regarding C. in C.E.F. para. 6.

4. French authorities in Algiers and Diego Suarez should be informed of reduction proposed in stage one but at present time not stage two as this raises larger issues including possible revision of Madagascar Agreement. Approach should be on lines that as foreshadowed, Admty. are preparing for French to assume increased share of responsibility in defence of port in the future. A.M. 112147 December refers.

5. Please report how long stage one will take and how closely it can be followed by stage two.

(1st Lord 141516B.)

357

14.6.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

N.S.H.Q.S/M
attack and
sighting
summary. Para. A. Fishing vessel LARK shelled and machine
gunned by U/B 43° 00' N. 65° 20' W. 0630 to
0710Z/13th.
(N.S.H.Q. 140802Z.)

SS.FERNGLLEN. SS. FERNGLLEN G.T.5206. Port of Registry, Oslo,
Cargo general and explosives disabled with broken
cylinders main engine in position 10° 56' N. 61°
33' W. on 10th June towed to Trinidad by H.M.R.T.
CONFIDENT No.D.46 or other document signed. Report follows.
(S.B.N.O. Trinidad, 140837Q)

U/Boat
dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q.141339Z. to Ships and Authorities N. of
40° N. and W. of 40° W. concerned with U/B
Situation Reports, Admty., A.C.I.C., S.O.P.A.
Greenland, Cominch.)

U.G.F. O.T
convoys
M.V.SOCOTRA. SOCOTRA.
Anticipate ~~Seeetra~~ bound for India can present for
U.G.F.12. If this routeing is acceptable suggest
Admty. make appropriate request to Cominch.
2. In view of resumption of U.G.F.convoys Admty.
may consider proposing amendment to M.A.R.I.
3. It is to be observed that Cominch 122155 refers
to troop ships and tankers only. No approach is being made re-
garding inclusion of dry cargo ships pending your decision on
foregoing.
(B.A.D.Washington, 141859Z to Admty.)

U/B
incidents. C. Mariner Radar contact 05.48 S. 25.30 W. 14.05.
00. P.B.M. Radar contact 37.18 N. 73.27 W. 13.19.
36. All times Z.
D. P.B.Y. Radar contact 37.58 N. 70.28 W. 13.23.18
(Cominch, 142116Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 876. June 13th. Para.14 to 17 cover S. Pacific Forces.
3. Morning U.S. Submarine reported enemy force
described four battleships, 6 A/C carriers with A/C
on deck, 8 cruisers plus destroyers departed.
Sibitu passage N. into Sulu Sea.
9. American forces Biak Island supported by artillery mortar
and Naval gunfire reduced enemy strong point northeast Parai
12th also cleared enemy from coastal road between Bosnek and
aerodrome. During night 12th/13th motor torpedo boats sank

War Diary14.6.1944
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New ZealandDigest 876
(Contd.)

3 supply laden barges off north coast Biak Island.
12. Morning 12th possible enemy submarine seen
heading northwest off Nightingale Bay (15 miles
southeast Wewak).
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 141002Z.)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 141505B, 141510B.)

JACOB
VAN
HEEMSKERCK.

Congratulations. On return to U.K. on completion
of nearly 2½ years' valuable service in the S.W.
Pacific and with the Eastern and Mediterranean
Fleets.
(V.C.N.S., 142013B.)

U/BOAT CAMPAIGNSubmarine
attack and
sighting
summary.

Para. A.

1. A/C T/162 attacked U/Boat at 0810Z/13 in
62.45 N; 02.01 W.
2. A/C P/110 attacked U/Boat with depth charges
at 1535Z/13 in 46.05 N. 03.00 W.
3. A/C C/53 sighted U/Boat at 2137Z/13 in 48.08 N;
05.47 W.
4. A/C Y/172 attacked U/Boat course 360° at 2138Z/13 in 47.59 N.
05.28 W.
5. A/C F/524 sighted U/Boat course 090° with 2 surface escorts
at 2347Z/13 in 48.08 N. 05.10 W.

Para. B.

1. A/C Y/58 sighted 2 sloops dropping depth-charges at 0734Z/
13 in 49.49 N. 03.40 W.
2. A/C F/206 obtained radar contacts at 0824Z/13 in 48.31 N.
05.10 W. at 1206Z/13 in 48.49 N. 05.30 W. and at 1358Z/13th June
in 48.53 N. 05.41 W.

3. SCOURGE attacked contact at 2005Z/13 in 50.24 N. 01.04 W.
4. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0245Z/14 49.46 N. 05.10 W.

Para. C.

1. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 2248Z/13 in 50.42 N. 05.42 W.
2. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 2220Z/13 in 50.08 N. 01.00 E.
which was lost after 10 minutes.
3. A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0102Z/14 in 50.43 N. 06.06 W.
(D.D.I.C. 141224B.)

War Diary

15.6.1944
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

la. S.H.A.E.F. reports today that the development of the Beaches continues to make good progress and that the unloading rate of Troops and Stores is steadily increasing. Sporadic shelling continues on the Beaches of both flanks; and during an air-raid at 0330 today Mines were dropped in the Western Sector.

b. A photographic R/C of Havre today shows no trace of ten E/Boats and three T.Bs. previously alongside the quays, and two other E/Boats were seen aground or damaged. A.N.C.X.F. considers that all these missing craft were probably destroyed in our heavy air attack upon Havre last night; and that at Cherbourg there are now probably not more than five E/Boats of which some are certainly damaged.

c. The flag of C.S.2 of the Eastern Bombardment Force was transferred at 1100 today to AJAX who carried out eleven bombardments during the day; RAMILLIES silenced a new Battery at Benerville; and NELSON engaged the Battery at Cap de la Heve.

d. The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are as follows:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Beaches:	270,265	43,988	79,155 Tons
U.S. Beaches:	254,940	33,085	71,769 Tons
	<u>525,205</u>	<u>77,073</u>	<u>150,924</u> Tons

e. By midnight 15th/16th a total of 15,565 Prisoners of War had been evacuated to the U.K.

Enemy
Action

2. E/Boats. a. No E/Boat activity took place during last night.

U/Boats. b. At 1426B the Admiralty considered that, though up to four U/Boats are probably in the Channel Islands area and between Guernsey and Start Point, no U/Boat has yet penetrated to the Eastward of Cap de la Hague.

c. At 1145 today the Frigate MOURNE of E.G.5 was torpedoed and sunk by a U/Boat about 40 miles S.S.W. of the Lizard; at 1911 the Frigate BLACKWOOD of E.G.3 was torpedoed and damaged by a U/Boat about 23 miles S.S.E. of Portland Bill; and both these U/Boats are being hunted.

d. At 0542B today S.O. E.G.2 considered that the U/Boat attacked by the Sloop HIND escorting convoy E.C.P.7 at 2255 last night off Start Point had been sunk.

War Diary

15.6.1944
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

General

Engagement
off Texel.

3. At 0306 today five M.T.Bs. of the 58th M.T.B. Flotilla engaged a south-bound Enemy Convoy off the Texel and by 0407 had sunk one Gun-Coaster, set on fire and possibly destroyed one ocean-going Tug, and damaged one Icelandic Trawler without casualty or damage to themselves.

South Atlantic

U/B
sunk S.
of St.
Helena.
(U 860)

4. The U.S. escort carrier SOLOMONS' group sank a U/Boat in 25.10 S. 04.55 W. (600 miles south of St. Helena) at 1751 today. 21 survivors of the U/Boat were recovered, including the Captain and First Officer, Four U.S. aircraft were lost.

Mediterranean

Enemy
destroyer
sunk.

5. Coastal forces last night engaged two destroyers off Spezia. One destroyer was torpedoed and subsequently blew up.

A.A.
Ships.

6. Owing to the shortage of A.A. ships in the Mediterranean, the Western Approaches A.A. ships with K.M.F. convoys are to continue to Naples, returning with the same numbered M.K.F. ship.

Aegean.

7. An important enemy convoy from the Piraeus, consisting of 3 merchant ships, CAROLA, ANITA and AGATHE, and coaster CELSIUS, escorted by 3 destroyers, a corvette and an E/R boat, was reported by aircraft on 13th June. Arrangements were made to intercept it by submarine and M.T.Bs. and it was attacked by aircraft today off Rhodes and again in Rhodes harbour, but no damage is reported as the result of any of these operations.

FENJA.

8. Reports indicate that the Swedish Relief Ship FENJA may have sunk as the result of striking a mine east of Leros on 13th June.

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval.

Cositintrep No. 24, part 2, Naval.
Troops landed, etc.

Cumulative totals to p.m. 12th June.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno & Sword	224,060	33,444	46,851 tons
Omaha and Utah	171,738	23,215	32,634 tons
Total (D+6)	395,798	56,659	79,485 tons

Last reported 24 hour totals.

Gold (to 121800)	6,800	1,140	4,742 tons
Gold (to 131800)	6,000	1,620	3,774 tons
Juno (to 122125)	8,853	968	4,051 tons
Sword (to 122359)	1,300	439	2,800 tons
Omaha (to 131200)	12,444	2,270	7,500 tons
Utah (to 121800)	8,493	1,035	4,144 tons

Casualties. M.M.S.229 mines in W.T.F.area sunk.

D. Coastal Command. One U-Boat was photographed in St. Peter Port, Guernsey at 1230/14. Air attack was "laid on" but target could not be located.

(Ad. Ramsay 150015 to Admty.)

Cositintrep No. 25 part 2, Naval.

A. General. Westerly wind impeded unloading in British Sector yesterday, but in U.S.Sector landing of vehicles and stores reported to be exceeding planned rate. During air raid at 0330 this morning mines were dropped near shipping berths in U.S.Sector. Bombs fell close to U.S.S. BAYFIELD. Sporadic shelling continues on beaches of both flanks. No E-Boat activity has been confirmed during the night but two U.S.L.S.T. were damaged this morning, one by a mine and the other probably by aircraft torpedo attack.

B. Casualties. U.S.L.S.T. 280, damaged, believed torpedo at 0024 near 78C Buoy. U.S.L.S.T.133, damaged, mine at 0900 near 14A Buoy.

C. Coastal Command. At 0420 this morning Wellingtons attacked a U-Boat 25 miles W. of mouth of the Gironde. A second U-Boat was attacked at 0400 30 miles S.W. of St. Nazaire.

D. Intelligence. Preliminary reports of the air attack on Le Havre last night indicate that it was highly successful. It is believed that heavy toll was inflicted on enemy vessels in harbour and damage was done to port installations.

(Ad. Ramsay 151436B to Admty.)

Evidence of U-Boats in Western Channel emphasises that they are attempting to reach the cross channel convoy area but there is still no definite evidence that any U-Boat has penetrated as far as this.

MOURNE torpedoed and sunk by U-Boat 38 miles south of Penzance. BLACKWOOD torpedoed by U-Boat 23 miles S.S.E. of Portland Bill. Further details not yet known. Both U-Boats being hunted. Further reports of air raids on Assault Anchorages last night indicate U.S.S. BAYFIELD received slight damage, and four enemy shot down Eastern Sector.

/B...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

B. Troops landed etc., cumulative totals to p.m. 13th June.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno & Sword	238,910	35,987	61,202 tons
Omaha & Utah	188,304	26,251	43,973 tons
Total (D+7)	427,214	62,238	104,975 tons*
Last reported 24 hours:			
Gold (to p.m. 14th)	5,705	2,288	5,615 tons
Juno (to p.m. 13th)	4,750	1,035	3,450 tons
Sword (to p.m. 13th)	3,300	368	2,400 tons
Omaha (to p.m. 14th)	27,060?	1,811	7,752 tons
Utah (to p.m. 15th)	4,122	766	5,839 tons

C. Casualties. MOURNE (frigate) sunk, torpedoed.

BLACKWOOD (frigate) torpedoed.

D. Coastal Command. At 1939/15th Beaufighter sighted a U-Boat which submerged before attack, 30 miles north of Ushant.

E. Intelligence. Le Havre. Photographic R/C this afternoon shows no trace of ten E-Boats and three T.Bs. that previously were lying alongside the now heavily cratered quays: and two other E-Boats are seen aground or damaged. It is considered that all these missing craft were destroyed in last night's raid, which occurred at a time when the port had been heavily re-inforced from Boulogne and Cherbourg. At the latter place it is therefore probable that not more than five E-Boats now remain in harbour, and of these some are certainly damaged.

(Ad. Ramsey 152335B to Admty.)

* Note: W.D. is not responsible for the arithmetic displayed here

General. Communique No. 19. On all parts of the front Allied Forces continue to carry the fight to the enemy.

The heaviest fighting has taken place in the Carentan, Montebourg and Caen areas. Airborne troops have successfully beaten off attempts by the Germans to retake Carentan, and are again pushing southwards from the town. They have also advanced further to the west in the Les Sablonbauppte vicinity. Heavy armoured attacks and counter-attacks persist in the Caen-Tilly sur Seullles areas.

The development of the beaches is making good progress and the unloading of troops and stores is steadily increasing. The Allied Air Forces continued their attacks yesterday afternoon and evening on communications and road convoys in the Cherbourg Peninsula in support of our ground forces. Rail traffic was also bombed and in a surprise attack on the enemy airfield at Le Mans about a dozen enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground. Before dusk heavy night bombers, with fighter escort, attacked E-Boats and the dock side at Le Havre. Light bombers made night attacks on enemy convoys and concentrations moving on the roads towards the battle area. (S.H.A.E.F. 151100B to Agwar.)

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Communique No. 20. Further steady progress has been made west of Carentan and between the Rivers Vire and Elle.

Allied troops have repulsed several violent armoured attacks in the Caumont-Tilly sector with considerable loss to the enemy.

In the Cherbourg Peninsula, ground gained in the area of Quinville has made available a valuable new outlet from the beaches. During yesterday mobile batteries on the flanks were engaged as necessary by Allied warships. On the Eastern flank BELFAST gave valuable support against enemy concentrations. NELSON engaged the batteries of Le Havre.

During an unsuccessful enemy air attack in the Western Assault area an enemy aircraft was shot down by the U.S.S. AUGUSTA. Convoys of Allied merchant ships are arriving satisfactorily and the armies continue to be built up with men, stores and equipment.

Allied aircraft in great strength ranged from the Cherbourg Peninsula southwards to the Loire and eastwards to Chartres and Paris continuing their attacks on communications airfields and tactical targets. Coastal aircraft kept up their attacks on enemy shipping in the Channel early today.

Photographic R/C shows that the German Naval Forces in the Port of Le Havre suffered very severely from the attack by heavy night bombers on the evening of June 14th.

(S.H.A.E.F. 152330B to Agwar.)

Flag of
C.S.2.

My flag was transferred to AJAX at 1100 today.
(C.S.2 151501 to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

C.T.F.129.

Rear Admiral M.L.Deyo in TUSCALOOSA assumed Command of Task Force 129 Support Force of Western Task Force in accordance with N.C.W.T.F. 132357.
(Comcrudiv Seven 150810B to C.T.F.122.)

Assault Areas.

Area S.

My H.Q. now established in position 07, 47, 98 near Hermanville.
3. Deputy N.O.I.C. Sword H.Q. on Queen Beach at 08, 98, 06.
(N.O.I.C. Sword 151755B to S.O.Force S.)

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Bombardment Forces.

NELSON.

Your 142047. NELSON should be retained as long as justified by her ammunition state and by the local situation of which you are the best judge. I consider coastal batteries a fair target for her in naval situation demands.
(A.N.C.X.F. 150923B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Area S.

Shelling the anchorage may be expected to increase. It is therefore essential that the Hun should be made to realize that as soon as his guns fire he will get back more than he gave.

2. One ship, preferably a cruiser, will be detailed daily as spotting battery guard ship. A portion of her armament is to be at immediate notice and a look out kept for shells falling in anchorage. If these are seen or if the signal "Snap" is made by the Naval Cdr. Force S the ship is to open fire immediately on the Hougate feature without waiting for the enemy battery to be located. The ship will subsequently be spotted on by A/C or signal from the Naval Cdr.

3. The signal "Snap" will be made by the Naval Cdr. when shells are reported falling in the anchorage or on the beaches.
(S.O. Force S 151905 to Bombarding ships and destroyers, C.S.2, N.C.E.T.F.)

Request air spot 16 June be briefed for search and opportunity targets in area St. Vaast to Montebourg.
(C.T.F. 129 152357B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Covering Forces.

Patrols
from
Plymouth.

No surface enemy in the bay. Am going towards position FF. Request instructions. My P.C. and S. 49° 05' N. 02° 26' W. 280° 30 knots.
(BLYSKAWICA 150122 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Am swinging back towards position CC. My P.C. and S. 49° 08' N. 02° 41' W. 140° 30 knots.
(BLYSKAWICA to C. in C.Plymouth No T.O.O. Recd. 150209.)

P.C.W.O. 120. A. Unit G.T.1, M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 679, 677, 676. B. 2000B/15. C. AA. 090 Eddystone 2. BB. 342° Ile de Bas 15 to arrive 0015. CC. approx. position 000° Ile de Bas 1 mile. Speed 20 knots to BB. thence as requisite to arrive CC by 0130. D. From CC. to investigate area between Ile de Bas and Sept Isles south of Triagoz. E. Destruction of enemy destroyer aground in approx. 48° 45' 44" N. 4° 1' 39" W. Destruction enemy shipping and patrols in Morlaix area. F. Area to be left in time to be north of 49° 10' N. by first light. G. Return to Dartmouth.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151050B.)

/Night...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Forces.

Night patrols 15/16th June. P.C.W.O. 120.
A. 1. G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 720, 719. 2. G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 726, 713. 3. G.N.3 M.T.Bs. 716, 678. 4. G.U.1 M.L. 181, 488, 184. B. 2300/15. D. 1. In vicinity 119 Start 14 mins. 2. In vicinity 232° Portland Bill 25'. 3. In vicinity 194° Portland Bill 12'. 4. In vicinity 209° Start 16'. F. 0515/16.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151311B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

P.C.W.O. 120. 1. A. Unit G.P.1 M.T.Bs. 94, (S.O.), 90, 91, 92, 96, 227. B. 2000B/15. C. RR. 232° Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330 thence to SS. 210° La Corbiere 13 to arrive at 0120.
D. From SS. to TT. 145° St. Marines Point 6.
E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
F. Area to be left to be 12 miles 270° 1 Les Hanois by 1st light.
2.A. Unit G.P.2, M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 745, 743.
B. 2030B/15. C. XX. 249° Casquets 12 to arrive 2330 thence to YY. 163° Alderney Light 8 to arrive 0115.
D. From YY. sweep S.W. to ZZ. 109° Sark Light 5.
E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
F. Area to be left in time to be 5 miles N.W. of XX. by 1st light.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151336B.)

Coastal Force Patrols tonight 15/16th.
1. Unit G.T.1 4 M.T.Bs. from Plymouth at 2000, speed 20 knots to sweep Cheste de Bas area returning first light. (My 151504 part 1.)
2. Unit G.P.1 6 M.T.Bs. from Dartmouth at 2000, speed 20 knots, to sweep Channel Islands area returning 1st light.
3. Unit G.P.2, 3 M.T.Bs. from Brixham at 2030.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151452B to E.G.2, E.G.3.)

1. M.T.B. Units G.N.1 G.N.2, G.N.3 and M.L. Unit G.U.1 will patrol in Lyme Bay area south of convoy route (corrupt group) zone between 2300/15th and 0515/16th.
2. Force 26, HAIDA, HURON (corrupt group) patrol in Z.224 and Z.225 from 0015/16th until 0600/16th.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151641B to E.Gs. 2, 3, 5 and 12.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. C. in C.Portsmouth's 142239. A/S patrol as for yesterday but ships 3.5 miles apart in order north to south ONSLOW, OFFA, WENSLEYDALE, TALYBONT, TANATSIDE. Speed made good 16 knots.
(Capt. D.17 150513B to TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, OFFA, WENSLEYDALE, C. in C.Portsmouth.)

My 150513. Order from north to south ONSLOW, OFFA, TANATSIDE, WENSLEYDALE, TALYBONT.
(Capt. D.17 150643B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

/Your...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.

Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Forces.

Your 151110. Patrol line shifted to 01° W. same lat. North to south ORIBI, ONSLAUGHT, BRISSENDEN, TANATSIDE, WENSLEYDALE, TALYBONT.
(TANATSIDE 151113B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 15/16th.
A. ONSLAUGHT (G.H.1), ORIBI (G.H.2), TANATSIDE (G.H.3), 01.00 W. between 49.47 N. and 50.05 N. TALYBONT (G.D.) east of Channel 78 between A and D. Buoys.

B. STAYNER (G.L.1) in Z.122. RETALICK (G.C.1) in Z.111 on 01.15 W. between 49.44 N. and 49.50 N.

C. Unit G.L.2 M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O.), 209, 205. Unit G.L.3 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 478, 453, 454. Unit G.L.4 M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 452, 447. All with STAYNER in Z.122 not east of 01.43 W. unless in action. Unit G.C.2 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 692, 691. Unit G.C.3 M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 701. All with RETALICK in Z.111 not south of 49.42 N. unless in action.

D. Unit G.F. M.T.Bs. 415 (S.O.), 416, 434 in Z.115 and up to 01.43 W. not west of 01.43 W. unless in action.

F. Forces G.C. and G.L. and Unit G.F. via Needles and position 50.12 N. 01.47 W. ONSLAUGHT report disposition of Force G.H. Force G.H. and G.B. to be in position by 2200, remainder by 2330. (C. in C.Portsmouth 151352B.)

O.N. one, para. 52B. Eastern night Channel report 15/16th June. 1. F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.U.7 ORWELL Z.7. F.U.1 OBEDIENT Z.11 west. F.U.2 WENSLEYDALE Z.10 west. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 east. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13 east. F.U.4 BRISSENDEN between 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. and 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W. 11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy. G.D. TALYBONT east of Channel 78 between A and D Buoys.
2. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs. Z.5. F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.N.8 3 M.T.Bs. Z.8. F.Y.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12 east. F.X.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east.
3. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 151827B to Ships in area C.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Western night Channel report 15/16th June. 1. 11th E.G. vicinity Z. Buoy. G.H.1 ONSLAUGHT, G.B.2 ORIBI, G.H.3 TANATSIDE on 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 05' N. G.L.1 STAYNER Z.122. G.C.1 RETALICK Z.111. 3rd E.G. Z.200, Z.201. 2nd E.G. Z.212, to Z.214, Z.206 to N.W. Z.208. 5th E.G. Z.233, Z.234, Z.238, Z.239. 12th E.G. Z.237.
2. G.L.2, 3 M.T.Bs. G.L.3 4 M.T.Bs. G.L.4 3 M.T.Bs. all Z.122. G.C.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.C.3 3 M.T.Bs. both Z.111. G.F. 3 M.T.Bs. Z.115. G.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.212 north. G.N.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.205 N.W. G.N.3 2 M.T.Bs. Z.200 N.W. G.U.1 3 M.Ls. Z.217 north.
3. Aircraft all areas west of 02° 20' W. north of French coast excluding Channel Islands. Avengers on coastal convoy route. Albacores Cape de la Hague to Alderney.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 151834 to Ships in Area C.)

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

Enemy
Minelaying.

During the night minelaying has been reported in position F.62, E.14, C.21, A.16, B.15, H.47 and in position O17° D.10 buoys 18 cables. (N.C.E.T.F. 150615B to E.T.F.)

Mines reported dropped in position K.55 during night. (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B. 151710 to N.C.E.T.F.)

Q.Z.Y.463.

On investigation of reports after return to harbour it appears that mines swept at the eastern end of Q.Z.Y.463 were either G.Z. or G.X.+ except one was reported as being somewhat flatter on top than usual. All mines had a new appearance as if recently laid and had plenty of buoyancy. Part of a mine mooring has been recovered and is being forwarded. (PANGBOURNE 151347 to A.N.C.X.F.)

L Channel.

C.T.F.127 re-encyphers C.T.G. 122.9/142156. Sweeping of inshore channel from L.6 buoy to Utah inner anchorage completed today. Negative. This channel in future referred to as L channel is one mile wide and will be swept daily from L.6 Buoy 276° true 9.9 miles through 12Z buoy. Thence 280° true for 6.5 miles to Utah inner anchorage. (C.T.F. 127 151557B to C.T.F. 122.)

L.C.T.967
mined and
sunk on 13th
June.

L.C.T.967 mined when proceeding from Omaha to Utah beach on 13th June and sank. Load not disembarked. One survivor landed Portland uninjured. Believed following four also rescued and taken to U.S.S. BAYFIELD. Names. (F.O.I.C. Portland 151641 to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat be-
lieved sunk
by HIND.

My 142255B. 2 torpedoes fired at HIND astern of convoy. Diesel and Lub. oil sample taken after second attack indicates damaged or sunk. Neither ships able regain contact. Rejoined E.C.P.7. A.S.V. Swordfish carrying out Cobra 5 round position. (HIND 150017B to C. in C.Plymouth, E.G.2.)

There is a pool of fresh diesel oil 4 miles long by 1 mile broad near position HIND's attack. Am searching. (E.G.2 150520B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

War Diary.15.6.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".U-Boats.

My 150520. No contact. Consider U-Boat sunk. Am returning to patrol.
(E.G.2 150542B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

MOURNE sunk. Am hunting U-Boat sighted using (corrupt group) or (corrupt group) in 049° 25' N. 005° 30' W.
(E.G.5 151130B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

MOURNE torpedoed. Blown up.
(BICKERTON 151145B to Plymouth W/T.)

MOURNE torpedoed and sunk by U-Boat in approx. 49° 25' N. 5° 30' W. at 1145. Survivors being picked up by 5th E.G. and hunt continues. Asdic conditions reported very bad.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151535 to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

Your 151805. Consider U-Boat likely to have remained in vicinity of attack or moved at very slow speed S.E. towards French coast.
2. Carry out search primarily to cover these courses of action throughout night with E.G.12.
3. Submarine will almost certainly have to "Snort" or even surface tonight.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151930B to E.G.5, E.G.12.)

Sail on completion of oiling and urgent defects and rejoin E.G.5.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151636B to GOODSON, KEATS.)

U-Boat reported in 049° 00' N. 004° 55' W. at 1939. Wellington JGW 43 R/T. Extreme Mike is co-operating.
(C. in C.Plymouth 152056B to E.G.5, E.G.12.)

Oil patch. Investigating oil patch position 49° 44' N. 09° 51' W. New oil appearing on the surface during last 3 hours.
(A/C DEJD 22 151140B to 19 Group.)

Gamma search off Scillies. 6th E.G. proceed forthwith to carry out Gamma search. A. 049° 30' N. 006° 40' W. 049° 50' N. 006° 40' W. B. 090°. C. Forthwith. D. Until further orders. 2. 1st and 15th E.G. continue on existing Gamma search.
(C. in C.W.A. 151218B to Ships in CA.)

A/S Patrols. O.N.Plymouth 5 section 2. A. Z.237 keeping south of gun zone. C. Forthwith at moderate speed. D. Contacts indicate U-Boats may be entering Channel from the westwards either proceeding up Channel or to operate Lizard - Lands End area.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151300B to E.G.12.)

/O.N....

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

O.N.Plymouth 5, section 2, para. 3B.

Add. Unless otherwise ordered nearest Support Group is to deal with any reports of U-Boats within approx. 2 hours steaming of their patrol area.

If two or more Groups proceed to the same sighting the S.O. of such Groups is to decide which ships are to return to their Patrol area.

(C. in C.Plymouth 151335B to E.Gs. 2, 3, 5, 11, 12 and 14.)

It is intended to operate ships addressed on A/S patrol in 3 groups as follows. Group 1 ONSLOW, OFFA, MELBREAK. Group 2 ORIBI, ONSLAUGHT, BRISSENDEN. Group 3 TANATSIDE, TALYBONT,

WENSLEYDALE. Each group will do 4 days at sea and 2 in harbour giving a standing patrol of ships. Group one will relieve Group 3 a.m. 17th.

2. Patrol tomorrow will be as for today, line being shifted to eastward as requisite to avoid fire from shore batteries. My 142239 refers.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 152341B to ONSLOW, OFFA, ORIBI, ONSLAUGHT, TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, MELBREAK, BRISSENDEN.)

Channel situation.

In English Channel still no evidence that any U-Boat has reached area east of Cap la Hague. There is evidence of up to four in Channel Island area and between Guernsey and Start Point.

One being hunted about 60 miles N. of Ushant.

Aircraft reports of moving oil patches result in estimate of two eastbound into English Channel lat. 49° 30' N. long. 07° 00' W. within a 20 miles radius; and lat. 49° 45' N. long. 09° 50' W. (D.D.I.C. 151426B to A.I.G.331.)

Admiralty appreciate that in shallow waters of the Channel likely anti-asic tactic is to remain stopped on the bottom after firing torpedoes or an approach of A/S vessels. It is most likely that a bottomed U-Boat will lie ahead to tide.

2. U-Boat in these conditions is a difficult target to locate and attention is drawn to the value of echo sounding vide C.B. 4097 P.196 to 199 and C.B. 4256.

3. Possibility of damage to "Schnorkel" pipe from depth charges should be borne in mind.

A damaged "Schnorkel" pipe will force a U-Boat to charge on surface where she will be vulnerable to air attack.

(D.A.U.D. 151824B to Ships in Area C.)

BLACKWOOD torpedoed.

BLACKWOOD bow blown off. Cause not yet known. Still afloat.

(3 FPA 151911B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

My 1911. Position is 050° 07' N. 002° 15' W. (DUCKWORTH 152000B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

/Your...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Your 152000. Portland is sending out tug BOMBARDON.
(C. in C.Plymouth 123016B to DUCKWORTH.)

Your 1911B. Tug coming from Portland. Salvage vessel standing by. Report if latter is wanted.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 152022B to DUCKWORTH.)

Request (2 or Rear) ship to assist hunt for U-Boat in 50° 07' N. 02° 12' W.
(3 FPA 152037B to E.G.2.)

My 151911. 1. BLACKWOOD afloat but reported to be settling.

2. About 4 officers and 105 ratings transferred by A.R.B. to Portland.

3. Attack by torpedo fired from eastward believed to have hit forward magazine.

4. Firm contact gained by DUCKWORTH 10 minutes later and probably hit obtained by Hedgehog at 150 feet.

5. Contact was not regained astern and am sweeping area of possible escape.

(E.G.3 152145B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Send one ship to screen BLACKWOOD.
(N.O.I.C. Portland 152148 to E.G.3.)

Weather may be too bad for tug endeavouring to take BLACKWOOD in tow. Salvage vessel MISS ELAINE has been sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Portland 152220 to E.G.3.)

Salvage CHIEFTAIN left Needles 2330B for position 162 Portland Bill 25. Tug from Portland has turned back due to weather. Another being sent.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 152325B to DUCKWORTH.)

At S.O's discretion remainder of 2nd E.G. may join STARLING to maintain both patrol and hunt in Portland area.
(C. in C.Plymouth 152355B to E.G.2, E.G.3.)

1. MOURNE of 5th E.G. torpedoed and sunk by U-Boat in Western Channel at 1145/15. Hunt continued, but asdic conditions very bad. U-Boat sighted later by A/C in approx. 49° 01' N. 4° 55' W.

2. BLACKWOOD bows blown off at 1710/15, probably submarine. Ship still afloat and tug proceeding from Portland, hunt continues.

3. Last night offensive sweep in Channel Island area by 2 Tribals of Guernsey proved uneventful.

4. Spitfires sighted U-Boat in St. Peter port morning of 15th not seen during subsequent strike.

(C. in C.Plymouth 152248B, as amended 160104B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/U-Boat...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

U-Boat re-
ported off
Cap de la
Hague.

Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 50° 03' N. 01°
54' W. Probably a submarine.
(A/C UCH 152255 to 16 Group.)

Allied Air Activity.

Havre.
Damage on
14th June.

Your 151319. P.R. of Havre this afternoon shows 3
T.Bs. and 10 E/R Boats no longer in position but
great damage to quays alongside which they were
lying before the attack. Another E-Boat aground,
one more damaged. One T.L.C.3 capsized. ELBING
no change.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151920B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

U.S.L.S.T.
280 torpedoed.

Convoy "Chancellor" is being attacked by enemy
A/C. My position 336° St. Catherines Point 33
miles, speed 5 knots.
(VOLUNTEER 150026B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Torpedoed at (?B).W. at 0024. Situation well in
hand. Position 49° 55' N. 00° 30' W.
(L.S.T. 280 150138B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Enemy
Sorties.

Estimated enemy air effort for 24 hours, long-
range bombers 120 to 140 sorties, fighters 450
sorties.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151916B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

Port Facilities.

Pass to War Office T.N.5 from H.Q.P.C.F.
Mulberry B. No spare Beetles available for repair.
Concrete Beetles arriving damaged. Essential
spare steel Beetles are despatched immediately.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B 151102 to Admty.)

N.O.I.C. Mulberry B 14203?Z. Spare Bombardons
are not to be sailed for the present.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151350B to N.O.I.C. Portland,
N.O.I.C. Portsmouth.)

War Diary.

15.6.1944.

Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

WARSPITE.

It is now essential to dock WARSPITE at Rosyth as soon after arrival as practicable in order that extent of damage may be assessed.
(D.O.D.H. 150228B to C. in C.Rosyth.)

Major
Landing
Craft.

The following major landing craft damaged on D day in Juno area can be saved but will first require major full repairs which is beyond the capacity of present resources in the area particularly as regards materials.
On Mike Beach L.C.T. Mark 4507 on Nan Beach L.C.T. Mark 3317 L.C.T. Mark 4524. L.C.T. Mark 52439 and 2283.
(N.O.I.C. Juno 151015 to N.C.E.T.F.)

EMPIRE
GAUNTLET.

EMPIRE GAUNTLET will require a minimum of 4 days for essential repairs to boiler on return from assault area.
2. If she is to be replaced by a personnel ship not fitted for assault, request repairs may be carried out elsewhere to relieve congestion in berthing.
(C. in C.Plymouth 151415 to A.N.C.X.F.)

CHANT 6
(Not CHANT
60)

Following has been received from N.C.E.T.F. Begins: Correct my 140007Z. Your 121845 CHANT 6 capsized in Juno trip D.T.G. 141930 ends.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151426B to Admty.)

EMPIRE
TROTWOOD.

Following received from Capt. M.S.X. Begins: Water has been found in dangerous quantities in 87 Octane supplied by EMPIRE TROTWOOD. Ends. Vessel is being sailed to U.K. today. Request this be investigated.
(N.C.E.T.F.A. 151453B to Admty.)

CHANT craft
capsized.

Following received from N.C.E.T.F. begins: A second CHANT has capsized for no apparent reason. D.T.G. 150534.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151855B to Admty.)

L.C.T.craft.

A.M. 141023B. The following are believed to be sunk or damaged beyond repair.
L.C.T. 555, 886, 715. L.C.I.(L) 105. L.C.I.(S) 512, 540. L.C.T. 750 is probably damaged beyond repair. L.C.T. 1011 and 859 have been returned to U.K. for repair. Of the remainder there is no news except from survivors' stories.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151900B to Admty.)

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

A.N.C.X.F. 131814B to N.C.W.T.F.
A. Sunk L.C.T.(5) Nos. 458, 486 and 362.
L.C.T.(6) Nos. 593, 777 and 967, 597.
B. Nine.
(C.T.F. 125 152015B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Barges.

Your 131030. No news has been heard of the following barges since they sailed in accordance with programme - L.B.V. 53, 79, 42, 93, 100, L.B.O. 79, 11.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151901 to Com. Landing Barges West.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Protection of L.S.Is. off Newhaven.

Tides make it necessary to anchor loaded L.S.Is. off Newhaven for varying periods prior to sailing. Request escort group may sail daily in time to commence A/S patrol off the anchorage. Time desired will be signalled daily in the form, convoy number, the word patrol followed by time and date, requirement today is this E.X.P. 8 patrol 1700/15th June.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 150323B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

E.P.L.8,

A. Sailed E.P.L.8. B. LONDONDERRY, CLARKIA. C. 1200B/15. D. Wardle. E. For Omaha, L.S.T. 56, 58, 515, 133, 372, 73, 753, 369. For Utah L.S.T. 332, 523, 283, 230, 509, 262, 325, 405, 244.
(A.N.C.X.F. 150345.)

F.T.M.8.

A. Sailed. B. MACKAY, VERVAIN, POTENTILLA, M.L. 291, 250, U.S.C.G. (?) 22, 54, 18. C. E.T.A. Nab 1900/15th (?) Southend 0940/16th. D. Astoria V.C. E. DERRY CUNTHY, SAM YORK, L.S.Ts. for Tilbury 377, 491, 11, 72, 9, 419, 284, 415, 538, 346, 294. L.S.Ts. for Isle of Wight 435, 327, 21 towing 1 L.C.T. (4) 180, 983.
F. L.S.T. 425 (1) and (2) 133 (3) 3 L.S.T. 327 (3) 76 L.S.T. 180 (1) 180 (2) 106 (3) 5.
(Capt. N.S. 151006B.)

E.C.M.7.

A. Sailed. B. 106th E.G. C. 2000B/15th. D. Yarpole S.M. E. For Omaha LUCY STONE, LOUIS KOSSUTH For Utah JOHN HAY. For Gold GOLD SHELL.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151054.)

/Sailing...

War Diary.15.6.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Shipping & Convoys.Sailing
signals.

O.N.13 para. 27.. Names of merchant vessels in convoys returning to the Thames are not always being received in sailing signals. This is prejudicing the allocation of berths for reloading. (C. in C.Nore 151120B to A.N.C.X.F.)

F.C.T.8.

A. Sailed. B. (HUSSAR?) for the Nore Section, M.L. 222, 14, 21 (?) for Isle of Wight Section EASTBOURNE and M.L. 206 for Poole Section.

C. E.T.A. Nab 2300/15 Poole 0200/16 Southend 1730/16. D. Eardrum Q.C. E. WILLIAM HOW, JERNLAND, LEOVILLE, MELITO, ROSEMARIE, ZUIDLAND, BENGUELA, ARBROATH, BREM, EBBRIX, BIRKER FORCE.
(Capt. N.S. 151121B.)

Phoenix
convoy.

TRENTONIAN and RIMOUSKI are to provide close escort for Phoenix convoy pass position Peter at about 2300/15 convoy speed 4 knots. LOUISBURG and LUNENBURG are to provide close escort. Convoy pass position Peter about 2115/15th speed 4 knots route as in O.N.16. All corvettes are to communicate by V/S with S.H.A. 237 S.N.O.Selsey before sailing TRENTONIAN is to leave convoy at 0900/16th LUNENBURG at 1000/16th and then return Selsey RIMOUSKI and LOUISBURG are to proceed to the far shore and then return Selsey acknowledge.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 151532 to TRNTONIAN, RIMOUSKI, LOUISBURG, LUNENBURG, S.N.O.Selsey, N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, A.N.C.X.F. U.S.S.S.T ROCKAWAY.)

F.X.P.7.

Sailed. B. 114 E.G. K.M.54 Nab 2200. D. Dulcimer L.L. E. TYNE, MAID OF ORLEANS.
(Capt. N.S. 151731B.)

F.W.L.9.

Sailed. B. MIMICO (PRIMROSE), U.S.C.G.50, 51. C. E.T.A. 0230B/16th. D. Magnesium K.T. E. L.S.T. 338 towing M.T.B. 660, L.S.T. 159 M/S RATTLESNAKE. F. L.S.T. 159 (3) 3.
(Capt. N.S. 151635B.)

E.B.C.10.

Sailed. B. KEPPEL, ROSELYS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, GRIMSBY TOWN. C. 0600/16th. D. Throne. E. For Omaha EMPIRE SCOUT, NESTUN, BRAMHILL, ANTHONY ENRIGHT. For Utah OCEAN COAST, ZUNDERBURGH KYLE BUTE (Naval collier). Return destination KYLE BUTE is Humber.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151930.)

/Expected...

War Diary.

15.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping. & Convoys.

Expected
sailings
for 16th.

0800 convoy - M.T.ships FORT FORK, SAMPEP, A.
FRANK LEVER. L.S.T. 266, 331, 347, 360 (204,
223, 205 or 426) 356, 307, 215.
10 (corrupt group) convoy coasters FENJA,, FORELAND,
TUDOR QUEEN, EMPIRE ROWANFIELD, CRESCO, GURDEN
GATE, DORRIEN ROSE.
(S.O.Force S 152319B to N.C.E.T.F.)

War Diary15.6.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicy

ORION A.N.C.X.F.'s 142205. Request you will arrange for ORION to give 10 days leave in one watch.
2. On expiration of leave ORION will be required to sail for the Mediterranean. (V.C.N.S. 150057B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Admiralty 150057. ORION's complement should be adjusted to ensure that men sent home after long foreign service do not remain in the ship.
2. Ship will be required to sail for Mediterranean on 30th June. (V.C.N.S. 152235B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

MALAYA. Your 141839B June. MALAYA is considered to be the only possible choice. Essential work can be undertaken in repairing vessel to meet conditions in para. 2. It is not considered essential to dock ship. Early decision requested as to whether vessel is to be prepared as four gun or six gun ship. Boiler life estimated sufficient for a further three months subject to acceptance of risk of occasional tube failure. Early decision requested as to whether it is necessary to complete 15 inch mountings for supercharge.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 151258B to Admty.)
A.M. 141839 and your 151258. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to prepare MALAYA for bombardment services of the following basis:
a. To prepare as a 6 15 inch gun ship with full secondary and H/A armament. 15 Guns are not to be changed. Supercharge not required. b. Ship to be ammunitioned, stored and fuelled for 3 months.
c. Essential Radar and W/T items as communicated to be fitted.
d. Gyro compass to be fitted; this is being supplied.
e. Docking is not required and speed of 14 knots is acceptable.
2. MALAYA should be ready to leave Clyde by July 8th.
3. The ship's complement will be mainly drawn from WARSPITE.
4. C.O. of WARSPITE is requested to signal detail officers and men who can be transferred to MALAYA leaving WARSPITE on a C. and M. basis.
(A.C.N.S.H. 151950B to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Fishing Portsmouth 2716/0/0015/4/14/13 of 7th May 1943.
restrictions. Restrictions on professional and amateur fishing are being lifted as from sunrise 19th June.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151805B to Admty.)

Operations

Operation Your 141220B. Westward Cape Linne no ice. Ice
DB. Fiord no ice. Drifting floes of Bay ice may occur.
Green Harbour ice boundary from Finneset westwards. Advent Bay partly drifting floes.
2. Enemy border reconnaissance 4th June, 14th June, 15th June at 0445, 0620 and 0755 respectively.
("Ploughshare" 150940Z to JAMAICA.)
My 142040. Amend route Red to include new position D.A.
072° 30' N. 004° 40' W.
(C. in C.H.F. 151548B to JAMAICA.)

/Engagement...

War Diary

15.6.1944
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd

Engagement off Texel. Gun-Coaster sunk. Tug and Trawler damaged. M.T.B. Operations last night 14th/15th June.
1. 58th M.T.B. Flotilla M.T.Bs. 687, 685, 684, 666, 683 were ordered to be in 53° 30' N. 5° 06' E at 2359 and sweep S.W. for Eastbound convoy reported in Den Helder.
2. Wind N.W. force 4, sea 34, visibility extreme.
3. At 0306 in approx. 325 Cocksdoorp (Texel Island) Light 9 miles sighted 5 vessels in line ahead bearing 130° 5 miles steering 230°.
Composition of enemy large Icelandic Trawler, small Trawler, ocean-going Tug, L.C.T., and Gun Coaster. Unit was illuminated and challenged by letter Q. Unit replied with "Wait" by German V/S procedure and closed to 5,000 yards when enemy challenged again and fired 2 green and 3 red pyrotechnics. Unit was again replied with "Wait". Icelandic Trawler then drew ahead of Group and M.T.Bs. 687 and 685 closed to 2,000 yards when enemy opened fire.
4. At 0352 when range had closed to 1,200 yards 687 and 685 opened fire with guns causing small fire and scoring several hits. Torpedoes were fired without result.
5. 666, 683 and 684 fired torpedoes at remaining vessels at 2,000 yards hitting and sinking gun Coaster. Other vessels engaged with gunfire numerous 6 pdr. hits being scored on large Tug which was left well on fire. Enemy return fire straddled with 4 inch.
6. At 0407 unit set course for base.
7. Results: A. 600 ton gun Coaster torpedoed and seen to sink. B. Large tug set on fire and possibly destroyed. C. Icelandic Trawler damaged by gunfire.
8. No casualties or damage to M.T.Bs. (C. in C. Nore 151845B to Admty.)

S/M patrols. To provide greater security from enemy air patrols SATYR is to shift her patrol area forthwith diving at discretion 2° of latitude N. and 2° of longitude W.
(F.O.S. 151934B to S/Ms.)

Allied Air Activity.

Enemy Convoy attacked. Nr. 1. Have attacked enemy with torpedoes. P.C.S. of 2 medium vessels, 6 minesweepers, 6 small vessels 53° 32' N. 05° 30' E. 090° 10 kts. result of attack, hits observed.
(A/C WULQ to N.Z.8, No T.O.O. Recd. 150709.)

Raid 49 (former AMERSKEERD). Completed. Added to Allied Command instructions for Sea Transport. These were in a raid, conversion now completed.

Enemy Air Activity

Rocket Bombs 5 Air Borne objects suspected of being W/T controlled rocket bombs have passed me during last half hour flying North.
(ORWELL, 152350 to V.A. Dover.)

*W.I.R. 1/9.9/5
9.31.8.45*

War Diary15.6.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy IntelligenceHIPPER,
LEIPZIG,
LUTZOW,
EUGEN,
SCHEER.

Photographic R/C 13th June saw HIPPER and LEIPZIG present at Gdynia, LUTZOW and EUGEN departed since 29th May. SCHEER not seen at Swinemunde.

B.2 report: a.m. 14th, EUGEN and two pocket battleships seen exercising in Danzig Bay. (D.D.I.C. 151219B to C. in C.H.F.)

U/BoatsU/Boats
reported.

Nr. 6. U/B on surface 45° 31' N. 01° 33' W. U/Boat apparently disabled. (A/C TTX 56 150505B to 19 Group) D/F bearings at 0320Z indicate U/Boat within 75 miles of 52.30 N. 14 W. (D.D.I.C. 150649B to Escorts QS.80/K.M.S.54)

Casualties and Defects

BEAGLE

BEAGLE is returning Harbour to complete with distilled water and making good defects in distilling plant. Est. time required 36 hours. (VENUS 151116B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Intercepted by Port Patrick Radio at 1833 G.M.T.

Engine breakdown.

(LADY KATHLEEN to Lands End Radio Recd. 152110)

War Diary

15.6.1944.
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

PRESIDENT French Trawler,
HOUDOUCÉ PRESIDENT HOUDOUCÉ broken down position 35.21 N.
 13.27 W. at 1500A/15th.
 AMIRAL MOUCHEZ will attempt to tow to Casablanca
direct route.
Remainder of convoy proceeding as scheduled.
(Commorseafron, 151956B). W.D. Note: Combined Plots shows
PRES. HOUDOUCÉ with convoy S.R.14 in estimated 28.30 N. 13.25 W.
at 150800.

South Atlantic

BIRDLIP, Have 13 survivors including 3 wounded from BIRDLIP
SS. ST. on board. Two survivors still at (?Sial or Sinu)
BASILE sunk. (Liberia). BIRDLIP torpedoed about 2330/13th
 and sank immediately.
 (MALCOLM, 151416Z).

BIRDLIP torpedoed and sunk 2335/13th SS. ST. BASILE torpedoed
0030/14th sank 0545 in 05.03 N. 09.14 W. INKPEN and TURCCMAN have
37 survivors from ST. BASILE six missing MALCOLM recovered 13
survivors from BIRDLIP. R.A.F. reports indicate one lifeboat and
two or three rafts all containing survivors landed between Baffu
Bay and Blubarra Point.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 151813Z).

T.G.41.6 151806 Begins T.G. 41.6 has had definite contact
U-Boat at 151021Z 25.25 S. 05.35 W. Pilot either shot
contact down or down due to lack of gasoline. Fuel
 situation necessitates ordering group to Capetown.
 Ends.
 (Admin. Office Com. 4th Fleet, 151940Z to Cominch).

War Diary15.6.1944
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

M.V.
FENJA. Reports indicate that Swedish Relief Ship FENJA may have sunk as result of striking mine east of Leros a.m. 13th June. All crew said to be safe at Gumsluck near Budrum.
(F.O.L.E.M. 150955C.)

VIVID Future enemy shipping movements Leros Rhodes Leros appears probable.
2. Proceed to patrol Seskli Alupo Rhodes Area.
3. M.T.Bs. have been withdrawn.
4. VAMPIRE will relieve you p.m.18th.
(Capt. (S) 1, 151015B to VIVID.)

ULTIMATUM Detach from M.K.S.52 in 037° 23' 008° 06' about 0559B/16th and proceed on the surface at 8½ knots through 041° 09' 007° 53' at 0902B/17th thence to Western end of QBB.312 to arrive Maddalena about 1801B/17th.
2. Total bombing restrictions arranged.
(Capt. (S) 1, 151151B to ULTIMATUM)

CASABIANCA Intend sailing CASABIANCA at 1630/17th routed 040° 49' 007° 10' at 0400/18th to R/V with escort at 0730/19th at 036° 57' 003° unescorted surface passage 11 knots.
(Capt. (S) 10, 151221.)

Shortage of A.A. ships. C. in C. Med. 140951. Request you will comply.
(D.O.D.H., 151245B to C. in C.W.A.)

F.A.A. aircraft: Your 131604. In view of the advantages cited in your para. 2 the policy described in your para. 1 is agreed subject to the following:-
Operation under T.A.F. a. The squadrons must be kept in a high state of deck Landing Training because of their future employment forecast in Admiralty 211838 March. It was principally the lack of Carrier training which caused such a high wastage rate at Salerno.
b. The programme for re-equipment with Seafire L.III should not be interrupted.
c. The squadrons should not be allowed to incur losses which would make them below strength when required for future operations.
2. It is expected to send ten spare Seafire pilots at the end of June.
(V.C.N.S. 151635B to C. in C. Med.)

3 Enemy destroyers. 3 destroyers reported steering North West South of Niseros at 1040 today.
(Capt. (S) 151635B to VIVID.)

Coast defences at Benghazi, Tripoli, Tobruk. Following from Chiefs of Staff. Ref. CCL/3* of 28th April. Total abolition coast defences at Benghazi, Tripoli (L) and Tobruk approved.
(A.M.S.S.O. 151725Z)* 281850 April.

War Diary

15.6.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

MATROZOS
VAMPIRE

G.S. MATROZOS sailed from Malta at 1401/15th to pass through position 035° 42' 022° 01' at 0630/17th thence to patrol off south coast of Morea south of latitude 036° 49' and north of latitude 035° 50'.

2. P.72 (VAMPIRE) sailed at 1802/15th to pass through approach channel diving night 17th/18th thence to patrol in south Aegean east of longitude 025°.

(Capt. (S)1, 151815 to F.O.L.E.M.)

G.U.S.
Convoys

Your 121602 para. 1 is it intended that ships with a minimum speed of 8½ knots may be included between Bizerta and Algiers? Para. 3, should not G.U.S. timetable read "Algiers D + 8" etc? (D.T.D. 151910B to C. in C. Med.)

Pyrotechnic
signal.

Concur A.M. 312010 May.
(C. in C. Med. 152105)

SS. FENJA
(Swedish
relief
ship)

Your 150955. Request further information immediately available. In particular in what position was vessel sunk and did sinking occur in British or enemy minefield.
(Admty. 152013B to F.O.L.E.M., B.N.A. Ankara, C. in C. Med.)

War Diary15.6.1944.
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

No.59 All areas no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F.,150328).

Staging in Mediterranean (?Corrupt groups). Development of Aden and Massawa for Appian. C. in C. Med. 121054 refers.
(2) The capacity required in Massawa - Aden area was stated in A.M. 190600 May to be 60 major and 24 minor LC.
(3) N.O.I.C. Aden 040929 June gives maximum capacity of Aden as 36 major LC. This was figure given in my 191556 May.
(4) As F.O.L.E.M. 251315 May gives capacity of Massawa as 36 major LC only, it is considered that both Massawa and Aden should be developed. This confirms view contained in my 091147 June.
(C. in C.E.F.,150359Z to Admty.).

Comnas E.Af. C. in C.E.Fs. 031315. Intend returning U.K. by air leaving Kilindini 18th June having handed over to F.O.E.Af.
(Comnas E.Af.,150831Z to Admty.).

Minelaying Fortnightly report for period 26th May to 9th June. The following minelaying operations were carried out - TALLY HO laid 12 mines in three rows off Bunja Shoal 03 degs. 42' N. 99 degs. 64' E.
TACTICIAN laid 12 mines in three staggered rows off Lankawi Island.
(S.A.C.S.E.A. 151555Z).

EMILE BAUDOT Your 130604 it is the intention to relieve EMILE BAUDOT as soon as possible.
(Admty.,151641B to C. in C.E.F.).

War Diary15.6.1944.
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

T.G.22.2
(BOGUE'S
group). 150000Z P.C. and S 44.16 N. 37.07 W. 185 12
complying your 150344. Expect weather abate
sufficiently increase speed tonight. Have adequate
fuel for approx. 15 days plus reserve. B.X 68
73 15 46.
(C.T.G. 22.2, 150820Z to C. in C. Lant).
/ Circulation restricted to D.N.I., D.D.I.C.

U/boat
dispositions 1200/15th June 2 in general area south of Nova
Scotia.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 151358Z, Cominch 151533Z).

U/boat ^(U.80)
sunk (A) SOLOMONS Group reports sinking U/boat
600 miles 25.10 S. 04.55 W. 1751/15. Survivors in water.
S. of St. (Cominch, 152145Z). As amended 162156Z.
Helena.

Stragglers One arrived St. Johns N.F. from H.X.S.294. RIO
report RICO (U.S.) June 11th collision damage. 2
No.56. returned New York from H.X.M. 295. ATLANTIC (Nor.)
June 10th engine breakdown. HARDANGER (Nor.) June
13th engine breakdown. One returned Halifax from
H.X.M.295 ANCYLUS June 14th boiler defects.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 152226Z).

Australia and Zealand

Digest June 14th. Paras. 16 to 18 cover South Pacific
877 Forces.
(3) Morning U.S. submarine reported nil enemy
warships Tawi Tawi anchorage.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 150730Z).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack A.1. French SS. ST BASILE (2778 tons) torpedoed
& sighting and sunk at 0030Z/14 in 05 degs. 00' N. 09 degs.
summary. 14' W.

War Diary

15.6.1944.
Thursday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

- S/M. attack and sighting summary (Contd.)
- (2) P.R.U. aircraft sighted 1 500 ton U-Boat at 1030Z/14 in 49 degs. 27' N. 02 degs. 32' W.
 - (3) Aircraft H/333 attacked U-Boat course 180 degs with one depth charge at 1305Z/14 in 61 degs. 06' N. 03 degs. 25' E.
 - (4) Aircraft L/407 sighted U-Boat course 090 degs. at 0012Z/15 in 45 degs. 44' N. 02 degs. 02' W.
 - (5) A/C Q/304 attacked U-Boat at 0134Z/15 in 47 degs. 01' N. 03 degs. 03' W.
 - (6) A/C L/407 attacked U-Boat course 110 degs. at 0220Z/15 in 45 degs. 45' N. 01 degs. 40' W.
 - (B) (1) A/C Q/519 obtain contact at 0155Z/14 in 59 degs. 45' N. 03 degs. 15' W.
 - (2) Unexplained heavy explosion close to H.M. Ship at 1735Z/14 in 49 degs. 12' N. 05 degs. 24' W.
 - (3) H.M. Ship attacked contact and reported possible attack by U-Boat at 2055Z/14 in 50 degs. 11' N. 03 degs. 42' W.
 - (4) A/C L/86 sighted possible periscope track and oil at 0400Z/15 (0250Z/15) in 62 degs. 24' N. 02 degs. 50' W.
 - (C)(1) A/C H/120 sighted feather with some solid object at 0431Z/14 in 49 degs. 08' N. 08 degs. 24' W.
 - (2) A/C obtained disappearing contact at 0925Z/14 in 49 degs. 45' N. 04 degs. 35' W.
 - (3) A/C M/547 obtained disappearing contact at 1129Z/14 in 49 degs. 13' N. 03 degs. 58' W.
 - (D.D.I.C., 151234B).

U/boat Estimates.
dispositions (D.D.I.C. 151417B, 151423B).