

16.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

1a. No major change occurred today in the fighting on shore; but A.N.C.X.F. reports that the enemy is carrying out extensive demolitions at Cherbourg and that the harbour on the Western Coast of the Cotentin Peninsula appear already to have been demolished.

b. About thirty Enemy A/C were operating last night over the Western Sector. Some Mines were dropped, but no damage to shipping has been reported.

c. The sweeping of mines laid by A/C in the Assault Area has continued satisfactorily.

d. H.M. the King visited the British Beaches during today, returning to Portsmouth in ARETHUSA at 2040.

e. In spasmodic shelling in Area "S" today the Assault Group H.Q. Ship LOCUST was damaged by a splinter.

f. The cumulative landings up to this afternoon were:-
British Beaches: Personnel Vehicles Stores
281,091 48,022 88,416 tons

Enemy
Action.

2a. E/Boats. At 0053 today the Frigate STAYNER on patrol engaged a group of E/Boats about 19 miles N.E. of Cap de la Hague.

b. U/Boats. No sightings of U/Boats have been reported today; and at 1504B the Admiralty considered that there were probably only four in the Channel between 001° and 003° W.

Casualties

3a. The Frigate BLACKWOOD of E.G.3, torpedoed yesterday by a U/Boat, sank in tow at 0410B today about 23 miles S.E. by S. of Portland; and at 0815 today the Trinity House ship ALERT was sunk by a Mine off Arromanches in the Eastern Assault Area.

b. Off Beach S the Assault Group H.Q. Ship LOCUST was damaged by a shell today and sustained eleven casualties of which three were fatal; and some Ferry Craft were also hit.

General

Home Fleet

4. At 2130B today C. in C.H.F. in DUKE OF YORK with FURIOUS, ARCHANGEL, and two Destroyers left Rosyth for Scapa.

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General - Contd.

Operation
DB.

5. At 1034B the Cruiser JAMAICA left the Clyde with relief personnel and stores for Spitzbergen. The Destroyers WHELP and WAGER, who will accompany JAMAICA to Spitzbergen, left Scapa at 0903B to Skaalefiord (Faroes) to fuel).

U/Boat
sunk
by A/C.

6. At 1920B an A/C on patrol reported having attacked a surfaced U/Boat 90 miles S.W. of Stadlandet (Norway) and at 1940B wreckage and bodies were seen.

South Atlantic

U/B N.W. of
Cape Town.

7a. C. in C.S.A. reported on 19th June that SS. COLUMBINE, Luanda for Table Bay, was torpedoed at 2000B today in about 32.30 S. 17.40 E. (about 75 miles north-west of Capetown. The ship sank later.

b. S.O.(I) Capetown reports that the Portuguese SS. ANGOLA passed COLUMBINE after the torpedoing but made no attempt to render assistance. ANGOLA denies having seen COLUMBINE.

SOUTHERN
PRIDE lost.

8. The A/S whaler SOUTHERN PRIDE stranded on Hooper's Patch, Marshall, Sierra Leone this morning and later became a total loss.

Mediterranean.

9. 7 Venturas bombed Rhodes harbour last night.

10. Coastal Air Force bombed the harbours of Lussin Piccolo, Corfu and Porenzo today. Three 150 ft. ships were hit at shipyards at Voltri.

Civita
Vecchia.

11. 4680 tons were unloaded at Civita Vecchia today.

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General

Communique No. 21.

There has been no major change in any sector but Allied troops have made further progress west of Pont L'Abbe. All attempts by the enemy to gain the initiative have been frustrated and his counter-attacks have been successfully repelled. Our striking power grows steadily. Last night our heavy bombers in great strength attacked concentrations of E and R Boats and minesweepers in Boulogne Harbour. (S.H.A.E.F. 161100B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Flag of
C.S.2.

My flag will be transferred to MAURITIUS at 1800 today.
(C.S.2, 161457 to Admt.)

Naval.

Cositintrep Number twentyseven, part 2, Naval.

A. General. Shelling throughout yesterday on Eastern flank caused damage to five U.S. L.S.T. in Sword area and some casualties to

Personnel. Enemy batteries were engaged by battleships, cruisers and destroyers. RAMILLIES silenced a new battery at Benerville after one hour's duel and AJAX carried out eleven bombardments. Shelling on western flank believed to have eased, as unloading rate on Utah beaches continues to increase. Sweeping of ground mines dropped by aircraft continued satisfactorily. Although weather has delayed tows, and losses of Whale units have occurred from various causes in tow, both Mulberries are now more than 50 per cent completed. Warspite reached harbour p.m. 14th.

B. Casualties. U.S. L.S.T. numbers 2, 266, 307, 331 and 336 damaged by gunfire: U.S. L.S.T. No. 133 damaged by mine.

C. Coastal Command. Nothing to report.

D. Intelligence. Reconnaissance and Prisoner-of-war statements show that the demolition of the Port of Cherbourg is proceeding apace. The blockship SOL GLINT has been sunk athwart the entrance to the Darse Transatlantique, demolitions are seen in the seaplane base, and harbour installations are being destroyed. (Ad. Ramsay, 161502B to Admt.)

A.N.C.X.F. Intelligence Report No. 2.

A. Demolitions. P.R. and other sources show that demolitions are in progress at Cherbourg. Cranes have been destroyed, blockships sunk in the entrance to Darse Transatlantique, the seaplane base hangars blown up, and the large dry-dock apparently put out of action. West Cotentin Harbours also appear to be demolished.

B. Enemy dispositions. Main Units unchanged. Dutch and Belgian Ports: up to 20 E/Boats. 25/30 T.L.C.II. Boulogne: no assessment yet possible. Dieppe: 3 T.L.C. III. Havre: 1 Elbing and 1 T/B (both believed damaged). 3 E/Boats (possibly damaged). 6 T.L.C.III. Cherbourg: 5 E/Boats, 7 T.L.C.III. Brest: 1 Narvik (damaged) 1 Elbing. 10 x 500 ton U/Boats. Biscay Ports: 2 Narviks (both ineffective). 20 x 500 ton, 10 larger U/Boats.

C. U/Boats. The few U/Boats in the Channel area have been much harried and their numbers have not increased.

/Patrols...

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Patrols in the Bay have apparently been discontinued, the U/Boats having presumably returned to Port to await events.

D. Pilotless aircraft. It is reported that the pilotless aircraft attacking the south of England are all-steel construction, 22 feet long, jet propelled and gyro-controlled. They have a speed of over 300 knots and a warhead equal to A 1,000 KG blast bomb.

E. Army Intelligence appreciates that the enemy now has 6 Armoured and elements of 11 Infantry Divisions in the battle area.

(A.N.C.X.F. 161826B.)

Communique No.22. Advances by Allied Forces westward from Pont L-Abbe in the Cherbourg Peninsula have continued. Our troops had local successes in the Tilly Sector. But the town remained in enemy hands. Active patrolling has been kept up by both sides.

Adverse weather during the morning once again restricted our air activity which was confined to limited patrols over the supply beaches and adjacent channel waters and the immediate battle zone.

Yesterday RAMILLIES engaged a battery at Benerville on our Eastern flank, which she silenced after an hour's duel, while NELSON engaged an enemy battery north of Le Havre which had been firing into the anchorage. Enemy batteries and concentrations were bombarded throughout the day by Allied cruisers.

On the Western Flank the U.S.S. TEXAS, NEVADA, and ARKANSAS carried out heavy bombardments in support of the armies near Isigny and Carentan.

(S.H.A.E.F. 162330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Air Enemy activity over U.K. night 15/16. Enemy operated some 120 pilotless aircraft in four phases against greater London area. Activity started 2328 hours continued with slight pauses through night and into day. Craft appeared come from Calais/Boulogne/Somme area at heights 1000 to 4000 feet generally approaching London on parallel courses. Up to 70 reached London area causing considerable damage and rather heavy casualties. Three destroyed by Allied night fighters and intruders.

(S.H.A.E.F., 162315B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Covering Forces

Patrols Resume patrol Z.237.
from (C. in C. Plymouth, 160815B to E.G.12.)
Plymouth

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Covering Forces

O.N. Plymouth 5 section 2 Sups.

(A) E.G.12 along the gun zone limit between Seven Stones and Lizard. E.G.3 Z237 and western half Z232.

(C) Forthwith with moderate despatch.

(D) As in my 151300.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 160920 to E.G.5, E.G.12).

Cancel my 160920.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 161019 to A.N.C.X.F.).

Night Patrols 16th/17th June.

P.C.W.O.120.

(A) (1) GN 1 M.T.Bs. 664, 719. (2) G.N. 2 M.T.Bs. 726, 743. (3) G.N. 3 M.T.Bs. 727, 735. (4) G.T. 1 M.L's. 179, 259, 157.

(B) 2300/16. (D) In vicinity 119 degs. Start 14' (2) In vicinity 232 degs. Portland Bill 25'. (3) In vicinity 194 degs. Portland Bill 12'. (4) In vicinity 209 degs. Start 16'. (F) 0515/17. (C. in C. Plymouth, 161337B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

O.N. Plymouth 5, Section 2, Sups.

(A) E.G.12. Between Seven Stones and Lizard keeping within seven miles of gun zone. E.G.5 Z237 and western half of Z232.

(C) 2000/16th.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 161703B to E.G.5, E.G.12).

My 151337B. Remaining in harbour at short notice.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 161815B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Eastern
Assault
Area.

Defence policy for night 16th/17th June.

V 8 55th M.T.B. Flotilla 3½ miles 205 degs. from established position V2 29th M.T.B. Flotilla U.14 Tunny north of 049 degs. 24' N. U.6 in B.5 and B.6 berth R.5. Q.1.

P extended to C.1. berth.

(N.C.E.T.F. 161115B and 161505B to E.T.F.).

Patrols from
Dover.

O.N. Dover 67.

F.N.1 M.Ls. 573, 125. Z.1.

F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 418, 436, 432. Z.2.

F.T.2 M.T.Bs. 236, 235, 229. Z.2.

F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.N.5 M.T.Bs. 602, 615, 608 Z.5. F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 354, 359, 362 Z.6. F.U.7. OBEDIENT Z.7. F.U.8 ORWELL Z.8.N. F.N.9 M.T.Bs. 710, 705 Z.9 W. F.U.1. LA COMBATTANTE Z.11.W. F.U.2. WENSLEYDALE 180 degs. Z.10 W. 3 miles. F.Y.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 E. F.Y.2. M.T.Bs. 706, 700 Z.12 E. F.X.1 SEYMOUR Z.13 E. F.X.2 M.T.Bs. 704, 698 Z.13 E. F.U.4. BRISSENDEN from position 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. to position 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.

(2) SAVAGE has freedom of action in Z.4 Square. (V.A.Dover, 161221).

/ My...

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My 161221B. Add.

- (1) ONSLAUGHT G.D.1, ORIBI G.D.2, TANATSIDE G.D.3, TALYBONT G.D.4 patrolling between 049 degs. 47' N. and 050 degs. 05' N. along Meridian 001 degs. 00' W.
- (2) M.T.B. Flot. 55th in vicinity 049 degs. 21' N. 000 degs. 09' W. M.T.B. Flot. 29th in Assault Area.
- (3) Duty destroyer division between 049 degs. 40' N. and 345 degs. 24' N. east of 000 degs. 24' W.
- (4) Guard destroyer division, south of latitude 049 degs. 40' N. west of longitude 000 degs. 24' W.
- (V.A. Dover, 161745B to BRISSENDEN, WENSLEYDALE, LA COMBATTANTE, THORNBOROUGH, SEYMOUR).

Patrols
from
Portsmouth

Your 151920. Approved for 1 ship to be sent into harbour at a time for 48 hours rest, leaving 4 on patrol. 1st ship should be sent in a.m. tomorrow issuing necessary order for resailing yourself.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 161321B to E.G.11).

O.N. Portsmouth one, para.38. Cover night 16th/17th.

- (A) ONSLAUGHT (G.D.1), ORIBI (G.D.2), TANATSIDE (G.D.3) TALYBONT (G.D.4), 01 degs. 00' W. between 49 degs. 47' N. and 50 degs. 05' N.
- (B) RETALICK (G.A.1) in Z.122 DUFF (G.B.1) in Z.111.
- (C) Unit G.A.2 M.T.Bs. 704 (S.O.), 714 702. Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 252 (S.O.), 255, 256. Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 725 (S.O.), 742. Unit G.B.2 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.) 694, 689. Unit G.B.3 M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 447, 452. Units G.A.2 3 and 4 with RETALICK in Z.122 not east of 01 degs. 43' W. unless in action Units G.B.2. and 3 with DUFF in Z.111 not south of 49 degs. 42' N. unless in action.
- (D) Unit G.C. 414 (S.O), 431, 413 in Z.115 and up to 01 degs. 43' W. not west of 01 degs. 43' W. unless in action.
- (F) Force G.A. routed via Needles and position 50 degs. 15' N. 01 degs. 45' W., thence direct to patrol position (Unit G.A.2) direct from Portland Force G.B. and Unit G.C. via Channels F.S. and 34 as far as 34C buoy and thence direct. ONSLAUGHT report dispositions of Force GD. Force G.D. to be on patrol by 2200 remainder by 2330.
- (C. in C. Portsmouth, 161344B to HORNET, Capt. S.5, VERNON (P), F.O.I.C.Portland, ATTACK, ONSLAUGHT, ORIBI, RETALICK, DUFF, TANATSIDE, TALYBONT).
- My 161344B. Paras. B, C and D cancelled. Unit G.A.2 remaining short notice Portland. G.B.2. remaining short notice St. Helens.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 161818B).

O.N.1. para. 52 (B).

Eastern Night Channel report 16th/17th June.

- (1) F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.
F.U.8. ORWELL Z.8 North. F.U.1. LA COMBATTANTE

/ Z.11...

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Covering Forces

Z.11 West. F.U.2 WENSLEYDALE Z.10 West. F.Y.1.
 THORNBOROUGH Z.12 East. F.X.1 SEYMOUR Z.13.
 F.U.4 BRISSENDEN between 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs.
 22' W. and 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.
 11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy.

(2) F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2, F.T.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.9. 2 M.T.Bs. Z.9.
 West. F.Y.2. 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 east. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east.

(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, 161828B to A.I.G. 508).

O.N.1. Para.52 (B).

Western Night Channel Report 16th/17th June.

(1) Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z. buoy G.D.1 ONSLAUGHT
 G.D.2 ORIBI, G.D.3. TANATSIDE, G.D.4 TALYBONT on 01 degs. W.
 between 49 degs. 47' and 50 degs. 05' N. Third E.G.Z. 200 Z 201.
 Fourteenth E.G. Z.212 to Z.214, Z.206 to Z.208 north west. Fifth
 E.G. Z.238, Z.239, Z.244, Twelfth E.G. Z.238.

(2) G.N.1, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.212 North. G.N.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.205 north
 west. G.N.3, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.200 north west. G.T.1, 3 M.Ls. Z.217
 north.

(3) Aircraft all areas west of 02 degs. 20' W. north of French
 coast excluding Channel Islands. Avengers on coastal convoy
 routed Albacores Z.203.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 161830B to A.I.G.509).

ONSLow, OFFA and MELBREAK sail at 0900 tomorrow
 to comply with my 152341.
 TANATSIDE, TALYBONT, WENSLEYDALE return to harbour
 on relief.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 162205B to Capt. D.17).

Minesweeping

Swept Channel Have established Channel Swept for ground mines
 from Mulberry B north entrance in 049 degs. 21' 24"
 N. 000 degs. 37' 06" W. to D 7 Buoy (which is
 marked L.7). The channel was swept with negative
 results, is 6 cables wide, and centre line is
 marked by 2 dan carrying flags international G.
 (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 161601B to N.C.E.T.F.).

Enemy Action

Four enemy vessels. 4 unknown bearing 180 degs. distance 3 miles course
 070 degs. My position 303 degs. Pointe De Barfleur
 25 miles.
 (DUCKWORTH, 160025 to Plymouth W/T).

Plot Nr. 10. 024 degs. Cap De La Hague 15.5
 miles, course 090 degs. speed 36 knots.
 (G.L.I, 160038 to Portsmouth W/T).

/ Plot...

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Plot No.10 G.C.2. Am engaging E/boats in 050 degs. Cap de la Hague 19 miles.
(G.L.1, 160053 to Portsmouth W/T).

Enemy course and speed 000 degs. 20 knots. Am retiring.
(DUCKWORTH, 160233 to Plymouth W/T).

Off Ushant

Nr.1. 1 destroyer, 4 escort vessels, position 47 degs. 59' N. 04 degs. 53' W. 340 degs. 15 knots.
(A/C, MQP 12, 162150 to 19 Group).

P.C.S. of 2 minesweepers, 1 auxiliary vessel, 47 degs. 44' N. 05 degs. 10' W. 180 degs. 10 knots.
(A/C, LLM 71, 162345B to 19 Group).

U/boatsSearch
for
U/boat

C. in C. Plymouth's 152355B. Join me in 154 degs. Portland Bill 25 miles.
(E.G.2, 160230B to E.G.2).
E.T.A. position given in your 160230B. 0810B.
(DOMINICA, 160430B to E.G.2).

U/boats
reported

2nd Class D/F bearing of U/boats transmitting naval Enigma message at 0219/16th on 3925 k/cs was 141 degs. estimated within 15 to 30 miles. My position 0219, 049 degs. 38' N. 003 degs. 06' W.
(LOCH KILLIN, 160231B to Admty.).

U/boat heard transmitting 46 group Naval Enigma bearing 185 degs. 3rd class on 3920 kc/s at 2130Z. My position 2130Z, 049 degs. 38' N. 007 degs. 29' W.
(SWANSEA, 162341B to Admty.).

Situation

Probably only four in English Channel area between longitude 01 degs. 00' W. and 03 degs. 00' W. One within 20 miles of latitude 49 degs. 25' N. longitude 05 degs. 30' W. One reported by A/C.

1100Z/16th June 30 miles W. of Ushant might possibly be last mentioned boat but more probably a different unit.
Four or five others within 60 miles of latitude 49 degs. 00' N. 07 degs. 30' W.
About three on passage, one in Bay of Biscay.
(D.D.I.C., 161504B to A.I.G.331).

The following is my appreciation on U-Boat problem in channel. Weather since D day has been very favourable for passage of U-Boats using snort/snort being rough enough to make sighting or Radar

/ detection...

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detection difficult, yet calm enough to use snort/snort, lack of sea and swell has simplified the critical control required in U-Boats and has consequently resulted in economical propulsion.

- (2) Lack of success of our surface forces is probably due to combination of bad Asdic conditions, large number of wrecks, and unfamiliarity with conditions. I anticipate improvement with experience.
- (3) U-Boats hitherto have kept fairly well out in the channel and have consequently met opposition from both air patrols and surface craft. I anticipate they may now hug French coast wherever possible even risking surface passage.
- (4) U-Boats have probably fought losing battle against a falling battery on passage and must need full undisturbed charge before attacking the "spout".
- (5) Attacks in the "spout" will consume much battery power and it is likely that subsequent charging will be required on the surface in a quiet place.
- (6) I suggest that the plan should incorporate (A) intensive mining to drive him off the shore route. (B) Campaign against minesweepers. (C) Mining to preclude use of harbours available to U-Boats on passage and suitably armed air strikes held in immediate readiness to attack U-Boats located in such harbours. (D) Mining of sandy beaches and bays in Channel Islands and west Cherbourg Peninsula where U-Boats may charge. (E) Intensification of surface and air patrols along the routes left to him. (F) Increased reconnaissance of ports and beaches in (C) and (D) above.
- (7) Reference (E) above. I am strongly opposed to rigid patrols, since they simplify U-Boats' task. Once aware of them the U-Boat is likely to find comparative peace between them, and conversely hunting craft constantly in sight undermines the morale. Further, continuously maintained patrol lines are more vulnerable to attack by air craft, E-Boats or U-Boats themselves.
- (8) I do not consider that my groups working in the approaches to the Channel are fulfilling any really useful purpose, and I suggest that two should be withdrawn to reinforce the Channel patrols, unless we have very definite information of the approach of a number of U-Boats from the Atlantic. The remaining two groups should be withdrawn for normal duties in the Western Approaches to compete with U-Boats on passage, guarding our convoys, or for the North channel if required. I consider this a wise precaution, since I am confident enemy will use only small number of best submarines in Channel and others are likely to be employed in creating diversions.
- (9) From the tactical point of view I suggest (a) A more liberal use of depth charges when Asdic contact conditions are difficult, and (b) an investigation be made into use of "Aural" detectors from small craft to locate U-Boats "Snorting" under calm conditions. (C. in C.W.A., 161603B to Admt.).

Operation
"C.A."

German U-Boats at periscope depth of operating Schnorkel will derive the maximum benefit when Asdic ranges are reduced by temperature gradients.

/ When ...

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U-Boats

Operation
"C.A."
(Contd.)

When after sighting a Schnorkel or periscope Asdic contact cannot be obtained every endeavour should be made to induce the U-Boat to dive deep by plastering the vicinity with shallow depth charge from an escort or escorts using Foxers. Attention is called to C.B.4097 (1) para.7. (C. in C.W.A., 161557B to Ships in CA)

Gamma
searches

If not hunting leave present patrol at 0500/17th and institute Gamma searches as follows.
E.G.3. Centre position 49.48 N. 04.09 W. for course of enemy 090.
E.G.14. Centre position 49.16 N. 03.49 W. for course of enemy 070.

Both searches to be 32 miles long and speed of advance about 12 knots.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 161702B to E.G.14, E.G.3.).

E.G.14 patrol forthwith in Z.207 and southern half of Z.206 until 0500/17th. E.G.3. do not leave present patrol until further orders. My 161702 refers.

(2) U-Boat seen in St. Peters Port 15th may have left last night and be proceeding through above areas.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 161943B to E.G.14, E.G.3.).

Casualties

BLACKWOOD
sunk.

My 152325. SALVAGE CHIEFTAIN returned due to weather. Will proceed when weather moderates. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 160008B to DUCKWORTH). Tug ST. MARTIN and DRIVER proceeding to assist BLACKWOOD. E.T.A. in 150 degs. Portland Bill

24, 0400B. Sailed BRAITHWAITE 0100.

(N.O.I.C. Portland, 160140B to DUCKWORTH).

ESSINGTON standing by BLACKWOOD awaiting tugs. Weather unsuitable for any present action. DUCKWORTH has ordered me to join him. Am proceeding to comply.

(BRAITHWAITE, 160350B to N.O.I.C. Portland).

BLACKWOOD has sunk in 144 degs. Portland Bill Lighthouse 23½ miles at 0410B. Position is being buoyed and search made at daylight for floating documents.

(E.G.3, 160435B to C. in C. Plymouth).

My 160435. Amend buoys position (?to) read 50 degs. 13' N. 02 degs. 15' 30" W.

(E.G.3, 160835B to C. in C. Plymouth).

ALERT
sunk.

T.H.V. ALERT mined and sunk a.m. (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 162004B to N.C.E.T.F.).

LOCUST
damaged

(G) Very large glider bomb passed over anchorage from northward at 0540, exploded in water near Ouistreham, no control signal heard. Shelling of anchorage has continued. LOCUST and some ferry-

/ craft...

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Casualties

LOCUST
damaged
(Contd.)

craft hit, three killed and eight wounded in former, two killed and one wounded in latter, damage slight.
(F.O. Force "S", 162345B to N.C.E.T.F.).

Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.8.

- (A) Sailing.
- (B) QUORN TYLER.
- (C) E.T.A. 1100/16.
- (D) "Thriller" 169.
- (E) For Gold ISLE OF THANET, BIARRITZ, LLANGIBBY, MONOWAI.
(A.N.C.X.F., 160059).

E.P.L.9.

- (A) Sailing.
- (B) SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA, 167th M.S.F.
- (C) 1200/16.
- (D) Wardle 9 G.M.
- (E) For Utah U.S. L.S.T.7, 61, 355, 292, 317,

351, 75, 57.

(A.N.C.X.F., 160245B amended 160758).

Your 160245. This is only practicable if time of your departure is put back about one hour.

(N.C.E.N.T.F., 160734B to A.N.C.X.F. in ARETHUSA).

F.T.M.9.

- (B) CAMPBELL, TICKHAM, POPPY, (STATICE, VEROUN (?VERVAIN) MORDEN?) for Nore STEVENSTONE, M.L.243, 571 for Isle of Wight U.S. C.G.25 for Poole.

(C) E.T.A. Nab 1730/16th Southend 08 (7) 08 (?) 00 (?) 17th.

(D) Wildfire T S.

(E) FORT WRIGLEY, FORT BEDFORD, EMPIRE GRAY, OCEAN STRENGTH, OCEAN VAGRANT, FORT TREMBLANT, EMPIRE GLADSTONE, STANRIDGE 830, EMPIRE FINLAY, EMPIRE PITT, EMPIRE FARMER, SAMPER, (?SAMPEP), FORT FORK? SAMPHILL.

L.S.T. for Tilbury 312, 309, 537, 528, 420, 428, 520, 361, 65, 199, 386 total 11 L.S.T. 443, 342, (?)367 (damaged 8) 373, 322, 413, 529, 157, 209, 238, 139, 337, 498, 281, (?)229, 338, 51, 521 Total 18.

(F) L.S.T. (?) 373 (1) 38 (2), 413 (2) 25 (?) L.S.T.337 (2).
(Capt. N.S. 160330).

E.B.C.11.

- (B) 137th E.G.
- (C) E.T.A. 1600/16.
- (D) Throttle.
- (E) For Omaha, PAUL EMIL JAVARY, YEW PARK.
For Utah EMPIRE BOND, WESTON.
(A.N.C.X.F., 160429).

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Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.C.P.5: Pass Needles 0800B and proceed by standard route
CHESHIRE Plymouth.

(2) S.O. E.G.112 is to detail escort to R/V at
Needles thence join F.C.P.5. at A One Buoy
Q.Z.S. 399.

(3) Codeword "Antelope".
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 160559B to CHESHIRE).

E.T.C.10

(a) Sailed.
(b) FERNIE, KINGCUP, GODETIA.
(c) E.T.A. 1700/16.
(d) Embryo K.C.

(e) For Gold REDCAR, THYRA III for Juno SINCERITY for Sword
METHIL HILL. Joined in E.T.C. I.O.W. for Juno EDENSIDE, HOLLY
M. BERRYDEN, T.F.C. SIR EVELYN WOOD, PASS OF BALLATER, ZUIDER
LAVE (?ZUIDERHAVEN) T.H. WALKER, for Sword DUNVEGAN HEAD, KYLE
QUEEN, SOUTHPORT, PLUTO, ROCKLEASE, ANTIQUITY, YEWDEN, TON-S,
GLENDINNING, MELITO for Gold ACTIVITY WALLACE ROSE, KYLEGORM,
NAV CORONIA, BUSTLER, ERNA, AVIDITY, MOELFRE ROSE, BUSIRIS,
H.M.Y. ADVENTURESS, BELFORD, BEALE, BEESTON, GRAMPIAN, DANUBE V,
cable barges GOLD BELT, GOLD DRIFT for Yapton ALNWICK GEM.
(A.N.C.X.F., 160908).

VICTRIX,
E.W.L.10

VICTRIX sailed with E.W.L.10. A.N.C.X.F. 141851/
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 160942B to N.C.E.T.F.).
Request you maintain 12 trawlers and 3 Corvettes
in E.T.F. area.

Instructions
for L.S.T. &
Landing
craft

To facilitate routing off far shore following
modifications to present instructions are to be
introduced forthwith.

(a) L.S.T. and Landing Craft are to display a
board giving name of Sector written in full.
Example Juno and the load serial number as before.

(b) In addition to displaying ships code board as at present
merchant ships are to hoist flag signal group F.A. from Mersigs
signifying "my destination is" with single alphabetical flag
inferior to tackline showing on arrival off beach force sector
and on departure from beach return destination in U.K.

Letters for this purpose will be as follows: Force Sector
destinations as in O.N.13 appendix VIII Section B.

Example G for Gold.

Return destination in U.K. as in O.N.13 para. 9(a) second letter.

Example T for Thames.

(A.N.C.X.F., 160944B).

F.T.C.9

BLUESKY.

Sail (A) F.T.C.9.

(B) COTSWOLD, NARCISSUS for Nore Section M.Ls.

185, 207 for Isle of Wight Section U.S.C.G.59

detach for Poole.

(C) E.T.A. Nab 2215/16th Southend 1630/17th.

(D) Judge 5 O.

/ (E) FENJA...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.T.C.9 (E) FENJA, NORTHGATE ROW, ANFIELD, APPRICIT
(Contd.) (?APRICITY) FORELAND, SUPREME, ONIA, HAWARDEN BRIDGE
GURDEN GATE, CITY OF CHARLEROY, YEW TREE, BLACKTOFT,
SEDULITY, EMPIRE WRESTLER, EMPIRE TROTWOOD, EMPIRE
SETTLER, CRAGSIDE, ORTOLAN, HALO, TULLYCROSBY,
TUDOR QUEEN, L.S.T.319 damaged for Port Boulet.
(Capt. N.S., 161015B).

E.C.M.8. (B) 108th E.G.
(C) 2000/16.
(D) Westview I.E.
(E) For Omaha JAMES B. WEAVER, WILLIAM N.
PENDLETON, PEARL HARBOUR, DAVID STARR JORDAN, G.W. GOETHALS, SYRUS
H. MCCORMICK, U.S.L.S.T. 288, 27, 285, 345, THOMAS WOLFE.
For Utah. HELLAS, THOMAS SCOTT, H.W. GRADY, EPHRAIM BREVARD.
EDWARD W. SCRIPPS, CHARLES W. PEALE. U.S. L.S.T.350, 54, 25, 50,
502.
(A.N.C.X.F., 161102B).

Sailings of stores coasters. It is apparent that stores coasters are not being
sailed from Assault area as soon as discharge is
completed (Your 152020/ and C.T.F.122.7 151547/
not to Cotetousa) this is essential if store
delivery is to be maintained empty coasters now
urgently required in U.K. ports for reload if
necessary sailing 2 convoys homewards during next 24 hours using
any escorts available in area.
(A.N.C.X.F., 161203B to N.C.W.T.F.).
/ N.T. in W.R.

Ramp M.P.4.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	MOOSEPEAK	Lee	1400/15th	10	0030/16th
	GAORHEAD	Lee	1730/15th	10	(?03)30/16th
	FARALLON	Selsey	0700/16th	10	1600/16th
	(2) S.T.A. in company GAORHEAD. (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 161208B).				

L.S.T.in F.C.M. convoys. Attention is called to my 101921 re return
destination L.S.T. in F.C.M. convoys. Important
proportionate division between Isle of Wight and
Portland be maintained. Too many L.S.T. were sent
to Portland in convoy F.C.M.6.).
(A.N.C.X.F., 161315B to F.S.S.C.).

Escorts for Phoenix and Whale convoys. TRENTONIAN is to provide close escort for Phoenix
convoy passing position P at 2300/16th. Speed 5
knots. LUNENBERG, CALGARY and DRUMHELLER are to
provide close escort for Whale convoy passing
position P about 2100/16th. Speed 4 knots. Routes
as in O.N.16.

/All...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Escorts for
Phoenix and
Whale
convoys
(Contd.)

All Corvettes are to communicate by V/S with S.N.O. Selsey before sailing. DRUMHELLER and CALGARY are to leave convoy 1000/17th and return to Selsey. TRENTONIAN and LUNENBERG are to proceed to far shore. On completion TRENTONIAN is to return Selsey. LUNENBERG is to return Portsmouth for repairs. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 161531B).

F.C.M.7.

Sailed.
E.T.A. Point Z.E.D. 2330B/16. Sailed Bluesky 77E Point Z.E.D. 2300B June (sic). (C.T.G. 122.7, 161550B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

?F.W.L.10

Sail (A) (?) F.W.L.10 (?).
(B) SWIFT, ISIS, OXLIP, CHASER No.15.
(C) Onward 0100/17.
(D) Asph (?) alt (8) 9 W.
(E) L.S.T. 215, 2, 163, 307, 347, 331 (?), 356, 360, 266, 308.
(F) L.S.T. 307 (1) 8 (2) 1 L.S.T.347 (1) 32 (2) 1(?) L.S.T.331 (2)
4 SWIFT (1) 7 (2) 1.
(Capt. N.S., 161610B).

Personnel
convoys.

Following from M.W.T. (Buco).
Further to my 132010. Request arrangements be made to sail personnel convoys as follows on 17th 18th and 19th June.

17th June. Plymouth - E.C.P.10. CHESHIRE to U.S. Sector to return to Plymouth.

Weymouth - E.C.P.10 P. PRINCESS MAUD, CANTERBURY to U.S. Sector, to return Newhaven.

Southampton - E.C.P.10 W. EMPIRE HALBERD, EMPIRE RAPIER, PRINCESS MARGARET to U.S. Sector, EMPIRE HALBERD and EMPIRE RAPIER to return to Isle of Wight, and PRINCESS MARGARET to Weymouth.

Newhaven - E.X.P.10 H.M.S. PRINCE BADOUIN, H.M.S. PRINSES ASTRID, BEN MY CHREE to British Sector. Request arrangements be made to sail BEN MY CHREE from Solent a.m. 17th. To arrive by 2100.

H.M.S. PRINCE BADOUIN and H.M.S. PRINSES ASTRID to return to Weymouth, and BEN MY CHREE to Newhaven.

Southampton - E.X.P.10 W. H.M.S. PRINCE DAVID, EMPIRE MACE, H.M.S. BRIGADIER to British Sector. All to return to Isle of Wight. Request arrangements be made to sail H.M.S. QUEEN EMMA and H.M.C.S. PRINCE HENRY from Solent to Weymouth p.m. 17th.

18th June Plymouth - E.C.P.11. No lift required.

Weymouth - 11.P. LADY OF MANN, VICTORIA - To U.S. Sectors, to return Newhaven.

Southampton - E.C.P.11 W. No lift required.

Newhaven - E.X.P.11. MAID OF ORLEANS, ISLE OF GUERNSEY, ISLE OF THANET - to British Sector - request arrangements be made to sail the above vessels early a.m. 18th to arrive Newhaven by 1100.

Southampton - E.X.P.11 W. No lift required.

19th June Plymouth - E.C.P.12. No lift.

/ Weymouth...

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Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Personnel
convoys
(Contd.)

Weymouth - E.C.P.12P PRINCESS MARGARET, H.M.S. QUEEN EMMA, H.M.C.S. PRINCE HENRY to U.S.Sector, all to return Weymouth.
Southampton - E.C.P.12 W. CLAN LAMONT, EMPIRE CUTLASS, EMPIRE ARQUEBUS - to U.S. Sector, all to return Isle of Wight.
Newhaven - E.X.P.12 BIARRITZ, PRINCESS MAUD, CANTERBURY to British Sector, all to return to Newhaven.
Southampton - E.X.P.12 W. PAMPAS to British Sector, to return to Isle of Wight.
(A.N.C.X.F., 161723).

F.X.P.(?8) F.X.P.(?8) will not sail until 0600/17.
(Capt. N.S. 161920B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

E.C.P.9. (A) Sailed.
(B) E.G.113th.
(C) E.T.A. 1100/17.
(D) Patch 9.
(E) For Utah GLENROY, EMPIRE ANVIL. For Omaha EMPIRE BROADSWORD, /
For British Sector - ULSTER MONARCH.
(A.N.C.X.F., 162122). / EMPIRE BATTLEAXE.

F.C.P.6 (A) Sailed.
(B) E.G.111, S.O. in LAPWING U.62.
(C) E.T.A. Southampton 0300B/17th Portland 0030B/
17th Plymouth 0830B/17th.
(D) Cauliflower 4 H.
(E) For Isle of Wight, GLENAERN, SS. MECKLENBURG, SS. CITY OF
CANTERBURY, for Plymouth EMPIRE JAVELIN, for Portland L.S.D.
OCEANWAY.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 162124B).

E.X.P.9. (A) Sailing.
(B) STORK, EGLINTON.
(C) E.T.A. 1100/17.
(D) Thriller.
(E) for Gold.
PRINCE LEOPOLD, PRINSES J. CHARLOTTE.
(A.N.C.X.F., 162157B).

F.D.C.5. (A) Sailed.
(B) E.G. (sic) SCARBOROUGH (S.O.) PETUNIA,
M.Ls. 347, 143.
(C) E.T.A. Southampton 0900B/7th Plymouth 2100B/7th
Portishead 2100B/18th Barry 0100B/19th Poole 0100/17th Llanelly
2100B/18th Sharpness 0600B/19th.
(D) For Plymouth - EMERALD QUEEN, DONAGHMORE, CANTERBURY.

/For...

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Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.D.C.5
(Contd.)

For Southampton - FIRE QUEEN, LARCHFIMYN (?LARCH-FIELD) CARRICK COAST.

For Portishead - DENBIGH COAST, ANTRIM COAST, EMPIRE SHORN (?EMPIRE SHOAL).

For Poole - GAIRNCORM.

For Llanelly - ANDONI. For Sharpness - JADE. For Tilbury - GUN.
For Swansea - CEDARWOOD. For Barry - RUEBEN SNOW.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 162215B).

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16.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSPolicy

- IMPLACABLE. Preliminary full power trial, manoeuvring and ahead and astern steering trials completed satisfactorily. Gun trials completed satisfactorily.
(IMPLACABLE, 160937B to A.S.C.B.S.)
- North Russian Convoys. Your 011323. Understand mid-August has been mentioned to M.W.T. representative Murmansk as date for resumption of convoys and that this information is not to be passed to Russians. U.S. Naval Mission Moscow has also informed me of this date.
(2) Request confirmation.
(Ad. Archer, 161401B to Admty.)
- W.Boats. "A" Message No.827A (B.2) 081412/April.
(a) Existing evidence strongly suggests that the WALTER BOAT did not pass the experimental stage, and that none is therefore operating at present.
(b) Disappearing radar contacts have been falsely assumed to indicate that the target has submerged and this has led to the false conclusion that WALTER BOATS or similar submersibles were present.
(A.C.N.S. U.T. 161819B: A Message 220A1.B.2)
- Seydisfiordur closed on 14th June. All Naval establishments in Seydisfiordur were finally closed down and personnel and stores evacuated on 14th June with exception of C.W. post of three ratings which has been established in town of Seidisfiord. My 121420 May and A.M.290217 April refer.
(A.C.I.C. 161902B and 171130B to Admty.)
- C. in C. H.F. Rosyth departures C. in C. H.F. in DUKE OF YORK with FURIOUS add ARCHANGEL escorted by MILNE, MUSKETEER.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 162130B to A.C.O.S.)

Operations.

- Operation C.W. You are to operate forthwith in a new area bounded by parallel 049 degs. and 053 degs. N. and meridian 020 degs. and 025 degs. W. until about 21st June.
(2) Alteration of courses are to be made as necessary.
(C. in C. W.A. 161021B to HOSTE)
- Sweep ahead of H.X.S. 294 from 011 degs. W. to 007 degs. W. thence resume patrol as requisite.
(2) E.T.A. of H.X.S. 294 (S.O.C.3 in PRINCE RUPERT) 055 degs. 20' N. 011 degs. 01' W. 2000B/17th, course 85 degs. 8 knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 161243B to BULLDOG)
Your 161021B. My P.C.S. 054 degs. 15' N. 24 degs. 38' W. 182 degs. 9 knots for position (R).
(HOSTE, 161230B to C. in C. W.A.)

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16.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations - Contd.

Operation D.B. Scapa departure at 0903B WHELP and WAGER to Skaalefiord for fuel. E.T.A. 2215B/16th. (A.C.O.S.161033 to N.O.I.C.Faroes)
Sailed JAMAICA to comply with C. in C. H.F. 110047 routed in accordance with C. in C. H.F. 142049. Ship is keeping HD routine as from time of departure.
(N.O.I.C.Greenock, 161034B to Admt.)

SATYR My 151934. The Western half of your area may be more profitable.
Patrol. (F.O.S.161306B to SATYR)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen. Following received from Jan Mayen JU.88 within range South of Defences O242Z. Fire opened. A/C disappeared behind Eier Bluff.
(A.C.I.C. 160740B to Admt.)

U-Boats

U-Boats reported. Your 160231B. • Fix from land stations places originator of enemy transmission in approx. 46 degs. 00' N. 02 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C.160940B to LOCH KILLIN)
Your 160728B. (1) At 0016Z Land Stations gave fix in about 46 degs, 00' N. 02 degs. 00' W.
(2) D/F at 0048Z and repetition at 0055Z fixed in approximately 47 degs. 00' N. 05 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C.161117B to E.G.6)

U-Boat sunk by A/C. Nr. 1. Am over enemy S/M in 61 degs. 01' N. 03 degs. 00' E. course 000, 8 knots, enemy on the surface.
(A/C UQPH, 161910B to 18 Group)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges. Enemy has been severely damaged by air attack.

Result of attack hits observed.
(A/C.UQPH, 161920B to 18 Group)
Request (?Report intended) of attack on submarines. Oil bubbles seen. Air bubbles seen. Wreckage seen in water. Bodies seen in water.
(A/C UQPH, 161940B to Z.5V)

Casualties and Defects.

LADY KATHLEEN. Position approx. 52.20 N. 05.10 W.
(LADY KATHLEEN to seaforth Radio, Recd. 160126)
Tug ABEILLE FOUR being sent from Milford Haven to your assistance. Ends.
(Seaforth Radio to LADY KATHLEEN, No.T.O.O. Recd. 160140)

sailed /...

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16.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties and Defects.

LADY
KATHLEEN.
(Contd.)

Sailed ABEILLE IV to assist LADY KATHLEEN with engine break-down in 52 degs. 20' N. 05 degs. 10' at 0100/16.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 160257B to Admty.)

DEVONSHIRE.

Jam has occurred in B Turret Shell Ring in DEVONSHIRE and caused damage to epicyclic gear in operating Unit. Estimated time to effect repairs 84 hours. Supply arrangements for shell to turret will be out of action for this period.
(C.S.1, 162015 to C. in C. H.F.)

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War Diary16.6.1944
FridayFOREIGN STATIONNorth Atlantic

AMIRAL
MOUCHEZ,
PRESIDENT
HOUDOUCÉ. Have stopped towing PRESIDENT HOUDOUCÉ.
Temporary engine trouble on AMIRAL MOUCHEZ. Am
keeping hawser on PRESIDENT HOUDOUCÉ. Position
035° 12' 013° 12'.
(AMIRAL MOUCHEZ, 160315Z to C.M.S.F.)

SS. CARVALHO
ARAJO. My 141115. Route first voyage vessel will leave
Lisbon 20th June calling Terceira 23rd, Horta
23rd/24th, Ponta Delgada 24th/25th, Lisbon 27th/
28th.
(N.A. Lisbon, 161252B to S.O.(I) Gibraltar)

June
interception
programme. M.E.W. desires following homeward bound ships for
June interceptions programme.
A. Transatlantic. M.Vs. MONTE ABRIL and MONTE
AYALA and SS. ARRAIZ.
B. West African. SS. HABANA for Cadiz.
2. Las Palmas and Teneriffe will report
departure and destinations of any calling there.
(D.E.W.D. 161417B to F.O.G.M.A.)

VICTORIOUS,
UNDAUNTED. E.T.A. Europa Point 1000B/17th. E.T.A. Algiers
boom 0800B/18th.
2. UNDAUNTED asdic damaged probably requires new
dome oscillators and training shaft.
3. My P.C. and S. 035° 40' N. 011° 06' W. 100° 22'.
Weather report.
(VICTORIOUS 162102B.)

South Atlantic

Southbound
sailings. Cancel my 121018.* Southbound Shipping is to be
held for K.D.5.
(C. in C.S.A. 161214B to C.S.As. at Lourenco
Marques and Beira.)
* Southbound ships may be sailed independently as
far as Durban.

U/B 0860
sunk by
SOLOMONS'
Group. The following has been received from Admin. Officer
Com. 4th Fleet. (repeats 151940Z).
(D.O.D.(F) 161257B to C. in C.S.A.)

/Summary...

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16.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

U/B (U.866)
sunk by
SOLOMONS'
group.
(Contd.)

Summary of attack on S/M and sinking by T.G.41.6
VT Pilot Edwards shot down at approx. 1510 21Z
25.25 S. 05.35 W, in subsequent search two V F
pilots lost. In addition one V T plane shot
down in final attack at 151751Z 25.10 S. 04.55 W.
21 U/B survivors recovered including Captain and
First Officer. Shooting down of Edwards
confirmed. One prisoner stated R/V due with
small sub-area being searched for other U/B and lost personnel.
(Cdr. 4th Fleet A/A Force 161412)

U/B hunted
by INKPEN
off Liberia.

Am investigating contact my position 23° 23' N.
11° 15' W.
(INKPEN 162019.)
My 2019 contact S/M searching S.W.
(INKPEN, 162040)
In contact with S/M at 2200Z position 6° 04' N.
11° 22' W.
(INKPEN, 162215.)
Contact visual at ?(00)00Z. Visual and Radar 2230Z no
contact since. Position 005° 56' N. 011° 22' W.
(INKPEN 162355Z.)

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16.6.1944.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Danube. Som daily Sitrep No.62.
(A) The Danube was reported open to traffic in the Vojvodina sector on 13th June for the first time since recent minelaying.
(Somto, No T.O.O. Recd. 0345.)

Attack on important Aegean convoy. 15th June. 12 Baltimores (A.30) escorted by 4 Spitfires and 10 Mustangs (P.51) attacked shipping off Rhodes previously sighted by R/C aircraft. 3 destroyers, 1 F Boat, 1 Coaster and 1 M/V with air cover of 5 Arado 196s. All bombs missed later the convoy was attacked in Rhodes Harbour by 12 Baltimores FH (A.30) escorted by 4 Spitfires and 6 Mustangs (P.51) no definite hits observed but photo R/C shows near miss on armed 60 ft. launch. Smoke observed rising from Harbour.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., 161001Z.)

Flag of C.S. 15. Officer of C.S.15 is embarked in DIDO. Signals and correspondence are to be routed accordingly. 711b * of 22nd April is cancelled.
(C. in C. Med., 161036.)
* Flag of C.S.15 being transferred to DIDO.

San Benedetto. In view of complete and rapid enemy withdrawal on Adriatic coastal sector, instructions were last night given 5th Corps that light forces were to follow up enemy as far as Ancona, avoiding any major conflicts.
(2) Coast road to Ancona is to be repaired to take heaviest type of traffic, as second priority after Pescara - Rome.
(3) It is considered here that this will probably necessitate use of San Benedetto as a port.
(4) It is appreciated that para. 2 and 3 conflict with principal Directive contained in A.A.I.'s codeword "Movement" 3/24 dated June 13th, not to C. in C. Med.
(N.L.O. 5th Corps. 161208 to F.O.W.It.)
Note: This message is an intercept.

UGLIANO. UGLIANO is one of the four Italian manned ships which became available in January 1944, for use as tugs, C. in C. Med. 031636.
(2) Original allocation of these ships was reported to C. in C. Med. in my 041809 Feb. After subsequent re-allocations UGLIANO became the only tug retained in Malta.
(3) The Italian civilian crew was paid off, and she was re-commissioned with a Maltese crew for dockyard duties. She has been invaluable since as Fleet Fuelling Tug.
(4) Reference Admty. 170052 May. UGLIANO is suitable for harbour duties only, and is virtually unarmed.
(V.A. Malta, 161211.)

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16.6.1944.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.3 enemy
destroyers.

Photographic R/C shows three destroyers arrived Portolago this morning. Two escort vessels and one F Boat left Rhodes.
(Capt. (S) 1, 161539 to VIVID.)

Greek Navy -
manning
situation.

F.O.L.E.M's 011213. Request report -
(a) crew situation in all Greek major units;
(b) whether you expect to be able to man all operational Greek warships in Mediterranean Command, stating in particular the extent to which you are relying on receiving the 400 Greeks

now at Chatham;

(c) what spirit is being shown by Greek crews.

(2) Early report is desired because question of turning over AVONVALE and COWDRAY to Greeks is being re-examined in light of new Greek political situation. It would plainly be futile to hand over these ships to Greeks if -

(a) the men now at Chatham are required to meet the various commitments in the Mediterranean, including shore parties, crew reliefs, etc., and (b) morale of Greek Navy is not such as to give reasonable expectation of obtaining good and reliable service from the ships in Greek hands.

(3) Greek Navy Authorities are pressing for 5 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers and 75 ratings to be sent to Eastern Mediterranean as soon as possible. The Officers and 40 ratings are politically unreliable and the remainder are being sent because of sickness or other causes. Transfer of these men to Mediterranean would necessitate a small draft including Officers being sent from Mediterranean to U.K. before two Greek crews could be formed here.

(1st Lord, 161852B to C. in C. Med.)

M.E.Balkan
Sitrep
No. 213.

An agent reports from Athens successful attack during night of 9th June on a large floating (? crane) in Piraeus. According to German specialist it will take at least 2 months to repair.

Four. Sea Ops. NTR.
(C. in C. M.E., 161920C.)

Cositintrep
No. 343,
part 2.

Signed Wilson cite FHRNA Cositintrep No.342 not issued.

Coastal forces maintained patrols off West Italy coast between Genoa and south of Elba nights 12th/13th June and 13th/14th unsuccessful attack on fast moving craft north of Vada Rocks on latter night no other targets seen.

(2) Two destroyers were engaged by coastal forces off Spezia night 14th/15th. Torpedoes were fired and one destroyer subsequently blew up. Patrols were also maintained as on previous nights but no other shipping sighted.

(C. in C. Med., 162054B.)

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16.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies

U-Boat dispositions. No.60 areas A.B.E. and F. believed clear of U-Boats. Scale of air escort W. Area C. U-Boat may be in area. Scale of air escort X. Area D position not entirely clear. Scale air escort W. Area G U-Boat believed in area from D/F night 12th/13th. Scale air escort Y. (C. in C. E.F. 160352Z)

Passage of Italian civilians. Concur with view expressed in N.O.I.C. E. Africa's 140846/. (N.O.I.C. Diego Suarez, 160541Z to Admty.) / See F.O.E.A's 200839 which contains repetition.

Massawa. Appian. C. in C. E.F. 150359.
(1) Ref. part 4. Berthing facilities for 36 major landing craft were asked for originally in Admiralty 162236 April. My 091805 May confirmed that these could be accommodated.
(2) Ref. Para. 2. Requirements in Admiralty 190600 May of 60 Major and 24 minor landing craft can well be met at Massawa.
(N.O.I.C. Massawa, 161034C to S.N.O.R.S.C.A.)

Ships for manning by Chinese. Chinese N.A. in London and Senior Chinese N.A. I/v of the Chinese Naval Officers undergoing training with R.N. have inquired about possibilities of ships being made available for manning by Chinese Navy.
(2) It is under consideration to invite particulars of Chinese Naval personnel who could be made available, particularly with a view to manning a Flower Class Corvette.
(3) Request your recommendations on employment of Chinese Naval personnel, and particularly whether any substantial difficulty would be seen on operational or colour grounds to operation of a Chinese manned corvette under your orders.
(1st Lord, 161045B to C. in C. E.F.) Reply: 250440, p. 655.

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B dis-positions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 161423Z, Cominch 161602Z.)

NORSEMAN. NORSEMAN has reached P.L.E. Escorting to St. Johns E.T.A. 1500Z/18th. Requires 320 tons fuel also water and provisions. P.C. and S. at 1500Z 049° 29' N. 042° 20' W. X. 254° 9 Marker Buoy left moored in 048° 58' N. 041° 39' W. Duration of work when resumed uncertain. Request Harbour Grace be notified cease watch on cable. My? fuel remaining noon today 6 days boiler hours 1,870 on arrival no defects. Your 161201Z not to all addresses refers. Weather report.
(TIMMINS 161551Z to F.O.N.F.)

M.V. SOCOTRA. M.V. SOCOTRA 15½ knots New York for India. If U.G.F. O.T. acceptable and ready request ship be included in Convoys. U.G.F.12 for Algiers or other suitable port thence U.G.S. 46 for Port Said.
2. If not acceptable but ready request she be sailed independently for Gibraltar in time to connect with U.G.S.46.
3. If too late for 1 or 2 request she be sailed independently via Cape.
(D.T.D. 161703B to Connav.)
Para. 2 of your 141859. As number of ships involved is likely to be very small we would prefer each instance to be raised for consideration.
(D.T.D. 161727B to B.A.D.)

U/B incidents. Change time of U-Boat sinking my 152145 to 151751. 20 - 1 survivors recovered.
Para. C. L.C.I. 604 sighted U-Boat 10.00 N. 79.59 W. 161440.
(Cominch 162156Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest serial No. 878 June 15th. 5. Beaufighters operated with M.T.Bs. attacking enemy barges Kairiru Island.
8. Evening U.S. S/M reported large Task Force heading east from San Bernardino Strait Eastern Philippines speed 20 knots. Force described several battleships including one NAGATO class, 3 aircraft carriers plus several cruisers and destroyers.

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Friday

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest serial 10. M.T.Bs. sighted possible enemy submarine off
No. 878 June Bute afternoon 14th.
15th (Contd.) (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 160730Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. A. 1. E.G.5 sighted U-Boat at 0930Z/15 in 49° 25' N. 05° 30' W.
2. H.M.ship torpedoed at 0945Z/15 in 49° 25' N. 05° 30' W.
3. P.R.U. A/C reported one 500 ton U-Boat at 0500Z/15 in 49° 27' N. 02° 32' W.
4. H.M.Ship torpedoed at 1711Z/15 in 50° 07' N. 02° 15' W. Ten minutes later DUCKWORTH obtained firm contact and made hedgehog attack.
5. A/C J/4 O.T.U. sighted U-Boat at 2017Z/15 in 61° 48' N. 03° 42' W.
6. H.M.Ship torpedoed at 2335Z/13 in approx. 05° 25' N. 09° 45' W.
Para. B. 1. A/C T/59 sighted periscope, course 270° at 1443Z/15 in 50° 00' N. 09° 00' W.
2. A/C T/59 obtained A.S.V. contact at 1745Z/15 in 50° 00' N. 08° 00' W.
3. A/C L/235 sighted periscope course 270° at 1739Z/15 in 49° 01' N. 04° 55' W.
4. A/C of 16 Group obtained A.S.V. contact at 2055Z/15 in 50° 03' N. 01° 54' W.
(D.D.I.C. 161159B.)

U/B dis-positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 161402B, 161454B.)

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

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

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

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

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

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.

17.6.1944.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

- (1)(a) Enemy resistance in the Tilly area continued to-day; but villages on each side of it have been captured and, in the Cherbourg Peninsula, St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte has been taken.
- (b) Landings at all the Assault Beaches continue steadily and safely; and the piers in both "Mulberry" Areas are nearing completion.
- (c) At 0800 to-day N.C.E.T.F. transferred his H.Q. from SOUTHERN PRINCE to the shore at Courseulles.
- (d) At 1800 to-day a total of 11,545 Prisoners of War had been landed in the U.K.
- (e) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are as follows:-

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	
British Beaches :	296,608	51,199	96,065	tons
U.S. Beaches :	293,045	38,629	100,399	tons
Totals :	<u>589,653</u>	<u>89,828</u>	<u>196,464</u>	tons

Enemy
Action

- (2)(a) E-Boats. No E-Boat activity has been reported to-day.
- (b) U-Boats. A periscope was sighted to-day about 25 miles North of Ushant; but there is no evidence of any U-Boat having yet reached the cross-Channel Convoy Routes, and at 1450B the Admiralty estimated that there may be three within 30 miles of Cap Barfleur and two or three more between the Scillies and Ushant.
- (c) Coastal Batteries. At 0246B the Destroyer TALYBONT was damaged by a shell-splinter off the Cherbourg Peninsula and sustained some casualties, but proceeded to Portsmouth under her own power.
- (d) Mines. A controlled field of Beach Mines was reported to-day off Ouistreham; at 1930 the L.S.I.(L) GLENROY was damaged by a near mine off Beach U and is being towed to Portsmouth; and at 2350B M.M.S.279 was also near-mined off Beach U and is being towed to Portsmouth.

General

Home Fleet

- (3) At 1044 to-day C. in C.H.F. in DUKE OF YORK, with FURIOUS, ARCHANGEL, and two Destroyers, returned to Scapa from Rosyth.

E-Boats

- (4) A group of four E-Boats from Ostend was

/attacked...

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Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

E-Boats
(Contd.)

attacked by aircraft twice last night near West Hinder and appear to have been turned back.

U-Boat
sunk by
aircraft.

(5) At 1715B to-day a Catalina aircraft on patrol reported having attacked a U-Boat with depth-charges about 100 miles N.W. of Stadlandet, Norway, and that forty survivors and wreckage were seen after the attack.

South Atlantic

Operation
"Steadfast"

(6) Operation "Steadfast" which commenced on 13th June was concluded at daylight to-day. This consisted of an A/S patrol by TRENT, LEWIS and BUTTERMERE and an air search twice daily of an area approximately 100 miles by 100 miles off Saldanha Bay which it was thought might be reached by the U-Boat which torpedoed SS. COLUMBINE 75 miles north west of Capetown on 16th June.(q.v.).

Mediterranean

Assault on
Elba
(Operation
Brassard).

L.C.F.(L) 15

(7)(a) An amphibious operation to capture the island of Elba was launched this morning. French troops were employed. The main landings at 0400 in the Golfo di Campo encountered considerable initial opposition which necessitated infantry being landed further east. Marina di Campo was captured by 1430 to-day after stiff fighting and L.C.T. were then enabled to proceed with the disembarkation of vehicles. One L.C.F. was sunk by a mine during the approach. The Gunboats COCKCHAFER and SCARAB and 5 L.C.(G)'s provided naval support fire and the operation was covered by destroyers and coastal forces. It is reported that fire of the L.C.T.(R) was very effective and was decisive in enabling the initial assault to land comparatively easily.

(b) A small force occupied the island of Pianosa, off Elba, which had been evacuated during the night.

(c) Wellingtons and Liberators bombed Porto Ferraio and Porto Longone last night. Good concentrations

/ are...

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War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Assault on
Elba
(Operation
Brassard)
(Contd.)

are reported on docks and harbour installations.
(d) Two F-lighters and an E-Boat were engaged
by coastal forces south-east of Elba this morning.
One F-lighter is believed to have been damaged
and slight damage was caused to our forces.

Civita
Vecchia

(8) 4495 tons were unloaded at Civita Vecchia
to-day.

Adriatic

(9) The French contretorpilleurs LE FANTASQUE
and LE TERRIBLE last night carried out a sweep
in the Adriatic as far as the Gulf of Quarnero.
A convoy of two motor vessels and 4 small craft
was encountered; it is reported that one motor
vessel was blown up and the remainder sunk.

Aegean

(10)(a) UNSWERVING reports that she has destroyed
2 Q Caiques and one UJ-Boat (corvette) in Potamo,
where there is one UJ-Boat remaining.
(b) 5 Venturas bombed Rhodes Harbour last night
and 11 Baltimores attacked shipping in the harbour
to-day.
(c) A convoy of 5 small vessels sighted off the
east coast of Greece was attacked by Beaufighters
who left one vessel sinking and destroyed 3 and
damaged the fourth of 4 escorting aircraft. 3
Beaufighters were lost.

East Indies

(11) On her 7th Far East War Patrol TEMPLAR laid
12 mines successfully and she sank one of two
escorted motor vessels off Ding Ding, south of
Penang on 28th May. Two days later she was
attacked with 26 depth-charges which caused no
damage.

(12) SS. J. FRANK COOPER, Colombo for Lourenco
Marques sighted and fired at a U-Boat at 0826Z
today in 05.43 S. 73.45 E. (between the Seychelles
and Chagos Archipelago).

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17.6.1944.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

America and West Indies

(13) CROATEN's aircraft attacked a surfaced U-Boat at 1424 to-day in 47.09 N. 26.56 W. (mid-north Atlantic).

Australia and New Zealand

(14) Shipping at Sorong (New Guinea) was attacked by Mitchells to-day. Two 3,000 ton cargo vessels and 3 smaller cargo vessels were sunk and two 1500 ton cargo vessels were damaged.

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17.6.1944.
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

General.

Communique No.23.

Allied Troops continue their advance with leading elements in St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte.

Local advances were made in the face of heavy enemy opposition between Caumont and Tilly. East of Caen a strong enemy attack was beaten off.

Throughout yesterday Allied Cruisers and Destroyers engaged gun batteries which the enemy had established on the Eastern Bank of the River Orne.

Concentrations of enemy armour north-east of Caen were bombarded by RAMILLIES.

Merchant convoys continue to arrive at beaches steadily and in safety.

(S.H.A.E.F., 171100B to Agwar.)

Evacuation of St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte further emphasises enemy weakness in centre of Cotentin Peninsula. He now has only one main road via La Haye du Pits and Barnville-sur-Mer with which

to supply Cherbourg.

Enemy resistance Tilly area continues.

Total prisoners of war reported evacuated to United Kingdom by 2359 hours 15th June, Second Army 7052, First United States Army 8513.

Enemy showing considerable disorganisation in Cotentin Peninsula and probable supply of troops in north very difficult since only one good road now available. Road movement south on roads west of St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte on 16th June suggests enemy may be getting out some formations in north leaving only those he considers essential for last ditch stand of Cherbourg. No major changes on other parts of front.

(S.H.A.E.F., 171400B to Agwar.)

Navsitrip 16.

Nothing of interest to report.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 172120B.)

Communique No.24.

Allied forces have pushed deeper into Normandy. Villages east and west of Tilly-sur-Seulles have been freed of the enemy. Advancing two miles

south of Isigny, our troops have reached the Vire Et Taute Canal. In the Cherbourg Peninsula, St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte has been liberated.

(S.H.A.E.F., 172330B to Agwar.)

Naval.

Cositintrep No.28, Part 2, Naval.

(A) During night of 15th/16th approximate 30 enemy aircraft operated over anchorages of Western Task Force Area, whilst dropping mines aircraft made use of Window and Float flares. BLACKWOOD sank whilst in tow after torpedo damage of 15th.

(B) Troops etc. landed.

Cumulative totals to p.m./14th June:-

/Personnel ...

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Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval. (B) Troops etc. landed - Contd.
(Contd.)

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno and Sword	253,704	39,909	70,044
Omaha and Utah	223,343	29,014	56,680
Total (D + 8)	477,047	68,923	126,724
last reported 24 hours			
Gold (To p.m./15th)	11,171	2,509	3,576
Juno (To p.m./14th)	8,049	1,406	3,308
Sword (To p.m./14th)	240	228	1,919
Omaha (To p.m./15th)	19,554	2,836	9,352
Utah (To p.m./14th)	7,979	882	4,958

1,200 tons stores were discharged through port of Courseulles in 24 hours to p.m./15th and 1193 tons through Port en Bessin to p.m./14th.

(C) Casualties. Trinity House Vessel ALERT mined and sunk off Arromanches.

(D) Coastal Command. In normal patrols one U-Boat was sighted 15 miles N.W. of Ushant.

(Ad. Ramsay, 170045B to Admty.)

17th June. Cositintrep No.29, Part 2, Naval.

(A) General. No new developments in U-Boat situation. The few in the Western Channel have been much harried and there is still no evidence

of successful penetration to cross-channel convoy routes. Although spasmodic shelling continued yesterday, in which LOCUST was hit, better unloading figures have been reported from Sword. Reports of high unloading rates continue from U.S. sector. No E-Boat activity reported during the night in the assault area. Early this morning TALYBONT reported splinter damage and casualties, but later was proceeding at 18 knots. She is believed to have been under fire from coastal batteries at C. Barfleur.

(B) Casualties. TALYBONT - splinter damage. LOCUST - damaged by shell.

(C) Coastal Command Beaufighters attacked E/R Boats in Ostend area with unknown results.

(D) Intelligence. Beach mines are reported from Ouistreham controlled from a strong-point and situated between two rows of obstacles. Mines are cylindrical 36" long, 12" diameter, weight of charge 250 lbs., exploded individually or as a field, connected to firing point by a heavy rubber covered armoured wire.

(Ad. Ramsay, 171423B to Admty.)

17th June Cositintrep No.30, Part 2, Naval.

(A) General. Situation unchanged.

(B) Troops etc. landed:

Cumulative totals to p.m./15th.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno, Sword	270,265	43,988	79,155 tons
Omaha and Utah	254,940	33,085	71,769 tons
Totals (D + 9)	525,205	77,073	150,924 tons

/Last ...

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Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports.

Last reported 24 hours.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold (To p.m./16th)	3,554	1,363	4,443
Juno (To p.m./15th)	2,768	642	2,965
Sword (To p.m./15th)	2,622	828	2,570
Omaha (To p.m./16th)	12,315	1,570	9,380
Utah (To p.m./15th)	12,043	1,235	5,734
Mulberry B (To p.m./16th)			1,600

(C) Casualties. M.M.S.279 damaged by mine. Y.M.S.377 damaged by mine. GLENROY (L.S.I.(L)) damaged by mine.
(Ad. Ramsay, 172330B to Admty.)

Western Area. Cable. Reference O.N.14 Task 2. Have located cable, now making splice. E.T.A. Longues cables landing 2200 today. Will land shore-end first light tomorrow.
(ALERT, 171518B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Bombardment Forces

MALAYA. Admiralty 151950B. Request early report as to the time which would be required to -
(a) Replace two guns in "A" turret.
(b) Fit 4 new guns in "X" and "Y" turrets.
(2) Confirmation requested that essential refit items can be carried out under these conditions without delaying date of sailing.
(D. of D., 171945B to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Covering Forces

Eastern Sector. Defence policy for night 17th/18th June. V.7 1st C.F. 2 miles south of established position. V.8 29th M.T.B. 2 miles 305° and 55th M.T.B. 205° 3½ miles (?from) established position. U.14 Tunny North. U.6 in B.5 and B.(6) Beachy Head
R.5. Q.1. P. Extended to C (one?) Beachy Head. N.3.
(2) Capt. M/S (X) is to anchor (?GP)MMS and B.Y.M.S. on centre line of channel D by 2100 as mine spotters.
(N.C.E.T.F., 171229B to E.T.F.)

Patrols from Plymouth. P.C.W.O. 120.
(1) (A) Unit G.P.1. M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 679, 720, 717. (B) 2000B/17. (C) (AA) 018° Triagoz Light 6 to arrive 0015, 20 knots to position 15 miles north of (AA). (D) From (AA) to pass between Sept Iles and Triagoz, thence to investigate area between Triagoz and Ile de Base including Morlaix Estuary.

/ (E) ...

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Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrols from Plymouth. (Contd.) (E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
(F) Area to be left in time to be on 49° 10' N. by 0500.
(G) To Dartmouth passing east of 49° 15' N. 3° 30' W.
(2) (A) Unit G.P.2. M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 745, 726, 727. (B) 2015B/17.
(C) (BB) 250 Casquets 12 to arrive 2330. (CC) 216° Cap de la Hague 10 to arrive 0115.
(D) Investigate area south of (CC) between Sark, Jersey, and the French Coast. Unit is not to proceed S.W. of a line 150° from Sark Light.
(E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
(F) Area to be left in time to be 5 miles N.W. of (BB) at first light.
(3) (A) Unit G.P.3. M.T.Bs. 94 (S.O.), 90, 92, 96, 227, 239. (B) 2015B/17. (C) (DD) 232° Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330.
(EE) 220° La Corbiere 7 to arrive 0130.
(D) Between (EE) and (FF) 127° La Corbiere 10.
(E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
(F) Area to be left in time to be in position (GG) 270 Les Hanois 12 by 0500.
(G) Course for Start Point from (GG).
(C. in C. Plymouth, 171328B.)

Force 26. BLYSKAWICA, ESKIMO, PIORUN, JAVELIN sail Plymouth 2030/17th to patrol in Z.219 and eastern half Z.224 until 0600/18th to support 14th E.G. and Unit G.P.1 against surface attack.

(2) Unit G.P.1, 4 M.T.Bs. from Dartmouth operating in Z.221, 0001 to 0500/18th.
(3) Unit G.P.2, 4 M.T.Bs. from Dartmouth operating south of Alderney from 2330/17th to 0500/18th.
(4) Unit G.P.3, 6 M.T.Bs. from Dartmouth operating south of Jersey from 2330/17th to 0500/18th.
(5) M.G.B.318 from Dartmouth operating in vicinity Triagoz from 0130/18th to 0245/18th.
(6) Units G.N.1 to 3 and G.T.1 on defensive patrol in Lyme Bay on edge of convoy route gun zone.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 171501B to E.Gs.14, 3, 12 and 5.)

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67. Tonight 17th/18th OBEDIENT, OPPORTUNE, COTTESMORE, LA COMBATTANTE, SEYMOUR, THORNBOROUGH. Capt. (D) One is requested to detail OPPORTUNE, COTTESMORE, LA COMBATTANTE. (V.A. Dover, 170938.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth One, para.38 cover night 17th/18th (A) ONSLOW (G.F.1), OFFA (G.F.2), ONSLAUGHT (G.F.3) ORIBI (G.F.4) 01° 00' W. between 49° 47' N. and 50° 05' N.
(B) DUFF (G.C.1) in Z.114 and Z.121, RETALICK (G.B.1) in Z.111.
(C) Unit G.C.2, M.T.Bs. 721 (S.O.), 714. Unit G.C.3, M.T.Bs. 252 (S.O.), 255, 256. Unit G.C.4, M.T.Bs. 415 (S.O.), 414, 431.

/Unit ...

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Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.)
Unit G.B.2, M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 690, 692.
Unit G.B.3, M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 453, 454.
Units G.C.2, 3 and 4 with DUFF in Z.114 and Z.121
Units G.B.2 and 3 with RETALICK in Z.111 not south of 49° 42' N. unless in action.
(D) Unit G.A., M.T.B.206 (S.O.), 208, 211 in Z.115.

(F) Force G.C. routed via Needles and position 50° 15' N. 01° 45' W. thence direct to patrol position (Unit G.C.2 direct from Portland). Force G.B. and Unit G.C. via channels F.S and 34 as far as 34C Buoy and thence direct. Force G.F. to be on patrol by 2200B, remainder by 2330B.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 171337B.)

O.N.1, Para. 52(B).

Eastern Night Channel Report 17th/18th.

(1) F.U.3 OBEDIENT, Z.3. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE, Z.7.
F.U.8 COTTESMORE, Z.8 North. F.U.1 LA

COMBATTANTE, Z.11 West. F.U.2 MELBREAK 325° Cap D'Antifer 28½ miles. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR, Z.13 East. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH, Z.12 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.

(2) F.N.1, 2 M.Ls., Z.1. F.N.2, 3 M.T.Bs., F.T.2, 3 M.T.Bs. both Z.2. F.N.5, 3 M.T.Bs., Z.5. F.N.6, 3 M.T.Bs., Z.6. F.M.9, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.9 West. F.Y.2, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.13 East. F.X.2, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.12 East.

(3) Wellington cross-over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 171846B to Ships in Area "C".)

O.N.1, Para. 52(B).

Western Night Channel Report 17th/18th June.

(1) 11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy. G.F.1 ONSLOW, G.F.2 OFFA, G.F.3 ONSLAUGHT, G.F.4 ORIBI on 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 05' N. G.C.1 DUFF, Z.114, G.B.1 RETALICK, Z.111, BLYSKAWICA, ESKIMO, PIORUN, JAVELIN, Z.219, Z.224 East. 3rd E.G., Z.220, Z.201. 5th E.G., Z.237, Z.232 West. 12th E.G. Seven Stones to Lizard. 14th E.G. Z.234 South, Z.235 North.

(2) G.C.2, 2 M.T.Bs., G.C.3, 3 M.T.Bs., G.C.4, 3 M.T.Bs. all Z.114. G.B.2, 3 M.T.Bs., G.B.3, 3 M.T.Bs. both Z.111. G.A.3, M.T.Bs., Z.115. G.N.1, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.212 North. G.N.2, 2 M.B.Ts., Z.205 North-west. G.N.3, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.200 North. 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. Avengers on Coastal Convoy Route.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 171858B.)

Your 171337. Unit G.C.2 sailed.

(F.O.I.C. Portland, 171947 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Support Groups for Channel Patrols.

Admiralty message 101114B. It is intended for the present to operate all available Support Groups in Channel. C. in C. W.A. is requested to transfer all Support Groups to operational control of C. in C. Plymouth except:

/(a) ...

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Saturday.War Diary.HDME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering ForcesSupport
Groups for
Channel
Patrols.
(Contd.)

(a) No.11 Group which should remain under C. in C. Portsmouth.

(b) The Group now employed in North Channel.

(2) It is suggested that Support Groups should be operated on the general lines of Admiralty message 171855 para. 8.

(3) It is anticipated that a total of 9 Groups will be available to C. in C. Plymouth and No.

11 Group and destroyers allocated by A.N.C.X.F. will be available to C. in C. Portsmouth.

(V.C.N.S., 171959B and D.O.D., 172323B.)

Mining.Enemy
Minelaying.Mines have been laid during the night near the following berths E.8, G.33, F.53, K.34.
(N.C.E.T.F. 171031B to E.T.F.)Eastern
Sector
searches.Programme for 18th June. Details.
(N.C.E.T.F. 171730B to M/S Flotillas.)Mines
destroyed.

My 162105B. 3 Laps swept total width now 5 miles from northern edge.

2. Two mines cut in 050° 09' N. 001° 02' W. and sunk. 1 mine dragged possibly from above position in sweep which parted in 050° 08' N. 001° 19' 30" W. Mines G.R. type.

(M/S F. 15 172045B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Use of
Fleet M/S
Flotillas.

My 141204 is to come into force on 19th June amended and amplified as follows. Details.

2. As from noon 19th C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to assume responsibility for searching established channels to northern limit of W.T.F. and E.T.F. areas, except that N.C.E.T.F. is

requested to accept responsibility for ground minesweeping in Channels 56, 58 and 78 to lat. 49° 42' N.

(A.N.C.X.F. 172343B to C. in C. Portsmouth, N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

U-Boats.U-Boats
reported.

Your 151651. Bearing by D/F of enemy at 2130Z on 3920 k/cs 184° 3rd class position 049° 35' N. 006° 40' W.

(E.G..6 170004B to Admty.)

/H/F...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

H/F D/F bearing of U-Boat transmitting a Naval Enigma at 2127Z was 184° 3rd Class on 3920 k/cs. My position at time of intercept was 049° 42' N. 007° 30' W.
(ANTIGUA 170015B to Admty.)

Have obtained a bearing by H/F D/F believed to be enemy S/M transmitting a Naval Enigma signal 3rd Class German 026° over 30 miles within Ground Wave. My position 209° Portland Bill 33 miles.
(FAME 170025Z to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Investigate sighting by TRY 60 at 0909 in 48° 51' N. 05° 20' W.
(C. in C.Plymouth 171123B to E.G.14.)

A/S Patrols.

If TALYBONT does not require assistance rejoin ONSLAUGHT on anti S/M patrol.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 170304B to TANATSIDE.)

9th E.G. and 15th E.G. discontinue Gamma search.
2. 9th E.G. search in N.E. half of Jig Baker.
15th E.G. search in N.E. half of George Fox.
(C. in C.W.A. 171704B to Ships in C.A.)

Your 171530. If nothing found by 2030 search within 25 miles of 48.52 N. 04.02 W. where possible "Snort" sighted at 1303. Course likely to be eastwards or westwards parallel to coast

speed about 2 knots.

2. See Q.Z.X. 1371 and 1375.

3. If nothing found start Gamma Search at 0600/18th, centre position 49.12 N. 03.50 W. direction and length as in my 161702.
(C. in C.Plymouth 171834B to E.G.14.)

O.N.Plymouth 5, Section 2, Sups.

A. Z.207 and southern half Z.206. C. 1200/18th.

D. U-Boat seen at St. Peters Port on 15th unlocated
(C. in C.Plymouth 171928B to E.G.3.)

Channel area Situation.

Only fresh report in Channel Area is of a periscope 25 miles north of Ushant considered to fix an eastbound U-Boat. Up to 3 now estimated within 30 miles of Cape Barfleur and 2 or 3 others may be in area between Scillies and Ushant.
(D.D.I.C. 171450B to A.I.G.331.)

Your 161603 has been carefully considered and our comments are as follows:

1. Your para. 3. Possibility of U-Boats hugging French coast will be catered for in the new disposition.

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Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

2. Your para. 6A. The minelaying already carried out was for this purpose. Further minelaying will not be done because A. it might interfere with Army operational requirements, B. resources are not available for large scale minelaying, C. conditions are unfavourable, D. minelayers are detected by Radar, E. operations of our own surface forces would be restricted to outside 15 miles from coast without any certainty of U-Boats being stopped.
3. Your para. 6B. Attack on minesweepers will be maintained in existing mined areas.
4. Your para. 6C. Mining is feasible at St. Malo and Guernsey only. St. Malo has been and will continue to be mined. Mining of Guernsey Harbour and swept channel is being laid on but conditions and scale of defence present difficulties.
5. Your para. 6D. Suitable beaches will be borne in mind but it is appreciated that for the present the enemy will use St. Peter Port and possibly Cherbourg only.
6. Your para. 6E. Concur in intensification of surface and air patrols.
7. Your para. 6F. and part C., AN.C.X.F. has this matter in hand.
8. Your para. 7. Concur that U-Boats should be allowed no peace anywhere in the Channel. The following plan is designed to ensure this and so far as is practicable to prevent their passage.
- A. Three groups west of the Start on offensive A/S patrols disposed on suspected routes and free to move to meet situations as they arise.
- B. Two groups on defensive A/S patrols Start to Sept Isles.
- C. One group between lines Start/Sept Isles and Portland /La Hague
- D. Two groups at sea in Spout.
9. This plan should present a firm barrier against U-Boats and the whereabouts of any permanent patrol could not be readily discovered by the enemy.
10. Your para. 8. It is not intended to move any Support Groups from the Channel at present.
(A.C.N.S.H. 171855 to C. in C.W.A.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Enemy plane believed shot down Utah area during possible minelaying operations night 16/17th June. Suggest all enemy planes shot down at night this area be carefully examined for evidence of mines and parts if found be shipped to appropriate location for study.
(Com. Force U 172330B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Cositintrep 30, part 3. Air.

2100B hours/16th June to sunrise 17th June.

Enemy operations: 2 main waves of divers were experienced, 61 and 86 being plotted. In each case 35 made Landfall and penetrated to Kent,

Surrey and Sussex and the London area. At least 21 E/A are believed to have operated over the Pas de Calais area and the Dutch Isles. Several E/A were encountered in beach head area and 8 of them were destroyed, 1 probably destroyed and 1 damaged.
(A.E.A.F. 172359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Movements.

NELSON.

VERULAM, VIRAGO, SERAPIS will be required to escort NELSON to Portsmouth p.m. tomorrow. (N.C.E.T.F. 172345 to Capt. D.23.)

Port Facilities.

Code names
"St. Laurent"
and
"Arromanches".

1. It is considered that Mulberry A should be christened in order that destinations of merchant ships routed thereto may be clear to them.
2. If you agree propose name "St. Laurent".
3. Mulberry B will be called "Arromanches".
4. All concerned will be informed on receipt of your reply.
(A.N.C.X.F. 171859B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Casualties.

TALYBONT
damaged.

Am under fire from shore battery.
(G.A.4 (?G.D.4 TALYBONT intended) 170230 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Have been hit by splinter. Number 2 boiler-room out of action. All R.D.F. out of action. Have casualties. Intend returning to harbour.
(TALYBONT 170246B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

"Whale"
Unit 597
sunk.

"Whale" B.2 524 exchanged for 597 at U.S.request (your 160100) on D + 1. Latter sank.
(A.N.C.X.F. 171005B to C.T.F. 128.)

Big Bobs
damaged.

26 Big Bobs driven ashore due to weather and poor holding ground. Canvas of many torn adrift. Until weather moderates recovery cannot commence. Anticipated time required under favourable conditions to recover and relay moorings only is 21 days. Intend to berth as many as are fit alongside.
(F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 171859B and 191102B to Admty.)

GLENROY
mined.

GLENROY mined, routed from Utah to NO assembly area.
(?Origin 171930 to N.C.W.T.F.)

GLENROY mined approx. one mile eastward of Utah anchorage. Engine room flooded. Bulkhead holding. Returning Utah in tow of U.S.tugs.
(GLENROY 172015B to N.C.E.T.F.)

/About...

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

About 1730B GLENROY suffered damage from near mine flooding engine room. KIOWA will tow from Utah area commencing 0600B June 18th via Channel 14. Estimated speed five to six knots. Request Comtasgroup 122.7 furnish escort. Request C. in C.Portsmouth send tug to relieve KIOWA as early as practicable. KIOWA keep C. in C.Portsmouth advised E.T.A. area Z.
(C.T.F. 125 172150B to N.C.W.T.F.)

EMPIRE
GAUNTLET.

My 151415B. EMPIRE GAUNTLET expected date of completion p.m. 18th June.
(C. in C.Plymouth 172308B to A.N.C.X.F.)

M.M.S.279
damaged.

M.M.S.279 near mined. Being towed by L.S.T.50 to Portsmouth. E.T.D. 0700B/18th. Hull damage sustained. Auxiliary engine and pump. Steering gear. Damaged and inoperative. Fuel tanks burst.
(C.T.F. 125 172350B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.L.10.

B. ROCHESTER, PINK, GREY WOLF. C. 1200/17.
D. Wardle 10 G.N. E. For Omaha RAPIDOL, U.S.L.S.T. 357, 316, 180, 423, 47, 527. For Utah L.S.T.6, 508, 504, 48, 492.
(A.N.C.X.F. 170327.)

E.B.C.12.

B. 138th E.G. C. 1600/17. D. Parliament J.G.
E. For Omaha CLEMISTON, SKARV, KENRIX, YEW PARK, SOJOURNER, WAREGG. For Utah THE PRESIDENT, SARNIA, STANVILLE, EMPIRE CREEK.
(A.N.C.X.F. 170330B.)
My 170330B E.B.C.12 delete SOJOURNER.
(A.N.C.X.F. 170625B.)

E.W.L.11.

B. LAVENDER, DANSAY. C. 1030/17. D. Sphinx U.R.
E. For Juno L.S.T.404, 162, 302, 159, 311, 52, 983.
For Gold 522, 338. For Sword 425.
(A.N.C.X.F. 170351B.)

E.T.C.11.

B. DAKINS, SWEETBRIAR. C. 1700/17. D. Frank C.Y.
E. For Sword AVANVILLE, HERBERT WALKER, SPIRALITY, EMPIRE NUTFIELD, KYLE CASTLE, KNOWLTON.
For Gold EMPIRE LAGOON, BEESTON, ACTIVITY, ASSIDUITY, BEECHFIELD, SARD, ROCKLEASE, AVIDITY.
For Juno WINONA, BOSTON TRADER, EMPIRE RIDER, COSTERMAY, POLLY M. ST. ANGUS, PRASE. For Yapton ALNWICK, GEM.
(A.N.C.X.F. 170446B.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- F.K.P.8. B. FORESTER, KITE, QUORN, TYLER. C. Z.V.603, 1230/17. D. (?N.E.)Opolitan. E. MONOWAI, LLANGI-(?B)BY CASTLE, ISLE OF THANET, BIARRITZ. (Capt. N.S. 170630B.)
- E.T.M.11. B. WHITSHED, BORAGE, HOLMES, ALBERRY. C. 2100/17. D. Maniac T.J. E. For Juno LLOYD CREST, L.S.T. 534, 535, 200, 519, 261, 493, 335, 337. For Gold EMPIRE STUART, FORT KASKASKIA, EMPIRE BRUTUS, L.S.T. 408, 409, 281. For Sword OCEAN VOLGA, OCEAN COURIER, COOMBE HILL, FORT HENLEY, L.S.T.503, 385, 512, ASIS, ARDGANTOCK. For Mulberry B RINGWOOD. (A.N.C.X.F. 170737B, 171355.)
- E.C.M.9. B. 107th E.G. C. 2000/17. D. Tester P.C. E. For Omaha STANTON H.KING. LUCIEN B.MAXWELL, JUAN FLACO BROWN, EDWIN L.DRAKE, JOHN D.ROSS. W. TILGHMAN, FRANK STOCKTON, OLIVER WOOLCOTT, ROBERT TOOMBS, JEREMIAH O'BRIEN, STEPHEN B.ELKINS, F.CRITTENDEN, HORACE GRAY, GEORGE CRAWFORD, DAN BEARD, JAMES FARREL, U.S.L.S.T. 573, 238, 291. For Utah WILLIAM TYLER PAGE, HUTCHISON I.CONE, U.S. L.S.T. 501, 59, 371, 290, 28, HENRY M.RICE. (A.N.C.X.F. 170740B amended 171801.)
- F.T.M.10. Sailed: A. F.T.(M)? 10. B. GARTH, CAMELLIA, CODETIA, CHARLOCK for The Nore, FLORES, M.L.236, M.M.S. 45 for Isle of Wight. C. E.T.A. Nab 1700/17th M.Southend 0730/18th. D. Moribund X.U. E. SAMARK, A.FRANK LEVER, COTTON MATHER, SAMZONIA, CHARLES W.ELIOT EMPIRE GENERAL, FORT CHARNISSEY, OCEAN VIGIL, LEE S.OVERMANT, H.V.PATRICIA for Solent, L.S.Ts. for Tilbury 17, 402, 517, 410, 60, 164, 359, 541, 80, 327, 403. L.S.Ts. for Isle of Wight 198, 370, 497, 30, 303, 307, 379, 54, 336, 980, 364, 421 (852?), (F) L.S.T. 198 (3) 194 L.S.T. 370 (1) 4 L.S.T. (30?) (1) 91 (2) 40 L.S.T. 307 (1) 56 (2) 40 (3) 1 L.S.T.379 (3) 2. (Capt. N.S. 170819B.)
Adjust speed so that F.T.M.10 does not pass Dungeness before 0300/18th. E.T.A. Southend amended to 1030/18th. Pass to Cdre. (Capt. N.S. 171032B to GARTH.)
- "Whale" Roadway Tows. My 162215. No "Whale" Roadway tows sailed owing to weather. S.171 did not sail. (S.N.O.Selsey 170923B.)
Ramp. In view of favourable weather forecast Sat./Sun. 17/18th June it is hoped to sail "Whale" Pier Roadways to farshore commencing today Saturday. (A.N.C.X.F. 171035B.)

/F.T.C.10...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- F.T.C.10. A. Sailed. B. FERNIE, KINGCUP for the Nore
TOMPAZIS, GAIRSAY, LORD ASHFIELD, NORTHERN SPRAY,
ALEXANDER SCOTT for Portsmouth.
C. E.T.A. Nab 2145B/17th Southend 1615/18th.
D. Astoria V.C. E. CHARLES H.SALTER, BRITISH PRINCESS, CYRUS
SEARS, SOLLUND, YEWMOUNT, ASEITY, WESTLAND, MARSWORTH, IPSWICH
TRADER, NAVIEDALE, ALGOL, CRESCO, DORRIEN ROSE, STALEY,
GLENDINNING (for London?) ELIDIR, KUL, CLYTIE, (?BENJAMIN)
SHERBURN, L.S.T. 540 towing L.C.T. (for Solent).
(Capt. N.S. 171001B.)
- F.C.M.8. A. Sailed F.C.M.8. B. Escort E.G.108 K.233 (S.O.)
K.117, K.267, K.263, E.G.123 U.50 (S.O.), K.137,
M.L.343, M.L.1064.
C. E.T.A. Southampton 0400B/18th, Portland 0600B/
18th, Tilbury to join Thames convoy Falmouth 2000B/
18th June.
D. Paramount 5G. E. For Southampton JOHN STEELE, JOSIAH NEVSON,
CUSHING, GEORGE WHITEFIELD, WIASON, PEALE, JAMES ACKERSON, L.S.T.
(S) 542, 25, 345, 365, 427, 3015 towing L.C.T. 2282, 494, towing
L.C.T. 2454, 355.
For Falmouth LOUIS KOSSUTH, LUCY STONE. For Solent DOLABELLIA.
For Tilbury 534. For Portland L.S.Ts. 7, 400, 75, 61, 516, 532,
286, 523, 27, 288, 317, 393 towing L.C.T. (?20), 292, and 285.
(C.T.G. 122.7 171750B.)
- E.C.F.10. A. Sailed. B. 112 E.G. C. 1100/18. D. Fatch.
E. For Utah CHESHIRE, PRINCESS MAUD, CANTERBURY.
For Omaha EMPIRE HALBERD, EMPIRE RAPIER, GLENEARN.
Return destinations CHESHIRE Plymouth, remainder
all I.O.W.
(A.N.C.X.F. 172357.)
- E.X.P.10. A. Sailed. B. CHELMER, BLANKNEY. C. E.T.A.
1100/18. D. Thriller. E. For Gold PRINCE BAUDOUIN,
PRINCESS ASTRID, PRINCE DAVID, EMPIRE MACE all
return I.O.W. For Juno PRINCESS MARGARET, return
Weymouth.
(A.N.C.X.F. 172358.)

Administration.

- N.C.E.T.F.(A) Headquarters. N.C.E.T.F.(A) will transfer from SOUTHERN PRINCE
to his H.Q. ashore close de Charlotte Courselles at
0800 tomorrow.
As from noon 17th all signals for N.C.E.T.F.(A)
will be received in shore H.Q. A V/S station has
been established on Water Tower in Courselles adjoining H.Q. Sig-
nal concerning H.Q. should be repeated SOUTHERN PRINCE where salvage
officers will remain accommodated.
(N.C.E.T.F. 170010B to E.T.F.)

/Fleet...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Administration.

Fleet Destroyers in E.T.F. Area. My 171215. Fleet destroyers (less KEMPENFELT) in E.T.F. area are to come under orders of Capt. D. 23.
2. Allocations are to be as follows:
A. by day Sword 6, Gold and Juno 1 each.
B. By night Capt. P.4, Sword 2, Gold and Juno 1 each.
3. Allocation Guard Destroyers in Asdic 141, 157 for 19/20th is cancelled. Capt. D.23 in consultation with S.O.Force S is to allocate guard destroyers to operate at night under Capt. P. for 19/20th onwards.
(N.C.E.T.F. 171236B to S.O.Forces S. G. and J. Capt. P. Capt. D. 23.)

Capt. P. in E.T.F. It transpires that functions of Capt. P. cannot be adequately undertaken with WAVENEY owing to lack of Radar and armament necessary in view of impending withdrawal of SCYLLA.
2. Intend therefore to send WAVENEY with Capt. Pugsley to Portsmouth shortly. Request (?one) coastal force directing (?vessel) be allocated and Capt. Pugsley embarked therein and returned to B.A.A. WAVENEY would not then be required.
3. Intend retaining D.26 in KEMPENFELT pending return of Capt. Pugsley.
(N.C.E.T.F. 171243B to A.N.C.X.F. C. in C.Portsmouth.)

E.T.F.area. Proposed organisation. It is the present intention that N.C.E.T.F. should remain in Command of the E.T.F.area until the military situation ashore is more fully stabilised and until the shore H.Qs. of N.C.E.T.F. (A) are properly organised and efficient.
2. N.C.E.T.F. will then be withdrawn and F.O.B.A.A. will assume Command. This should be possible by the end of next week. Force Commanders will be withdrawn when the situation in each Sector permits of the N.O.I.C. taking charge, as advised by N.C.E.T.F. or F.O.B.A.A. the last to be withdrawn will be N.C. Force S, as this also depends upon the situation on the Eastern Flank.
3. C.S.10 in BELFAST will relieve C.S.2 in MAURITIUS on 18th June. He will be in charge of all battleships, monitors and cruisers of the E.T.F. until such time as their number is reduced when other arrangements will be made.
(A.N.C.X.F. 171321 to N.C.E.T.F.)

To implement your 171321, following are my proposals
Flag officers' appointments:-
A. Tuesday, 20th June, Com. Force J withdraw to U.K. in HILARY.
B. About 21st June, R.A.(Admin.) H.F. hoists his flag as F.O.B.A.A. to assume command of organisation build-up and defence under the direction

/of...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Administration.

of N.C.E.T.F. F.O. Force S to be appointed F.O. Inshore Squadron East, to be responsible to A.N.C) X.F. direct, duties command of Bombarding ships, Fleet destroyers and Support Landing Craft. To operate these forces in support of 2nd Army, C.S. 2 to be surrendered (?W.B.) organisation shore.

C. 22nd June, approx. Com. Force G withdraw to U.K. in BULOLO.
D. When conditions in your para. 1 are met, N.C.E.T.F. withdraw to U.K. in SCYLLA.

2. Captains' appointments. A. To take effect about 21st June, to be released for further appointment, Captain Gotte to (?assume) duty as Captain North and Southbound Sailings, Act. Captain Fanshawe.
B. On relief by Capt. Pugsley (my 171243 refers) Capt. D.26 in KEMPENFELT to return to U.K.
C. On withdrawal of N.C.E.T.F. Capt. M/S (X) to operate under the orders of F.O.B.A.A.

3. Proposals for further appointments of officers below the rank of Captain will be forwarded to you by N.C.E.T.F.(A).
(N.C.E.T.F. 172245B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Supplies to Arrangements have now been made for supplying fuel and water to smoke trawlers on far shore.
Smoke In future not more than 5 will normally require
Trawlers. servicing at a time in U.K. The same routine will be carried out for these 5 as previously arranged for the larger number.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B 171546B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Release of It is desired that the priority of release of Fleet
Fleet destroyers from "Overlord" should be as follows:-
Destroyers. A. 4 Ss. or Vs. B. U Class. C. KEMPENFELT.
D. 4 Ss. or Vs. E. Remaining Ss. or Vs. F. O Class. G. Remainder.
(V.C.N.S. 172115B to A.N.C.X.F.)

M/S Flotillas It is requested that boiler cleaning of up to 2
Boiler ships and 1 Danlayer per Flotilla at one time may
cleaning. be undertaken at the following ports for the mine-sweeping Flotillas indicated.
A. 1st and 6th and 7th at Harwich, Danlayers at Chatham.
B. 14th, 16th, 40th and 31st at Plymouth.
C. 18th simultaneous boiler cleaning of 6 ships and 4 Danlayers in the Humber area.

S.Os. of Flotillas have been instructed to detach ships accordingly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 172337B to C. in C.Nore, C. in C.Plymouth.)

/It...

17.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Administration.

It is intended that 2 Fleet minesweepers and 1 Danlayer from each Flotilla should normally be absent for boiler cleaning. S.Os. should detach accordingly to the following ports.

- A. 1st, 6th and 7th to Harwich, Danlayers to Chatham.
- B. 14th, 16th, 40th, 31st to Plymouth.
- C.inC. Portsmouth is requested to arrange for the boiler cleaning of the 4th, 9th and 15th Flotillas.
(A.N.C.X.F. 172347B.)

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17.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

C. in C. Scapa arrival C. in C.H.F. in DUKE OF YORK with
H.F. FURIOUS and ARCHANGEL escorted by MILNE and
MUSKETEER.
(A.C.O.S. 171044 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

HOWE, It is intended that HOWE and FORMIDABLE should
FORMIDABLE. leave U.K. for the Eastern Fleet in company on
11th July sailing from the Clyde.
2. Through escort will be provided by WAKEFUL,
WAGER, WHELP and WESSEX.
(V.C.N.S. 171309B to C. in C.H.F.)

Transfer of My 101026B June.
Warships to A. ST. ALBANS will not be ready for demonstrat-
Soviet Navy. ion before 22nd June.
B. BRIGHTON will not be ready until 22nd June.
C. RICHMOND retains her date.
D. CHELSEA retains her date.

All these ships have to do demonstration runs with their Foxer gear and BRIGHTON and CHELSEA have to do demonstration of four-fifth power steaming. The reason for alteration of dates is entirely due to defects discovered on docking and opening out. It is proposed that the final turn over and hoisting Russian flag in A, B, C and D. should take place at 0930 on 26th June and that the ships should sail for Scapa as soon afterwards as the Russian authorities wish. This arrangement is made providing for satisfactory demonstration runs and no last minute breakdowns. Confirmation of this will be sent. The Russian Staff Officers are demanding opening up and examination of all main and auxiliary bearings in the TOWN class destroyers no matter whether the demonstration run is satisfactory or not. This is entailing a lot of work, a certain amount of which is being done by themselves but on opening up all these bearings show the result of being 27 years old and the attitude of the Russians is that they must be put back into first class condition. I am maintaining that running condition is all that is required. Request Admiralty confirmation of my decision which is disputed by Russian officers.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 171427B and 181045B to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Enemy Intelligence

E/Boats Analysis of 16 Group reports of last night indicated
off West 4 E/Boats from Ostend steering N.W. were attacked
Hinder. by Beaufighters about 2345 near West Hinder and
again at 0015 possibly in same area when E/Boats
were steering S.E. Enemy reports were not
received until some time later. My 170035 gave
A.S.V. contact by patrol Z at 0015. This was probably these
E/Boats but contact was lost shortly afterwards without a
sighting being obtained.

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17.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSEnemy IntelligenceE/Boats
off West
Minder.
(Contd.)

2. It is possible, therefore, that E/Boats intended an offensive operation in Harwich or North Foreland Area and were turned back by the Beaufighters or possibly by deteriorating weather.
(C. in C. Nore, 171217B to MIDGE, MANTIS, BEEHIVE, FERVENT)

U/BoatsU/Boats
reported.

Master of Swedish ship SAGOLAND reports that 3 German ocean U/Boats left Christiansand west-bound June 13th (day before he arrived). Source of information not disclosed.
(N.O.I.C. Faroes, 171326B to D.N.I.)

Following from N.O.I.C. Faroes begins:-

Two independent reports received from Faeroes Fishing Vessels as follows:

1. Light flashing at 15 seconds intervals for 15 minutes.
2. Object thought to be a periscope. Position of reported sightings 70 miles S.S.E. of NOLSO on normal Aberdeen to Faeroes route at approximately 0300 today. 162142B ends.

(A.C.O.S. 171634B to Admty.)

U/Boat
sunk
by A/C.

My 1650. Have attacked U/Boat with depth charges
Estimate 4 hits. 40 survivors and wreck seen.
(A/C WERD, 171715B to 18 Group.)

Casualties

L.C.T.736.

L.C.T.736 not commissioned as damage sustained during collision while carrying out trials.
(F.O.I.C. London, 171151B to Admty.)

Shipping and Convoys.Pyrotechnic
signal.

In order to warn other ships and assist naval forces in the vicinity, the use of the pyrotechnic signal described in B.R.637, Article 8, Line 4 is to be extended to merchant ships proceeding independently.

2. Masters of independent ships are to be warned to turn away immediately on sighting this signal.

3. N.C.S.Os. are to be informed.

(D.T.D. 171220B "A" Message)

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17.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticJune
interception
programme.

Your 161417B June para. one.
A. Spanish MONTE ABRIL passed through Straits
June 13th Request M.E.W. Select another vessel in
lieu.
F.O.G.M.A. 170931B to Admty.)

Blimp
patrol

A.581 June 17th. My A.562* June 6th. Blimps
now burn navigation lights while on patrol.
(A.H.Q. Gibraltar, 171031B.)
* Not yet identified in War Registry. Further
action being taken.

UNDINE,
URCHIN,
UNDAUNTED,
VIGILANT.

Destination of UNDINE, URCHIN, UNDAUNTED and
VIGILANT on return to U.K. is Plymouth.
2. Repairs to UNDAUNTED will be carried out in
U.K. VICTORIOUS 162102* refers.
(V.C.N.S. 171243 to F.O.G.M.A.)

JALEA,
ONICE.
(Italian
S/Ms.)

Ocean route from Gibraltar via:

A. 37° 00' N. 15° 00' W.
B. 38° 00' N. 24° 00' W.
thence Horta for fuel.

From Horta via:

C. 38° 30' N. 34° 00' W.
D. 38° 00' N. 45° 00' W.

E. 36° 30' N. 55° 00' W. to Bermuda.
(D.O.D.(F) 171544B.)

SS. ST.
CERGUE.

My 071932 and 131938. ST. CERGUE now sailing
0800 21st June.
(D.E.W.D. 171612B to F.O.G.M.A.)

GRATA,
CHERCA.

Your 151652 Italian vessel GRATA and CHERCA sailing
0600 G.M.T./18 estimated S.of A. 5. Admty. please
pass to C.M.S.F.
(R.O. Las Palmas 171330 to F.O.G.M.A.)

South AtlanticU/B
search.

INKPEN reports sighting S/M at 2019Z/16 in 06°
23' N. 11° 25' W. and later visual and radar
contact 2200Z in 06° 04' N. 11° 22' W. MALCOLM
VERITY and aircraft searching.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 171144.)

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War Diary17.6.1944
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

G.U.S. convoys. A.M. 151910/ It has been estimated that it will not be necessary to include $8\frac{1}{2}$ knots ships between Bizerta and Algiers, if however, occasion arises.
(A) Ships will be shuttled along North Africa coast as necessary or (B) Convoy speed will be reduced.
(2) G.U.S. timetable was amended under T.O.O.151422.
(C. in C. Med. 171202B to Admty.)
/ Re G.U.S. timetable.

VICTORIOUS, Request you will sail VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE escorted by Capt. (D) 24 in TROUBRIDGE, TYRIAN, INDOMITABLE. TEAZER and TERMAGANT at 1630B/19th for Port Said. 2-4 Route etc.
(C. in C. Med. 171256 to N.O.I.C. Algiers.)

GOVERNEUR Should be sailed to arrive Cadiz as convenient GENERAL on 20th June to embark 700 to 800 stateless LEPINE. refugees for destination Casablanca. My 161139/ refers.
(2) MAROCAIN, GRACIEUSE should be sailed from Casablanca to arrive Gibraltar a.m. 19th to act as escort.
(5) G. G. LEPINE should afterwards be sailed from Casablanca to arrive Gibraltar 26th June to act as reception ship for French refugees.
(C. in C. Med. 171350)
/ Not identified in W.R.

Attitude of Turkish Govt. In view of altered attitude on part of Turkish Govt. propose that course for 2 Turkish Officers referred to in my 181030 May/ and subsequent messages should now take place.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 171745C to F.O.L.E.M.)
/ N.T. in W.D.)

SS. FENJA. Hope to get more accurate information as to position in which FENJA was sunk from Swedish Legation when Minister has had direct contact with Master of ship.
(2) Rough position was 3 miles off Karapsili Point Kalymnos presume bearing about 070 degs. from this Point. A.M. 152017, refers. F.O.L.E.M. please pass to Admiralty, C. in C. Med. Fleet.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 171705C to F.O.L.E.M.)
Probably enemy minefields. There are no British North of Kos and East of Leros. May B.N.A. Ankara reply concerning position. Your 152013.
(F.O.L.E.M. 171951 to Admty.)

SS. ORION. ORION arrived Khios last night. Cargo Olive oil possibly ship in 151624/.
(Capt.(S) 1, 171851 to UNSWERVING)
/ Not identified in W.R.

17.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Cont.

CASABIANCA, CASABIANCA reports at 0205/9 one mile south of
Patrol Cape Taillat engaged 800 ton UJ-Boat with four
report. inch gun. 49 rounds fired hits obtained.
Three torpedoes fired one hit vessel believed sunk.
(S.10,171947.)

UNSWERVING, Your 161635 (N.T. in W.D.) In Potamo destroyed
operations 2 'Q' Caiques and one UJ-Boat. One UJ-Boat re-
in Aegean. maining. 2 torpedoes fired.
Weather report 9080 2051.
(UNSWERVING, 172121B to Capt. (S) 1)

Enemy CAROLA, ANITA and 3 destroyers present Port Laki
shipping. 2035 tonight CAROLA unloading no sign of ANITA
unloading CELSIUS and KALYDON present Partheni Bay.
Both with steam up.
(Capt.(S) 1, 172152 to VIVID, VAMPIRE)

4 Launches and 2 large Caiques present Kalamata a.m. to-day.
(Capt.(S) 1, 172155 to MATROZOS)

4 large Caiques in Monemvasia considerable recent activity
Spetsai-Hydrant 2 launches and 4 large Caiques present Milos.
(Capt. (S) 1, 172202, to UNSPARING)

Situation Operation "Brassard" an amphibious operation with
Report the object of capturing Island of Elba was
No. 379. launched a.m. 17th June. The main landings in
Golfo di Campo encountered considerable opposi-
tion from shore batteries and L.C.I.(L) had to be
diverted Eastwards disembarkation was proceeding
satisfactorily. 1 L.C.F. was sunk by mine during approach.
Marino di Campo was captured by 1430/17th after stiff fight.
Naval supporting fire provided by H.M.S. COCKCHAFER, H.M.S.
SCARAB and 5 L.C.(G)s. The operation was covered by destroyers
and coastal forces.

(2) A subsidiary operation to secure Pianosa was also made and
the Island captured without opposition.

(3) Night 16th/17th June French L.C.'s LE FANTASQUE and
LE TERRIBLE carried out sweep to Gulf of Quarnero and encountered
2 motor vessels and 4 small craft. LE TERRIBLE reports one
motor vessel blew up and the other together with all small craft
were sunk.

(4) 4680 tons discharged at Civitavecchia on 16th June.
(C. in C. Med. 172230B)

Operation Cosintintrep 343.
"Brassard" A task force from the 9th Colonial Inf. Div.
landing on (French) reinforced by the Battalion de Choc and
Elba. French Commandos landed on the Island of Elba
(see also at 0400/17. The battery on Point di Campo on
C.in C. Med. the south coast was captured by Bn de Choc after
172230B). hard fighting and the assault on the main beach
in the vicinity of Marino di Campo to the north
by the first two waves was successfully made in
L.C.A. although rather heavy casualties were

suffered /...

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17.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Operation
"Brassard"
landing on
Elbe.
(see also
C. in C. Med.
172230B)

suffered. Heavy artillery and mortar fire on Campobeach prevented L.C.I. from beaching and as a result they proceeded to Nercio beach across Golfo di Campo where after transfer to L.C.A. landings were successfully made. By 0730 hrs. four Bns of Inf. had landed and made contact with the Bn de Choc on the left and the Commandos who landed on the right. Outflanking of main beach from the east is now in progress. The advance on the main axis to the northwest toward Portoferraio is being hampered by (?enemy) battery from M. Enfola on the north coast. Fighter bombers were to attack this target.

A small force occupied Pianosa which had been evacuated during the night.

(A.F.H.Q. Algiers, No.T.O.O.17 (Recd. 2255))

Periodical
Balkan
review No.9.

(1) (B) Allied party with 475 mm. guns landed Solta night 9/10 June, shelled Grohote, and withdrew without loss before first light. Heavy damage German-occupied area. First employment these tactics to combat recent enemy policy concentrating island garrisons in strong points. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers No. T.O.O./16 Recd. 0600/17) #

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17.6.1944.
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions No.61. No fresh information no change in scale
of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F.,170331Z).

TEMPLAR 7th. Far East War Patrol.
(2) Twelve mines laid successfully.
(3) 28th May 0540 FG when off Ding Ding South of
Penang attacked two escorted motor vessels three
torpedoes fired one hit on 2700 ton ship resembling TYOKAI MARU
which was seen to sink. Counter attack of 16 depth charges caused
no damage.
(4) 30th May 0300 FG encountered stationary Radar and Asdic
fitted A/S vessel which detected TEMPLAR and attacked her with
26 depth charges no damage caused.
(C. in C.E.F.,170518Z).

U-Boat
report SSSS Position (05) 43 South longitude 73 R 45 East
latitude 5 R 43 south S/M. sighted fired on same.
(KWKV, J FRANK COOPER, T.O.R.170826Z).
Informing addressees.
(2) F.O.E.A. pass to A.H.Q.E.A.
(C. in C.E.F.,170845Z to S. and A.E.I.Station, Admty
222 Group Air H.Q.E.A.,C. in C.S.A.).

Defence of
Naval Air
Stations. Ref. A.M. 081030/ May para.3. Request it may be
confirmed that Admiralty still intend R.M. Infantry
detachments to be employed on defence of advanced
Naval Air Stations.
(2) In view of greatly reduced risk of enemy
invasion the employment of detachments at present
allocated for ground defence of Naval air Stations in Ceylon is
under consideration.
(3) It is recommended that if these detachments will not be
required for duties in para.1. they should now be drafted to the
Eastern Fleet Royal Marine Pool.
(C. in C.E.F.,170943Z).
/ Re Army protection for naval airfields.

Comnas
E.A. My Broad Pendant will be struck at sunset/17th,
correspondence etc., be sent to N.O.I.C. E.A.
from that date.
(Comnas E.A.,171501Z).

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17.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

SS. NIEUW
AMSTERDAM. Route to Halifax.
(C. in C.C.N.A., 171438Z.)

U/B
dispositions Estimate.
(Cominch, 171550Z.)

SOCOTRA Will sail SOCOTRA. Independent 28th June New York to Gibraltar with alternate routing Freetown. Urdis 16 1703B not to all refers. Doubtful connection with U.G.S.46 if sailed in U.G.F.12. (Com. 10th Fleet C. and R. 171608Z to Admty.)

U/B
incidents Para. C. PC.465 attacked sound contact 10.15 N. 79.20 W. 0620Z/17.
(Cominch, 172045Z)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 879 June 16th.
6. Reference para. 8 yesterdays Digest further ?reports state enemy force seen heading East from San Bernardino Strait included 3 Battleships, 9 aircraft carriers, 10 cruisers, 11 destroyers plus smaller warships.
7. During night 15th - 16th United States Submarine reported another enemy Task Force 250 miles east of Northern Tip Mindanao Island heading Northeast.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 170950Z.)

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and
Sighting Para. A. 1. A/C H/333 attacked U/Boat on surface with depth charges, course 360° at 1710Z/16 in 61° 01' N. 03° 00' E.
Para. B. 1. INKPEN reported contact with U/Boat at 2200Z/16 in 06° 04' N. 11° 22' W.
Para. C. 1. A/C L/849 sighted vessel making depth-charge attack at 1115Z/16 in 50° 20' N. 03° 20' W.
(D.D.I.C. 170953Z.)

/U/B...

17.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 171430B, 171437B.)

18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1.(a). By reaching the west coast of the Cotentin Peninsula today near Barneville sur Mer the Allied troops have cut off Cherbourg from the rest of Normandy: and, in the centre, a steady advance east of the River Vire has brought our troops within six miles of St. Lo. A total of more than 15,000 prisoners have been taken.

(b). Air attacks and extensive A/C mining were reported today in the eastern assault area, as well as bombing and possibly mining by A/C in the western area. On Beach S unloading was affected by increased shelling from the flank.

(c). F.O.B.A.A. (F.O.British Assault Area) established his H.Q. ashore at Courseulles today.

(d). At 1406B today A.N.C.X.F. reported that the problem of dealing with any attempts to escape by sea from Cherbourg and the Cotentin is in hand.

(e). At 1800 today a total of 12,173 prisoners of war had been landed in the U.K.

(f). Totals landed to p.m. today are as follows:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
At Gold, Juno and Sword	314,547	54,282	102,679 tons
At Omaha & Utah	307,439	41,468	114,945 tons
Totals (D+12)	621,986	95,750	217,624 tons

Enemy Action.

2. E-Boats. (a). No E-Boat activity has been reported today.

U-Boats. (b). Several U-Boats were sighted and attacked by aircraft between 1915 and 1930 today to the N. and N.W. of Guernsey; and at 1620 a U-Boat was sunk by the destroyer FAME of E.G.14 16 miles W. by S. of the Roches D'Ouvres.

(c). At 1431B the Admiralty considered that there may possibly be three U-Boats in the Channel between 00° 30' W. and 02° W. probably two more off Guernsey, possibly about five more in the Channel Approaches between 05° W. and 10° W. and possibly one N. of Trevoise Head.

(d). At 2318B the destroyer GATINEAU reported that she was attacking an A/3 contact 40 miles E.S.E. of St. Catherines Point.

Mines. (e). NELSON was superficially damaged by a mine at 1935B today at the southern end of the eastern Approach Channel, and is proceeding to Spithead.

A/C. (f). Between 2314 and 2335 today ONSLOW and OFFA were attacked 20 miles N.E. by N. of Cap Barfleur by torpedo A/C which slightly damaged ONSLOW.

/Enemy...

18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy convoy
attacked.

3. At about 0200 today the four M.T.Bs. of Patrol Unit G.P.2 from Plymouth engaged an enemy convoy of 2 minesweepers and 3 or 4 trawlers about 3 miles off Cap Flamanville on the west coast of the Cotentin and inflicted some damage on the enemy. There was one severe casualty in M.T.B. 727.

Attack on U/Boat.

By U.S. aircraft, 4936 N, 02.35 W. [See July 2, p. 38]

General.

Pilotless A/C.

4. Damage was caused last night to three Admiralty establishments in London by Pilotless A/C of which about 41 were reported over the S.E. of England and London during the night; and at 1507B V.A. Dover ordered that these A/C are not to be reported by W/T, are never to be engaged with H.A. weapons at night, and are only to be engaged with H.A. by day when it is certain that no friendly A/C is in their vicinity.

Air raid
on Bruns-
büttel and
Hamburg.

5. The U.S.A.A.F. attacked Brunsbüttel today and caused damage to the port. Hamburg was also attacked and damage was caused in the Howaldt Warke Shipyard and the Kohlenschiff Basin.

Mediterranean.

Elba (Opera-
tion "Brassard")

6. (a). A.F.H.Q. Algiers reported this afternoon that the beaches are now clear and vehicles and stores are being landed.

(b). C. in C.Med. reports that by a.m. today all L.S.C. and craft of the Elba assault convoy were unloaded, with the exception of three L.C.T. one L.C.I.(L) and one L.C.G. damaged. A follow up convoy arrived today.

/Coastal...

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Coastal
Force Op-
eration.

7. A Coastal Force operated last night in Piombino Channel and had an engagement with a destroyer, corvette and F-Lighter. The latter was probably torpedoed, and the corvette's guns were silenced and the vessel left on fire aft. One M.T.B. was damaged and had some casualties.

QUAIL lost.

8. The destroyer QUAIL which was mined off Bari on 15th November last capsized and sank at 0410 today in 40.05 N. 17.52 E. whilst on tow from Bari to Taranto. One rating was lost from the steaming party.

Civitavecchia. 9. Salvage operations are proceeding satisfactorily

Australia & New Zealand.

10. M.T.Bs. last night shelled enemy shore positions on the east and northeast coasts of New Ireland. Another force of M.T.Bs. shelled Selapiu and Enang Islands (west of Kavieng).

11. Three U.S. destroyers bombarded 32 enemy gun positions in the Wewak area of New Guinea last night. The only reported retaliation was slight return fire off Dagua.

18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval. Cositintrep No.31, Part 2, Naval.
(A) General. The problem of dealing with any attempts at escape by sea from Cherbourg and the Cotentin Peninsula is in hand. Minelaying by enemy aircraft on increased scale reported in Sword Area.
(B) Casualties - Nil.
(C) Coastal Command. One U-Boat was attacked 40 miles north of Ushant at 0405. A moving oil streak was sighted near same position at 1000.
(Ad. Ramsay, 181406B to Admty.)

A.N.C.X.F. Intelligence Report No.3.
Cherbourg. Appreciation of enemy capabilities. It is appreciated that the enemy will withdraw to the Port and will defend it resolutely with a wide landward perimeter on the high ground around it. Supplies are apparently short particularly torpedoes, mines and oil. Reinforcement can now be received only by the hazardous sea passage from Channel Islands and St. Malo. Batteries and their crews will be withdrawn where possible from East Cotentin and may be used in a mobile role against our Army. Heavy coastal batteries on the north coast of the Peninsula are unlikely to be able to intervene in the land battle, but there are many dual-purpose 88 M/M A.A. guns on the surrounding hills. The Port will be thoroughly destroyed and the harbour fouled and mined, docks and lock gates, rails and rolling stock demolished. E-Boat activity is unlikely to continue from Cherbourg for long, the few boats being transferred to Guernsey or St. Malo, together with L.C.T.111 which have been used for mining. Enemy radar in the east of the Bay of the Seine will be inoperative.
(A.N.C.X.F., 181726B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Navsitrep 17.

- (1) Enemy convoy of trawlers and M class M/S attacked 0200/18 off Flamanville by M.T.Bs., some damaged inflicted on enemy.
(2) 14th E.G. sank U-Boat in 49° 03' N. 3° 13' W. at 1756, 1 survivor.
(3) Aircraft sighted and attacked a U-Boat at 0350/18 in 49° 12' N. 05° 23' W. and H/F D/F bearings gave fix of another in 49° 30' N. 6° 30' W. at 0048. Support groups are searching for these U-Boats.
(4) Aircraft sighted U-Boat on surface N. of Casquets at 1900/18. 3rd E.G. closed to hunt, but were forced away by accurate fire from shore batteries.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 182104B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep No.32, Part 2, Naval.

(A) General.

→ FAME and 14th Escort Group sank a U-Boat at 1756/18th N.E. of Sept Iles, one survivor was recovered.
M.T.Bs. attacked enemy convoy thought to consist of trawlers and minesweepers at 0200 three miles off Cape Flamanville. Damage was inflicted on the enemy and minor damage sustained by two M.T.Bs.

U.767
sank

/NELSON ...

18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

NELSON sustained superficial damage by mine about 1930/18th off Assault Area.

Air attacks with extensive mining are reported in Eastern Area, with increased shelling from flank on ships unloading off Sword beach. Seaway also slowed up unloading on 17th. Enemy aircraft also reported over Western Area dropping bombs and possibly mines.
 (B) Troops etc. landed.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Cumulative to p.m./16th			
Omaha and Utah	272,413	35,335	79,538 tons
Last reported 24 hours			
Gold (to p.m./17th)	9,067	1,315	2,709 tons
Sword (to p.m./16th)	920	222	2,138 tons
Omaha (to p.m./17th)	11,538	2,228	8,535 tons
Utah (to p.m./16th)	5,158	680	5,931 tons

Report for Juno for 16th not yet received.

(C) Coastal Command. U-Boats were sighted and attacked by patrols ten miles N. of Guernsey at 1915 and twenty miles N.W. of Guernsey at 1930. Results were not observed.

(D) Intelligence. R/C of Boulogne shows that in the raid of the 15th June, the E-Boat pens were hit, but possibly not penetrated because E-Boat activity from the port shows no diminution. All other types of minor war vessels have suffered very heavy losses. In particular, of nine T.L.C.III formerly present, only one remains visible. The port area and harbour installations were very severely damaged.

(Ad. Ramsay, 182350 to Admty.)

Military. Prisoners of War landed in U.K. up to 1800 hours 17th June total 11,545.

Reconnaissance reports of demolitions in Cherbourg Harbour show enemy planned in advance this eventuality. No evidence to suggest that enemy will not continue to fight in defence this port, even though now entirely cut off land communications. Attempts to supply garrison and evacuate material by coastal shipping expected.

(S.H.A.E.F., 181830B to Agwar.)

Communique No.26.

Allied troops have cut off the Cherbourg Peninsula from the rest of Normandy reaching West Coast near Barneville-sur-Mer. In the centre a steady advance East of the Vire has brought us within 6 miles of St.Lo. The strong point at Douvres which had been holding out was captured yesterday with over 150 prisoners. We lost 1 man killed in the final assault.

More than 15,000 prisoners have been counted so far. Last night 10 enemy aircraft were destroyed by our fighters protecting the beaches.

(S.H.A.E.F., 182330B to Agwar.)

Air. Cositintrep 32, Part 3, Air.
 2100B hours to sunrise 18th June. Total sorties 1755. Summary of targets. Details of operations.

/Enemy ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Air.
(Contd.)

Enemy Operations. 145 Divers plotted against South-east England of which 55 penetrated to London, the remainder over Kent, Surrey and Sussex and one over Portsmouth. One enemy aircraft reconnoitred Tilbury and the Thames Estuary.
(A.E.A.F., 182459B (sic) to S.H.A.E.F.)

Covering Operations

Patrols
from
Portsmouth.

My 1947 returned (Unit G.C.2)
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 180645 to C. in C.Portsmouth)

O.N. Portsmouth one, para. 38. Cover night
18th/19th.

(A) ONSLOW (G.B.1), OFFA (G.B.2), ONSLAUGHT (G.B.3), ORIBI (G.B.4), 01.00 W. between 49.47 N. and 50.05 N.

(B) STAYNER (G.F.1) in Z.128. RETALICK (G.H.1) in Z.111.
(C) Unit G.F.2, M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 701, 696. Unit G.F.3, M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 452, 478. Unit G.F.4, M.T.Bs. 250 (S.O.), 249, 254. Unit G.F.5, 4 H.D.M.Ls. Unit G.F.6, M.T.B.255.
Force G.F. in Z.121, 122, 128. Unit G.H.2, M.T.Bs. 725 (S.O.), 742, 749. Unit G.H.3, M.T.Bs. 430 (S.O.), 434, 416. Force G.H. in Z.111.

(D) Unit G.D., M.T.Bs. 253 (S.O.), 246, 247 in Z.122.

(F) Force G.F. and Unit G.D. via Needles and 50.10 N. 01.55 W.
Force G.H. via Channels FS and 34C Buoy. Time on patrol,
Force G.B.2200, remainder 2330.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 181327B.)

Daylight patrols tomorrow, 928 on meridian of
001° W. between 049° 43' N. and 050° 05' N.
Reliefs as in my 181835B.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 182250B to Capt. (D) 17,
OFFA, ORIBI, ONSLAUGHT, TANATSIDE, MELBREAK,
WENSLEYDALE, BRISSENDEN, BEAGLE.)

Eastern
Sector.

Defence policy for night 18th/19th.

V.7 29th M.T.B. 2 miles 180° from established
position. V.8 55th M.T.B. U.14 Tunny North
U.6 in B.5 and B.6 berth R.5 Q.1. P. extended
to C.one berth N.3.

(2) Available M.M.S. and B.Y.M.S. mine spot in
Channel D.

(N.C.E.T.F., 181115B to E.T.F.)

Patrols
from
Dover.

O.N. Dover 67.

F.N.1, M.L.573, 125, Z.1. F.T.2, M.T.B.433, 437,
432, 225° Z.2, 1 mile. F.N.2, M.T.B.361, 358, 25
045° Z.2, 1 mile. F.U.3, OPPORTUNE, Z.3.

F.N.5, M.T.B.611, 602, 680, Z.5. F.N.6, M.T.B.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover. (Contd.) 204, 231, 240, Z.6. F.U.7, COTTESMORE, Z.7. F.U.8, ORWELL, Z.8 North. F.N.9, M.T.B.703, 697, Z.9 West. F.U.1, LA COMBATTANTE, Z.11 West. F.U.2, MELBREAK, 325° Cap d'Antifer 28½ miles. F.X.1, THORNBOROUGH, Z.13 East. F.X.2, M.T.B. 698, 705, Z.13 East. F.Y.1, SEYMOUR, Z.12 East. F.Y.2, M.T.B.710, 700, Z.12 East. F.U.4, BRISSENDEN from 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. to 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W. (2) OPPORTUNE has freedom of action in Z.4 Square. (V.A. Dover, 181252B.)

My 181252B. On completion LA COMBATTANTE to Portsmouth until p.m./20th, MELBREAK and BRISSENDEN as ordered by C. in C. Portsmouth. OPPORTUNE and ORWELL to carry out A/S sweep of convoy route from meridian of Greenwich to approximate 2 miles south-west of C.One A Buoy, closing Newhaven at 0930 for mail. Remainder in accordance with O.N. Dover 69. Intentions to be reported by 2000.

(V.A. Dover, 181303B to OPPORTUNE, MELBREAK, THORNBOROUGH, COTTESMORE, SEYMOUR, BRISSENDEN, ORWELL, LA COMBATTANTE.)
 My 181252B - Add:

- (1) 29th M.T.B.F. in vicinity 049° 28' N. 000° 13' W.
 - (2) 55th M.T.B.F. in vicinity 049° 24' N. 000° 06' W.
 - (3) Duty Destroyer division patrolling South of 049° 40' N. East of longitude 000° 24' W.
 - (4) Guard Destroyer division South of 049° 40' N. between longitude 000° 24' W. and 000° 40' W.
- (V.A. Dover, 181908B.)

Patrols from Plymouth. All groups hitherto taking part in operation C.A. have now been placed under my operational control and will comply with O.N. Plymouth 5, Section 2. Request orders for aircraft co-operating in C.A. may be cancelled forthwith. (C. in C. Plymouth, 181301B to 19 Group.)

Night patrols 18th/19th June, P.C.W.O.120.

(A) (1) G.N.1, M.T.Bs.726, 743. (2) G.N.2, M.T.Bs.745, 736. (3) G.N.3, M.T.Bs.727, 735. (4) G.T.1, M.Ls. 186, 183, 159.

(B) 2300/18.. (D) (1) In vicinity 114 Start 15'. (2) In vicinity 233 Portland Bill 23'. (3) In vicinity 183 Portland Bill 11'. (4) In vicinity 198 Start 13'. (F) 0515/19. (C. in C. Plymouth, 181348B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Information: Own. 4th E.G. vicinity line 49° 25' N. 4° 05' W. to Triagoz. 3rd E.G. Z.206 and 207. 2nd E.G. Z.229 and 232. 15th E.G. vicinity Z.243. 6th E.G. Z.232 and 237.

Coastal forces as in my 181517B.

Enemy. Surface forces as in my 171336B. Periscope sighted 48° 50' N. 4° 30' W. at 0857 today. Estimate 1 U-Boat may be in St. Peter port and 1 in Roches Douvres vicinity.

/Intention ...

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Intention. (2) Force 26 BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), ESKIMO, HURON, JAVELIN to operate west of Guernsey.

Object. (3) To intercept and destroy enemy ships and to support our surface forces.

Execution. (4) Force 26 to pass Gate at 2100B today to reach centre of patrol line between (LL) 49° 45' N. 4° 00' W. and (MM) 49° 23' N. 3° 15' W. by 2330.

(5) Then to patrol within 7 miles either side of line joining (LL) and (MM) until 0600B/19 at which time if no further information Force 26 is to leave patrol and return to Plymouth.

(6) Force 26 is to proceed to support Escort Groups against surface attack if necessary.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 181500B to D.F.10.)

P.C.W.O.120.

(a) Unit G.O.1, M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 679, 676, 678.

(b) 2030B/18. (c) (AA) 250 Casquets 12 to arrive 2330 thence to pass over the Schole Bank

to pos. (BB) 092° Sark Light 10 to arrive 0130.

(d) Investigate area south of 49° 30' N. between Sark and the French Coast. Unit is not to pass south of a line 160° from Sark Light unless in contact with the enemy.

(e) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(f) 0315B/19 from (BB). (g) By reverse route. Speed 15 knots for one hour then 20 knots.

(2) (a) Unit G.O.2, M.T.Bs. 720 (S.O.), 717, 719, 713.

(b) 2100B/18. (c) (AA) 250 Casquets 12 to arrive 0001/19.

(CC) 216 Cap de la Hague 10.

(d) Investigate area between Schole Bank and French Coast North of 49° 30' N. and south of a line Alderney to Cap de la Hague.

(e) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(f) 0330B/19 from (CC). (g) By reverse route at 20 knots.

(3) (a) Unit G.O.3, M.T.Bs. 94 (S.O.), 90, 91, 92, 227, 239.

(b) 2015B/18. (c) (DD) 232° Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2330.

(EE) 220° La Corbiere 7 to arrive 0130.

(d) Between (EE) and (FF) 127° La Corbiere 10.

(e) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(f) Area to left in time to be in position (GG) 270 Les Hanois 12 by 0515. (g) Course for Start Point from (GG) 20 knots.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 181517B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Mining

Proposed operation.

Admiralty 171855, para. 4.

Request you will plan a hostile operation for laying field of 40 Mark 17 assembly 49/50 mines in Great Russell Pass Guernsey using four M.T.B. of 64th Flotilla which would load at Plymouth.

(2) Life of mine will be given when operation is ordered.

(3) Operation is under consideration but not finally decided upon.

(A.N.C.X.F., 181411B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/Use ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Use of
Fleet M/S
Flotillas.

Suspend action on my 172343.
(2) C. in C. Portsmouth retain 9th M.S.F. until further orders.
(3) N.C.E.T.F. 181315B not to all refers.
(A.N.C.X.F., 181544B to C. in C. Portsmouth, N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Western
Sector.

My 172045.
3 laps swept, total width from northern edge 6.4 miles.
(2) 1 G.R. mine cut in 050° 08' N. 001° 08' W. and sunk.
(M.S.F.15, 181915B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action

Your 180240B. Attacked ?(small) convoy 186° 14 C. de la Hague, course 130°, speed 15 knots, result doubtful.
(G.P.2, 180316B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

At approximately 0200/18, Unit G.P.2 (M.T.Bs. 748, 745, 726, 727) made contact with an enemy convoy thought to consist of 3 to 4 trawlers and 2 M class M/S about 3 miles off Cape Flamanville. Enemy was met on opposite course. First sighting was at close range, and M.T.Bs.748, 727 fired torpedoes immediately at an estimated range of 450 yards, no hits are claimed. A gun action followed in which damage was inflicted on the enemy. Enemy return fire was heavy but inaccurate. Efforts to regain contact were unsuccessful being hampered by difficult Radar conditions. Minor damage was sustained by two boats and one severe casualty in M.T.B.727.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 181349B to Admty.)

E.T.A. 0640. One seriously wounded to land.
(G.P.2, 180515B to Dartmouth W/T.)

U-Boats

U-Boats
reported.

Have obtained a bearing by H/F D/F believed to be of enemy S/M transmitting Naval Enigma signal. Second class bearing 155°, operator estimates over 30 miles but in ground wave. My position 49° 34' N. 05° 37' W.
(? BICKERTON, 180147Z to C. in C. Plymouth.)

D/F bearings at 2248Z/17th indicate U-Boat within 20 miles of 49.30 N. 6.30 W.
(D.D.I.C., 180240B to E.G.6.)

/U-Boat ...

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reported.

U-Boat heard transmitting 48 group naval enigma bearing 128° 3rd class at 0148Z. My position at 0148Z 049° 37' N. 007° 39' W. (SWANSEA, 180401B to Admty.)

Submarine reported 5 miles North of Pentire Head at 0230. (C. in C. Plymouth, 180511B to WALKER, HONEY-SUCKLE.)

U-Boat transmitting 22 grp. naval enigma bearing 143° 3rd class at 0300Z. My position 0300Z, 49° 46' N. 07° 39' W. (SWANSEA, 180525B to Admty.)

Bearing by D/F of enemy at 0148Z 040° 3rd class, at 0228Z 170° 3rd class, position 049° 32' N. 006° 44' W., at 0300Z 137° 2nd class position 049° 42' N. 006° 40' W. (E.G.6, 180620B to Admty.)

2 U-Boats BB signals were intercepted at 1005Z Series 8 frequency 4415 k/cs. (A) Bearing 070° second class. (B) Bearing 132° third class far. (B) was not acknowledged by control. My position 049° 32' N. 003° 42' W. (E.G.14, 181035B to Admty.)

Bearing by D/F of enemy at 0804Z 3rd class position 049° 39' N. 006° 14' W. (E.G.6, 181033B to Admty.)

Nr.5. Over oil streak. Escort Group arrived. Request instruction. (A/C SUC.87, 181225B to 19 Group.)

"Schnorkel"
Gear.

Further to A.G.M. 98A of 23/5/44. (1) Sighting reports record recent experience of "Schnorkel" as follows. Details. (A.C.N.S.(U.T.), 180310B: "A" Message 227A-B.6)

Search for
U-Boats.

Hunt U-Boat fixed by D/F at 0048B/18 near 49° 30' N. 6° 30' W. (C. in C. Plymouth, 180423B to E.G.15.)

Admiralty's 180240. Closing position. (E.G.12, 180500B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Search for U-Boat reported by trawler 050° 45' N. 005° 00' W. at 0230/18th. Proceed with despatch. (C. in C. Plymouth, 180507B to E.G.12.)

Am proceeding to investigate sighting report of aircraft RFT.21. Request homing on 385 k/cs. (E.G.5, 180515B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/Am ...

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Sunday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

Am proceeding to close U/B reported by A/C OEJD 13. My position 013 JB 17.

(MATANE, 180527 to C. in C. W.A.)

My 180527. Contact was of a disappearing nature.

(E.G.9, 180604B to C. in C. W.A.)

E.G.9 hunt contact reported 49.55 N. 07.48 W. at 0313.

(2) E.G.6 proceed with despatch to relieve 5th E.G. patrolling Z.237, Z.232.

(2) E.G.5 on relief establish Gamma search centre position 49.26 N. 05.05 W. for enemy course 040.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 180636B to E.Gs. 6, 9 and 5.)

Fix in 049° 30' N. 006° 30' W. at 0048B was good. Estimate enemy's speed between 0 and 2 knots and most probably course within 020 and 082°. Report your intentions.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 181229B to E.G.15.)

Your 181229B. Passed just south of position on eastern course at 0800 and swept on to longitude 006° 10' W. at 0915. Swept north and leeward on this longitude and then back to position but passing to northward. Am about to sweep eastward again to longitude 005° 40' W.

(E.G.15, 181430B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

2nd E.G. is to slip and proceed at 1600 today and relieve 5th E.G.

(2) U-Boat was sighted and attacked by aircraft at 0345/18 in 49.12 N. 05.23 W.

(3) In absence of other information comply with instructions to E.G.5 in my 180636.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 181447 to E.G.2.)

Channel situation.

Of the U-Boats now in English Channel possibly 3 are between longitudes 00° 30' W. and 02° 00' W. and one of these may have been sighted by aircraft 1900Z/17th June.

Probably two more within 30 miles of Guernsey of which one D/Fd. 0806Z/18th June within 10 miles of 49° 10' N. 03° 10' W.

There is evidence by aircraft sightings and D/F of about five more in Western Approaches to Channel between longitudes 05° 00' W. and 10° 00' W.

Possibly one north of Trevoise Head from report 0030Z/18th. (D.D.I.C., 181431B to A.I.G.331.)

Contacts attacked.

DAHLIA attacking stationary contact in 249° Portland Bill 23.8 miles. Have instructed her to carry out your 151547. (VIDETTE, 181708B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/All ...

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All depth charges expended on sound contact in vicinity of 02.51.4 E. 50.28.9 N. Results undetermined. E.T.A. Plymouth 2200B/18th. (WALKER, 181950B to Plymouth C.C.O.)

Am attacking A/S contact 115° St. Catherines Point 40 miles. (GATINEAU, 182318B to Portsmouth W/T.)

U-Boat sunk by FAME.

In view of L.Q.T.32's 180922 intend to remain on patrol until tide permits submarine to leave 1330X, then sweep to eastward of position. (FAME, 181042B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Am attacking possible submarine in 049° 03' N. 003° 13.5' W. (E.G.14, 181649B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Have sunk U-Boat in 049° 03'02" N. 003° 13'06" W. One survivor in FAME. Shelled by shore batteries. Am resuming Gamma patrol. (E.G.14, 181756B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

U.767
My 181756B. While sweeping in direction 240° in area of Admiralty's 181(210, 107 or 114)B, FAME obtained contact at 1620 in 049° 03' N. 003° 14' W. and attacked with HH. 2 or 3 hits at 90 feet immediately produced much oil and wood wreckage. 3 D/C attacks produced continuous air bubbles and one survivor came to surface wearing D.S.E.A. After further attack with HH by INCONSTANT heavy shore-batteries commenced firing at group. HOTSPUR provided smoke-screen while destruction was endured by D/C attack from INCONSTANT, FAME, HAVELOCK. Group heel retired northward leaving air bubbles rising from stationary wreck and oil track 2½ miles long. (E.G.14, 182305B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

A/S Patrols. General intentions for operating support groups are as follows:-
(A) To establish a barrier across the channel with two support groups approximately between the Eddystone and Triagoz Bank with a third group operating to the eastward in position to cover any gap which may exist in the barrier and reinforce either of the barrier groups which are hunting. This latter group will also be used to hunt sightings to the eastward of the barrier in the Plymouth area.
(B) to use remaining groups to meet expected threats and to hunt all U-Boats sighted by air reconnaissance to the west of the barrier.
(2) This plan will be left flexible and adjusted as necessary to meet changing requirements.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 181821 to Admty.)

At 2100/18th E.G.15 establish Gamma centre position 49.30 N. 05.55 W. for course of enemy 082.

E.G.6 patrol along convoy gun zone and areas of Z.237 and Z.232 not covered by E.G.15 or E.G.2.

/My ...

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Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

My 181447 also refers.
(2) Estimate H/F D/F fix at 0048 in 49.30 N. 06.30 W. was U-Boat eastbound and air attack in 49.12 N. 05.23 W. at 0345 was U-Boat bound between Lands End and Start.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 181941B to E.G.15, E.G.6.)

Casualties

NELSON
mined.

NELSON mined in 020° PDV 8.4. Engine and boiler room undamaged. Ship not holed. NELSON proceeding to Spithead.
(N.C.E.T.F., 181935B to A.N.C.X.F.)
NELSON had superficial damage only (my 181935).
(N.C.E.T.F., 182030 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Shipping and Convoys

E.P.L.11.

(A) Sailed. (B) LONDONDERRY, CLARKIA.
(C) 1200/18. (D) Wardle. (E) For Omaha - L.S.T.382, 51, 53, 312, 389, 682. For Utah - L.S.T.511, 495, 375, 315, 49, 16, 58, 369, 283, 332, 262, 533, 56, 392.
(A.N.C.X.F., 180025.)

E.W.L.12.

(A) Sailed. (B) MIMICO, GATESHEAD. (C) 1100/18
(D) Sphinx. (E) For Juno - L.S.T.215, 214, 8, 157, 139, 160. For Gold - L.S.T.344, 322, 388, 515.
(A.N.C.X.F., 180121.)

F.C.P.7.

(A) Sailed. (B) Escort E.G.113 less HART and WHIMBREL. (C) E.T.A. Plymouth 0830/18 EMPIRE BROADSWORD, ANVIL, ULSTER MONARCH.
C.T.F.122, 124, 125 have by hand.
(C.T.G.122.7, 180152B.)

E.T.C.12.

(A) Sailed. (B) Escort WINDSOR, ORCHIS, ROSE.
(C) E.T.A. 1700/18. (D) Rivet. (E) For Gold - EMPIRE NESS, SARD, WALLACE ROSE, CRESCENDO, ZUIDLAND, WESTON, WESTDALE, DOWNSHIRE, MELISSA, TROMP, BROOMLANDS, BROOMFIELD. For Juno - BREM, PRASE, ST. ANGUS. For Sword - KYLEGORM, SODALITY, CHELWOOD. For THE DUKE for British Sector WHIPPINGHAM, CHANT 52 latter remain Juno.
(A.N.C.X.F., 180714B.)

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- E.C.M.10. (A) Sailed. (B) 105 E.G. (C) E.T.A. 2000B/18.
(D) Tivoli U.K. (E) For Omaha - FRANCIS DRAKE,
FRANCIS ASBURY, BERING, PEREGRINE WHITE, GEORGE
BADGER, JOSEPH PULLITZER, WALTER H. PAGE, BELVA
LOCKWOOD, HENRY S. LANE, JAMES CALDWELL, JOHN R. PARK, U.S.
L.S.T. 336, 25.
For Utah - EDWARD D. WHITE, JOHN HENRY, MEXICAN, U.S.L.S.T. 30,
381, 509, 374.
(A.N.C.X.F., 180825B.)
- F.T.M.11. (A) Sailed. (B) MONTROSE, U.S. Destroyer
BULMER, BORAGE, M.L. 220, 269, U.S.C.G. 24, 39.
(C) E.T.A. Nab 1800/18, Southend 1030/19.
(E) FORT ST. CROIX (Commodore), MOLLASTON SUTTER,
JOHN E. WARD, SAMNEVA, EMPIRE PORTIA, E.M. PHIPS, FORT CREVECOEUR,
SAMVERN, Tug (NE?) STLER, DANUBE V. L.S.T. for Tilbury 524,
175, 264, 383, 982, 368, 404, (241?), 8, 983, 413, 385.
L.S.T. for Isle of Wight 304, 505, 200, 159, 335, 534, 503, 530,
493, 162, 512, 498, 519, 337, 311, 535.
(F) L.S.T. 304 (I), 87 (II) 512705.
L.S.T. 505 (I) 1 L.S.T. 200 (III) 1 MONTROSE has requested two
M.Ls. to relieve 220 and 269 when they detach with Isle of
Wight section.
(Capt. N.S., 180910B.)
- F.T.C.11. (A) Sailed. (B) DA(KI?)NS, SWEETBRIAR, for
The Nore, LAVENDER, VELETA, M.L. 1393 for
Portsmouth. (C) E.T.A. Nab 2230/18th, Southend
1700B/19th. (D) Wildfire TS. (E) TOPAZ,
ABILITY, GLENCAIRN, SPES, WALDO 182 KMOOR 41 HOVE, BUCKLAW,
(AR?)IDITY, BE(L?)ARSE, BRYNHILD, ZEEL(AND?), JIM, STANLEY
SPEECH, GLEN, SALT FLAT, EDENSIDE, L.S.T. 1 161 and 165 towing
(1?) L.C.T. each. (F) L.S.T. 161 (1) 2.
(Capt. N.S., 181100B.)
- E.T.M.12. (A) Convoy E.T.M.12. (B) MACKAY, SOUTHDOWN,
VERVAIN, PONTENTILLA. (C) E.T.A. 2100/18.
(D) Match. (E) For Juno - MALAYAN PRINCE, FORT
POPLAR, GEORGE DURANT, EMPIRE RHODES, SAMNESSE,
L.S.T. 163, 379, 364, 421 and 293. For Gold - MARWARRI, FORT
NORFOLK, EMPIRE DEED, EMPIRE PLOUGHMAN, OCEAN VISION, ROMNEY,
HENRY AUSTIN, L.S.T. 719, 346. For Sword - DEMETERTON, CYRUS
H.K. CURTIS, EMPIRE CELIA, FORT LAC LA ROUGE, L.S.T. 491, 377,
72, 415, 11, 295, 284, 416. For Juno and Gold L.S.T. 137, 198,
370.
(A.N.C.X.F., 181102.)
- Damaged Instructions for preventing damage to power and
ships telephone cables.
entering (A.N.C.X.F., 181751B.)
Isle of
Wight area.

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.C.M.9B. (A) Sailed. E.G.107 S.O. in K.58(?).
(C) E.T.A. Southampton 182300, Portland 190100,
Plymouth 190900, Falmouth 191400. (D)
Corinthian GS. (E) For Falmouth JAMES BAKER,
WEAVER (Cdre.), W.M. PENDLETON. For Plymouth JESSE APPLGATE.
For Portland L.S.T.423, 350, 57, 351, 510, 316, 502, 54. For
Southampton PEARL HARBOUR (Vice Cdre.), CYRUS McCORMICK, ELIHU
ROOT, E.W. GOETHALS, HELLAS, THOMAS SCOTT, L.S.Ts.197, 180,
324, 577, 321 also for Portland L.C.C. 103040F.
L.S.Ts.510, 57, 351. Details of casualties.
(C.T.F.122.7, 181911.)
- F.P.L.F. (A) Sailed. (B) E.G.122 S.O. in LONDONDERRY
J-76. (C) E.T.A. Southampton 0630/19th,
Portland 1030/19th. (D) Monopoly M1.
(E) For Southampton L.S.Ts.238, 47, 290, 382,
28, 373, 530, Tug EMPIRE MEADOW towing L.S.T.133. For Portland
L.S.Ts. 6, 46, 50, 501, 492, 590, L.S.T.134 towing FYPT.297.
(C.T.G.122.7, 181930.)
- F.B.C.7. (A) Sailed F.B.C.7. (B) E.G.139. (C) E.T.A.
Bristol Channel 1700/20. (E) For Southampton
WILD ROSE, KIMBALL HARLOW. For Grimsby
BRIARFIELD, NUGGET, CHARLOW, ISBJORN, JOSIAH P.
CRESSEY. For Portland NORDKAPP. For Plymouth WATERGATE,
GOLD FINCH, HARPTREE, COWBE. For Penarth LILLIAN I, SKUM,
MUNIN. For Llanelly CASTLE COMBE. For Swansea PARLWOOD.
For Portishead DRAKE, C.T.F.122, C.T.F.124.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 181948B.)
- F.C.P.8. (A) Sailed 1800/18th. (B) E.G.112 S.O. in hand.
(C) E.T.A. Isle of Wight Area 2300/18th, Plymouth
0600/19th. (D) Squire AV. (E) For Isle of
Wight PRINCESS MAUD, CANTERBURY, GLENEARN, EMPIRE
HALBERD, EMPIRE RAPIER, EMPIRE BATTLEAXE. For
Plymouth CHESHIRE.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 181950.)
- F.T.C.11. Following is a repetition of my 181100B. Sailed.
(B) DAKINS, SWEETBRIAR for Nore. LAVENDER,
VELETA, M.L.1393 for Portsmouth. (C) E.T.A.
Nab 2230B/18th, Southend 1700B/19th. (D)
Wildfire TS. (E) TOPAZ, ABILITY, GLENCAIRN, SPES, WALDO HILL,
MOORLAND, HOVE, BUCKLAW, ARIDITY, BELFORD, RICHARD BEARSE,
BRYNHILD, ZEELAND, JIM, STANLEY FORCE, VGLEN, SALTFLAT, EDENSIDE,
L.S.T.(1) 161 and 165 towing 1 L.C.T.(1) each. (F) L.S.T. 161
(1) 2 (2) 9.
(Capt. N.S., 182350B.)

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Policy.

North
Russian
Convoys.

10 British ships will be ready by the end July.
The American ships do not arrive U.K. until August 10th.

2. No date has yet been fixed for next convoy owing to uncertainty of availability of escorts.

3. A.M. 090305 and your 161401 refer.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 181017B to Ad. Archer.)

Norway
Enemy
Troops.

Russians have observed increased convoy movements off North Norway since June 6th and ask if any information about removal or reinforcement of enemy troops in this area is available. My 131249 refers.

(S.B.N.O.N.Russia 181020B to Admty.)

Operations.

SATYR.
Operation
off Lofoten
Islands.

You are required to R/V Norwegian fishing boat in position A. in my 181501 at 0800B/21st June.

2. Fishing boat ordered to leave Frugga 068° 50' N. 014° 35' east at 0300B/21st steering 270° at about 7 knots for position A. Thence if not contacted by you by 1200B/21 boat proceeds position B. 068° 50' N. 011° 41' E. thence course 235°.

3. You are to transfer party of 9 from fishing boat and bring them to Lerwick, abandoning or scuttling fishing boat.

4. Party consists of Norwegian Archbishop, 2 ladies, some children, and miscellaneous.

5. Political importance attached to your mission.

6. Fishing boats will display a white garment in rigging and Catalina may be available to assist you in locating fishing boats. If not met by 1200B/21st proceed to position B thence course 235°. Report before 0001/22nd result of operation. Subsequent route later.

(F.O.S. 181515B to SATYR.) *Operation cancelled: p. 510*

Enemy Air Activity.

Damage by
Pilotless
A/C.

Following establishments damaged by P.A.C. night 17/18th. A. W.R.N.S. sick quarters Vincent Square, windows broken.

B. Northampton Polytechnic R.N.T. U. damaged by blast but will re-open as usual tomorrow and

C. Base Fleet Mail Office (where casualty section entirely destroyed) building is being vacated and department transferred to Telephone House Great Titchfield St. W.1. operating from 0800 tomorrow.
(F.O.I.C. London 181405B to Admty.)

P.A.C.

Pilotless aircraft are not to be reported by W/T. They are never to be engaged with H.A. weapons at night and by day only if it is certain that friendly aircraft are not in the vicinity.
(V.A. Dover 181507B to Dover Forces, MELBREAK, BRISSENDEN.)

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Q.Z.S.456,
452, 410,
443.

U-Boats have been reported off the Cornish Coast and may lay mines in swept channels. 2. 4 M/S trawlers S.O. in HAWTHORN will reach Q.Z.S. 456 as far as south eastern Pendeen commencing 2100 today. 5 additional trawlers in 2 groups S.Os. in SICYON and CAPE NYEMETZKY will reinforce sweep from daylight 19th.

3. Commencing 0800/19th COMBATTANTE S.O. with SPEEDY and TATTOO will search Q.Z.S. 456, southward from Pendeen Q.Z.S.452, 410 and 443 with centre of search $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to starboard of centre-line of channels.

4. You should stream P.V. before passing 051° 20' N. (C. in C.Plymouth 181707B to ANSON.)

Torbay.

At 1740/18th M.M.S.243 detonates mine in 50° 26' 20" N. 03° 28' 35" W. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 181839 and 191710 to Admty.)

456

18.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

SS. ORATA,
CHERCA.

My 171330/ Vessels sailed but understand they are returning to Las Palmas as CHERCA has engine failure. Will signal when further details available.

(R.O. Las Palmas, 181301 to Admty. B.N.A. Madrid, F.O.G.M.A.)

/ Italian vessels ORATA and CHERCA. N.T. in WD. asked for copy 19 June. Not received before typing Diary.

South Atlantic

SOUTHERN
PRIDE
(A/S whaler)

SOUTHERN PRIDE stranded on Hoopers Patch of Marshall at 0720/16th only casualty one Seaman missing believed drowned.

(F.O.C.W.Af. 181429Z)

457

18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- CASABIANCA. Sea impassable. Hove on surface in approx. 040° 49' N. 007° 10' E. speed 2 knots 270° at 0430/18. No damage. Awaiting orders. Acknowledge. (CASABIANCA 180450B to Capt. S.10.)
- SS. FENJA. Position given in your 171705* is inside known minefield. Your 171045 not to Admty. and C. in C. BORELAND, says Swedes had stopped BORELAND sailing via "Red" route for safe conduct vessels. route as result of this incident, suggest you inform Swedes that route through Kos Strait keep within one mile of Fener Burun Light and thence eastward of Tuyluce Ada. Karabakia Island, Cavus Adasi and Buyuk (?Kidis) vide chart 1899 is considered safe. (F.O.L.E.M. 181014C to B.N.A.Ankara.) * re Sinking of Swedish relief ship FENJA by mine.
- Som Daily Sitrep 64. This is the last daily Sitrep to be issued by Som. In future the daily Sitrep will be issued by R.A.F. for countries under command. Other arrangements in hand for No. 1 S.P. Force and Massingham. (Somto 181730B.)
- QUAIL lost. Regret to report the loss of QUAIL whilst on tow from Bari to Taranto.
2. A fresh southerly wind was encountered off the tip of the heel and the resultant slight sea caused the ship to work.
3. At 0410/18th in 40° 05' N. 17° 52' E. the ship flooded, bulkheads collapsed and she capsized.
4. 10 steaming party all abandoned ship and nine were picked up by tugs, lifeboat and escorting trawler.
5. E.R.A. Waugh of QUAIL was not found though he was seen to leave the ship and his lifebelt was found floating. Loss of rating was reported in my 181535. (F.O.T.A.L.I. 181741.)
- Elba. Cositintrep No. 344. Part 4. The attack on the Island of Elba continues. Campo Beach and the Village of Marina di Campo D.9166 were captured against determined resistance. 13 Senegalese Regiment pushed across the Island and occupied M. Costello D.9170 and is now directed on Portoferraio to the N.W. 4 Senegalese Regiment captured M.S. Martino D.9569 in the centre of the Island and is now moving east toward Reciso D.9870. Tabors are moving along the south coastal road toward Palazzo and Margidore D.9868. The beaches are now clear and vehicles and stores are being landed. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers No T.O.O/18, Recd. 1742.)
- Shipment of rock phosphates to Turkey. Proposal contained in A.M. 082203A January has again been raised. Request you report whether your 171122A Jan. holds good in view of your 311118 May and 311141B May. (Admty. 181852B to C. in C. Med.)

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Elba.

G.2 Summary.

3. Elba. Observation, traffic past few days has suggested beginnings of evacuation but considerable fire encountered by Allied troops in certain areas especially Camp Beach. Heavy fire from Enfola battery. Enemy thus still in possession and resisting. No details available.
(A.F.H.Q. Algiers 181900.)

M.E.Balkan
Sitrep No.215.

4. Sea ops. Brit. L.O.reports. 2 Elas launches recently captured 12 German caiques in Gulf of Corinth.
(C. in C.M.E. 181900C.)

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

K.T.ship KASSEL refused permission transfer Aegean returned Black Sea 16th June. Press reports state no more K.T.ships or E.M.S.Class craft will be permitted proceed to Aegean.
(C. in C.M.E. 181920C.)

Situation re-
port No. 380.

1. Operation "Brassard". All L.S.T., L.C.T. and L.C.I. of Assault convoy unloaded except 3 L.C.T. Casualties 1 L.C.I. and 1 L.C.G.
2. P.T.Boats south east of Elba engaged 2 (?F) Lighters and 1 E-Boat a.m. 17th June. One F-Lighter believed damaged, slight damage to P.T.Boats.
3. 4495 tons unloaded at Civitavecchia on 17th June. Salvage operations proceeding satisfactorily.
4. CASABIANCA reports engaged 800 ton corvette with gunfire and torpedoes near Cape Camarat on 9th June. Vessel believed sunk.
(C. in C.Med. 182234B.)

VICTORIOUS,
INDOMITABLE.

Add to my 182138 (N.T. in W.R.) VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Algiers 182142B.)

SICKLE
overdue.

Following is a repetition of my 181625 to F.O.L.E.M. (R) VA.Malta, begins:
SICKLE is now 5 hours overdue at Malta from Patrol, My 121734 not to V.A.M. and 140902 refer. Ends.
2. Signals referred to concern SICKLE's recall.
(S.1 182355B to C. in C.Med.)

VICTORIOUS,
INDOMITABLE.

My 171256* is passed for information.
(C. in C.Med. 182356B to C. in C.E.F.)
*re Sailing to join Eastern Fleet.

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18.6.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions.

No.62 lettered areas no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. Indian Ocean sighting report by U.S. Freighter at 0800Z on 17th in 005 degs. 43' S. 073 degs. 45' E. may indicate U-Boat (German) in Chagos area.
(C. in C. E.F. 180408Z)

Shipping
Kilindini-
Durban.

It is proposed that shipping between Kilindini and Durban should now be released from convoy excepting that ships in D.K.A.20 should continue to Kilindini and that ships in A.K.10 should proceed as in F.O.E.A.171713 being dispersed on reaching 16 degs. S.
(2) - (5). omitted.
(C. in C. E.F. 180649 to C. in C. S.A. P.S.T.O. Capetown.)

[See also C in C South Atlantic 20 1027 B, p. 512.]

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SS. NIEUW
AMSTERDAM. . Your 171438Z in view of ice report, intend ship
to continue on route given in A.M. 171921B.
(D.D.O.D.H. 180010B to C. in C.C.N.A.)

SS. MARIPOSA. Diversion order.
(Connav 181348Z to MARIPOSA.)

U/B dis-
positions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 181352Z, 181620Z.)

SS. MOUNT
VERNON. Diversion order.
(Connav 181602Z to MOUNT VERNON.)
Amended 191737Z.

Stragglers Stragglers arrived week ending 17th June 11th
report. PIO PICO (U.S.) H.X.S.294 collision damage.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 181607Z.)

U/B search. WJ3 TRURO, AMHERST, BROCKVILLE carrying out A/S
search in accordance with your 171935 weather
report.
(TRURO 182105Z to C. in C.C.N.A.)

T.C.U.28. Diversion order, to avoid U-Boat.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 182108Z to C.T.G.21.7.)

U/B incidents. All times Z. Para. A. 171424 CROATEN aircraft
attacked surfaced submarine 47.09 N. 26.56 W.
Para. C. 180225 Y.M.S.66 attacked contact 09.28
N. 79.54 W. 180430 P.C. 1194 attacked contact
12.10 N. 63.28 W.
Para. D. 171643 MCANN (as recd.) contact 00.11 N. 46.52 W.
172030 Brazilian minelayer CARIOCA sound contact 09.55 S. 35.15
W. 171730 Y.M.S.360 sighted periscope 32.42 N. 78.41 W. 181605
submarine wake sighted.19.00 N. 73.00 W.
(Cominch 182120Z.)

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18.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No.
880.

June 17th.

11. M.T.Bs. night 16/17th strafed Kairiru and Muschu Islands sinking one empty barge probably sinking another damaging three other barges. Two trucks one supply dump also damaged.
14. Single enemy aircraft ineffectively attacked M.T.Bs. off Nissan Island night 15/16th.
15. M.T.Bs. sank single (laden) enemy barge St. Georges Channel night 16/17th.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 180934Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

3/M attack
& sighting
summary.

- Para. A. 1. A/C P/105 sighted periscope at 1103Z/17 in 48° 52' N. 04° 02' W.
2. A/C L/53 attacked U-Boat on course 90° at 0145Z/18 in 49° 12' N. 05° 23' W.
3. A/C D/333 attacked U-Boat on course 350° at 1443Z/17 in 63° 10' N. 02° 00' E. *U.423 sunk.*

4. A/C attacked surfaced U-Boat at 1424Z/17 in 47° 09' N. 26° 56' W.

5. American SS. J.FRANK COOPER fired on U-Boat at 0826Z/17 in 05° 43' S. 73° 45' E.

Para. B. 1. A/C Z/248 sighted periscope and feather course 004° at 0709Z/17 in 48° 51' N. 05° 20' W.

2. A/C of 105 Squad. attacked U-Boat on course 045° at 0635Z/18 in 48° 50' N. 04° 30' W.

3. Trawler reported U-Boat at 0030Z/18 in 50° 45' N. 05° 00' W.

Para. C. 1. Two fishing vessels reported flashing light and possible periscope at about 0100Z/16 in 60° 55' N. 05° 40' W.

Para. D. 1. Fighter A/C sighted U-Boat on course S. at 0336Z/18 in 53° 03' N. 02° 23' E.

(D.D.I.C. 181233B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

(D.D.I.C. 181414B, 181424B.)

19.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

- 1.(a). On shore the Allied wedge across the Cotentin Peninsula was strengthened and widened today, and heavy fighting continues in the Tilly area.
- (b). On the Assault beaches a northerly wind of force 6 raised a choppy sea and breakers which much impeded unloading and caused the shuttle-service to the eastern area and all sailings of L.S.T. and smaller craft from U.K. to be suspended. There was increased enemy air activity over the anchorages, with some bombing and minelaying during last night. Up to 0900 today a total of 285 mines had been swept in the western sector, in the U area of which L.S.T. 523 was mined and sunk today with casualties; and one M.M.S. was bombed and damaged in the eastern sector.
- (c). Mulberry A is henceforth to be called Saint Laurent and Mulberry B Arromanches.
- (d). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Beaches	320,062	54,847	105,878 tons
U.S. Beaches	307,439	42,611	117,520 tons
Total	627,501	97,458	223,398 tons

Enemy Action.

- 2. R-Boats. (a). Four R-Boats were detected off Cap d'Antifer at about 0300 today.
- U-Boats. (b). A surfaced U-Boat was sighted at 0303B today about 33 miles S.S.W. of Beachy Head; and at 1437B the Admiralty considered that there are now probably seven or eight U-Boats east of 08° 30' W. of which two are possibly east of Cap Barfleur.
- (c). Six sightings of U-Boats were reported during last night, and a promising attack was made on one of two about 30 miles north of Ushant.

Mediterranean.

Elba.

- 3.(a). C. in C.Med. reports that organised resistance on the island ceased at noon today.
- (b). A.F.H.Q. Algiers reports that by 1400 (19th June presumed) Portoferraio was in our hands. The attack continues.

/Aegean...

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19.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Aegean.

4. (a). Aircraft attacked an enemy destroyer and 2 escort vessels (2 R-Boats) at 1630 today, between Kalymnos and Cape Daphni, and badly damaged the destroyer by direct hits with R.P. and probably damaged the 2 R-Boats. VAMPIRE was told to finish them off, but all three of the enemy reached Port Laki without being intercepted.

(b). Aircraft attacked shipping at Rhodes last night and at Kalamata (Greece) today; no hits were made on shipping in either case, but a quay was hit at Kalamata.

East Indies.

SS. COLINA.

5. The tanker COLINA made a submarine distress report this morning in 14.00 N. 64.55 E. (Arabian Sea.)

S/Es, patrol reports.

6. On return from Far East War Patrol SIRDAR reports that she bombarded war houses at Sibolga, west coast of Sumatra on 8th June. SURF laid 8 mines successfully.

Operation "Pedal" (Air raid on Port Blair.)

7. V.A.E.F. in RENOWN with RICHELIEU, ILLUSTRIOUS, NIGERIA, KENYA, CEYLON, PHOEBE and 8 destroyers sailed from Trincomalee today for an air raid on Port Blair, Andaman Is.

Australia & New Zealand.

8. Bostons today attacked shipping near Manokwari (New Guinea); they left a small cargo vessel burning fiercely and sinking; two smaller craft were also sunk and three barges were left on fire.

9. Landing craft gunboats bombarded enemy coastal positions in southwest Bougainville last night.

10. One SHOKAKU class carrier is reported to have received 3 torpedo hits from a submarine in the area between the Marianas and the Philippines today.

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19.6.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military. Van Q.D. Begins. Cherbourg Peninsula not evacuated because Cdr. of Cherbourg garrison will defend port. Supplies sufficient for 3 weeks. No air support because airfield destroyed. Reich division SS. and 21 division sent 5 days ago but did not arrive in time owing to enemy air action. Ends.
(HAWKINGS 190131B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Communique No. 27. The wedge across the base of the Cherbourg Peninsula is being strengthened and widened.

In the Tilly area attacks by our troops have met strong opposition from enemy armour and Infantry supported by heavy artillery fire.

Further east a small counter attack was thrown back. The enemy battery at Houlgate, east of Ouistreham, has been silent for 36 hours after an accurate bombardment by RAMILLIES.
(S.H.A.E.F. 191100B to Agwar.)

G.2 Summary No. 14. Para. 1. Operations.

Estimate thrust across Cotentin Peninsula has cut off bulk of 243 and 709 and elements of 77 Infantry Divisions. Together with Naval and German Air Force personnel total personnel excluding line of communications troops estimated up to 40,000. Doubtful if enemy has enough troops immediately available to attempt break through to relieve them, unless he transfers from Carentan Sector. This unlikely as it would invite thrust lower down Peninsula which would cut off still greater number of troops.

Enemy position St. Lo area still weak.

Para. 3. Accumulative total of prisoners of war received U.K. up to 1800 hours 18th June 12,173.
(S.H.A.E.F. 191700B to Agwar.)

Communique No. 28. The Allies strangle-hold on the Cherbourg Peninsula has been strengthened by a series of local advances. An enemy attack was repulsed near Tilly where heavy fighting continues.

In the Caen area enemy shelling has increased considerably. Allied warships continued to give support in the Eastern Flank yesterday by engaging enemy mobile batteries north of Caen. Successful shoots were carried out by DIADEM against a concentration of enemy armour.

(S.H.A.E.F. 192330B to Agwar.)

Naval. Cositintrep No. 33, part 2, naval.

A. General. Northerly wind force 6 this morning on to beaches is greatly impeding unloading. Ships have steam up to ensure safety.

Shuttle service in landing ships and craft to eastern area has been suspended.

There were numerous incidents in the channel during darkness and several U-Boat sightings by aircraft.

/ONSLOW...

19.6.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval.
(Contd.)

ONSLOW sustained minor damage below water during torpedo bombing attack by four Ju.88 about 2330/18 north of Pt. Barfleur.

E-Boats were reported off Cap de la Hague and Fecamp, but retired when threatened.

Escort group hunting U-Boat sighted at 1900/18 north of Casquets was forced away by accurate fire from shore batteries. Escort groups are hunting other aircraft reports.

B. Troops etc. landed. Cumulative to p.m. 16th

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno & Sword	281,091	48,022	88,416
Juno (24 hrs. to p.m. 16th)	6,352	2,449	2,680

C. Coastal Command. Last night 6 U-Boat sightings were reported. A promising attack was made on one of two sighted at 2255/18 30 miles north of Ushant. Another was sighted in 49° 25' N. 09° 00' W. at 0045. Another in 49° 17' N. 06° 53' W. at 0355, and two more together at 0515 25 miles W.N.W. of Guernsey. (Ad. Ramsay 191453B to Admty.)

Assault Areas.

Western Sector.

I anticipate that capture of Cherbourg may be surprisingly rapid and request you will be prepared with all your naval plans to take immediate advantage of such a development.

(A.N.C.X.F. 191210B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from Dover.

Cancel my 181837. Comply with my 181303. (V.A.Dover 190405 to F.U.3.)

F.N.1 M.Is. 213, 128 Z.1. F.N.2 M.Is. 254, 442
 Z.2. F.U.3 ORWELL Z.3. F.N.5 M.T.Bs. 699, 700,
 705 Z.5. F.U.7 COTTESMORE Z.7. F.U.8 OPPORTUNE
 Z.8. F.N.9 M.T.Bs. 613, 608 Z.9 west. F.U.1
 OBEDIENT Z.11 west. F.U.2 MELBREAK 325° Cap D'Antifer 28½. F.Y.1
 RETALICK Z.12 east. F.Y.2 M.T.Bs. 615, 614 Z.12 east. F.X.1
 SEYMOUR Z.13 east. F.X.2 M.T.Bs. 611, 616 Z.13 east. F.U.4
 WENSLEYDALE from position 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. to 49° 50' N.
 00° 18' W.

2. ORWELL has freedom of action in Z.4 square. (V.A.Dover 191304B.)

/Patrols....

War Diary

19.6.1944
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrols
from
Portsmouth.

BRISSENDEN take up day patrol now. MELBREAK turnover to GATINEAU and CHAUDIERE and then proceed to day patrol.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 190509B to BRISSENDEN, MELBREAK.)

O.N. Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 19th/20th. A. TANATSIDE (G.H.1), OFFA (G.H.2), BEAGLE (G.H.3), ROWLEY (G.H.4), 001° 00' W. between 049° 47' N. and 050° 05' N.

B. Nil. C. Nil. D. Unit G.B., M.T.B.253, 256, 252 in Z.122.

E. Unit G.A., 1.M.T.B.730 (S.O.), 704, 702, Unit G.A.2, M.T.B.690 (S.O.), 691, 692, Unit G.A.3 M.T.B.212 (S.O.), 209, 205, Force G.A. under orders F.O.I.C. Portland in Z.203.

F. Unit G.B. via Needles and 050° 10' N. 001° 45' W. to reach patrol by 2330. Force G.H. to be on patrol by 2200.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 191305B to OFFA, TANATSIDE, BEAGLE, ROWLEY, STAYNER.)

O.N.1 Para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 19th/20th June.

1. F.U.3, ORWELL Z.3. F.U.7, COTTESMORE Z.7. F.U.8 OPPORTUNE Z.8. F.U.1 OBEDIENT Z.11 West. F.U.2 MELBREAK 325° Cap D'Antifer 28½ miles. F.Y.1 RETALICK Z.12 E. F.X.1 SEYMOUR Z.13.E. F.U.4 WENSLEYDALE between 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. and 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W. 11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy.
2. F.N.1, 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 2 M.Ls. Z.2. F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs. Z.5 F.N.9 2 M.T.Bs. Z.9 W. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 E. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs Z.13 E.
3. Wellington cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 191934B to A.I.G.508.)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B).

Western Night Channel Report 19th/20th.

1. Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z. buoy. G.H.1 TANATSIDE, G.H.2 OFFA, G.H.3 BEAGLE, G.H.4 ROWLEY on 01° W. between 49° 47' and 50° 05' N. HAIDE, HURON, PIORUN, ASHANTI, Z.228, Z.223, Z.224. Third E.G.Z.213, Z.214, Z.218. Fourteenth E.G.Z. 219, Z.220, Z.221. Second E.G. Z.229, Z.233, Sixth E.G. Z.237, Z.232. Fifteenth E.G. Z.244, Z.238, Z.239. Ninth E.G. Z.222, Z.223.
2. G.N.1, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.200, N. G.T.1 3 M.Ls. Z.217 North East G.T.2 3 M.Ls. Z.212 N.E.
3. A/C all areas west of 02° 20' W. North of French Coast excluding Channel Islands. Avengers on coastal convoy route. Wellingtons area between Portland Bill and Cap de la Hague. Albatrosses Z.115, Z.122, Z.203.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 191946B to A.I.G.509.)

Daylight patrol tomorrow as for today.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 192218B to TANATSIDE, BEAGLE, WENSLEYDALE, OFFA, MELBREAK.)

/Patrols...

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MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols from Plymouth. Night patrols 19th/20th. PCWO 120.
 A. 1. G.N.1, M.T.Bs, 735, 736.
 2. G.T.1 M.Ls. 488, 179, 181.
 3. G.T.2 M.Ls. 233, 124, 122.
 B. 2300/19.
 D. 1. In vicinity 133° Portland Bill 11'.
 2. In the vicinity 161° Start 12'.
 3. In the vicinity 087° Start 23'.
 F. 0515/20.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 191315B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

PCWO 120.
 A. Unit G.P.1, M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.) 679, 676, 678
 B. 2000B/19.
 C. To pass through S.W. corner of Z.212. Thence 180° true to AA. S.W. corner of Z.216. Speed 20 knots passing through 49° 10' N. at 2330 to arrive AA. at 0010/20.
 D. From AA. to pass between Triagoz and Sept Isles to investigate area between Sept Isles and Ile de Bas. Unit is not to pass south and east of Sept Isles.
 E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
 F. Area to be left in time to pass 49° 10' N. at 0515B/20.
 G. By reverse route through AA.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 191345B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

1. Information.
 Own. 2nd E.G. Z.229, Z.233. 3rd E.G. Z.213, Z.214, Z.218. 6th E.G. Z.237, Z.232.
 9th E.G. Z.222, Z.223. 14th E.G. Z.219, Z.220, Z.221. 15th E.G. Z.244, Z.238 North half Z.239.
 Coastal forces as in my 191315B and 191345B.
 Enemy. Surface forces as in my 171336B. U/Boats. Possibly one in St. Peter Port. Up to 5 others possibly in Channel West of 2° 30' W.
 2. Intention. Force 26 HAIDA (S.O.), HURON, PIORUN, ASHANTI to operate in mid-channel, North of Ile de Bas.
 3. Object.
 To intercept and destroy enemy ships and to support own surface forces.
 4. Execution.
 Force 26 is to pass the gate at 2115B and proceed to reach (PP) 49° 41' N. 04° 47' W. by 2300. Thence patrol between (PP) and (QQ) 49° 20' N. 04° 03' W. until 0600B/20 when, if no further information, Force 26 is to leave patrol and return to Plymouth.
 5. Force 26 is to proceed to support Escort Groups or Unit G.P.1 against surface attack if necessary.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 191519B to D.F.10.)

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MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"MiningBalloons

Following received begins:
 "Addressed N.O.I.C. from B.D.O.(B) Between 0500 and 0600 3 balloons spherical in shape and about 25 feet in diameter passed to westward FERNMOOR at distances of 100 yards, half mile and one mile respectively, and went on shore. Balloons were green and blue and were towing some small objects which could not be distinguished but which made more of a Feather in the water than a mine should have done. Balloons were about 6 feet off water and making good about 12 knots. One balloon remained anchored by its tow halfway up beach in approximate position 049° 21' N. 000° 41' W. for half-an-hour before breaking away when it rose rapidly and was lost to sight." Ends
 (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B. 191939 to N.C.E.T.F.A.)

Enemy Action

Four
R/Boats
off Cap
d'Antifer.

Plot One. 020° Cap D'Antifer 9 miles. Three unknown surface craft detected by Radar. Course 230° speed 25 knots.
 (Dover, W/T 190257 to F.X.1.)

010° Cap D'Antifer 8 miles surface craft detected by Radar, probably 3 R/Boats, course 210° speed 20 knots.
 (Dover, W/T 190307 to F.X.1.)

My 0307. Enemy course and speed are 210° 15 knots.
 (F.X.1 to Nore W/T T.O.R.190316.)

Plot. one. 325° Cap D'Antifer 1.5 miles, 4 R/Boats detected by Radar, course 200°, speed 22 knots.
 (F.X.1, 190318 to Portsmouth.)

U/Boats

U/Boats
reported.

U/Boat transmitted B signal at 2317Z on serial 8 bearing 202°. My position 049° 23' N. 004° 01' W.
 (FAME, 190130B to Admty.)

Plot 5. 20° Beachy Head 33 submarine on surface, course 140°, speed 6 knots, F.U.2 H.S.
 (L.C.T.A. 2238, 190220 to LUDLOW.)

Plot 6. 206° Beachy Head 33 miles probably S/M on surface, course 140° speed 6 knots, F.U.2 H.M.
 (Dover, W/T to LUDLOW, T.O.R. 190430.)

Submarine sighted on the surface off E one buoy at 0303B. Proceed to investigate with ST. LAURENT. GATINEAU and CHAUDIERE join OTTAWA. MELBREAK proceed to day patrol.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 190540 to E.G.11, MELBREAK)
 /Consider...

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MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U/Boats

Consider my contact was barrage balloon later sighted by BRISSENDEN.
(MELBREAK, 190522B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

A/S
Patrols.

At 0700 before receipt of your 190800. I decided home on A/C TGJ 70 being the nearer contact. Met E.G.15 at 0935 searching near original contact which he considers to be very doubtful. As it is considered, therefore, a (?wasted) effort to reinforce E.G.15 am proceeding forthwith to 049° 35' N. 008° 57' W. My P.C.S. 1000, 049° 10' N. 006° 41' W. 190° 16'. (E.G.9, 191031B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

On Plymouth 5, Section 2, SUPS.

A. Z.233, Z.229, Z.224.

D. U/Boats sighted last night may have turned north and 14 E.G. cover eastward passage.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 191124B to E.G.2.)

On Plymouth 5 section 2 SUPS.

A. E.G.9 GAMMA centre position 49° 48' N. 04° 09' W. for course of enemy 090.

E.G.6, Z.237, Z.232 up to convoy route.

E.G. 15, Z.244, Z.238 and N.Half Z.239. E.G.3 Z.213, Z.214, Z.218
C. All patrols forthwith at moderate speed.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 191245B to E.Gs. 6, 9, 15, 3.)

Cancel instructions in my 191245. Investigate JCP 22 1504.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 191524B to E.G.9.)

Am proceeding to A/C JCP 22 sighting. My P.C.S. 049° 10' N. 008° 45' W. 030° 16' Kts. Request A/C home me.

(E.G.9, 191616B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Your 191755. Have swept from position given on course 070° for 22 miles. Am resuming patrol.
(E.G.14, 192323B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

The following has been received:-

From S.O.E.G.14. On each occasion of approaching South End of patrol F.V.I. equipment indicates that group is plotted by a Radar Station at La' Clarte. Ends 191638.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 192352B to Admty.)

Channel
situation.

Activity in the English Channel continues and reports received indicate that 7 or 8 U/Boats are in the area east of longitude 08° 30' W. of which probably four between Channel Islands and 04° 30' W. possibly two East of longitude Cap Barfleur.
(D.D.I.C. 191437B to A.I.G.331.)

/Dinghies...

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Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U/Boats

Dinghies Nr. 1. Two empty U/Boat dinghies and large patches
N.N.W. of of oil in position 48.52 N. 05.22 W. at 1550.
Ushant. (A/C LNV.16 191750 to 19 Group.)

Allied Air Activity

Dakota Second T.A.F. report that 11 Dakotas carrying
A/C wounded escorted by Spitfires were engaged by a
attacked cruiser at 1840/18th. June when approaching Mouth
by own of River Orne from the south having taken off
Ships. from B.4 landing strip. A/C flying at 4000 feet
fired recognition signal and lowered under
carriages. Two Spitfires detached from escort and
circled low around cruiser which then ceased fire.

At 1848 destroyer nearest Mount of Orne opened fire.
2. Two Dakotas returned to landing strip remainder to U.K.
3. Cruiser said to be of Emerald Class but does not appear
possible. Approximate position 49.14 N. 00.15 W.
4. Request immediate investigation and report.
(A.N.C.X.F. 190839B to C.S.10.)

A.N.C.X.F.'s 190839B. My gunnery officer personal-
ly witnessed incident in set from 3rd corrupt group
H.Q. at Colleville.

Dakotas were engaged by German A/A batteries from
south.
2. Further they flew over enemy occupied territory on east bank
at mouth of river Orne.
3. The destroyer corvettes reported fired may have been STORD
carrying out a bombardment.
(S.O. Force "S" 191302 to C.S.10)

Request you will confirm that MAURITIUS did not
engage any aircraft between 1830 and 1850 yesterday.
(A.N.C.X.F. 192156B to C.S.2.)

Corridor 131738. Second T.A.F. have requested that
No. 5. corridor Number 5 Selsey Hill to a point due North
of Bayeux be brought into use on operational A/C.
The following safety measures will be enforced in
the corridor.
A. A/C will fly at a height not less than 3,000 feet if cloud
ceiling permits.
B. If weather conditions force the A/C to cross the coasts below
1500 feet paragraph 11 of Air Ministry publication S.D.533 will be
complied with.
C. Outward bound from the United Kingdom A/C will lower under-
carriage at latitude 49° 40' N. and keep it down until continental
coast is crossed.
D. On return journey to U.K. aircraft will gain height to 3,000
feet or below cloud base over land lower undercarriage before
crossing coast and keep it down until latitude 49° 40' N. is
reached.

/E. ...

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Monday

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Allied Air Activity

Corridor
No. 5.
(Contd.)

E. Corridor will be 5 miles wide and A/C will keep to the righthand side.

F. Corridor will be used by day only.

Request you will signal this Headquarters as soon as possible whether you concur with this corridor being used.

(A.E.A.F., 190930B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Your 190930. Concur that number 5 corridor should be brought into force 0900/21. Consider that in the conditions visualized in para. B. A/C on passage to U.K. should circle twice before crossing French Coast and that daylight in para. B. should be defined as from Sunrise to Sunset.

(A.N.C.X.F. 191754 to A.E.A.F.)

My 131738. Corridor number five will be brought into force for use during daylight at 0900/21.

A/C will lower undercarriage when flying outward or inward between the French Coast and latitude

49° 40' N.

(A.N.C.X.F., 191756.)

Air
operations

Cositintrep 33; Part 3, air. Sunrise 18th June to 2100B hours 18th June.

Total sorties 2929.

Summary of Targets.

Enemy Operations: 73 divers were plotted against S.E. England of which 63 made landfall, 28 penetrating the London area.

(A.E.A.F. 191200B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 34, Part 3. Air.

2100B hours 18th June to Sunrise 19th June.

Total Sorties 729.

Summary of Targets. Details.

Enemy Operations. 78 Divers were plotted over S.E. England, of which 25 reached the London area. 15 Divers were shot down.

(A.E.A.F. 192359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Enemy Air Activity

ALBERT
C. FIELD
attacked.

A. 2338/18th June, 050° 28' 30" N. 001° 46' W.

B. EBC 14. C. One torpedo-carrying aircraft.

D. Height 500 ft. E. Coaster ALBERT C. FIELD.

F. None. G. No fighter escort. H. None.

(VIDETTE, 190606B to Admty.)

/ONSLOW...

19.6.1944
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Air Activity

ONSLOW and OFFA bombed on 18th June. ONSLOW damaged.

A.G.M. 168A.
 A. 2314 to 2335/18th June in 49° 51' to 54' N. 00° 59' W.
 B. ONSLOW, OFFA.
 C. Seven Ju.88 and/or Hu.188.
 D. Torpedo bombing. Range at torpedo release 500 to 1000 yards. Height 50 to 80 ft. 4 attacks on ONSLOW, 5 missiles. 3 attacks on OFFA 4 missiles.
 E. No ships sunk. ONSLOW split seam in A/S compartment caused by glancing blow from torpedo on reciprocal course.
 F. Nil. G. N.A. H. Nil.
 (Capt. D.17 191145B to Admty.)

Pilotless A/C

Pilotless A/C flying within the area mentioned in para. 3 below will be engaged by fighters by day and night when weather conditions permit.
 2. For the present ships are not to engage pilotless A/C with AA. weapons within this area.
 3. Chart reference F.0348. Area lies within following points. R. 3393 - R.6093. S.0060 - R.6020 - R.0000 - Q.5060 - Q.6080 - R.0080.
 4. Pilotless aircraft are not to be reported by W/T.
 5. N.C.S.Os. to inform merchant vessels.
 (A.C.N.S.H, 191701B to A.I.G.503.)

Port Facilities

Mulberry B. From H.Q. P.C.
 Except for unwanted Pier heads have received no Whale tow since 13th June. All four piers could have been completed easily by 15th June but for lack of material.
 Request maximum effort to get tow over early. Can accept up to 7 tows daily. At 17th June there were 31 spans not yet coupled into bridge at Mulberry A.
 Better distribution between both Mulberry's would achieve better joint results.
 (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 191322 to C. in C. Portsmouth, Nore, V.A. Dover, F.O.I.C. Portland, S.N.O. Dungeness, Selsey) See reply A.N.C.X.F. 200913B.

North East gale. Anticipated heavy swell to follow. Request suspend all sailing of tows until further notice.
 (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 191334 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

MP.3. A. S.200 and 200 (B) tows arrived in wind 7 to 8 and heavy swell. 56 broke adrift and was planted to westward of Mulberry with reasonable chance of transplanting. Several Bombardon couplings parted and supply of couplings and Manilla Strops is urgently required. S.168 and 202 reported sunk on passage.
 (N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 191846B to Mulberry Movements.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

HARRIER damaged. Following damage sustained by HARRIER while on (passage?). Details.
2. Ship requires dockyard assistance to repair. (M/S 1, 190855^B to N.C.E.T.F.)
S.O. first M. Flot 190855. HARRIER sheltering in Mulberry now.
2. N.C.E.T.F. (A) is requested to arrange survey of damage with a view to temporary repair before sailing. (N.C.E.T.F. 191443^B to N.C.E.T.F.A.)

Damage to L.S.Ts. A number of L.S.T. are arriving back in United Kingdom with damage necessitating docking.
2. In the Portsmouth Collecting Area a.m. yesterday out of 26 L.S.T. present ten have holes in their bottoms. It is believed that all these ten ships were damage by hitting obstructions when beaching (Com. Force "U" 172129 to N.C.W.T.F. only refers.) The above high proportion of damage is seriously prejudicing the build-up in L.S.T.
3. I appreciate that beaching and drying out of L.S.T. has been essential to maintain necessary rate of discharge of vehicles but the recent rate of damage to L.S.T. has more than offset the advantage of rapid discharge.
4. Maximum use of Rhinos and L.S.T. Piers now completing in Mulberries must be made to reduce beaching and drying out to use in real need only if this arises. More care is necessary in selecting suitable sites for beaching. I rely on Force Commanders and Naval Officers in charge to give this matter urgent and personal attention. (A.N.C.X.F. 191114^B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

RAMILLIES. RAMILLIES 190404. Request RAMILLIES may be placed at four hours' notice for steam or longer if required to make good defects. (A.N.C.X.F. 191119^B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Tugs L.T.2 and L.T.156 RAMP. Tugs L.T.2 and L.T.156 should have arrived far shore on 7th and 11th time respectively and should by now have returned to Lee-on-Solent.
2. Have you any information as to their whereabouts. (A.N.C.X.F. 191338^B to N.C.W.T.F., N.C.E.T.F.)

ULSTER damaged. ULSTER grounded on 9th June seriously damaging propellor shaft. Board of Inquiry has been held. (A.N.C.X.F. 191419 to Admty.)

ARKANSAS. ARKANSAS has been granted availability dockyard until 0800/24th. Machinery repairs are essential to place ARKANSAS in operating condition. My 191059. (Com.5 B.S Div. 191446^B to C.T.F.122.)

19.6.1944
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

L.C.T.7086 L.C.T.7086 broken down in vicinity 14 E buoy.
 Request tug may be sent.
 (BURDOCK 191701B to N.C.W.T.F.)
 ROWLEY 191740. ROWLEY towing L.C.T.7086 to 14 D
 buoy. MIDDLETON meet take over and tow to Mulberry A.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth 191916B to U.S. L.S.T.3.)

Your 191947B. Tug GRIPER has taken L.C.T.7086
 in tow. Am remaining on patrol.
 (ROWLEY 192052B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

C. in C. Portsmouth Tug control from GRIPER.
 Have L.C.T.7086 in tow in position 22 9° 8
 miles 14 C. Proceeding to Portsmouth.
 (GRIPER 192100B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

My 191916. Proceed for shore. GRIPER towing
 L.C.T. Portsmouth.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 192149B to MIDDLETON,
 ROWLEY)

L.C.T. My 161438 part 2.
 Craft lost 1. Craft lost L.C.T.(5) 2044, 2077, 2246, 2285,
 and 2306, 2428, 2439, 2485.
 damaged. 2. Craft unserviceable L.C.T.(4) 531, 851, 813,
 903, 886, 809, 550.
 L.C.T.(5) 2225, 2233, 2296, 2305, 2426.
 Craft in para. one are sunk or beyond repair.
 Those in para. 2 beyond (repair?) in BAA.
 (N.C.E.T.F.A. 192325B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Administration

Eastern Four 172245. Approved, except as regards para.
 Sector. B. which should await discussion with my C.O.S.
 Organisation. tomorrow Tuesday.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 191218B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Release of It is desired to relieve 4 "W" Class destroyers in
 four the Home Fleet by 25th June to join the Eastern
 Destroyers. Fleet.
 2. Request you will sail 4 destroyers to Scapa
 on return of the 4 from Gibraltar. A.M.171309
 and 191645 refer.
 (V.C.N.S. 191657 to A.N.C.X.F.)

/ROCKAWAY...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Administration

ROCKAWAY,
MIANTONOMAH.

Request temporary duty U.S.S. ROCKAWAY under operational control of C. in C. Portsmouth be terminated upon return to Lee on Solent tomorrow and that vessel be ordered report to C.T.F.127 for duty as his Flagship as of 202200 June.

Further request vessel be sailed for W.T.F. area with C.T.F.127 embarked at 202200. When relieved as Flagship by MIANTONOMAH on or about 24th June at far shore C.T.F.127 is requested to return ROCKAWAY to Lee on Solent.

(Com. 12th Fleet 191716 to C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F.)

AORANGI,
EMPRESS
OF RUSSIA.

Following from M.W.T. (BUCO)
Your 181250. Release of AORANGI by 30/6 at latest is considered essential if she is to have adequate time for conversion for her next service.
2. Our proposal is that EMPRESS OF RUSSIA now in the Clyde should be allocated in substitution.

3. It is requested that the requirements for this service be kept to minimum essential for the purpose in present circumstances

4. The difficulties to be expected in the use of this ship are:

A. Her high rate of coal consumption.

B. Her inability to supply fuel oil.

5. It is understood that B. can be accepted and that A. should not present any undue difficulty as it will not be necessary to maintain steam on the main engines but merely the auxiliaries.

6. Request early confirmation that EMPRESS OF RUSSIA is acceptable so that necessary arrangements can be made to prepare her for the service and to effect the exchange with AORANGI.

(A.N.C.X.F. 191814B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Codewords
"St.Laurent"
and
"Arromanches".

Mulberry A and Mulberry B are henceforth to be called "Saint Laurent" and "Arromanches" respectively.

(A.N.C.X.F. 192201B to A.I.G.501.)

Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.11

A. Sailing E.X.P.11.

B. QUORN, TYLER.

C. E.T.A. 1109/19.

D. Thriller.

E. For Gold, BEN-MY-CHREE, ISLE OF THANET, ISLE OF GUERNSEY.
(A.N.C.X.F. 190002.)

E.P.L.12

A. E.P.L.12.

B. SCARBOROUGH PETUNIA

C. E.T.A. 1200/19th.

D. Wardle.

E. For Utah L.S.T.355, 400, 523, 27, 393, 288;
for Omaha 532, 542, 543, 521, 345, 497, 5, 430.

(A.N.C.X.F. 190111B.)

/Briefing...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Briefing Request Coasters for Port en Bessin and Arromanches may be informed of destinations to avoid delays in Assault Area. Request also ships leaving these places may carry name boards showing destination.
(N.C.E.T.F.(A) 190430 to A.N.C.X.F.)

E.T.C.13. A. E.T.C.13.
 B. AVONDALE, CURZON, ORVINA.
 C. E.T.A. 1700/19.
 D. Deborah.
 E. For Gold, CORSEA, ARDGRYFFE, GLAMIS,

VLIESTROOM, CRESCENDO.
For Juno, BLACKWATER, YOKEFLEET, EMPIRE BANK, EMPIRE SETTLER, EMPIRE WRESTLER, DERRYDON, WALNUT BEND.
For Sword DURWARD, SERENITY, SUMMITY, ROCKVILLE, KYLE CASTLE, DUNVEGAN HEAD, KYLE QUEEN.
For Port-en-Bessin IPSWICH TRADER.
(A.N.C.X.F. 190503 amended 191158)

E.B.C.14. A. E.B.C.14
 B. 140th E.G. C. E.T.A. 1600/19.
 D. Passive.
 E. For Omaha: MELVILLE, JACOBY, KRAKOW, TATWYCK, WALLENBURG, EMPIRE CAPE, MARSDEN, LOTTIE R, EDIE MARI, ESKWOOD, PORTHREPTA, ROWANFIELD.
For Utah: MARX, CITRINE, ALBERT C. FIELDS, MONSKVILLE, HOLBORN HEAD.
(A.N.C.X.F. 190505 (R) 190605B.)

F.T.M.12 Sailed:
 A. F.T.M. 12.
 B. MACKAY, SOUTHDOWN, VERVAIN, POTENTILLA for the Nore. MIMICO for Isle of Wight.
 C. E.T.A. (?) Nab.1900/19th. E.T.A. Southend 1030/20th.
 D. Moribund, XU.
 E. OCEAN VISIT (?) A. (Commodore Penkney) JOHN ESWEET, SAMINVER, ROBERTS, LANCING, HANNIBAL, HAMLIN PARK, BENJAMIN, BRADFORD CITY, MARCY, EMPIRE EARL, HOUSTON CITY, FORT WALLACE, HENRY CARSON.
L.S.Ts. 322, 522, 338, 11, 215, 139, 295, 388, 198, 421, 293, 989, 849?
L.S.Ts. 409, 425, 416, 157, 214, 364, 160, 377, Tug EMPIRE SARA for Isle of Wight.
F. L.S.T.409 (1) 158. L.S.T.425 (1) 45 (2) 47. L.S.T. 416 (1) 42? (2) 288, (3) 25. L.S.T.377 (3) 89. L.S.T. 157, 214, 364 not contacted.
(Capt. N.S. 190915B.)

E.T.M.13 A. Sailed E.T.M.13.
 B. MEYNELL, WALPOLE, SUNFLOWER, CLOVER.
 C. E.T.A. 2100/19.
 D. Lincoln.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.T.M.13 (Contd.) E. For Gold, FORT DEARBORN, FORT ASSINIBOINE, TREVIDER, LAMBROOK, EMPIRE NEWTON, EMPIRE CALL, FORT ROMAINE, FORT RELIANCE, FORT HOUSTON, EMPIRE LANKESTER. L.S.T.294, 176, 529, 537.
For Juno FORT ESPERANCE (Commodore), VANCOUVER CITY, EMPIRE FALSTAFF, EASTWAY, L.S.T.9, 420, 386, 65, 428, 363, 372.
For Sword SAMSIP, L.S.T. 361.
(A.N.C.X.F. 191043)

F.T.C.12 Sailed.
A. F.T.C.12.
B. WINDSOR, ORCHIS for Nore Gateshead for I.O.W.
C. E.T.A. Nab. 0215/20th. E.T.A. Southend
2300/20th.
D. Astoria VC.
E. ZELO (Commodore Williams) (?CENTINE). SLEMISH, NIVERNAIS, MAPLEFIELD, CORAL QUEEN, WATSON FERRIS, RONAN, LOWESTOFT TRADER. GLENGARIFF, MARGA, DAGENHAM. L.S.T. 261 and Tug JAUNTY towing H.M.S. DESPATCH for I.O.W.
(Capt. N.S. 191116B.)

F.C.M.10 Sailed F.C.M.10. E.T.A. Zebra 2000/15.
(Far Shore Shuttle Control, 191415)

F.W.L.12 Blaesky.
A. Sail F.W.L.12.
B. TOMPAZIS, ALBERNI.
C. E.T.A. Nab. 0200/20th.
D. Dulcimer LL.
E. L.S.T.72, 163, 284, 137, 491.
F. L.S.T.284 (1).
(Capt. N.S. 191611B.)

Sailings cancelled - weather. Sailing of L.S.T. L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) to British Sector has been suspended at request of N.C.E.T.F.
2. Sailing of L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) to U.S. Sector is also to be suspended until further orders in view of weather conditions on passage.
(A.N.C.X.F. 191810B.)

Dispatch service. O.N.S. COGG Des. Flot. Designate six cutters and sail immediately to report Cousnaab Southampton for dispatch service to be inaugurated between U.S.N.A.A.B. Southampton and N.O.I.C. Omaha.
2. Cousnaab Southampton provide basing, logistics and minor maintenance, coordinate handling of mail and sailing to far shore. Sail despatch boats from Southampton daily at 0430B and 1430B to report to N.O.I.C. Omaha. First sailing at 1430/20.
3. N.O.I.C. Omaha is to sail despatch boats daily at 0430B

/and...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Dispatch
service.
(Contd.)

and 1430B to report to Cousnaab Southampton.
First sailing 0430/21.
Refer to this entire message as C.T.F.127 191817B
encyphered as 191841B.
(C.T.F.127, 191841B.)

F.C.M.10.

Portsmouth pass to all except C.T.F.'s 122, 124 and
125 who have by hand for information.

A. Sailed F.C.M.10.

B. E.G.105 (S.O. in WANDERER)

C. E.T.A. 200330B Southampton, E.T.A. 200530B

Portland, E.T.A. 200740B Plymouth.

D. D T T Y E for Portland.

L.S.T. 533, 381, 374, 332, 315, 495 and 51 for Southampton.

L.S.T. 312, 392, 371, 508, 504 and 505 MT. DAVID STARR JORDAN,

GEORGE G. CRAWFORD, HENRY W. GRADY, JEREMIAH O'BRIEN and Tug

CHIMO for Plymouth. MT. JOHN HAY destination unknown JUCNR?,

LACE BROWN for (missing?) small number of casualties in L.S.T.51
and 508.

(C.T.F.122.7 192210B)

F.P.L.5

A. Sailed F.P.L.5.

B. E.G.121 and L.464 1 48 K 59.

C. E.T.A. 200800B Southampton 201000B Portland.

D. Maritime M.V.

E. For Portland L.S.T.369, 500* 511 (Commodore) 501, 375* 48*

283 58 for Southampton L.S.T. 389, 336, 49, 357, 16, 682*

(C.T.F. 122.7 192236B)*Have wounded and P. of W.: details.

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HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy.

ULSTER QUEEN. (3) It is probable that ship will be required to leave U.K. for Mediterranean about first week July and programme for working up should be arranged on the assumption that further training will be carried out in company with a Carrier on passage.
(V.C.N.S.191326B)

WARSPITE, MALAYA. Cancel paras. 3 and 4 of A.M. 151950B.
It has been decided (a) to press on with preparing WARSPITE for service.
(b) To bring forward MALAYA as spare Bombardment Ship in case WARSPITE cannot be completed in time.
(2) MALAYA will be temporarily commissioned with reduced crew and with such officers and technical ratings as can be made available to prepare her for service.
(3) If it is decided to commission MALAYA to full complement she will be largely manned by WARSPITE's officers and men.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 191328B)

ORION. ORION will be ready to sail for Mediterranean on 30th June in accordance with Admiralty 150057.
(2) Ship has 60 per cent new ships company.
As it is not practicable at the present time to carry out working up practices from Plymouth it is requested that arrangements may be made for this to be done after the ship's arrival on the Mediterranean Station.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 191340B)

4 dr's for Eastern Fleet. A.M. 171243 and 171309 not to all.
Request you will arrange for WAKEFUL, WAGER, WHELP and WESSEX to boiler clean, adjust complement and give leave before sailing.
(2) Any C. and M. parties required can be arranged when dates and places are known.
(3) Four relief destroyers will join you about 3rd July.
(V.C.N.S.191645 and 210229B)

Operations

Patrols. Cancel patrol return to Gt. Yarmouth or rough as convenient. KITTIWAKE return at first light.
(C. in C. Nore, 190218B to DEANE, REDMILL, RUTHERFORD, GUILLEMOT, PUFFIN.)
Patrol tonight Monday B. FITZROY, C. RUTHERFORD, D. HOLDERNESS, E.1. KITTIWAKE, F.1, GUILLEMOT D, WIDGEON. Additional escort F.N. 93 (Conn) F.S.87 (Byron) all the above will be cancelled if weather does not moderate.
(C. in C. Nore, 190135B)
My 190935 cancel patrol. HOLDERNESS and 1 corvette remain at half hour's notice.
(C. in C. Nore, 191837B)

Operation /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Operation HALLADALE arrived D. C. in C. W.A's 120012B
C.W. June not to all addressees, passed to her.
Intend sailing HALLADALE to join BULLDOG at
0900 approx. C. in C. W.A's 181852B not to
all refers.
(Cdre. D. W.A. 190401B to C. in C. W.A.)

BULLDOG. On leaving O.N.F.241 proceed to sweep in area
C and B as necessary.
(2) Future intentions are to cover O.S.81/K.M.S.
55 which R/V off Oversay at 1530/23rd.
(C. in C. W.A. 191131B to BULLDOG.)

Mining

Great LL/SA Sweeper detonated 2 acoustic mines position
Yarmouth. 180 degs. No.3 C buoy 24 cables at 1114.
(F.O.I.C. Great Yarmouth, 191203B as amended
191305B)
Ref. F.O.I.C. Yarmouth's 191155x and 191203x
June. (a) 1114B/19th June Acoustic. (H) Possibly A/C lay
night 10/11th June. (I) Nil. (J) 2 groups of LL/SA sweepers
had swept through this area a short time before. 2 mines
detonated very close together.
(Comdr. M.S. and P. Lowestoft, 192205B amended 192254B)
x LL/SA Sweepers detonated believed acoustic mine.
x LL/SA Sweeper detonated 2 acoustic mines.

M.L.292. M.L.292 has sustained severe damage as a result
of being mined. Intend to pay her off forthwith
and retain officers and crew pending further
instructions.
(HORNET, 191507)

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy Your 181020B. No information available of
troops in either removal or reinforcement of enemy troops
Norway and in North Norway and North Finland since June 6th.
Finland. (D.N.I. 191823B to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Navigation

Loch Ewe. Loch Ewe closed owing to bad visibility duration
uncertain.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 190249B)
My 190249B port now open.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 190701B)

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties and Defects.

SS. STAD Ashore Loch Ewe entrance require assistance tug.
VLAARDINGEN. ((BRRZ) STAD VLAARDINGEN, 190325)
Refloated.
(STAD VLAARDINGEN, 190340 G.M.T.)

Distress Following from ADULA begins "Automatic distress
Signal signal from lifeboat followed by long dash bearing
from 136 degs. approx" Ends. ADULA believes life-
Lifeboat. boat in Irish sea. ADULA approx. position
055 degs. 35' N. 007 degs. 10' W.
(S.O.C.4, 191148Z to C. in C. W.A.)

Shipping and Convoys

SS. QUEEN Diversion order.
MARY. (D.O.D.(H), 191905B to QUEEN MARY)

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Gib. G.R. From 1843 to 2013 planes 5 and 3 investigated
Opsum. contact reported by H.M. Ship 6 miles south
18th June. Europa. Dropped 7 Sonobuoys result negative.
All times D.
(A.C.H.Q. Gibraltar, 190920B.)

SS. G.G. G.G. LEPINE escorted by MAROCAIN and LA
LEPINE. GRACIEUSE sailing Gibraltar 2359B/20th for Cadiz
to (?embark) about 700 refugees.
(2) Route Q.B.A. 87 (A) 035° 58' N. 006° 23' W.
(B) 270° Castillo de San Sebastian 6 miles
speed of advance 11 knots.
(3) While LEPINE is in harbour escorts will patrol off Cadiz
outside territorial waters.
(4) Request British Consul Cadiz will sail LEPINE on completion
of embarkation to R/V escorts in position (B).
(5) From (B) LEPINE will be escorted through (C) 035° 38' N.
007° 00' W. and Q.B.A.102 to Casablanca.
(6) Codeword "Concourse" 782.
(F.O.G.M.A., 191818B to B.A. Cadiz, C.M.S.F.)

South Atlantic

SS. British ship COLUMBINE torpedoed at 2000B/16th
COLUMBINE. in approx. 032° 30' S. 017° 40' E.
(C. in C. S.A., 191015B.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- CASABIANCA. Resumed route at 12 knots. Passing through 039° 38' 005° 52' at 1300/19th to R/V in 036° 57' 003° 03' at 0750/20th.
(CASABIANCA 190832B to Capt. S.10.)
- VIVID. From position 035° 41' 023° 06' about 0102/21st proceed to R/V with escorts in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 0800/23rd.
2. You are to dive by day east of 022° E. your surface speed is estimated as 8½ knots.
(Capt. S.1 190945B to VIVID.)
- German ships in transit. German tug ^LNAMSEQ and 2 (corrupt groups) motor boats KATERINA and ANNA MARIA about 40 tons each arrived Bosphorus 0530 G.M.T. 19th in transit for Salonika. Vessels being? examined but report states all 3 appear to be bona fide (commercial?) craft. 2. F.O.L.E.M. please pass to C. in C.Med.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 191025C to B.N.A. Ankara, F.O.L.E.M. (R) Capt. S.1.)
- VAMPIRE. Appreciate movement of merchant ships Rhodes to Leros and Leros to Rhodes are imminent and that convoys will not be heavily escorted.
2. You are well placed to intercept either but it may not be possible to give you any warning of sailing.
(Capt. S.1 191141 to VAMPIRE.)
- Greek mutineers. First batch of Greek mutineers for Courts Martial\$ have been removed from 305 Prisoner of War Camp, and brought to Alexandria, and are now imprisoned in Greek Aux. IONIA where courts are to be held commencing in next few days. Intention is to hold 1 court for each ship, officers and men being tried together.
(F.O.L.E.M. 191253C to C. in C.Med.)
- U.G.S. convoys. Your 181050 para. 2. Approx. E.T.A. of future U.G.S. convoys at Port Said as follows. U.G.S.44 28th June. U.G.S.45 8th July. U.G.S.46 19th July. Thereafter on a ten day cycle.
(F.O.L.E.M. 191413 to N.O.I.C. Aden.)
- S/Ms. Your 182354 VIRTUE allocated Mediterranean Fleet 019 to Eastern Fleet.
(F.O.S. 191548 to C. in C.Med.)
- SS. FENJA. Master FENJA reports position of sinking 037° 02' N. 027° 11' E. My 171705 refers.
(B.N.A. Ankara 191700C to F.O.L.E.M.)

/SS. CHERCA...

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

SS. CHERCA,
ORATA
(Italian).

CHERCA with engine defects had to be towed back to Las Palmas by ORFARA (?ORATA intended). Broken down repairs expected to be completed by night of 20th June and vessel be ready for sea a.m. 21st.
2. ORFARA sailed 1520Z/18, speed 7 knots.
(B.N.A. Madrid 191705A.)
See R.O. Las Palmas 181301.

Enemy dr. &
2 R-Boats
damaged.

Beaufighters attacked 1 destroyer, 2 escort vessels at 1630 between Kalimmo and Cape Daphni. Result unknown yet.

(F.O.L.E.M. 191753C to VIVID, Info. Capt. S.1.)

My 191735 (?191753C intended) not to VAMPIRE. At 1630 (corrupt group) Boston aircraft attacked and

badly damaged 1 destroyer probably damaged 2 R-Boats.

2. Suggest VAMPIRE finishes off.

3. Look out for 1 air crew in dinghy.

(F.O.L.E.M. 191917C to Capt. S.1. (R) VAMPIRE, S.O. 51 Force, M.T.F. 315, Cdr. S.10.)

At 1710 destroyer seen 3 miles off Porto Lago making for harbour with 2 R-Boats. —

2. Consider destroyer damaged.

3. Cancel para. 2 and 3 of my 191917.

Air crew ditched very close south Kalimmo and probably now on shore.

(F.O.L.E.M. 192031C.)

Address of my 191753 should have read P.72 (VAMPIRE).

(F.O.L.E.M. 192035 to VIVID, Capt. S.1st.)

1 destroyer badly damaged by aircraft between Cape Daphni and Kalimmo. 2 R-Boats probably damaged. Endeavouring to finish off.

2. Attention is called to Q.B. (Z).

(Capt. S.1 192143B to VAMPIRE, (R) F.O.L.E.M. Comaro 1.)

Vessels in my 192143* now probably returned to Port Laki.

2. Resume patrol ordered in my 181915 para. 2.

(Capt. S.1 192354.)

* Destroyers badly damaged by aircraft.

R.D.S.

2 R.D.S. see A.M. 795A have been recovered.

Length of spar and metal tube each 15 feet 9 clusters of 4 strips each. No transmitter or explosive charge. 796 refers.

(C. in C. Med. 191825 to Med. Station 873B.)

Elba.

Enemy now reduced to northeast sector of Island, prisoners over 1,000. Proportion Italians and Germans now (?not) known. Probably mostly former as French consider Island more strongly held than had been anticipated.

(A.F.H.Q. Algiers 191850B.)

/VICTORIOUS...

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War Diary.19.6.1944.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.VICTORIOUS,
INDOMITABLE.Add to my 192018 VICTORIOUS, INDOMITABLE departed.
(N.O.I.C. Algiers 192024.)Elba.

Cositintrep No. 345. Part 4. Good progress has been made in the attack on Elba Thirteen Senegalese Regiment advancing east along the north road reached the area 2 kilometres S.W. of Portoferraio where it was held up by strong artillery fire. Four Senegalese Regiment advancing along the central road captured Recido D.9870 and is advancing toward Puccio to the east. By 1400 hrs. with the support of artillery and naval gunfire, enemy resistance was overcome and the air force reported that Portoferraio was in our hands. Enfol battery is taken Tabors advancing along the south coastal road reached the road junction immediately south of Puccio. In the west the Bn. de Choc was mopping up in the mountains. The attack continues.
(No T.O.O/19, Recd. 2145. from A.F.H.Q. Algiers)

Situation
report 381.

1. Coastal force night 17/18th June operated in Piombino Channel had action with destroyer, corvette and F-Lighter. F-Lighter probably torpedoed, corvette all guns silenced and left on fire aft, one M.T.B. damaged some casualties.

→ 2. Operation "Brassard": followed up convoy arrived on 18th and programme proceeded according to plan with all craft now inside (2 corrupt groups) O.D.1 Campo. Organised resistance in Island ceased at noon 19th it is reported that fire of L.C.T.(R) was very effective and decisive in enabling the initial assault to land comparatively easily.
(C. in C.Med. 192320.)

? Golfo di

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-positions.	No. 63 no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. (C. in C.E.F. 190338Z.)
SS. COLINA (Tanker) S/M distress report.	333S Position 14.00 N. 64.55 E. firing salvo no return. ((KHZH) COLINA No T.O.O.)
SIRDAR, SURF, Pat-rol reports.	SIRDAR first Far East War Patrol. 2. 1559FG/3 in 00° 23' S. 99° 49' E. fired 3 torpedoes at 500 ton vessel towing barges missed. Counter attack of two depth charges no damage. 3. 1359/8 bombarded War Houses at Sibolga, West coast of Sumatra, with 17 rounds causing 500 foot column of black smoke. There was a prompt and accurate response from shore batteries. No damage. 4. At 1437 the same day gunned and disabled 50 ton sailing vessel off Sibolga. 5. 0757FG/11 damaged 500 ton merchant vessel by gunfire in 01° 27 mins. N. 98° 41' E. 6. Shore batteries alert throughout patrol. 7. SURF 4 Far East War Patrol. 8. 8 mines laid successfully. 9. 15 June attacked convoy of 8 small ships bound for Sabang in 05° 20' N. 94° 34' E. with one torpedo at 1652 FG torpedo missed. (C. in C.E.F. 191134Z.) See amendment 220538Z.
Operation "Pedal" (Air raid on Port Blair.)	Departures RENOWN, RICHELIEU, ILLUSTRIOUS, NIGERIA, KENYA, CEYLON, PHOEBE, QUALITY, RAIDER, RELENTLESS, RACEHORSE, ROEBUCK, ROTHERHAM, QUICKMATCH, QUILLIAM. (N.O.I.C. Trincomalee 191350Z.)
Future naval policy.	To Chiefs of Staff from General Auchinleck. Request guidance whether large naval forces (after the defeat of Germany) are likely to operate on extensive scale based on Indian Ports independent of Combined Operations planned in conjunction with
S.E.A.C.	If such action staged, these forces may require extensive use of limited Indian harbours and need assistance on administrative side from India. Should welcome early information on scope of administrative assistance required if any. (Armindia 191450 to A.M.S.S.O.)
Diego Suarez.	3. Stage one of reduction expected to be completed by 1st Sept. (C. in C.E.F. 201503.)

/Reinforcement...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Reinforcement of escort forces. Reinforcement of escort forces A.M. 231534 May refers. As further escorts become available it is hoped to replace Bathursts, Bangors? and Trawlers in the escorts group by other more suitable vessels.

2. These small ships are most unsuitable for ocean escort duties particularly in the monsoon periods. Their equipment is poor, their endurance is limited and their speed is very low.

3. It would be of assistance if information could be furnished of the composition of the 120 ships mentioned in para. 3C of the above Admiralty Message.

(C. in C.E.F. 191529 to Admty.)

A.A. defence of Diego Suarez. Your 161000. Fact that present scale of attack incl. possible air R/C from submarines consider A.A. def. Diego Suarez should be reduced to min. 4 H.A.A. guns in "Frightener" role. C. in C.E.F. consulted and agrees this reduction.
(G.O.C. in C.E.Africa 191605B to W.O.)

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MondayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesO.N.M.240,
H.X.M.295.

Inconclusive D/F at 2327Z on 8260 k/cs indicate U-Boat (German) in your general vicinity which may have reported you. This frequency need not be guarded.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 190023Z to S.E. O.N.M.240. and H.X.M.295. (R) C. in C. C.N.A., F.O.N.F., A.F.H.Q. A.O.C. in C. E.A.C. 1 Group St. Johns. S.B.N.O. Admty. Cominch)

O.N. Convoys. It is intended when U-Boat situation permits and in order to speed up turn around to ask C. in C. W.A. to detach ships for St. Lawrence from O.N. convoys on A and B standard routes in a position when convoy is approx. east of Belle Isle.
(2) Such ships to proceed independently through Belle Isle.
(3) My 191357/ refers.
(N.S.H.Q.191359Z to Admty.)
/ S/M attack and sighting 19th June.)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. 191416Z, Cominch, 191452Z)

SS. EMPRESS Diversion order.
OF SCOTLAND. (D.O.D.(H), 191438B to EMPRESS OF SCOTLAND.)

Duplication To avoid duplication in signalling it is proposed:
in signalling. (a) to discontinue the daily movements summary addressed to Cominch, such as A.M. 111050.
 (b) To add Cominch and Comnavu to the address of the daily signal addressed Com. 10th Fleet giving positions at 0800, such as A.M. 110327.
 (c) To include in this latter signal the position of any H.M. ships which would formerly have been in (a).
(2) Request your concurrence or remarks.
(D.O.D.(H), 191732Z to Cominch, Info: Com. 10th Fleet, Comnavu)

SS. MOUNT Amendment to 181602.
VERNON. (Cdr. 10th Fleet, 191737Z)

U.C.26. U.C. 26 NK NS recommend diversion from R.M. 48.43 36.56 to 40 N.44 W.40 N. 56 W. 39 N. 68 W.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 191740Z to Admty.)

Japanese B.A.S. Washington 191825Q see Australia and New
defensive Zealand.
tactics,
Saipan.

U/B /...

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MondayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies.- Contd.

U-Boat MAURICE TRACY U.S. Cargo in collision sunk 39.53
incidents. N. 73.58 W. 170745. Para. A. American export
Casualties. plane sighted surfaced U-Boat which opened fire
and submerged after one minute 53.07 N. 16.12 W.
182155. All times Z.
Para. C. Air Raid Warden sighted U-Boat C/T
moving east 43.27 N.65.15 W. 191250.
(Cominch, 192115Z)

T.G.27.7. Task Group 27.7. hereby constituted Rear Admiral
Calvin T. Durgin in TULAGI, KASAAN BAY, TATUM,
HAINES, TUNNELS, HOLLIS, MARSH, CURRIER.
When in all respects ready for distant duty on
30th June depart Newport proceed to arrive Mediterranean by 10th
July. Upon arrival Mediterranean report Com. 8th Fleet for
temporary duty at which time Task Group dissolved.
(Cinclant, 192218)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest Early morning two R.A.A.F. Beaufighters co-opera-
881. ting with M.T.B's bombed strafed enemy gun
June 18th. positions Dogreto Bay.
(10) Night 17th U.S.S/M successfully attacked
two medium cargo Vessels with Escorts East of
Morotai Island.
(15) Night 17th - 18th M.T.B's shelled enemy shore positions East
and Northeast coast New Ireland while similar craft shelled
Selapiu and Enang Islands West of Kavieng.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 190940Z)

Japanese def- Following preliminary information extracted from
ensive tactics signal dated 17 June from C.G. U.S. Army Forces
Saipan. Central Pacific area.
(2) No obstacles or boat mines found off-shore
but many small boats anchored there for use as
floating strong points. Beaches well organized
for defence. Japs held fire until first wave ashore, then
directed intense fire along beaches and approach lanes. Inland
advance met stiff resistance from Fd. Arty M.G.S. and mortars.
(B.A.S. Washington, 191825Q)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
 and sight-
 ing summary.

Para. A. (1) E.G.14, attacked possible U-Boat
 at 1449Z/18th in 49 degs. 03' N. 03 degs. 13' W.
 (2) A/C B/110 attacked surfaced U-Boat with
 depth charges at 1715Z/18 in 49 degs. 36' N. 02
 degs. 35' W.

(3) A/C N/103 sighted U-Boat at 1730Z/18 in 49
 degs. 47' N. 02 degs. 57' W.

(4) A/C U/172 sighted 2 U-Boats on surface, course 129 degs. at
 0315Z/19 in 49 degs. 37' N. 03 degs. 14' W.

*not
 in 444
 0411
 sunk*

→ (5) A/C A/304 sighted two U-Boats course 90 degs. and attacked
 one at 2055Z/18 in 49 degs. 00' N. 04 degs. 50' W.

(6) R.A.F. N. Ireland reports U-Boat course 180 degs. at
 1535Z/18 in 54 degs. 00' N. 19 degs. 00' W.

(7) Clipper A/C fired on by U-Boat, course 200 degs., before
 2035Z/18th in 57 degs. 07' N. 16 degs. 12' W.

Para. B. (1) L.C.I.L. sighted U-Boat on surface at 0103Z/19
 in 50 degs. 22' N. 00 degs. 56' W.

(2) E.G.5, attacked contact with depth charges and hedgehog
 at 1437Z/18 in 49 degs. 09' N. 05 degs. 24' W.

(3) A/C T/612 attacked periscope in oil slick with depth charges
 at 2047Z/18 in 49 degs. 20' N. 08 degs. 39' W.

(4) A/C Z/59 sighted periscope, course 100 degs. at 2245Z/18 in
 49 degs. 25' N. 09 degs. 00' W.

(5) A/C J/179 sighted periscope, course S., at 0155Z/19 in 49
 degs. 17' N. 06 degs. 53' W.

(6) SS. COLINA sent SSSS before 0555Z/19 in 14 degs. 00' N.
 64' 55' E.

Para. C. (1) A/C of 9th T.A.F. reported U-Boat at 1900Z/17
 in 49 degs. 55' N. 01 degs. 44' W.

(2) DAHLIA attacked contact at 1508Z/18 in 50 degs. 22' N.
 03 degs. 04' W.

(3) H.M.C.S. GATINEAU attacked contact at 2118Z/18 in approx.
 50 degs. 17' N. 00 degs. 22' W.

(4) U-Boat sighted on surface, course 140 degs. at 0020Z/19
 in approx. 50 degs. 14' N. 00 degs. 12' W.

(5) A/C C/10 saw oil streak and obtained A.S.V. contact at
 2032Z/18 in 49 degs. 18' N. 08 degs. 21' W.

(D.T.D.191357B)

U-Boat Estimates.
 dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 191410B, 191436B)

20.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) Gale conditions off the beaches stopped unloading today, and nearly all sailings were temporarily suspended today until the weather moderates and congestion at the anchorages is cleared. The only discharges were small amounts through St. Laurent and Arromanches, both of which, although by no means completed are proving their worth.

(b) The weather has caused delay to the construction of the ports of St. Laurent and Arromanches and damage to the installations. At the former L.C.Ts. are reported adrift and causing serious damage to the whale roadway; and at Arromanches one unit in the gooseberry extension has disintegrated. Of the 28 units sailed on 18th 11 have sunk and a further 6 are known to be in difficulties. The lost units cannot be replaced at present and the effect on the completion of the piers will be serious.

(c) At noon today it was estimated that about 50 per cent of landing barge vehicle, L.C.M. and L.C.T. are unserviceable on all beaches and require long term repairs.

(d) Enemy shore batteries fired 20 rounds at Convoy E.T.M.14 off Folkestone between 0218 and 0335 today. No casualties occurred, but one ship was slightly damaged and continued in convoy.

Casualties.

2(a) The French frigate LA SURPRISE was damaged by mines this forenoon in the Omaha area; both her condensers were put out of action and she can only steam for 2 hours on one engine.

(b) The cruiser DIADEM sustained minor damage by collision with a ship dragging anchor.

(c) Ground tackle losses are reported from landing craft in the Western Area.

Enemy.

3(a) Coastal Command aircraft made a promising attack on a U-Boat at 2359 today, 150 miles west of the Scillies.

(b) The weather last night was unsuitable for the operation of coastal craft or E-Boats.

Military situation.

4(a) Co-ordinated attacks all along the north front in the Cherbourg Peninsula brought the port under artillery fire this morning, and by this evening Allied troops were attacking the outer defences of the port.

(b) Elsewhere, one or two slight advances were made. Tilly-sur-Seulles was recaptured after fierce fighting.

(c) French Partisans are carrying out widespread and successful action against communications which has had the effect of delaying the arrival of German reinforcements.

/Cherbourg ...

20.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

Cherbourg
convoy.

5. The first convoy for Cherbourg (E.B.M.4) is to be ready to sail from Milford Haven on the morning of 22nd June.

6. The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Beaches:	330,606	54,862	106,795
U.S. Beaches:	307,439	42,806	117,843
Total:	<u>638,045</u>	<u>97,668</u>	<u>224,638</u>

General

A/U
Operation.

7. R.A.E.C. in ROYALIST with SHEFFIELD, STRIKER, FENCER and 6 destroyers sailed from Scapa early this morning to operate against U-Boats in the southern part of the Greenland Sea.

Operation
D.B.

8. JAMAICA reports that Force One sailed from Spitzbergen at 1930 G.M.T. today.

South Atlantic

Independent
sailings.

9. Southbound independent sailings between Beira and Durban were ordered to be resumed today, and northbound independent sailings for all parts. The latter were cancelled again as from 26th June inclusive.

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20.6.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Elba.

10(a) The island of Elba is entirely in our hands. A report from the Commander of French Army B under whom the task force operated states that over 500 enemy were killed and more than 1800 captured, of which two thirds are Germans. The French lost about 400 killed and 600 wounded. Casualties in the Royal Navy were about 30 killed and 100 wounded.

(b) Coastal forces operating off Elba last night attacked a convoy of 5 F lighters and an E-Boat which had been seen loading in Cavo Bay. Three of the lighters were torpedoed and a fourth possibly sunk: the E-Boat escaped.

(c) German Commandos landed on Point di Cavo last night. They were engaged by French troops and re-embarked the same night, with some loss. The object of the raid is believed to have been the rescue of General Gall.

Coal situation.

11. With the advanced date of future operations and the heavy minesweeping effort now required on both sides of Italy the Naval coal situation is causing some anxiety. The present employment operationally of station colliers prevents loading from the Levant, and colliers have to be sent out from the U.K. in K.M.S. convoys.

Civita Vecchia.

12. The first Liberty ship was berthed alongside at Civita Vecchia today. 6,065 tons were discharged today.

13. Fighter bombers of the Tactical Air Force today made 5 direct hits on the incomplete aircraft carrier in Genoa harbour.

China.

Shipping destruction by U.S. A/Cs.

14. In Aamah Bay, Hainan Island 3 U.S. Liberators today sank a 400 ft. freighter and probably also a 350 ft. freighter and damaged a third.

20.6.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORTAustralia and New Zealand

Naval
engagement
between
Marianas and
Philippines.

*19th & 20th
June, last
Longitude
date.*

15(a) It is reported that in a broadcast announcement from Honolulu on 22nd June the C. in C. U.S. Pacific Fleet stated that as result of an action which took place between the Marianas and the Philippines this evening U.S. Naval forces (aircraft) have sunk a Japanese aircraft carrier (later reported as HITAKA class) and 3 fleet oilers. Ten other Japanese ships were damaged (subsequently stated to be 1 SHOKAKU carrier, 1 HITAKA, 1 light cruiser, 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 2 oilers, 3 destroyers); of these the HITAKA carrier was left burning fiercely and one destroyer may have sunk.

(b) Two U.S. aircraft carriers and a battleship were damaged.

(c) 353 Japanese aircraft were destroyed. The U.S. force lost 49 aircraft.

Coastal
forces.

16(a) M.T.Bs. last night shelled the north-east coast of Bougainville.

(b) M.T.Bs. also operated last night off the north coast of Biak Island where they sank a single enemy barge and were ineffectively attacked by enemy aircraft.

17. A patrol Liberator sighted 15 or more ships 30 miles north of Palau last night and sank one of them.

Minelaying
off Wewak.

18. H.M.S. ARIADNE, attached to the U.S. Task Force 75, laid mines off Wewak last night.

(Details in Minelaying War Diary, XV., 153-154).

20.6.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval.

Cositintrep No.34 Part 2 Naval.

A. General. A stiff onshore wind arose during the day with choppy sea and breakers on beaches. Sailings to far shore of L.S.T. and all smaller

craft suspended. Salvage and repair of craft off beaches may become necessary.

Increased enemy air activity over anchorages with some bombing and minelaying during darkness of 18th/19th. Pilotless A/C flew over eastern area during night and at 1838/19th. They were southbound.

L.S.T.523 sunk with casualties in Utah sector by mine, probably having delayed action. Movement suspended in area during further sweeping. One M.M.S. damaged by bomb in eastern area. 285 mines have been swept up to 0900/19th in the Western Task Force area.

B. Troops, etc. landed.

Cumulative to p.m. 17th:

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno and Sword	296,608	51,199	96,065
Omaha and Utah	293,045	38,629	100,399
Total (D+10)	589,653	89,828	196,464

Last reported 24 hours.

Gold (to p.m. 18th)	9,588	1,232	1,999
Juno (to p.m. 17th)	5,317	1,456	3,165
Sword (to p.m. 17th)	1,143	406	1,775
Omaha (to p.m.18th)	10,791	2,515	8,876
Utah (to p.m. 17th)	9,094	1,166	4,784

Corrected, see page 496.

C. Casualties. JERVIS - damaged, collision. L.S.T. 523 - sunk, mine.

D. Coastal Command. Three U-Boats have been attacked with inconclusive results one in Western Channel spout.

E. Intelligence. Three BEETLE tanks captured on UTAH beach have arrived at Portland.

(Ramsay signed Eisenhower, 200013B)

Weather damage to craft is estimated as follows:
 (A) Landing barge vehicle, L.C.M. and L.C.T. approx. 50 per cent unserviceable on all beaches. Requires long term repairs. These which shelter

in Gooseberries are in order.

(B) L.S.T. Juno Area dried out and successfully refloated in Lee of Gooseberry. Gold Area. Weather conditions unsuitable. All anchors off. Sword area Nil.

(C) Shuttle service craft. Juno Area - 6 damaged on beach. Remainder in shelter.

(D) M.T. ships. All anchored. Work suspended.

(E) Coasters. Juno area 5 beached. 2 are completed and 3 still working. Gold area Nil. Sword Area 2 completed unloading Mulberry B some L.C.I's unloaded and cleared. 4 L.C.I's being brought in to unload.

(F) One Chant underneath one capsized. Trawler regard stranded.

(2) Army requirements in priority for ammunition L.S.T. and L.C.T. are also required but not at expense of future build-up. L.C.T. arriving should heave to in respective areas until the weather moderates.

(3) Weather forecast. Moderating tonight.

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Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports.

(4) Action being taken. 3 ammunition coasters ordered to Mulberry B alongside forthwith Mulberry anchorage being cleared of stores. Coasters to make room for ammunition coasters. A few berths are workable by Dukws, 1 Coaster being selected to enter Oistreham tonight unless weather is suitable to beach her at Sword. Condition unsuitable for beaching L.S.T. and Coasters.
 (5) In future ferry craft to be safeguarded by sending them to Gooseberry on first threat of bad weather.
 (6) Further signal will be made as to urgent provision of personnel and equipment for rapid repair of stranded craft.
 (N.C.E.T.F. A. 201221B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Cositintrep No.35 Part two Naval.

A. General. Gale conditions off beaches have stopped unloading and nearly all sailings are temporarily suspended. Minor discharge only possible under shelter of Mulberries. ^{No} reports of major damage to ships at anchor, but situation as to landing craft not yet reported. In future Mulberry "A" is named St. Laurent and Mulberry "B" Arromanches. Assembly of both is delayed by weather. No enemy activity at sea reported during the night.
 B. Casualties, Nil. C. Coastal Command. Shortly after dawn one U-Boat was attacked 30 miles N. of Ushant. Results unobserved.
 D. Intelligence. Nothing to report.
 (Ramsay signed Eisenhower, 201437B)

A. General. No unloading throughout the day owing to persistence of gale conditions except though St. Laurent and Arromanches in small amounts. Although by no means completed both are proving their worth. Virtually all convoy sailings stopped until weather moderates and congestion cleared at far shore anchorages.
 DIADEM sustained minor damage by collision with ship dragging anchor. Ground tackle losses are reported from Landing Craft in Western Area.

B. Troops etc. landed.

Cumulation to p.m. 18th.	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores	
Gold, Juno and Sword	314,547	54,282	102,679	tons
Omaha and Utah	307,439	41,468	114,945	"
Totals (D+12)	621,986	95,750	217,624	"
24 hours to p.m. 18th				
Gold	9,588	1,232	1,999	"
Juno	7,802	1,663	2,508	"
Sword	549	183	2,107	"
Omaha	10,791	2,515	8,876	"
Utah	5,583	324	5,670	"

(note: Corrected figures for Utah 24 hrs. to p.m. 17th: (p.495)
 Personnel 7,114 vehicles 1,066)

C. Casualties. DIADEM: Minor damage, collision.

D. Coastal Command. Nothing to report.

E. Intelligence. Reports of large shipping convoys in the Bay of Biscay and off the Dutch Coast are not considered substantial. No major movement by sea to reinforce the Battle Area or to relieve enemy transport situation as yet apparent.

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20.6.1944
TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

It is appreciated that demolition of even major installations in the Port of Cherbourg is unlikely to be complete for several days.
(Ramsay signed Eisenhower, 202340B)

Navistrep 18. Nothing of interest to report.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 202100B)

Cherbourg demolitions. Following is appreciation of present state of Cherbourg demolitions:-
Sea Entrance. The 12,000 ton SOLGLINT is sunk and blocks east side of Darse Trans-Atlantique entrance.
A 3,000 ton ship was photographed in tow of 3 tugs between west quay of Darse Atlantique and SOLGLINT at 2045/17 June.
Inference: Intention to block entrance completely.
A merchant vessel is believed to be ready for blocking the entrance to the Avant Port.
(2) Quays. West Quay Darse Transatlantique blown up and facilities destroyed. East Mole, Darse Transatlantique demolished in 9 places.
Quai de Normandi demolished in 5 places.
Chantereyne. Along the quay, east of Port d'Onglet buildings have been partially demolished. One 30 ton tower crane situated off the Seaplane Base quay is now seen lying in the water by its base.
Inference. All quays and facilities mined for demolition. They will be systematically destroyed. Mines laid so that quays collapse outwards.
(3) Dry Dock (Quai Homet). The caisson is three quarters closed and slightly askew. It was last seen open on 10.6.44. Dry docks Nos. 5 and 6 The gantry on the quay between these dry docks is damaged.
(4) Mining of Harbour and Beaches. A Number of rows of sea mines have been laid below L.W. Mark.
Inferences. There is a possibility that Katie mines have been used. Following the practice in evacuated Block Sea ports it is anticipated that mines will be laid to foul the harbour.
(5) Seaplane Base. (a) Of the two hangers immediately east of the largest hanger in the base, the northern has been partially damaged; the north end has collapsed.
(D.N.I. 200040B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Further to Admiralty 200040. Additional details of Cherbourg demolitions as follows:
(2) Quai de Normandie. Quay face southern half destroyed Quay surface 60 foot strip of demolition along whole length causing flooding and wrecking sheds.
(3) Quai de France, Quay face still intact. Quay surface and railway tracks partially blown up. Large craters.
(4) Arsenal. Dry dock demolition in progress. S/M stores and machine shop building shop repair shop and Hydrogen plant all partly demolished.
(5) It is appreciated by A.N.C.X.F. that even so the great size of dock area, the probable shortage of labour and supplies will prohibit total destruction of the port and that to carry out only major demolitions will need about a week for completion.
(A.N.C.X.F. 202230 to S.H.A.E.F., N.C.W.T.F.) Military /...

20.6.1944
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Military Communique No.29. Co-ordinated attacks all along the North front in the Cherbourg Peninsula have brought the port under artillery fire. After Liberating the town of Briquebec Allied troops made further advances towards the village of Rauville la Bigot. East of Valognes our troops gained some ground. Another advance reached to within two miles of Valognes and cut the road from there to Briquebec. Further east the enemy was once again driven from Tilly sur Seulles after fierce fighting. In spite of bad weather, light A/C escorted shipping and patrolled the beaches. Some Fighters broke through the cloud screen to bomb and strafe locomotives, motor vehicles, barges and warehouses behind the lines. They encountered intense flak at low level. From these operations two medium bombers and 15 fighters are missing.
(S.H.A.E.F. 201100B)

S-54248 Cositintrep No.35 Part 4 201400B June. Last part 4 issued was number 28. Resistance Groups report maintenance of railway cuts. Particularly in Brittany, Rhone Valley, Bordeaux, Poitiers and Chalons-Sur-Saone Areas. Following are some of more important lines in France and Belgium reported cut: Belfort-Montbeliard, Limoges-Montauban-Poitiers-Tours, Perigueux-Agen, Grenoble-Valence, Cambrai- St. Quentin, Lixle-Lens, Arras-Amiens, Charleroi-Wavre, Charleroi-Tirlemont. Two SS Panzer Division reported delayed in its movement northward for upwards of one week. Military telephone lines in Normandy and Paris-Brest underground cable have been cut. Widespread and successful action by Partisans has led to sharp re-action by Germans and in particular heavy fighting with considerable casualties on both sides reported from Pyrenees, Puy De Dome, Cortexe, Cantal. Reprisals by Germans reported from Bordeaux Area. Para Sas Troops in Gedon Area of Brittany report concentrated attack by Germans on 18th June. Attack repelled after a sharp fight.
(S.H.A.E.F. 201935B)

OA 221 Secret 202200B Cositintrep No.36 part 1 Following arrived far shore but unloading delayed by weather 227 Inf. BDE to complete 15 Inf. Div. H.Q. 43. Inf. Div. and 129 Inf. Bde. 31 Tk Bde. less 1 Regt. Signed Eisenhower.
(Exfor Main 202237B)

Communique No.30. Allied troops are attacking the outer defences of Cherbourg. Montebourg has been liberated and our forces are on the three sides of Valognes, where heavy fighting is in progress. Our positions in the area of Tilly are firm. Very heavy fighting continued near Hottot yesterday. Bad weather in the battle area limited air operations until mid-day to-day.
(S.H.A.E.F. 202330B)

20.6.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Assault Areas

Eastern Sector.

Request fuel oil tanker be expedited.
(N.C.E.T.F. (A), 201458B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Ramp M.P.3. (A) S.205 and 204 arrived. Tugs assisting here tows of S.168, 211, 202 believed lost and tugs reported as having returned to U.K.
(B) Tugs LARIAT, EMPIRE LARCH, DESTINY R, JONA

OWL and BAT (Convoy B.M.O. 5) arrived without tows and are being retained to assist locally except LARIAT who has sailed U.K. for repairs. BODIE ISLAND and tow last reported off Mulberry A. STORM KING with PHOENIX arrived yesterday in place of S.200. My 191 refers.

(C) FRATTON is furnishing report on behaviour of Bombardons when weather moderates. A.N.C.X.F. 191544 refers

(D) No information available regarding whereabouts of L.T.2 and L.T. 156. A.N.C.X.F. 191331 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 201816)

Ramp Navsitrep. (A) 700. 2 L.S.I's still to unload. (C) 800. Ducks have been unloading all day from Coasters at anchor.

(F) Steamship WESTDALE (Ammo) sunk in offing? ten survivors landed no further details yet. L.C.T.947 capsized and sank near Blockships without loss of life six tugs arrived without whale tows and others have not yet arrived. Some small craft have driven ashore.

(G) Wind has been North North East force 7 and 8 increasing to 8 with a heavy sea, there is good shelter in the Gooseberry and the harbour is now filled to capacity, some damage to L.S.T. pier and Spud Pief Heads at anchor is reported.

(N.O.I.C. Mulberry (B) 201930B)

Note: The circulation of this signal has been delayed due to part one being at first received undecypherable.

Bombardment Forces

RAMILLIES.

Comply with A.N.C.X.F. 191119B+.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 200159B to RAMILLIES) +Request RAMILLIES may be placed at 4 hours notice.

Covering Forces

Patrols from Dover.

O.N. Dover 67.
F.N.1 M.L.101, 102, Z.1. F.N.2 M.L.286, 466, Z.2. F.U.3 OBEDIENT, Z.3. F.N. 5 M.T.B.699, 697, 705, Z.5. F.U.7 COTTESMORE, Z.7. F.U.8 ORWELL, Z.8. F.N.9 M.T.B. 608, 614, Z.9 West.

F.U.1 LA COMBATTANTE, Z.11 West. F.U. 2 MELBREAK, 325 degs. Cap D'Antifer 28½ miles. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR, Z.12 East. F.Y.2 M.T.B.613, 616, Z.12 East. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH, Z.13 East. F.X. 2 M.T.B.710, 700, Z.13 East. F.U. 4 WENSLEYDALE, from position 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. to position 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.

500

20.6.1944
TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces.

Patrols from Dover. (Contd.) (2) OBEDIENT has freedom of action in Z.4 Square. (3) W/T communications. WENSLEYDALE, MELBREAK acknowledge. (V.A. Dover, 201223B as amended 201635B)

Patrols for Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth one Para. 3. Cover Night 20th/21st. (A) TANATSIDE (G.F.1) OFFA (G.F.2) BEAGLE (G.F.3) ROWLEY (G.F.4) 01.00 W. between 49.47 N. and 50.05 N. (F) Force G.D. and Unit G.B. via Needles and 50.10 N. 01.45 W. to reach Patrol by 2330B. Force G.F. to be on patrol by 2200B. TANATSIDE to report dispositions. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 201318B amended 201537B, 201708B). Note: Paras. B. C.D.E.. were cancelled by 201708B

O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night channel report 20/21st June. (1) F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3, F.U.7 COTTESMORE Z.7. F.U.8 ORWELL Z.8, F.U.1 LA COMBATTANTE Z.11 West. F.U.2 MELBREAK 325 degs. Cap D'Antifer 3 miles. F.Y. 1 SEYMOUR Z.12 East. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13 East. F.U.4 WENSLEYDALE between 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. and 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W. Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z. buoy. (2) F.N.1 2 M.L's Z.1. F.N.5 2 M.T.B's Z.5. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs Z.12 East. F.X. 2 2 M.T.Bs Z.13 East. F.N. 2 2 M.Ls Z.2. F.N.9 2 M.T.Bs Z.9 West. (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, 201809B) Note: See another version 201817E

O.N.1 para. 52 (B) Western night channel report 20/21st June. (1) Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z buoy. G.F.1 TANATSIDE, G.F. 2 OFFA, G.F. 3 BEAGLE. G.F.4 ROWLEY O.N.01 degs. W. between 49 degs. 47' and 50 degs. 05' N. Second E.G. Z.224, Z.229, Z.233. Third E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Western half Z.201, Z.202, Northern half Z.208. Sixth E.G. Z.232, Z.237 Ninth E.G. Z.247, Z.248 Twelfth E.G. Z.222, Z.223, Z.224. Fourteenth, E.G. Z.209, Z.220, Z.221. Fifteenth E.G. Z.217, North Z.222, Z.227. (2) A/C all areas west of 2 degs West, North of French coast excluding Channel Islands Swordfish on coastal convoy routes. Albacores Z.115, Z.122, Z.203. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 201817B)

O.N.1 para. 52 B. Eastern night channel report 20th/21st June. (1) F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.U.7 COTTESMORE Z.7 F.U.8 ORWELL Z.8. F.U.1 007 ARCHER Z.11 West. F.U.2 MELBREAK 325 degs. Capt D'Antifer 3 miles. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 east. F.X.1 040 degs. 423 Z.13 east. F.U.4, H.M.S. WENSLEYDALE between 049 degs. 43' N. 000 degs. 22' W. and 049 degs. 50' N. 000 degs. 18' W. E.G.11th vicinity Z buoy. 6th E.G. Z.232, Z.237. 9th E.G. Z.247, Z.248. 12th E.G. Z.222, Z.223, 224. 14th E.G. Z.219, Z.220, Z.221. 15th E.G. Z.217 N. Z.222 Z.227.

(2) /...

* 501

War Diary20.6.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces.

(2) A/C all areas west of 002 degs. W. North of French Coast Channel Islands. Swordfish on independent route. Albacores Z.115, Z.122, Z.203. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 201817B)

Force 26: Information. Own. 2nd E.G. Z.224, 229 and 233
Patrol in 3rd E.G. Z.206, 207, 201, 202 and 208.
Roches 6th E.G. Z.232 and 237. 12th E.G. Z.222, 223 and
Douvres- 224. 14th E.G. Z.219, 220 and 221. 15th E.G.
Minquiers area. Z.217, 222 and 227.

Enemy. One Narvik and 1 Elbing at Brest. M
Class M/S location uncertain. No E-Boats
seen in Cherbourg and may have moved West.

Several recent reports of U-Boats West of 2 degs. West. One may be in St. Peter Port.

Intention. (2) Force 26 BLYSKAWICA (S.O) ASHANTI and JAVELIN to operate in the Roches Douvres - Minquiers area tonight 20/21st June.

Object (3) To intercept and destroy enemy ships.

Execution. (4) Force 26 is to pass gate at 2015B to-day 20th and proceed through (XX) 49 degs. 15' N. 3 degs. 06' W. to pass (AA) 000 degs. Roches Douvres light 4 at 0030B/21.

(5) From (AA) Force 26 is to sweep through (BB) 49 degs. 06' N. 2 degs. 31' W. to (CC) 48 degs. 55' N. 2 degs. 28' West and thence back through (BB) and (XX) to Plymouth.

(6) Avoid area 2½ miles radius round 49 degs. 03' N. 2 degs. 35½' W. unless in contact with enemy. Passage South of Barnouic is now covered by shore battery.

Communications. (7).

(8) Codeword "Pimms"

(C. in C. Plymouth, 201350B to 10th D.F. (R) Authorities concerned My 201350B/para. 5. After passing (XX) on return passage Force 26 is to establish patrol between (XX) and (YY) 49 degs. 30' N. 3 degs. 36' W. until 0630 at which time if no further information Force 26 is to proceed to Plymouth.

(2) 2nd E.G. has shifted patrol to Z.231 and 226.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 202356B to Force 26 (R) Info. 2nd, 14th, 12th, 3rd E.G. A.N.C.X.F., Admiralty.)

✓ Information re patrols.

LOUIS,
E.G.15.

Join Escort Group 15 patrolling in Z.227, Z.222 and Z.217.

(2) Communications.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 201532B to LOUIS)

C. in C. Plymouth's 201532B. Shall be 180 degs.

Eddystone 7 about 0330 sweeping West 2 miles south of (?K) zone. (E.G.15, 201642B to LOUIS)

Eastern
Sector.

My 191259. Destroyer duty for night 21/22 amend as follows. Capt. Patrol. SAUMAREZ, SWIFT, ISIS, FURY, SWORD, VENUS, STORD, JUNO, SCOURGE, GOLD, IMPULSIVE.

(Capt. D.23, 202355B to N.C.E.T.F.)

20.6.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

My 190915/. Sailing postponed until 0500 tomorrow Wednesday owing to weather.
(M.S.15, 201240 to A.N.C.X.F.).
/ Re weather unsuitable for clearing.

U-Boats

Contact
and search
by E.G.9.

Obtained what at first appeared to be good A/S contact with movement in 049 degs. 34' 007 degs. 43' at 2219B. After one attack contact was lost and in spite of observant patrol and parallel sweeps contact could not be regained. Am remaining in vicinity although events suggest original contact was non-S/M.
(S.O.E.G.9, 200212B)

Your 200818/. Am close to A/C sighting report 049 degs. N. 006 degs. 35' W*. My P.C.S. 049 degs. 16' N. 006 degs. 47' W. 150 degs. 15 weather report 7070 9814 becoming unsuitable.
(S.O.E.G.9, 200903B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
/ N.T. in W.R.
* C.F. A/C L.N.V. 36 200608. An inexperienced decoder might easily decode the position given (XQHP 0035) as 49 N. 06.35 W. instead of 49 N. 05.25 W.

Position given for sighting in your 200903 incorrect. Resume searching vicinity of 049 degs. 34' N. 007 degs. 43' W. in case U-Boat still on bottom and in sector 090 degs. to 140 degs. from that position allowing speed of 2 knots from time of contact.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 201110B to E.G.9)

If not searching relieve 6th E.G. by 0600 tomorrow Wednesday. My 191245 refers.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 202010B to E.G.9 Info: E.G. 6, E.G.2, E.G.3, E.G.12, E.G.14, E.G.15, E.G.5, A.N.C.X.F. Admty. 10 Group, 19 Group)

U-Boat
report.

Nr. 1 Am over enemy S/M in 49 degs. 00' N. 05.25 W. fixed by Gee within $\frac{1}{2}$ of 0600. Periscope only sighted.
(LNV.36 200608)

Nr.2 Lost touch with U-Boat in 49 degs. 00' N. 05 degs. 25' W. dropped mark.
(LNV.36 200633)

U-Boat
dispositions.

Only 2 fresh reports in English Channel area from which 2 U-Boats estimated eastbound 49 degs. 05' N. 05 degs. 00' W. and 49 degs. 15' N. 07 degs. 25' W.

Six or 7 others between longitudes 06 degs. 00' W. and meridian of Greenwich.
(D.D.I.C.201423B)

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

A/S
Patrols.

ONSLAUGHT, ORIBI and BRISSENDEN sail at 0900 tomorrow Wednesday. Comply with 152341 OFFA, MELBREAK and ROWLEY return to harbour on relief. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 202253B to ONSLAUGHT, OFFA)

Allied Air Activity

Corridor
No.5.

A? 142 20th June, 1944. With effect from 0900 hours 21st. Corridor No.5 Selsey Bill to a point on the coast due North of Bayeux is to be brought into use for non-operation A/C the following safety measures are to be enforced (a) - (d)

Details.

(e) Corridor will be 5 miles wide and A/C will keep to the right-hand side.

(f) Corridor will be used by day only from sunrise to sunset. (H.Q. Allied Expeditionary Air Force 201649B)

Port Facilities

Arromanches.

R.A.M.P. Your 191322 displays total ignorance of situation Brigadier Walter knows the facts and will explain. (A.N.C.X.F. 200913B to N.O.I.C. Mulberry B.)

Mulberry
tows
cancelled.

R.A.M.P. Cancel all sailings of Mulberry Tows across channel to-day 20th. (A.N.C.X.F. 200946)

Phoenix
A.1.

R.A.M.P. My 191804 postponed 24 hours owing to weather. (C. in C. Nore, 201040B to Com. Southend)

Whale
Units.

Prescotts 201656/ to C. in C. Portsmouth only owing to heavy losses supply of whale units is becoming short and every effort should be made to tow in any sections found. (A.N.C.X.F. 202308B to C. in C. Portsmouth (R) N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.) / No trace.

Casualties and Defects

Whale
Unit
No.F.614.

Whale Unit No. F.614 sunk 25 fathom water at 0530 June 20th position latitude 49 degs. 42' N. long. 00 degs. 38' W. 23 fathom over wreck marked by red dan buoy. A.T.O.24 return to Solent. Require (?300 or 600) fathom 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter wire. (KEYWAYLIN, 200730B)

EMPHATIC /...

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TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties and Defects

- EMPHATIC. H.M.I.T. EMPHATIC with tow S203 broken down in position Mulberry B 010 degs. 3 miles and dragging badly towards anchorage. Request Tug urgently.
(Delivery Group I.K. 200852B)
- Unit A.267. Unit A.267 hard aground. Must come off this wind and high tide. Need small tug and extra 10 inch. Also large tug on my bow. Advise.
(A.T.R.13, 201050B to A.T.R. 13 (via Lands End Radio).
- L.C.A. 860, 914. Flotilla Officer of 522 Flotilla reports that L.C.A. 860 and 914 have been lost.
(NORTHNEY, 201115B)
- A.T.R.15. Impossible board A.T.R.15 out here. Trying tow to Mulberry B. Request tugs at Mulberry B to meet.
(SEA SALVOR, 201155B to N.C.E.T.F.(A))
- LA SURPRISE. LA SURPRISE reports damaged by mine type unknown in 049 degs. 29' N. 000 degs. 55' W. at 1142B/20. No serious leak but port propeller shaft broken, both condensers out of action, No.12 oil fuel tank leaking into after magazine and sundry other damage. Enough fresh water for 2 hours steaming at 9 knots on one engine.
(WHIMBREL, 201340B (R) 201430B)
- Chant 26, Chant 7. Tankers Chant 26 and Chant 7 driven shore by gale.
(N.C.E.T.F.(A), 201504)
- SS. EMPIRE ROGER. A.W.C.X.F. 191841/. EMPIRE ROGER has reported serious leak in oil fuel tank and that she is unfit to proceed to Far Shore.
(2) Arrangements had been made for repair on arrival at Plymouth, but in view of para. 2 repairs will now be undertaken at Portsmouth or Southampton.
(3) Request D. of S.T. may be informed when tug can be made available.
(D.O.D.(H), 201957B to C. in C. Portsmouth)
Request N.L.D.1 in tow of EMPIRE ROGER be held in I.O.W. area.

Shipping and Convoys.

- E.C.P.12. A. Sailing E.C.P.12. B.113th E.G. C.1100/20. E. for Omaha, 3 ships. For Utah, 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 200041B)

My /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.C.P.12 (Contd.) My 200041 sailing of E.C.P.12 postponed in accordance with your 192241 except for CHESHIRE (for Utah - W.D.) (A.N.C.X.F. 200536)
 WHITAKER, WALDEGRAVE retained Yarmouth. On arrival Z position detach BLENCATHRA to Portsmouth. BLENCATHRA report E.T.A.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 200608B to WHIMBREL)
 WHIMBREL 200531/ says: intend proceeding without Isle of Wight joiners for E.C.P.12 ends. WHIMBREL uses combined system for messages addressed to U.S. Authorities in future.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 200944B to N.C.W.T.F.)
 / N.T. in W.R.
- E.X.P.12. A. Sailing E.X.P.12. B. HOTHAM, EGLINTON. C. 1100/20. E. for Gold 3 ships and H.M.S. INVICTIA.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200043B)
 My 200043 sailing of E.X.P.12 postponed until you ask for it.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200538)
- E.P.L.13. B. ROCHESTER, PINK, M.L.347, 247. C. 1200/20. E. for Utah 5 L.S.T's, for Omaha, 12 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200129)
 Convoy E.P.L.13 is to return to Spithead forthwith.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200620B to ROCHESTER)
 My 200129 has been recalled.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200717 to S. & A. concerned)
- E.T.C.14. A. Sailed E.T.C.14. B. STARWORT, CUBITT, POPPY. E. For Gold 7 ships. For Juno 2 ships. For Sword 5 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200713)
- E.B.C.15. A. Sailed E.B.C.15. B. 142nd E.G. E. For Utah, 4 ships, for Omaha, 4 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200715)
- E.T.L.13. Convoy E.T.L.13 is to return to Spithead forthwith.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 200724B to FLINT)
- F.T.M.13. Sail (A) F.T.M.13. (B) MEYNELL, WALPOLE, SUNFLOWER to the Nore. CATTISTOCK to Portsmouth. (E) 3 L.S.T's to Tilbury. 2 L.S.T's to I.O.W. (F) Details of casualties and P.O.W.
 (Capt. N.S. 200900B)

E.C.M. /...

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TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- E.T.C.15. E.T.C.15 is proceeding St. Helens and anchoring for 24 hours.
(C. in C. Nore, 201235B to COTSWOLD)
- First Cherbourg Convoy: arrangements. U.S. Destroyers HOBSON, FITCH, JOUETT, SOMERS and PLUNKETT will be required to escort First Cherbourg convoy sailing from Milford Haven a.m. 22nd June.
(2) C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail SOMERS and PLUNKETT and C. in C. W.A. to detach HOBSON, FITCH and JOUETT from A.P.A. convoy, all to arrive Milford Haven p.m. 21st June.
(3) Convoy consists of FRANK KELLOGG, THOMAS JOHNSTON, LAPLAND and 12 M.T. ships and will be joined by L.S.T. 291 from Falmouth.
(4) Orders for sailing of convoy will be signalled to F.O.I.C. Cardiff and Milford Haven.
(5) Convoy will stage on south coast if Watson has not fallen.
(A.N.C.X.F.201405)
HOBSON, FITCH, JOUETT are to leave convoy in time to arrive Milford Haven p.m./21st C.T.F. 127's 191651 not to all addressees. A.N.C.X.F's 201405 both refer.
(C. in C. W.A. 201901B to Comdesdiv 20)
- F.P.L.6. (A) Sailed F.P.L.6. (B) E.G.106. (E) For Southampton 3 L.S.T's for Portland 4 L.S.T's. Details of casualties and F.C.W.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 201715)
- F.C.P.9. A. Sailed F.C.P.9. B. WHIMBREL. E. H.M.S. ST. HELLIER for Plymouth.
(C.T.G.122.7, 202024B)
- Future sailings. When weather moderates, intend sailing up to one and one third days planned numbers of L.S.T. and L.C.T. also next Coaster convoys which are small. Report how many M.T. Ships you will be able to accept (A) 12 and (B) 24 hours after discharge again commences which time should be reported.
(A.N.C.X.F., 202259B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Organisation and Administration

- L.C.A's. My 081747B. (1) It is now intended to increase number of L.C.A's carried in L.S.I.(L) to 16. Damaged craft disembarked to F.O.L.I.O.T. will be re-embarked on completion of repairs.
(2) F.O.L.I.O.T. is requested to report numbers of craft embarked.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 201134B to Admty. F.O.L.I.O.T.)
✓ Proposal to replace lost or damage L.C.A's from operational pooled reserve at Plymouth)

NELSON /...

20.6.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration

NELSON. U.S. A.M. 121618 which has been passed to C. in C. battleships. Portsmouth. If NELSON is to join U.C.27 she should be ready to sail from Portsmouth on 22nd June proceeding direct to R/V off Oversay a.m./24 (2) A.N.C.X.F. is requested to confirm that NELSON can be released.

(3) Subject to above confirmation, C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange for (a) reduction of complement at Portsmouth, (b) 16 inch H.E. shell to be disembarked at Portsmouth before sailing. Other adjustments ordered in A.M. 121618 need not be effected unless circumstances permit.

(V.C.N.S. 201248B amended 201530B)

A.M. 201248B/June para. 2 confirmed provided U.S.S. Battleships can be retained until the capture of the North Cotentin Peninsular is completed.

(A.N.C.X.F. 202005B)

Para. 2 A.N.C.X.F. requested to confirm that NELSON can be released.

Tids. Ref. 21 Army Group's letter M/20500/211/Q (M) dated 18th June to A.N.C.X.F. only. No objections to manning of Tids 23, 29, 32, 45, 46, 47, 50, 52, by Army crews to work alongside R.N.P.S. crews, subject to concurrence of Admiralty.

(2) These craft are not stationed permanently but are moved as their services are required.

Information as to their whereabouts may be obtained from Tug Control Lee.

(3) The number of Tids required for urgent duty is in excess of the number available and their distribution is under consideration.

(A.N.C.X.F. 201637B)

M.O.B's. The 14 army manned M.O.B's now in use as water boats have proved invaluable and without them it would have been impossible to compete to compete with the large number of small craft requiring water. It is understood they may be required for duty on the far shore about D+30. If this is so it is essential that similar small craft should be allocated in their place. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 201929B to Admtty.)

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

A/S. striking forces in North. Shortage of trawlers in my command prompts me to ask if, in the event of a surface A/S striking force again being required in the Faeroes area, there are any A/S. trawlers in the Iceland Command that could be lent to my command, the requirement would be three and for political and administrative reasons they should, if possible, be British and oil fired.
(A.C.O.S., 201116B to Admty.).

A.C.O.S. 201116. Three British oil fired A/S. Trawlers could be lent provided local situation permits.
(A.C.I.C., 202020B to A.C.O.S.).

"Town" class destroyers transferred to Soviet. Your 171427B. The condition of bearings in these ships is similar to that in other "Town" class destroyers now in British Service. This must therefore be regarded as the normal running condition, in view of the ships' age, and must be accepted. Confirmed that Admiralty upholds F.O.i/c Tyne's decision that "running condition" by these standards is utmost that can be undertaken. Soviet Mission is being informed to this effect.
(D.T.S.D., 202035B to F.O.i/c Tyne).

Movements

X.K.17 From (C) proceed through -
(D) 49 degs. 14' N. 12 degs. 30' W.
(E) 180 degs. Bishop Rock 10'.
(F) 180 degs. Lizard 3 and thence by QZS 410 and 443 to Plymouth.
F.O.G.M.A. 181103B not to all addressees refers.
(2) U-Boats may be encountered in Western Channel. Escort Groups acting as A/S hunting Groups and continuous A/S. air patrols will be met east of position (E).
(3) Estimate UNDINE with three destroyers will overtake and pass east of X.K.17 escorted by CORIOLANUS and FLUELLEN at about 1300B/21.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 201629B to UNDINE).

Operations

A/U. operation by F.O.E.C. Scapa departure F.O.E.C. in ROYALIST with SHEFFIELD, STRIKER, FENCER and Capt.D.3 in MILNE with METEOR, MARNE, MUSKETEER, WESSEX, WAKEFUL.
(A.C.O.S., 200607).
R.A.E.C. in ROYALIST with SHEFFIELD, STRIKER, FENCER and destroyers is operating against U-Boats to east of route Red.
Estimate R.A.E.C. approx. position 069 degs. N. 004 degs. W. course N.N.E. at 0600B/22.
(C. in C.H.F., 201152B to JAMAICA).

/ Operation...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Guarantor" (1) Operation "Guarantor" cancelled. Possibility that it may be compromised.
(2) Return to Lerwick passing through S.C. 068 degs. 10' N. 009 degs. 01' E. at 1600B/ 21st June
S.D. 067 degs. 05' N. 005 degs. 01' E. at 2000B/ 22nd June.
thence on the surface at discretion through S.E. 065 degs. 20' N. 000 degs. 59' W.
(F.O.(S), 201719B to SATYR).

Operation "D.B." Begins:
Operation D.(sic). Force One sailed from Spitzbergen at 1930 G.M.T. the 20th June.
T.O.O. 210100B. Ends.
(JAMAICA, 201936Z).

Enemy Air Activity

Aircraft over Iceland Unidentified aircraft plotted West of Blonduos 065 degs. 39' N. 020 degs. 19' W. at 192(7145) course South West. At 2147 aircraft was plotted over Snaefellsjokull 064 degs. 48' N. 023 degs. 47' W. where plot faded.
(A.C.I.C. 201352B).

Enemy Intelligence

GOETTINGEN German Govt. intimate that former GOUVERNEUR
GIESSEN GENERAL GREVY under new name GOTTINGEN (sic) and former GOUVERNEUR GENERAL CHANCY under new name GIESSEN will be used as German Hospital Ships. Particulars of GOTTINGEN (GOETTINGEN) are (details).
Particulars of GIESSEN are (details).
(2) Vessels should be treated as fully recognised hospital ships.
(Air Ministry, 201440Z).

Enemy main units P.R.U. Gydnia 19th June, shows HIPPER, LUTZOW, NUERNBERG and KOELN present, the latter now has guns remounted. One SCHLESSEN class battleship in Roads.
P.R.U. Swinemunde 19th June shows LEIPZIG present.
SCHEER and PRINZ EUGEN not present in either port but have frequently been reported recently exercising in Danzig Bay.
(D.D.I.C., 201810B).

U-Boats

T.G.22.5 Working on Sonar Contact 4629 2414 since 1316Z maintaining A.R.U, over 60 mile radius through tonight. W.X. 7682 2822.
(C.T.G. 22.5, 201600).

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Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Stragglers
return

Stragglers returned from convoy during week ending
20th June. Nil report.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast, 201055B).

T.C.U.28

Diversion order.
(C. in C.W.A., 201214Z to S.E.T.C.U.28).

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

W/T for
Red Cross
Ships.

Your 091222. Request information who will supply sets in Lisbon and details of replacement required.
(Admty. 201150B to N.C.S.O. Lisbon)

SEARCHER:
M.K.S.52.

SEARCHER escorted by 2 escorts detailed by B.4 is to detach as necessary to R/V M.K.S. 52 in (CA) 035 degs. 45 mins. 011 degs. 50 mins. at 220800B. Escorts then rejoin B.4 group with all convenient despatch.

(4) S.L.161 consisting of 30 ships has orders to R/V M.K.S.52 in (BL) 035 degs. 47 mins. 012 degs. 00 mins. at 0900B/22.
(F.O.G.M.A. 201607B)

South Atlantic.

U.S.S.
GEN. W.A.
MANN.

Diversion order.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 200305Z to GENERAL W.A. MANN.)

Operation
"Steadfast"

It was appreciated that U-boat referred to in my 191015 might reach area off Saldanha Bay between 13 and 16 June. Operation "Steadfast" was carried out for this period and consisted of an A/S patrol by TRENT LEWIS and BUTTERMERE and an air search twice daily of an area approx. 100 miles by 100 miles.
(2) Several Radar Blimps investigated in vicinity Cape Columbine (sic) on 14 and 15 June without result. Further contact a.m. 16 90 miles west of Capetown to which all forces were diverted and operation extended to daylight 17th June.
(3) First intimation of attack on SS COLUMBINE was arrival of survivors at Cape Columbine (sic) a.m. 19th June. 21 survivors accounted for search for remainder continues.
(C. in C. S.A. 201012B)

Independent
Sailings.

Ships in A.K.10 will be dispersed in 016 degs. S. D.K.A.21 is cancelled.
(2) Resume Southbound independent sailings between Beira and Durban.
(3) Resume Northbound independent sailings for all parts except Aden.*
(4) Ships of convoy speed for latter Port to be sailed to Kilindini for onward Convoy.
(5) C.S.A. Beira is to report ships above convoy speed to C. in C. South Atlantic and await instructions in each case.
(6) My 041105, 161214 both June, and 291020 May, none to all addressees are cancelled.
(C. in C. S.A. 201027B to N.C.S.O. Durban)

* Note: See amendment 211650B.

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

SS TULAGI
(sunk 28
March) -
survivors.

Three European officers and four Malayan crew, survivors of SS TULAGI torpedoed by the Japanese on 28th March, arrived here 16th June.

They had drifted 1,500 miles on a raft for 59 days and eventually landed at Alphonso Island a month ago where they were looked after by the Manager. They were brought here by auxiliary schooner.

2. They are all reasonably well and their relatives have been informed of their safety..

3. Unhappily, a second raft broke away from theirs five days before they came to Alphonso Island. There were on it some eight Europeans, but it is feared that they have perished.
(Seychelles (Sir W. Logan) No. T.O.O.)

Search for
survivors
(? of SS ST.
BASILE, sunk
14 June.

My 201230Z/. Settra Kru survivors taken off by A/C. Unidentified ship embarked 15 survivors from Baffu about 18th. Am investigating Cestos now. If none here intend KILHAM, KILCHRENAN, KELT return Freetown. Please instruct.
(KILHAM 201725Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

/ Not received.

At Cestos. Have been no survivors here.

Report shore now remain between here and Sinu. Have instructed KELT to return Freetown independently speed 10 knots.

KILHAM and KILCHRENAN returning Freetown along 100 fathom line S. of A. 11 knots. Proceeding 1930Z/20 from Cestos. My 201725Z refers.

(KILHAM 201902Z)

SS COLUMBINE
(Sunk 16th
June)

British ship COLUMBINE torpedoed and sunk in 32 degs. 44 mins. S. 17 degs. 22 mins. E. at 2000 B 16th.

(2) Two torpedoes hit on port side ship sank in 15 mins. Course 183 degs. T 9 knots.

(3) C.B.s. sank with ship.

(4) U-boat not seen.

(5) No SSS distress signal made.

(6).29 survivors landed 23 others missing including Lieut. Com. S.C. Morley (Nigerian Naval defence Force) and wife. Air and surface search continuing.

(7) Portuguese ship ANGOLA was two miles on port bow when attack occurred altered course and passed on COLUMBINE's starboard side making no attempt to render assistance although explosions were violent and cargo of timber was set ablaze immediately after second torpedo hit.

(S.O.(I) Capetown 202125)

SAGUNTO.

Reference A.M. 241514 April. SAGUNTO intercepted and searched on 2nd June after leaving Calabar nil results on this occasion probably due to Spanish authorities forewarned by action against

Canoqs and bona fide mistake by Vice Consul Fernando Po but smuggling is occurring and another interception will be made in due course.

(F.O.C.W.Af., 202226Z to Admty.)

/ U/B ...

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

U/B
attacked.

VERITY reports A/S contact at 1845Z/20 in 07
degs. 51' N. 14 degs. 00' W. One depth charge
and 2 hedgehog attacks made. Contact lost at
2046Z/20. MALCOLM carrying out observant.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 202326Z.)

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20.6.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

German
potential
warships
transiting
Dardanelles

My (719)1025C.

(a) On orders from Ankara (?cargo) of both motor barges was discharged during night 19th/20th for examination and searching of vessels. Name of tug is NAMSEL.

(b) Barges are Dutch type; tug is motor harbour or river type about 400 horse power.

(c) F.O.L.E.M. please pass to C. in C. Med. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 200930C amended 201705C to B.N.A. Ankara).

UNSPARING

Patrol between Cape Kamili and Cape Malea from 1401/21st.

(Capt.(S) 1, 200952B to UNSPARING).

VAMPIRE,
UNSWERVING

You have freedom of action west of longitude 027 degs. 08' but you should maintain position to reach the Leros Rhodes route at 2 hours notice. (Capt.(S) 1, 200953B to VAMPIRE, (R) F.O.L.E.M., S.O. 51 Force).

? Subject /
VAMPIRE proceed forthwith passing west of Kinaros to patrol in Doro-Steno-Mykoni Area. Morse interception of Dodecanese Piraeus traffic. Caiques may be sunk by VAMPIRE in vicinity of Doro and Mykoni but not in Steno Area.

(2) VAMPIRE keep south and UNSWERVING north of latitude 038 degs. 10'.

(Capt.(S) 1, 201347B to VAMPIRE, UNSWERVING (R) F.O.L.E.M., S.O. Force 51, 1st S.F.).

Manning of
Greek Navy
AVONDALE,
COWDRAY.

Report requested by para.1A of A.M. 161852+ was forwarded in Med. 0120/6 of 9th June.

(2) Reference para. one B. Greeks are confident of being able to man all operational warships in Med. Command without relying on Greeks now at Chatham, but submarines have no relief personnel.

(3) Reports received by Greek C. in C. indicate that Greek crews have settled down well but that they cannot be regarded as stable until a firm Government is established on Greek soil. Reports from various British Authorities on the spirit of Greek crews have been called for and a co-ordinated report will be forwarded as soon as possible.

(4) Greek Naval Officers are being sent to Greece to recruit sound men and it is hoped that this will (word omitted) the manning situation progressively from the end of July.

(5) I consider the withholding of AVONDALE and COWDRAY has had a most salutary effect upon the Greek Navy and that the time is not yet ripe to reverse the decision.

(C. in C. Med., 201205 to Admty.).

+ Turning over of AVONDALE and COWDRAY to Greeks.

ORION

C. in C. Plymouth 191340. Intend ORION have maximum of 14 days working up probably in Levant. (C. in C. Med. 201216B).

/ C. in C....

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

ORION (Contd.) C. in C. Plymouth 191340 para.2 Request destination and intermediate port of call. (D.O.D.(F) 201321B to C. in C. Med.)

INDOMITABLE, VICTORIOUS Arrangements for passage to Alexandria. (4) (a) Carrier responsible for own protection by day. (b) Shore based fighter protection requested during morning and evening twilight. (c) Fighters to remain after evening twilight for night F.D. exercises with Carrier. (d) Shore base fighter watch requested by night. (e) An A/S protection requested. (f) Fort and Aspro signal required. (F.O.L.E.M., 201246C).

Route for safe conduct vessels. Route given in your 181014 was passed to Swedish Legation p.m. 19th. Swedes are now discussing it with Turkish and German Authorities. (B.N.A. Ankara, 201615 to F.O.L.E.M.).

Naval bombardment procedure Your 032017 May. The need for a common procedure and code for Naval Bombardment is fully concurred in. Following is a summary of the present situation and of Admiralty policy (2 - 7). (Admty. 201625B to C. in C. Med.).

Safe conduct traffic Your 071109. Request you will confirm that messages received by Allied 500 k/cs Stations in the Mediterranean from International Red Cross, Greek Relief, Swiss traffic, other safe conduct traffic or warships (stating type) are passed to you for necessary promulgation. (Admty.,201731B to C. in C. Med.).

Naval coal situation With the advanced date of future operations and the heavy minesweeping effort now required on both sides of Italy, the Naval Coal situation causes some anxiety. A laden collier was lost in K.M.S.51 - nothing arrived in K.M.S.53 and only one collier out of three programmed is due in K.M.S.54. Consist of K.M.S.55 not yet known but request every endeavour to include four Naval Colliers in each of K.M.S.56 and 57. (2) Present employment operationally of station colliers prevents loading from Levant. (C. in C. Med., 201754B to Admty.).

Elba Cosintrep No.346 Part 4. All resistance on Elba has ceased and the Island is entirely in our hands. Report by Commander French Army B under whom the task force operated stated

/ as...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Elba
(Contd.)

as follows "over 500 enemy killed and in excess of 1,800 captured of which two thirds are Germans. Casualties French approx. 400 dead and 600 wounded R.N. approx. 30 dead and 100 wounded. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, T.O.O. Nil).

Enemy
convoy

At 1600/20 Aircraft sighted 1 coaster, 1 Siebel, 2 E.M.S., 1UJ-Boat, 1 armed caique forming up outside Piraeus.
(2) Possibly southbound convoy.
(F.O.L.E.M., 202216C to Capt.(S) 1, (R) UNSPARING).

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dispositions No.64 Area A.B.D.E. and F. believed clear of U-Boats scale of Air Escort W. Area (?C) as no further information reduced scale of air escort to W. Area G. position not entirely clear but U-boats may well be in area scale air escort Y.
(C. in C. E.F. 200408Z)

VICTORIOUS, INDOMITABLE C. in C. Med. 171250 and my 110503. It is expected that Comm. (D) with 5 destroyers will be ready to leave Aden 0800Z/24.
(2) Request (A) VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE may be sailed for Aden as convenient for Destroyers to R/V in vicinity of Hanish Island.
(B) Position and time of R/V may be signalled.
(3) Com. i/c Aden is requested to sail escort in para 1 to R/V.
(4) Admty. is requested to re-encypher and pass to VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE.
(C. in C. E.F. 200551Z to F.O.L.E.M.)

Convoys Intend sailing A.P.73, A.B.42, on 26th June, thereafter at approx. 10 day intervals to conform with F.O.L.E.M.191413. Your 170543 and S.N.O.R.S.C.A.191111 also refer.
2. Suggest P.A. and B.A. convoys be sailed on 24th June and thereafter at 10 day intervals this will allow about 10 days between arrival at Aden and departure of G.U.S. convoys, F.O.L.E.M. 052015 not to all refers. It will also avoid overcrowding at Aden.
(Com. Aden 200706 to C. in C. E.F.)

SS RIBERA N.C.S.O. Durban 311352Z/- May RIBERA not arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Aden 200831Z to C. in C. E.F.)
/- Re D.N.63

Passengers Question whether it is permissible to embark women and children in ships carrying a high proportion of Italian P.O.W.
(F.O.E.A.200839Z)

R.A. Holland, Asst. C.O.S. (both Administrative) Your 171105.
Function of Rear Admiral Holland is (details).
2. The assistant Chief of Staff (Material and Maintenance) is required in connection with (details)
(C. in C. E.F. 200944Z amended 250544 to Admty.)

Naval facilities required in India For General Auchinleck from Chiefs of Staff.
No large naval forces planned to be based on ports in India. Main naval forces in Indian Ocean will all be based on Ceylon. Only facilities required in India will be for:-
(a) landing craft bases, details of which you already know.

/ (b) ...

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Naval facilities required in India. (contd.)
(b) convoy escorts.
(c) possibly a small number of escort carriers at Cochin and Madras.
(A.M.S.S.O.201340Z to Armindia)

ILLUSTRIOUS Your 120309. Modernisation and refit of ILLUSTRIOUS cannot be undertaken in U.K. at present time. Request you will arrange either for refit to be carried out at Durban or for docking and partial retubing to be carried out at Trincomalee when dock and S.R.R.D's are available. Modernisation except for minor items which can be done concurrently to be deferred in either case.
(Controller 201720B to C. in C. E.F.)

Routine personnel convoys. Your 131322 has been discussed with War Office and D. of S.T. It is hoped that the following comments in conjunction with those of P.S.T.O. India will help you when making your detailed proposals for covering temporary shortage of escorts.

2. It is assumed that "convoys over 15 knots" include all ships of K.M.F. type, some of which are 14 to 15 knots.
3. Signal appears to meet requirements apart from Aden, Kilindini and Durban route on which serious difficulties seem likely to arise. Factors affecting this are:-
 - (a) For the present the intention is to deal with traffic between Cape and U.K. by fast unescorted vessels via Atlantic.
 - (b) Remaining lift required from South and East Africa to Middle East will probably amount to about 2,500 per month plus maximum number of P.O.W. from South Africa that can be accommodated. Lift in reverse direction is likely to be less.
 - (c) It is considered that transshipment at Kilindini should be avoided if possible owing to lack of facilities and transit accommodation.
 - (d) D. of S.T. wishes to avoid use of K.M.F. type of ship on East African coast as he considers that slower ships can deal with the traffic provided intervals between convoys are not excessive.
 - (e) Carrying capacity of ships is reduced by at least 60% if unescorted or in trade convoy. Uncertainty of advance information of availability of escorts would make it difficult to place correct number of ships for lift between Cape and Kilindini.
4. The above factors point to slower personnel convoys of Indian Ocean type of vessels in both directions between Aden, Kilindini and Durban, ships to lift the additional numbers for Northbound passages mentioned in para.3 (b) above being if necessary placed in position by sending them South in Trade convoy or unescorted to connect.
5. Para. 3 (a) above and existence of X.I.F. convoys in the Mediterranean cater for the personnel ex. South Africa for U.K. and Italy respectively. If, however, your convoy cycle can be planned to fit in to connect with M.K.F. the movement of women, children and civilians from E. Africa to U.K. via M.E. can proceed without a long transshipment delay with consequent accommodation and financial complications.
(D.O.D.(F)202306B to C. in C. E.F.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

N.S.H.Q. No report since my 140802Z para. (D)
S/M Attack (1) A.D.C. sights U/B moving East which submerges
& Sighting after 3 minutes in 43.27 N. 65.15 W. at 1250Z/19.
Summary. (2) U.S. Army Transport A/C C/54 sights wake of
periscope course 250 degs. in 48.17 N. 60.00 W.
2005Z/19.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 200930Z)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 201340Z, Cominch 201522Z)

SS MAURICE Your 201021+ position 53.07 N. 16.12 W. verified
TRACY by interrogation of pilot.
(sunk 17th (Cominch 201410Z to Admt.)
June.) + Refers to Cominch 192115 (MAURICE TRACY U.S.
Cargo Vessel sunk in collision) and request
verification of position.

MARIA My 091747 May motor schooner MARIA PRECIOSA of
PRECIOSA fourth group sunk by iceberg on Greenland Banks
(Portug. 14th June. Crew saved.
fishing vs1.) (N.A. Lisbon 201632B)

WELLINGTON A.M.101336/May not to F.O.C.W.Af.
Request you will sail WELLINGTON for U.K. on
completion of refit to give leave and adjust
complement.
(D.O.D.(F) 201815B to S.B.N.O.W.At.)

U/B (D) 200640Z U.S.C.G. vessel attacked sound contact
incidents. 19.12 N. 72.53 W. 17 0235Z U.S.S. MONTFUR sighted
2 torpedo wakes 36.50 N. 73.37 W.
(Cominch 202042Z amended 212055Z)

Troopships. Movement Staff War Department have continued to
press B.A.S. for an assurance regarding combined
use of Troopships after cessation of hostilities
in Europe.
(J.S.M. Washington 202129Z)

C.U.27 Off Oversay at 1200Z/19th June. All arrived.
(D.T.D.202200B)

War Diary.

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Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest
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June 19th.

(4) Midmorning patrol Liberators saw enemy task force described two aircraft carriers SHOKAKU class two heavy cruisers at least five destroyers 500 miles west south west Saipan Island heading south. Two enemy fighters intercepted whereof one probably destroyed.
(15) During night 18th/19th Landing Craft gunboats bombarded enemy coastal positions southwest Bougainville.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 201004Z to Admty. etc.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M. attack and sighting summary.

Para.A. (1) A/C A/461 attacked U-Boat, course 150 degs. with depth charges at 1304Z/19 in 49.35 N. 08.19 W.

(2) E.G.9 attacked U-Boat contact at 2019Z/19 in 49.34 N. 07.43 W.

(3) Br. COLUMBINE torpedoed at 1800Z/16 in approx.

32. 30 S. 17. 40 E.

(4) Br. TULAGI torpedoed and sunk at 1840Z/27^[March] in 11.00 S. 78.40 E.

Para.B. (1) A/C Y/58 dropped one depth charge on oil streak at 0736Z/19 in 49.04 N. 09.22 W.

(2) A/C sighted periscope at -408Z/20 in 49.00 N. 05.25 W.

Para.D. (1) A/C saw 7 destroyers dropping depth charges at 0945Z/19 in 49.53 N. 04.30 W.

(2) A/C saw 3 destroyers dropping depth charges at 1334Z/19 in 49.00 N. 03.28 W.

(D.D.I.C., 200939Z).

U-Boats attacked

My 221059 July 1942.

(1) At 0213/3 Canso T/162 straddled U-Boat with depth charges in 63 degs. 59' N. 01 degs. 37' E. Five survivors seen in water and oil patch a mile long.

(2) At 0249/7 Sunderland S/201 straddled U-Boat in 45 degs. 13' N. 8 degs. 30' W. Radar contact disappeared after attack.

(3) At 2358/7 Sunderland R/228 in 45 degs. 15' N. 4 degs. 10' W. straddled U-Boat with depth charges. U-Boat circled and slowly disappeared about 20 minutes later.

(4) At 0215/8 Liberator G/224 straddled U-Boat in 48 degs. 27' N. 5 degs. 47' W. Numerous oil patches and wreckage seen after attack.

(5) Same aircraft at 0242/8 attacked second U-Boat in 48 degs. 10' N. 5 degs. 31' W. Survivors seen in dinghies after attack.

(6) At 1220/10 U-Boat was severely damaged by fighter in 48 degs. 42' N. 5 degs. 08' W. and later sunk with depth-charges by

/ Liberator...

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Tuesday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

U-Boats
attacked.

Liberator K/206 survivors and wreckage being
seen in water.

(7) At 1522/11 Canso B/162 straddled U-Boat with
depth charges in 63 degs. 07' N. 00 degs. 26' E.
Thirty-five survivors seen in water after attack.

(8) At 1010/13 in 62 degs. 45' N. 2 degs. 01' W. Canso T/162
attacked U-Boat with depth-charges. Survivors seen in water
and some picked up later by surface vessels.

(9) At 1643/17 Norwegian manned Catalina D/333 straddled
U-Boat in 63 degs. 06' N. 2 degs. 05' E. U-Boat sank six minutes
later leaving wreckage and 40 survivors in water.

(10) At 2201/10 3rd escort group attacked sound contact in 49
degs. 49' N. 3 degs. 19' W. Originally had movement but later
stationary on bottom. Hedgehog attacks produced very large
bubble. Echo sounder trace suggested U-Boat silhouette on
bottom with one end clear. Oil bubbles still rising at 0115/11.

(11) At 2255/14 HIND reported attacking sound contact after
being missed by two torpedoes in 50 degs. 11' N. 3 degs. 42' W.
2nd Escort Group at 0520/15 reported very large patch of fresh
Diesel oil in this position but failed to obtain contact.

(12) At 1756/18 14th Escort Group reported having successfully
attacked a U-Boat in 49 degs. 03' N. 3 degs. 13' W. and
recovered one survivor.

(D.A.U.D., 202300B).

U-Boat
dispositions

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 201421B, 201422B).

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). S.H.A.E.F. reports today that the enemy is withdrawing into the defences of Cherbourg without offering much resistance, and that heavy fighting continues in the Tilly/Caen area.
- (b). On the Assault Beaches a fresh N.E./ly gale throughout today has rendered all unloading impossible and has caused considerable damage to Phoenix Units and driven 20 Bombardon sections ashore. Several L.B.C. Craft have been swamped and two CHANT tankers are ashore; and though it is hoped to sail some convoys tomorrow A.N.C.E.F. reported at 2335B that the ships then waiting off the beaches may take up to 48 hours to clear from the start of discharge. All sailings of Mulberry tows were cancelled today, and two additional tugs to each of the five beaches were sailed from Portsmouth to assist. At 0700 today C.T.F.128 in the Western sector reported that all the Whale tows received yesterday are damaged beyond repair.
- (c). The Flag of C.S.2 was struck in MAURITIUS at 1800 today.
- (d). Up to 1800 today a cumulative total of 14,646 prisoners of war had passed through our Reception Camps.

Enemy Action.

2. (a). E-Boats. No E-Boat activity is reported today.
- (b). U-Boats. Six U-Boats have been sighted since midnight 20/21st in the Channel and Western Approaches of which four have been attacked by A/C with uncertain result and two are being hunted by Escort Groups. At 1431B the Admiralty considered that there may be six or seven U-Boats in the Channel between 02° and 06° W. of which one may possibly have penetrated to the eastward of the Cherbourg/St. Catherines Point line, and that there may be two more eastbound between 06° and 09° W.

Casualties.

3. (a). In addition to a considerable number of smaller ships and craft damaged on the beaches, the following casualties occurred today:
FURY, destroyer, mined in area S and damaged.
ILFRACOMBE, minesweeper, mined and damaged in area J
ARIKARA, U.S. Fleet tug, mined and damaged inside the western Swept Channel.
M.M.S.7 with convoy F.W.L.13, bombed.
- (b). In the eastern sector the tankers CHANT 7 and CHANT 26 have been driven ashore, the trawler COLSAY has been damaged by grounding, and the SS. CHELWOOD is ashore on Calvados Reef; and in the Western sector the Block ship CENTURION is reported to be breaking up.

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

4. U.S. Coastal forces patrolling between Leghorn and Spezia last night obtained 2 torpedo hits on a corvette and one hit on a K.T. ship. A large explosion was seen later.

5. The French S/M LE CURIE bombarded shore batteries under construction on Cape Gros, near Port Vendres, this evening and reports 14 hits; large explosions followed.

UNIVERSAL sank an A/S vessel off Rion Island, South of France, today.

6. A blockship in Leghorn harbour was hit several times today by aircraft of Tactical Air Force and was set on fire.

Adriatic.

7. (a). M.T.Bs. on patrol had an unsuccessful action last night with 4 F-Lighters off Posaro.
(b). It is reported that partizan forces landed on Korcula and on Brac today, apparently with the object of making raids.

Aegean.

8. At 1650B today UNSPARING destroyed north of Cape Malea, Greece, an enemy convoy consisting of one U/J Boat, an ESTE motor lighter and a Siebel Ferry.

East Indies.

Operation
"Pedal".

(Air raid
on Port Blair).

9. (a). Aircraft from ILLUSTRIOUS were flown off at 0530 today from a position 95 miles to the west of Port Blair, to attack the base. Surprise was complete.

(b). Considerable damage was caused to the military establishments and the seaplane base. One radar station was destroyed and a second was damaged. One of our aircraft is missing and one pilot baled out over the fleet and was picked up.

(c). No hostile forces were detected or sighted.

TANTALUS,
STOIC, pat-
rol reports.

10. (a). TANTALUS reports that on her second Far East war patrol she laid 12 mines successfully. At 0938FG on 10th she sank a small merchant vessel by gunfire in 03.05 N. 100.01 E. (Malacca Strait.)

/(b)...

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

TANTALUS,
STOIC - pat-
rol reports.
(Contd.)

10. (b). STOIC on her third Far Eastern war patrol destroyed 3 junks, taking one Chinese prisoner: sank a 3500 ton merchant vessel in the entrance to Puket Harbour (west coast of Lower Siam): and laid 8 mines successfully.

China.

2
Air Opera-
tions on Si
Kiang River.

11. U.S. aircraft continued during the past week their attacks on shipping on the Si Kiang River. A particularly successful day on 19th June resulted in the destruction or firing of a large number of "boats" up to 125 ft. long, a steamer, and - at Nanking - damage to a gunboat. On 20th in the Chang Sha area 200 75 ft. boats were damaged and a 150 ft. steamer set on fire. Further attacks today resulted in damage to steamers, barges, troop carriers and supply boats.

Australia & New Zealand.

Schouten Is.

12. M.T.Bs. operating off Biak Island last night sank 3 enemy barges laden with troops and supplies, whilst others shelled enemy positions on the island.

New Guinea.

13. Destroyers last night bombarded enemy positions in the Maffin Bay area (Dutch New Guinea).

Bougainville.

14. Ground forces supported by Landing Craft gunboats landed unopposed this morning at the mouth of the Jaba River, Empress Augusta Bay. Only a small enemy patrol was encountered.

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Military

Communique No.31.

Allied Troops advancing on Cherbourg have reached prepared positions defending the deep - water port.

Valognes, Les Pieux, Couville and Rauville La Bigot have been liberated. In the Tilly Area three German attacks have been held. There has been active patrolling on all other sectors on the front. Flying-bomb sites in the Pas de Calais and Coastal Battery at Houlgate and gun positions in the Cherbourg Peninsula were targets for medium and fighter bombers yesterday afternoon and evening.

(S.H.A.E.F., 211100B to AGWAR).

Para. One Operations:

Enemy withdrawing into defences of Cherbourg without much resistance. Likely he will make attempt to make stand here, but state of demolitions in Port Area suggests he is prepared for speedy collapse. Probable also enemy considerably disorganised and exhausted.

Fighting in Tilly area still on very heavy scale. Enemy divisions here thought to be depleted, particularly in infantry, and some in need of relief.

Accumulative total of prisoners of war passed through the reception camps up to 18.00 hours 20th June was 14,257.

(S.H.A.E.F., 211500B to AGWAR).

Communique No.32.

Allied Forces have made further progress in the battle for Cherbourg and the area held by the enemy is steadily diminishing. Our advance up the entire Peninsula has been rapid. On the east we have driven forward astride the main road north from Valognes. To the west a broad thrust has taken us to within five miles of the sea liberating the villages of Teurtheville-Hague and Acqueville. Heavy fighting continues in the Tilly Caen area and counter attacks have left the front generally unchanged.

Five flying-bomb sites between Calais and Amiens were attacked by medium and light bombers.

(S.H.A.E.F. 212330B to AGWAR).

Cherbourg

My 202230. Additional Cherbourg demolitions:-

- (1) Quai de Normandie now completely destroyed.
- (2) Quai de France cratered throughout its entire length.
- (3) Outer commercial harbour quay considerably demolished.

(A.N.C.X.F., 212147B to SH.A.E.F.).

Naval

A. General.

No improvement in weather conditions at daylight this morning. Convoy sailings still postponed. Considerable damage to small craft includes several L.B.C. swamped and 2 Chant Tankers driven ashore. Considerable losses also in Mulberry tows caught on passage by

/ sudden...

21.6.1944.
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Report

Naval
(Contd.)

sudden weather change on 19th several Bombardon couplings parted and Bombardons adrift. Accumulation of loaded ships may delay further convoys until 24 hours after discharge restarts. LA SURPRISE damaged by mine at 1142 yesterday

in OMAHA area.

20 rounds from enemy shore batteries were fired at convoy E.T.M. 14 off Folkestone between 0218 and 0335 yesterday. No casualties but slight damage to one ship which continued in convoy.

(B) Casualties. LA SURPRISE damaged, mine in 49 degs. 29' N. 00 degs. 55' W.

Chant 7, driven ashore, Chant 26 driven ashore, COLSAY (Trawler) minor damage from grounding.

(C) Coastal Command. Of 5 U-Boats sighted in Western Approaches and Channel 3 were attacked with uncertain but promising results.

(a) At 2359/20 150 miles west of Scillies. (b) At 0047/21 100 miles S.W. of Brest. (c) At 0300/21 20 miles east of Start Point.

Latter replied with gunfire before submerging. Accurate bombing by three Halifaxes was carried out at St. Peter Port where one U-Boat believed to be.

(Ad. Ramssay, 211349B to Admty.).

(a) One L.S.I. has been discharging no figures yet available.

(c) Coasters have discharged alongside pierhead and by Ducks at anchor. The harbour is filled

and traffic is now congested.

(f) CHELWOOD aground on Calvados reef. PHOENIX 54 in tow of BODIE ISLAND capsized west of Mulberry B tug arrived with 3 survivors.

(g) Inside the Gooseberry a large number of small craft have had good shelter from north east gale. In addition to A.18 the following PHOENIXES have or are disintegrating - numbers 19, 10, 12 and 48. One additional PHOENIX moved bodily sideways about 60 feet otherwise no serious damage to PHOENIX as far as can be ascertained. Ten of Bombardon Buoys remain in position with 17 portions of Bombardon still attached. Twenty sections of Bombardon are ashore. FRATTON has sailed for Portland. FURY expected 2130.

(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 212012 to N.C.E.T.F.).

Cositintrep No.38, Part II, Naval.

A. GENERAL:

No change in situation. Unloading impossible all day. Further gale casualty reports include damage to Mulberries and signs of some Corncobs possibly breaking up. Apart from force of wind its direction has been worst possible. Some indication during evening that weather may moderate and it is hoped to sail some convoys tomorrow but number of ships now awaiting off beaches may take up to 48 hours to clear from start of discharge.

B. Troops etc. Landed.

24 hours to p.m. 10th (sic) (?20th intended).

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold	2091	447	1466 tons
Juno	3524	118	1419 tons
Sword	Nil	Nil	314 tons

/ Omaha...

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Omaha and Utah reports not received.

C. Casualties:

FURY. Major damage, mine 1 mile E. of B.43 Buoy.

D. Coastal Command:

Three U-Boats sighted and attacked, two in Western Channel, the other 150 miles S.W. of Lands End. The two former are being hunted in co-operation with Escort Groups, the third was attacked by three aircraft with inconclusive results.

(Ad. Ramsay, 212335B to Admty.).

Air

Cositintrep 38, Part 3.

Air. 2100B. hrs 20th June to sunrise 21st.

Total sorties 927.

Summary of Targets: Details.

Enemy Operations: 57 divers operated over S.E. England, of which 29 reached the London area. 6 enemy aircraft R/C. over Scapa Flow, Peterhead Area, Ipswich, Saffron Waldon and Greater London areas, the coastal areas of Suffolk and Essex and Moray Firth. 35 Fighter/Fighter bombers operated over Northern France and Holland including areas of the Normandy beach head.

(A.E.A.F., 212359B to S.H.A.E.F.).

Assault Areas

Eastern Area.
Visit by 1st Lord.

First Lord of Admiralty accompanied by 2nd Sea Lord, Naval Secretary, and possibly Lord Beaverbrook will visit British Assault Area in FAULKNOR on 24th. Rear Admiral Parry will accompany. FAULKNOR will close SCYLLA* at about 1200 and leave area at about 1600.

(2) First Lord wishes to see Naval arrangements ashore and afloat. Request you will arrange a suitable programme. (A.N.C.X.F., 211113B to N.C.E.T.F.).

* amended to BULBLO, 240228, p. 621.

Eastern Area damage

For details of Whale Gear damage see casualties.

Area G

Intend sailing EASTWAY with damaged L.C.T.A. to United Kingdom when weather permits.

(2) Gold area is now at least 24 L.C.M.3 short due to damage by weather.

(3) It is requested that EASTWAY may be loaded with fully equipped replacement L.C.M.3 and sailed to Gold Area immediately after discharging damaged L.C.T.

(4) Pending approval intend sending skeleton crews for L.C.M.3 in EASTWAY.

(5) N.O.I.C. Gold comply with para.4.

(Com. "G", 211547B to N.C.E.T.F.).

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombardment Forces

Your 211720.

Present level of activity there will be no necessity for any cruisers to be sailed for several days. Propose that SIRIUS should be the first to go and that she should then embark only sufficient ammunition to match remaining gunsite. SIRIUS should be followed by DIADEM who will require to change guns when she has expended all her present outfit. To assist this programme it would (corrupt group) if DIADEM could be moved to area Sword where there appear to be greater opportunities for firing that in her present berth. She could be relieved by ARGONAUT in Juno area. (C.S.10, 211913B to N.C.E.T.F.).

Covering Forces

Patrols from Plymouth My P.C.S. 049 degs. 35' N. 006 degs. 35' W. (354 degs.?) 12. (E.G.9, 210030B to C. in C. Plymouth).
My P.C.S. 0300B, 049 degs. 20' N. 007 degs. 10' W., 270 degs. 17. (E.G.9, 210301B to C. in C. Plymouth).
My P.C.S. 0700, 49 degs. 10' N. 08 degs. 35' W. 355 degs. 17. Aircraft no longer homing. (E.G.9, 210721B to C. in C. Plymouth).

Information.

Own. 2nd E.G. Z 226, 231. 5th E.G. Z 201, 202, 206, 207, 208. 9th E.G. Z 232, 237, 243. 12th E.G. Z 222, 223. 14th E.G. Z 219, 220, 221. 15th E.G. Z 227, 232, 237, 222.

Enemy. As in my 201350B.

(2) Intention. Force 26, HAIDA (S.O.), HURON to operate west of Guernsey.

(3) Object. To intercept and destroy enemy ships, and to support own surface forces.

(4) Execution. Force 26 is to pass the gate at 2030B today and proceed to reach centre of patrol line between (AA) 49 degs. 38' N. 3 degs. 35' W. and (BB) 49 degs. 12' N. 3 degs. 12' W. by 2330.

(5) Then to patrol within seven miles each side of line adjoining (AA) and (BB).

(6) At 0630B/22 if no further information leave patrol and return to Plymouth.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 211345B to D.F.10).

Force 26 HAIDA, HURON sail Plymouth 2030/21st to patrol in Z.218, 214, 215, 216, until 0630/22nd when Force return Plymouth.

(2) Friendly aircraft will operate tonight east of line Cap de la Hague, Alderney, Les Hanois, La (?Cor)biere, St. Malo and have permission to attack surface targets in this area.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 211815B to E.Gs.)

Eastern Sector

Defence policy for tonight V Coastal Forces in Gooseberry V.

U in F 2, D 2, B 8 and B 10 Beachy Head. R.5 R 7, B 30 and B 32 Beachy Head. Q.1. P Trawlers only. N.3.

(N.C.E.T.F., 211152B to E.T.F.).

/ Patrols...

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols ON Dover 67.
from F.N.1 M.L.252, 445. Z.1.
Dover. F.N.2 M.L. 573, 128. Z.2.
F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3.
F.N.5 M.T.B.611, 680, 614 Z.5.
F.U.7 LA COMBATTANTE Z.7.
F.U.8. ORWELL Z.8. F.N.9 M.T.B.699, 698 Z.9 West. F.U.1.
OPPORTUNE Z.11 West. F.U.2. WESTCOTT in 49 degs. 56' N. 00 degs.
14' W. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 East. F.Y.2. M.T.B.602, 615 Z.12
East. F.X.1. THORNBOROUGH Z.13 East. F.X.2 M.T.B.706, 705
Z.13 East. F.U.4 WENSLEYDALE from 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22'
W. to 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.
(2) OBEDIENT has freedom of action in Z.4 square.
(V.A. Dover, 211206B).

Patrols ON Portsmouth 1 Para.38. Cover night 21st/22nd.
from (A) TANATSIDE (G.D.1), ONSLAUGHT (G.D.2) BEAGLE
Portsmouth (D.G.3) ORIBI (G.D.4) 0100 West between 49.47 N.
and 50.05 N.
(F) Force G.B. via Needles and 50.10 N. 01.45
to reach patrol by 2330B.
Force G.B. to be on patrol by 2200B.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 211234B and 211713B).

ON 1 Para.52 (B).
Western Night Channel Report 21st/22nd June.
(1) 11th E.G. vicinity Z.T. Buoy.
G.D.1, TANATSIDE, G.D.2 ONSLAUGHT, G.D.3 BEAGLE,
G.D.4, ORIBI on 01 degs. W. between 49 degs. 47' and 50 degs.
05' N. HAIDA, HURON, Z.218 South, Z.214, Z.215, Z.216.
15th E.G. Z.227, Z.232, Z.237, Z.222.
12th E.G. Z.222, Z.223. 14th E.G. Z.219, Z.220, Z.221.
2nd E.G. Z.226, Z.231. 5th E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Z.201, West, Z.202,
Z.208 North. 9th E.G. Z.232, Z.237, Z.243.
(2) Aircraft all areas West of 02 degs. W. also Z.203, Z.210.
Swordfish on coastal convoy route.
Albacores Z.115, Z.122.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 211805B to Ships in Area "C").

ON 1 Para. 52 B. Eastern Night Channel Report
21/22nd June.
(1) F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.U.7 LA COMBATTANTE
Z.7. F.U.8 ORWELL Z.8. F.U.1 OPPORTUNE Z.11 W.
F.U.2 WESTCOTT 49 degs. 56' N. 00 degs. 14' W. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR
Z.12 East. F.X.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13 East. F.U.4 WENSLEYDALE
between 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. and 49 degs. 50' N. 00
degs. 14' W. 11th E.G. Vicinity Z Buoy.
(2) F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2. 2 M.Ls. Z.2. F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs.
Z.5. F.N.9 2 M.T.Bs. Z.9 West. F.Y.2. 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 East.
F.X.2. 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 East.
(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, 211814B to Ships in Area "C").

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Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Eastern Sector

FURY damaged by ground mine. 6 other spontaneous detonations in the area. New additional unit for use with G mine has been recovered.
(Capt. M/S East, 212354B to N.C.E.T.F.).

U-Boats

U-Boats reported

Am over enemy submarine in 49 degs. 36' N. 04 degs. 16' W.
S/M. had submerged so long that no useful attack could be made.
(A/C, JOV 85, 210910 to 19 Group).

(1) Escort groups investigated 3 A/C. reports of U-Boats during the night but without success.
(2) E.G.15 sent to investigate sighting of U-Boat on surface at 1530 in 49 degs. 30' N. 8 degs. 30' W. This U-Boat may have been damaged by air attack.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 212100B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Channel situation. P.R.U. requested.

Two aircraft attacks and 1 sighting report in English Channel area following on earlier incidents indicate 6 or 7 U-Boats between longitudes 02 degs. 00' W. and 06 degs. 00' W., possibly 1 E of line Cherbourg - St. Catherines Point.
Two estimated eastbound between longitudes 06 degs. 00' W. and 09 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C., 211431B to A.I.G.331).

U-Boats have recently been reported in St. Peter Port and Alderney, consider tendency to enter small ports may increase. Request photographic R/C daily till further notice of Alderney, Peter Port, St. Helier, Lesardrieux, Treguier River, Morlaix, St. Malo. Visual R/C by fighter aircraft is not considered sufficient.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211542B to Admty.).

.Gamma search

Your 211546B.
Carry out Gamma search centre position 49 degs. 40' N. 04 degs. 10' W. for course of enemy 040 degs. length 30 miles.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 211644B to E.G.12).

U-Boat attacked by A/C.

Eastbound U-Boat attacked by aircraft at 1455B today in 49 degs. 36' N. 8 degs. 28' W. and probably damaged. U-Boat has dived.

(2) 15th E.G. S.O. in LAWSON will reach above vicinity from eastward about 2300 to hunt.

(3) If you reach above position before 15th E.G.,

UNDINE with UNDAUNTED, VIGILANT and URCHIN search for U-Boat until arrival of 15th E.G. or until 0400 whichever is earlier and

/ then...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

U-Boat
attacked
by A/C.

then proceed to Plymouth. Report E.T.A. as soon as known.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 211702B to UNDINE).

Allied Air Activity

Corridors
No.6 and
No.7.

Second T.A.F. and Ninth Air Force request that immediately Barfleur is in our hands corridors number six Selsey Bill to Barfleur and number seven Christchurch to Barfleur be brought into use for non-operational aircraft. Aircraft will fly at not less than 3000 feet if cloud ceiling permits. If weather conditions force the aircraft to cross the coasts from seaward below 1500 feet para. 11 of Air Ministry Publication S.D.533 will be complied with and aircraft on passage to U.K. are whenever possible to circle twice immediately before crossing the French Coast. Corridors will be five miles wide and will be used by day only from sunrise to sunset. Request you will signal this H.Q. as soon as possible whether you concur with these corridors being used.
(A.E.A.F., 211900B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Movements

Four
Destroyers
for Scapa

Cancel A.M. 191657.
Request you will sail four "S" or "V" Class destroyers to arrive Scapa by 3rd July to relieve four "W" Class destroyers in Home Fleet.
(V.C.N.S., 210130B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Port Facilities

Western
Sector

Following received from ATLAS moored inside Gooseberry.
"Counting from south Gooseberry ships 2, 4, 5, 6 have broken in half and appear to be breaking up. Seven has broken in half but holding together. Have survivors gun crews aboard ATLAS".
(C.T.F. 125, 211030B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Mulberry
tows.

Cancel all sailings of Mulberry tows today 21st.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211118B to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, F.O.I.C. Portland, S.N.O. Dungeness, S.N.O. Selsey).

"Whale"
equipment

For Ramp. In view of losses to Whale equipment considerable replanning is necessary. Consider you should come over here as soon as possible. Bring Colonel Daldy with you.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 211121B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/ To...

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Wednesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Port Facilities

To reduce chance of damage to Whale Roadway Tows it has been decided that no tows are to consist of more than three Spans henceforth.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211235B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Additional
tugs.

Am sending you two additional tugs to each beach. Request you will return them immediately conditions permit.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211333B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.).

Request you sail 10 tugs immediately to far shore two to each beach. My 211333B refers.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211404B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Tugs KROOMAN, BODIE ISLAND, A.T.R.4, S.T.R.15, SERVITOR, BLACKROCK, EMPHATIC, CANNOCK arrived without tows.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 212100).

"Phoenix"
Units.

One "Phoenix" disintegrated, two damaged, not accessible. Onshore wind force 7 to 8 from 0500 hours/19th still undiminished.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 211736Z to A.N.C.X.F.).

Ramp request you signal tonight brief report of weather damage to Phoenix breakwater.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211855B to N.O.I.C. Mulberry B).

Casualties and Defects

Phoenix
Barge
A.154

Intercept begins:-
S.O.S. ~~DE~~ BODIE ISLAND. Phoenix barge A.154 capsized bearing from Mulberry B is 290 degs.
(Niton Radio, 210453B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

ARIKARA

ARIKARA damaged by underwater explosion (probably mine) near number 14 F Buoy bearing 013 2,000 yards. Able to proceed with tow.
(C.T.G. 124, 210839B to N.C.W.T.F.).

TEXAS,
NEVADA.

When conditions permit and prior any extended operations TEXAS and NEVADA will require three to five days availability. Permit ships force overhaul machinery.
(Combatdiv 5, 210905B to C.T.F.122).

LA SURPRISE

Leaks have increased but are being kept in by diesel driven pump, no steam. In view of possibility of diesel breakdown request tug be

/ instructed...

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties and DefectsLA SURPRISE
(Contd.)instructed to tow me to U.K. immediately.
(LA SURPRISE, 210910B to C.T.F. 124).Have been damaged by enemy mine. Port propeller
shaft broken, both condensers out of action, and
leaks in hull. No casualties. Am being towed toPortsmouth, E.T.A. 2230B.
(LA SURPRISE, 211710B to Admty.).Tugs
damagedMy 181425. 2 36-Footers sank with Sheerly's
(? Sheerlegs W.D.) tow. One 45-Footer hit at
moorings by an L.C.T. While at Cousnab
Southampton being repaired another 45-Footer
crushed by Liberty ship. Attempting to get you
replacements.
(C.T.G. 128.6, 211000B to C.T.F. 128).Eastern
Sector.
Emergency
repairs.N.C.E.T.F.(A) in his 201221B June to N.C.E.T.F.
reports extensive damage to ships and craft in the
British Assault Area due to stress of weather which
calls for the urgent provision of additional
repair personnel and equipment.(2) Request L.S.E.(1) with Maintenance Party now
on board be sailed for Portsmouth as soon as
possible and embark balance of Party No.1528 with their stores and
equipment. On completion ship to proceed to the British Assault
Area to carry out emergency repairs.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211105B to Admty.).Request minimum six in number preferably eight in
number B.D.V. or similar draft craft with powerful
winches and wires and Hurrigan Hawsers for hauling
off stranded M.L.C. and coasters and barges.Operations to be similar to that carried out by F.O.I.C. Milford
Haven at Jantzen exercise. Craft to arrive by 4th July. If
possible B.D.V. Skippers with Jantzen experience to be included.
(F.O.B.A.A., 211126B to A.N.C.X.F.).F.O.B.A.A. 211126. Request I may be informed if this
requirement can be met.

(A.N.C.X.F., 211929B to Admty.).

Western
areaFollowing is recyphered version C.T.F.128 210700
(e) giving M.P.(O) present situation.All Whale tows received yesterday damaged beyond
repair. One Phoenix known to be beached to
westward. No definite information available as to tows lost
en route. Extent of storm damage is as follows 4 Buffer Pontoons
torpedoed from their keeper. Some cable broken. 3 Pierheads
with no replacements. Pierheads point end on to sea seems to
withstand severity of storm. Damage pierhead in danger of going
adrift. 3 intermediate pontoons battered and punctured were
sunk when on verge of sinking. One telescopic span with inter-
mediate pontoon sunk. Moorings centre and western pier loosened
and damaged severely. Survey full extent of damage impossible.

/ It...

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties and DefectsWestern
Area
(Contd.)

It is feared that Whale installation will be impossible but every effort will be made to salvage every possible unit. 3 Phoenix have (corrupt group) to low water level. 2 Phoenix in west breakwater have broken backs.

Bombardons with moorings adrift estimate of damage impossible. CENTURION breaking up with high sea running over Blockship. All handling tugs. With one exception tugs are unserviceable. Accurate survey of damage cannot be made until storm abates. All personnel in danger on Phoenix and Pierhead have been evacuated. Phoenix tows at sea have been ordered back to U.K. Request no more tows be despatched until requested. SANDOWN parted anchor cable and has only few hours fuel remaining. NID is now in tow by CORMORANT. RYDE GOATFELL en route U.K. SCAWFELL insufficient fuel for return trip to U.K. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 211627B to Mulberry Movements).

Omaha Casualties. L.B.W. 7, 15 L.B.O. 56 carrying P.

Utah Casualties. L.B.O. 21, 77, 82, 92, 95 all carrying X. L.B.O. 69 carrying D. (C.T.G. 127.2, 212230B to A.N.C.X.F.).

FURY

My 211301. FURY reports provisional estimate of damage as follows.

(2) Engine room and boiler rooms leaking, both turbos out of action. Water drum S of all three boilers leaking badly. Attempt being made to raise steam in one boiler and get one main circulator in action. (N.C.E.T.F., 211703 to S.O.D.F.H.F.).

BULOLO

On withdrawal of BULOLO it is intended to take her in hand for action damage and bringing up to new L.S.H. staff requirements.

(2) To incorporate present operational experience Admiralty and C.C.O. representatives will visit ship on arrival in U.K. for consultation with ships officers and operational staff of all three services before dispersal. (D.C.O.M., 212034B to A.N.C.X.F.).

ILFRACOMBE

ILFRACOMBE detonated Ground mines 50 yards on her starboard beam at 2026/21st in 049 degs. 24' 57" N. 000 degs. 28' 18" W.

(2) Ship has sustained following known damage, Gyro compass and asdic dome shattered, Radar type 291 out of action.

(3) Intend to sail ILFRACOMBE to Plymouth with ships given in my 211029. She is considered fit for passage.

(4) This will leave an operational strength of 5 Sweepers and 2 Danlayers.

(M/S F.16, 212332B to N.C.E.T.F.).

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.T.M.14

Sailed (A) F.T.M.14.
(B) LOSSESTRIFE, NARCISSUS.
(C) E.T.A. Southend 1030/22nd.
(E) SAMDEL.
(Capt. N.S., 210915B).

F.X.P.11Y

Sailed (A) F.X.P. 11Y.
(B) QUORN CUBITT.
(C) E.T.A. Nab 1630/21st
(E) Two ships.
(Capt. N.S., 211015B).

E.B.M.4,
(first
Cherbourg
convoy).

F.O.I.C. Cardiff is requested to sail convoy E.B.M.4 from Milford Haven, a.m.22nd.
(2) Convoy consists of following 15 ships:-
NATHANIEL BACON, ABRAHAM CLARK, WILLIAM PEPPERELL,
JAMES E HAVILAND, FISHER AMES, GEORGE A. CUSTER,
AMERIKI, BENJAMIN H. BRISTOW, JOHN GRIER HIBBEN,
MAHLON PITNY, WILLIAM H. PRESTCOTT, WILLIAM C.
ENDICOTT, LAPLAND, FRANK KELLOGG, THOMAS JOHNSON.
(3) Escort U.S. destroyers, JOUETT, SOMERS, PLUNKETT, HOBSON,
FITCH.
(4) L.S.T. 291 is to be sailed to join O.N. convoy passing Falmouth.
(5) Route to Cherbourg A.S.14 and L vide O.N.17 S. of A. 9 knots.
(6) C. in C. Plymouth may be instructed to hold convoy on south coast if Cherbourg does not fall, and N.C.W.T.F. is to issue necessary orders to convoy when in his area.
(7) N.C.W.T.F. pass to C.T.G. 122.3 and C.T.G. 127.2.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211035B).
Your 201901 arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 211841B to C. in C.W.A.).

Convoy
arrangements
necessitated
by weather.

My 201009 in view of lack of improvement in weather today Wednesday as forecast following action is to be taken with Neptune convoys.
(A) All convoys not yet sailed are to be delayed a further 24 hours except special convoy E.B.M.4 from Milford Haven which is to sail a.m. tomorrow Thursday.
(B) Convoys E.B.C.16 and E.T.C.15 are to remain at Anchor for a further 24 hours, proceeding as necessary so as to arrive 48 hours later than originally intended.
(C) C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to divert Convoy E.B.C.17 to another anchorage if she cannot be taken in Poole Bay convoy E.B.C.17 is also to remain at anchor and to proceed as necessary to arrive 48 hours later than originally planned.
(D) Personnel convoys are to be ready to sail at short notice from 0500 tomorrow Thursday.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211041B).

(U.S.) Naval
Despatch
Boat Service
(cross
channel)

S.54293.
(1) N.D.B.S. inaugurated 1430/20 Cousnaab

/ Southampton...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

(U.S.) Naval
Despatch
Boat service
(cross
channel)
(Contd.).

Southampton to American Sector (N.O.I.C. Omaha).
Times of boats Southampton Dept. 0430, 1430 Omaha
arr. 1100, 2100 (approx) Dep. 1430, 0430.
Southampton arr. 2100 1100 (approx.).
(2) No regular lateral boat service from British
to U.S. Sector.
(4) Re passengers.
(Signal Div. S.H.A.E.F., 211440B).

Supply of
Naval and
Victualling
stores to
British
Assault Area.

A.M. 202046. Request an additional store carrier
as matter of urgent operational necessity.
(2) L.S.I. (H) of N.M.S.S. may be used for urgent
items of Naval and Victualling stores provided
routine trips are not thereby delayed.
(3) N.C.E.T.F. (A) is requested to ensure that
store carriers are cleared and returned to
Plymouth with minimum delay.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211440B to Admty.).

Convoys
for British
Assault
Area.

Request you will sail E.T.C.15 and E.T.C.15 W so
as to pass through position Z at 0500 tomorrow
Thursday and proceed to British Assault Area.
(2) Request you will sail E.W.L.14 and L.S.T. of
E.T.M.14 plus any other L.S.T. loaded for
British Assault area up to a grand total of 40
ships so as to arrive far shore by noon tomorrow

Thursday 2nd.

(3) Further signal will be made about E.T.M. and Starlight
convoys.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211552 to C. in C. Portsmouth, (R) S. and A.
concerned).

F.W.L.13

Sailed

- (A) F.W.L.13.
- (B) STARWORT, POPPY.
- (C) E.T.A. Nab 0400/21st.

(E) L.S.T.281 no anchors, damaged rudder post. M.M.S.7 bomb
damage no W/T.
(Capt. N.S., 211606B to C. in C. Portsmouth, Info: N.C.E.T.F.,
A.N.C.X.F.(A), Admiralty,.).

Coaster and
L.S.T.
convoys to
Eastern
Area.

N.C.E.T.F. has asked for resumption of coaster
and L.S.T. convoys to arrive normal times
tomorrow Thursday can you accept similar sailings.
Propose not to sail L.C.T. until you ask for them.
My 202259 refers.
(A.N.C.X.F., 211609B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Convoys
to U.S.
Assault
area.

Request you will sail convoy E.P.L.13 and E.P.L.
13W for W.T.F. area as soon as convenient tonight

/ 21st/22nd ...

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Convoys to U.S. Assault area (Contd.) 21st/22nd June composed as follows.
From Portland 6 L.S.Ts. for Omaha.
From Isle of Wight 6 L.S.Ts. for Utah.
N.O.I.C. Portland to inform C. in C. Portsmouth of timing of convoy.
(A.N.C.X.F., 212217B to N.O.I.C. Portland, C. in C. Portsmouth, (R) N.C.W.T.F., F.S.S.C.).

E.C.P.12W My 210041 - request you will sail convoy E.C.P.12 W as convenient tonight 21st/22nd as follows - for Utah one ship, for Omaha 6 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 212237B to C. in C. Portsmouth, F.S.S.C. (R) N.C.W.T.F.). As amended 220051B.

Organisation and Administration

Reconstitution of T.F.129 (1) Contemplate BELLONA, BLACK PRINCE, BORUM and MALOY will reinforce transport areas Omaha and Utah. HIBSON, FITCH, JOUETT, SOMERS, PLUNKETT are assigned by A.N.C.X.F. 201405B to escort Major captured port group 1.

(2) Same as Onwest II.

(3) Task Force 129 hereby reconstituted under Rear Admiral Deyo. Batdiv 5 Y TUSCALOOSA, QUINCY, GLASGOW, ENTERPRISE, SOEMBA, Desrom 10, Desron 60, PLUNKETT (?JOUETT SOMERS) Task Unit 122.9.3 AUK BROADBELL CHICKADEE, PHEASANT, RAVEN, STAFF, SWIFT, THREAT 31st Fleet M/S Flotilla. B.Y.M.S. Flotilla as assigned by A.N.C.X.F. Port clearance group Task Group 122.3 less Task Units 122.3.1. 122.3.2 Commodore Sullivan Major captured port group 1 Task Unit 127.2.1 Captain Ives. Task I support FUSA ASSAULT on Cherbourg by destruction shore batteries designated by C.G.7th Corps or as C.G. FUSA may direct. Arrange air spot air cover and if desired smoke. Co-ordinate bombardment with air bombardment as to attacking target. Deal directly with C.G. FUSA. C.G.7th Corps and C.G. 9th Air Force in these matters. Task 2 clear and prepare Cherbourg for operation. Operate Cherbourg in conjunction with U.S. Army.

(i) Onwest 2 modified accordingly.

(ii) This is my operation plan 6-44 Onwest 6 and will be placed in effect by despatch.

(4) No change in Logistics plan.

(N.C.W.T.F., 210058B and 212005B).

NELSON and U.S. Battle-ships.

It is to be assumed that A.N.C.X.Fs. proviso will be met; A.N.C.X.F. 202005 refers. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail NELSON in accordance with A.M. 201248 to R/V off Oversay at 1000/24 and to arrange escort with A.N.C.X.F. (V.C.N.S., 211533 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Flag of C.S.2.

Flag of C.S.2 struck at 1800.
(C.S.2, 211800B to Admty.).

/N.C.E.T.F....

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration

- N.C.E.T.F. Additional to the administrative responsibilities now vested in N.C.E.T.F. (A) the following authorities will be transferred to his direct command at 0800/23rd, unless a signal to the contrary is made.
- (A) Cdre. Depot ship. (B) Captains north and southbound sailings
 - (2) He is to assume at the same time responsibility for adjustment of ferry service units between Forces in consultation with Force Cdr. and for the adjustment of building up of ships and craft between Assault Force area as required by army.
 - (3) Capt. (?Waters) will be transferred to the direct command of N.C.E.T.F. when Capt. Pugsley is ready to operate in RETALICK.
 - (4) All N.O.I.Cs. will remain under the direct command of Force Cdr. until latter withdraws and the flag of F.O.B.A.A. is hoisted. (N.C.E.T.F., 211925B to E.T.F.).

21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

HOWE,
UNDINE,
UNDAUNTED,
URCHIN,
FORMIDABLE,
WAKEFUL,
WAGER,
WHELP,
WESSEX.

Cancel A.M. 171309.

(2) It is intended that HOWE should leave Clyde 1st July for Eastern Fleet.

(3) Escort from U.K. to Mediterranean will be UNDINE, UNDAUNTED, URCHIN, who will remain in Mediterranean.

(4) C. in C. Med. is requested to arrange escort as far as Aden and C. in C. E.F. onward escort as requisite.

(5) FORMIDABLE, escort by WAKEFUL, WAGER, WHELP and WESSEX will leave U.K. 20th July to join Eastern Fleet.

(V.C.N.S., 210008 to C. in C. H.F.)

Coastal
Force at
Lerwick.

A.M. 102216 March (not to all). Can I assume that as soon as they can be spared M.T.Bs. will again be based on Lerwick for operations on Norwegian coast.

(2) If so request approximate date by which coastal force based on Lerwick should be ready

for operation and total number of M.T.Bs. for which provision should be made.

(3) Under above conditions I presume Norwegian Commando troops sent South recently (C.C.O. 021254 June) will also return to Lerwick.

(A.C.O.S., 211131B to Admty.)

UNRUFFLED,
UNSEEN.

Request you will sail UNRUFFLED and UNSEEN, my 021311, in company for St. Johns N.F. on 28th June routed as follows.

(2) "Chop" in 035° W.

(3) Passage to be made on surface at C.O.'s discretion, S.O.A. 8 knots, escort to be provided to longitude 012° W.

(F.O.S., 211716B to Capt. (S) 7.)

Leave
restrictions.

It is not yet possible to cancel the leave restrictions imposed by A.M. 944 AZ of the 5th April, but it is hoped that some relaxation can be permitted within the next 2 or 3 weeks. This will probably take the form of the re-introduction

of seasonal leave.

(2) In the meantime, provided ratings can be spared, there is no objection to the grant of the following leave:-

(a) Periodical leave to those who reside within the precincts of the port.

(b) End of course leave as in para. 2 of the Admiralty letter quoted.

(2nd S.L., 212211B to A.I.G.26.)

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperations

Operation C.W. Concur in use of A/S aircraft from TRACKER and BITER for Operation C.W. Your 130104 refers. Request you consider embarking Wildcat flight ex TRACKER in BITER for Operation on U.K./Gibraltar route.

(2) The Assault Carriers may be required for another operation and should not be used on U.K./Gibraltar route.

(3) The air threat against U.K./Gibraltar route is reduced and protection by Trade Carriers is considered sufficient. If all convoys cannot be protected, preference should be given to K.M.F/M.K.F. convoys.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 210257B to C. in C. W.A.)

SATYR patrol. Own forces including carrier-borne aircraft will be operating to west and north of you during the next 3 days.

(F.O.(S), 211017B to SATYR.)

Submarine positions at 0800/22nd and movements

for following 24 hours.

(A) SATYR 67° 25' N. 06° 30' E. through 67° 05' N. 05° 01' E. at 2000/22nd, thence probably on surface at 10 knots towards 65° 20' N. 00° 59' W.

(F.O.(S), 211734 to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Scapa and N.E.Scotland. Prep X was made at 0038/21 on a report of a Ju.88 or Ju.188 passing close to the south of South Walls. E/A flew low over South Walls, Switha, Wide Wall Bay and Burray, and thence on similar E.N.E. course out to sea, all at height of about 100 ft. Several sites opened fire. Two sections of Spitfires from Skesbrae were airborne at the time, one to S.E. of South Ronaldsay and one in Pentland Firth, but no contact was made. No Radar plots were recorded until E/A was east of Deerness. Negative Prep X was made at 0105 after plots had faded 070° "A" buoy 40 miles.

(2) An E/A was plotted 360° Muckle Flugga 25 miles course N.W. at 1000 ft. at 2329/20th and this may have been the same one. It is thought that the light was good enough for a successful reconnaissance of the Fleet anchorage. Two other E/A were plotted in South Eastern Moray Firth and off Kinnairds Head at about 0100.

(A.C.O.S., 210830 to Admty.)

Admty. Signal School damaged.

Admiralty Signal School, Board of Trade Offices East India Dock Road seriously damaged by enemy action. All confidential books have been retrieved.

(D.E.M.S. S.O. Newell St., 211110B to F.O.I.C. London.)

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy
cruiser on
1st June.

One heavy cruiser June 1st reported off Abo
Finland. Please inform Soviet Mission. Graded
B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 211512 to Admty.)

Casualties and Defects

ROYALIST.

My letter 907/675D/97 of 8th June. Expect
ROYALIST will be available 27th June and can be
spared from Home Fleet. Request yard may be
allocated.

(C. in C. H.F., 211022B to Admty.)

Your 211022. Arrangements have been made for ROYALIST to be
taken in hand at Messrs. Swan Hunter, Newcastle on 27th June
for repairs to asdic dome and for cleaning and coating bottom.
(2) Request you will sail ship accordingly.
(D.O.D.(H), 211731B to C. in C. H.F.)

21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SS. HABANA. Your 161417 June Spanish HABANA. Vessel intercepted and sent in, examined and found in order. Released.
(N.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 210857 to Admty.)

CROATEN: 247 Group can provide one Fortress aircraft from dawn to dusk 22nd in four sorties to assist your hunt. Request you indicate area these aircraft should search if required.
A/S hunt. (S.B.N.O. Azores, 211246Z to T.G.22.5, U.S.S. CROATEN.)

Beginning 1715Z am establishing barrier patrol 160 miles wide along 19.30 W. between 45 and 48. Your 211246 not to all. Suggest Fortresses patrol area 43.50 to 45.30 between 18.50 and 20.10. Communications as in my 201530.
(C.T.G.22.5, 211640 to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

S/M ● SSSS 37.25 N. 21.30 W. course 275 at 1045Z.
distress (CAKU*, No T.O.O. Time 1329.)
report. * Signal letters undecypherable.
ACL 19 21 June. The following intercept from aircraft call sign CAKU SSSS 37.25 N. 21.30 W. Co. 275 at 1045Z.
(Air H.Q. Gibraltar, 211321B.)

Homeward In my 161417, para. 1A for first two names substitute steamships SERANTES and ALBAREDA bound bound ships for June Las Palmas for orders. Your 170931 refers.
interception (2) M.V. ^{Monte} AYALA failed to call Teneriffe.
programme. (D.E.W.D., 211802B to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

Sinking of BIRDLIP and ST. BASILE 13th June. SOUTHERN PRIDE (stranded 16th June). BIRDLIP torpedoed port side at 2330/13 sank immediately. ST. BASILE torpedoed port side 0030/14 sank at 0545/14 position 05.03 N. 09.14 W. Sinking not reported until 0720/14 when INKPEN and TURCOMAN picked up 37 survivors from ST. BASILE, 6 missing believed killed by explosion as ship searched before abandoned. MALCOLM and VERITY ordered to search for U-Boat 0855/14. MALCOLM closed coast at Baffu Point daylight 15th. Picked up 13 BIRDLIP survivors from two rafts at Tassu who reported death of C.O. Tempy. Lieut. I.B.E. Humphrey, R.N.V.R., Sub. Lieut. Pooley and Seaman Keenan reported to have proceeded Sinu to contact American Mission. MALCOLM and VERITY ordered to continue A/S search. SOUTHERN PRIDE and PICT who were proceeding Marshall to screen ordered to search

/for ...

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

Sinking of
BIRDLIP and
ST. BASILE
13th June.
SOUTHERN
PRIDE
(stranded
16th June).
(Contd.)

for survivors between Baffu and Sinu. SOUTHERN PRIDE stranded on Hoopers Patch Marshall 0720/16th, crew taken off by (?DUNCTION) one casualty Seaman Kidby as reported in my 181429. Daylight 20th KILHAM and KILCHRENAN closed Sinu embarked Sub. Lt. Pooley and Keeman thus accounting for total survivors from two rafts. Nothing known of any other survivors at Sinu. 0630/21st R.A.F. report 15 additional survivors on passage to Sinu in surf-boat. R.A.F. photographs taken 14th show one lifeboat and two possibly three rafts closing coast which suggests there are probably some survivors not yet recovered. One B.E.C. being sent to investigate. Captain D. Freetown Escort Force will signal casualties as soon as known.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 211419Z.)

Independent
sailings.

Suspend para. 2 of S.A.G.R.I.
(2) Delete words "Except Aden" in para. 3 of my 201027 and cancel paras. 4 and 5 of this signal.
(C. in C. S.A., 211650B.)

SS. CHARLTON
HALL.

S.L.162. CHARLTON HALL - returned after collision with ORIENT CITY.
(N.C.S.O.W.Af., 212007Z.)

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War Diary.21.6.1944.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

UNSWERVING. Do not enter an area bounded by latitude 038° 10' N. latitude 039° 28' N. longitude 025° 30' E. (Capt. (S) 1, 210105B to UNSWERVING.)

VAMPIRE - Request VAMPIRE return forthwith to Rhodes (dest.) enemy Leros route. convoy. (F.O.L.E.M., 210357C to Capt. (S) 1.) Proceed with despatch to patrol between Cape Daphni and Kandaliusa. Remain west of 27° E. F.O.L.E.M.'s 210357C refers. (Capt. (S) 1, 210415 to VAMPIRE, (R) F.O.L.E.M., S.O. Force 51.)

One merchant ship and 2 R-Boats sighted near Piskopi at 0801 today steering south-east. (Capt. (S) 1, 211235B to VAMPIRE.)

HOWE. A.M. 210008, para. 4. Can arrangements be made for Eastern Fleet destroyers to R/V with HOWE in vicinity of Hanish Island. Your 200551 to C. in C. Med. only refers. (2) This would release U class destroyers at Port Said and would be of considerable assistance to me. (C. in C. Med., 211252B to C. in C. E.F.)

ORION. A.M. 201321. Algiers then Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 211254B to Admty.)

SALVESTOR, Para. 3 of A.M. 041138 June, S.O.S.A.S. states GAMTOOS. Question of gift of vessel to S.A. Govt. does not appear to be material. (2) Para. 5 of A.M. quoted. GAMTOOS is serving under terms of S.O.S.A.S. letter quoted, except that she is a requisitioned vessel and remains property of original owners. C. in C. S.A.'s 101137 May 1942 refers. (3) S.A. personnel and ships on loan to R.N. are liable for service in any part of world. (C. in C. Med., 211600 to Admty.)

German potential warships transiting Dardanelles. My 200930 not to S.O.(I) Izmir. (A) Tug and both vessels still here; examination of cargo suspended by Turks. (B) 4 more German craft just sighted off Bosphorus; details when they enter Straits. (C) F.O.L.E.M. please pass to C. in C. Med. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 211508C to F.O.L.E.M.) My 211508, para. (B) 2 (not 4) motor craft LAUDON and (?ENGERAU) described as Dutch Barge type arrived Bosphorus 1400 G.M.T./21st. (2) F.O.L.E.M. please pass to C. in C. Med. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 211707C.)

/Situation ...

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21.6.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Situation Report No. 382. (1) Night 18th/19th June P.T. Boats torpedoed F lighter south-west of Elba, escorting E-Boat made off at high speed.
(2) P.T. Boats operating off N.E. corner of Elba night 19th/20th June sighted 5 F lighters and E-Boat. After letting the F lighters load in Cavo Bay the P.T. Boats torpedoed 3 and possibly sank a fourth. The E-Boat disengaged. 2 Germans attempting to escape in rubber boats were also taken prisoner.
(3) 6,065 discharged at Civita Vecchia on 20th June. First liberty ship was berthed alongside.
(4) During recent sweeping operations 10 mines have been swept in Ortona area and 50 mines swept off west coast of Italy.
(5) UNSWERVING reported destroying 2 caiques and coast defence corvettes in Potamo Harbour (Mitylene) on 17th June. (C. in C. Med., 211825B.)

Caiques under Red Cross Flag. A.M. 070039, propose to issue instructions last sentence my 310901 May. (F.O.L.E.M., 211930C to Admty.)

SS. ANITA, AGATHE, ORION. ANITA with 2 R-Boats should have (? arrived) Rhodes about 1400/21st.
(2) AGATHE may (sail from Rhodes?) probably for Leros any time after 1400/21st with R-Boat and possibly E-Boat escort.
(3) No cover. Tigani, but ORION probably still there.
(?4) (?P.72) ?VAMPIRE patrol south of Mohela keeping east of line mid Kalimno - (?East) Piskopi - Adana - Saria unless otherwise requested by Capt. (S) 1. (F.O.L.E.M., 211959 to S.O. Force 51, Capt. (S) 1, Info. VAMPIRE, M.T.Bs.315, 309, 260, Q.43, M.L.1385.)

K.T. ships. Should K.T. ships be met in Aegean, it is important to endeavour to establish whether they are fitted with asdic. (Capt. (S) 1, 212004 to 1st S/M.F.)

Elba. Cositintrep No. 347, Part. 4. German Commandos landed on Point di Cavo, Elba during night 19th/20th June. They were engaged by a detachment of Four Senegalese Regiment and re-embarked the same night after suffering losses. Mopping up on the Island continues. The number of counted prisoners is now in excess of 1,900. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, No T.O.O., Recd. 2351.)

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21.6.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesTANTALUS,
STOIC,
patrol
reports.

TANTALUS. Second Far East War Patrol.
 2. 1st June in 04° 09' N. 100° 28' E. Asdic fitted T.B. opened fire and dropped 5 depth charges fairly close. No damage.
 3. 2nd June 12 mines laid successfully.
 4. 1222 FG/8 attacked 800 ton merchant vessel by gunfire in 03° 12' N. 99° 51' E. at long range. No hits obtained and vessel escaped in shallow water.
 5. 10th June 0938 FG attacked same or similar merchant vessel by gunfire in 03° 05' N. 100° 01' E. Ship was seen to sink at 1105 FG.
 6. Operation 'Remarkable'. No contact.
 7. STOIC Third Far Eastern War Patrol.
 8. 1733 FG 3rd June sank two Junks of about 60 and 35 tons north of Penang.
 9. 1000 FG/8 attacked 200 ton coaster by gunfire in 04° 37' N. 100° 15' East. Target damaged by four hits but escaped into shallow water.
 10. 1450 FG/8 boarded and destroyed with demolition charge a 50 ton junk. One Chinese prisoner taken.
 11. 1810 FG/10 sighted one merchant vessel and two escort in 06° 03' N. 100° 10' E. steaming to the North Westward. Chase was given and at 0800 FG/8 three torpedoes were fired at this vessel of about 3500 tons in the entrance to Puket Harbour. Two hits were obtained and vessel sank in shallow water.
 12. Eight mines laid successfully.
 (C. in C. E.F. 210334Z.)

U/B
dispositions.

Number 65. Lettered Area. No fresh information no change in scale of air escort. Indian Ocean U/Boat (German) indicated by D/F at 1958Z/20th within a 150 miles of 004° S. 074° E.
 (C. in C. E.F., 210337Z.)

Convoy
releases.

If no further information is received it is intended to release Class D ships from AB BA and AP PA convoys after the next convoys have sailed.

2. N.O.I.C. Aden is requested to sail AB 42 and AP 73 on 26th June escorted as follows AB 42 LINARIA and ROSEBAY. AP 73 VERBENA, ORISSA, GERALDTON, KATHIAWAR if S.S. GUTSOM BORGLUM does not arrive in time to join AP 73 GERALDTON and KATHIAWAR should be retained to escort her, my 200548 refers.
 3. N.O.I.C. Hormuz is requested to sail PA 80 on 23rd June escorted by GAWLER and RAJPUTANA as already arranged.
 4. Cmdre R.I.N. is requested to sail BA 74 on 25th June escorted by LAUNCESTON and BURNIE.
 (C. in C.E.F. 210530Z.)

Air report

19th June. 3 U.S. Mitchells B.25, 13 U.S. Lightnings P.38 bombed and shelled shipping Nanking damaging 1 gunboat.
 (A.C.S.E.A. 211110Z.)

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21.6.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 211508Z, 211515Z)

SS. QUEEN MARY. Diversion order.
(Cdr. 10th Fleet (C. & R) 211918Z to QUEEN MARY)

O.N.M.240 ? U-Boat. Swordfish A/C sighted suspicious submerged dark object in 046 degs. 35' N. 047 degs. 07' W. (X) at 1700Z. Liberator, ST. CATHERINES, MONNOW and several Swordfish investigating.
(S.O.E.G. C.2, 212015B to C. in C. C.N.A.)

My 2015. Air crew state object partially surfaced then submerged before attack. Larger than a Whale several of which were seen. Intend ST. CATHERINES and MONNOW to rejoin at dawn if no further contacts. At 2000Z convoy 045 degs. 52' N. 045 degs. 47' W. 274 degs. 8 knots. DALE only straggler.
(S.O.E.G. C.2, 212136Z)

Duplication in signalling. Concur your 191732Z+ reference to avoid duplication propose discontinue daily movements summary addressed to Cominch and to add Cominch and Comnavu to address of daily signal addressed to Com. 10th Fleet giving 0800 positions, including in latter any H.M. ships which would formerly have been in daily movements summary. Request your concurrence or remarks.
(Cominch, 212017Z to Admty.)
+ Re proposed to avoid duplication in signalling.

U/B incidents. My 202042 correct U.S.S. MORTON to U.S.S. MONTFUR Para. D. CROATEN had sound contact 46.29 N. 24.14 W. 201316Z.
(Cominch 212055Z.)

Disposal of SALISBURY and MANSFIELD. Ref. A.M. 181020 April and A.M. 072341+. Navy Dep. thank Admiralty for the offer but regret unable to accept as towage cannot be arranged under present conditions. Request you take action to dispose of SALISBURY and MANSFIELD.
(B.A.D. Washington, 212231Z to N.S.H.Q.)+Not identified in War Reg.

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 883. June 21st.
7. During night 19th/20th M.T.Bs. destroyed single laden enemy barge off North coast Biak Island. Enemy A/C ineffectively attacked our boats.

21.6.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 883
(Contd.)

(13) M.T.Bs shelled North East Coast Bougainville
night 19/20th.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 210930Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sight-
ing
summary.

Para. A. (1) A/C Z/179 attacked U-Boat course
045 degs. at 2244Z/20 in 46 degs. 50' N. 06 degs.
10' W.

(2) A/C A/304 attacked U-Boat, course 99 degs.
at 0015Z/21 in 50 degs. 00' N. 02 degs. 50' W.

(3) A/C K/86 attacked U-Boat at 1615Z/20 in 61
degs. 28' N. 02 degs. 30' E.

(4) A/C K/86 attacked U-Boat at 1720Z/20 in 61 degs. 08' N. 00
degs. 55' E.

Para. B. (1) A/C N/103 sighted periscope and wake on course
260 degs. at 0900Z/20 in 49 degs. 50' N. 03 degs. 03' W.

(2) A/C A/304 sighted periscope, course 080 degs. at 2140Z/20 in
49 degs. 53' N. 03 degs. 04' W.

(3) A/C D/224 sighted U-Boat at 0715Z/21 in 49 degs. 36' N. 04
degs. 26' W.

(4) A/C L/407 attacked U-Boat at 2140Z/20 in 49 degs. 30' N. 08
degs. 39' W.

(5) H.M. Ship attacked contact at 1845Z/20 in 07 degs. 51' N.
14 degs. 00' W.

Para. C. (1) Mosquito fighter A/C sighted 3 wakes and 1 possible
conning tower at 1840Z/20 in 49 degs. 09 degs. N. 02 degs 52' W.
(D.D.I.C. 211222B)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 211416B, 211420)

22.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). At 2330B today S.H.A.B.F. reported that the military encirclement of Cherbourg is now almost complete; but the enemy is believed to intend to make a stand there. Fighting in the Tilly area was reported at 1430B to be still heavy.
- (b). On the assault beaches the weather moderated today, the wind at 2200 having fallen to force 3; and some convoys have accordingly been sailed.
- (c). In the western sector the effect of the gale has been severe. Two blockships, including CENTURION, are breaking up and three others have shifted; the discharge of M.T. ships has been impossible; food and fuel problems have arisen in the many waiting ships; and to meet urgent M.T. requirements coasters, at considerable risk to themselves, have been beached for unloading. Enemy A/C have continued to drop mines in the anchorages, where minesweeping has been prevented by the state of the sea.
- (d). In the eastern sector, though three Corncobs are breaking up and the breakwater has partly disintegrated, protection for craft is still provided.
- (e). All sailings of Mulberry tows were again prevented today by the weather.

Enemy action.

2. (a). U-Boats. Two U-Boats were attacked by A/C 40 miles south of Mounts Bay today; three more were sighted and two attacked north of Cap de la Hague; and at 1431 the Admiralty considered that there were probably two or three U-Boats in the Channel between 01° W. and 03° W. and another six between 03° W. and 06° W. A sixth U-Boat was also sighted by A/C 10 miles S.W. of Guernsey at 1931.
- (b). About 40 long range bombers carried out a minelaying operation off the beachhead last night. In the eastern sector about 17 mines detonated today either spontaneously or by the movement of shipping. A new unit has been introduced in the German type C and G mines which renders the mine unsweepable at present. Investigation is proceeding.

Casualties.

3. (a). The destroyer FURY, damaged by mine off S beach yesterday, drove ashore at about 0200 today; and the SS. CHELWOOD, re-floated yesterday from the Calvados Reef, entered harbour today to unload.
- (b). A.N.C.X.F. is concerned at the large number of L.C.T. craft now unserviceable and at the congestion of repair facilities in the Portsmouth area, and he intends that all such craft returning in tow with major damage should be routed from the western sector to Plymouth and from the eastern sector to the Nore.

/Prisoners...

551

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Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

Prisoners.

4. The cumulative total of 14,800 prisoners of war had been passed through our Reception Camps up to 1800 today.

General.

A/U Operation. 5. C.S.1 in KENT with BERMUDA, DEVONSHIRE, FURIOUS and one destroyer left Scapa at 1704 today.

Mediterranean.

2 liners sunk. 6. UNIVERSAL, on patrol off the south of France sank a 12000 ton liner and a 6000 ton liner at anchor in Cassis Bay (between Marseilles and Toulon) today. (p. 680)

7. 38 B.24s attacked Pola today; cloud prevented observation of results. Beaufighters of the Coastal Air Force left sinking a 1000 ton merchant vessel and various smaller vessels in the Rimini area.

SICKLE,
lost.

8. The submarine SICKLE is overdue from patrol in the Aegean and considered lost.

China.

9. U.S. Liberators bombed dock installations in Bakli harbour, Hainan Island and sank a 350 ft. freighter and probably also a 300 ft. freighter, and damaged a 250 ft. naval vessel.

Australia & New Zealand.

10. Last night, M.T.Bs. shelled enemy shore positions along the coast in the Kavieng area of New Ireland.

22.6.1944
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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military

The Allied drive on Cherbourg has continued to make good progress with advances of two to three miles along the entire front. On the right Allied Forces have reached the River Saire near the village of Le Theil. On the left they penetrated to within three miles of the sea in the vicinity of St. Croix-Hague. In the centre substantial gains have been made along the main road from Volognes to Cherbourg. In the Tilly Sector, enemy artillery and mortar fire was unusually heavy. Flying bomb bases across the Channel were attacked by forces of heavy and medium bombers.
(S.H.A.E.F. 221100B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Para. 1. Operations.

Increased opposition in outer defences of Cherbourg indicates enemy endeavouring to make a stand, but several major demolitions in port already carried out, suggesting he appreciates stand will be of short duration.

Fighting still heavy Tilly area where enemy artillery and mortar fire has increased.

Para. 3. Accumulative total of Prisoners of War passed through reception camps up to 1800 hours 21st June was 14,646.
(S.H.A.E.F. 221430B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Communique No. 34.

The encirclement of the Fortress of Cherbourg is now almost complete.

We have crossed the road leading east from the Port to St. Pierre Eglise and have liberated the town. Heavy day bombers continued the assault on flying-bomb installations across the Channel.
(S.H.A.E.F. 222330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Air

Air, sunrise 21st June to 2100B hours 21st June.

Total Sorties: 1364.

Summary of Targets: Details.

Enemy operations: 26 Divers operated over the U.K. 24 of which made landfall, 15 reaching

London area. 5 Divers were shot down.

(A.E.A.F. 221200B to S.H.A.E.A.F.)

Air, 2110B hours 21st June to sunrise 22nd June.

Total Sorties, 1093.

Summary of Targets: Details

Enemy Operations: 26 Divers operated over U.K. 20 of which made Landfall, 12 reaching London Area. 9 divers were shot down by Fighters and one was brought down by balloons.
(H.Q. A.E.A.F. 222359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval. Cositintrep No. 39, part 2, Naval.
A. General. Only very slight moderation in gale conditions at 0900. Wind still north easterly probably backing to north. In anticipation of improvement some convoys have been sailed. To meet urgent ammunition requirements in Western area, Coasters have been beached for unloading accepting considerable risk to ships. Corncocks of Eastern area have suffered less than those sunk in deeper water off the Western area. Amongst latter CENTURION's back has broken. Fuel and food problems have also arisen in waiting ships in U.S. sector. State of sea has prevented minesweeping through anchorages, although enemy air activity has continued in mine dropping.
B. Casualties.
ILFRACOMBE, minor damage, mine in 49° 25' N. 00° 28' W.
C. Coastal Command. Following reports of a U/Boat in Alderney, 1 Halifax dropped bombs on the harbour at 2359/21. Results unobserved, no U/Boat seen.
D. Intelligence. Enemy dispositions. Boulogne/Havre 12 E/Boats. Cherbourg 7 T.L.C.III. St. Malo 4 E/Boats. Brest 1 Narvik, 1 Elbing now effective. 500 ton U/Boats. 10 to 15 in or entering Western Channel, 40 in Biscay Ports.
Cherbourg. Reinforcement or evacuation by sea, if intended by the enemy, has been frustrated by the weather which has been too heavy for the few small craft at his disposal.
(Ad. Ramsay, 221319B to Admt.)

Cherbourg. My 212147. Additional Cherbourg demolitions.
1. Avant-Port de Commerce entrance Channel blocked by sunken M/V.
2. Arsenal. Outer basin blocked. Only Nos. 5 and 6 dry-docks still intact.
3. Digue Homet demolition-charges have caused damage at nine places.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221730B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Assault Areas

L.C.M. Request 35 L.C.M. (1) and 15 L.C.M. (3) may be prepared at once for despatch to Eastern and Western Task force areas respectively.
Craft. 2. Request two Flotillas of L.C.P.(L) with Kermath engines be fitted with trays for smoke generators and prepared for despatch to British Assault Area.
3. Intend to lift all these craft across in L.S.D. Further signal will be made giving details of programme.
4. They will be manned by crews already on the far shore, and it is requested that F.O.B.A.A. be instructed to allocate the L.C.M.(1) and L.C.P.(L) to suitable ferry craft units and depot ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221437B to Admt.)

/Visit...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Assault Areas

Visit of A.N.C.X.F. Intend to arrive off Juno in SERAPIS at about 11.30 tomorrow and to proceed to Omaha p.m.
(A.N.C.X.F. 222125B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.)

Bombarding Forces

Information required To assist the planning of future operations, advance information on the following is required:-
1. Air spotting, particularly as regards relative merits of ship and air control.
2. Rules for A.A. Fire.
3. Bombardment procedure when ships of one Nation are supporting the ground forces of the other Nation.
4. Any other points of gunnery interest.
As a result of experience to date British and U.S. Cruisers and larger ships should forward as soon as possible brief remarks on the above to their administrative authorities into a copy direct to A.N.C.X.F.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221737B to Ships.)

SIRIUS Propose SIRIUS be sailed a.m. 25th June to embark sufficient ammunition to match remaining gun life. Repairs to boiler brickwork and steam joints and boiler cleaning are required at the same time.
Presume you will arrange relief if necessary.
(C.S.10, 222331B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Covering Forces

Eastern Sector. Defence policy for night 22nd/23rd June V.8 55th M.T.B (51½?) 205° from established position call sign W/T GL R/T D Apple U.14 Tunny South but North varies 049° 24' North U.14 Tunny North R 5 Q 1 P extended to C.1 Beachy Head N.3.
2. B.Y.M.S. and Motor M/S MINESPOT in Channel L.
(N.C.E.T.F. 221145B to Ships.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth One para. 38 cover night 22nd/23rd
a. TANATSIDE (G.C.1), ONSLAUGHT (G.C.2), BEAGLE (G.C.3), ORIBI (G.C.4), 01° 00' W. between 49.47 N. and 50.05 N.
b. STAYNER (G.B.1) in Z.122, Z.114, Z.115 and Z.121
c. Unit G.B.2 M.T.Bs. 728 (S.O.) 742, 724.
Unit G.B.3, M.T.Bs 252 (S.O.) 256, 253, 246. Unit G.B.4 M.T.Bs. 415, (S.O.), 414, 434. Unit G.B.5 M.T.Bs. 725 (S.O.) 749
Unit G.B.6 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.) 449, 453, Unit G.B.7 M.T.Bs. 621 (S.O.) 682, 650. All with STAYNER in Z.122 and Z.121.
e. Unit G.A.1, M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.) 704, 702, Unit G.A.2 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.) 691, 692. Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O.) 207, 205.
Force G.A. under orders of F.O.I.C. Portland in Z.203.
f. Force G.B. via Needles and 50.10 N. 01.45 W. to reach patrol by 2330. Force G.C. to be on patrol by 2200.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 221232B and 221744B.)

/At...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrols
 from
 Portsmouth.
 (Contd.)

At dark ships addressed are to sweep westward to 01° 54' W. then return to initial position: Southern limit 49° 56' N. withdraw northward if fired upon by shore batteries. Amend my 221232B para. A. accordingly.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 221509B.)

QN.1 paragraph 52 (B) Western Night Channel Report 22/23 June.

1. 11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy. G.C.1 TANATSIDE, G.H.2 ONSLAUGHT, G.C.2 BEAGLE.

G.C.4 ORIBI on 01° 00' W. between 49° 47' N. and 50° 05' N. At dark sweeping Westward to 01° 54' W. keeping North of 49° 56' N. and return to patrol.

Fifth E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Z.201, Z.202 W. Z.208 N.

Ninth E.G. Z.237, Z.232. Twelfth E.G. Z.222, Z.223, Z.223(alc) Z.218.

Fourteenth E.G. Z.219, Z.220, Z.221.

Second E.G. Z.226, Z.231.

Fifteenth E.G. vicinity 49° 30' N. 08° 30' W. SALADIN, SCIMITAR on 50° 00' N. between 04° 00' W. and 05° 00' W.

PIORUN, JAVELIN Z.229, Z.224 West.

2. G.B.1 STAYNER in Z.122, Z.114, Z.115 and Z.121.

G.B. 2 3 M.T.B., G.B.3, 4 M.T.B., G.B.4, 4 M.T.B.

G.B. 5 2 M.T.B. G.B. 6 3 M.T.B. G.B.7, 3 M.T.B. All with

STAYNER in Z.122 and Z.121.

G.A.1, 3 M.T.B., G.A.2, 3 M.T.B. G.A.3 3 M.T.B. all in Z.203.

3. A/C all areas West of 02° 00' W. also Z.210 Swordfish on coastal convoy route.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 221914B.)

Patrols
 from
 Plymouth.

Information.

Own. As in my 211345 except 15th Escort Group now hunting in vicinity 049° 30' N. 008° (15') W. Enemy. As in my 201350.

Intention. Force 26, PIORUN (S.O.), JAVELIN to operate north of Ile Vierge.

Object. To destroy enemy shipping and to support second E.G. and other surface forces. Execution. Force 26 proceeding forthwith to patrol in Z.229 and western half Z.224 until further orders.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 221319B to D.F.10.)

Friendly A/C will patrol in area East of line joining Cap de la Hague - Les Hanois - Barnouie from 2200B/22 to 2330B/22 and from 0530B/23 to 0800B/23.

2. A/C have freedom to bomb surface targets in the above area until 2330B/22 and after 0530B/23.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 221716B.)

/P.C.W.O.120...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

P.C.W.O.120.

1. A. Unit G.O.1, M.T.B.748 (S.O. 727, 745, 743.

B. 1945B/22.

C. AA. 221° Les Hanois 12 to arrive at 2330 thence to BB. 159° La Corbiere 6 to arrive 0130.

D. From BB. sweep to CC. 138° St. Martins L.T.6 keeping 4 miles clear of La Corbiere. Unit is not to enter 2203 unless in action.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. To leave in time to be 270° Les Hanois 12 by 0500.

2. A. Unit G.O.2, M.T.B.673 (S.O.) 717, 720, 716.

B. 1945B/22.

C.. 221° Les Hanois 12 to arrive at 2330 thence to XX. 360° Cap. Frehel 8 arriving at 0130.

D. Patrol in vicinity of XX.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. To leave area in time to be in position AA. by 0500.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 221720 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Your 221711. A/C are no longer marking position patrol Z.237, Z.232, Z.233, Z.238 during night and Z.239 and Z.232 during daylight tomorrow.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 222143B to E.G.9.)

Mining

Allocation of M/S Flotillas. 1. Cancel my 141204 and 172343. Following is to be brought into force.

2. M/S Flotillas are allocated as follows:
W.T.F. 14th, 15th, 16th, 167th, U.S. Y.M.S.104th, 132nd, 205th, 206th.

E.T.F. 1st, 6th, 7th, 18th, 40th, 150th, 165th, 102nd, 115th, 143rd.

Cherbourg operation. 5th, 31st, U.S. Fleet Minesweepers 159th. C. in C. Portsmouth 4th.

3. E.T.F. and W.T.F. are requested to sail their Flotillas to Portsmouth for replenishment according to a programme which should be signalled to A.N.C.X.F. and C. in C. Portsmouth.

A 14 days cycle consisting of 9 days in Task Force area, 3 days at Portsmouth and 2 days on passage is suggested.

4. Flotillas on passage search as follows southward of Z Buoy. Details.

Fleet minesweeping flotillas sweep Oropesa and S.A. Auxiliary minesweeping flotillas I.G.M.S. in less than 20 fathoms, E.G.M.S. in more than 20 fathoms.

C. in C. Portsmouth and A.N.C.X.F. should be informed of any deviation from this procedure.

5. Clearance and diversion in channels south of 50° N. to be responsibility of Task Force Commanders, north of 50° N. to be responsibility of C. in C. Portsmouth.

(A.N.C.X.F. 221455B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/German...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

German
Mines
Type "C"
and "G".
New Type.

A new unit has been introduced to type "C" and "G" mines. This unit renders the mine unsweepable at present. A measure of security will be achieved by proceeding at very low speed in water under 15 fathoms.

2. It is probable that the mine has considerable limitations and investigation is proceeding.
(A.C.N.S.H. 221653B to A.N.C.X.F.)

The following speed limitations are expected to provide safety to ships operating in areas where the mine units referred to in Admiralty's 221653 are likely to exist.

- 5 - 10 fathoms. All ships larger than Destroyers and Minesweepers 4 knots. Destroyers and Fleet Sweepers 8 knots. Smaller craft no restriction.
- 10 - 15 fathoms. Over 15000 tons 6 knots. Medium ships 8 knots. Destroyers and Fleet sweepers 12 knots. Smaller craft no restrictions.
- 15 - 20 fathoms. Over 15000 tons 8 knots. Medium ships 10 knots. Destroyers and Fleet Sweepers 15 knots. Smaller craft no restrictions.
- 20 - 25 fathoms. Vessels over 15000 tons are advised to proceed at moderate speed. Other vessels no restrictions.
2. Self protection should not be used.
(D.T.M. 222116B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action

E/Boats
on 19th
June.

PRU 19th shows 8 E/Boats at Cuxhaven and also 8 E/Boats on a Westerly course in the Elbe River. These E/Boats are probably on passage from Baltic to Channel area.
(D.D.I.C. 221237B to C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F.)

U/Boats

U/Boats
reported.

Have obtained a 2nd class H/F D/F bearing of a German submarine transmitting a B Barred signal of 23 groups at 2322Z. Bearing was 042° sense determined, Operator estimates within 15 miles, frequency 4412 kc/s. My position 236° Beachy

Head 36 miles.

(ST. LAURENT, 220150B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Have obtained a bearing by H/F D/F. Bearing is believed to be of German submarine transmitting a B Signal. Bearing was 229°. Distance not estimated. My position 049° 41' N. 004° 22' W.
(RESTIGOUCHE, 220337B to Admt.)

/Bearings...

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Bearings taken at 0118Z of U/Boat making BB signal gives fix (055°, 059° or 094°) 25 miles from me. My position 049° 25' N. 004° 00' W. (E.G.14, 220340B to Admty.)

E.G.14's 220340B. D/F fix of B barred transmission at 0118Z gives position of U/B within 15 miles of 48° 45' N. 04° 45' W. (D.D.I.C. 220545B to E.G.14, E.G.2.)

By D/F at 0040Z U/B estimated within 25 miles of 49° 30' N. 05° 10' W. (D.D.I.C. 220916B to E.G.9.)

Your 221102. Position given in Admiralty 220545 was inaccurate. 3 ships of second E.G. D/Fd the enemy signal and all place it at least 40 miles to westward of position given in my 220345* (E.G.2, 221200B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

* Obtained H/F D/F bearings of enemy transmissions at 0117 G.M.T. in position 40 to 50 miles my position 049° 04' N. 004° 45' W.

P.R.U. requested.

Request PRU daily of Alderney, Peter Port, St. Helier, Lesardrieux, Treguier River, Morlaix, St. Malo to detect U/Boats. (D.D.I.C. 220345B to R.A.F. Benson.)

U/Boat attacked by A/C.

NR. 3. Result positive continued patrol. (A/C TYY 71 221349B to 19 Group.)

NR. 4. Debris wreck floating oil negative survivor.

(A/C TYY 71 221425B to 19 Group.)

Note. Messages numbered 1 and 2 from same A/C refer to contact and bombing in position 49° 13' N. 05° 12' W.

TYY 71, 1300/1332/1349 and 1425. Detach ship as necessary to investigate position 049° 13' N. 005° 33' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 221454B to E.G.2.)

Your 221454B. Bottom target located at end of oil slick bomb producing air bubble and more oil in 049° 19' N. 005° 27' W. No other wreckage observed. Picked up Sono Buoy at remote end of slick. Rejoining E.G.2.

(LOCH KILLIN, 222315B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U/Boats

1. Two attacks on U/Boats were made by A/C 40 miles south of Mounts Bay. Escort groups are investigating area.
2. Four attacks by A/C on possible U/Boats north of Cap de la Hague. No details of these attacks have yet been received.
3. Periscope reported by A/C at 1930/2 between Guernsey and Jersey course unknown.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 222135B to A.N.C.X.F.)

3 S/Ms at periscope depth attacked by A/C p.m. today between Alderney and position 10 miles north of Cherbourg. Result negative. Presume S/M working eastward.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 222249B to TANATSIDE, STAYNER, OTTAWA.)

A/S
patrol.

- SALADIN take SCIMITAR under your orders and form Force 28 proceeding when ready to carry out A/S patrol along the parallel of 50° N. between 4° W. and 5° W.
2. Object to provide A/S protection to the approaches to Falmouth and Plymouth.
 3. Own forces. E.G.9 operating in Z. 237 Z.232 E.G.12 in Z.222 and Z.223. Other forces as signalled.
 4. Comply with instructions in O.N. Plymouth 5 section 2.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 221425B to SALADIN, SCIMITAR.)

Channel
situation.

Only incidents in English Channel in 24 hours ending 1200Z/22nd are two W/T transmissions by U/Bs and an A/C sighting N. of Cherbourg Peninsula. There are probably two or three U/Boats between longitudes 01° 00' W. and 03° 00' W. and half a dozen between longitudes 03° 00' W. and 06° 00' W. One is being hunted near 49° 25' N. 08° 25' W. and another east-bound boat is within 25 miles of 49° 30' N. 11° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 221431 to A.I.G.331.)

Allied Air Activity

Corridor
No.10.

Desire to introduce new corridor for non-operational flights between U.K. and Continent. New corridor to be known as Corridor No.10 Selsey Bill to mouth of River Vire. This corridor will normally be used in preference to Corridor No.5 and same rules for flying will apply. New corridor essential for non operational A/C because.

- a. Use of Corridor No.5 involves large numbers of unarmed non-operational A/C on essential missions passing dangerously close to enemy A.A. and fighter defences.
- b. Present scale of non-operational flights. Propose

/introducing...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Allied Air Activity

Corridor
No. 10.
(Contd.)

introducing new corridor as soon as possible. Request your concurrence and earliest time at which corridor may be used after all defences warned.
(H.Q. A.E.A.F. 221305B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Corridor
No. 6.

Your 211904. Concur in principle. Twelve hours notice will be required after final agreement before corridors are brought into force.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221439B to H.Q. A.E.A.F.)

Enemy Air Activity

Two
Enemy
A/C shot
down on
18th June.

United States L.C.I.(L) 537 reports that on 18th June at 2325 Ju.88 dropped 2 objects possibly mines in approx. 50.03 N. 00.34 W. Plane was brought down by gunfire. Crash confirmed by L.C.I.(L) 417.
L.C.I.(L) 307 was attacked with torpedoes by Ju. 88 at 2315/18th June in estimated 50° 00' N. 00° 34' W. One possibly Acoustic torpedo missed 10 yards astern. Aircraft was brought down in flames.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven 221840B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Movements

LOTHIAN

In order to provide L.S.H. for Mediterranean it will be necessary to take LOTHIAN. Date will be communicated later and will be after 1st July if possible.
(V.C.N.S. 221515B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Port Facilities

Gooseberry
damage.

Preliminary reports of gale damage indicate that it was more severe on Western beaches and that Corncobs have on the whole stood up better than Phoenix. It is considered absolutely essential again to complete the Gooseberry beach and craft shelters as quickly as possible. To do this as a first requirement twenty ships are asked for immediately, twelve for the U.S. beaches and eight for the British.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221337B to Admty.)

Tombolas.

U.S. estimate their requirements for bulk petrol as follows. Details.

/By...

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Tombolas.
(Contd.)

By reason of weather no Tombolas have been laid yet but first British ready pulling (query pumping when the sea calms and U.S. may be ready simultaneously.
(B.U.C.O. 221730 to Admty.)

Eastern Sector.

Following is condition of breakwaters after gale.

A. Corncocks. Some slight movement tending to open gaps in overlaps maximum opening 30 ft. average 12 ft. effect on value as breakwater not serious.

B. Phoenix and 5 units including previous partial wreck at North entrance demolished to low water level. One further unit with outer wall breached.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B. 222210B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Casualties and Defects

Distress signal.

Distress pyrotechnics in 50° 12' N. 07° 17' W.
(A/C LXS 91 220255B to 19 Group.)

Tanker Y 40.

Intercepted U.S. diesel tanker Y.40 in 049° 48' N. 001° 08' W. at 0830. Bound Plymouth 5 knots both anchors carried away last night off Omaha. Have ordered Y.40 to proceed through position Z.
(TANATSIDE 220850B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

CALGARY.

Following is a recoded version of my 220431 begins: Your 210340 and my 212341. There seems to be a misunderstanding. CALGARY is not a tug but a corvette. Ship was damaged attempting to pass tow to HORACE GRAYFEDER orders of N.C.W.T.F. Tow line parted. Tow was not cast adrift. Ship now proceeding Portsmouth at slow speed for repair. Ends.
(CALGARY 221015B to C.T.F. 128.)

Repair of Landing Craft.

It is understood that owing to the present unfavourable weather there are numerous damaged landing craft on far shore. As Portsmouth - Southampton docking capacity is already fully employed request all major landing craft and L.S.Ts. requiring docking be taken direct from the beaches to other areas for repairs. The situation to be reviewed in about a week.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 221330 to A.N.C.X.F.)

/A.M....

War Diary.

22.6.1944.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune "

Casualties.

Damaged Landing Craft. Intend sailing following group of damaged landing craft in tow passing Needles 1000/23. E.T.A. Plymouth 1200/24. Escorts COLL and FIARAY.
2. U.S.L.S.T. (2) 360 and U.S.L.S.T. (2) 133 in tow of L.T.214. 3 U.S.L.S.T. (2) 491, L.C.T.759, 946.
4 L.C.T.1017, L.C.F.38. 5 L.C.T.1071. 6 L.C.T. 752 and 2432. 7 L.C.T. 7101 and 905. 8 L.C.T. 644. 9 L.C.Ts. 510, 635 and L.C.I.900. 10 L.C.T.2453. 11 L.T.130. 12 L.C.Ts. 512 and 2282 join from Portland.
(C. in C.Portsmouth (T) 222048 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.L.14. A. E.P.L.14. B. Escort LONDONDERRY, CLARKIA. C. E.T.A. 2000/22nd. D. Wardle 14E. For Omaha L.S.T. 511 KK. KK. 315, 374, 509, 51, 501, H.N. M.S. NORDKAP.
(A.N.C.X.F. 220429B.)

E.X.P.12. A. Sailed E.X.P.12. B. STORK, REDPOLE, EGLINTON, HOTHAM. D. One ship for Juno, one for Gold, 6 for Sword, PRINSES ASTRID.
(A.N.C.X.F. 220505B and 220605B.)

E.C.P.12W. A. Sail E.C.P.12W.. B. Escort CRANE, ROWLEY, CHELMER, LARK. E. For Utah one ship. For Omaha 6 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 220601B.)

E.P.L.14W. A..Sailing E.P.L.14W. E. For Utah 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 220603B.)

E.T.C.15. A: Sailed E.T.C.15. B. COTSWOLD, CLEMATIS. E. For Gold 22 ships, for Sword 5 ships, for Juno 4 ships, for Port en Bessin GLADIONA, CHANTS 3, 64, 57.
(A.N.C.X.F. 220735.)

E.W.L.14. A. Sailed E.W.L.14. B. LAVENDER, DIANTHUS, OLIVIER. E. For Gold 12 L.S.Ts. for Juno 11 L.S.Ts For Sword 4 L.S.Ts
(A.N.C.X.F. 220737.)

F.X.P.11Z, F.T.M.15. Sailed A. F.X.P.11Z and F.T.M.15. B. SAUMAREZ, FORESTER, ISLE OF THANET to overtake with KITE in company.

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Thursday.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

F.X.P.11Z,
F.T.M.15.
(Contd.)

E. (F.X.?) P.11 Z BEN MY CHREE, F.T.M.(15?) 5 L.S.T. for Tilbury? 5 L.S.T. for Isle of Wight 420, 65, 428, 9, 427. Signal regarding escort for the Nore follows.
(Capt. N.S. 220905B and 221145B.)

F.T.C.14.

Sailed A. F.T.C. 14 B. SWATHA for Nore M.L.291, 572 for Isle of Wight E. 12 ships, M.F.V.2000, 2002, trawler THE WAY, B.V.BARNWELL.
(Capt. N.S.221101B, 221146B.)

Resumption
of full
convoy sail-
ings.

My 211041. Following action is to be taken to resume full "Neptune" convoy sailings.
A. Convoys E.B.C.16 and E.B.C.16W are to sail so as to arrive 1600/23. Sailing of all other coaster convoys is to be resumed so that arrivals are phased back 48 hours from that originally planned example convoys E.T.C.16 and E.B.C.17 will arrive p.m/24th.

B. Sailing of convoys E.T.M.15 and E.C.M.13 are to be again delayed so that they will arrive p.m/24. There after M.T.ship convoy cycle is to be resumed as before.

C. Daily sailings of personnel and L.S.T.convoys are to be resumed now with normal timings.

D. All loaded L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) are to be sailed as convenient p.m. today Thursday to arrive tomorrow Friday 23rd June. Thereafter normal Starlight sailings are to be resumed.

E. In view of damage to ferry service craft T.F. Commanders have authority to retain a small proportion of shuttle service L.C.T. after their discharge to assist unloading of M.T.ships. It is however most important that only the minimum number necessary are kept on far shore as Army are already experiencing difficulties due to shortage of L.C.T. in shuttle service. T.F.Commanders are to report number of craft retained in due course.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221139B.)

Weather re-
ports.

My 201002B* para. G. Ref. to weather reports should be deleted. N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F and F.O.B.A.A. are to continue to make weather reports as at present.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221515B.)

* 201009 intended? re Action to be taken with "Neptune" convoys owing to weather. T.F. Comrs. to report weather every four hours.

Coasters for
Cardiff.

Buco. Ref. my 211027B and 221255B request consideration may be given to allocating additional coasters to this area observing that there are approx. 40,000 tons of stores waiting in the port.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 221741B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Tids...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- Tids. In view of serious shortage of Tid class tugs can any Tids be spared from Landing Craft Hards, and when could they be made available.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221807 to C. in C.Portsmouth, Com. L.C.B.)
- F.W.P.48. Sailed convoy F.W.(P?) (48) E.T.A: Point Z 230030 pass to W.T.P. on Command wave.
(A.N.C.O.N. 221930 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
- Special convoy of coasters E.W.C.2B. Intend sailing special convoy of 14 coasters urgently required Far Shore Designated E.W.C.2B at 0500/23. 4. Escorts TRENTONIAN, CHASSEUR 10. 5. Composition 10 for Cold, 1 for Juno, 1 for Sword, 2 for Port en Bessin.
(C. in C.Portsmouth (Turco) 221957.)
- E.B.M.4. My 211035B June. Request convoy E.B.M.4 be diverted to Weymouth Bay and await orders from C.T.F.129 for onward sailing.
(A.N.C.X.F. 222321B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Organisation and Administration.

- Eastern area. My 171321. The recent gale has necessitated re-consideration of the changes of command and control in British assault area. Following are my intentions for the future and early Admiralty concurrence is requested.
2. Flag Officer Force S and Commodore Forces G and J to remain off their beaches and to concentrate on clearing up unloading and ferry service problems resulting from the gale. All three assault force Commanders to be withdrawn to U.K. in their H.Q. ships at discretion of N.C.E.T.F.
 3. C.S.10 to take over responsibility forthwith for all bombarding operations, including those of support craft. Local arrangements to be made for passing calls for fire.
 4. The number of cruisers in this area to be progressively reduced at the discretion of N.C.E.T.F. as the military situation allows.
 5. N.C.E.T.F. to remain in command of the British Assault Area as a whole until the Force Commanders have been withdrawn and the Army position on the eastern flank has become more fully stabilised. He will then turn over to F.O.B.A.A. and withdraw.
 6. N.C.E.T.F. (A) to hoist his flag as F.O.B.A.A. immediately, and to operate under N.C.E.T.F.'s command until the latter withdraws from the area.
 7. At a later date and when a sufficient reduction in the strength of the bombarding squadron has been effected C.S.10 to be relieved

/by...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Eastern area.
(Contd.)

*[Concur:
Admty 231114
p. 580] and
Admty 23235b
p. 593]*

by a Commodore 2nd Class in command of the inshore squadron who will operate under F.O.B.A.A. and will fly his broad pendant in a cruiser.
8. N.C.E.T.F. to keep me informed of his intentions as to dates on which the above programme can be progressively implemented.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221419B to N.C.E.T.F. Admty. C.S.10.)

My 221419. Propose Force Commanders should return to their shore H.Qs. in U.K. on withdrawal from the far shore and complete their reports before proceeding on leave.

2. N.C.E.T.F. to haul down his flag on arrival in U.K. and proceed on leave subsequently being re-appointed to ODYSSEY to prepare his report.
(A.N.C.X.F. 221421B to Admty.)

Your 221419 para. three. At first sight it appears to me that a cruiser will not be suitable and that it will be necessary for me to transfer my flag to a headquarters ship fitted with the necessary specialised equipment and which can be here permanently. Further signal will be made when matter has been fully explored.
(C.S.10 232303B to A.N.C.X.F.)

If proposals of A.N.C.X.F. are approved and I am to remain some time in command of bombarding cruisers in operation "Neptune" propose that C.S.1 take over administration of 10th C.S. as office work is piling up. All office records and accumulated mails are at present under charge of Chief Petty Officer Writer in office of S.E.O.H.F. Cruisers at Lyness.
(C.S.10 222315B to C. in C.H.F.)

N.O.I.C.
Arromanches.

Capt. H.Hickling has taken over as N.O.I.C. Arromanches p.m. today.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B 222035 to A.N.C.X.F.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Destroyers for North Russia. Request information whether destroyers proceeding to North Russia vide Admiralty's 111720 have any Radar equipment which should not be shown to Russians. Arhipov wishes to be shown over these ships by Lieut. Com. Brown. (Ad. Archer, 221146B to Admty.).

Admiralty 111720. Intend following programme for three H.F. destroyers. June 27th and 28th at Scapa embark passengers mail and stores destined for North Russia. June 29th sail from Scapa and proceed to Kola arriving 3rd July. Fuel and embark passengers mail and stores for U.K. July 4th sail from Kola and proceed to arrive Scapa July 8th.

(2) Capt. (D) 3rd is requested to detail three destroyers.
(3) Owing to other operational commitments it is necessary for destroyers to return Scapa by 8th July.
(C. in C.H.F., 222143B to Admty.).

ORION Request you will sail ORION on 30th June for Algiers for onward routing to Alexandria. (D.O.D.(H), 221915B to C. in C. Plymouth).

Defence of U.K.

Defence against Flying Bombs. To reinforce A.A. gun defences against enemy flying bomb attack the following withdrawals of guns have been authorised, and the guns redeployed in the London "Diver" gun belt, depicted in appendix "F" to A.D.G.B. "Overlord". "Diver" plan. H.A.A. Batteries - London 6, Milford Haven 1, Tarrant Rushton 2, L.A.A. guns: Bournemouth 16, Exmouth 8, Salcombe 8, Swanage 8, Teignmouth 12, Holton Heath 12, Dartmouth 28, Plymouth 16, Falmouth 12, Milford Haven 12, Yarmouth/Lowestoft 20. Such reductions involve the removal of L.A.A. gun defences from fringe targets and at the other places concerned the reduction of the defences to the scale authorised prior to reinforcements for operation "Overlord". (H.Q.A.D.G.B., 221000B to H.Q.A.E.A.F.).

In order to meet urgent requirements for the deployment of additional balloons for defence against flying bombs, authority has been given for the immediate withdrawal of 46 balloons from the defences of Scapa. (1st S.L., 221443B to A.C.O.S.).

To provide additional balloons to counter flying bombs Balloon Command have been authorised to withdraw forthwith all LZ Balloons from following barrages at ports:- Falmouth, Bristol, Harwich, Thames, Newcastle, Sunderland, Humber, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Forth, Scapa. It is understood that Thames reduction may be reconsidered but no decision yet available. Barrages at the following ports are being reduced down to following minimum numbers. Plymouth 33, Dover 14, Southampton 22, Portsmouth 30. Appropriate Balloon Groups will inform you when reductions are to be effected. (D.L.D., 221536B to Cs. in C.).

/ In...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K.

Defence against Flying Bombs (Contd.). In order to reinforce A.A. Gun Defences against enemy flying bomb attack the following withdrawals of guns have been authorised for re-employment in the London anti-flying bomb belt.
(2) H.A.A. Batteries London 6, Milford Haven 1, Tarrant Rushton 2, L.A.A. Guns Bournemouth 16, Exmouth 8, Salcombe 8, Swanage 8, Teignmouth 12, Holton Heath 12, Dartmouth 28, Plymouth 16, Falmouth 12, Milford Haven 12, Yarmouth/Lowestoft 20.
(D.L.D., 221646B to Cs. in C.).

Operations

Operation "C.W." Adjust patrol to sweep ahead of O.S.81, S.O.B.3 group in TOWY, leaving Oversay 1530B/23rd June, thence leave to sweep ahead of H.X.M.295, S.O. C.5 Group in DUNVER, estimated P.C.S. at 0900B/24 055 degs. 25' N. 010 degs. 15' W. 086 degs. 8½ knots.
(2) TRUANT sails with O.S.81 and is stationed 3 cables on port beam of Commodore.
(C. in C.W.A., 221004B to INMAN).

A/U Operation. Scapa departure C.S.1 in KENT with BERMUDA, DEVONSHIRE, FURIOUS and MATCHLESS.
(A.C.O.S., 221704 to A.I.G.47).

Action between own forces off Beachy Head on 30th May. Admiralty 021144 June (not to M/S 7, M/S 9). It is reported that:-
(A) all four coastal craft concerned had transponders switched on and in working order,
(B) no transponder was triggered.
(2) Interrogator Guard in only coastal force unit involved in incident on night of 29th/30th May switched on type 242 when range of nearest Radar target was 1000 yards but with-out result.
(3) Request information whether any unit of 7th or 9th M/S. Flotilla:-
(A) had transponder switched on and if so whether it was triggered,
(B) switched on type 242 and if so, with what result.
(V.A. Dover, 222039B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Mining

Harwich. 1 ground mine detonated by M.M.S. at 1340 in 51 degs. 52.1' N. 01 degs. 41.5' E.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 221437 and 221845B to Admty.).

Enemy Intelligence

Two destroyers. Two Maas-Class destroyers preceded by minesweepers passed Sound and entered Kattegat northbound at

War Diary

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Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Two
destroyers
(Contd.)

10.30 today. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 221201 to Admty.).
O.I.C. Comment, Quite probably correct.

U-Boats

U-Boats
reported

By D/F at 2217Z/21 U-Boat making WW message
estimated within 50 miles of 56 degs. 00' N. 26
degs. 30' W.
(D.D.I.C., 220050B to Escorts O.N.F.241).
1635B intercepted B Bar transmission of U-Boat
second class (?073 degs.) (1 group repeated) estimated ground
wave 54.51 N. 20.25 W., 084 degs. 9.
(C.5, 221758B to C. in C.W.A.).

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Thursday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

A/S patrol Shifting Axis of Barrier to 17.30 W. my 211640*
by C.T.G.22.5 refers.
(C.T.G.22.5 220615B.)
* Establishing barrier patrol.

Naval air My 042142 April. It has now been decided not to
Section, Azores. proceed with Naval Air Section, Azores.
(Head of Air Branch 222216B.)

South Atlantic.

SS. COLUMBINE 23 others missing including Master and Lieut.-
(sunk 16th Comdr. Morley and wife died in lifeboat or were
June.) drowned. My 202125B refers.
(S.O.I. Capetown 221115B.)

Moorings. There is an urgent requirement for moorings in the
Far East. Information is requested if any can be
released from Freetown when PHILOCTETES returns to
U.K. and if possible bringing them with her.
(Admty. 221709B to F.O.C.W.Af.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

UNSPARING. You have freedom of action in your patrol area.
 (2) Cancel my 200952.
 (Capt. (S) 1, 220624B to UNSPARING)
 Proceed eastwards through position 036 degs. 08' 025 degs. 50' with all despatch. Further orders follow.
 (Capt. (S) 1, 221212 to UNSPARING)
 Your 221212B acknowledged. Only have 2 torpedoes remaining.
 (2) At 211650B North Cape Malea annihilated convoy of 1 U.J. Boat, Este Motor Lighter and 1 Siebel ferry.
 (3) My position 036 degs. 01' 023 degs. 17'.
 Weather report 9080 7365.
 (UNSPARING 221346B to Capt. (S) 1)

Cargoes of enticed Greek caiques. Cargoes of enticed Caiques of Greek registration are transferred to Greek Authorities.
 (2) In view of different station request following information regarding disposal of cargoes of Dodecanese Caiques. (a) Should cargoes of those which conformed with Armistice be transferred to Italian Authorities? (b) Should cargoes of those captured or enticed during subsequent operations be put in prize?
 (c) If answer (b) in negative should exception be made in case of Army rations destined for enemy garrisons and presumably owned by enemy or Quisling Govt.?
 (3) Dodecanese vessels themselves captured or enticed after Armistice are not being put in prize. Request confirmation that this is correct.
 (F.O.L.E.M. 221032 to Admty.)

UNSEEN, P.R. Rhodes a.m. 22nd AGATHE, ANITA, ^{Tigani} TIRANI, ORION
 VAMPIRE. present.
 (2) Para. 4. My 211959/ applies tonight 22nd/23rd (F.O.L.E.M. 221246 to UNSEEN, (R) Capt. S.1, Q.43, VAMPIRE.)
 / re patrol for VAMPIRE.

SICKLE My 182335. Regret to report that SICKLE is now lost. four days overdue from patrol. She was ordered to report her P.C.S. in my 181228 and 190905 to which she has failed to reply. She must therefore be considered lost.
 (2) SICKLE reported at 2336/4 June being in gun action and sustaining casualties of Mitylene.
 (3) Her last known position was in the Northeastern Approaches to Steno Passhir which she made an enemy report of an escorted Convoy T.O.O.121255. It does not appear that she had attacked this convoy.

(4) /...

H.M.S. SICKLE.—In proud memory of LIEUTENANT JAMES RALPH DRUMMOND, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N., and OFFICERS and MEN of H.M. Submarine Sickle, lost June 18, 1944.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.—In proud memory of all ranks of the First Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment who gave their lives in France, Belgium, North Africa, and Italy, 1940-45.

Tuan
19.6.44

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Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

SICKLE
lost
(Contd.)

(4) At 1725/12 SICKLE was ordered to patrol in North Aegean North of latitude 38 degs. N. with the general object of destruction of enemy shipping. Intelligence furnished to her included the following bombardment targets. (1) Olive oil factory and caique yards east of Plomari (Mitylene)

(11) Olive oil factory south of Cape Molivos and Molivos Harbour (Mitylene).

(5) My 121743 and 140902 ordered SICKLE to leave patrol passing east of Levitha, West of Stampalia and through Anti Kithera Channel to arrive outer end Malta Eastern Channel at 0901/18. To comply with her recall she should have crossed parallel of 38 degs. North at latest a.m. 14th.

(6) It is not considered that C.B's and S.P's are compromised. (S.1, 221405B)

Enemy
vessels
transiting
Dardanelles.

My 211707. Cargo from LAUDON and ENGERAU has been discharged and cargo re-discharged from KATERINA and ANNA MARIA for purpose of examination and search by special commission to-day 21st.

(2) F.O.L.E.M. please pass to C. in C. Med. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 221731C to B.N.A. Ankara, F.O.L.E.M.)

Sailings of
safe conduct
ships.

A.M. 201731 is confirmed.
(C. in C. Med. 222110 to Admty.)

VIGOROUS.

VIGOROUS sail from Malta at 1801/22nd and passes through Antikithera Channel during night 24th/25th thence through 030 degs. 01' 025 degs. 01' passing West of Stampalia and Kinaros to patrol in North Aegean North of Latitude 038 degs. North.
(Capt. (S) 1, 222246B) See amendement 230858.

UNIVERSAL,
patrol
summary.

Patrol summary is: one A/S vessel sunk off Riou Island on 21st. 12000 ton and 6000 ton liner sunk at anchor in Cassis on 22nd. Possibly your 151902/ 3 Torpedoes remaining.
(UNIVERSAL, 232358B to Capt. (S) 10) / Not received.

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Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

SS. RIBERA overdue. RIBERA was routed to Colombo refer your 200831. (C. in C.E.F. 220505Z to N.C.S.O.Aden.)
SS. RIBERA due Colombo 18th June not arrived. Vessel has not replied to signals calling for report of position. (S.O.I. Colombo 220506Z.)

SIRDAR, My 191134 delete para. 9 and substitute 9 15th patrol report. June attacked convoy of 8 small ships bound for Sabang in 005° 20' N. 094° 34' E. with 6 torpedoes. One ran under remainder missed. (C. in C.E.F. 220538Z.)

Operation "Pedal" (air raid on Port Blair) Proposed communique on Operation "Pedal". (C. in C.E.F. 221215Z.)
Further to my 221215 surprise was certainly complete since once again the approach of the force was not detected and alarm appears to have been given only five minutes before aircraft were sighted.

2. Weather was poor with 5/10th cloud at 1500 feet and local rain storms. Owing to bad light no satisfactory photographs were obtained.

3. Strike of 15 Barracudas escorted by 16 Corsairs was flown off at 0530 from position 95 miles to the west of Port Blair. In addition 8 Corsairs were flown off to strafe the two air strips before the arrival of the main strike. Two Barracudas returned with engine trouble.

4. Results of strike as follows: A. 2-500 and 1-250 lb. bombs on barracks and 1-500 on power house on Ross Island. B. 2-500 and 3-500 in saw mills area Chatham Island. C. 1-500 on work ship and four in close proximity of seaplane base Phoenix Bay. D. 2-500 on barracks and 1-250 in M.T.yard Aberdeen Harbour. E. The two S.E. enemy aircraft set on fire were on Port Blair airfield nothing was seen, secondary landing strip. All bombing targets were also strafed. F. Mt. Augusta Radar Station was completely destroyed Mt. Harriet Radar Station and tower damaged.

5. The heavy ack ack was plentiful and accurate for height. Intense low ack ack at aerodrome. Four aircraft hit by ack ack but were able to return. One Corsair pilot baled out over the fleet and is safe. Nothing is known of what happened to the missing Barracuda names of crew not yet available.

6. Force withdrew according to plan. Weather throughout the day was overcast with the wind at 50° force five.

7. No hostile forces detected or sighted. Force 60 E.T.A. Trincomalee 0830FG/23.

8. Operation appears to have been quite successful and I consider reflects credit on V.A.E.F. and all concerned. (C. in C.E.F. 221247.) [Additional details page 628]

HOWE. Your 210008. To avoid depletion of destroyers with the Fleet in Ceylon area in mid July it is intended to use destroyers released from troop convoy duty at Aden about 18th July to escort HOWE to Ceylon. 2. Arrangements in C. in C.Med. 211252 can be made provide sailing of HOWE from Suez is adjusted to suit availability of destroyers in para. 1 above. (C. in C.E.F. 221229Z.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

N.S.H.Q. S/M Para. C. U.S. Transport A/C sights U-Boat trimmed
attack & down in 45.30 N. 40.00 W. A.M. 2210Z/21.
sighting Para. D. 1. R.C.A. Liberator X/10 (?) obtartspyblp
summary. (?obtained) S.G. contact in 43.31 N. 51.35 W. at
 1350Z/21.
 2. Swordfish A/C sights suspicious dark object
 submerged in 46.35 N. 47.07 W. at 1700Z/21.
3. U.S. Navy A/C sights periscope wake in 46.30 N. 47.30 W. at
1945Z/21.
(N.S.H.Q. 221358Z.)

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (N.S.H.Q. 221400Z, 221540Z.)

H.X.S.297. Ref. Admiralty's 271701 March, para. 6. Present
estimate 126 ships.
(B.R.L.O. New York 221517Z.)

U.S.S. WAKE- Diversion order.
FIELD. (Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 221742Z to T.A.121A.)

Stragglers Nil report.
report No. 57. (N.S.H.Q. 221930Z.)

O.N.S.239. 59 ships arrived New York 22nd June.
(P.D. New York 221948Z.)

SALISBURY, Ships are to be prepared for disposal as scrap
MANSFIELD. forthwith.
(N.S.H.Q. 222005Z.)

U/B incidents. Para. B. A.T.C. plane sighted U-Boat course east
which submerged after turning to course N.E. 45.45
N. 45.10 W. 212140Z.
(Cominch 222121Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No. June 21st. 9. Night 20/21 M.T.Bs. sank 3 enemy
884. barges heavily laden personnel and supplies off
 N.E. coast. (Portion indecypherable, repetition
 being obtained.)
 14. Night 19/20th M.T.Bs. shelled vehicles on
 coastal road near Borpop.
 (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 220800Z.)

/This...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No.
884. (Contd.)

This is a repetition of G.H.Q.S.W.P.A.'s 220746 begins and now part 3 of G.H.Q.S.W.P.A.'s 220800. 9. Night 20/21 M.T.Bs. sank 3 enemy barges heavily laden personnel and supplies off N.E. coast Biak Island. Similar craft strafed enemy shore positions Biak Island. 10. Same night destroyers bombarded enemy positions Maffin Bay area. (Brisbane C.C.O. 221830Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
& sighting
summary.

Para. A. 1. A/Cs Z/10, L/228 and D/502 all sighted U-Boat and oil slick course 63° from 1122Z to 1427Z/21st June in vicinity 49° 36' N. 08° 28' W. D/502 and L/228 attacked with depth charges. Para. B. 1. Transit A/C reports U-Boat course 275° at 1045Z/21st June in 37° 25' N. 21° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 221100B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 221423, 221427B.)

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23.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

- 1a. On shore the Allied pressure against Cherbourg is increasing, and fighting continues in the Caen/Tilly area. At 1800 today a cumulative total of 14,856 Prisoners of War had passed through our Reception Camps.
- b. In the Assault Area the North Easterly wind was still blowing with force 3 today, and the capacity of the beaches is reduced in some cases to about 30% of normal. The Mulberry installations in both sectors have been considerably damaged; many Ferry Craft are unsalvageable; and bombing and mine-laying by Enemy A/C continued throughout the Area last night.
- c. In the Eastern Sector only 14 out of 35 Phoenix units appear to be intact; the centre pier of Mulberry A is completely wrecked; and craft and debris cover the whole beach.
- d. In the Western Sector, though 6 Phoenix units are badly damaged, landings of Troops and stores continued today.

Enemy
Action.

- 2a. E-Boats. 3 E-Boats were sighted by A/C in the Channel Islands area at 0615 today; and 2 E-Boats were sunk, 3 probably sunk, 6 more and 1 minesweeper damaged last night by A/C between Boulogne and the Hook of Holland.
- b. U/boats. Two U/Boats were attacked by A/C early this morning N.E. of Ushant without observed result; and at 1440B the Admiralty considered that there were probably three or four in the Channel North of Cherbourg, one or two eastbound of the Channel Islands, and two or three more West of 04° W. with others approaching from the Atlantic.
At 1614 two A/C attacked a U/Boat 25 miles S.W. of Jersey and wreckage was seen.
- c. Mines. Minelaying aircraft were active throughout last night off the beachhead from sunset to sunrise. In the Eastern Sector one of the new-type German mines dropped on shore near La Croix has been partly excavated and is being examined.
- d. Convoy. At about 0200 today a small north-bound convoy was attacked about 6 miles south of La Corbiere, Jersey by M.T.Bs. which sank one escort trawler and left one M/S on fire.

Casualties

3. Casualties today have been as follows:-
SCYLLA, Cruiser, mined in Area "S" at 2300 and proceeding to Spithead in tow.
GLAISDALE, Destroyer, mined in Area "S" and being towed to Portsmouth.
FAIRWAY, Minesweeper, mined in Eastern Area.
NESTTUN, Norwegian M/V, mined and beached in Area "O".

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Friday

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SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

4. Coastal forces last night encountered 2 destroyers south-west of Genoa and engaged without result.

5. UNSWERVING sank two patrol vessels in the Aegean today and took 7 prisoners.

2500113 gives this total as
628,045, which seems more
likely, as 638,045 would give
over 10,000 landed in the gale

SWH

23.6.1944.
Friday.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval. Cositintrep No. 40, part 2, Naval. A. General. Wind moderated to N.N.E. Force 3 at 2000/22nd. Unloading of L.S.T. and L.C.T. restarted during the afternoon although not a high rate. Weather forecast offers no imminent prospect of wind dropping further or shifting into westerly or southerly quarter, without which the calm water off beaches, which is desirable to assist recovery of lost time, cannot be expected.

B. Troops, etc. landed.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Cumulative to p.m. 19th			
Gold, Juno & Sword	320,062	54,847	105,878
Omaha & Utah	307,439	42,611	117,520
Total (D+13)	627,501	97,458	223,398
Cumulative to p.m. 20th.			
Gold, Juno & Sword	330,606	54,862	106,795
Omaha & Utah	307,439	42,806	117,843
Total (D+14)	638,045	97,668	224,638
Daily figures.			
Utah (to p.m. 19th)	Nil	1,143	2,575
Utah (to p.m. 20th)	Nil	205	323
Gold (to p.m. 20th)	Nil	Nil	305
Juno (to p.m. 20th)	544	15	411
Sword (to p.m. 20th)	Nil	Nil	201

Note: no reports received from Omaha so adjustment may be necessary. Utah unloaded on 20th for stranded craft.

C. Casualties. FURY (ref. my 212335) drifted ashore after parting tow. CHANT 7 (ref. my 211349) now upside down and considered total loss.

D. Coastal Command. Six sightings of U-Boats followed by four attacks were made.

1. Two sightings and attacks at 1332 and 1451/22nd 35 miles S. off Lands End.

2. Three sightings at 1459, 1541 and 1809 with two attacks in area 6 miles N.E. to 6 miles N.W. of C. de la Hague.

3. One sighting at 1931 10 miles S.W. of Guernsey.

(Ad. Ramsay 230038B to Admt.)

Cositintrep No. 41, part 2, Naval. A. General. Far shore weather at 0900 wind N.E. force 3, waves 2 feet. Score of gale damage is very heavy. Utah estimates beach capacity reduced temporarily to 30% normal, which applies in less degree at other areas. Urgent requirement to replace lost anchors and ground tackle of smaller ships and craft. Gooseberry One has lost nearly all protective value and must be renewed with Corncobs. Mulberry A also damaged and B to lesser extent. Many ferry craft unsalvageable and unserviceable.

Considerable enemy air activity bomb and mine dropping during the night. Several aircraft torpedo attacks on patrols. 2 enemy shot down, no damage to ships yet reported.

F.X.bomb exploded alongside SCYLLA at 2330, no damage reported. Shelling of Sword area continued and LARGS (Flag of F.O.Force S.) got underway to avoid shells but mines detonating close by stopped the movement.

/About...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

About 17 mines detonated in eastern area yesterday either spontaneously from high seas or actuated by shipping movements which in consequence must be restricted.

E-Boats again operated during the night but without contact and no actions yet reported as having developed.

B. Casualties. A long list of minor craft from the weather.

C. Coastal Command. U-Boats were sighted (i) 60 miles west of Belle Isle at 0202. (ii) 60 miles N.N.E. of Ushant at 2312. (iii) 60 miles N.E. of Ushant at 0512. Attacks were carried out at latter 2 sightings a force estimated at 5/7 unidentified small craft was attacked in Dover Strait early this morning when 2 enemy were claimed as sunk and 4 probably damaged.
(Ad. Ramsay 231431B to Admty.)

1. M.T.Bs. attacked a convoy south of La Corbiere last night and probably sank 1 escort and 1 merchant ship.

2. Escort groups searching for several possible U-Boats reported by aircraft. S.O. confirmed submarine but many apparent wrecks attacked.

3. G.O. type mine apparently recently laid swept in Approach Channel to Plymouth.

(C. in C.Plymouth 232100B to A.N.C.X.F. Info. Admty. C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C.Nore, V.A.Dover, N.C.W.T.F. Com. Force O, Com. Force U.)

Military.

Communique No. 35. Operations against the Fortress of Cherbourg are proceeding satisfactorily. Offensive action and local attacks have effectively pinned down enemy formations in the eastern sectors.

In preparation for our ground operations, waves of fighter bombers attacked the strongly fortified German positions encircling Cherbourg during the day and again at dusk yesterday.
(S.H.A.E.F. 231100B to Agwar.)

Since the 10th June, 1944, the French forces of the interior, in accordance with the Allied plans, have continued to harass the Germans by increasing acts of warfare and sabotage in the rear of the German lines. Details.

This systematic disorganization of enemy transport by the F.F.I. has contributed directly to the success of Allied operations in Normandy.

(S.H.A.E.F. 231130B to Agwar.)

1. Operations. N.E. corner of Cotentin Peninsula reported clear, but enemy still holding airfield seven miles E. of Cherbourg. Assume all available bodies have fallen back behind defences of Cherbourg, where strong resistance reported. Captured

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

document indicates enemy intends to fight to bitter end. Morale of troops, however, not likely to be high, and prolonged resistance not anticipated.

3. Accumulative total of prisoners of war passed through reception camps up to 18.00 hours 22nd June was 14,800.
(S.H.A.E.F. 231500B to Agwar.)

Communique No. 36.

Pressure in the Cherbourg defences is increasing. Patrols east of Cherbourg are finding little opposition in the sector between Cap Levy and St. Vaast.

Local fighting continues in the Caen - Tilly area.

Early this morning an escorted enemy convoy was intercepted south of Jersey by light coastal forces. One enemy armed trawler was sunk. One of the convoy was left ablaze and damage inflicted on the remainder by gunfire.

Coastal aircraft attacked E-Boats in the eastern Channel sinking two probably sinking three more and damaging several others.

A minesweeper was also damaged.

(S.H.A.E.F. 232330B to Agwar.)

Cherbourg.

My 221730. Additional Cherbourg demolitions.

1. Avant port de Commerce. Eastern quay largely demolished. Duck gates no longer visible.

2. Digue Homet. The nine damaged places have 40 foot craters.

3. Sea plane base. All hangars demolished.

4. Arsenals. Sliding bridge in Passe Sud destroyed and entrance blocked.

(A.N.C.X.F. 231258B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Assault Areas.

Unnecessary ships.

Your 221419. Concur.

2. In view of the mine and weather situation consider it very desirable that all unnecessary ships should be withdrawn from Assault Area.

(V.C.N.S. 231114B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Eastern sector.

Your 231117. JULIANA arriving in E.W.L.15. SAN UBALDO carrying 6,000 tons furnace oil arriving in E.T.C.16W.

(A.N.C.X.F. 231707B to N.C.E.T.F.A.)

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Forces.

Patrols from O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.L.286, 466 Z.1. F.N.2
Dover. M.T.B. 204, 231, 240 Z.2. F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3.
F.N.5 M.T.B.611, 615 Z.5. F.N.6 M.T.B.236, 235,
202 Z.6. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7. F.U.8 LA COMBAT-
TANTE Z.8. F.U.9 ORWELL double patrol Z.9 S. to
Z.11 W. F.U.2 MELBREAK in position 49° 56' N. 00° 14' W.
F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 E. F.Y.2 M.T.B.602, 680 Z.12 E. F.X.1
TROLLOPE Z.13 E. F.X.2 M.T.B.706, 710 Z.13 E. F.U.4 BRISSENDEN
from 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. to 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W.
2. OBEDIENT has freedom of action in Z.4 area.
(V.A.Dover 231209B.)

Eastern Defence policy for night 23/24. V.7 29th M.T.B. 2
sector. miles 180° from established position.
V.8 55th M.T.B. 1 mile (2230 or 264°) from estab-
lished position. U.14 TUNNY north. R.5. Q.1.
P extended to C.1 berth. N.3. 2. B.Y.M.S.
and M.M.3. Minespot in Channel G.
(N.C.E.T.F. 231229B to E.T.F.)

Patrols from O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 23/24th.
Portsmouth. A. ONSLOW (G.A.1), ONSLAUGHT (G.A.2), OFFA (G.A.3),
ORIBI (G.A.4) 01° 00' W. between 49° 43' N. and
50° 05' N. by 2200B.
Commence east and west patrol in 01° 40' W. at
2230B. Southern limit 49° 56' N. returning to initial patrol
line by daylight M. Dispositions to be reported.
B. DUFF (G.F.1) in Z.114, Z.115, Z.121 and Z.122.
C. Unit (G.F.2) M.T.Bs. 430 (S.O.) 416, 413.
Unit (G.F.3) M.T.Bs. 254 (S.O.), 255, 257.
Unit (G.F.4) M.T.Bs. 250 (S.O.), 251, 249.
Unit (G.F.5) M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 694, 689.
All with DUFF in Z.121, Z.122 and Z.123 at 2330B.
D. Unit (G.K.1) M.T.Bs. 209 (S.O.), 206, 208, 210.
Unit (G.K.2) M.T.Bs. 450, (S.O.), 453, 454.
Unit (G.K.3) M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 447.
Force C.X. in Z.203 via 270 Casquets 8 miles at 2245B.
Unit (G.K.1) north of line 090 Sark Light.
Unit (G.K.2) west of 02° 05' W.
Unit (G.K.3) east of 02° 05' W. both south of a line 090 Sark Lt.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 231452B.)

O.N.one, para. 52B.

Eastern night channel report 23/24th June.

1. F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7.

F.U.8 LA COMBATTANTE Z.8. F.U.9 ORWELL Z.9 S. to

Z.11 W. F.U.2 MELBREAK position 49° 56' N. 00° 14' W.
F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 E. F.X.1 TROLLOPE Z.13 E. F.U.4 BRISSENDEN
between 49° 43' N. 00° 22' W. and 49° 50' N. 00° 18' W.
11th E.G. vicinity Z.buoy. 2. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 3
M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.3 2 M.T.Bs. Z.5. F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.Y.2
2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 E. F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 E.

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Forces.

3. Wellington cross-over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 231838B.)

O.N.1 para. 52B.

Western night channel report 23/24th June.

1. 11th E.G. vicinity Z buoy. G.A.1 ONSLOW, G.A.2 ONSLAUGHT, G.A.3 OFFA, G.A.4 ORIBI patrolling area bounded by 49° 56' 50° 05' N. 01° 00' 01° 40' W. G.F.1 DUFF Z.114, Z.115, Z.121, Z.122. SALADIN, SCIMITAR on 50° N. between 04° and 05° W. HAIDA, ESKIMO Z.215, Z.216 east. 5th E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Z.201, Z.202 west Z.208 north. 9th E.G. Z.220, Z.221, Z.224, Z.225. 12th E.G. Z.224, Z.225, Z.229, Z.230. 14th E.G. Z.222, Z.223, Z.224. 2nd E.G. Z.229, Z.230, Z.233, Z.234.

2. G.F.2, G.F.3, G.F.4, G.F.5 each 3 M.T.Bs. all in Z.121, Z.122, Z.128. G.K.1 4 M.T.Bs. G.K.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.K.3 2 M.T.Bs. all in Z.205. G.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.200 north. G.T.1 3 M.Ls. Z.212 N.E. G.T.2 3 M.Ls. Z.217 north.

3. Aircraft all areas west of 02° W. Swordfish on coastal convoy route.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 231856B.)

Patrols from Night patrols 23/24th June. P.C.W.O.120.

Plymouth. A. 1 G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 719, 679. 2. G.T.1 M.Ls. 488, 159, 181. 3. G.T.2 M.Ls. 186, 157, 259.

B. 2300/23. D. 1. In vicinity 193 Portland Bill 11'. 2. In vicinity 088° Start 21'. 3. In vicinity 187° Start 12'. F. 0515/24.

(C. in C.Plymouth 231454B and 231658B to M.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Information own. 2nd E.G. Z.233, Z.234, Z.229 and Z.230. 5th E.G. Z.201, 202, 206, 207 and 208. 9th E.G. Z.220, 221, 224 and 225. 12th E.G. Z.224, 225, 229 and 230. 14th E.G. Z.222, 223

and 224. 15th E.G. eastern half of Z.219 and Z.220 and western half of Z.215 and 216. Forces 28 Z.222 and 227. Coastal forces as in my 231608B.

Enemy as in my 201350B. Intention.

2. Force 26 HAIDA (S.O.), ESKIMO to operate in the Roches D'Ouvres - Minquiers area.

Object. 3. To intercept and destroy enemy ships and to support Coastal Forces operating in Channel Islands area.

Execution. 4. Force 26 is to pass The Gate at 1730B/23rd and proceed through XX. 49° 15' N. 03° 06' W. to pass AA. 000° Roches D'Ouvres Light 4 at 2130B.

5. Then to patrol in area between AA. BB. 49° 06' N. 2° 31' W. CC. 48° 50' N. 2° 17' W. and DD. 48° 48' N. 2° 34' W.

6. Force 26 is to withdraw to pass AA. at 2330B, to take up patrol in eastern half of area Z.215 and Z.216 during dark hours and until coastal forces have passed north of 49° 30' N. on with-

/drawing...

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Operation "Neptune".

Covering Forces.

drawing a.m. 24th. When coastal forces have passed north of 49° 30' N. Force 26 is to return to Plymouth.

7. Force 26 is to move to support coastal forces if latter meet superior enemy force or call for assistance. Force 26 is to avoid coming under heavy fire from coastal batteries.

(C. in C.Plymouth 231606B to D.F.10.)

P.C.W.O.120. A. Unit G.P.1 M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 664, 676, 713. B. 1715B/23. C. KK. 183 Les Hanois 13½ to arrive 2100 LL. 001° Cap Frehel 10½ to arrive 2230. D. From LL. to investigate the area east of 2° 20' W. E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols. F. Unit to leave LL. at 0700B/24. G. Through KK. to Plymouth 20 knots.

2. A. Unit G.P.2 M.T.Bs. 98 (S.O.), 91, 96, 92, 94, 239. B. 1700B/23. C. KK. 183 Les Hanois 13½ to arrive 2045B/23. MM. 207 La Corbiere 10 to arrive 2145. D. Proceed at last light to detach 2nd Division in NN. 147 La Corbiere 6 proceeding with 1st Division to PP. 123 La Corbiere. Unit is to withdraw at 1st light to MM. E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols. F. 0800B/24 from MM. G. Through KK. to Plymouth 20 knots. (C. in C.Plymouth 231608B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Amend positions of E.Gs. in para. 1 of my 231606B to read: 2nd E.G. Z.233, 234, 238, 239. 5th E.G. Z.201, 202, 206, 207, 208. 9th E.G. Z.224, 225, 226, 220, 221. 12th E.G. Z.222, 223, 227, 228. 14th E.G. west Z.215, 216 east, 219, 220. 15th E.G. Z.229, Z.230, Z.231. Force 28 Lizard - Longships on convoy route. 2. Spitfires will patrol between 49° 35' N. 3° W. and 49° N. 3° 40' W. from 2100/23 to 2300/23 and from 0545/24 until Force 26 leaves area. Spitfires will also carry out sweep in Channel Islands - St. Malo area at last light. 3. U-Boat attacked by aircraft in 49° 10' N. 3° 15' W. at 1610/23. (C. in C.Plymouth 231815B to D.F.10.)

E.G.1 is to proceed by convoy route as far as Lizard and thence to position 49.45 N. 04.30 W. Report E.T.A. Patrol area will be signalled later. (C. in C.Plymouth 231821B to E.G.1.)

Mining.

Eastern sector.
ILFRACOMBE
and FAIRWAY
damaged.

Fleet M/Ss resumed sweeping today. Auxiliary M/S Flotilla took stock of themselves and made good defects. One mine was detonated by M/S in the vicinity of RODNEY. 18 mines detonated from other causes. Only casualties were ILFRACOMBE and FAIRWAY both able to steam but sustained some internal damage. FAIRWAY is expected to be ready for sea in 48 hours.
(Capt. M/S East 230209B to N.C.M.T.F.)

/New...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

New German
Mines Type
C and G.

Consider policy with regard to new mine should be
A. do not promulgate A.M. 221653. B. Observe
speed restrictions promulgated in A.M. 222116,
in T.F. areas as far as operational conditions
permit. C. Continue sweeping as at present.
D. Take full advantage now of maintenance and
boiler cleaning facilities for minesweepers (my 172347 and 172354)
so that maximum number of sweepers may be available when more
productive sweeping can be resumed. N.C.E.T.F.'s 221136 refers.
2. Use of S.A. gear by minesweepers will not appreciably increase
danger to them from new mine.
(A.N.C.X.F. 231257B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

Admiralty 221653. L.L/S.A. sweeping may be fruit-
ful in rough weather.
2. The detailed information contained in mine-
sweeping report No. 5 page 91 C.B. 04031, is now
essential. Request steps be taken that this information both in
the immediate past and in the future is reported and passed to
Admiralty.
3. Unusual circumstances such as unexplained spontaneous explo-
sions at any distance from the sweepers are of particular impor-
tance.
(D.T.M. 231359B to A.N.C.X.F.)

German G type mine with parachute has been dropped
near La Croix on Tuesday night. It appears to be
a new type. Mine has been excavated to depth of 10
feet but not wholly uncovered. No trace of tail
having been fitted. Request instructions.
(N.C.I.C. Mulberry B 231418B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy mine cut and sunk by URIE in 50° 13' N. 04°
12' W. at approx. 1455 Z reported to be type G.O.
(C. in C. Plymouth 231909 to Admty.) See also C. in
C. Plymouth 241240.

Mulberry B reports another mine type G at M.A.P.
reference 877, 814. Request Lieut. Wadsley now in
Sword area be instructed to examine mine on com-
pletion of present work.
2. Sword 230953 and Mulberry B 231418 refer.
(A.N.C.X.F. 232105B to N.C.E.T.F.)

1A. A new type of mine is being laid in T.F. areas.
B. The following speed restrictions are expected
to provide safety to ships operating in areas
where these mines are likely will be existing.
C. 5 to 10 fathoms. All ships larger than destroyers and fleet
minesweepers - 4 knots. Destroyers and fleet minesweepers - 8
knots. Small craft - no restriction.

/D...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

- D. 10 to 15 fathoms. Over 15,000 tons - 6 knots, medium ships - 8 knots, destroyers and fleet minesweepers - 12 knots, smaller craft - no restriction
- E. 15 to 20 fathoms. Over 15,000 tons - 8 knots, medium ships 10 knots, destroyers and fleet minesweepers 15 knots smaller craft - no restriction.
- F. 20 to 25 fathoms. Vessels over 15,000 tons are advised to proceed at moderate speed, other vessels no restriction.
2. Self protective S.A.gear should not be used.
3. Minesweeping procedure should not be altered, except that speed limit should be observed where applicable.
(A.N.C.X.F. 232341B to Ships.)

Western sector.

Intend to sail 15th M/S Flotilla less LLANDUDNO, DUNBAR, DOROTHY LAMBERT at 0300B/24th for W.T.F. area. Routed FS. and west of 14 buoys sweeping in H formation double oropesa using S.A.gear from Z area at first light to Kansas Light vessel.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 231817B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Own mine-fields.

Your 231027. A. Scallops. Mines are safe on 2nd July. No part of area should be entered before that date. B. Scallops plus. Moored minefield extends one mile in direction 040° from 49° 35.1' N. 0° 0.9' E. Safe on 29th June. C. No fields remain in Scallops minus.
(A.N.C.X.F. 232239B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Enemy Action.

Unknown ship.

Radar contact in 332° Pte. de Barfleur 35 miles, 1 unidentified vessel, speed unknown.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 230128 to Ships.)

Enemy convoy attacked. 1 escort trawler sunk and 1 enemy M/V damaged.

Radar contact 3 unidentified vessels. My position 200° La Corbiere 11½ miles.
(G.O.2 230208 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Last night at about 0200/23, Unit G.O.2 (M.T.Bs. 673, 678, 720, 717), made contact with a small northbound enemy convoy off Minquiers Bank. The enemy were supported by a force of 3 or 4 probably trawlers, who arrived from the westward and opened heavy fire on Unit G.O.2. In disengaging from these, Unit G.O.2 lost contact with the convoy and swept southwards, thinking they had turned back. Unit G.O.1 M.T.Bs. 748, 745, 743, 727, operating S. of

/St. Helier...

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Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Enemy Action.

St. Helier, acting on information received from G.O.2 endeavoured to intercept the enemy convoy, and made contact with it about 8 miles south of La Corbiere. They attacked with gunfire, and after an action of about half an hour, sank one escort trawler, and left one merchant ship ablaze from stem to stern. Damage was also inflicted on the remainder of the enemy. Some minor damage inflicted on M.T.Bs. 748, 743, 745, one officer, and one rating wounded (not seriously) in M.T.B. 743.
(C. in C.Plymouth 231558B to Admty.)

E-Boats. Nr. 1 P.C. and S. of enemy 3 E-Boats 49° 20' N. 03° 10' W. 000° 18 knots.
(A/C JUF 20 230615 to 19 Group.)

Ships attacked Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in the Dover Command from 0900/22 to 0900/23. 2 size C 12 size A from Calais at 2330 eastbound at 7 knots turned at 0130 re-entered Calais 0230. Attacked by A/C at 0055 and 0115. Results not known. 4 size C (unreliable) from 6 miles west of Dunkirk at 0048 westbound at 5 knots entered Calais at 0508. Attacked by A/C at 0212, 0235, 0300 and 0430. One direct hit claimed in last attack, other results not yet known.
3 size B (unreliable) patrolling between Gravelines and Sangatte at 7 knots from 0053 to 0430. Entered Calais at 0508. Attacked by A/C at 0145 and 0210. Results not known.
1 size B from 2 miles west of Sangatte southbound at 8 knots, entered Boulogne at 0510 attacked by Beaufighters at 0505. Results not yet known.
(V.A.Dover 231336B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat Have disappearing Radar contact in 49.25 N. 06.09 W. reported. (A/C UMJ 95 230135B to 19 Group.)

Search for Am proceeding to aircraft UQV 28's 0451B, probably U-Boat, for which I am already searching. (STARLING 230525B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

GRIFFIN 0525B. Have sighted marker. (STARLING 230610B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Am searching in 049° 22' N. 00° 42' W. (STARLING 230752B to C in C.Plymouth.)

/Am...

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Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".U-Boats.

Am proceeding to position of sighting of aircraft N.X.O's 1025.

(BICKERTON 231102B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

A/S patrol.
(Force 28.)

REGINA and KREIZIS when ready are to proceed and join SALADIN and SCIMITAR the whole forming Force 28 carrying out A/S patrol on the parallel of 50 N. between 5° W. and 6° W.

2. REGINA sailed Plymouth to Falmouth at 1200/23rd and KREIZIS is expected to be ready to sail from Falmouth at 1500. SALADIN is to arrange R/V.
(C. in C.Plymouth 231354B to REGINA, KREIZIS.)

My 231354 para. 1. For 5° W. and 6° W. read 4° and 5° W.

(C. in C.Plymouth 231649B to REGINA, KREIZIS.)

Take up following disposition forthwith. E.G.15 Gamma centre position 049° 09' N. 004° 35' W. length 30 miles, direction of patrol 350 and 170. E.G.9 Gamma centre position 009° 08' N. 004° 00'

W. length 30 miles, direction of patrol (?350) and 170.

E.G.14 eastern half Z.219, Z.220. Western half Z.215, Z.216.

E.G.12, Z.228, Z.223 and southern half Z.227, Z.222.

E.G.2 Z.238, Z.239, Z.233, Z.234.

E.G.5 no change. Force 28 south of convoy route between Sevenstone and Lizard Head.

(C. in C.Plymouth 231704B to Force 28, S.Gs. at sea, Plymouth Covering Forces at Sea.)

Channel situation.

A large number of sightings and reports in English Channel area indicate general position as follows:

1. three or four in area N. of Cherbourg Peninsula.

2. One or two on passage eastwards between Triagoz and La Hague.

3. Two or three W. of 04° 00' W. with others approaching from the Atlantic.

(D.D.I.C. 231440B to A.I.G.331.)

U-Boat attacked.

U-Boat previously reported periscope only sighted. Have attacked U-Boat with depth charge.

(A/C WHB 17 231610B to 19 Group.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Allied Air Activity.

Corridors 9th Air Force request that corridors eight Lul-
Nos. 8 & 9. worth to Cap de la Hague and nine Lyme Regis to
Cap de la Hague be opened for non-operational
aircraft immediately that point on the continent
is in our hands. Flying regulations will be the
same as detailed in my A.146 211900. Request you will signal this
headquarters as soon as possible whether you concur with these
corridors being used.
(H.Q.A.E.A.F. 230915B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Corridors My 131738, para. 1. Add Corridor No. 10 Selsey
Nos. 10 & 5. Bill to Mouth of River Vire.
2. Corridor will be brought into force for use
between sunrise and sunset at 1200/24 at which
time use of Corridor No. 5 will cease.
3. Aircraft will lower undercarriage as in my 1917-
56 when possible but this should not be relied upon
(A.N.C.X.F. 231649B to Admty.)

Port Facilities.

Repair of My 221337. 20 Corncocks being prepared, the first
Gooseberry's. five expected to be ready in ten days, remainder
within one month. Intend as first action to re-
build Gooseberry No. 1 and fill gaps in Gooseberry
No. 2. Allocation will then be made to improve
British shelters. A balance will be held in U.K. to make good
any future storm damage. Assault Force Commanders are requested
to draw up proposed location. R.A.M.P. will come over to decide
on allocation shortly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 231603B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

Casualties.

BLEASDALE. Report to Capt. N.S. at 0800 today for escort duty
to Portsmouth. You are required for docking early
a.m. 24th.
(Capt. P. 230216B to BLEASDALE.)

Phoenix Chief Salvage Officer's 231100B. Every effort is
Units. being made to raise Phoenix units from east Cant
with Dockyard Salvage pumps from Chatham but work
is being hampered by extreme shortage of dockyard

/tugs...

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Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

Phoenix
Units.
(Contd.)

tugs or other suitable small tugs for towing lighters with pumps and attending on Phoenix units being raised. If one or two small tugs can be returned to Sheerness raising of Phoenix units will be considerably expedited.
(C. in C.Nore 231634B to A.N.C.X.F.)

NESTTUN
damaged.

Norwegian vessel NESTTUN damaged by underwater explosion. After hold flooded. Vessel beached Omaha. Discharge proceeding.
(S.T.L.O. U.S.N. 232000B to Admty.)

SCYLLA
mined.

Following has been read from SCYLLA. Have struck a mine position E.24.
(Capt. P. E.T.F. 232300 to Ships.)

Shipping & Convoys.

DUKE OF
ROTHESAY.

Following from M.W.T. (Buco). Request DUKE OF ROTHESAY be sailed to Juno to arrive beaches 23rd June.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230104B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

E.C.P.13.

A. Sailed E.C.P.13. B. 112 E.G. C. 1100/23, D. For Utah 2 ships. For Omaha 2 ships. For E.T.F. 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230117B.)

E.P.L.15.

A. E.P.L.15. B. SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA. E. For Omaha 15 L.S.T craft.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230121B.)

E.X.P.13.

A. E.X.P.13. E. For Gold 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230147B.)

E.W.L.15.

A. Sailed E.W.L.15. E. For Gold 4 ships and 4 L.S.Ts. For Juno 2 ships and 3 L.S.Ts. For Arronanches tug FREEDOM.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230253B and 231519B.)

E.P.L.15W.

A. Sailed E.P.L.15W. E. For Utah 2 L.S.Ts. For Omaha 17 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230400B and 231042.)

/E.B.C.16...

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Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- E.B.C.16. A. Sailed E.B.C.16. E. For Omaha 8 ships. For Utah 6 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 230529B.)
- F.X.P.12Y. Sailed A. F.X.P.12Y. E. 4 ships.
(Capt. N.S. 230815B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
- F.T.M.16. Sailed A. F.T.M.16. E. 4 ships empty for Southamp-
ton, 3 L.S.T. for I. of W. F. L.S.T. 325 (1)
105 (2) 140 L.S.T. 416. (1) 122 (2) 122 L.S.T.
304. (1) 11 (2) 1 L.S.T. 421 has captured enemy
Radar equipment.
(Capt. N.S. 230900.)
- E.W.C.2B. A. Sailed E.W.C.2B. E. For E.T.F.area GEORGE D.
IRVINE (Commodore) For Gold 3 ships. For Juno 2
ships. For Sword J.F.V. For Port en Bessin GLEN.
(A.N.C.X.F. 231041B.)
- F.X.P.12Z. Sailed A. F.X.P.12Z. E. 3 ships.
(Capt. N.S. 231045B.)
- F.W.P.4. Cancel my 222315B. A. Sailed F.W.P.4.
E. LADY OF MANN - Southampton.
L.C.I.319 - Dartmouth. M.L.1301 - Dartmouth.
(C.T.G.122.7 231055B.)
- F.T.C.15. Sailed A. F.C.T.15 (?407). E. LAMBTONI(?AN) (Com.)
RILEY, IPSWICH TRADER, BITLAN HILL, BOSTON TRADER -
COSTER HAVEN (?) BONAWA, WILLIAM HOL(LIE?),
ZUIDLAND, ZUIDER HAVEN, ASSIDUITY, TOLSTA HEAD,
SARD, ACTIVITY, CRESCENDO, ALNWICK, LYSAKERV,
ARA tug CHEERY towing ELDRIDGE for Isle of Wight. SCOMBER towing
barge for Isle of Wight trawlers CRANAISE, RAY MONT L.S.T.165
carrying captured aerial (personnel?) to Isle of Wight J. DEJOLI
to lay 58 A Buoy, M.L.200 remaining as escort M.T.B. 344.
(Capt. N.S. 231100 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
- JULIANA. My 221318 and A.N.C.X.F. 201505. Oiler urgently
required. When can JULIANA be expected immediate
urgent requirements are 7,000 tons for Depot.
bombardment and support vessels.
(N.C.B.T.F.A. 231117B to A.N.C.X.F.)
- F.T.C.15Z. Sail A. F.T.C.15Z. E. L.S.T.386 by tug PRIZEMAN.
(Capt. N.S. 231130B.)

/F.W.L.14...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

F.W.L.14. Sailed A. F.W.L.14. E. L.S.T.520.
(Capt. N.S. 231600B.)

E.C.M.13, My 221139 para. B. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested
E.C.M.14. to divert convoy E.C.M.13 into Solent and to hold
it for 24 hours.
2. Convoy E.C.M.13 should sail thence in company
with Isle of Wight and Portland portions with
present escort to arrive p.m. 25th June.
3. Convoy E.M.C.14 is now to sail from Falmouth p.m. 25th June
to arrive p.m. 26th June.
4. Thereafter E.C.M.cycle will continue as before.
(A.N.C.X.F. 232151B.)

Organisation and Administration.

H.Q. ships. The following reallocation of H.Q. ships is intended
A. S.O.A.G. and S.O.F.C. Juno from ROYAL
ULSTERMAN to WAVENEY to take place 24th June.
B. Capt. S.B. sailings from NITH to ROYAL ULSTERMAN
to take place 25th June.
C. NITH to Portsmouth to store and return E.T.F. on completion
B above.
D. Captain Pugsley in RETALICK to relieve Capt. P. in KEMPENFELT
on arrival of RETALICK 23rd June.
E. D.26 in KEMPENFELT to Portsmouth on completion D above to
rejoin F.O.C. Destroyers H.F.
F. S.O.A.G. and S.O.F.C. Gold from KINGSMILL to NITH on latter's
return from U.K. see C above.
G. KINGSMILL to Portsmouth to work up as coastal forces control
ship on completion F above.
H. Capt. SS. to take north and southbound sailings in ROYAL
ULSTERMAN when ordered by N.C.E.T.F. Capt. N.S. released.
I. S.O.A.G. Sword from L.C.H. to DACRES on completion of ? above.
J. Capt. Patrols from RETALICK to KINGSMILL on return of
KINGSMILL see G above.
K. RETALICK to Portsmouth on completion J above.
L. ALBRIGHTON and GOATHLAND to U.K. at disposal of A.N.C.X.F.
2. Service of (?ISLE) OF THANET as H.Q. Ship will not now be
required.
(N.C.E.T.F. 230045B to N.C.E.T.F.A.)

Allocation of M/S Flots. A.N.C.X.F.'s 221455B. Amend para. 3 as follows:-
E.T.F. and W.T.F. are requested to sail their
Flotillas to Portsmouth or Portland (my 142258B
June) for replenishment according to a programme

/which...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Allocation
of M/S Flots.
(Contd.)

which should be signalled to A.N.C.X.F. and C. in C.Portsmouth. A 14 days cycle consisting of nine days in T.F.area, three days at Portsmouth or Portland and two days on passage is suggested. Also amend para. 4B for route "R" read route "S". (A.N.C.X.F. 231057B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Pumping
vessels.

Redistribution of pumping vessels depends chiefly on daily requirements of B type units of which 10 are at Sheerness and 13 at Dungeness.
2. C and D type units require only one pumping vessel to refloat.

3. The following disposition is suggested subject to concurrence S.N.O.Selsey and War Office.

4. At Selsey. VIDA and BARENDZ to be placed under operational control of military engaged on repairing damaged units there. ROEBUCK and LAMB both equipped with salvage pumps to remain and assist if required, BERTHA to be released forthwith.

5. At Dungeness. LADY SOUTHBOROUGH, THAMES COAST, SWIFT and LE LUTTEUR to be released forthwith also. 2 former vessels need repairs.

6. This will leave 6 pairs of pumping vessels available which can be disposed as required between Dungeness and Sheerness when sailing programme is known.

7. It is considered that replanting of units at both places on far shore could best be undertaken by salvage vessels as no other vessels are equipped with pumping and diving equipment suitable for dealing with all conditions anticipated on replanting work.

8. Foregoing arrangement releases all vessels originally allocated for far shore. Request instructions.
(Chief Salvage Officer 231100 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Eastern area
organisation.

My 222303. I have now investigated this question more fully and have reached the following conclusions which will be equally applicable to the period referred to in para. 7 on your 221419.

My proposals therefore are:-

1. That the requirements of space layout and lines of communication can best be met by the employment of a properly fitted and staffed headquarters ship.

2. That these requirements could be met out less effectively in ARGONAUT or possibly SCYLLA provided additional personnel from all three services can be made available. They cannot be met in any other cruiser.

3. That if a cruiser is used for this, (a) her efficiency as a bombarding ship would be much reduced because of insufficient lines of communication for F.O.B. and aircraft could be met but less effectively. (b) Arrangements would have to be made to supply her ammunition on the far shore. (c). She cannot undertake any duties

/in...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Eastern area Organisation. (Contd.) in connection with the co-ordination of anti aircraft defence of the anchorage. My proposals therefore are:- (a) that the first headquarters ship to be released to U.K. should when ready return to be my flagship. This would not preclude my hoisting my flag in a cruiser should enemy surface forces appear. (b) That if this is impracticable I should transfer my flag to ARGONAUT and that additional personnel should be provided for bombardment, co-ordination of anti aircraft defence of the anchorage to be transferred to shore. (c) That the present organisation in IARGS which is a proved success should continue for as long as she remains in the area and in any case until requirements mentioned above for M.L. taking over have been met. (C.S.10 231723B to A.N.C.K.F.)

Flags of F.O.B.A.A. and N.C.E.T.F. Title N.C.E.T.F.(A). 1. Flag of R.A.Rivett Carna^c will be hoisted in SOUTHERN PRINCE at 0800 tomorrow Saturday 24th June as F.O.British Assault Area. 2. The flag of N.C.E.T.F. will remain in SCYLLA. 3. The title N.C.E.T.F.(A) will lapse when the flag of F.O.B.A.A. is hoisted. (N.C.E.T.F. 231802B to E.T.F.)

Request you will assume command E.T.F. temporarily during transfer of my flag of HILARY. (SCYLLA 232335B to BELFAST.)

Force Commanders. Your 221421B. Approved. (Adnty. 232356B to A.N.C.K.F.)

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forces in
North.

Your 201116/. The question of A/S striking forces in the North is now under consideration at the Admiralty. It is unlikely that A/S trawlers will be used for this duty due to inadequate speed. (A.C.N.S.(H), 231201B to A.C.O.S.)
/ Loan of A/S Trawlers from Iceland Command if striking force again required in Faeroes Area.

Defence of U.K.Scapa and
Thames
Barrages.

Reference my 211545. Balloon Command have now been authorised to deflate all balloons in Scapa Barrage and to withdraw all balloons personnel and equipment for use in special barrage for countering enemy flying bombs. Balloon Cmd. have been instructed to restore the Thames Barrage which was withdrawn as authorised in my signal A.793 and to operate it at full strength.

(H.Q. A.D.G.B. 231241B)

Re: Transfer of balloons to counter attacks by pilotless A/C.

Your 221443. To enable 12 mark six balloons at present at Scapa to be maintained would entail retaining 250 hydrogen bottles out of total of 5,000. As I am most anxious to have this token in the air intend retaining 250 bottles in anticipation of approval.

(A.C.O.S. 232317B to Admty.) *Reply: 251950G, p. 651.*OperationsA/U
Operation.

Not sighted by Zenit. As wind insufficient for A/S patrol am returning through position 062 degs. 30' N. 005 degs. 03' W. My P.C.S. 066 degs. 36' N. 003 degs. 06' E. 220 degs. 16 knots. Weather report 6753, 4261, 0297, 8425, 0089, 4602, course 220 degs. speed 16 knots.
(R.A.E.C. 231803B)

Channel Is.

Soutco has been instructed by S.H.A.E.F. to revise the original plan for the occupation of the Channel Islands under the following circumstances - (a) after local surrender of German garrison. (b) after evacuation of the Islands by the Germans.
(2) It is requested that you will co-operate with Soutco and 10 Group and inform me of your expected requirements of escorts and minesweepers as soon as possible.
(3) A copy of the instructions from S.H.A.E.F. to Soutco will be forwarded to you.

(A.N.C.X.F. 231948B to C. in C. Plymouth) *Reply: 241932, p. 623.*Air Activity5 ships
attacked
off Texel.

Have obtained A.S.V. contact 7 unknown vessels position 52 degs. 45' N. 4 degs. 30' W. based on a fix via GEE within half an hour of 0200.
(A/C SBAE, 230157B)

P.C.S/...

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FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSAir Activity5 ships
attacked
off Texel
(Contd.)

P.C.S. of 5 enemy ships - type unknown
52 degs. 06' N. 4 degs. 05' E. based on a fix via
GEE.
(A/C SBAE, 230125B)
My 0125. Have attacked enemy with bombs level.
Hits probable.
(A/C. S.BAE, 230138)

MiningChannel
Approaches.

Following from A/C. Y 224. 5 mines seen to
explode, 2 floating, position 48 degs. 45' N.
04 degs. 58' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 231630 to Admt.)

Harwich
area.

One ground mine detonated by M.M/S on special
sweep at 1647, in 187 degs. 54A buoy 5 cables.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 231757 amended 232019)
1 ground mine detonated by M.M.S. on special
sweep at 1808 in 046 degs. 51B buoy 3 miles.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 231942B)

Ground mine Report my 231757 and 231942. (1) (A) 1647B/23.
(D) M.M.S.191, 51 degs. 59' N. 01 degs. 44' E. 175 degs.
(H) Probably 25th Sept. 43.
(2) (A) 1808B/23. (D) M.M.S.188, 51 degs. 51.47' N. 01 degs.
45.4' E. 230 degs. (H) Probably 25th September 1943.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 232159B and 240852B)

Shipping and Convoys

SS. ANDES.

Request you will sail SS. ANDES independently on
1st July to Freetown and Capetown.
(2) On outward voyage ship will be carrying approx.
800 personnel. On return voyage from Capetown
to U.K. ship will be carrying approx. 900 women and children.
(D.O.D. (H), 231830B to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

CROATEN
A/S Hunt. My position 2230Z/23 45.30 17.00 course 270,
speed 14.5 conducting continuous air search to
80 mile radius. Reversing at sunrise. Weather.
(C.T.G. 22.5, 231310.)

M.V. KALMIA,
SAREK. Ministry of Marine communicates as from 19th June
Swedish Authorities will be responsible for
routeing of KALMIA and SAREK (Swedish ships
chartered by Portuguese). Portuguese
Supernumeraries aboard will only deal with cargo
etc.
(N.A. Lisbon, 231509B.)

S.L.161/
M.K.S.52. You have probably been reported by enemy A/C.
(D.D.I.C., 231909B to Escorts S.L.161/M.K.S.52)

South Atlantic

SS. COLUMBINE A campaign is being waged throughout South Africa
(Sunk 16th by Union Authorities to combat spirit of
June). complacency now prevalent.
(2) Release of full story of sinking of
COLUMBINE would have beneficial effect on
campaign in view of the fact that ship was South
African as were many of crew.
(3) Request permission to release names of ship and Master at
an early a date as possible. Date and position of sinking would
not be released.
(C. in C. S.A., 231705B to Admty.) *Not approved (Admty 302114B, p. 771).*

Independent Sailings. Ships of convoy speed from Durban bound northwards
and eastwards for all ports except Lourenco Marques
are to be held for D.N. convoy after June 25th.
(2) Ships of convoy speed from Lourenco Marques
bound northwards and eastwards for all ports except Beira are
to be sailed to Durban for inclusion in D.N. convoy after June
25th. Cancel my 100931 not to all addressees and paragraph 3
of my 201027.
(C. in C. S.A., 231735B.) Para. 2 was cancelled by 241020B.

SOUTHERN My 181429 June. As result of inspection by Fleet
PRIDE Salvage Officer consider that salvage of SOUTHERN
(stranded PRIDE is impracticable with gear available and
16th June). that she will not last in prevailing swell. She
must, therefore be regarded as total loss.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 232031Z.)

/Coastal ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic - Contd.

Coastal
Routeing
Takoradi
Eastwards
to Duala.

Amendment number 2 to your 060001 April received.
Your 101201 June refers.
(N.O.I.C. Lagos, 232035Z to F.O.C.W.Af.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Elba G.2. Summary.
3. Mopping up surviving enemy north east corner of Island continues, prisoners now total 2,265 of which 40 officers including 29 German. No news General Gall whose rescue from hiding place in north east believed object enemy commando raid night 19/20 June. (A.F.H.Q. Algiers, No T.O.O.).

VIGOROUS For 030 degs. 01' 025 degs. 01' read 036 degs. 01' 025 degs. 01'. My 222246.
(Capt.(S) 1, 230858 to F.O.L.E.M. (R) 1st S/M F. MATROZOS).

Sustained flooding tactics. A recent exercise in home waters confirmed the effectiveness of flooding an area with A.S.V. aircraft as an A/S barrier.
(2) In passage through area S/M was repeatedly forced to dive and spent 26 out of 30 hours submerged.
(3) After penetration of area S/M. had just sufficient charge to be considered operational but was seriously reduced in fighting efficiency.
(4) Experience in Med. has proved that sustained flooding tactics can produce total exhaustion as when during a recent operation a U-Boat finally surfaced after spending 72 out of 75 hours submerged.
(5) Any interruption of air patrol due to weather unserviceability or A.S.V. failure jeopardizes whole operation and surface forces must not seek to divert aircraft unless confirmed contact has been gained.
(C. in C. Med., 230910 to Med. Station).

Enemy intelligence. Following movements have taken place recently from Salonika, departed BOURGAS for Khalkis, arrived TZAR FERDINAND from Piraeus. Following now at Salonika TZAR FERDINAND, SALOMEA 8 Siebel Ferries 2 E.M.S. Craft 3 escort

Launches 1 coaster.

(Capt.(S) 1, 231120B to UNSWERVING (R) VIGOROUS).

Also present at Salonika 3 K.T. ships my 231120.

(Capt. (S) 1, 231524B).

✓ Movements from Salonika.

A.M. 23rd P.R. shows FLOATITA (sic) AGATHE at Rhodes. 2 destroyers left Portolago probably for Piraeus for repairs but possibly for Rhodes. Other ships still as my 200944.

(2) S.O. Force 51 priority patrols (?group omitted).

(a) Rhodes-Leros route keeping east of line centre intact - east Piscopi - Sarria.

(b) Tigani - Leros route.

(F.O.L.E.M. 231731C to S.O. Force 51 (R) Capt. (S) 1st S.F., M.T.B.315, Q.43, M.L.1385, VAMPIRE).

✓ Not identified in War Registry.

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FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Enemy Intelligence (Contd.) P.R.U. shows 2 Destroyers referred to in my 231731 as one at Piraeus one at Salamis at noon to-day Friday.
(F.O.L.E.M. 232009C)

UNSWERVING. Patrol on a line joining positions 039 degs. 38' 023 degs. 12' and 039 degs. 18' 023 degs. 21'.
(2) Object interception of Salonika-Piraeus traffic.
(Capt.(S) 1, 231127 to UNSWERVING)

LA SULTANE Intend sailing LA SULTANE at 1800/24, diving by special mission.
day exception 28th through
(A) 039 degs. 00' 002 degs. 48' at 1400/25th.
(B) 039 degs. 27' 002 degs. 07' at 0001/26th
(C) 041 degs. 11' 002 degs. 13' at 2200/26th for special mission.
(2) Return route through (C) at 0400/27th. (B) at 0300/28th omitting (A) to R/V with Algiers escort in (D) 036 degs. 58' 002 degs. 59' at (?20)00/28th.
(3) All times B. all positions North and East.
(Cdre. Algeria, 231152)

Provision of W/T sets for safe conduct ships. Your 201150B. Reply to A.M. 201150B (N.T. in WD.)
(Shipping Attache, Lisbon, 231216B to Admty.)

SS. NASPRITE (Tanker) Your 221208. Request reason for delay in sailing NASPRITE. Operation of M.S.M.L's will be seriously affected if vessel is not sailed as planned.
(F.O.W.It. 231318 to V.A.M.)
NASPRITE delayed about 3 days. Escort TANGO.

Interned crews of sunken Italian Warships. Spaniards having decided to repatriate interned Italian crews of sunken Italian warships have carried out Plebiscite for North or South Italy. Apparently 1000 have opted for South. It will be necessary to embark these men between first and 5th July. As 900 of men come from Galdas it is suggested that Valencia would be the most convenient port for embarkation. It is requested arrangements may be communicated as soon as possible.
(B.N.A.Madrid, 231350B)

Coal situation Following Admiralty colliers in K.M.S.55, 56, 57. (Details). (6) Your 201754 refers.
(Admty, 231644B to C. in C. Med.)

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23.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean - Contd.

German Vessels transiting Dardanelles. My 200930 and 211707. Cargo of coal has been re-loaded into all 4 barges and permission to proceed now awaited from Ankara. B.2.
(2) Further details of (?craft) as follows:
tug AMSEL 101 tons gun platform amidships abaft of funnels. KATERINA (?50) tons, LIRA (?renamed) ANNA (?MARIA) 47 tons both unarmed. ENGERAU 381 tons and LAUDON 378 tons have now been identified as typical Danube self propelled barges painted grey, both having prominent gun platforms forward and light machine guns on each side of bridge. Guns on platform covered with canvas but in case of ENGERAU and LAUDON possibly multiple 20 m.m. guns.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 231702C to F.O.L.E.M., D.N.I., B.N.A. Ankara, Capt. (S) 1)

TUEBINGEN. Estimate German Hospital ship TUEBINGEN position 034 degs. 33' N. 025 degs. 25' E. at 1900 West-bound. No sailing advice received.
(F.O.L.E.M. 231754C to A.H.Q.M. V.A.M. Capt.(S) 1, F.O.T.A.L.I. Air H.Q. Malta. (R) 1st S/M.F.)

Ancona. Situation report No.13.
(2) No sign of blocking of Ancona. This morning requested R.A.F. to attack as a special target recently arrived merchant ships in harbour. No result yet.
(N.L.O.Polish Corps, 232029)

Bomb object. Reported recovered at Porto San Stefano. Description.
(Civitavecchia, 232030)

Situation reports. Situation report No.383.
U.S. P.T. Boat patrolled Leghorn-Spezia area night 20th/21st June encountered corvette and K.T. ship. 2 torpedo hits on K.T. Large explosion seen later.

(2) Night 21st/22nd June P.T. boats engaged coaster and 2 F lighters off Sestri Levante. A torpedo hit was obtained on one of these targets.

(C. in C. Med. 232149)

(Extract) Cositintrep No.350 signed Wilson cite FHRNA. Coastal forces patrolling between Leghorn and Spezia night 20th and 21st June obtained two torpedo hits on Corvette and one hit on K.T. ship: large explosion seen later.

(C. in C. Med. 232203B)

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23.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

SS. RIBERTA Cancel my 220506/. Vessel has arrived.
(S.O.(I) Colombo, 230230Z)
/ Re SS. RIBERTA.

U-Boat No.67. Areas AB CD E and F believed clear of
dispositions. U-Boats scale of air escort remaining at W.
Area G U-Boats indicated in area by D/F in vicinity
003 degs. N. 071 degs. E. at 1528Z/22nd. Scale
of air escort Y.
(C. in C. E.F. 230337Z)

SS. I.M. Following has been read. SSSS from WH2MF/.
TARBELL, Lat. 5 45 S. 74.23 East sighted periscope fired
U-Boat on same WX28082.
distress (Colombo, W/T 230530Z) / Signal letters
report. undecypherable.
SS. IDA M. TARBELL reports she has sighted and
fired on periscope in 005 degs. 45' S. 074 degs.
23' E. at 0530Z/23rd.
(C. in C. E.F. 231237Z)

Operation Intend to sail convoy JC 54A at 0130Z/July 1st
"Toddy" to arrive Chittagong at 0130Z July 7th. Routed
by normal coastal lane and Rumble route.
(2) Convoy will be comprised of DEVASA, ETHIOPIA,
JALAGOPAL and IKAUNA.
(3) Escorts H.M.I.S. NARBADA, H.M.S. MADRAS, BURNET and MEADOW-
SWEET.
(4) After convoy has unloaded at Chittagong ships are to be
escorted Sandheads by the above escorts who are then to proceed
to Vizagapatam to refuel. Further signal will be made regard-
ing subsequent movements.
(C. in C. E.F. 230751Z) see amendment 281301Z

Passage Your 060826Z/June./ British C.O.S. have been
from the considering question of passage from the West
west to to Darwin and through the Torres Strait (ref.
Darwin. C.O.S.(44) 505(O)) and it is clear that battleships
and carriers cannot at present pass through.
This is being brought to the attention of Cominch
and A.C.N.B. and proposals for further surveying
are expected. It is considered that any project for surveying
in Exmouth Gulf must be related to this general project.
(2) A copy of C.O.S.(44) 505 (O) which has already been despatched
to A.C.N.B. and B.A.D. is being forwarded to you.
(V.C.N.S. 232127B to C. in C. E.F.)
/ N.T. in W.D.

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23.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesO.N.F.241.--
U-Boat
report.

By D/F of WW messages on 8805 K/cs at 0227 U-Boat estimated within 120 miles of 053 degs. 30' N. 037 degs. 00' W. This frequency need not be guarded.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 230335Z to S.E.O.N.F.241)
D/F bearing on 8805 N. K/cs at 0228Z indicate U-Boat in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 230637B to S.E.O.N.F.241)U-Boat
dispositions.Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 231443Z, Cominch, 231530Z)U-Boat
incidents.
Casualties.

Portuguese MARIA PRECIOSA sunk by iceberg off Greenland 14th.

(C) ATC plane sighted U-Boat with decks awash course S.S.E. which turned to course Southeast 44.00 N. 40.00 W. 2100Z/21.

(D) P.C.842 attacked sound contact 03.52 S. 35.39 W. 2335Z/22.

(Cominch, 231953Z)

T.F.68.

T.F.68 reconstituted Comdesron 15 DAVISON, Desdiv 29 EDSALL, CHICOPEE. Escort convoy U.G.F. 12 (ARIEL included) departing Hampton Roads 1 July to Naples and return escorting G.U.F.12 when directed by Cinmed.
(C. in C. Lant, 232331Z)Australia and New ZealandDigest
No.885.

June 22nd.

(6) Night 21st/22nd. M.T.B's operating between Aitape and Wewak destroyed one barge one truck strafed shore positions also numerous Japanese.

(10) Morning same day (21st) ground forces supported by Landing Craft Gunboats landed unopposed Jaba River mouth Central Empress Augusta Bay. Small enemy patrol encountered further inland withdrew on sighting our forces.

(11) Night 21st/22nd M.T.B's strafed enemy shore positions along coast Kavieng Area.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 230602Z)

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23.6.1944
FridayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSU-BOAT CAMPAIGNS/M attack
and sighting
summary.

- Para. A. (1) A/C E/59 attacked U-Boat with depth-charges at 1435Z/22 in 55.59 N. 17.10 W.
 (2) A/C M/103 attacked U-Boat at 1100Z/22 in 49.13 N. 05.12 W.
 (3) U.S. Dakota A/C sighted U-Boat, course N.W. at 0700Z/22nd in 49.47 N. 01.06 W.
 (4) A/C N/103 attacked U-Boat, course 263 degs. at 1251Z/22 in 49.26 N. 05.28 W.
 (5) A/C K/110 attacked U-Boat, course 080 degs., at 1305Z/22 in 49.50 N. 01.51 W.
 (6) A/C E/110 attacked U-Boat, course 090 degs. at 1343Z/22 in 49.50 N. 01.38 W.
 (7) A/C Q/248 attacked U-Boat with depth-charges, course N. at 1609Z/22nd in 49.42 N. 02.00 W.
 (8) A/C C/547 attacked U-Boat, course 035 degs. at 2026Z/22nd in 49.13 N. 04.21 W.
 (9) A/C sighted U-Boat at 0251Z/23 in 50.02 N. 04.45 W.
 (10) A/C sighted U-Boat at 0002Z/23 in 47.12 N. 04.35 W.
 (11) A/C attacked U-Boat course 100 degs., at 0250Z/23 in 49.23 N. 04.40 W.
 (12) A/C P/248 attacked U-Boat, course 065 degs., at 0329Z/23 in 47.43 N. 03.24 W.
 (13) Transit A/C sighted U-Boat, course 016 degs., at 1052Z/22 in 36.50. N. 18.15 W.
 Para. B. (1) E.G.9 attacked U-Boat contact at 1323Z/22 in 49.27 N., 05.10 W.
 (2) A/C F/103 sighted periscope at 1731Z/22 in 49.17 N., 02.49 W.
 (3) U.S. A/C sighted wake of periscope at 1715Z/22 in 49. 50 N. 00.21 W.
 (4) Unknown ship made SSSS sighted and fired at periscope at 0330Z/23 in 05.45 S. 74.23 E. (SS. IDA M. TARBELL - W.D.) (D.D.I.C. 231030Z)

U-Boat Estimates.
 dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 231445B, 231509B)

U-Boat
 sunk 16th
 May in
 Gibraltar
 Straits.

The following is our preliminary assessment of U-Boat encounter in Straits of Gibraltar 15th May begins: "German U-Boat probably sunk by U.S.N. Catalinas 1 and 7 of V.P.63 KILMARNOCK and BLACK-FLY. All the forces taking part are held to share equally in the credit for this successful hunt, which culminated with KILMARNOCK's apparently successful Hedgehog Attack". Ends.

- (2) In arriving at this assessment we have taken into account the following: (a) Initial contact and retro bomb attacks by Catalinas and subsequent surface evidence.
 (b) Depth charge attacks by both surface ships.
 (c) Final Hedgehog attack by KILMARNOCK and subsequent convincing surface evidence.
 (3) Request comments before confirmation of assessment.
 (A.C.N.S. (U.T.) 231621Z to Cominch) See amendment D.A.U.D. 271630Z)

The assault phase ended and Naval control of the British Assault Area was transferred ashore today.

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24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

- 1a. At 2330B today S.H.A.E.F. reported that the Allied Troops are steadily closing in on Cherbourg and that in the centre of the semi-circular defensive front they were within two miles of the heart of the city.
- b. At 1800 today a cumulative total of 16,848 prisoners of war had passed through our Reception Camps.
- c. In the Assault Area where the wind at 0900 today was E.S.W., force 1, continued mine-laying by Enemy A/C has seriously increased the risk to all moving ships; but full sweeping by Fleet Minesweepers with B.Y.M.S. and M.M.S. has now been resumed. Phoenix sailings to the Area were begun again today, but the sailing of Whale roadways is still held up by the weather.
- d. In the Eastern Sector Warships have today bombarded Enemy Troops and Armour to the East of the River Orne and have intermittently engaged enemy Mobile Batteries; and N.O.I.C. Arromanches established his H.Q. ashore at noon.
- e. The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-
Personnel 703,700; Vehicles 114,134, Stores 285,536 tons.

Enemy Action.

- 2a. E-boats. A/C attacked Enemy vessels in the Eastern Chanel last night and claim one E/R boat and three unidentified vessels sunk and one E/R boat and one unidentified damaged.
- b. Convoys. Seven small ships attempting to escape from Cherbourg to the westward under escort were intercepted early this morning off Cap de la Hague by light Coastal Forces who sank two, and possibly five, of the Enemy Ships; and three 1000 ton motor vessels were damaged by A/C today near St. Malo.
- c. U-boats. Several U-boats were sighted today off Ushant and one off Portland; and at about 1900 the Destroyers HAIDA and ESKIMO sank by gunfire a U-boat which they had attacked two hours before about 35 miles N.W. of Ushant.
- d. Minelaying. It is estimated that 35 enemy A/C operated in the early hours of today over St. Omer - Dunkirk and the beachhead area. Mine-laying is suspected off the beachhead.
- e. Coastal Batteries. At 1400 the 14th M/S Flotilla operating N.W. of Barfleur was shelled by heavy shore batteries which were engaged by the U.S. Destroyers WALKE and FORREST.

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24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties

3. Our casualties today have been as follows:-
SWIFT, Destroyer, mined and damaged in Area "S"
LORD AUSTIN, Trawler, mined and sunk.
M.M.S.8 mined and sunk.
M.T. Ship 41, mined and broken in half.
DUNDAS, Tug, sunk in collision.
BACHAQUERO, L.S.T.1, mined.
SS. EMPIRE LOUGH, damaged by gun-fire off Dover
and beached.

General

U-boat U-987
sunk on
15th June.

4. The S/M SATYR reports today that at 0915 on
the 15th June she torpedoed and sank a north-
bound U-boat about 170 miles West of the Lofoten
Islands.

U-boat
sunk
by A/C

5. A U-boat was sunk by a Catalina A/C today about
120 miles N. by E. of the Shetlands, many
survivors in dinghies being seen after the attack.

London
Docks
damaged.

6. Considerable damage was caused last night at
the London Docks by flying bombs.

North Atlantic

2 U/Bs.
attacked.

7. BOGUE's A/C attacked U/Boats in the area 15.16 N.
39.55 W. (900 miles W. of Cape Verde Is.) at
0034Z and 0256Z today respectively. Considerable
oil and debris resulted.

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24.6.1944.
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

8. Coastal forces last night engaged an unidentified enemy vessel between Spezia and Genoa, without result.

Landing at
Peljesac.

9. A small U.S. force with guns was landed last night on the south side of the Peljesac Peninsula, Yugoslavia. An enemy convoy passing this position was engaged: One schooner was sunk and an E-Boat was hit. Two prisoners were taken.

Aegean.

10. Coastal forces attacked an enemy convoy north of Leros last night but had to break off the action after the second attempt owing to casualties.

VAMPIRE destroyed 3 large and severely damaged 3 medium caiques at Niseros today.

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SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Naval.

Cositintrep No.42, part 2, Naval.

A. General. At 2100 wind N.E. Force 3 in Assault area. Weather forecast suggests possible increase in Force tomorrow from the same most unkindly direction. Clearance of beaches has proceeded through the day at best speed. Fleet minesweepers succeeded in resuming 22nd and full sweeping with B.Y.M.S. and M.M.S. has been carried out to-day.

M.T.B's attacked an enemy convoy escorted by 3 or 4 vessels, probably trawlers at 0200/23 South of Jersey after half an hour one enemy escort was sunk one merchant ship ablaze and remainder of enemy damaged. M.T.B's sustained only minor damage and 2 casualties not seriously wounded.

B. Troops etc. landed. Reports for 21st not yet received but very low or nil returns expected.

Port En Bessin discharged stores 1536 tons 19th., 417 tons 20th, and 95 tons 21st. After p.m. 20th ships could not enter or leave harbour through weather.

C. Casualties. Further reports of damaged minor landing craft as survey proceeds.

D. Coastal Command. One Wellington and one Liberator attacked a U-Boat at 1614/23 25 miles S.W. of Jersey and wreckage was seen.

E. Intelligence. (1) Radar Station at Carteret yielded valuable technical data and large consignment captured Radar equipment from Douvres expected tonight.

(2) Several examples of new enemy mine recovered and under investigation.

(3) The remaining small enemy vessels left in Cherbourg will probably make for Channel Island and St. Malo when the Port falls. Facilities in the latter places are few and operational difficulties many.

(Ad. Ramsay, 240012B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No.43, Part 2, Naval.

A. General. At 0900 wind E.S.E. force 1 in assault area but forecast still retains uncheerful tone.

Six vessels attempting to leave Cherbourg last night were intercepted off Cap de la Hague. Details of ensuing action are awaited but one large enemy coaster was sunk at 0320. Our patrols were also in action south of Jersey.

N.C.E.T.F. transferred his flag to HILARY shortly after the damage to SCYLLA which is in tow for harbour.

Steadily continued mine dropping by enemy A/C at night, coupled with delay in sweeping through Galex, has seriously increased the risk to ships moving in the assault areas. It is appreciated that several U-Boats may now be in or approaching the Western Channel.

B. Casualties: H.M.S. SCYLLA: damaged by mine about 2300/23.

H.M.S. SWIFT: Mined and reported sinking. H.M.S. GLAISDALE: damaged by mine. M.T.Ship 41: mined and broken in half.

M.M.S.8: mined and sunk. H.M. Trawler LORD AUSTIN: mined and sunk.

C. Coastal Command. During early hours this morning A/C reported sighting three U-Boats off Ushant and one off Portland. In the eastern end of the channel attacks by A/C on enemy vessels resulted in the following claims: One E/R boat and

three /...

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three unidentified sunk, one E/R boat and one unidentified damaged.

(Ad. Ramsay, 241425B to Admty.)

- (1) M.T.B's operating between St. Malo and Jersey last night had two short inconclusive engagements with a small Force of enemy presumed trawlers proceeding North from St. Malo.
- (2) E.G. 2 has been hunting S/M reported by A/C in the vicinity of Ushant, and E.G.15 is hunting U-Boat in Z.239 which was reported and attacked by A/C at 1545. About 8 sightings of U-Boats by A/C in Western Channel of which 2 were attacked.
- (3) At 1704 HAIDA and ESKIMO attacked contact in 48 degs. 59' N. 5 degs. 41 W. U-Boat surfaced at 1923 and was sunk by gunfire, survivors have been picked up.
- (4) Another G O type mine swept in Q.Z.S.443. This Q.Z.S. reswept and no further mines cut. Sweeping of Q.Z.S.410 continuing.
- (C. in C. Plymouth, 242100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Navsitrep 33. (1) Unloading proceeding at high pressure in fine weather from to-day build up figures will be signalled by F.O.B.A.A.

- (2) 3 enemy A/C shot down by H.A. fire this morning before sunrise.
- (3) E-Boats operating in Tunny driven out by destroyers and coastal forces 1 E-Boat hit by STEVENSTONE.
- (4) Ammunition coaster set on fire by shell fire in area Sword Have refused to unload anything but stores coaster on Sword beaches until enemy driven back from River Orne.
- Following is revised list of ships mined 23rd/24th June.
- (A) BACHAQUERO, GLAISDALE, 1 L.C.T.(R), SCYLLA.
- (B) Lost. SWIFT, Trawler LORD AUSTIN, M.M.8., M.T. Ship No.41. M.T.Ship FORT NORFOLK, former loaded latter discharged.
- (6) Minesweeping. 4 mines detached by sweepers during (Thursday).?
- (7) Com. J. has withdrawn to VECTIS leaving part staff temporarily with N.O.I.C. Juno.
- (8) Capt. Paysley in RETALICK has succeeded D.26 in KEMPENFELT as Capt. P.
- (9) Flag of F.O.B.A.A. hoisted at 0800 to-day.
- (10) F.O.B.A.A. has assumed responsibility for build-up sailings and surface defence.
- (11) Bombardment. Restrained fire by cruisers in support of Army in Area Sword. Cruisers and Destroyers in Sword employed in Counter Battery Fire for protection of shipping and beaches (N.C.E.T.F. 242316B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Military.

Communique No.37.

Fighting is heavy and resistance strong immediately before Cherbourg. We are making steady progress and are now within a short distance of the North coast on both sides of the Fortress. West of Carentan enemy resistance has increased. Northeast of Caen our troops have made a local advance after fierce fighting.

To the east of the river Orne warships have bombarded enemy

troops /...

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troops and armour. Intermittent shelling of the eastern anchorage continues and brief gun duels between Allied warships and Mobile batteries ensue.
(S.H.A.E.F. 241100B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Para. 1 Operations. Enemy offering increased resistance Cherbourg perimeter with elements of 709, 243, 7 and 91 Infantry Divisions.

Enemy opposition strengthening area West of Carentan. Attempts to counter attack area Caumont frustrated by Artillery fire. Heavy and confused fighting East of Orne for Chardonnerette. Strong enemy patrolling other sectors.
Para.4. Accumulative total of Prisoners of War passed through Reception Camps up to 1800 hours 23 June, 14856.
(S.H.A.E.F. 241400B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Communique No.38.

Allied Forces are steadily closing in on Cherbourg. Despite fierce enemy resistance each link in the chain of the defences is being systematically destroyed. In the Centre of the semicircular front our troops are within two miles of the heart of the City. In the River Orne Sector a strong Allied attack has liberated the Village of St. Honorine. A convoy of 7 small enemy ships attempting to escape from Cherbourg to the West under escort was intercepted early this morning by Light Coastal Forces. Two of the enemy vessels were destroyed and three more are believed sunk.
Rocket-firing A/C and Fighter Bombers damaged three 1000 ton Motor Vessels near St. Malo and left one of them on fire.
(S.H.A.E.F. 242330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Assault Areas

SWIFT. Request relief for SWIFT as soon as possible.
(VENUS, 241058 to N.C.E.T.F.)

Bombardment Forces

Bombardment of Cherbourg on 25th June. Cherbourg is to be bombarded 25th June by C.T.F. 129. (2) Bombardment Group 1 comprising U.S. Cruiser TUSCALOOSA, Flag U.S. Cruiser QUINCY, U.S. Battleship NEVADA, GLASGOW, ENTERPRISE. Group 2, U.S. Battleship TEXAS, Flag U.S. Battleship ARKANSAS.

(3) Groups will be screened by U.S. Destroyers and preceded by Minesweepers.

(4) Group 1 proceed first to area close South of 049 degs. 53' N. between 001 degs. 47' W. and 001 degs. 35' W. and later to Area South of 049 degs. 46' N. between 001 degs. 45' W. and 001 degs. 29' W.

(5) /...

War Diary

24.6.1944
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombardment Forces

Bombardment of Cherbourg on 25th June. Group 2 proceed first to area close South of 049 degs. 44' N. between 001 degs. 45' W. and 001 degs. 09' W. and later to area South of 049 degs. 46' N. as for Group 1.
(6) At first light ONSLOW and OFFA patrol on 049 degs. 56' N. 5 miles each side of 001 degs. 41' W. ONSLAUGHT and ORIBI patrol on 049 degs. 53' N. 5 miles each side of 001 degs. 11' W. MELBREAK and BRISSENDEN will join respective groups about 0715.
(7) Patrols are to be maintained 3 miles North of bombarding groups following their movements during operations. ONSLOW, OFFA and MELBREAK are to remain Northward of TUSCALOOSA when Group one divides.
(8) Destroyers are to leave their patrols as necessary to afford A/S protection to bombarding groups.
(10) Acting under orders of Force Cdr. in TUSCALOOSA from 0530/25th till release.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 242358B to Capt. D.17, ONSLAUGHT)

Covering Operations

Eastern Assault Area, Defence policy for night 24/25th. V.7. Second D.W. 29th M.T.B's 180 degs. 2 miles from position. V.8 55th M.T.B's 230 degs. one mile from position. V.9. First Division 29th M.T.B. 000 degs. 3 miles from A.25 berth. U.14. Two Hunts in Tunny North.
R.7 As ordered by Captain patrols. Q. one. P. Extended to C.1 berth. N.3. 2 M.M.S. and B.Y.M.S. mine seen in Channel Q.3. From to-day 24th June and in future F.O.B.A.A. will control night patrols working through Captain Patrol as necessary. (N.C.E.T.F. 241111B to E.T.F.)

Western Assault Area. Anti E-boat attack groups will be stationed tonight in Mountain Area. My 151450B. Northern Group call Romeo. Southern Group call Juliet.
(C.T.G. 122-4, 241243B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Patrols from Plymouth. 3rd E.G. is to slip at 0815 tomorrow and relieve E.G.14 as given in my 231704.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 241250B to E.G.3)
Night patrols 24/25th June. P.C.W.O. 120.
(A) (1) G.T.1, M.L's 183, 117, 122.
(2) G.T. 2, M.L's 157, 184, 159.
(B) 2300/24. (D) (6) In vicinity 122 degs. Start 12.
(2) In vicinity 080 degs. Start 28'.
(F) 0515/25. (G) Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 241513B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

P.C.W.O.120.

(A) Unit G.P.1, M.T.B's 748 (S.O), 735, 726, 727.

(B) /...

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SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

(B) 1815B/24. (C) (KK) 200 degs. Les Hanois 11 to arrive 2215 (LL) 207 degs. La Corbiere 10 to arrive 2330.
 (D) From (LL) to investigate area south of Jersey to position (MM) 124 La Corbiere 12. Unit to withdraw to (LL) at first light.
 (E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols. (F) 0600B/25 from (LL) 20 knots. (G) (KK) to Brixham.
 (2) (A) Unit G.P.2, M.T.B's 720 (S.O) 717, 679, 719.
 (B) 1830B/24. (C) (KK) 210 degs. Les Hanois 11 to arrive 2200. (NN) 000 degs. Cap Frehel 10 to arrive 2330.
 (D) From (NN) to sweep area South of Minquiers east of 2 degs. 20' W. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
 (F) 0600B/25 from (LL) 20 knots. (G) (KK) to Dartmouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 241544B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67. F.N.1 M.L.213, 123 Z.1. F.N.2 M.T.B. 235, 202 Z.2. F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.N.5 M.T.B.613, 616 Z.5. F.N.6 M.T.B. 354, 361, 362 Z.6. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z 7. F.N.8 M.T.B. 602, 680 Z 8 N. F.U.9 ORWELL Z 9 South to Z.11 West. F.U.2 MELBREAK in 49 degs. 56' N. 00 degs. 14' W. F.Y.1 TROLLOPE Z.12 East. F.Y.2 M.T.B.608, 614 Z.12 East. F.Y.3 M.T.B.690, 691 090 degs. Z.12 West 2 Mins. F.X.1 SEYMOUR Z.13 East. F.X.2 M.T.B.703, 698 Z.13 East. F.X.3 3 M.T.B's of 1st Flotilla 090 degs. Z.13 West 2 mins. F.U.4 BRISSENDEN from 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. to 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W. (2) SAVAGE has freedom of action in Z area. (V.A. Dover, 241257B)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth one, para. 38. Cover night 24/25 A. ONSLOW (G.C.1) ONSLAUGHT (G.C.2) OFFA (G.C.3) ORIBI (G.C.4). Commence east-west patrol at 2230 as far as 01 degs. 54' W. southern limit 49 degs. 56' N. returning to patrol 01 degs. 00' W. between 49 degs. 43' N. and 50 degs. 05' N. by 0230. Report night dispositions.
 D. Unit G.D. M.T.B's 212 (S.O) 205, 206 in Z.122.
 Unit G.H.1 M.T.B's 252 (S.O) 253, 256.
 Unit G.H.2 M.T.B's 246 (S.O) 247, 251.
 Unit G.H.3 M.T.B's 724 (S.O), 742, 728.
 Unit G.H.4 M.T.B's 721 (S.O) 714, 701.
 Force G.H. in Z.203 via 270 Casquets 8 miles at 2230.
 Unit G.H.1 and G.H. 2 North of line 090 Sark light.
 Unit G.H.3 West of 02 degs. 05' West.
 Unit G.H.4 east of 02 degs. 05' West. Both south of a line 090 Sark light.
 E. Unit F.X.3 M.T.B's 414(S.O) 434, 416. Unit F.Y.3 M.T.B's 690(S.O) 691.
 Both units under orders of V.A. Dover to R/V at C.2 A 2100.
 Unit F.X.3 with SEYMOUR. F.Y.3 with TROLLOPE.
 F. Waiting positions 49 degs. 55' N. 02 degs. 00' W. Units G.H.1, G.H. 2 G.D.1 return through waiting position. Units G.H.3, G.H. 4 return by reverse of outward route.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 241356B)

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24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

O.N.1 Para. 52 (b) Eastern Night Channel Report 24/25th.

(1) F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3 and 4. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z7. F.U. 9 ORWELL Z 9 South to Z.11 West.

F.U.2 MELBREAK Z.16 West. F.Y.1 TROLLOPE Z.12 East. F.X.1 SEYMOUR Z.13 East. F.U. 4 BRISSENDEN between Z.17 and Channel 58. Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z buoy.

(2) F.N. 1 2 M.L's Z.1. F.N.2 2 M.G.B's Z.2. F.N.5 2 M.T.B's Z.5. F.N.6 3 M.T.B's Z.6. F.N.8 2 M.T.B's Z.8 North.

F.Y.2 2 M.T.B's Z.12 East. F.Y.3 2 M.T.B's Z.12 West. F.X.2 2 M.T.B's Z.13 East. F.X. 3 3 M.T.B's Z.13 West.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 241810B to A.I.G. 508)

O.N.1 Para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 24/25th June.

(1) G.C.1 ONSLOW. G.C.2 ONSLAUGHT. G.C.3 OFFA. G.C.4 ORIBI. All Z.110, 114, 121 until

0230 then on 01 degs. 00' W. between 49' 43' N. and 50 degs. 05' N.

11th E.G. vicinity Z Buoy. 2nd and 15th E.G's Z.233, 234, 235, 238, 239. 9th E.G. Z.220, 221, 224, 225, 226. 14th E.G. Z.215, 216 West Z.219, 220 East. 5th E.G. Z.206, 207, 201 and 202 West Z.208 North.

Force 28 SALADIN, SCIMITAR, REGINA. KREIZES, Seven Stones to Lizard.

Force 27 TARTAR, HURON on latitude 49 degs. 10' N. between 5 degs. and 6 degs. W.

(2) G.D. 3 M.T.B's Z.122. G.H.1, G.H.2. G.H.3, G.H.4 3 M.T.B's each all in Z.203. G.T.1 3 M.L's Z 212 North. G.T.2 3 M.L's Z.205 North West.

(3) A/C all areas West of 2 degs. W. Swordfish on Coastal Convoy route.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 241823B)

My 241356B. Amend patrol procedure in Para. "A"/to read:- "East-West Patrol North of 49 degs. 56' N. leaves 01 degs. 00' W. at 2230, thence to 01 degs. 54' W. thence to arrive 01 degs. 22' W. at 0210. From 0210 till first light sweep will be from 01 degs. 22' W. to 01 degs. 38' W".

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 241942B)

Mining

Western
Assault
Area.

In view of serious mine menace do not return to assault area unless absolutely essential.

(A.N.C.X.F. 240410B to C.T.F.129)

My 240410 June referred to original Assault Area South of latitude 49 degs. 40' North.

(A.N.C.X.F. 240746B to C.T.F.129)

My 240410 was intended to prevent C.T.F.129 returning unnecessarily to the Assault Area. I was not aware of the plan to approach from the Northward at the time of making the signal but consider it to be sound. Your 240638 refers.

(A.N.C.X.F. 241521B to N.C.W.T.F.)

LOUIS /...

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War Diary24.6.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Mining

LOUIS damaged. At 0015 heavy under-water explosion occurred directly underneath LOUIS position (48 ? degs.) 56' N. 04 degs. 38' W. depth of water (54?) fathoms. No (surface?) disturbance at same time (indicated?) explosion was deep. Ship considerably shaken but no apparent (external?) (damage?) (so far?). Many internal defects developed now made good. No contact before (or?) after. Ship was passing through large oil-streak at time.
(E.G.15, 240933 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Area "U" on 15th and 16th June. At 0821/15th June detonated enemy mine at Lat.49 33.9 N. Long. 01.08 W. in 11 fathoms of water, course 160 true, speed 12 knots. Explosion occurred 135 degs. relative 100 yards distant. This ship starboard vessel in two ship Mk.V(B) sweep with a Mk.II (A) gear streamed 180 feet astern and a Mk.IV (A) towed port beam 12 feet depth. Pulse in off period at time of explosion. No smoke, flash or flame. Plume 150 feet diameter 30 feet. Two explosions dull and prolonged. Negligible damage to ship. Master vessel using bow hammers.
(BROADBILL 241200B to Admty.)

At 0914/16th June detonated enemy mine at lat. 49.32.5 N. long. 01.06.2 W. in 11 fathoms of water. Course 150 true, speed 12 knots. Explosion occurred 090 degs. relative 200 yards distant. This ship starboard vessel in three ship Mk V (B) sweep with a Mk.II(A) gear streamed 180 feet astern and a Mk.IV (A) gear towed port beam 12 feet depth. Other two vessels using bow hammers. Pulse on Green40 second cycle 7 seconds on period. No smoke, flash or flame. Plume 150 feet diameter 30 feet. Two explosions dull and prolonged. No damage to ship.
(BROADBILL, 241205B to Admty.)

Reports on Under-water Explosions. The following report is to be rendered in the case of an unexplained underwater explosion by the ship nearest the area of disturbed water.
(1) By minesweepers whether sweeping or not: minesweeping report No:5 (C.B. 04031) with the addition of (K) state of sea and swell.
(2) Other ships: Report in the following form:
(a) Time and Date. (b) Name, charted position and course,
(c) Speed. (d) Relative bearing and distance of explosion.
(e) Position of other ships in relation to explosion and estimate of their speeds. (f) Brief report of any damage.
(g) State of sea and swell. (h) Any unusual circumstance.
(j) Whether S.A. gear was in operation.
Report is to be rendered in hand message form on return to harbour to Admiralty A.N.C.X.F. and Operational Authority in whose area explosion occurred.
(A.N.C.X.F. 241235B)

Operation /...

24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Operation 7/44. Operation 7/44 will take place with D day 25th June, H hour 0600B. Sail accordingly, reporting your E.T.D.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 241327B to M/S.9, M/S 159.
(R) C.T.F.129)

Off Eddystone. Enemy mine detonated in sweep at approx. 1700 by COMBATTANT in 171 degs. Eddystone 1.7 miles. Presumed G.O.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 242021B to Admty.)

New type German Mine. Cancel A.M. 222116B. Examination of second enemy mine unit indicates that higher sensitivities are possible.
Precautions. (2) The following revised speed limitations are expected to provide safety to ships operating in areas where the mine units referred to in A.M. 221653 and A.M. 231816B are likely to exist.

Depth 5 fathoms Speed thro' water

- A. Small craft trawlers, M.M.S. and M.T.Bs landing craft etc. no restrictions.
- B. Destroyers and fleet sweepers 3 1/2 knots.
- C. Light cruisers and vessels up to 6000 tons zero
- D. Vessels up to 10000 tons zero
- E. Battleships and vessels up to 35000 tons zero

Depth 7 1/2 fathoms

- A. no restriction
- B. 5 knots
- C. 4 knots
- D. 3 knots
- E. 2 knots

Depth 10 fathoms

- A. no restriction
- B. 7 knots
- C. 5 knots
- D. 4 knots
- E. 2 1/2 knots

Depth 15 fathoms

- A. no restriction
- B. 11 knots
- C. 8 knots
- D. 6 knots
- E. 4 knots

Depth 20 fathoms

- A. no restrictions
- B. 14 knots
- C. 11 knots
- D. 9 knots
- E. 5 1/2 knots

(3) It is probable that in 25 fathoms the speeds recommended for 20 fathoms could safely be increased by 50% and that in 30 fathoms or over battleships would not actuate the mine at speeds up to 14 knots.

(4) S.A. self protection should not be used.
(D.T.M. 242056B to A.N.C.X.F.)

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24.6.1944.
Saturday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Mining

Can you advise me whether the mine risk is lessened by towing important ships through shallow waters rather than proceeding under their own steam.

(N.C.E.T.F., 242206 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action

10 vessels
off Cap de
la Hague.

Nr.10. 100° Cap de la Hague 10 stationary.
(C/S G.F.1, 240029.)

9 ships
off Ostend.

Nr.1. P.C.S. of 9 unknown enemy ships 51.34 N.
03.19 E. (position based on a Gee fix obtained
within ½ hr. of 0100) 110°, 8 knots.
(A/C C/S MAZE, 240225.)

10 unidenti-
fied off
Channel Is.

Nr.1. 0925 sighted 10 unidentified surface craft
believed to be E-Boats or torpedo course 318°
speed 20 position 49° 20' N. 2° 53' W.
(A/C SFJ.74, 241000B.)

Thermal
range-
finding.

Germans are reported to be using Thermal range-
finding for shore batteries.
(2) System is unlikely to work in any but darkness
or dull clear weather by day.
(3) Shore receivers have probably maximum range
of 8 miles and system depends on plotting several
bearings of radiation from ships funnels.

(4) Possible counter-measures which should be considered if
accurate fire is experienced when other means are unlikely to
work are (A) to confuse the plot by multiplicity of moving
targets. (B) Smoke screen.

(A.N.C.X.F., 242012B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., C.T.F.129,
C.S.10, F.O.B.A.A.)

U-Boats

U-Boat
detected by
BICKERTON.

Have obtained bearing by H/F D/F bearing is
believed to be of enemy S/M transmitting a B
signal third class (German) 247° operator
estimates between 15 and 30 miles. Transmission
not identified. My position 049° 54' N. 002°
39' W.

(BICKERTON, 240436Z.)

/Intercepted ...

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24.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-BoatsU-Boat
reports.

Intercepted U-Boat (German) B here at 0436Z bearing 260 degs. or 080 degs. on 3920 K/cs. My position 049 degs. 18' N. 003 degs. 32' W. (S.O.E.G.14, 240645B)

Intercepted B Signal on series 8 frequency 5100 K/cs at 1052Z. Bearing 266 degs. 3rd class. My position 49 degs. 14' 30" N. 03 degs. 19' 30" West. Ground wave signal. (E.G.14, 241320B to Admty.)

D/F bearings on 3920 K/cs at 0433Z indicate U-Boat within 10 miles of 48.50 N. 5.50 W. Signal may have been a sighting report.

(D.D.I.C. 240815B to E.G.2)

Your 240705 and A.M. 240815. Fix given by shore stations bearings now complete is very good indication of lat. 48.50 N. long. 05.50 W. and bearings obtained by ships are considered constant.

(D.D.I.C. 240925B to E.G.2)

Your 241042B. My P.C.S. 049 de s. 06' N. 005 degs. 55' W. 125 degs. 15 knots.

(DOMINICA, 241200B to S.O.E.G.2)

A/C mark sighted. Am searching in 340 degs. (Ushant) 10 miles.

(S.O.E.G.2, 241316B to Plymouth Port Wave)

By Inglis U-Boat transmit Bar B signal first class 200 degs. near considered ground wave. Frequency 5100 K/cs on P. My position 49 degs. 02' N. 05 degs. 17' W. at 1052Z. Ends. (S.O.E.G.15, 241301B to Admty.)

U-Boat
sunk by
HAIDA.

U.971

Am shifting patrol to 049 degs. 00' N.

(HAIDA, 241347B)

My 1609 am attacking A/S contact in 049 degs. 00' N. 005 degs. 42' W.

(HAIDA, 241704B)

My 1704. Have carried out 6 attacks on stationary target 048 degs. 59' N. 005 degs. 41' W. (HAIDA, 241743B)

S/M on the surface 048 degs. (750') N. 005 degs. 42' W.

(HAIDA, 241923)

S/M hit by gunfire abandoning ship.

(HAIDA, 241926B)

My 1704 enemy sunk am picking up survivors.

(HAIDA, 241927B)

Estimated
U-Boat
dispositions.

No fresh fixes on the three U-Boats previously sighted N. of the Cherbourg Peninsula. Several sightings and attacks between long. 02 degs. 00' W. and 06 degs. 00' W. corroborate estimate of six or seven on passage in this area. Two or three others to the Southwestward of Brest. (D.D.I.C. 241418B)

U-Boat /...

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24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

U-Boat
attacked
by A/C.

Proceed to A/C NTX's 241548 /.
(S.O.E.G.2, 241605B to S.O.E.G.15)
/ Report of S/M.
Have attacked U-Boat with bombs RP and depth
charges Escort vessels in position. Request
instructions.

(N.T.X.85, 241620 to Group 19 H.Q.)
On Plymouth 5 para. 3 sups. (A) Z.240, Z.235.
(C. in C. Plymouth 242234B to E.G.2)

Gamma
patrol by
E.G.1.

On arrival establish Gamma length 30 miles
centre position 49.37 N. 04.09 W. direction of
patrol 350 and 170. See my 231704.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 241921B to E.G.1)

Allied Air Activity

Corridor
No.10.

With effect from 1200/24th June Corridor No.10
Selsey Hill to mouth of River Vire is to be
brought into use for non-operational A/C. The
following safety measures are to be enforced.
Details.
(A.E.A.F. 241303B)

Port Facilities

Mulberry
Harbours.
Defects
and
Proposals.

R.A.M.P. Remarks which follow are the opinions
of seamen. Marine Engineering opinion has not
yet been consulted. Mulberry A. The Phoenix
collapsed due to two causes (A) Seaward wall
smashed in by the sea just above the shelf.
(B) Heavy scour caused backs to break and the sea
did the rest. Bombardon not believed to be the
cause. Heavy scour in the gale has caused

blockships to sink in some cases 10 or 12 feet.

Provisional decisions in Mulberry A.

- (1) Back up Corncob breakwater with additional ships and small Phoenix placed inside.
- (2) All available A.1 Phoenix to be placed on a line about West-south West from Centurion where in shallower water they have a better chance of survival.
- (3) Accept the fact that St. Laurent will be a two fathom shelter.
- (4) With remaining available whale equipment build as long a tore pier as possible. Without full investigation it would appear that only one complete L.S.T. pier can be built and that it is suggested should go into Arromanches where better shelter and deeper water is available. As the change of plan with regard to L.S.T. piers will affect both armies request S.H.A.E.F. will give decision. Remainder of above being implemented I am of opinion that to make harbours operate in the winter is extremely doubtful. Will explain more fully later. Mulberry B

has /...

618

War Diary.24.6.1944.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Port Facilities

Mulberry Harbours. Defects and Proposals. (Contd.) has suffered far less than Mulberry (A) possible causes are protection of Calvados Shoal and the sandless prone to scour. The Phoenix breakwater can be made good for a time and the Corncob breakwater remains intact. Several Phoenix showing signs of damage which the next gale will probably destroy. The C.E. in C. in his investigation believes Phoenix are not sufficiently strong. After his present study of Arromanches he is proceeding to St. Laurent. Serious study will be required before Mulberry (B) can be declared a possible harbour after end of September. (A.N.C.X.F., 240920B to S.H.A.E.F.)

A.N.C.X.F.'s 231600B and 231603B passed to you for information. R.A.M.P. my 221337. 20 Corncobs being prepared the first five expected to be ready in 10 days remainder within one month.

Intend as first action to rebuild Gooseberry No.1 and fill in gaps in Gooseberry No.2. Allocation will then be made to improve British shelters. A balance will be held in U.K. to make good any future storm damage.

Asghant* Force Commanders are requested to draw up proposed location. R.A.M.P. will come over to decide on allocation shortly.

(C.T.F.125, 241325B to C.T.F.127.) * As received.

Casualties and Defects

SCYLLA. (1) SCYLLA damaged by mine. All 4 L.P. turbine casings cracked.
(2) Am transferring my flag to HILARY.
(3) SCYLLA proceeding in tow to Spithead daylight today Saturday.

(N.C.E.T.F., 240105B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Your 240105 ground mine exploded under ship at 117 station starboard in 49° 24.7' N. 00° 23.5' W. Ship's speed 15 knots.
(2) No major structural hull damage. Inner framing at 154 station distorted and other structural damage in vicinity likely.
(3) All boilers under steam all 4 L.P. turbine lower half casings cracked right through resulting in complete loss of vacuum, ship therefore unable to steam.

(4) No.1 dynamo gearing bed plates fractured remaining electrical equipment serviceable.

(5) After H.A.'s director and H.A.C.S. table and starboard torpedo tubes unseated. Both gyro compasses damaged.

(6) Casualties: 4 wounded, 7 slightly wounded.

(SCYLLA, 240245 to N.C.E.T.F.)

Sailed SCYLLA towed by tugs ENVOY and BRETON escorted by KRAKOWIAK and ALBRIGHTON.

(Capt. N.S., 240645B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

My 240645. E.T.A. 241800.

(Capt. N.S., 241309.)

/SWIFT ...

24.6.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties and Defects

SWIFT,
M.T.41
mined. SWIFT mined and sinking M.T.41 mined and broken
in half position J.6 and K.14.
(C.S.10, 240735B-

GLAISDALE
mined. H.N. M.S. GLAISDALE mined at 1745/23 in position
D.12 Sword.
(2) Heavy explosions 45 feet from starboard side
abreast torpedo tubes probably acoustic mines.
(3) Casualties Nil.
(4) Plates and frames on starboard side damaged. Seaworthiness
not affected.
(5) Machinery. Starboard engine out of action and seriously
damaged. Port engine available slow speed boiler steering gear
and auxiliary machinery serviceable.
(6) Intend sailing GLAISDALE to-day Saturday in tow tug Freedom
for Spithead. Estimate S. of A. 8 knots.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 240932)
R.A.M.P. Navsitrep. (C) 4500. (F) GLAISDALE arrived
2130/23rd after being mined. She left in tow of tug Freedom
at 1300/24th for Portsmouth.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 241928B)

Tug
DUNDAS. Tug DUNDAS sunk in collision with American
Vessel. No casualties further report will be made
(Tug, Control Lee, 241019B)

SS. ASA
ELDRIDGE. Store coaster ASA ELDRIDGE can be taken in hand
in Bristol Channel. Barry Roads for orders.
(2) Cotug have been requested to tow this vessel
when tugs are available.
(Corep Control, 241503B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Repair of
U.S. Craft. Following has been received. Begins: From
C.T.F.127. Recommend facilities of U.S. Naval
Western Bases be utilized as practicable to
expedite repair U.S. craft when facilities
Portland, Portsmouth area overtaxed. Recommend
U.S. L.C.I.(L) 29, 83, 408, 541 be sailed Plymouth, 554, 555,
557, 409 Dartmouth for immediate repairs. All above now at
Weymouth. D.T.G. 111807 June. Ends.
(A.N.C.X.F. 241523B to Admty.)
Corep. The Following arrangements can be made to repair
U.S. L.C.I.(L)(s (a) Nos. 4, 5, 10 and 50G at Dartmouth.
(b) Nos. 218, 326, 501, 3, 510 at Plymouth.
(c) Nos. 491, 421 at Falmouth.
(2) Request craft be sailed accordingly.
(Corep Control, 241843B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

SS. EMPIRE LOUGH /..

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24.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties and Defects

SS. EMPIRE
LOUGH
damaged.

Fleet Notice 858/41. (1) SS. EMPIRE ~~LOUGH~~ (Sic)
(2) Enemy Shelling. (3) Beached. (4) 51 degs.
05' 9 N. 1 degs. 15' 2 E. (Approx.).
(5) No.
(V.A. Dover, 241949B)

LOUGH

Shipping and Convoys

E.C.P.14. (B) 11th E.G. (E) One each for Omaha and Utah.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240114B)

E.X.P.14 W. (B) QUORN, KITE. (E) To Gold, PRINCESS MARGARET.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240155)

E.P.L.16 W. (B) LONDONDERRY, CLARKIA, QUADRILLE. (C) 1200/24.
(E) For OMAHA, 17 L.S.T's. For Utah, 9 L.S.T's.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240157)

E.W.L.16. (B) TOMPAZIS, TEXADA. (C) 1200/24.
(E) For June L.S.T. 9 towing 2 pontoons. For
Juno and Gold L.S.T. 65. For Gold 2 L.S.T's.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240158 amended 240617)

E.B.C.17. A. Sailed. B. SUMMERSIDE, RUBY. E. For Omaha,
5 ships. For Utah, 3 ships expect to join
E.B.C.17 W for Omaha 6 ships. For Utah, 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240525B)
My 240525 request JELICOE ROSE be sailed from OMAHA to
Arromanches to be held until she can proceed to Cherbourg.
(A.N.C.X.F. 241713)

E.T.C.16. A. Sailed. B. FERNIE, OXLIP. E. For Gold 5
ships. For Sword, 1 ship. For Juno 5 ships.
Expects join E.T.C.16 W for Gold 8 ships.
For Sword 1 ship. For Juno 2 ships.
For Port en Bessin 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240615 amended 241119B)

E.T.M.15. A. Sailed. B. GARTH, CAMELIA, HOLDERNESS,
CHARLOCK. E. For Juno 1 ship 2 L.S.T's.
For Gold 7 ships, 3 L.S.T's. For Sword, 6 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 240720) Amended 240904B.

F.T.M.17. Sail. (A) F.T.M. 17. (B) SCOURGE, STORD for
I.O.W. SWEETBRIAR and ARMERIA for the Nore.
(E) Lloyd Cowes 15 ships, 12 L.S.T's for Tilbury,
35 L.S.T's for I.O.W.
(Capt. N.S. 240901B)

F.T.C.16 /...

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24.6.1944
SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

F.T.C.16. Sailed (B) BOMBARDIER for Nore CHASSEUR 10 and M.L.269 for Portsmouth. (E) 22 ships, SKEL with force. L.C.T.(4) 10 42, EMPIRE LARCH tow AMLARCH QUEEN for I.O.W., BLACK ROCK tow T.65 for I.O.W., tug KROOMAN tow TRENTONIAN for I.O.W. (Capt. N.S. 241101B)

F.C.M.128. (A) Sailed. (B) E.G.143 plus M.L's 206, 1409, 1408, 1399 and S.C.1334. (E) For Southampton 9 L.S.T's and 1 ship for Portland, 11 L.S.T's for Plymouth, 1 ship for Falmouth, 2 ships. (C.T.G.122.7, 241430).

F.X.P.14. Sailed(FERNIE ?), QUORN. (E) PRINCESS MARGARET, L.S.D. EASTWAY. (Capt. N.S. 241930B)

F.P.L.7. (A) Sailed F.P. (?L) 7. (B) 162, 122 plus S.C. 1290. E. For Southampton 6 L.S.T's For Portland, 7 L.S.T's. (F) (?for) (?corrupt) 11 L.S.T's. (C.T.G.122.7), 241950B)

Organisation and Administration

Visit of First Lord. For First Lord.A.N.C.X.F.'s 211113B. For SCYLLA read BULOLO. (N.C.E.T.F. 240228 to FAULKNER)

Withdrawals on conclusion of "Epsom". On successful conclusion of Military operation "Epsom" it should not be necessary to retain in the BAA more than four Cruisers and a 15 inch Battleship or Monitor. (2) RODNEY can be sailed as soon as mining situation is clear but would be required at Portsmouth at 4 hours notice for steam. (3) The eight fleet destroyers now in company cannot be reduced at present without excessive strain on personnel on account of their dual duties viz (A) bombardment (B) night defensive operations. (N.C.E.T.F. 240239 to A.N.C.X.F.)

H.Q. of N.O.I.C. The H.Q. of N.O.I.C. are established ashore on front as from noon to-day Saturday. Address Villa Arromanches. A nucleus part 1500 concerned principally with harbour construction remain in DESPATCH for time being. (N.O.I.C.Mulberry B. 240743)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Administration and Organisation

Flag of
N.C.E.T.F.

Flag of N.C.E.T.F. transferred to HILARY.
(N.C.E.T.F. 240900B)

Extension
of Assault
area.

V.58. Assault Area is extended to the westward
as follows:-

(A) Western boundary line Cape de la Hague to
Portland Bill south of 49 degs. 50' N.

(B) Eastern boundary Meridian of 01 degs. 05' W.
between 49 degs. 40' N. and 49 degs. 50' N.

(C) Northern boundary parallel of 49 degs. 50' N.
(A.N.C.X.F. 241554B)

Flag of
F.O.B.A.A.

Flag of F.O.B.A.A. will be transferred at 0800/25
from SOUTHERN PRINCE to his H.Q. at Courseulles.
(N.C.E.T.F. 242225B)

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SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSPolicy

Boundary for operational control between Portsmouth and Dover. Admiralty message 060729B May and para. 23 of enclosure to Portsmouth No. 0/0302/81 of 15th April. Propose boundary for operational control between Portsmouth and Dover should now be revised with the objects:

1. To dispense with point where Dover, Portsmouth and assault areas meet.
- (2) To simplify operation of anti U-Boatsupport group in the area immediately east of the Spout.
- (3) To retain the free bombing zone in Dieppe area in Dover Command.

2. Proposed Eastern limit of Portsmouth command be line joining Beachyhead - C 2 buoy in 50° 37' 30" N. 00° 25' 42" E. N.E. corner of Z.8 square in 50° 30' North 00° 30' E. French coast in longitude 00° 30' East.

3. If approved promulgation of wave lengths for use in areas will be arranged separately.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 240029B to A.N.C.X.F., V.A. Dover.)
C. in C. Portsmouth's 240029. Concur.
(V.A. Dover, 241152B to A.N.C.X.F.)
Your 240029. Concur. Request Admty. will promulgate now boundary.
(A.N.C.X.F. 241610B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Destroyers for North Russia. Your 221146. No restrictions applicable to ships concerned.
(D.R.E. 241128B to Ad. Archer.)

UNSEEN, UNRUFFLED. 1. UNSEEN (S.O.) UNRUFFLED will be sailed from Rothesay p.m. 28th escorted to longitude 012° 56', E.T.A. 0400/30th, thence in company for St. Johns N.F. in accordance with your 211716 June. E.T.A. Chop 2359/3rd July.
(Capt. S.7, 241455B to F.O.S.)

L'IMCOMPRISE N.O.I.C. Campbeltown's 191248. Propose authorising reduction to C. and M. at Campbeltown no alternative berth available.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 241539 to Admty.)

Operation "Overlord". Channel Is. Naval Plan. Reference Your 231948B. It is considered RANKIN C - Channel Islands Naval Plan will require amendment in following respects.
Terms of Surrender. 2, It is assumed surrender would be made to S.A.C. and information is requested as to procedure then to be followed.
Propose that steps required to be taken by local German Naval Commander should be the same as those proposed in my 542/Ply.001486 of 13th February 1944, in so far as they lie in his power.
Minesweeping. 3. The minesweeping force proposed in RANKIN C - Channel islands - Plan, Part III, Section III paragraph 9, is still considered suitable, but so long as present conditions continue on "Overlord" convoy routes it cannot be provided from Plymouth Command resources.

/Naval...

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Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Operation
"Overlord"
Channel Is.
Naval Plan.
(Contd.)

Naval parties. 4. It is considered that damage and obstructions to ports and port facilities must now be expected to a much greater extent than previously allowed for. Separate proposals will be forwarded as soon as possible for the naval parties now considered necessary and the allocation of naval party numbers will be requested. H.Q.'s ships. 5. Information is requested whether BLYTHE and PETERHEAD will still be available as H.Q. ships in the early stages of the operation. If not the allocation of alternative H.Q. ships is requested. Shipping Lift. 6. Revised overall requirements cannot yet be stated until after consultation with army and R.A.F. It seems probable, however, that first entry may now have to be made over beaches. Information is, therefore, requested whether L.S.T., L.C.T., or L.C.I.(L) are likely to be available. General guidance as to the type of shipping likely to be allotted would be appreciated for planning purposes. Escorts. 7. The cover and escorts required for the passage of the convoys and for the subsequent maintenance of the forces in the Channel Islands would depend on the circumstances existing at the time. These cannot be forecast with accuracy, but it does not appear that any large increase of forces now at my disposal would be necessary.
(C. in C. Plymouth 241732 to A.N.C.K.F.)

Operations.

S/M Patrol.

Zone B times. Positions of S/Ms at 0759/29th and movements for the following 24 hours.
B. SUBTLE escorted by SARDONYX 58° 47' N. 01° 59' W. to 59° N. 01° W. E.T.A. 1100/25th thence SUBTLE independently to patrol vicinity of 59° 30' N. 00° 10' E.
(F.O.S. 241738B to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

Vessels at-
tacked by
A/C.

Four size C from Calais at 2318 westbound at 8 knots, entered Boulogne at 0255. Attacked by 3 Albacores, results unknown.
Four size C from Calais at 2338 westbound at 8 knots, entered Boulogne at 0405. Attacked by one Albacore who claims one vessel sunk, and five

Beaufighters results unknown.

Five size D from Calais at 2352 operating between Sangatte and Gravelines at 8 knots. Entered Calais at 0105. Attacked by 2 Albacores and 2 Swordfish who claim three vessels sunk.

E.L.D. Four size D (unreliable) from seven miles west of Dunkirk at 0103 westbound at 8 knots turned off Gravelines at 0200. Entered Dunkirk at 0350. Attacked by 2 Swordfish results unknown.
(V.A. Dover 241110B to Admty.)

N. Russia.

Have received from C. in C. Northern Fleet request for permission to fly one Catalina to U.K. between 28th and 30th of this month.
2. Admiral Levchenki (Bevchryko, as received)

/has...

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SaturdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSAllied Air Activity

North Russia.
(Contd.)

has evidently asked for a regular mail service to this route.
3. Thirty Missions Air 468 of first June. Para. 3 refers. Request instructions.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 241747B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Boat Overseer offices.

Offices at Newington Causeway razed to the ground this a.m.
(P. Boat Overseer, London, 240840 to F.O.I.C. London.)

Spitzbergen.

Enemy Air R/C on 20th June at 0700 G.M.T.
("Ploughshare" 241715Z to Admty.)

Mining

Thames Estuary.

1 ground mine detonated 214° N.E. Shingles buoy 4 cables.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 241405B, 251526B, 252245B.)

U/Boats

U/Boat sunk by SATYR on 15th June. *U.907*

SATYR reports sighting U-boats as follows:-
a. 15th June 0915. P.C.S. of 700 ton U-boat 68° 01' N. 05° 08' (?E), 027° 11 knots. Attacked with six torpedoes from 3000 yards. Two torpedoes appeared to explode prematurely. Two further explosions at two minutes twenty seconds and two minutes twenty seven seconds after firing. Both these were seen to hit. U-boat appeared to break in half, bows were seen vertically and then to sink.
B. P.C.S. of four U-boats (which?) passed out of range.
13th June 2120 67° 28' 01° 48' E. 340° unknown.
15th June 1. 0701 67° 58' 04° 49' E. 310° 10 knots.
2. 1307 67° 59' 05° 25' E. 360° 11 knots.
16th June 0812 68° 29' 05° 45' E, 350°.
(S.O. S/M Lerwick 241558B to F.O.S.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

CROATEN
A/S hunt.

Position 2230Z 4210 1525 180 10. Air Search
radius 80.
(C.T.G.22.5, 241815.)

South Atlantic

Independent
Sailings.

Cancel para. 2 of my 231735.
(C. in C.S.A. 241020B.)

PHILOCTETES

A.M. 011731 May. Request list of major defects.
(Controller 242115B to F.O.C.W.Af.)

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24.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- Reports of air attacks. Your 101540B. No objection to procedure proposed in para. 3 providing signal giving required information is not unduly delayed.
(Head of Air Branch 240145B to C. in C.Med.)
- Enemy Convoy. At 0225/24th M.L. report southbound convoy approaching Lipso from eastwards speed 6 knots.
(Capt. S.1 240410B to UNSPARING, (R) F.O.L.E.M, VAMPIRE, Comaro 1.)
- German vessels transiting Dardanelles. My 231702C. There are indications that vessels ? may sail for Aegean next 24 hours.
(S.O.I. Istanbul 241225C to F.O.L.E.M. B.N.A. Ankara, (R) Capt. S.1 D.N.I. S.O.I. Izmir.)
- Interned crews of sunk It. warships. My 231350 Plebiscite result at Caldas of total 954 personnel shows that only 6 P.Os. and 13 ratings accepted for North Italy.
(B.N.A. Madrid 241230B.)
- Civitavecchia. Administrative Summary No. 15 for week ending 20th June. 3. Civitavecchia was captured on 7th June in the worst condition of any port so far captured in Italy. Temporary repairs enabled overside discharge to commence on 13th June. A daily average discharge of 3,000 T.P.D. has been maintained since that date with a max. of 4,680 tons on 16th June. One alongside berth is already available.
(A.F.H.Q. Algiers No T.O.O.)
- Joint Naval Army R.A.F. Intel. Appreciation. All times G.M.T. Reliable sources report passage through Dardanelles two further Danube craft.
(C. in C.M.E. 241955.)
- Reliefs of minesweepers. It is intended to sail 5th M.S.F. at present consisting of 6 Algerines and attached danlayer to arrive Med. about the end of July. 2. It is anticipated that this flotilla will be completed shortly and that a further Algerine Flotilla should arrive in Med. by September. 3. Request your proposals for return to U.K. of 13th M.S.F. and for paying off and disposal of 2nd M.S.F. on Med. Station.
(D.M.S. 242130B to C. in C.Med.)
- Bombardment by CURIE. CURIE reported at 2148/21 bombarded shore batteries under construction on Cape Gros near Port Vendres 14 hits obtained three large explosions followed.
(S.10 242349.)

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24.6.1944.

Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

Operation
"Pedal"
(air raid
on Port
Blair 21st
June.)

Following additional details concerning Operation "Pedal" received after return of Force 60.

2. Corsair strike against Port Blair air field. Corsairs went in low at water level and continued low until in vicinity of air field one Corsair turned back on reaching coast owing to hydraulic trouble. One I.K. one Zero seen on runway, both set on fire; no aircraft observed in dispersal areas no aircraft seen on landing strip west harbour but some packing cases which were strafed. Intense light A.A. experienced over aerodrome 5 Corsairs damaged but only one failed to land on, pilot safe.
 3. Barracuda strike. After forming up gained height to 9000 ft. made excellent landfall crossing coast at this height. Shallow dive on target engaged by heavy A.A. as soon as within range of Port Blair incorrect at first but laddered up for height quickly. Correct for height but short. Steered to position north of harbour to attack from out of sun and also on get away course. Heavy A.A. ceased to engage when strike was over Mount Harriet (this appears to confirm previous reports that Japanese are inclined to leave gun positions before bombs released.)
 4. Missing Barracuda. Accompanied strike but photograph shows 4 bombs jettisoned in sea well beyond target which suggests these were from missing Barracuda both life guards S/M clearly visible to A/C no report of rescue received from TANTIVY who should have been approx. 6 miles distant.
 5. No cloud over target area, no difficulty in identifying targets; total bomb load taken over target area was 26 500 pound and 26 250 pound, 3 bombs failed to release another 3 released "safe" 4 jettisoned in sea remaining 42 fell in target area of which 17 were definitely seen to hit selected target.
 6. In addition to fire on slipway fire was also seen on Chatham Island.
 7. Barracuda strike experienced no light flak during run in on target or get away.
 8. Escorting Corsairs. After the bomb release strafed targets including Mount Harriet and Mount Augusta radar stations completely destroying the latter. Radar stations appeared to be like C.H.L.
 9. Visibility poor on return - about 4 miles, but aircraft had no difficulty in locating force.
 10. 57 aircraft were embarked in ILLUSTRIOUS for the operation. Line on deck before strike was 39 of which first 5 were accelerated.
 11. With 51 aircraft in the air availability of only one landing deck caused anxiety and might have led to serious loss of aircraft if a crash had occurred.
- Result of this operation appears to confirm that operating radius for Barracudas with bomb load carried is not in excess of 125'.
(C. in C.E.F. 240301Z.)

U/B dis-
positions.

No. 68. Lettered areas, no fresh information no change in scales of air escort. Indian Ocean. Periscope reported by IDA M. TARBELLI at 0530Z/23 in 005° 45' S. 074° 23' E. may indicate U-Boat still in Chagos area.
(C. in C.E.F. 240714.)

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24.6.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SS. DROTTNINGHOLM Safe conduct vessel DROTTNINGHOLM sailed from Port Elizabeth 21st (route) to Madeira and Lisbon. (C. in C.U.S.Fleet No T.O.O.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M attack & sighting summary. Para. D. 1. Coastal boat sights S/M in 47.37 N. 59.30 W. at 1130Z/20th.
2. R.A.F. T.C. A/C sights periscope in 36.19 N. 49.09 W. at 1157Z/23rd.
(N.S.H.Q. 240834Z.)

SS. PASTEUR. Diversion order.
(Cdre. 10th Fleet C. & R. 241345Z to PASTEUR.)

U/B dis-positions. (N.S.H.Q. 241434Z, Cominch 241553Z.)

T.G.22.10. T.G.22.10 comprising CARD and Cortdiv 48 less COFFMAN conducting exercises.
(CARD 241910.)

Convoy C.U.29. Total 31 ships sailed.
(P.D.New York 241926Z.)

U/B attacked in Gib. Straits 15th May. Your 231621 concur with assessment and credit ac- tion report states planes 1 and 12 involved as indicated. Commorseafron 240920.
(Cominch 241935Z to Admty.)

U/B incidents. Para. C. Patrol vessel made sound contact 18.13 N. 67.16 W. 240510 and gunfire attack on dark object at approx. 300 yards. Object disappeared P.B.M. disappearing Radar contact 18.13 N. 67.16 W. 240845, all times Z.
(Cominch 242057Z.) See amendment 251600Z.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack & sighting summary. A. 1. Aircraft M/110 sighted U-Boat at 1245Z/23 in 49° 23' N. 04° 52' W.
2. A/C H/103 attacked U-Boat at 1330Z/23 in 49° 10' N. 03° 10' W.
3. A/C B/179 attacked U-Boat course 090° at 1404Z/23 in 49° 10' N. 03° 19' W.

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War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
& sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

4. A/C Q/53 sighted U-Boat course 130° at 0225Z/24 in 48° 56' N. 05° 50' W.
 5. A/C B/206 sighted U-Boat course 150° at 0525Z/24 in 49° 04' N. 05° 37' W.
 6. A/C sighted U-Boat at 1500Z/23 in 53° 57' N. 16° 00' W.
B. 1. Fighter A/C sighted periscope course 180° at 0700Z/23 in 49° 40' N. 02° 00' W.
 2. A/C E/103 attacked possible periscope at 0823Z/23 in 50° 02' N. 03° 15' W.
 3. U.S. Fighter A/C sighted periscope at 1330Z/23 in 49° 33' N. 02° 00' W.
 4. H.M. trawler attacked contact at 1035Z/22 in 60° 43' N. 15° 10' W.
 - C.1. U.S. fighter A/C sighted periscope at 1230Z/23 in 48° 51' N. 01° 38' W.
 2. U.S. A/C sighted 3 U-Boats at 1625Z/23 in 49° 45' N. 02° 03' W.
 3. A/C E/304 sighted U-Boat course 000° at 0412Z/24 in 50° 16' N. 02° 15' W.
- Ref. A.M. 231030Z. para. B 4 "unknown ship" was IDA M. TARBELI.
(D.D.I.C. 241210B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 241437B, 241445B.)

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25.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). At 2330B today S.H.A.E.F. reported that Allied troops were holding high ground overlooking Cherbourg and were pressing forward into the suburbs against bitter resistance.

(b). A force consisting of the U.S. battleships TEXAS, ARKANSAS, and NEVADA with the cruisers TUSCALOOSA, QUINCY, GLASGOW and ENTERPRISE, screened by destroyers and preceded by minesweepers bombarded Cherbourg this afternoon. TEXAS, GLASGOW and the U.S. destroyers BARTON, O'BRIEN and LAFEY were hit by shells from the shore batteries; but all, except ENTERPRISE, returned to Portland at 2200.

*Cherbourg
Bombarded.*

(c). A convoy of seven ships and some smaller craft which was leaving Cherbourg westbound was attacked by M.T.Bs. at 0025 today and one enemy ship was certainly and three more probably sunk. A coaster was also sunk by other M.T.Bs. off Cap de la Hague last night.

** 24th?*

Same attack?

(d). Better weather throughout the Assault area today has much improved the unloading situation, though enemy shellfire which set fire to an M.T. coaster has restricted discharge on the beaches in area S.

Enemy action.

U769

1319Z

2. (a). U-Boats. The frigate BICKERTON of E.G.5 sank a U-Boat at (0425B) today 27 miles S.E. by E. of Start Point: 42 survivors were landed at Plymouth.

(b). The frigate GOODSON was hit at (0319) by an acoustic torpedo from a U-Boat about 40 miles S.E. of Start Point and is being towed to Portland.

0405

Casualties.

3. Our casualties today have been as follows:-
ARETHUSA cruiser, damaged by mine from A/C.
L.C.H.185 mined and sunk in area S.
GOODSON damaged by torpedo from U-Boat.
SS. CAP TOURANE damaged by gunfire in area S.

General.

A/U Operation. F.O.E.C. in ROYALIST, with STRIKER, FENCER, SHEFFIELD and five destroyers returned to Scapa at 0624B.

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25.6.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Action with
trawlers.

5. At 0215 today M.T.Bs. 444, 440 and 441 engaged four enemy trawlers ~~east of the North Foreland~~ and set one trawler on fire and damaged another, sustaining only slight damage and one casualty themselves.

*Off Walcheren
(p.650)*

Mediterranean.

6. Coastal forces operating in the Adriatic last night drove a torpedo boat ashore on Murter Island and took 5 prisoners. The enemy is reported to be a total loss. *(ex-Yugoslav T.B., T.7 - Coastal Forces Review (14) p.17)*

7. Operations by the Strategic Air Force today included a hit on a ship in harbour at Sete during an attack on oil installations and marshalling yards; and a destroyer hit off the Adriatic coast. Spitfires of Coastal Air Force bombed Sestri Levante shipyards and others did execution amongst schooners at Punta Croce and San Pietro.

China.

8.(a). 20 U.S.Liberators bombed Hankow docks last night and caused much damage.

(b). 4 U.S.Liberators today mined the entrance to Takao Harbour, Formosa.

Australia & New Zealand.

9. M.T.Bs. last night attacked enemy shore positions on the eastern shores of St. George's Channel and near Borpop. Others bombarded Teop Island (off N.E.Bougainville.)

25.6.1944.
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Report

Naval

Cositintrep No.44, Part Two, Naval.

A. General. Weather has remained calm throughout the day off the beaches, and although forecast suggests wind force 4 or 5 tomorrow it predicts from westerly direction which would not be so serious. HAIDA reported sinking a U-Boat by gunfire in 48 degs. 50' N. 5 degs. 42' W. about 1927/24. Some of crew abandoned U-Boat before she sank.

B. Troops E.T.N. landed. Reports received cover the gale period in different ways for each sector, and include corrections to previous figures. It is estimated however, that the following give the approximate cumulative total including corrections for all sectors in the period p.m. 20th to p.m. 23rd and therefore can be added to the total given in my 230038.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
All Sectors p.m. 20th to p.m. 23rd.	28,205	10,043	24,699
Grand total p.m. 20th	628,045	97,668	224,638
Grand total (D+17)=23rd	656,250	107,711	249,337

C. Casualties. M.M.S.7 mined and sunk* Sword Area about 0900/24.

D. Coastal Command. Five U-Boats were sighted and two attacks made - (1) Twenty miles N. of Ile de Bas and (2) ten miles W. of Ushant, the latter included R.P. with depth charges, and it is claimed may have resulted in a sinking.

E. Intelligence. It is calculated that including coast Artillery and Marine Flak Units, Dockyard specialists and Base Staff, there are probably over 3,000 Naval personnel in Cherbourg. An example of the German circling torpedo has been recovered and sent to the U.K. for examination.

(Ad. Ramsay, 250011B to Admty.).

** incorrect, page 661. MMS.7 safe*

Cositintrep No.45, part 2, Naval.

A. General. At 0900 wind in Assault area S.W. Force 3. Expected to freshen and veer to N.W. later. Unloading situation greatly improved

and good figures being reported. A number of mines were detonated by sweepers yesterday, but mining menace is serious and likely to remain so for some time, imposing considerable restrictions on ship movements. Escort Group sank a U-Boat and picked up survivors 30 miles S.E. of Start Point at 0416 this morning.

Enemy batteries shelled convoy passing Dover under cover of smoke screen yesterday. SS. EMPIRE LOUGH was hit, set heavily on fire and later beached by tug though still burning. 14th Minesweeping Flotilla operating N.W. of Barfleur at 1400 yesterday was shelled by heavy gun shore batteries, which were engaged by U.S. Destroyers WALKE and FORREST. In action of 17 minutes ships sustained no material damage.

Force of British and U.S. Ships under Rear Admiral Deyo, U.S.N. is providing gun support today for assaults on Cherbourg.

B. Casualties. LARGS Flag of Naval Commander Force S mined at 0045 reports no serious damage.

H.M.S. NITH Frigate damaged by bomb during air attack in Gold area last night.

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25.6.1944.
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

C. Coastal Command. At 0155 a U-Boat was attacked 40 miles south of Start Point with unobserved results. Swordfish and Albacores made five attacks on unidentified vessels in Dover

Straits.
(Ad. Ramsay, 251435 to Admty.).

Military

Communique No.39.

Allied troops are in the outskirts of Cherbourg and the final assault has begun. On a 10 mile front extending east and west of the City, our forces have advanced to within 3 miles of the sea.

The enemy continues to fight desperately but relentless allied pressure is steadily overcoming the defences throughout the entire length of the narrow coastal strip.

In other sectors, local fighting has left the front almost unchanged.

(S.H.A.E.F., 251100B to Agwar).

Para. One. In Cherbourg, opposition on perimeter of town continues but further progress of demolitions, possibly ammunition dumps and coastal guns, indicate that he expects end is near.

Para. Three. Accumulative total of prisoners passed through Reception Camps, including wounded in hospital, up to 1800 hours 24 June is 16,848.
(S.H.A.E.F., 251530B to Agwar).

Communique No.40.

The Allies now hold high ground overlooking Cherbourg and are gradually pressing forward into the suburbs. The enemy is resisting bitterly, but is unable to stem our steady advance.

Targets in the Cherbourg area were subjected to a bombardment from seaward this afternoon by a force of Allied Warships.

Coastal aircraft attacked E-Boats in the eastern channel early this morning.

(S.H.A.E.F., 252330B to Agwar).

Bombardment Forces

When requiring to reammunition GLASGOW should be sailed to Plymouth and ENTERPRISE to Portsmouth.
(A.N.C.X.F., 251643 to N.C.W.T.F.).

Covering Operations

Patrols
from
Portsmouth

Leave night positions at first light. MELBREAK join Capt. (D) 17 at 049 degs. 41' N. 001 degs. 40' W. BRISSENDEN join ONSLAUGHT at 049 degs. 53' N. 001 degs. 11' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 250041B to MELBREAK, BRISSENDEN).

/ My...

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25.6.1944.
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

My 242358 para.5. For 001 degs. 09' W. read 01 degs. 29' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 250542B to Capt. D.7, ONSLAUGHT).

ON Portsmouth one para.38 cover night 25/26.
(A) TANATSIDE (G.K.1), ONSLOW (G.K.2), OFFA (G.K.3), BEAGLE (G.K.4) commencing east west patrol at 2230 as far as 01 degs. 38' West southern limit 49 degs. 53' N. returning to patrol 01 degs. 00' W. between 49 degs. 43' N. and 50 degs. 05' N. by 0515.
(B) TORRINGTON (G.D.1) in Z.202 and Z.128.
(C) Unit G.D.2 M.T.Bs. 430 (S.O.) 413, 414, Unit G.D.3 M.T.Bs. 692 (S.O.) 691, 689.
(D) Unit G.A. M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 702, 696 in Z.203 via 270 Casquets 8 miles at 2230. Unit G.B.1 M.T.Bs. 728 (S.O.), 749 in Z.120. Unit G.B.2 M.T.Bs. 209 (S.O.), 208 in Z.121.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 251337B).

ON 1 Para. 52(b).

Eastern Night Channel report 25th/26th.

1. F.U.3 COTTESMORE Z.3. F.U.7 ORWELL Z.7.
F.U.8 LA COMBATTANTE Z.8 north. F.U.9 SAVAGE
Z.9 south - Z.11 west. F.U.2 MELBREAK vicinity 49 degs. 56' N. 00 degs. 14' W. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 east. F.X.1 TROLLOPE Z.13 east. F.U.4 WESTCOTT between 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. and 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W.
Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z Buoy.
2. F.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.1. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.5 2 M.T.Bs. Z.5. F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.Y.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12 east.
F.X.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east.
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, 251826B).

ON 1 Para. 52(b).

Western Night Channel report 25th/26th June.

1. 11th E.G. in vicinity Z Buoy. G.K.1 TANATSIDE. G.K.2 ONSLOW. G.K.3 OFFA. G.K.4 BEAGLE.
patrolling in area 01 degs. W. 01 degs. 38' W. 49 degs. 53' N. 50 degs. 05' N. G.D.1 TORRINGTON Z.202 and Z.128.
5th E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Z.201 and Z.202 west, Z.208 north.
9th E.G. Z.224, Z.225, Z.219, and Z.220 west, Z.221.
1st E.G. Z.222, Z.223, Z.224 north east Z.219 north west.
3rd E.G. Z.215, Z.216 west, Z.219, Z.220 west.
2nd E.G. Z.239, Z.234, Z.240, Z.235.
15th E.G. Z.229, Z.230, Z.231, Z.226, Z.225 west.
14th E.G. Z.232, Z.237.
2. G.D.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.D.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.202, Z.128. G.A. 3 M.T.Bs. Z.203. G.B.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.120. G.B.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.121.
G.N.1 2 M.Ls. Z.212 north. G.N.2 2 M.Ls. Z.205 west.
3. Aircraft all areas west of 02 degs. west including Channel Islands. Swordfish on Coastal Convoy Route.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 251947B).

/ Patrols...

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Patrols
from
Plymouth

On relief by E.G.3, E.G.14 patrol Z.233, Z.234, Z.238, Z.239. E.G.15 and E.G.9 if not searching resume patrols ordered in my 231704. (C. in C. Plymouth, 250601 to 9, 14, 15 E.Gs.)

Information.

Own. Escort groups and coastal forces will be signalled.

Enemy. As in my 201350B. U-Boat not now believed in St. Peters Port.

Intention.(2) Force 26, PIORUN (S.O.) and JAVELIN to operate in Roches Douvres - Minquiers area.

Object (3) To destroy enemy ships and to support Coastal Forces operating in Channel Island area.

Execution(4) Force 26 is to pass Gate at 1900B today and proceed by centre of Q.Z.9 443 and 477 to 180. Start 4, thence through (XX) 49 degs. 15' N. 3 degs. 06' W. to pass (AA) 000 Roches Douvres 4 at 2330B.

(5) Then to patrol in area between (AA), (BB) 49 degs. 06' N. 2 degs. 31' W. (CC) 48 degs. 50' N. 2 degs. 17' W. and (DD) 48 degs. 48' N. 2 degs. 34' W. withdrawing through (AA) at 0500B/26 to take up patrol in eastern half of Z.215 and Z.216.

(6) When Coastal Forces have passed north of 49 degs. 30' N. a.m./26th Force 26 is to return by course of outward route to Plymouth.

(7) Force 26 is to support Coastal Forces if latter meets superior enemy force or call for assistance. Force 26 is to avoid coming under heavy fire from Coastal Batteries.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 251251B to JAVELIN).

P.C.W.O. 120.

(A) Force G.O., M.T.Bs. 664 (S.O.), 676, 713, 678.

(B) 1800B/25.

(C) (KK) 270 Les Hanois 14 (LL) 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2200 (NN) 000 degs. Cap Frehel 10 to arrive 2330.

(D) From (NN) sweep area south of Minquiers east of 2 degs. 20' W. Force is not to pass west of a line St. Malo to N.W. Minquiers buoy between 0001/26 and 0530B/26 unless in emergency or in action.

(E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(F) 0600B/26 from (NN) 20 kts.

(G) (LL) and (KK) to Dartmouth.

(2) (A) Force G.P., M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 736, 726, 727.

(B) 1800B/25. (C) (KK) 270 Les Hanois 14 (LL) 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2215 (MM) 207 La Corbiere 10 to arrive 2330.

(D) From (MM) sweep area south of Jersey to 2 degs. West. Force is not to pass west of a line 151 degs. from Les Hanois between 0111/26 and 0530/26 unless in emergency or in action. Force to withdraw to (MM) at first light.

(E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

(F) 0600B/26 for (MM) 20 knots.

(G) (LL) and (KK) to Brixham.

(3) Units G.Q.1 M.T.Bs. 239 (S.O.), 227, 91 and G.Q.2 M.T.Bs. 96 (S.O.), 94, 92.

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- (B) 1845B/25.
 (C) Units proceed in company through (KK) 270 Les Hanois 14 and (LL) 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2245.
 (D) From (LL) Unit G.Q.1 proceed to close vicinity of (EE) 292 degs. La Corbiere 8, Unit G.Q.2 proceed close vicinity of (FF) 320 degs. La Corbiere 11½. Units to arrive (EE) and (FF) at 2345. Units are not to proceed west of a line 151 degs. from Les Hanois between 0001/26 and 0530/26 unless in emergency or in action. Units are, to withdraw at first light and R/V in position (GG) 288 La Corbiere 12.
 (E) Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
 (F) 0600B/26 from (GG).
 (G) (LL) and (KK) to Dartmouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 251315B.)

Information.

Own. 2nd E.G. Z.231, 234, 235.

14th E.G. Z.232, 237.

15th E.G. Z.229, 230, 231.

1st, 3rd, 5th, 9th E.Gs. east of 4 degs. 30' W.

Force 26 (PIORUN, JAVELIN) and Coastal Forces in Channel Island area.

Enemy. 1 NARVIK, 1 ELBING and several M-class minesweepers in Brest. Several U-Boats in Channel west of 2 degs. W. and north of Brest Peninsula.

Intention. (2) Force 27, TARTAR (S.O.), HURON, ASHANTI, ESKIMO to sweep Brest Approaches tonight.

Object. (3) To destroy enemy ships.

Execution. (4) On meeting at (RR) 49 degs. 26' N. 5 degs. 15' W. TARTAR with HURON, ASHANTI, ESKIMO form Force 27 and sweep through (SS) 48 degs. 28' N. 5 degs. 45' W. (TT) 47 degs. 52' N. 5 degs. 26' W. (UU) 47 degs. 32' N. 4 degs. 35' W. to reach (WW) 47 degs. 40½' N. 4 degs. 27' W. at 0100B/26.

(5) From (WW) sweep through (YY) 48 degs. 00' N. 5 degs. 15' W. thence 330 degs. to 48 degs. 30' N. and thence to Lizard and Plymouth by Q.Z.S.417.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 251351B and 251836B to D.F.10.)

Night patrols 25th/26th June.

P.C.W.O. 120.

(A) (1) G.N.1, M.Ls. 186, 179.

(2) G.N.2, M.Ls. 183, 184,

(B) 2300/25. (D) (1) In vicinity 122 degs. Start 12. (2) In vicinity 080 degs. Start 28'. (F) 0515/26.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 251505B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

(1) Force 27. TARTAR, HURON, ASHANTI, ESKIMO R/V in Z.233 at 1900B and sweep southwards, returning Plymouth a.m. tomorrow.

(2) Force 26. PIORUN, JAVELIN Plymouth 1900 to patrol in Z.209, Z.210 until 0500/26th when shift to Z.215 and Z.216 East proceed Plymouth after withdrawal of coastal forces.

(3) Forces G.O. and G.P. 4 M.T.Bs. each will operate in Z.209 Z.210 from 0001B/26th until 0600B/26th. Forces from Dartmouth and Brixham respectively.

/(4) ...

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- (4) Units G.Q.1 and 2. 3 M.T.Bs. each from Dartmouth will operate as in para.3.
- (5) Units G.N.1 and 2. 2 M.Ls. each from Dartmouth defensive patrol Lyme Bay south of convoy route of zone.
- (C. in C. Plymouth, 251711B).

Intend to patrol tonight on course 050 degs. and 230 degs. passing about 5 miles off Ushant. When released from present duty WREN is to take charge of ships addressed and patrol on longitude

005 degs. 30' W. between latitude 048 degs. 35' and 049 degs. 06'.

(E.G.2, 251030B to WREN, LOCHY, LOCH KILLIN).

Eastern
Assault
Area.

Defence policy for night 25/26th. V.7, 29th M.T.B. 180 degs. 2 miles from position. V.8, (55?) M.T.B. 230 degs. (?1) mile from position. V.9, (?35) M.T.B. 000 degs. 3 miles from position U.14. 2 Hunts in Tunny north R.7 as ordered by

Captain patrol. Q.1 P. extended to C.1. berth. N.3. (2) B.Y.M.S. and MM/S (5 corrupt groups). (N.C.E.T.F., 251211B to E.T.F.).

Patrols
from
Dover.

ON Dover 67. F.N.1 M.L. 252, 276 Z.1. F.N.2 M.T.B. 354, 361, 358 Z.2. F.U.3 COTTESMORE Z.3. F.N.5 M.T.B.611, 616 Z.5. F.N.6 M.T.B. 204, 231, 229 Z.6. F.U.7 ORWELL Z.7. F.U.8 LA COMBATTANTE Z.8 north.

F.U.9 SAVAGE Z.9 south to Z.11 west. F.U.2 MELBREAK in position 49 degs. 56' N. 00 degs. 14' W. F.Y.1 SEYMOUR Z.12 east. F.Y.2 M.T.B.615, 613 Z.12 east. F.X.1 TROLLOPE Z.13 east. F.X.2 M.T.B.706, 710 Z.13 east. F.U.4 WESTCOTT from 49 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 22' W. to 49 degs. 50' N. 00 degs. 18' W. (V.A. Dover, 251225B).

Mining

Mine risk
to ships
in tow.

Consider mine risk to heavy ships in tow would be possibly greater than when under own power and certainly not less. Admiralty is requested to confirm. N.C.E.T.F. 242206B refers. (A.N.C.X.F., 250257B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F., Admty.). Cancelled by A.N.C.X.F. 261042B.

/Your...

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Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Your 250257B. New mines of two types thought to be in equal numbers.

(2) One of these will be actuated by the ship whether under tow or under own steam.

(3) Risk from the other may be reduced when the vessel is under tow provided machinery noises are kept to a minimum and the longest practicable tow is used.

(D.T.M., 251902B to A.N.C.X.F., Info. N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.).

New type
German
mine.
Speed
restrictions.

Speed restrictions to give safety against new mines (my 232341 refers) are amended as follows. Classes of ship are - A. Destroyers, F.M.S., L.S.T., and other vessels up to 2000 tons.
B. Light cruisers and vessels up to 6000 tons.
C. Vessels up to 10,000 tons.
D. Battleships and vessels up to 35,000 tons.

Class of ship Speed through water

20 Fathoms

A	14
B	11
C	9
D	5½

15 to 19 Fathoms

A	11
B	8
C	6
D	4

10 to 14 Fathoms

A	7
B	5
C	4
D	2½

7½ to 9 Fathoms

A	5
B	7
C	3
D	2

5 to 7½ Fathoms

A	3½
---	----

all others blank.

(2) Small craft, trawler, Motor M.S., M.T.B., Landing Craft etc., no restrictions throughout.

(3) In 25 Fathoms it is probable speeds recommended for 20 Fathoms can be increased by 50% and that in 30 Fathoms Class D should be safe at 15 knots.

(A.N.C.X.F., 250439B: G. Message 59V).

As amended by A.N.C.X.F. 261240B.

A.M. 242056 June. Consider policy in the Bay of the Seine and adjacent area south of latitude 49 degs. 50' N. should be:-

(A) Observe speed restrictions promulgated in A.M. 242056, except in cases of operational emergency.

(B) Continue sweeping as at present.

(C) Do not use S.A. gear for self protection.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251201B).

/ off...

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Mining

Off Eddystone Mine detonated by COMBATTANTE in 160 degs. Eddystone 1.8 miles at approx. 1025 today. Presumed type G.O.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 251129 to Admty.).
4 more mines swept in vicinity Eddystone today. Sweep continues.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 252105B to A.N.C.X.F.) See U-Boats.

Cherbourg clearance The following minesweeping arrangements have been made in connection with clearance and occupation of "Watson".

(2) M.S.F. 16 and 31 available in Portsmouth and Portland respectively will be used by A.N.C.X.F. for sweeping channel now prior to the time it will be needed by the port occupation party (C.T.U. 127.2.1).

(3) For sweeping Snag line mines in outer and inner harbours besides M.Ls. equipped with grapnels six L.C.P.(2) fitted with Snag line sweeps will be available in Portland 25th June. The L.C.P.(L)'s should preferably be towed to the far shore. N.C.W.T.Fs. 250043 refers.

(4) 9th M.S.F. repeated M.S.F. with M.Ls. are available for clearance outside outer breakwater. Fleet M.S.F. are not to be used inside breakwater. My 241835.

(5) B.Y.M.S. Flotilla 159 and M.M.S. Flotilla 206 are available for sweeping moored and ground mines respectively inside and outside harbour.

(6) In view of large number of various types of mines expected in "Watson" suggest that N.C.W.T.F. place Captain M/S (W) or other suitable Officer in Charge of harbour mine clearance. If this is not possible A.N.C.X.F. will request assignment of an M/S Officer by Admiralty.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251555B to C.T.F. 129).

Request you will sail 9th M.S.F. with attached M.Ls. 159th M.S.F. and 206th M.S.F. a.m. tomorrow to W.T.F. area to act under orders of C.T.F.125.

(2) My 251555 para. four and para. five refer.
(A.N.C.X.F., 252331B to F.O.I.C. Portland).

New Type German mine

A.M. 221653B and A.M. 251902B. It has been established that these mines are susceptible to long swells even of small amplitude where the period exceeds 6 seconds.

(2) In these conditions it is considered that LL/SA sweeping will be effective against these mines.

(3) Fast small boat sweeping requires further investigation and no action is recommended until trials now in hand are completed. (D.T.M., 251909B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Your 232105.

Lieutenant Wadsley reports mine rendered safe. Unit and parachute attachment dispatched by sea in charge of bomb safety officer from Mulberry B 1600/25th.

(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 251938B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/Examination...

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Examination of all aircraft mines which fall on land is of utmost importance.

(2) All such mines are to be reported in order that qualified officers may be sent to carry out examination and recovery operations.

(3) N.C.E.T.F. and N.C.W.T.F. inform Military Authorities.

(4) Admiralty 231738 refers.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251943B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.).

Enemy Action

Enemy
destroyer

1 enemy destroyer bearing 090 degs. position 48 degs. 45 degs. N. 04 degs. 00' W.
(MATANE, 251321B to Plymouth).

U-Boats

Attack
by E.G.9.

Correction to my 242219B. Begins:
"C. in C. Plymouth - from S.O. E.G.9.
Am in 048 degs. 58' N. 004 degs. 29' W. and have carried out several attacks on echo. Oil covering large area, but attacks have produced no movement and no wreckage. It begins to look very doubtful".
(E.G.9, 250342B to C. in C. Plymouth).

U-Boats
reported

FAME and ICARUS investigating contact in 049 degs. 22' N. 003 degs. 37' W. HOTSPUR, HAVELOCK, INCONSTANT searching with L.V.Z.15.
(FAME, 250359B to Plymouth).

U-Boat
sunk by
BICKERTON.
GOODSON
torpedoed.

u.269

Submarine surfaced after attack with depth charges. My position 050 degs. N. 03 degs. W.
(BICKERTON, 250416B to Plymouth).
U-Boat sunk. Am picking up survivors.
(BICKERTON, 250425B to Plymouth).
(1) BICKERTON and 5 escort group sank U-Boat in 050 degs. N. 003 degs. W. at 0416/25. 42 prisoners landed at Plymouth this afternoon.
(2) 4 more mines swept in vicinity Eddystone today. Sweep continues.
(3) GOODSON torpedoed by GNAT in 050 degs. 00' N. 002 degs. 49' W. at 1519/25. Being towed to Portland by BLIGH. Hunt of U-Boats continues.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 252105B to A.N.C.X.F.).

A/S
patrols

ON Plymouth 5. Sups.
(A) Z.235 southern half Z.234 western half Z.231.
(D) From sighting of northbound U-Boat south west of Ushant on 24th estimate it may be in 48.35 N. 05.10 W. course about 050, at noon today.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 251020B to E.G.2.).

/ Unless...

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Unless searching leave patrol at 0600 tomorrow and return to Plymouth for short lay over. Comply with ON Plymouth 5 section 2 para.11 as soon as possible.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 251051B to E.G.9.)

S.O.E.G.14 251056. HOTSPUR, HAVELOCK and INCONSTANT disregard L.X.B. 41 251017 and proceed forthwith at moderate speed to Z.237, Z.232. At 2000 today take over patrol ordered for Force 28 in my 231704, the latter force proceeding to Milford Haven. FAME and ICARUS will rejoin the remainder of the group in this area after replenishing.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 251222B to E.G.14).

My 251940B. The contact referred to was definitely Fish. Am proceeding 14 miles 252 degs. from position of attack on GOODSON and am then going to sweep on course 160 degs. and 340 degs. throughout night (?shifting) sweep 6 miles eastwards after each leg. KEATS and AYLMER in company with GORE and CAPEL rejoin in accordance with your 251942.
(2) Am not sending escort to BLIGH since she reports she is 3 miles from Portland Bill.
(3) Conditions suitable.
(E.G.2, 252150 to C. in C. Plymouth).

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Have carried out number of Hedgehog and depth charge attacks on asdic contact having submarine characteristics but no movement in 050 degs. 03' N. 002 degs. 59' W. As result of 1st attack an ever increasing oil slick now covers a length of 2½ miles. Oil is nut brown and has diesel smell, but no other wreckage nor dead fish sighted. Am buying position and will continue sweep as echo has now faded as in my 252150B.
GORE and CAPEL still complying with your 252122.
(E.G.1, 252330B to C. in C. Plymouth).

Channel
situation

Activity continues in English Channel particularly in western part but probably only about three U-Boats near Cherbourg Peninsula and three or four between Channel Islands and Ushant and possibly two between Ushant and Scillies.
(D.D.I.C., 251346B to A.I.G.331).

Allied Air Activity

Corridors
No. 6 and
No.7.

A.N.C.X.F. 221439B. Corridors No.6 Selsey Bill to Barfleur and No.7 Christchurch to Barfleur will be brought into use for non-operational aircraft with effect from 2359 hours 26th June. Aircraft are to fly at not less than 3,000 feet if cloud

/ ceiling...

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Allied Air Activity

Corridors
No. 6 and
No. 7.
(Contd.)

ceiling permits. If weather conditions force the aircraft to cross the coasts from seaward below 1500 feet para. 11 of Air Ministry publication S.D.533 is to be complied with and aircraft on passage to U.K. are whenever possible to circle twice immediately before crossing the French coast.

Corridors will be 5 miles wide and will be used by day only from sun rise to sunset.
(?H.Q.A.E.A.F., 251905B).

Movements

Eastbound
sailings

Your 250046. It is again requested that more consideration may be given to timings of eastbound sailings. If movements are to be properly co-ordinated and dislocation of sailing of convoys Phoenix and other Units avoided it is essential that my staff should be consulted before unexpected sailing for the Thames Estuary are arranged. My 161045 refers.
(C. in C. Nore, 251305B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Casualties

FURY

It is understood Director of Salvage will try to float FURY next springtide.

(2) Following action intended:-

(A) C.O. and Care and Maintenance to stand by ship.

(B) T.B.D. returns U.K. shortly.

(3) (A) To remain on board 120 tons fuel complete outfit ammunition all naval forces other than valuables and perishables.

(B) To be landed and taken on N.O.i/c Charge Victualling Stores perishable gear C.Bs. and S.Ps.

(C) A permanent guard is mounted.

(4) The state of the ship indicates she is a major repair.
(N.O.I.C. Mulberry B, 250932B to V.A. Dover).

L.C.Ts. 1071
and 644.

Your 222048. Arrived L.C.Ts. 1071 and 644.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 251127B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

L.B.O.
craft
and fuelling
trawler
casualties.

Following is situation of L.B.O. and fuelling trawlers. L.B.O. operational none. Total loss 14. Salvageable five trawlers. Operational nine. Requiring repairs two. Request prompt return of L.B.O. and trawlers loaned to N.C.E.T.F. in accordance N.C.E.T.F. 101040.
(N.C.W.T.F., 251638B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/ ASA...

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Casualties

- ASA
ELDRIDGE My 241503B. ASA ELDRIDGE requires dry docking for dealing with bottom damage and repairs to steering gear and boiler.
(Admty., 251825B to C. in C. Portsmouth).
- GLASGOW
damaged Report for repair of damage. C.A.F.O. 2849/42 para. 4.
(A) 2 shell hits, one near miss. Details of damage.
(GLASGOW, 251848B to Admty.).
- ARETHUSA
damaged C.A.F.O. 2489/42 para.3.
(A) (i) Near miss bomb.
(ii) Near miss bomb or mine (underwater explosion). Details of damage.
(ARETHUSA, 252125B to Admty.).
- L.C.H.317 Arrival from far shore in damaged condition and anchored Southend L.C.H.317.
(Cdre. Southend, 252138B to A.N.C.X.F.).
- Coasters
damaged. Coasters damaged and heaped on Utah beach:-
PRESIDENT, GRANGETOFT, DONA FLORA, WESTOWN, and JERNFJELD.
(P.S.T.O. X.F., 252215B to D.S.T.)

Shipping and Convoys

- E.C.P.15 (B) 113th E.G.
(E) For British Sector. H.M.S. ST. HELLER.
For U.S. Sector U.S.S. MIANTONOMAH. For Utah 2 ships. For Omaha 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 250002).
- E.P.L.17 My 241545 sailed plus L.S.T. 57, 7, 501, 325.
Departure delayed 1 hour due to defects in three ships.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 250005B).
- E.C.M.13 (B) 107th E.G.
(E) For Utah 7 ships. For Omaha 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 250047B amended 250340).
- E.X.P.15 (B) STORK, EGLINTON.
(E) For Gold H.M.S. GLENEARM.
For Juno 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 250113, 250529).

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.L.17 (B) ROCHESTER, PINK, M.L.473, 465.
(E) 15 U.S. L.S.Ts. for Omaha.
(A.N.C.X.F., 250247, 250509).
- E.W.L.17 (B) LAVENDER, GAIRSAI.
(E) For E.T.F. H.M.S. NORTHWAY with 23 L.C.M.(I).
For Juno 1 L.S.T., L.S.E. 1.
For Juno and Gold 61, 288
(A.N.C.X.F., 250249B, 250601B).
- E.B.C.20. (A) Sailed.
(B) 136th E.G.
(E) For Omaha 17 ships.
For Utah 14 ships.
For W.T.F. 1 ship.
For Omaha for onward routing to Juno 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 250530B).
- E.T.C.17 (B) DAKINS, SUNFLOWER.
(E) For Gold 10 ships.
For Juno 5 ships. For Sword 2 ships.
For Port En Bessin CHANT 4, CHANT 58.
(A.N.C.X.F., 250603B).
- F.T.M.18 Sailing (A) F.T.M. 18.
(B) 101 E.G. for the Nore M.L. 224, 450 for Isle of Wight.
(E) 26 ships, 11 L.S.T. for Tilbury, 9 L.S.T. for Isle of Wight.
(Capt. N.S. 250901B to C. in C. Portsmouth).
- Tankers for Assault area. Following tankers sailed from U.K. for Assault Area GOLD SHELL in E.C.M. 13 W for Utah in place of DOLABELLA E.T.A. 1100/25. BRITISH RENOWN in E.B.C. 20 W for Omaha E.T.A. 1600/25. RAPIDOL escorted by U.S.S. THOMPSON for Utah 1630/25.
(A.N.C.X.F., 251018B to C.T.G. 127.2).
- F.T.C.17 Sailed.
(B) FERNIE, OXLIP to the Nore B.Y.M.S. 2206 and 2167 detaching to Harwich Motor M/S 248 and 252 to Dover.
M.L. 1393 and 1409 to Portsmouth.
(E) Very Corrupt. Motor M/S 139 towing M.M/S 251 (?L.S.T.) 410 towing 303 L.S.Ts. 164 268 damaged.
All 4 L.S.Ts. for the Nore.
(Capt. N.S., 251101B).
- Delays to coasters Your 221741. Delay in return of coasters to Bristol Channel has been primarily caused

/ by...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Delays to
coasters
(Contd.)

by bad weather which has slowed up unloading but contributory causes may have been selective unloading on far shore and failure to include ships when unloaded in first available return convoy.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251212B to F.O.1/c Cardiff).

My 251212B. Our information here is that a quantity of stores remains to be discharged on far shore and that at present there is no justification for taking up additional coasters. (2) Every effort is being made to accelerate return of ships to loading ports but unless turn round is shortened present coaster allocation is unlikely to prove sufficient for planned programme once cycle is again normal.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251214B to Etousa, D. of S.T.).

Convoy
E.M.M.1

Convoy E.M.M.1 consisting of about 12 ships will sail from Belfast to France night 30th/1st. Request you will use escorts which would have been detailed for E.C.M. convoy on 2nd July as escorts for E.M.M.1 from Bristol Channel area and in addition detail one escort to join at Belfast. (A.N.C.X.F., 251219B to C. in C. Plymouth).

F.V.L.16

Sailed.

(B) LAVENDER, BADDECK, GAIRSAY. (E) 4 L.S.Ts.
(Capt. N.S., 251603B).

Channels
for convoys

Refers only to eastbound and westbound convoys.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 251708B).

F.X.P.15

Sailed.

(B) 116th E.G.
(E) 3 ships.
(Capt. N.S., 251830B).

F.C.P.11

Sailed.

(B) E.G. (R) E.G.113.
(E) 3 ships for Isle of Wight one, for Plymouth.
(C.T.G. 122.7 252107B).

B.D.10

(a) Sailed for B.D.10.

(b) Escort - E.G.156, S.O. in 1 - 84 plus WOODSTOCK.

(e) For Cardiff one, for Southampton one, Torquay six, For Portsmouth one, for Poole one, for Fowey one, for Grimsby to join Thames Convoy, 1. For Barry one, for Penarth two, for Newport two, for Swansea three, for Sharpness two, for Port Talbot two.

(C.T.G. 122.7, 252145B).

E.C.M.13

Sailed.

E.G.107 (S.O. in HARGOOD ?) M.L.185.

(No para. (e) W.D.).
(C.T.G.122.7 252208B).

/ (A)...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.C.M.13
(Contd.)

(A) Sailed E.C.M.13.
(E) For Southampton 6 ships and 7 L.S.T. 2 tugs.
For Portsmouth M.M.S.1037. For Portland 8 L.S.Ts.
For Plymouth M.T. OLIVIER WOLCOTT. For Falmouth
4 M.T. ships.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 252220B).

EMPIRE
DORIS,
CONTEST
refusal
to sail.

Tugs EMPIRE DORIS and CONTEST refused to sail in
accordance with C. in C. Nore's 251235B not to
D. of S.T. as Masters stated they had not the power
to tow a Phoenix C. Unit single handed.
(Cdre. 1/c Southend, 252259B to C. in C. Nore).

Organisation and Administration

Allocation
of H.Q.
ships.

My 230045 para.1 (F) delete and substitute (F)
S.O.A.G. and S.O.F.C. Gold from KINGSMILL to
ALBRIGHTON on 26th June.
Para. 1 (L) delete reference to ALBRIGHTON.
(2) Capt. P. instruct ALBRIGHTON accordingly.
(N.C.E.T.F., 251321B to F.O.B.A.A.).

No action is to be taken yet on my 251321 which is deferred.
(N.C.E.T.F., 252120B to F.O.B.A.A.).

Build-up
capacity

Essential to review build up capacity and
especially Ferry Craft position which seems a
limiting factor.

2. Request report on numbers of craft of the
following types L.C.I. (L), L.C.T.(3) and (4),
L.C.T.(5) and (6), L.C.M., L.B.V., P.B.R. Dumb Barges, Rhino
Ferries, tugs which you intend to retain in ferry services and
which are -

(A) Now serviceable; (B) Can be repaired on far shore by
midnight 30th June/1st July.

(3) With allocation of additional M.T. ships estimated maximum
sustained build up will be -

1. Type	2 British	3 U.S.
L.S.T.27	3	31
M.T. Ships	16	20
L.C.T.	20	40
Vehicles per day	3600	4400

L.S.T. figures reflect present policy of increasing allotment
to U.S.

(4) On this basis request further report how many additional
craft you will require for vehicle ferry service whilst
maintaining planned freight discharge.

(5) For your information it is expected this rate of movement
will continue at least till D-plus 42 to make up arrears.

(6) Agreed 21 Army Group replies should be agreed by Naval Task
Forces with respective armies.

(A.N.C.X.F., 251915B to N.C.E.T.F., N.C.W.T.F.).

Flotilla
and group
allocations.

In order to reform the L.C.I. (L) the following
allocation of Flotillas and Groups to collecting
/ areas...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration

Flotilla and
Group
allocations
(Contd.)

areas is to be brought into force 28th June.
Details.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 252119).

Eastern
Assault
area

Your 231723. The following instructions are issued in modification of para.3 of my 221419.
(2) It is intended to withdraw all force H.Q. ships until LARGS is withdrawn your proposal C is approved. When LARGS withdraws the necessary liaison with other services and technical direction of bombardment is to be exercised by F.O.B.A.A. Appropriate staff and communications have been arranged for this purpose.
(3) C.S.10 to exercise General Naval Control of bombarding ships and support craft initiating action as necessary regarding reliefs, security of ships, instructions re expenditure of ammunition etc.
(4) Transfer of C.S.10's flag will therefore not be required except when it becomes necessary for Belfast to leave the Assault area to reammunition.
(A.N.C.X.F., 252321B to C.S.10).

Capt. N.S.
and S.S.

Captains northbound and southbound sailings are now in ROYAL ULSTERMAN in B.47 berth.
(N.C.E.T.F., 252337B to E.T.F.).

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Policy.

ROYAL
SOVEREIGN,
SUNFISH,
UNBROKEN,
UNISON,
URSULA.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN, SUNFISH, UNBROKEN, UNISON and URSULA on transfer on loan to U.S.S.R. are being redesignated respectively ARCHANGEL, B.1, B.2, B.3 and B.4.
(Admty. 250344B: A.Message 226AZ.)

Escort Forces
in W.A.
Command.

I have under consideration the future of escort forces in the Western Approaches Command.
2. It is assumed that the enemy will resume his attack on Atlantic convoys as soon as Channel operations by U-Boats are no longer profitable and/or when his concentration of U-Boats in Norway is dispersed.
3. It is proposed that the normal trans Atlantic convoy cycle be resumed by the end of September. Three additional close escort groups will then be required.
4. Under conditions envisaged in para. 2 and in order to provide adequate support groups for support of convoys and employment with C.V.Es. as striking forces. I estimate that a total of 6 fast groups will be required.
5. Should the enemy be compelled to abandon his Biscay bases it is understood that additional fast groups will be required for operations in the Iceland (C) Channel against U-Boats operating from Norway.
6. To allow for refits etc. it is intended that the paper strength of all close escort and support groups should be 9 ships.
7. In order that adequate preparations may be made and refits (many of which have been deferred) arranged, request early information on the following points A. confirmation of the date given in para. 3. B. Anticipated number and type of escort vessels to be allocated to foreign service by the date in A above. C. Number of support groups it is expected would be required to meet the commitments in para. 5.
8. It is presumed that B and C are governed by the number of ships which can be spared by A.N.C.X.F. and C. in C. of Home Ports depending on the war situation. It would be appreciated, however, if I could be supplied with an approx. forecast on the assumption that the U-Boat menace in the Channel will be no more than sporadic.
(C. in C.W.A. 252354B to Admty.)

Operations.

A/U
Operations.

Scapa arrival F.O.E.C. in ROYALIST with SHEFFIELD, (?STRIKER), FENCER and Capt. D.3 in MILNE with METEOR, MARNE, MUSKETEER, WESSEX.
(A.C.O.S. 250624B to H.F.)

S/M Patrols.

Request you will sail VIKING a.m. 26th June on surface at C.O. discretion routed through VA. 090° Muckle Flugga 10'. VB. 067° 00' N. 005° 00' W. thence to carry out patrol in area bounded by lat. 071° 00' N. 069° 30' N. and long., 007° 00' E. 010° 00' E. entering area from N.W. corner.

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

S/M
Patrols. (Contd.)

2. Diving at discretion after crossing long. 003° 00' E.
3. VIKING will be recalled to arrive Lerwick southward 12th July.
(F.O.S. 251102B to S.O. S/M Lerwick.)

Operation C.W.

My 120012 para. 2. Delete "and Avenger".
(C. in C.W.A. 251210B to BULLDOG.)
My P.C. and S. 051° 59' N. 016° 28' W. 225° 8½.
2. Weather.
(B.3 252001B to C. in C.W.A.)

M.T.B.
Operations.

M.T.B. Operations last night 24/25th June.

1. 3rd Flotilla (without torpedoes), 444, 440, 441 carried out sweep northeastward from 51° 27' N. 3° 04' E.
2. Weather. Wind S.W. 3, sea 20,, deteriorating by 0220 to wind W.S.W. 4, sea 42. Visibility extreme.
3. At 0122 two radar echoes obtained at range 3600 yards in 51° 31' N. 3° 07' E. Unit manoeuvred on to port quarter of enemy. At 0210 enemy consisting of 4 trawlers fired inaccurate starshell and bursts of tracer in various directions. Unit made zig-zag approach.
4. At 0215 enemy fire became more accurate. Unit then carried out 6 runs at ranges varying between 200 and 800 yards concentrating on two nearest trawlers. During last run 441 delivered depth charge attack, result not observed.
5. By 0240 one trawler was well on fire and another damaged. Other enemy ships came to assistance of burning trawler and enemy fire became more intense. Unit then disengaged in view of deteriorating weather and heavy ammunition expenditure.
6. Superficial hull damage to 444 and 440. Slight damage to superstructure of 441.
7. One rating wounded in 441.
8. 4th M.T.B. flotilla carried out patrol close north of Den Helder as it was thought E-Boats recently reported by P.R.U. at Cuxhaven might be on passage to a Dutch port.
9. Very bad weather reduced max. speed of 14 knots. Wind W.S.W. 5/6 sea 45.
10. At 0004 in 53° 01' N. 4° 23' E. object believed flying bomb passed over unit on westerly course.
11. A few trawlers located but avoided in view of object of patrol. E-Boats not located.
12. Consider this patrol speaks well for seakeeping qualities of 71-foot-6 power boats.
(C. in C.Nore 251645B to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

N.Russia to U.K. Service.

Your 241747. With concurrence of Air Ministry the Soviet Naval Staff were reminded by air Attache that opportunity to establish an Air Mail Service between U.K. and U.S.S.R. lies entirely with Soviet

/Authorities...

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity.

N.Russia to
U.K.Service.
(Contd.)

Authorities. Two fast air service by B.O.A.C. between U.K. and U.S.S.R. was stopped in July 1943 by Soviet Government who have since refused permission for it to continue.
(Ad. Archer 250956B to S.B.N.O.N.Russia.)

Scapa
Balloons.

Your 232317 to Admiralty only. R.A.F. Authorities concerned agree to retention of 250 Hydrogen Bottles and to supply you with gas, but cannot provide maintenance personnel. Request you will state what Balloon Flying Trawlers are required.
(A.C.N.S.H. 251950B to A.C.O.S.)

Mining.

Off Alde-
burgh.

2 mines exploded by S.A.type C in 052° 15.3 N. 001° 52' E.
(SPEEDWELL 251100B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats
reported.

Russians report U-Boats as follows by D/F. At 2334Z/24 position 067° 35' N. 010° (00?) mins. E. At 0416Z/25 position 071° 54' N. 011° 25' E. Fixes are reported as reliable.
(S.B.N.O.N.Russia 251240B to Admty.)

Casualties & Defects.

BRIGHTON.

My 241212B June. BRIGHTON on 4/5 power demonstration run developed defects which will take 3 days to make good.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 251037B to C. in C.Rosyth.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ACTIVE.
Persons for
ERISKAY &
GRUINARD.

Following was originally made as my 221250B*
addressed Admiralty, B.N.A.Lisbon, (R) Commorsea-
fron, from F.O.G.M.A. (Q.Q.)

Intend to sail ACTIVE at 2000B/25th for Cezimbra
routed through A. 36.50 N. 09.10 W. E.T.A. 1000B/
26th (201703 and N.A.Lisbon 211832 neither to
Commorseafron) refer.

2. When runner crews have taken over GRUINARD (S.O.) and ERISKAY
will proceed to Gibraltar by reverse of route in para. one (S.O.A.
10 $\frac{1}{2}$) codeword "Newborn".

3. ACTIVE will return to Gibraltar by reverse of outward route.
(F.O.G.M.A. 251258B.) * N.T. in W.D.

South Atlantic.

SS. COLUMBINE
(sunk 16th
June.)

Your 211203 I have interviewed Master and Doctor
of SS. ANGOLA who emphatically states no sign of
COLUMBINE or wreckage. Have not learnt whether
sinking was work of submarine.
(Loanda 250904A to S.O.I. Capetown.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

MATROZOS.

Leave patrol through position 036° 17' 021° 47' about 0501B/27th thence through 035° 44' 020° 07' at 0303B/28th to R/V with escort in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 0501B/29th.

2. Dive by day on 27th then on the surface at 9 knots.

(Capt. D.1 250959B to MATROZOS.)

UNSPARING,
UNRULY.

UNSPARING leave patrol arriving in 036° 49' 023° 29' at dawn 27th thence dive at 200 feet to 035° 41' 023° 15' about 1030/27th. Then dive and on the surface as necessary to arrive in 035° 42' 022° 11' at 0001/28th.

2. (P.55) UNSPARING remain north and (P.49) UNRULY south of lat. 035° 49' between 2301/26th and dawn 27th.

3. (P.49) UNRULY is to enter Aegean passing off Pondiko Nisi. (Capt. S.1 251139B to UNSPARING, UNRULY.)

Position 035° 42' 022° 11' at 0001B/28th proceeding on the surface at 8½ knots to R/V escorts in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 1503B/28th (Capt. S.1 251142B to UNSPARING.)

Greek Navy.

In amplification of para. 3 of my 201205 June from Naples reports indicate that a good spirit is being shown in Greek ships which are being operationally employed or working up and that eagerness is displayed to prove their loyalty to the Allied cause and to make amends for past misdeeds. There is a feeling of resentment against their late leader for grossly misleading them and this in my opinion might well develop once again into something similar to the recent "political" unrest and mutiny. It should be noted that even the worst of the mutineers professed loyalty to Allied cause.

2. I see no reason as yet to modify the opinion expressed in para. 5 of my 201105 especially as there are some signs of apathy in some ships.

(C. in C.Med. 251156B to Admty.)

UPSTART
patrol report.

UPSTART reports at 1141/23 fired four torpedoes range 1500 yards at two R-Boats, one towing the other. Missed. (S.10 251437B.)

M.E.Balkan
Sitrep No.
222.

4. Sea Ops. Greece. 3 personnel and stores landed west coast Peloponnese night 20/21 June and 69 personnel of mixed nationality evacuated. (C. in C.M.E. 251910C.)

M.V.KATINA.

M.E.Balkan Sitrep No. 223. Athens. Agent reports 22 June M.V.KATINA of 100 tons sabotaged. Engines and ship destroyed. 4. Sea Ops. N.T.R. (C. in C.M.E. 261945C.)

/Enemy...

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy
Aegean
Shipping.

1. Aircraft reported ANITA, AGATHE still in Rhodes 2145.
2. Another reported 3 unknown and 2 E-Boats outside Rhodes course 260° at 2150.
3. Consider most likely ANITA, AGATHE not sailing but E-Boats sweeping.
4. Be prepared however.
(F.O.L.E.M. 252307C to Capt. S.1, S.O.51 Force,
(R) VAMPIRE, M.T.B. 315, Q.43.)

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25.6.1944.

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

No. 69 no fresh information, no change scale air
escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 250414Z.)

Proposed
Chinese manned
Corvette.

Your 161045. I see no objection to operation of a
Chinese manned Chinese manned corvette in the Eastern Fleet sub-
ject to following.

1. Security. It is known that leakage of infor-
mation takes place at Chungking and I consider
arrangements will have to be made to censor all
official as well as private correspondence before despatch.
2. Manning. Replacement of personnel will present difficulties
and in first instance ship should be considerably over manned
to allow for wastage due to sickness or other familiarity.
(C. in C.E.F. 250440Z to Admty.)

SS. WILEY
POST.

WILEY POST grounded High Light 113° on sand and
coral no leak towing high water without result
(?according) divers examination ship resting hard
on whole bottom consider necessary to discharge
500 to 1000 tons cargo require lighter or steamer
with labour. Dock full of heavy cargo 3 tons (?cases). 22 (?to)
29 feet alongside ship at high water. 500 tons oil fuel on board
may we pump out 350 tons oil fuel.
(BFXM (CONFEDERATE) 251605Z to Cdre. Aden.)

U/B reported
near Laccadives.

SS. CLAN MACILWRAITH reports sighting ~~S~~ on the
surface in 009° 35' N. 075° 50' E. at 1636Z/25.
(C. in C.E.F. 251701Z.)
Last sight of submarine during heavy rain squall.
(CLAN MACILWRAITH 252050Z.)

Convoy Diego
Suarez -
Tulear -
Diego Suarez 1.

Left Tulear 0930/25th. E.T.A. Diego Suarez 29th.
(N.C.S.O. Diego Suarez 251933Z.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

Stragglers report.

Stragglers arrived week ending 24th June - nil. (N.C.S.O.St. Johns N.F. 251307Z.)

U/B dis-positions.

Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. 251352Z, Cominch 251512.)

U/B incidents, shipping casualties.

*US30 damaged
IS2 sunk*

U.S.S.R. merchant ship ILICH capsized and sank at Portland Oregon about 241200. My 242057 para. C both contacts now changed to para. D also correct position of P.B.M. radar contact at 240845 to 1837 north 67.00 W. Para. A. BOGUE A/C attacked 2 U-Boats area 15.16 N. 39.55 W. at 240034Z and 240256Z respectively. Considerable oil and debris. All times Z. Para. C. U.S.S. STRAUS attacked U-Boat contact 12.38 N. 70.25 W. estimated course 173 speed 4 knots at 242331. (Cominch 251600Z as amended 260216Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No. 887.

June 24th. 14. Corsairs conducted routine patrols Bougainville Island 23rd straffing hidden buildings around coast. Ground patrols with landing craft gunboat support withdrew from Uwaraka area. Supporting craft destroyed several pillboxes killed 12 Japanese. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 250710Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack & sighting summary.

- Para. A. 1. A/C B/206 sighted submerged U-Boat course 360° or recip. at 0945Z/24 in 48° 48' N. 05° 15' W.
- 2. A/C E/311 attacked U-Boat on surface course 150° with depth charges at 1103Z/24 in 48° 25' N. 05° 30' W.
- 3. A/C O/311 attacked U-Boat with depth charges at 1348Z/24 in 49° 04' N. 05° 47' W.
- 4. H.M.C.S. HAIDA attacked U-Boat with gunfire at 1727Z/24 in 48° 50' N. 05° 42' W.

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Sunday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.S/M attack
& sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

5. A/C Q/179 attacked possible periscope course south with gunfire at 0128Z and 0313Z/24 in 49° 58' N. 03° 06' W.
 6. A/C N/224 attacked periscope course 360° with depth charges at 2326Z/24th June in 49° 33' N. 03° 45' W.
 7. BICKERTON attacked U-Boat with depth charges at 0216Z/25 in 50° 00' N. 03° 00' W.
 8. SATYR torpedoed U-Boat which broke in half at 0715Z/15 in 68° 01' N. 05° 08' E.
 9. SATYR sighted U-Boat course 340° at 1920Z/13 in 67° 28' N. 01° 48' E.
 10. SATYR sighted U-Boat course 310° at 0501Z/15 in 67° 58' N. 04° 49' E.
 11. SATYR sighted U-Boat course 360° at 1107Z/15 in 67° 59' N. 05° 25' E.
 12. SATYR sighted U-Boat course 350° at 0612Z/16 in 68° 29' N. 05° 45' E.
- Para. B. 1. A/C sighted U-Boat course 130° at 0225Z/24 in 61° 15' N. 16° 15' W.
2. A/C E/311 sighted periscope course 012° at 1213Z/24 in 48° 07' N. 05° 24' W.
 3. A/C L/502 sighted possible periscope at 1003Z/24 in 49° 53' N. 03° 32' W.
 4. A/C J/103 attacked submerged contact with depth charges at 1542Z/24 in 49° 00' N. 04° 40' W.
 5. A/C D/206 attacked possible periscope at 1649Z/24 in 48° 57' N. 04° 30' W.
- Para. C. 1. A/C reported over U-Boat prior to 0752Z/24 in 50° 16' N. 08° 45' W.
2. A/C M/179 sighted oil patch and possible periscope at 1702Z/24 in 49° 08' N. 06° 38' W.
 3. A/C E/311 sighted periscope, course 130° at 1115Z/24 in 48° 20' N. 05° 30' W.
 4. A/C K/103 obtained possible submerged contact at 1555Z/24 in 50° 21' N. 02° 39' W.
 5. FAME and ICARUS investigated contact at 0159Z/25 in 49° 22' N. 03° 47' W.
- Para. D. 1. A/C P/228 obtained radar contact at 0952Z/24 in 49° 50' N. 08° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 251224B.)

U/B dis-
positions.Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 251404B, 251407B.)

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Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) At 2330B today S.H.A.E.F. reported that heavy street fighting in Cherbourg is steadily clearing the town, and that there is still some enemy strength in the Cap de la Hague area. At 1500B today Lt. General Von Schlieben commanding the troops in Cherbourg and Konter-Admiral Hennecke the Sea Defence Commander for Normandy were captured at Cherbourg; and the Naval Signal H.Q. at Octeville was captured at 1715.
(b) In the Assault Area the wind today has been S.W'ly, force 4. Persistent minelaying by A/C at night is demanding a continuous minesweeping effort. Four ground mines detonated in the Area today, and the movements of shipping are confined to narrow lines and reduced speeds.
(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
British Beaches:	363,616	76,674	160,918 tons
U.S. Beaches:	406,154	49,753	197,259 "
<u>Total:</u>	<u>769,770</u>	<u>126,427</u>	<u>358,177 "</u>

Enemy
Action.

2(a) E-Boats. Three E-Boats proceeding eastward from Cherbourg were engaged by our patrols between midnight and 0200 today, but are believed to have entered Havre.

Two E/R Boats were engaged by M.T.Bs. 706 and 710 at 0342 today close North of Fecamp Pier.

(b) U-Boats. At 0410B E.G.1 (S.O. in AFFLECK) reported that the U-Boat which torpedoed GOODSON yesterday is probably mortally hit 28 miles S.E. by E. of Start Point. U. 1191

(c) The situation in the Channel is rather quieter today; but at 1528 the Admiralty considered that there are probably about six U-Boats east of the Ushant/Scillies line of which as many as three may be east and north of the Cap de la Hague/Start Point line.

(d) A periscope was sighted by A/C at 1501 about 60 miles N. by E. of Ushant.

General

U-Boat
sunk.

3(a) At 2325B today a U-Boat was sunk by A/C 90 miles W. by S. of Stadlandet, Norway, 15 survivors being seen.

(b) Between 1240 and 1331B today the destroyer BULLDOG attacked a U-Boat 30 miles W.N.W. of Erris Head and considers the U-Boat sunk. (U. 719)

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SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

4. Coastal Command aircraft today bombed Viareggio docks (Gulf of Genoa) and harbour installations at Cherso (Gulf of Fiume).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval. Cositintrep No. 46, part 2, Naval. A. General. Wind W.S.W. force 4 off beaches. Bombarding ships off Cherbourg encountered heavy and accurate fire from shore batteries all of which were silenced except one. U.S. ships TEXAS, BARTON, O'BRIEN, LAFFEY and H.M.S. GLASGOW received hits but preliminary reports suggests damage not serious. A convoy of 7 ships and some smaller craft leaving Cherbourg westbound was attacked at 0025/25 by M.T.Bs. who claim a number of torpedo hits. One enemy was seen to sink, three others believed sunk. Later other M.T.Bs. intercepted and sunk one coaster with gunfire. Heavy fire from shore batteries at C. de la Hague caused slight damage and some casualties to M.T.Bs. Enemy shellfire in area Sword which set fire to ammunition coaster has caused restriction to unloading stores only on Sword beaches until enemy driven back from River Orne. Cruisers and destroyers are providing counter fire. Mine which damaged ARETHUSA exploded on hitting water. Enemy aircraft activity continued last night.

B. Troops to p.m. 24th:

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Gold, Juno and Sword	25,000	3,365	19,250
Omaha	22,630	3,513	10,999

C. Casualties. ARETHUSA damaged mine. U.S.L.S.T.28 damaged, collision. SS. EMPIRE LOUGH damaged, beached, gunfire off Dover 24th.

(Ad. Ramsay 260022B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No. 47 part 2, Naval.

A. General. During bombardment yesterday TEXAS, O'BRIEN and GLASGOW sustained considerable though not major damage O'BRIEN had 12 killed, 1 missing,

7 wounded, TEXAS 1 killed, 11 wounded.

E.G. reports a U-Boat mortally hit at 0410 this morning 30 miles E.S.E. of Start Point.

E-Boat activity resulted in actions mid-Channel near convoy routes of which details not yet received.

B. Casualties. GOODSON (frigate) damaged by torpedo 20 miles N.W. of Casquets at 1510/25. Being towed to Portland.

M.T.B.413 damaged, collision, in tow.

L.C.H.185 mined and sunk, Sword area at 1300/25.

SS. CAP TOURANE minor damage, gunfire, Sword area.

(Ad, Ramsay 261451B to Admty.)

A.N.C.X.F. Intelligence Report No. 4.

A. Enemy Naval Forces. Following the fall of Cherbourg the enemy's surface forces west of the assault area will consist of a total of 4 des-

troyers (2 inoperative), 2 E-Boats, and 3 T.L.C.III. East of the area there has been a re-inforcement of E-Boat strength in Havre and movement of T.L.C.III southward from Dutch ports. No other reactions are recorded.

B. Enemy dispositions. Main units, unchanged.

Dutch and Belgian ports. About 20 E-Boats 25/30 T.L.C.III.

Boulogne and Dieppe. 5 E-Boats 15 T.L.C.III.

Havre. 1 ELBING and 1 T/B damaged, possible 10 E-Boats, 5 T.L.C.III

/Channel Is....

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Channel Is. 2 E-Boats, 3 T.L.C.III.
Brest 1 Narvik, 1 ELBING, 10 x 500 ton U-Boats.
Biscay Ports 2 destroyers (inoperative) 25 x 500 tons, and 10/15 larger U-Boats.

C. U-Boat appreciation. Losses of U-Boats in the channel have been barely made good by reinforcements from further afield. Present numbers in this area are estimated as certainly less than 10. Elsewhere they are largely ineffective, the majority still held in Biscay and Norwegian ports awaiting possible further Allied assaults.

D. Composite aircraft. There have been reports from Sword area of a night attack by 2 or 3 fighter-controlled bombers. These are described as resembling Me.109 fighters on top of Ju.88 bombers the latter being released at 600 feet. Admiralty's 160127 May refer.

(A.N.C.X.F. 261629B.)

A. General. During darkness last night enemy aircraft continued incidents of mine dropping in assault roadstead.

B. Troops etc. landed.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores
Cumulative all sectors to p.m. 24th June.	703,700	114,134	285,536
Cumulative (less Utah) to p.m. 25th June.	730,420	119,624	318,146

C. Casualties. Delete entry my 250011. M.M.S.7 now known to be safe. (p.633)

E. Intelligence. Valuable enemy naval documents captured at Isigny have arrived.

(Ad. Ramsay 262323B.)

Air.

Between 2040 and 0115 approx. twenty flying bombs of which five exploded in sea and remainder in Portsmouth, Isle of Wight and South Hants. area.

No damage to ships or Naval Establishments. Some civil damage and casualties. One naval officer in Southsea killed and four civilians in Dockyard wounded by A.A.shells. (C. in C.Portsmouth 260214 to Admt.)

Enemy operations. Between 2355 and 0330 hours, approx. 40 E/A operated over Northern France and Holland, including off and over areas of the Normandy Beachhead where some minelaying was suspected. 85 flying bombs were despatched against this country during the period of which 82 flew over the south and southeast coasts. 31 of these reached the Greater London area, and 14 reached the Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight areas. Claims are made of 32 flying bombs destroyed. (H.Q.A.E.A.F. 262120B to S.H.A.E.F.)

/Military...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military.

Communique No. 41.

The Liberation of Cherbourg cannot be long delayed. Allied troops are fighting in the streets and by yesterday afternoon had reached the sea within a mile of the port on the east side. During a day of fierce fighting with the support of naval bombardment enemy strong-points were reduced one by one and the town was entered at many points simultaneously. The mopping-up of other portions of the original outer defences continues. In the eastern sector our progress in the Fontenay area was maintained and our positions were further strengthened. Further enemy counter-attacks near St. Honorine were beaten back. (S.H.A.E.F. 261100B to Agwar.)

Para. 1. Street fighting going on in Cherbourg at 0600 hours today. Enemy still hold few strong-points in outer defences but in view of virtual encirclement of town consider fall imminent.

Enemy offering strong resistance to our attack southwards from Tilly.

Para. 3. Prisoners of War. Accumulative total passed through reception camps in U.K. up to 1800 hours 17,208. (S.H.A.E.F. 261730B to Agwar.)

Communique No. 42. Street fighting continues in Cherbourg. The Germans are resisting desperately but the town is steadily being cleared.

In the northeastern tip of the Peninsula little opposition has been met. To the N.W. in the Cap de la Hague area there is still some enemy strength.

Progress has been made in the Fontenay sector east of Tilly after heavy fighting and our positions are improved. More than 20,000 prisoners have been taken in the beachhead since the landings.

Dense cloud and fog over the Continent today brought our air operations to a virtual standstill. (S.H.A.E.F. 262330B to Agwar.)

Covering Operations.

Eastern sector. Defence policy for night of 26/27th June.

V.7 180° 2 miles from position. V.8 230° one mile from position. V.9 000° one mile from (A.20) berth. U.14 2 Hunts in Tunny north R (750) as ordered by Capt. patrols. Inside the Defence line. Q.one P.N.3. extended to C.one berth.
2. B.Y.M.S. and M.M.S. minespot in straits Q.
(N.C.E.T.F. 261107B to E.T.F.)

Western...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Western Sector. It is intended to establish continuous patrol to prevent enemy surface and minelaying activity off Cherbourg consisting of three to six P.Ts. by day reinforced by destroyers at night. Units on patrol shall remain south of lat. 49.50 between Cap de la Hague and Pointe de Barfleur withdrawing from gunfire of enemy shore batteries as necessary. Patrols shall report all activities observed ashore as well as conducts and action at sea. Please inform me when this patrol can be established without being endangered by fire from friendly vessels and aircraft. (N.C.W.T.F. 261112B to A.N.C.X.F.)

There will be no patrols of W.N.T.F. in assault area north of Cherbourg tonight 26th June. (N.C.W.T.F. 262025B to Cdr. D/S 17.)

Patrols from Plymouth. Shift patrol to southern half Z.234 Z.239. (C. in C.Plymouth 261234 to Force 26.)

P.C.W.O. 120. A. Unit G.O.1 M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.), 717, 677, 716. B. 1800B/26. C. KK. 270 Les Hanois 14. LL. 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2215. MM. 207 La Corbiere 10 to arrive 2330.

D. From MM sweep area south of Jersey to 1° 56' W. Unit is not to proceed north of a line 270° from La Corbiere or west of a line Les Hanois to S.W. Minquiers, Whistle Buoy unless in emergency or in action. Unit is to withdraw to MM at first light.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. 0600B/27 from MM. G. LL and KK to Dartmouth.

2A. Unit G.O.2. M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 736, 726, 735.

B. 1830B/26. C. KK 270 Les Hanois 14. LL 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2245. PP 292 La Corbiere 8 to arrive 2330.

D. From PP sweep Z.209. Unit is not to proceed south of a line 270 from La Corbiere or west of a line Les Hanois to S.W. Minquiers Whistle Buoy unless in emergency or in action. Unit is to withdraw to position QQ 284° La Corbiere 12 at first light.

E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.

F. 0600B/27 from QQ.

(C. in C.Plymouth 261322 to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Own. 2nd E.G. Z.231, 234, 235.

3rd E.G. Z.215, 216 west Z.219, 220 east.

1st and 5th E.G. Z.201, 202, 206, 207, 208.

15th E.G. Z.229, 230, Z.231 and 226 north.

14th E.G. Z.237, 232. Force 26 PIORUN, JAVELIN Z.234, Z.239 south. Coastal Forces as in my 261322B.

Enemy. As in my 201350B. U-Boat not now believed in St. Peters Port.

Intention. 2. Force 27 TARTAR (S.O.), ASHANTI to operate in Roches D'Ouvres - Minquiers area.

/Object...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Object. 3. To destroy enemy ships and to support coastal forces operating in Channel Is. area.
 Execution. 4. Force 27 is to pass The Gate at 1900B today and proceed by centre of Q.Z.S.443 and 477 to 180 Start 4. Thence through XX 49° 15' N. 3° 06' W. to pass AA 000° Roches D'Ouvres Light 4 at 2330B.
 5. Then to patrol in area between AA, BB, BB 49° 06' N. 02° 31' W. CC. 48° 50' N. 2° 17' W. DD 48° 48' N. 2° 34' W. withdrawing through AA at 0500B/27 to take up patrol in eastern half of Z.215 and 216.
 6. When coastal forces have passed north of 49° 30' N. a.m. 27th June Force 27 is to return by reverse of outward route to Plymouth.
 7. Force 27 is to support coastal forces if latter meet superior enemy force or call for assistance. Force 26 is to avoid coming under heavy fire from coastal batteries.
 (C. in C.Plymouth 261333B to TARTAR, ASHANTI.)

C. in C.Plymouth's 261303. WILD GOOSE and LOCH KILLIN to oil at Falmouth. DOMINICA, LOCHY, WREN to patrol between Seven Stones and Scilly Isles. Remainder to patrol Z.232 and 237.
 (E.G.2 261530B and 262225B to C. in C.Plymouth, E.G.2.)

Patrols from O.N.1 para. 62B.
 Portsmouth. Western night Channel report 16/17th June.
 1. 11th E.G. vicinity 2 Buoy. G.A.1 ONSLOW patrolling in area 01° 00' W. 01° 38' W. 49° 53' N. 50° 03' N. G.A.2 OFFA, G.A.3 WESTCOTT, G.A.4 BEAGLE, G.H.1 TORRINGTON Z.202, G.F.1 STEYNER Z.121, Z.120. 1st and 5th E.G. Z.206, Z.207, Z.201, Z.202 west Z.208 N. 3rd E.G. Z.215, Z.216, Z.219, Z.220. 15th E.G. Z.229, Z.230, Z.231 N.E. Z.226. 2nd E.G. Z.214 south, Z.235, Z.231 west, 14th E.G. Z.237, Z.232.
 2. G.H.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.H.3 2 M.T.Bs. both Z.202. G.F.2 2 M.T.Bs. G.F.3 2 M.T.Bs. both Z.121, Z.120. G.K.1 3 M.T.Bs. G.K.2 3 M.T.Bs. both Z.203.
 3. Aircraft all areas west of 02° W. excluding Channel Islands. Swordfish on Coastal Convoy route.
 (C. in C.Portsmouth 261739B to Ships.)

Mining.

Western sector from 5th to 18th June. OSPREY struck mine (moored contact) 05 June, 50° 12.9 N. 01° 20.4 W.
 TIDE struck mine (acoustic) 07 June, 49° 26.5 N. 01° 04.6 W.
 Mines detonated 09 June.
 49° 35' N. 01° 07' W. (magnetic) 49° 34' N. 01° 08' W. (magnetic) 49° 34' N. 01° 05' W. (magnetic)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

Western Sec- 49° 35' N. 01° 06' W. (magnetic) 49° 36' N. 01°
tor from 5th 05' W. (magnetic) 49° 35' N. 01° 06' W. (magnetic)
to 18th June. 49° 34' N. 01° 08' W. (magnetic)
(Contd.) Mines detonated 11th June.
49° 35' N. 01° 20' W. (magnetic).
Mines detonated 15th June.
49° 33' N. 01° 08' W. (acoustic) 49° 36' 25" N.
01° 05.9' W. (acoustic) 49° 36' 00" N. 01° 06'
45' W. (acoustic) 49° 35' 58" N. 01° 06' 25" W. (acoustic)
49° 36' 17" N. 01° 02' 54" W. (acoustic) 49° 34' N. 01° 08' W.
(acoustic).
Mines detonated 16th June.
49° 34.6' N. 01° 06.8' W. (acoustic) 49° 32.5' N. 01° 06.4' W.
(magnetic) 49° 33.1' N. 01° 06.0' W. (acoustic)
18th June underwater explosions observed.
340° distance 5.5 miles from point K (acoustic)
330° distance 6.3 miles from point K (acoustic).
(C.T.U.125.9.3 260858B to Admty.)
Note. It is believed that all of these have been previously
reported by ships of this unit and represent a composite picture.

Off ^{LA} 2 mines detonated by COMBATTANTE today in positions
Eddystone. A. 151° 1.8 miles from Eddystone at approx. 0709.
B. 078° Eddystone 3.4 miles at approx. 0822.
Presume type G.O.
(C. in C.Plymouth 261025 to Admty.)

^{LA} 2 mines detonated by COMBATTANTE at approx. 1433
today in 084° 4.3 miles and 081° 4.1 miles from
Eddystone. Presume type G.O.
(C. in C.Plymouth 261924 to Admty.)

Area 3 on Your 241235B M.X.June. A. 0135B/22nd June 1944.
22nd June. B. GOATHLAND 49° 21' 2" N. 00° 13' 8" W. at
anchor. C. At anchor. D. One cable ahead.
E. None under way within 2 miles. F. Nil. G. 4l.
H. Two objects (presumably mines) were seen to
drop, making a small splash at 0025. No parachutes were seen nor
was the aircraft which dropped them. At 0135 one of these mines
exploded. The ship, lying at anchor with six shackles out,
thereupon dragged clear by going astern. The remaining mine did
not detonate. Reports were made to SCYLLA.
A. 1326/22nd June. B. GOATHLAND 49° 23' 5" N. 00° 20' 2" W.
course 154°. C. 18 knots. D. "Green" 150° 1 cable. E. None
under way within 2 miles. F. Nil. G. 3l. H. Nil, this was
reported to F.O.Force S. J. No.
(GOATHLAND 261033B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Mine risk Cancel my 250257B. A.M. 251902 refers.
to ships in (A.N.C.X.F. 261042B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)
tow.

/Reports...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

Reports.

The following reports would be of value to Admiralty and A.N.C.X.F.

1. By Hand Message. A summary of numbers of mines accounted for since D day, A. by sweepers, B. by other means including spontaneous detonation, classified as (1) contact (2) magnetic (3) acoustic (4) unknown.
2. By Daily Hand Message Summary as in para. 1 of mines reported during the day.
3. In case of casualties. Information required by signal instead of by Hand Message.
(A.N.C.X.F. 261204B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

Measures against New German Mine.

In order that counter measures against the new German mine may be progressed a very urgent commitment has arisen for towage of the hulk CYRUS from Rosyth to Chatham. Request you will consider diverting tug FREEDOM on completion of towing GLAISDALE to Rosyth or, if preferred, arrange for another tug to undertake this duty.
(D.O.D.H. 261415B to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat probably sunk.

My 252330B. Have regained contact in 050° 03' N. 002° 59' W. Echo sounder gives height above bottom of 30 feet. Consider contact probably submarine but may be wreck. In view of attack on GOODSON intend remaining in contact throughout

night, BALFOUR in company. BENTLEY, KEATS and AYLMER carrying out sweeps as in my 252150B being joined by GORE and CAPEL on their return.
(E.G.1 260120B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

My 260120B. Have now obtained perfect echo sounder trace of submarine. Am attacking to destruction.
(E.G.1 260201B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

*U.1191
sunk*

Consider U-Boat (German) mortally hit in 050° 03' N. 002° 59' W. Have laid Buoy. BALFOUR is remaining in the vicinity until daylight to search for evidence of destruction. Am joining others in search as in my 252150.
(E.G.1 260410B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Can you confirm wreck in 50.03 N. 02.59 W. is a new one. E.G.1 260410 refers.

2. Unless you are satisfied after consultation with S.O.E.G.1 that U-Boat is sunk carry out search with combined groups within 20 miles of attack on GOODSON.
3. E.G.1 resume patrol ordered on completion.
4. Report intentions.
(C. in C.Plymouth 260951B to E.G.5.)

/My...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

My 261531. Closer investigation shows 2 contacts at 3 miles apart both now give off quantity of light oil. Consider E.G.1's attack was definitely a kill. 1st E.G. is to return to previous patrol as soon as KEATS and AYLMER rejoin. (E.G.5 261705B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

GOODSON torpedoes on 25th June. A.G.M. 749A report. A. 25th June. 50° 00' N. 02° 43' W. B. No contact. C. Not in contact. D. Unknown. E. Unknown. F. Zig-zagging at 15 knots course at 1500 290° altered course at 1504 to 325° and at 1512 to 255°. Engine revolutions were unaltered. G. 400 revolution. H. None. I. 1516B Port Quarter. J. Yes 100 feet debris rose to 150 feet. K. No. L. C.A.T. was streamed by BLIGH stationed 4000 x on bearing 020°. M. B.C. 7 sea and swell 11 visibility 12 miles. N. Searching in line abreast ships disposed from L to R. KEATS, GOODSON (S.O.), BLIGH, AYLMER 4000 x apart. O. No. P. No. Q. After torpedoing BLIGH was ordered to assume duties of S.O. and conduct search. At 1550 all ships were ordered to close in as I considered they were too far away. At 1559 attack periscope was sighted at 1000 yards. Range showing 18 inches, bearing "Green" 150° and BLIGH was ordered in to plaster. GOODSON was keeping an all round listening watch on H.E. as she was unable to transmit on asdics but no H.E. was heard. BLIGH was directed by Lewis gunfire but failed to gain contact and fired her pattern with GOODSON directing. Result negative. (GOODSON 261415B and 281059 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Channel situation. Rather quieter in English Channel but attack and other reports received up to 1200Z/26th June indicate still about half a dozen east of a line Ushant-Scillies of which up to 3 may be east and north of a line Cap de la Hague to Start Point. (D.D.I.C. 261528B to A.I.G.331.)

A/S Patrols. My 181821. Intend moving the anti U-Boat barrier eastward to the approx. line Portland-Cap de la Hague as soon as threat from enemy shore batteries has ceased. 2. Remaining support group will be disposed as heretofore in appropriate areas to the westward. (C. in C.Plymouth 261809B to Admty.)

Search for U/B.1. E.G.15, E.G.2 carrying out search for periscope sighted by aircraft in 49 N. 4° 45' W. at 1501/26th. (C. in C.Plymouth 262126B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Your...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Your 261758. 15th E.G. were on the spot in half an hour and carried out operation "Observant" for 6 hours. Have just swept 30 miles to N.E. with both groups on a 12 mile front. If no contact intend to leave vicinity at 0200 to comply with your 261303.
(E.G.2 262330B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Allied Air Activity.

Corridors.

A.88 26th June 1944. Non-operational corridors Nos. S.6 and 7 as detailed in my A.85 dated 25th June are not to be brought into use until further notice.
(H.Q.A.E.F. 261550B.)

My 131738. Corridors Nos. 6 and 7 will be brought into force at 2359/26 for use between sunrise and sunset.
(A.N.C.X.F. 261613 to Admty.)

Port Facilities.

Cherbourg.

It is intended that the following tugs should be employed in initial towage of equipment to "Watson" Details.
2. It is requested that the above tows be sailed as soon as traffic to "Watson" is permitted.
(A.N.C.X.F. 261433B to C. in C.Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth.)

A.F.D.50 for
Eastern
Sector.

400 ton A.F.Dock No. 50 will leave Portsmouth a.m. 27th in tow of ZWARTE ZEE for Arromanches. N.O.I. C. Mulberry's 251050 refers.
3. Repair dumb barge No. 75 should accompany dock.
(A.N.C.X.F. 261515B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Casualties.

L.C.T.441
L.C.T.636.

EASTWAY is returning to U.K. with following craft L.C.T.441 with broken back, L.C.T.636 with extensive hull damage.
(Portsmouth T/P 260240.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties.

EMPIRE LOUGH. EMPIRE LOUGH shelled and beached 2½ miles west of Dover Breakwater. Vessel still on fire fore and aft 2 hours after high water. High water, all vessel from aft to No. 1 hatch under water about one root. Fore end a little higher continues to blaze over high water period. I was unable to board. Vessel is undoubtedly a total loss, but will confirm when fire is out. (Salv. Officer, Dover 261915B to V.A.Dover.)

Shipping & Convoys.

- E.C.P.16. Sailed. B. 112th E.G. E. For Omaha INVICTA, For Utah CLAN LAMONT. (A.N.C.X.F. 260106B.)
- E.X.P.16. B. CRANE, CHELMER. E. For Gold CANTERBURY. (A.N.C.X.F. 260107B.)
- E.P.L.18. B. SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA. E. For Omaha 15 L.S.Ts. For Utah 14 L.S.Ts. For W.T.F. OCEANWAY with 15 L.C.M. (A.N.C.X.F. 260133B.)
- E.W.L.18. Sailed B. MIMICO, BRASSAY. E. For Juno 4 L.S.Ts. (3 with tows). For Gold 3 L.S.Ts. (1 with tow) L.S.T.35 with tow to E.T.F. thence to Omaha. (A.N.C.X.F. 260203B.)
- E.B.C.21. B. 137th E.G. E. For Omaha 12 ships. For Utah 7 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 260424B.)
- E.C.M.14P. My 252335 sailed. (F.O.I.C. Portland 260510.)
- E.T.C.18. B. WALPOLE, ORCHIS, M.L. 901, 236. E. For Gold 9 ships. For Sword 5 ships.. For Juno 3 ships. For Port en Bessin GLADONIA. (A.N.C.X.F. 260634B.)
- E.T.M.17. B. MACKAY, SOUTHDOWN, VERVAIN, POTENTILLA, M.L. 171, 243. E. For Juno 6 ships, 5 L.S.Ts. H.M.S. TARANSAY. For Gold 8 ships, 7 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 260739B, 261217.)

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Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

E.C.M.14. B. 105th E.G. E. For Utah 11 ships, 4 U.S.L.S.T. 682, 357, 49, 25. (A.N.C.X.F. 260752B.)

Channels for Your 251708 June. Concur. (A.N.C.X.F. 261031B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
convoys. Announcement of new routes to be put into operation by all convoys sailing after the receipt of this signal. (A.N.C.X.F. 261847B.)

Speed of E.B.C.convoys. Approval is requested for the speed of E.B.C. convoys to be increased to 7 knots. Sailing time from Scarweather L.V. to be adjusted for tide to make E.T.A. Z Buoy 0600 E.T.A. W.T.F.area 1500. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 261231B to A.N.C.X.F.)
Your 261231. Approved for all E.B.C.convoys to sail at 7 knots and arrive W.T.F. area 1500. (A.N.C.X.F. 261627B to F.O.I.C. Cardiff.)

B.M.L.17. Sailed. B. MIMICO, BRESSAY, NORTHERN FOAM, VICTRIX, FUSILIER. E. L.S.T.63, 163. F. L.S.T. 163 (1) 234 (2) 101. (Capt. N.S. 261630B.)

Convoy E.M.M.1 (from Belfast to W.T.F.area.) My 252219* not to all. Request you will sail convoy E.M.M.1 consisting of 12 M.T.ships carrying 8th U.S.Division from Belfast night 30th June/1st July to arrive W.T.F.area 2000/3rd July.
2. S.O.A. 9 knots. Approx. timing Plymouth 2000/2nd July. Position Z 1330/3rd July.
4. Escort as in my 252219.
5. Route. 6. Ships may join convoy from Falmouth, Plymouth, Portland and Southampton as ordered later.
9. Attention is invited to message 55V and 59V. These restrictions are to be observed when south of 49° 50' N. (A.N.C.X.F. 261811 to F.O.N.I.)
* Not identified in W.R. Further action being taken.

L.S.T.498, refusal to embark P.O.L. deck cargo. The W.O.reports that L.S.T.498 loading at Tilbury on 12th June refused to embark P.O.L. deck cargo in accordance with O.N.A.D. 2 article 2337. If such action becomes prevalent it will seriously affect fuelling plans for ferry craft. Request action be taken to prevent recurrence. (A.N.C.X.F. 261928B to N.C.W.T.F.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- F.B.C.11. A..Sailed. B. E.G.137, S.O. in 127, T.341 plus S.C.1330 for Dartmouth. 3 ships and L.S.T.400 towing L.C.T.210 for Southampton, 3 for Cardiff, 1 for Sharpness, 1 for Barry, 1 for Port Talbot. 2 for Fowey, 3 for Swansea, 2 for Plymouth, 1 for Hamble, 2 L.C.F. for Poole.
(C.T.G. 122.7 262045B.)
- F.W.P.6. Sailed. B. E.G. E. 2 ships for Southampton.
(C.T.G. 122.7 262115B.)
- E.M.P.1. Request you will sail convoy E.M.P.1 consisting of 4 personnel ships as selected by U.S.Army Authorities at Belfast carrying personnel of 8th U.S.Division p.m. 1st July to arrive W.T.F. area p.m. 3rd July. S.O.A. 12 knots. Escort 4 destroyers as detailed by N.C.W.T.F. route as for convoy E.M.M.1. Return destinations of all ships Belfast. Paras. 8 and 9 of my 261811 also apply.
(A.N.C.X.F. 262230B to F.O.C.N.I.)

Organisation and Administration.

- 1st released ships. It is desired that the first escorts released from "Overlord" should include the following:
DEVERON, SWALE, CRANE, KITE, PELICAN, RED POLE, STORK and 3 frigates.
(A.C.N.S.H. 261332B to A.N.C.X.F.)
- F.O.B.A.A. Intend to transfer to you at 0800/28th the control of all Surveying Units and Trinity House Tenders in the E.T.F. area.
2. O.N. and O.N.east 14 section A and B refers.
(N.C.E.T.F. 261845 to F.O.B.A.A.)
- Boiler cleaning of M/S Flots. Cancel A.N.C.X.F.'s 172337. It has become necessary to re-allocate ports for boiler cleaning fleet minesweepers. C. in Cs. are requested to confirm that up to 2 ships and 2 destroyers per flotilla at one time may be boiler cleaned in the following areas or ports. Harwich 1st, 6th and 7th Flots. Destroyers at Sheerness or as convenient in area. Humber 18th M.S.F. Portland 4th M.S.F. Portsmouth 9th M.S.F. Plymouth 14th, 15th, 16th, 31st and 40th. D.Os. of Flotillas will be instructed to detail accordingly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 262130B to Cs. in C.)

/M.T.B....

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Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

M.T.B.
Flotillas.

A.M. 251823B. 1. Intend the following redi-
position of M.T.B.Flottillas. 2. 64th M.T.B.
Flotilla from Portsmouth to Portland. 14th
M.T.B.Flottilla from Portsmouth to Newhaven.
3. V.A.Dover is requested to sail 59th M.T.B.
Flotilla to Dover Command.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 262355B to A.N.C.X.F.)

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

UNSEEN,
UNRUFFLED.

Intend sailing UNSEEN and UNRUFFLED escorted by MILFORD at 9 knots from Rothesay at 1700B/28th routed via searched channels and 180° Barra Head 10 miles to 056° 47' N. 012° W. E.T.A. 0400/30 June. Thence S/Ms. unescorted to westward to comply with F.O.(S) 211716B.
(Capt. S.7, 261431.)

H.F. I am uncertain as to Admiralty intentions administration regarding the future administration of the large number of ships attached to the Home Fleet.

(2) The majority of these ships were attached to Home Fleet to work up for "Overlord" and were based at Scapa: their administration was shared by V.A. Second Battle Squadron whose appointment has now lapsed, C.S.1 and C.S.10.

(3) C. in C. Home Fleet is now administering 7 battleships, 1 Fleet carrier and 2 monitors. Owing to retention of C.S.10 in "Overlord" operational area C.S.1 has now undertaken administration of 10th C.S. as well as 1st C.S. and is at present administering 28 cruisers.

(4) For the moment no particular difficulties arise. While ships are in operational area immediate administration matters are necessarily dealt with locally but less urgent routine matters are referred to C. in C. Home Fleet and C.S.15, request however consideration may be given to the policy to be adopted as ships are released from "Overlord" operations when important questions such as future employment, refits, paying off and leave will arise, the settlement of which would be much facilitated by personal contact between Administrative Authorities and Commanding Officers.

(C. in C. H.F., 261450B to Admty.)

C.S. 1. Until further orders C.S.1 will act as administrative authority for ships of 10th C.S. except BELFAST.

(C. in C. H.F., 261544B to C.S.1, C.S.10.)

The flag of C.S.1 will be transferred from KENT to DEVONSHIRE at 1600 tomorrow.

(C. in C. H.F., 262205B to H.F.)

Overseas
Travel
restrictions.

264A. The restrictions on overseas travel from the United Kingdom to destinations overseas imposed by A.G.M. 954A of 1st May will continue until further notice subject to the following modifications.

(Head of N.L., 261604B: G.M. 264A.)

Transfer of
Warships to
Soviet Navy.

My 241212B. Owing to minor defects to be made good in A, B, C, D no date for ceremony of transfer of flag can be given. I am having a further meeting with Russian Vice-Admiral at

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Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSPolicyTransfer of
Warships to
Soviet Navy.
(Contd.)

1000/30th. He maintains that all stores and spare parts must be on board prior to transfer of flag. Difficulty is being experienced in obtaining some of these, others are not available, being of American manufacture. Russian Admiral requests spares of American design be flown from America. Details of stores and spares have been demanded through the usual channels. These Town class destroyers are not suitable for running at high speeds without the danger of minor break downs and I foresee on arrival at Scapa for working up the probability of these ships developing defects. It does not appear from talking with the Russian officers that they are taking into consideration that these ships are 27 years old and some of them have been steaming for the past three years at moderate speeds on escort duty and that the additional strain put on by driving these ships at 4/5 power develops defects which might otherwise not be apparent. I consider the unreliability of these ships should be explained to the Russian Authorities on a higher level.

(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 261931B to C. in C. Rosyth.)

OperationsE-Boats
attacked.

(2) SEYMOUR on patrol reported 3 probable E-Boats 356° Cap d'Antifer 28 miles course 150 speed 40 knots at 0241. Contact was lost at 0305. TROLLOPE reported 4 small 055° Cap d'antifer 6 miles at 0342 identified as E-Boats and engaged by M.T.Bs. 706, 710. Results not yet known. (V.A. Dover, 261408B to Admty.)

My 261408B, para. (2). Targets attacked by M.T.Bs. 706, 710 were identified as two drifters and two E/R Boats in position 3/4 miles North of Fecamp Pier. (V.A. Dover, 261643 to Admty.)

VORACIOUS
Patrol.

My 201358, para. 1(B). VORACIOUS is to be escorted to 059° 00' N. 001° 00' W., thence independent on surface at discretion to patrol line mid point 058° 30' N. 000° 50' E., length 40 miles, direction 045° 225°. (F.O.(S), 261529B to Capts. (S) 3, (S) 9.)

Enemy IntelligenceGerman
warships.

(1) HIPPER or PRINZ EUGEN.
(A) Vessel reported as HIPPER in my 221729 para. A (4) has now been reported as PRINZ EUGEN by N.A. Helsingfors. He makes no mention flying flag of C. in C.

(B) Same vessel was sighted by Naval Air R/C at 118 (sic) on June 23rd N.W. of Dago on course 190° without any escort being visible.

(C) One heavy cruiser was sighted by Air R/C off Hela at 0745 June 24th. All B.2.

/SCHEER ...

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26.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSEnemy Intelligence

German warships. (Contd.) SCHEER, LÜTZOW one old battleship, NÜRNBERG and KÖLN were sighted carrying out exercises at battle practice target in Danzig Bay at 0530 June 21st. B.2.
(3) 1 (one) (corrupt group) battleship 1 old battleship, KÖLN and target vessel probable LOTHRINGEN were carrying out gunnery exercise off Hela at 0620 June 22nd. B.2.
(4) 2 large warships and 12 smaller warships 1 sighted in Danzig Bay at 0850 on June 23rd. B.3.
(5) 1 KARL GALSTER class destroyer arrived Abo Area yesterday evening June 25th. B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 261826 to Admty.)
O.I.C. Comment:
Para. 1. NAS. 221729, para. 4 stated Finns had reported HIPPER in Abo on 20th June and was known not to have left since. EUGEN was not seen at Gdynia, Danzig or Swinemunde by P.R.U. on 19th and it is considered probable that she is operating in the Abo Area.
Para. 2. These reports are considered probably correct.

U-Boats

Operation C.W. Proceed to search for U-Boat transmitting within 20 miles of 54° 20' N. 11° 00' W. at 0213B/26.
U-Boat believed sunk by BULLDOG. (C. in C. W.A., 260244B to INMAN.)
By D/F at 0013Z/26 position of German U-Boat was within 30 miles of 54° 20' N. 11° W. (D.D.I.C., 260254B to INMAN.)
Your 260244. Am sweeping area 10 miles from position (XX). Reference position (XX) has been established in 054° 20' N. 011° 00' W.
Liberator aircraft SEMK in company. Request information U-Boat inward or outward bound. Reference WAGM 001 N unsuitable. W.R. 5571 0074.
(INMAN, 260809B to C. in C. W.A.)
My 260(?)237, 433 or 809)B. 15th Group remaining within 10 miles 054° 20' N. 011° 00' W., searching. BULLDOG and AWE investigating H/F D/F bearing 010° from ST. THOMAS. Nothing heard from motor. My P.C.S. 054° 20' N. 010° 56' W., 355°, 10 knots. Weather.
(INMAN, 261215B to C. in C. W.A.)
D/F fix now considered unreliable.
(2) Your 260809. Proceed forthwith to join and sweep ahead of O.N.S. 242.
(C. in C. W.A., 261317B to INMAN.)
BULLDOG, AWE attacking confirmed submarine in 054° 34' N. 010° 09' W. Remainder of group in vicinity. One Sunderland and one Liberator in company.
(INMAN, 261339B to C. in C. W.A.)
My 261339B. BULLDOG attacked. 3 hits with hedgehog at 300 feet. Contact lost. Propose remaining in vicinity re your 261317B.
(INMAN, 261429B to C. in C. W.A.)
In view of your 261339 cancel my 261317.
(C. in C. W.A., 261432B to INMAN.)

/My ...

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26.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSU-Boats

Operation C.W. U-Boat believed sunk by BULLDOG. (Contd.)

My 261429B. No contact gained after BULLDOG's 3 hits. BULLDOG detached to remain in 054° 34' N. 010° 09' W. Am sweeping with remainder to south-west on assumption U-Boat damaged. Request further instructions. Weather moderating.
(INMAN, 261555B to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 261215. Report forthwith time and position from which ST. THOMAS obtained H/F D/F bearing.

(2) Your 261429 U-Boat may be on bottom. Attention is called to value of echo sounding C.B. 4097, page 196 to 199 refers.

(3) Your 261339 report any evidence of presence of U-Boat.

(4) Check and repeat last sentence of your 261429.
(C. in C. W.A., 261555B to INMAN.)
Your 261555B. H/F D/F bearing on 10° was obtained by ST. THOMAS when in 54° 12' N. 11° 03' W. at 1007/26th. At 1615B BULLDOG has reported large patch of oil in 54° 35' N. 11° 02' W. Am searching area. All ships in company are carrying out barrage attack over position. Check and repetition of my 261429B. "Propose remain in vicinity reference your 261317B".
(INMAN, 261902B to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 261555B. Oil patch now is 2 miles by 700 yards. No further contact. Deepest depth charge attack carried out by ships. BULLDOG considers submarine sunk in which I concur. Amend position in my 261555B to read 054° 34' N. 011° 04' W. "No bottom" obtained in any attack. Am sweeping towards area C returning to 054° 34' N. 011° 04' W. during dark hours. No evidence of Gnats or torpedoes. Request further instructions.
(INMAN, 261945B to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 261555. Continue to sweep with 3 ships within 25 miles of contact commencing to south-westward.

(2) OXFORD CASTLE and one other joining BULLDOG. Experience shows that accurately placed Squid pattern is a most effective means of obtaining wreckage from bottomed U-Boat. (G) or wreck.

(3) Attention is called to A.C.I. 323 para. 8 (a) (1) (4). No reply yet received to my 261555.
(C. in C. W.A., 262041B to INMAN.)
Report forthwith time and position of your hedgehog attack.
(C. in C. W.A., 262222B to BULLDOG.)
Your 262222. (A) Position of 3 attacks within 2 miles 055° 33' N. 011° 02' W.
(B) Attacks took place 1240B, 1252B, 1331B.
(C) In first and second attacks bombs exploded on bottom after 120 seconds. Third attack 3 explosion took place after 13 seconds, remainder exploded 95 seconds later.
(BULLDOG, 262305 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 262222. 054° 34' N. 011° 04' W. at 1332B.
(INMAN, 262310B to C. in C. W.A.)

U-Boat sunk by A/C. Nr.2. My Nr.1. Submarine sunk, returning to base, 3 engines.
(A/C 816 Sqdn. F.A.A., 262325B to 18 Group.)
Nr.4. U-Boat sunk 62° 03' N. 01° 45' E., 15 survivors.
(A/C 816 Sqdn. F.A.A., 262350B to 18 Group.)

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26.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSCasualties and Defects

M.T.B. 734
sunk.
M.T.B. 751
damaged.

My 251146 and 251607 and Manston's from Orange No. 06/26th June. There seems little doubt that the 4 E/R Boats reported by Swordfish A/819 at 0110B and bombed at 0205B were the four M.T.Bs. of Nore Unit, B.5. A near miss holed M.T.B. 734 which subsequently sank, and another damaged 751. One rating wounded.

(2) The position given by Swordfish at 0110 was within $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of C/F patrol position and S.O. M.T.Bs. reports locating aircraft by radar just before 0145. Also at 0145 and 0153 two flares were dropped near unit and at 0205 two explosions occurred resembling bombs or shells rather than mines since large flash accompanied each explosion.

(3) In view of my 251146 and 251607 it is not understood why Swingate did not appreciate that the 4 boats reported by Swordfish at 0110 were almost certainly friendly. Not only was this not appreciated but a Beaufighter was sent from Manston to attack.

(4) Request this may be investigated.

(C. in C. Nore, 261215B to V.A. Dover.)

My 261215. Report on sinking of M.T.B. 734 today.

(1) Explosion occurred close astern. 734 at once began to fill aft and in engine room which was on fire. All engines out of action and engine room had to be evacuated.

(2) M.T.B. 612 took 734 in tow three times but each time tow parted. In meantime a demolition charge on forward engine room bulkhead had detonated without having been fired. Faster flooding ensued and it was then decided that ship could not be saved.

(3) 612 took off crew and all S.Ps. and C.Bs.

(4) Two torpedoes were fired at 734 without result and Unit opened fire with guns. Fire spread and at 0442 734 blew up in $51^{\circ} 30.6' N. 2^{\circ} 55.9' E.$

(5) Casualties. One seriously and 6 slightly wounded. All ratings from 734.

(6) Possible shaft and electrical damage to 751.

(C. in C. Nore, 261632B to Admty.)

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26.6.1944.
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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

QUEEN.

Request instructions QUEEN estimated ready depart
Casa June 29th. Your 231350B May refers.
(C.M.S.F.F., 261225B to Admty.)
Your 261225. Request you will sail QUEEN to
join O.S.81 for Freetown.
(D.O.D.(F), 262237B to Commorseafron.)

South Atlantic

M.V. DUNNOTTAR Diversion order.
CASTLE. (F.O.C.W.Af., 261039Z to DUNNOTTAR CASTLE.)

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MondayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

HOWE. Ref. A.M. 210008. Intend HOWE shall stop at Algiers and Port Said passing through Straits of Gibraltar during dark hours.
(2) If necessary to refuel U-class destroyers at Gibraltar 3 destroyers of 13th D.F. will R/V HOWE off Europa Point and remain in company out of sight of land to East of Gibraltar until fleet destroyers rejoin.
(C. in C. Med. 260958B to Admty.)

Bomb object. Your 232030. Object identified as Italian 500 K.G. RO G.P. time bomb.
(Navdet Naples, 261012 to Civitavecchia)

VAMPIRE, UNRULY. P.72 VAMPIRE leave patrol at dusk 28th passing North of Stampalia and west of Anaphi to arrive in 035 degs. 49' 023 degs. 29' at dawn 30th thence diving at 200 feet to 035 degs. 4' 023 degs. 15'. Thence as necessary to arrive position 035 degs. 42' 022 degs. 11' at 0001/1st.
(2) P.49 UNRULY proceed direct patrol on Rhodes-Leros route between latitudes 036 degs. 53' and 036 degs. 30' westwards of a line 025 degs. from Kandeliusa. Enter your area from southwards at 2202/28th.
(Capt.(S) 1, 261242B to VAMPIRE, UNRULY)

Force N. S.O. Force N. 221421/. Direct that BJ unit 5 and attached R.C.M. Unit be detached from temporary duties with Force N. Desire they remain at present base pending developments awaited operations. Request by interested commands for unit or any component part to assist in any intermediate special operation to be made direct to me. S.O. Force N. pass to C.O.B.J. Unit 5.
(Com. 8th Fleet, 261520B to C.T.G.81.4)
/ Not identified in War Registry.

Enemy Vessels transiting Dardanelles. My 241122C / Vessels still here.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 261651C).
/ Not identified. Possibly 241225 intended re 4 Danube barges.

ANITA, AGATHE. Destroyers not operating to-night.
ANITA and AGATHE unlikely to sail before night 28th/29th due to lack of escorts.
(Capt.(S) 1, 261744 to VAMPIRE, (R) UNRULY.)

Naval bombardment procedure. Reply to A.M. 201625 para.7.
(C. in C. Med. 261835)

UNSWERVING. Proceed with all despatch to patrol in vicinity position 253 degs. BB 10 miles.
(2) Most important you remain unseen.
(Capt. (S) 1, 261930 to UNSWERVING)

Enemy /...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Enemy
Convoy.

P.R.U. shows ORION, CAROLA, DOXA, KALYDON and
2 R Boats had left Leros by 0730 to-day.
● (Capt. (S) 1, 261945B to VIGOROUS, UNSWERVING.)

Situation
Report
No.384.

(1) Night 20th/21st June M.T.B's had unsuccessful
action with 4 F lighters off Pesaro.
(2) Coastal Force encountered 2 destroyers south-
west of Genoa night 22nd/23rd. June and night
23rd/24th. June engaged unknown enemy vessel
between Spezia and Genoa both actions without

result.

(3) M.T.B's night 24th/25th. drove T.B. ashore on Murter Island
and took 5 prisoners. Enemy a total loss, no damage or
casualties.

(4) UNIVERSAL reports sinking A/S vessel off Riou Island on
21st June and 6000 tons and 2000 tons ships in Cassis on 22nd.

(5) CURIE reports bombarding shore battery near Port Vendres on
21st. 14 hits 3 large explosions followed.

(C. in C. Med. 262157)

2 liners
and A/S
vessel
sunk by
UNIVERSAL.

UNIVERSAL reports.

(1) At 2226/21 fired one torpedo at stationary
250 ton A/S Yacht range 450 yards. Vessel
disintegrated.

(2) At 1605/22 fired four torpedoes range 3500
yards at 12,000 ton and 6,000 ton liners anchored
in Cassis Bay. Two hits on each target were
seen. The larger ship turned over on port side

and rested on bottom. The smaller had her back broken. Stern
on bottom, bows protruding.

(S.10, 262335B amended 270114)

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B No.70. Area G and Area E south of 012° N. SS.
dispositions. CLAN MACILWRAITH reported sighting U-Boats on the
surface south-west of Cor in 009° 35' N. 075° 50'
E. at 1636Z/25th June. Scale of air escort Y.
Other areas no fresh information. No change in
scale of air escort.
(C. in C. E.F., 260350Z.)

Water The need for a small mobile water tanker to
supply replenish EMPIRE TAJ is now urgent.
Khor Kuwait. EMPIRE TAJ cannot leave Khor Kuwait to replenish
at Abadan as fuel stocks at Khor Kuwait are
insufficient to supply escort vessels in her
absence.

Average weekly consumption is 500 tons and existing scheme of
replenishing is to divert an occasional merchant ship which
might be able to supply up to 100 tons. These supplies are
naturally spasmodic and cannot be guaranteed.
All endeavours to find a suitable ship in the Eastern Theatre
Lane so far proved unsuccessful.
Request therefore very early consideration be given to immediate
supply of a small tanker for water ferrying duty.
(C. in C. E.F., 260403Z to Admty.)

GENERAL Change of route. Arrangements for R/V with
RANDALL. RACEHORSE and RAIDER.
(C. in C. E.F., 261116Z.)

U/B report. U-Boat (German) indicated by D/F on 5580 k/cs at
2110Z/26th June within 150 miles of 006° S. 087° E.
(C. in C. E.F., 262309Z.)

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26.6.1944.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesO.N.F.241
A/Cs. in
distress.

My 261020 ACAVUS reports second aircraft not heard since 0830Z. Have sent MONTREAL to position possible crash 49.09 N. 48.37 W. given by ACAVUS. NORTH BAY standing by ADULA who reports her aircraft in distress last heard within 2 miles of ADULA. Weather report.
(S.O. C.4, 261135Z.)

My 261010 ADULA in 48.55 N. 48.27 W. searching for Swordfish minus E with NORTH BAY in company. NORTH BAY reports sighting piece of propeller. Intend detaching ATHOLL to join MONTREAL in search for aircraft from ACAVUS.

(S.O. C.4, 261232Z.)

MONTREAL has rescued three airmen from ACAVUS Swordfish alive. Am ordering her to return St. Johns forthwith in company with ATHOLL. ACAVUS has rejoined convoy.

(S.O. C.4, 261813Z.)

Your 261443Z.

- (1) MONTREAL and ATHOLL carrying out box search from position 49.09 N. 48.37 W. given by ACAVUS. My 261135Z refers.
- (2) NORTH BAY with ADULA carrying out artificial respiration. ADULA's Medical Officer on board. Situation appears hopeless.
- (3) BRANDON will escort ships to St. Johns ordered in F.O.N.F. 251111Z.
- (4) Intend proceeding with COLLINGWOOD ? to join MONTREAL unless escort required for ACAVUS until she rejoins convoy.
(C.4, 261810Z to F.O.N.F.)

U/B
dispositions.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 261350Z, Cominch, 261537Z.)

T.G. 21.9.

Task Group 21.9 reconstituted MARBLEHEAD, AMESBURY, Cortdiv 19 less RICH, MARCHAND, Cortdiv 20 AUCILLA escort convoy T.C.U.30 departing New York and Boston 2-3 July for U.K. and returning escorting U.C.T.30.
(C. in C. Lent, 261617Z.)

12 Soviet
A/S, M.Ls.

Two groups, each of 6 Soviet A/S motor launches, should arrive St. Johns about 6th and 11th July.
(2) They are required to make the onward passage to North Russia via U.K. and it is intended that they should accompany an H.X. convoy.

(3) Endurance is 2000 miles at 12 knots.

(4) Request necessary arrangements may be made for supply of

(A) Passage charts as required. (B) Food, water and diesel fuel on passage.

(5) In view of the small size of these vessels it is considered that a special escort is required in the event of damage etc. As the normal convoy escort cannot be spared for this duty use should be made of maritime frigates due to complete and shake down at Bermuda in July. Any delay to the Soviet vessels must be accepted while waiting for escort. Two frigates should be detailed for each group.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 261635B to N.S.H.Q.)

/SS. VAV, ...

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

SS. VAV,
FORT BINGER.

New York reports SS. VAV (Nor.) and FORT BINGER ex O.N.S.239 in collision June 22nd. Require considerable and slight repairs respectively. (N.S.H.Q., 261920.)

O.N.M.240,
U/B
sighted.

Suspected submarine sighted by merchant ship second ship sighted whale same bearing. ST. BONIFACE, DUNDAS remaining in area rejoining by dawn 27th if no further contact position 39° 41' N. 67° 10' W. Weather report. (ST. BONIFACE, 262015Z.) Enemy submarine sighted in 039° 45' N. 066° 55' W. (ST. BONIFACE, 262045Z.)

U/B
incidents.

Para. (D). P.B.M. Sonobuoy contact 12.32 N. 59.57 W. 1900Z/25. (Cominch, 262015Z.)

Australia and New Zealand.

Digest
? 888.

(9) M.T.Bs. operating in Geelvink Bay night 24th/25th destroyed one barge laden with ammunition sank another barge off Noemfoor Island. Other boats sank one strafed two other barges vicinity Manokwari. Other M.T.Bs. contacted possible enemy submarine north-west of Biak Island heading West.

(10) Same night similar craft strafed enemy motor transport and barge hideouts along Wewak-Aitape coast silencing shore batteries. (14) Night 23rd/24th landing craft gunboats encountered barge convoy escorted by single escort barge off central west coast New Ireland destroying escort barge driving one other barge on to beach. Next morning four New Zealand Venturas attacked five camouflaged barges same area demolishing two probably destroying remaining three. One bomb landed in jungle nearby causing explosion with large sheet of flame. Later Corsairs from Green Island strafed burned wrecked barges also bombed two other barges further north. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 260740.)

Cape Otway
W.S.S.

Cape Otway war signal station closed down 10th June. (A.C.N.B., 261148B.)

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. (A) (1) Br. CLAN MACILWRATH sighted U-Boat
at 1636Z/25th May (June intended) in 09° 35' N.
75° 50' E.

(2) A/C D/333 reported U-Boat survivors in water
prior to 2050Z/24th June in 62° 55' N. 00° E.

(3) A/C sighted U-Boat at 1449Z/25th in 50° 30' N.

03° 46' W.

(4) A/C saw destroyer dropping depth charges at 1828Z/25th in
49° 52' N. 01° 00' W.

(5) H.M. Ship *Woodson* torpedoed at 1320Z/25th in 50° 00' N. 02° 49' W.

Para. (B) (1) A/C B/103 attacked U-Boat contact with bombs at
0720Z/25th in 49° 17' N. 03° 22' W.

(2) A/C L/224 attacked oil slick with 2 depth charges at 1103Z/
25th in 49° 00' N. 03° 34' W.

(3) E.G.1 attacked contact at 2130Z/25th in 50° 03' N. 02° 59' W.
(D.D.I.C., 260916Z.)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 261520B, 261527B.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). S.H.A.E.F. reports that Cherbourg was liberated last night; but at 2330 enemy forces were still holding out in the Maupertus Airfield east of Cherbourg and also in the N.W. tip of the Peninsula. A U.S. Port Clearance party with mine-sweepers began work at Cherbourg today.

(b). In the assault area a W.S.W'ly wind force 5 has been blowing today on the beaches; minelaying by enemy A/C continued during last night; and the sailing of "Whale" Units was prevented by the weather.

(c). In the western sector no attempt will be made to rebuild the damaged Mulberry A harbour on the original plan, and no piers will be built there, but the existing Corncob breakwater will be strengthened to provide a two-fathom shelter for small craft.

(d). In the eastern sector the Mulberry harbour will be completed as far as possible on the original plan.

Enemy Action.

2. (a). At 0145B a force of 2 M-class minesweepers and about three trawlers was engaged 10 miles S.E. by E. of La Corbiere, Jersey, by M.T.Bs. 673, 677, 717 and 716 which inflicted much damage on the enemy and possibly sank one minesweeper. One rating was killed in M.T.B. 673 and one wounded in M.T.B. 677 and 676.

(b). At 0245 an enemy L.C.T. was attacked by another M.T.B. Patrol off Cap d'Antifer and is claimed damaged.

(c). U-Boats. At 1335B today the Admiralty considered that there were still probably two U-Boats between the Assault area and the Isle of Wight, one among the Channel Islands, one or two between Ushant and Lands End, and two or three off Ushant.

(d). At 1605B the corvette PINK was damaged by an explosion consistent with that of a "Gnat" torpedo about 18 miles E.N.E. of Cap Barfleur and is being towed to Portsmouth.

(e). New Type ("Oyster") Mines. Some of the enemy mines now being laid by A/C in the assault area embody a new principle of non-contact firing operated by the passage of a ship. Such mines are to be known as Oyster mines; and new speed restrictions in respect of them were issued by the Admiralty today.

(f). Two mines were swept and two self-detonated in the assault area today, and two more off the Eddy-stone.

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

General.

2 trawlers
sunk.

3. At 0307 today six M.T.Bs. of the 58th Flotilla attacked an enemy patrol of four trawlers off Oostgat in the Schelde Estuary and sank two of them.

Mediterranean.

4. ULTOR today sank a 3000 ton merchant ship and a 7000 ton tanker off Nice. Both ships were heavily escorted.

Italy west.

5.(a). Aircraft bombed the shipyards at Sestri Levante (near Genoa) last night.
(b). P.T.boats operated in the Leghorn/Spezia area last night, and other coastal forces were on patrol near Vada Rocks. M.T.B.640 was sunk by a mine, apparently on the latter patrol.

Adriatic.

6. Ancona docks, Porto Corsini and Corfu harbour were bombed last night, and two schooners were sunk off Yugoslavia.

Aegean.

7.(a). The Coastal Air Force attacked targets along the coasts of Greece and Corfu today.
(b). Rhodes harbour was attacked last night and vessels at Sitia, Crete today.

East Indies.

C.J/J.C.
convoys.

8.(a). With the present shipping congestion at Colombo the retention of ships in Colombo-Calcutta convoys causes considerable slowing down in turn round and makes it necessary to anchor as many as 40 ships outside the harbour at a time. This concentration provides a tempting target for a determined U-Boat commander.
(b). In these circumstances and since there has been no evidence of U-Boats operating off the south and

/east...

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SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

C.J./J.C.
convoys.
(Contd.)

east coasts of Ceylon or the east coast of India since the torpedoing of SS. EL MADINA on 3rd* March C. in C.E.I. intends to release shipping from C.J./J.C. convoys.

* H.S. Note - EL MADINA sunk Nov 16.

TANTIVY,
patrol report.

9. During the raid on Port Blair on 21st June TANTIVY was employed on air/sea rescue duty, but sighted nothing. TANTIVY laid 12 mines successfully, but in other respects her Third Far East Patrol was blank.

Indian Ocean
escorts.

10. 4 A.A. sloops and 6 frigates have been nominated to reinforce the Indian Ocean escorts. The first two are expected to leave the U.K. in the middle of July.

Australia & New Zealand.

11. M.T.Bs. operated successfully last night against barges around Muschu Island (near Wewak, New Guinea), destroying 15.

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- Capture of Enemy Commanders. Ref. Cositintrep 48. Add following special information. Lieut. General Von Schlieben Comd. Tps in Cherbourg and Konter Admiral Hennecke Sea Defence Comd. for Normandy captured at Cherbourg 1500B/26th signed Eisenhower. (Exfor Main, 270020B)
- Cherbourg captured. Special Communique No.39. Cherbourg was liberated by Allied Troops last night. (S.H.A.E.F. 270705B)
- Air. Cositintrep 49 part 3 Air Sunrise to 2100B/26th. Total sorties: 411. Approx. 145 enemy A/C operated over Northern France and the Beach Head Area. (H.Q. A.E.A.F. 271000)
- Cositintrep 50 part 3. 2100B/26 to sunrise 27 June. Total sorties: 158. (H.Q.A.E.A.F. 272147B)
- Communique No.43. (Extract) The fall of Cherbourg ends the second phase in the campaign of liberation. Twenty days after the initial assault Allied Forces have established a firm beachhead which includes almost the whole of the Cotentin Peninsula and a major port. Cherbourg's liberation came after a final day of fierce fighting in the Northwestern part of the city. In the battle the enemy has lost the greater part of four infantry divisions numerous naval and marine units and line of communication troops. A strong attack toward the Villers Bocage - Caen main road has secured Cheux and Fontenay and has advance several miles in the face of heavy German armour and infantry. Progress continues. Storms and defence (?dense) clouds minimized air activity yesterday and throughout the night. (S.H.A.E.F. 271100B)
- Naval. Cositintrep No.49 Part 11. A. General. U.S. Port clearance party with minesweepers commence work Cherbourg to-day. Shelling of Sword beach and anchorage was heavier yesterday, inflicting casualties on personnel. (A) The nightly persistent mining attack by A/C in assault roadsteads demands continuous effort from sweepers, and is also being countered by restriction of ship movements to narrow lanes and reduced speeds. Casualties to date have been kept comparatively low when the amount of shipping involved is considered. Wind has averaged Force 4. last two days but has kept in south-westerly quarter.

B. /...

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(Contd.)

B. Casualties. Nil. C. Coastal Command.
D. Intelligence. No.30 Assault Unit report that the naval signal H.Q. at Acteville (Cherbourg) was captured at 1715/26. Signed Eisenhower. (Ramsay, 271431B)

Navistrep. (1) At 0145/27 Unit G.O.1 (M.T.B's 673, 677, 717, *~~676~~) attacked an enemy force of 3 trawlers and 2 M class Minesweepers, in 125 La Corbiere 10. 1 enemy ship possibly sunk.
(2) Mine detonated in position from Eddystone 201 degs. 1.7 miles at 0945/27. Presume type G.O. * See p. 655 7695
(C. in C. Plymouth, 272101B)

Military.

G.2 Summary No.22. Para. 1 Operations.

Enemy reported still holding out in Cherbourg Arsenal and in area Cap De La Hague.

Main weight of attack in Second Army Sector falling on 12 SS. Panzer Division, Panzer Lehr Division on its left probably also involved.

(4) Prisoners of War. Accumulative total passed through reception camp and base hospitals up to 1800/26 18610.

(5) General. In view of release of Allied forces resulting from fall of Cherbourg enemy likely to reinforce base of Peninsula with infantry as being most economical position to hold. At same time he will have to parry threat of troops in Carentan area being cut off by Allied thrust southwest from St. Lo. Consider bulk of armour will be concentrated on right flank to meet threat now developing from Allied attack. Enemy always sensitive about Eastward expansion of bridgehead likely to regard this attack as of first importance. Probable that he will attempt to concentrate Armour some distance behind battle-front and counter-attack in force rather than commit divisions singly as they arrive.

(S.H.A.E.F. 271630B)

Cositintrep No.50. Part 1. Land.

Period to 271200B. Operations (Extract.)

1st U.S. Army. VII Corps. 47 RCT resumed attack on arsenal in Cherbourg at first light.

Arsenal surrendered 0940 hrs. 79 Div. relieved in task of mopping up in town by 4 Div. who also clearing N.E. of peninsular where 22 RCT meeting HY resistance in area airfield 2524.
(Exfor Main, 272250B)

Communique
No.44.

Allied forces in the Tilly-Caen area have crossed the Caen Villers Bocage railway near Mouen. Our advance has been made in torrential rain and against determined resistance by enemy infantry and armour.

In the Cherbourg Peninsula we are continuing our attacks against the last remnants of organized opposition. Elements of the enemy's forces are holding out in the Maupertus Airfield. East of Cherbourg, and in the Northwest tip of the Peninsula.

Prisoners /...

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Communique No.44.
(Contd.)

Prisoners taken in the Peninsular total at least 20,000 and more are being brought in. Bad weather during this morning severely curtailed air activity but fighter bombers attacked a train at Parnnes (East of Laval) and road transport in the Laval and Alencon Areas. Early this morning light coastal forces intercepted and engaged a force of enemy trawlers and minesweepers off Jersey. Considerable damage was inflicted on the enemy in a gun action in which coastal batteries from the Island joined, and 1 Mine-sweeper was hit by a torpedo. It is considered that this enemy ship may have sunk.
(S.H.A.E.F. 272330)

Covering Operations.

Eastern Area. Defence policy for the night 27th/28th June. V.7 180 degs. 2 miles from position. V.8 230 degs 1 mile from position. V.9 000 degs. 3 miles from A.20 berth. U.14. 2 Hunts in Tunny north. R.5 speed restrictions being observed. Q.1. P extended to C.1 berth. N.3. 2 B.Y.M.S. and M.M.S. Minespotting in channel L.3 for reporting (corrupt group) using position of D'Antifer light referred to by operation name "Horse". 4 Capt patrol signal signal coast E.N. units and call signs.
(N.C.E.T.F. 271135B to E.N.T.F.)

Patrols from Dover. F.N.1 M.L's 254, 442 Z.1. F.N.2 M.T.B's 236, 235, 202 Z.2. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE Z.3. F.N.5 M.T.B's 204, 231, 229 Z.5. F.U.7 ORWELL Z.7 (2) OPPORTUNE has freedom of action in Z.4 area and F.N.5 in Z.6 square. (3) Communications. (4) ORWELL acknowledge.
(V.A. Dove; 271215B)

Patrols from Plymouth. Information. Own. 1st E.G. Z.223, 224, 228, 229 2nd E.G. Z.232, 237. 3rd E.G. Z.225, 226. 5th E.G. Z.126, 127, 128, 200, 201, 202. 15th E.G. Z.233, 234, 238, 239. Force 26 PIORUN, JAVELIN, Z.216, 221, 226. If Coastal forces operate in Channel Islands area they will keep east of line Les Hanois - St. Malo. Enemy. As in my 201350B. U-Boat not now believed in St. Peters Port. Intention. (2) Force 27 HURON (S.O) ESKIMO to operate in Roches Douvres-Minquiers area. Object. (3) to destroy enemy ships and to support coastal forces if they operate in Channel Islands area.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces.

Patrols from Plymouth (Contd.) Execution. (4) Force 27 is to pass the Gate at 1900B to-day 27th June and proceed by centre of Q.Z.S.443 and 477 to 180 Start 4. Then through. (XX) 49 degs. 15' N. 3 degs. 06' W. to pass (AA) 000 Roches Douvres 4 at 2330B. (5) Then to patrol in area between (AA) (BB) 49 E. degs. 06 N. 3 degs. 01 W. (CC) 49 degs. 00 N. 2 degs. 17' W (BB) 48 degs. 48' N. 2 degs. 34' W. (6) Force 27 is to withdraw through (AA) at 0700B/28 and return to Plymouth by reverse of outward route. (7) Force 27 is to support coastal forces if latter meet superior enemy force or call for assistance. Force 27 is to avoid coming under heavy fire from coastal batteries. Communication. (8) (Details). (9) Codeword "Scratch". (C. in C. Plymouth, 271347B) See amendment 272328B.

P.C.W.O.120. Patrols to be carried out if weather permits.
 A. Units G.P.1 M.T.B's 679 (S.O) 664, 713, 678.
 B. 1815B/27.

C. (KK) 270 Les Hanois 14. (LL) 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2215. (MM) 207 La Corbiere 10 to arrive 2330.
 D. From (MM) sweep Z.200 South of Jersey to 1 E degs. 56' W. unit is not proceed North of a line 270 from La Corbiere or West of West of a line Les Hanois to N.W. breakers, Minquiers Buoy unless in emergency or in action. Unit is to withdraw to (MM) at first light.
 E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
 F. 0600B/28 from (MM). G. (LL) and (KK) to Dartmouth.
 H. Constant 2300 K/cs - G.P.1 Wrecker.
 (2) A. Units G.Q.1 M.T.B's 239 (S.O) 94, 98 and Unit G.Q. 2 M.T.B's 96 (S.O) 227, 92.
 B. 1845B/27. C. (KK) 270 Les Hanois 14. (LL) 190 Les Hanois 13 to arrive 2245.
 D. From (LL) Unit G.Q.1 proceed to position (NN) 325 La Corbiere 8½ to arrive 2330. Unit G.Q.2 proceed to position (PP) 292 degs. La Corbiere 8 to arrive 2330. Units are to sweep Z.209 as ordered by S.O. Units are not to proceed South of a line 270 from La Corbiere or West of a line from Les Hanois to N.W. Breakers Minquiers Buoy unless in emergency or in action Units are to withdraw at first light and R/V position (QQ) 288 La Corbiere 12.
 E. Destruction of enemy shipping and patrols.
 F. 0600B/28 from (QQ). G. (LL) and (KK) to Dartmouth.
 H. Constant 2300 K/cs G.Q.1 and G.Q.2 Napoleon and Napoleon 1 respectively.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 271356B)

(1) Force 27 HURON, ESKIMO sailing Plymouth 1900B/27th to patrol in Z.209, Z.210 until 0700B/28th then escorted Plymouth. (2) Unit G.P.1 G.Q.1 and G.Q.2 from Dartmouth will operate weather permitting in Z.209, Z.210 from 2215/27th until 0600B/28. Unit of 4, 3 and 3 M.T.B. respectively. G.Q.1 and 2 remaining in company until area is reached.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 271641B to Force 26, All A/S support Groups at sea in the Plymouth Command, Plymouth Covering Forces at Sea.
 (R) N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

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Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Forces.

My 271356B postponed due to weather.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 2717056B).

My 271347 coastal forces will not operate on account of weather. (2) at discretion patrol may be extended to westward south of Minquiers as far East as 2° 05' W. (3) Guard on 8400 k/cs not required.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 271728B to HURON, ESKIMO).

Force 26 is to proceed to pass through (SS) 49° 04' N. 03° 01' W. at 2359B today and is to sweep thence through (TT) 48° 58½' N. 03° 39' W. and (UU) 48° 52' N. 03° 51' W. to (VV) 48° 45½' N. 04° 23' W. (2) After passing (VV) Force 26 is to return to Plymouth via centre line of Q.Z.S. 443. (3) Object: to sink enemy ships and support own escort groups on patrol. (C. in C. Plymouth, 271736B to Force 26).

Amend para. 6 of my 271347 as follows. After passing through (AA) proceed to carry out patrol on the Meridian of 0600 W between 49.00 N. 49.30 N. object to cover support groups operating in the vicinity of Ushant.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 272328B to Force 27).

O.N. Plymouth 5 section 2 Sups. A. E.G.1, Z.235 and eastern half of Z.240 E.G.2Z, 233, eastern half Z.238 Northern half Z.234 and N.E. Quarter of Z.239. E.G.6 Z.232, Z.237 with at least 3 ships patrolling gun zone between Seven Stones and Lizard. E.G.9 between 49.50 and 50.20 N. 01.55 W. and 02.35 W. keeping clear of shore defences and Q.Z.X.774 except in pursuit of the enemy. E.G.5Z 228, Z.229. C. E.G.1 1000/28th E.G.2 1200/28th. E.G.6 on arrival E.G.9 on arrival. E.G.5 on relief by E.G.9. (C. in C. Plymouth, 272336B).

Patrols from O.N. Portsmouth 1 para. 38. Cover night 27/28th Portsmouth. (A) ONSLAUGHT (G.F.1), ORIBI (G.F.2) BEAGLE (G.F.3) WESTCOTT (G.F.4) patrol on line 01° 00' W. between 49° 53' N. and 50° 05' N. Report night dispositions. TALYBONT (G.H.1) in Z.10 between position 50° 02' N., 00° 10' W. and 50° 05' N. 00° 02' W. LA COMBATTANTE (G.H.2) between 58C buoy and position 49° 57' N. 00° 22' W. BRISSENDEN (G.H.3) in Z.9 on latitude 50° 25' N. between 00° 01' W. and 00° 11' W. for Force G.H. to be in position by 2300. (B) STAYNER (G.A.1) in Z.17. TROLLOPE (G.A.2) in Z.13 (C) Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 206 (S.O.) 208, 210. Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 691 (S.O.) 694. Unit G.A.5 M.T.Bs. 253 (S.O.) 250, 257. Unit G.A.6 M.T.Bs. 725 (S.O.) 749. Units G.A.3 and G.A.4 with STAYNER in Z.17. Units G.A.5 and G.A.6 with TROLLOPE in Z.13. Force G.A. to be in position by 2300. (D) Unit G.C.1 M.T.Bs. 611 (S.O.) 616 in Z.14 N. Unit G.C.2 M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.) 714, 696 in Z.203. Unit G.C.1 to be in position by 2300. Unit G.C.2 via 270 Casquets 8 miles passing position at 2230.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 271507B).

My 271507/ paras. C. and D. Units G.A.3, G.A.5, and G.C.2 are cancelled.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 271721B).

My 271507/ paras. C. and D. are cancelled.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 271913B). /Re cover night 27/28th.

Patrols/...

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Patrols off Cherbourg. Tonight off Cherbourg patrol groups of 2 P.T.'s each stationed thus. All at lat. 49.46. Long. 00.15 LOUISVILLE. 001.40 NANTCILLE, 001.22 MEMPHIS, 001.13 KNOXVILLE. All longitudes West. MEMPHIS and KNOXVILLE will be vectored by SHUBRICK call Shellback and BALDWIN call Jiggs on same stations. BALDWIN guard 8400 voice. Vessels will stop south of 49.50 N. and W. of 001.05 W. unless in action. (Comdesron 17, 271705B)

Western area. Your 261112 has been passed to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, H.Q.A.E.A.F. and H.Q. Coastal Command. Your patrols may therefore be established from 28th June. Request you will ensure that your patrols are warned that surface patrols may be operating in Portsmouth and Plymouth Commands close to Assault Area and that they should not cross Area boundary. (A.N.C.X.F. 271843B to N.C.W.T.F. Info: C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, H.Q.A.E.A.F., H.Q.C.C., C.T.G. 122.4 Com. Gen. F.U.S.A., Com. Gen. 9th Air Force.)

Mining

Cover for Minesweepers. (1) 16th M/S.F. and 31st M/S.F. will sweep channel H.O.W. O.N.17 (?95 or 36) from H.5 to H.10 tomorrow 28th June passing N.1 Buoy 0415B. Buoy laying vessels covered by 3 Destroyers will operate from H.1 to H.9.

(2) R/V with M/S.F. 16 at H.5 at 0730B. Carry out line abreast covering A/S patrols ships one mile apart on a course 177 degs. and 357 degs. Group 2 to westward Group 3 to eastward of Sweepers from abeam to 5 miles in advance of leading Minesweeper nearest Destroyer being one mile from line of advance of wing Minesweeper.

(3) On completion of sweep resume normal daylight patrol on 001 degs. 00' W. (4) Acknowledge.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 271943B to ONSLAUGHT, ORIBI, BRISSENDEN, WESTCOTT, TALYBONT, BEAGLE, (R) A.N.C.X.F. R.A.(D) H.F. M/S.F. 16, M.S.F.31.)

Off Eddystone. Mine detonated by COMBATANT in position Eddystone 182 degs. 1.8 miles at approx. 1215 to-day. Presume type G.O. (C. in C. Plymouth, 271642) See also report of a second mine in Plymouth 272101B (in situation reports)

"Oyster" mines. A new principle of non contact firing has been introduced in German ground mines. This operates on the reduction of pressure on the sea

bed /...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining.

"Oyster"
 mines
 (Contd.)

bed caused by the passage of a ship. Such suction effect is most apparent in shallow or confined water.

(2) This mechanism is known to be in use in Type G.G. mines in combination with an acoustic Unit. It could also be employed in Type G.C. mines in combination with a magnetic unit and is probably in operational use in this form.

(3) For the present the cover name "Oyster" mines will be used for mines embodying this principle. The code letters will be G.G/A.P.Mk.I, G.C/M.P. Mk.I et seq.

(4) It is believed that "Oyster" mines are being laid by A/C only but laying from surface craft is possible.

(5) So far as is known laying has been confined for the present to the assault area off French Coast.

(6) The danger from these mines increases with size of ship, speed and shallowness of water.

(7) At 6 knots and 12 knots respectively through the water ships of the following displacement tonnages should be reasonably safe in the depths given below.

	6 knots	12 knots
00-100 tons	5 fathoms	10 fathoms
1000-1500 tons	7½ "	14 "
2500-4000 "	10 "	17 "
4500-7000 "	12½ "	20 "
8000-12000 "	15 "	23 "
14000-20000 "	17½ "	26 "
22000-30000 "	20 "	28 "

(8) The following are expected to be safe speeds for different classes of ship in the depths shown:

	5	7½	10	15	20 fathoms
M.M.S., M.T.B's and small landing	No restrictions				
Destroyer (1600 tons)	3½	5	7	11	14
Lt. Cruiser (6000 tons)	-	4	5	8	11
Cruiser (10000 tons)	-	3	4½	6	9
Battleship (35000 tons)	-	2	2½	4	5½

(9) These safe speeds apply to non swell conditions - see para.11. It is probable that a long low swell may make the unit more sensitive to ships or even reduce it to an ordinary acoustic or magnetic mine. The advisability of acoustic and magnetic mine-sweeping ahead of important ships in the presence of a swell is stressed. S.A. self protection should not be used.

(10) Fast ships which can complete their transit of the mine in about 7 seconds e.g. Hunt Class destroyer at 25 knots, may be able to do so without actuating it or actuating it astern. This particularly applies to M.T.B's and similar craft.

(11) No reliable sweeping technique has yet been evolved but in waters where there is a swell even of small amplitude but of period exceeding 6 seconds "Oyster" mines may become operative so that normal LL/SA sweeping will be effective.

(12) Intensive sweeping should be carried out even if the swell conditions are not such as to actuate the pressure unit in order to work off, P.D.M. settings which are on the acoustic side only. This will ensure that all mines are ripe for sweeping in periods of suitable weather.

(13) The importance of accurate mine watching is emphasised with a view to buoyage, recovery or disposal.

(D.T.M. 272356B to A.G.M. Home & Abroad 274A (B.5) and all U.S. Forces taking part in "Overlord". Info: B.A.T.M.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in Dover Command between 0900/26th and 0900/27th. (Extract). E.31D. Six size C from Calais at 2315 Westbound at 8 knots, entered Boulogne at 0315. Attacked by one Swordfish at 0116 one hit claimed. E.33D. Five size C from Calais at 2330 Westbound at 8 knots, entered Boulogne at 0410. Attacked by 1 Swordfish at 0120. No hits claimed. (2) TROLLOPE reported Track 1, two vessels 050 degs. Cap D'Antifer 10 miles at 0206, course 060 degs. Identified as 2 T.L.C. by M.T.B's 703, 698, who attacked and claim one damaged. Track 1 entered Fecamp at 0245. (3) Radar conditions good except for occasional rainstorms. (V.A. Dover, 271303B)

Attack on enemy minesweepers off Jersey by M.T.B's. At approx. 0145B/27 Unit G.O.1 (M.T.B's 673, 716, 677, 717) made contact with an enemy force of about 3 trawlers and 2 M Class Minesweepers in 125 La Corbiere 10. Complete surprise was achieved and unit claims considerable damage inflicted by gunfire. Unit disengaged after 15 minutes under considerable starshell and return fire in which the shore batteries on Jersey took part. Unit returned to attack and located 2 M class Minesweepers stopped 5 miles south of St. Helier. An unobserved approach was again achieved and M.T.B. 673 fired 2 torpedoes at 400 yards range afterwards engaging with gunfire. A torpedo hit with a considerable explosion was observed and no return fire was experienced from this target, which may have subsequently sunk. Unit disengaged under fire from the remaining M Class. Minor damage sustained in M.T.B's 673, 677, 716. 1 rating killed in M.T.B. 673 1 rating slightly wounded in M.T.B's 677 and 716. (C. in C. Plymouth, 271316B and 281152B)

U-Boats

A/S Patrols. O.N. Plymouth 5 Section 2 Sups. (A) E.G.2 no change. E.G.3 Gamma centre position 049 degs. 00' N. 004 degs. 17' W. length 30 miles direction of patrol 340 and 160. E.G.5 Z.126, Z.127, Z.128, Z.200, Z.201, Z.202 keeping clear of shore batteries. E.G.1 Z.223, Z.224, Z.228, Z.229 E.G.15 Z.233 Northern half Z.234 Eastern Half Z.238 and North East Quarter of Z.239. (D) No fresh information as in my 271107. (C. in C. Plymouth, 271228B)

U-Boat situation report.

English Channel quiet but still probably two between Seine Bay and Isle of Wight and one amongst Channel Islands and two or three in Ushant area and one or two between Ushant and Lands End. (D.D.I.C. 271335B)

Attack/...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Attack by
ROCHESTER.

Report of contact attacked by ROCHESTER see
ROCHESTER, 272019B in Casualties.

Casualties and Defects

PINK (corvette) mined aft in 049 degs. 48' 00" degs. 49' 36" west charted depth 23 fathoms ship's speed 15 knots request tug.
(ROCHESTER, 271605B to N.C.W.T.F., C. in C. Portsmouth)

My 271605 and 271805 - damage to PINK is consistent with Gnat or moored contact mine. Latter due to deep draft aft of Corvette. Contact attacked by ROCHESTER was 4100 yards on port beam of PINK when hit and is consistent with Gnat attack. Contact was stationary and Hedgehog exploded either on or within 10 feet of bottom. No further contact in 2 hour search part of crew of PINK including one injured in U.S. pendants 55 destination unknown.

(ROCHESTER, 272019B)

My 271623 Hedgehog attack produced lifebelt of unknown origin and small quantity oil. Contact has not been regained. Have plastered area with depth charges. WESTCOTT resuming patrol. PINK in tow of BEAGLE screened by ROCHESTER proceeding Portsmouth.
(ROCHESTER, 271805B)

SS.
METHILHILL.

Collier METHILHILL reports both anchors and cable lost. Being sailed to Portsmouth.
(F.O.B.A.A. 272310B)

Port Facilities

Future of Ports (Mulberries and Cherbourg) As future policy in regard to Mulberries and use of whale pier equipment is subject S.C.A.E.F. has made following decisions:
(1) Mulberry "A" - No attempt will be made to rebuild Mulberry "A" on the original plan but the small existing corncob breakwater will be strengthened to provide a two fathom shelter for small craft. No piers will be built in Mulberry "A".
(2) Mulberry "B" will be completed and strengthened as far as possible on the original plan to last at least until 1st October and if possible, until winter. One L.S.T. pier and one stores pier will be constructed.
(3) Cherbourg-Sufficient pier equipment will be allocated for use within Cherbourg breakwater to increase capacity of that port to maximum.
(4) Bombardons - will not be used in connection with Mulberries.
(Eisenhower, 271920B)

Cherbourg /...

(Another copy westward 271900)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Port Facilities

Cherbourg.

With effect from 0600B/26 Cherbourg declared gun defended area by day and inner artillery zone by night with limits as defined in para.2 S.H.A.E.F. Air Defence Instruction No.1 dated 16th May, 1944. (S.H.A.E.F. 272350B)

Organisation and Administration

S.H.A.E.F.
forward
H.Q.

Operational Echelon designated S.H.A.E.F. Forward Headquarters will open in the vicinity of Portsmouth in near future will all General and Special Staff Divisions represented. Telephone switchboard code name S.H.A.E.F. Forward H.Q. is Shipmate. (S.H.A.E.F. 271840B)

AJAX.

A.M. 210222 June AJAX can now be released from "Overlord". C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to arrange leave of second watch as in para. 2 of above message. (A.N.C.X.F. 272301 to Admty.)

Control of
Fleet
Destroyers.

From noon 29th C.S.10 will assume control of the Fleet Destroyers in the British assault area arranging reliefs as necessary with V.A.D.(H.F) (N.C.E.T.F. 272330B)

Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.17.

A. Sailed E.X.P.17. E. For Juno, BIARRITZ. EASTWAY with Whale. (A.N.C.X.F. 270131 and 270705)

E.P.L.19.

A. Sailed E.P.L.19. E. For Omaha, 9 L.S.T's. For Utah, 8 L.S.T's. (A.N.C.X.F. 270217)

E.B.C.22.

A. Sailed E.B.C.22. 12 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 270518)

E.T.C.19.

A. Sailed E.T.C.19. E. for Gold 11 ships. For Juno YEZO (Wreck dispersed) T.I.D.26. For Sword 4 ships. For Port-en-Bessin. CHANTS 2, 25, 42, 50, 62. For E.T.F. 3 tugs. (A.N.C.X.F. 270616)

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TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- E.C.M.15. (A) Sailed E.C.M.15. For Omaha, 12 ships and for O.R. to Gold L.C.I. (L) 350. (A.N.C.X.F. 270838B)
- My 270838. 1st U.S. Army have asked that all these ships should go to Utah. Redirect if necessary. (A.N.C.X.F. 270927B to N.C.W.T.F.)
- F.T.M.20. (A) Sail F.T.M. 20. For Tilbury, 9 ships and L.S.T. 237. L.S.T. 73, 405, 370 for Portsmouth. (Capt. N.S. 270931B)
- E.T.M.18. (A) Sailed E.T.M.18. (E) For Gold L.S.T.322, 367 and 12 ships. For Juno 4 ships and 8 L.S.T. For Sword and Juno L.S.T. 493, for Arromanches motor M/S 186 for Arromanches and St. Laurent THV. ASTRAL. (A.N.C.X.F. 270959B)
- F.T.C.19. (A) Sailed F.T.C.19. (E) EMPIRE NESS (Cdre. Bishop) WINONA, EMPIRE NUT, (?FIELD) SEDULITY, AVITY, ARDGRYFFE, THYRA, BEACHFIELD, TOPAZ, ROCKLEASE, ENID MARY, BRIAR-FIELD, NIVERNAISE, HOVE, IPSWICH TRADER, BERRY DEW, JOFFRE ROSE, FIR QUEEN, CORAL (?QUEEN), YORKFIELD, CLARA, MONKS, SCANDINAVIA, For Portsmouth 24 ships and 1 Trawler. L.S.T. (?493) for Tilbury at reduced speed. (Capt. N.S. 271105B)

Convoys in Request convoys making passage of Dover Strait in either direction may be warned as follows:
Dover
Strait. (A) To closehaul balloons between Dungeness and North Foreland to avoid presenting a larger Radar target than is necessary and by day to prevent sighting over smoke screen. (C. in C. Nore's 251945 not to all refers).
(B) To restrict use of radio to absolute minimum as it is possible that enemy are firing browning shots into swept channel using D/F bearings for line.
(C) On this account (and since area between South Foreland and Dungeness inshore of a line drawn half a mile to seaward of Q.Z.S. 460 is at present considered free of mines). Convoys should not keep strictly to swept channel while in this area.
(2) Senior Officers of escorts will be informed as necessary by broadcast signal of expected time convoy will meet.
(3) Provided leading ships follow motions with regard to navigation lights, use of the radio should not normally be necessary.
(4) Pilot cutters off Dungeness have been warned to avoid use of Radio as far as practicable while convoys are in the area.
(V.A. Dover, 271238B to A.N.C.X.F.)

V.A. Dover's 271238B. Request convoys may be informed accordingly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 271925B)

F.W.L.18 /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.W.L.18. (A) Sailed F.W.L.18. 12 L.S.T's.
(Capt. N.S. 271601B)

Painting of Name. It has now been agreed that Merchant Ships engaged in operation "Overlord" shall have the ships name painted on the ships sides in large letters to enable them to be readily identified on the Far Shore.
(D.S.T. 271606B)

F.C.M.15. (A) Sailed F.C.M.15. (E) For Southampton 10 ships and 16 L.C.T's. For Portland, 12 L.S.T's. For Isle of Wight, 2 L.S.T's. For Falmouth 3 ships, For Plymouth, 1 ship.
(C.T.G.122-7, 271725B)

E.X.P.17. (A) Sailed E.X.P.17. (E) BIARRITZ.
(Capt. N.S. 271931B)

F.C.M.16. (A) Sailed F.C.M.16. (E) Portland 6 L.S.T's. For Southampton, 3 ships and 7 L.S.T's. For Falmouth EDWIN ABBEY, for Plymouth JUM, BRIDGES.
(C.T.G.122-7, 272100)

Mulberry tows. To economise in escorts for Mulberry tows C's in C. Nore and Portsmouth and V.A. Dover are requested to implement the following arrangements as soon as possible.

(2) 11 Corvettes now allocated to C. in C. Portsmouth for Mulberries to be transferred to C. in C. Nore who is requested to provide through escorts for each group of tows to France.

(3) Tows from the Nore to be sailed in one group each day as far as Dungeness where the tows are to split into two groups of 5 knots and 3½ knots respectively each with one escort.

(4) Tows from Dungeness and Portsmouth are to join the Fast or Slow convoys as applicable off Dungeness and at E.A.5 buoy respectively.

(5) Approx. timetable for the convoys is as follows:

(a) Joint convoy arrives Dungeness 1130.

(b) Fast convoy continue on at 1130, pass E.A.5 Buoy 0230, pass 50 degs. 10' N. 0700.

(c) Slow section of Nore tows wait at Dungeness until Slow convoy sails at 0130, pass E.A. 5 buoy 2200, pass 50 degs. 10' N. 0500.

On arrival at the Mulberries escorts are to return direct as ordered by C. in C. Nore and are not to be used as convoy escorts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 272341B)

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Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicy.Transfer of
Warships to
Soviet Navy.Substance of F.O.I.C. Tyne's 261931 is fully
concurring in and request action be taken with
Russian Mission accordingly.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 271323B to Admty.)

C.O.S.U.

Control of administration, organisation, training,
development and future policy of C.O.S.U. will be
transferred from C.C.O. to Admty. on 1st July,
1944.(2) All existing orders concerning the unit are to remain in
force until further instructions are issued.
(D.D.O.D.(C), 271756B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)Operations

S/M Patrols.

From (VB) VIKING diving as much as practicable
when north of 068° N. through (VC) 069° 30' N.
005° 01' W., thence course 320°. VIKING may be
required to carry out R/C of Jan Mayen Island
later.

(F.O.(S), 271449B to S/Ms.)

Own submarines at 0759B/28th and for following 24 hours.

(A) SUBTLE on patrol 59° 31' N. 00° 11' E.

(B) VIKING 66° 05' N. 04° 18' W., through 67° 01' N. 05° 01' W.,
then 360° 8 knots may be on surface or submerged after crossing
68° N. doing 70 miles in 24 hours.

(F.O.(S), 271644B to Admty.)

Two
Trawlers
sunk.

M.T.B. Operations last night 26th/27th June.

(1) 58th Flotilla, M.T.Bs. 687, 723, 684, 666,
683, 685 were ordered to patrol in 51° 37' N. 3°
15' E., to intercept E-Boats that might be on
passage westwards.(2) At 0230B unit was given freedom of action, so
moved off to attack patrol of 4 trawlers with which radar contact
had been made intermittently since 0018.(3) At 0307 unit attacked with torpedoes at range of 1200 to
1300 yards as trawlers were apparently entering Oostgat. Depth
of water 5 fathoms. Leading ship hit in stern and seen to sink.
Second ship hit and seen to disintegrate. Owing to shallow
water some torpedoes hit bottom on initial dive and exploded.

(4) No casualties or damage to unit.

(C. in C. Nore, 271633B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen.

Jan Mayen reports aircraft observed south of
Island 0440 flying east.

(A.C.I.C., 271010B to Admty.)

Flying
Bombs.Attention is drawn to O.N.A.D.1 article 45. All
ships in the Solent and Spithead are to engage
flying bombs when seen both by day and night.

/However ...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Flying
Bombs.
(Contd.)

However, fire must be withheld should ships gauge that the bomb, if hit, will come down in a built up area.

(2) No ship in Portsmouth Harbour is to fire at a flying bomb either by day or night.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 271134B: General Message.)

U-Boats

Operation
C.W.

Your 261945. Evidence points to a fine success. Nevertheless I desire your group to continue to sweep in present area until 0800B/27th when, if no further contact obtained, proceed to sweep in areas B.A.3 and A.4.

(C. in C. W.A., 270001B to INMAN.)

Eastbound u/B estimated near you today.

(D.D.I.C., 270916B to ALBEMARLE, GOFF, DUPONT.)

Casualties and Defects

FAIRHAVEN.

(1) (A) FAIRHAVEN. (B) Ashore on reef south of entrance to Hvalfjord, with list of 35°. Half of deck submerged at high water. (C) Hull planking stove in on starboard side. (D) Attempt to control inflow of water by pumping patching if necessary and heaving off. No cargo.
(A.C.I.C., 271725B to Admty.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

AUBRETIA,
SS.SERANTES.

SS. SERANTES 412 not met. my P.C.S. at 1100B
035° 16' N. 009° 17' W. 014° 13 knots towards
Cape St. Vincent. Request assistance of A/C and
latest information.
(AUBRETIA, 271127B to F.O.G.M.A.)

GRUINARD,
ERISKAY.

Your 251250*. Transfer of trawlers effected
1500B/26. Anticipated T.O.D. from Cezimbra
0800B/27.
(N.A. Lisbon, 271535B to F.O.G.M.A.)
* Circulated under T.O.O. 251258.

South Atlantic

SS.
COLUMBINE
(sunk 16th
June).

Weekly G.R. Opsum. No.41.
(5) M/V COLUMBINE independent torpedoed and sunk
161800B. No air cover.
(Dechief Pretoria, 271500B.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Sentences on Greek mutineers. 1st C.M. of Greek Naval mutineers completed today. Sentences as follows:
Death - 3. Life and (sic) imprisonment - 3.
50 years imprisonment - 3. 5 years imprisonment - 1. Acquitted - 6.
(F.O.L.E.M., 272237C.)

Enemy shipping. Follow vessels expected to arrive Dardanelles from Istanbul p.m./27th ENGERAU and LAUDON for Piraeus, AMSEL, ANNA MARIA and KATERINA for Salonika.
(Capt. (S) 1, 271732 to VIGOROUS.)

ULTOR. Your 271305. All torpedoes expended. Concur comply with your 251227. 20th sank F lighter, 27th sank 3000 ton merchant ship and 7000 ton tanker off Nice. Acknowledge.
(ULTOR, 271801B to Capt. (S) 10.)

Enemy vessels transiting Dardanelles. The 5 ships reported as sailing from Istanbul at 0945 G.M.T./27th June in S.O.(I) Istanbul's 271258* to F.O.L.E.M. B.N.A. Ankara only were most thoroughly examined by Turkish Authorities.
(2) ENGERAU typical Danube self-propelled barge, 381 tons, had in her cargo 7 cases telephone and W/T apparatus, 70 accumulators and 50 boxes of meteorological balloons.
LAUDON as above 378 tons, had 8,000 M/G cartridges.
AMSEL tug 112 tons.
ANNA MARIA 90 tons and KATERINA 105 tons. Dutch barge of river type carried coal only.
(3) All ships were fitted to carry armament of varying type but could in no sense be classified as men-of-war or naval auxiliaries.
Their Secretary General consulted His Majesty's Ambassador and gave above details.
Ambassador did not feel able to disagree with conclusion that there was no ground under Montreux Convention on which ships could be legitimately held.
(5) A careful look-out is being kept to see if Germans attempt to pass through weapons or munitions on a (?considerable) scale, but there is nothing to prevent their passage under the Convention.
F.O.L.E.M. please pass to (? C. in C. Med.), Admty.
(B.N.A. Ankara, 271930C to F.O.L.E.M.)
* Re all vessels sailed 5 ships. Expected time of arrival Dardanelles p.m./28th.

Greek manned F.T.12. Greek manned F.T.12 on passage to Malta with draft of one officer and 51 Greek ratings straggled from G.U.S.44 and was reported by A/C at about 2000/26th to be proceeding towards coast near Bardia where 8000 dissident Greeks are encamped. Trawlers and M.Ls. were sailed from

/Tobruk ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Greek
manned
F.T.12.
(Contd.)

Tobruk and F.T.12 was found and brought to
(? Malta) arriving 1230 today. Engine trouble
is alleged but circumstances strongly suggest
attempt to communicate with dissidents.
Military patrol sent to prevent landing or
embarkation state none took place but were fired
on by party on shore. Crew and passengers checked
and are in order. F.T.12 is being sailed to Alexandria with
escort at request of Greek C. in C. for further investigation.
(F.O.L.E.M., 272235C to C. in C. Med.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies

U/B No.71. Area A,B,C,D,F, and E. north of 012 degs. north. Believed clear of U-Boats. Scale of air escort W. Area E south of 012 degs. north and G. No fresh information U-Boats still believed to be operating in this area. Scale of air escort Y.

Indian Ocean U-Boat by D/F at 0155Z/26 within 200 miles of 004 degs. south 081 degs. east and at 2108Z/26 within 200 miles of 006 degs. south 081 degs. east.

(C. in C. E.F. 270423A)

C.J. - J.C. Release of shipping from C.J. - J.C. Convoy. Convoys. With present shipping congestion at Colombo retention of ships in convoy on this cycle is causing a considerable slowing down in turn round and makes it necessary to anchor as many as 40 ships outside the harbour at a time. This concentration provides a tempting target for a determined

U-Boat Commander.

2. In these circumstances and since there has been no evidence of U-Boats operating off South and East Coast of Ceylon or East Coast of India since torpedoing of SS. ELMADINA on 3rd March* intend to release shipping from C.J. - J.C. convoys.

(C. in C. E.F. 271138Z)

** 16th March intended.*

Convoy F.O.N.I.C.433. C.J. convoy release class D. orders. ships forthwith. J.C. convoy release class D. ships from June 30th.

2. Ships in C.J.33 and J.C.54 and joiners for these convoys from intermediate ports are to proceed in convoy as previously arranged.

(C. in C. E.F. 271359Z)

TANTIVY,
STORM,
patrol
report.

TANTIVY 3rd Far East patrol was blank.

(2) During Operation Pedal was employed on air/sea Rescue duty but sighted nothing.

(3) 12 mines laid successfully.

(4) STORM 4th Far East patrol.

(5) At 1803 FG 18th June fired 4 torpedoes at escorted convoy 2 small merchant ships in position 005 degs. 58' North 099 degs. 12' East. 3 hits were heard and 1500 ton ship was probably sunk. 1 Escort Counter attacked with 7 depth charges but none were close.

(6) At 0940 FG 20th in position 006 degs. 40' North 096 degs. 26' East missed Japanese U-Boat with 6 torpedoes probably due to target turning away.

(C. in C. E.F. 271909)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

O.N.M.240,
U/B search. Search abandoned at 2300Z no contact made whales
in vicinity ST. BONIFACE, DUNDAS rejoining, E.T.A.
convoy 0800Z/27th. Weather report.
(ST. BONIFACE, 270017Z.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M
attack and
sighting
summary. No report since my 240834Z. Para. (D) Merchant
vessel sights U-Boat in 39.41 N. 67.10 W. at
1945Z/26th.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 270835Z.)

U/B
dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 271342Z, Cominch 271545.)

U/B sunk 16
May in
Gibraltar
Straits. My 231621, para. (1). Assessment confirmed
substituting plane 12 for plane 7.
(D.A.U.D., 271630Z to Cominch.)

U/B
incidents. Para. (D) U.S.S. HILL sound contact 15.04 N.
39.56 W. 1555Z/26th merchant vessel sighted U-Boat
39.41 N. 67.10 W. 1945Z/26th. Whales sighted in
area.
(Cominch, 272051Z.)

6 Soviet
M.Ls. Ref. para. (5) of A.M. 261635 being passed to you.
Request you will sail 2 maritime frigates as
escort for each group of A/S motor launches and
signal probable dates of arrival at St. Johns
N.F. when known.
(N.S.H.Q., 272253Z to S.B.N.O.W.At.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 889. (16) M.T.Bs. attacked enemy shore position Eastern
shores Saint George's Channel also vicinity Borpop
night 24th/25th.
(17) Night 24th/25th M.T.Bs. bombarded Teop Island
off north-east Bougainville.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 270640Z.)

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 271334B, 271350B.)

S/M attack (A) Aircraft N/86 attacked U-Boat at 2120Z/26th
and sighting in 62° 03' N. 01° 45' E.
summary. (B) (1) Aircraft K/10 sighted periscope at
 1302Z/26th in 49° 01' N. 04° 41' W.
 (2) Fighter aircraft sighted periscope course
 North-east at approx. 1820Z/26th in 48° 24' N.
04° 50' W.
(3) H.M. Ship attacked U-Boat contact at 2355Z/26th in 50° 09'
N. 01° 54' W.
(4) H.M. Ships attacked contact at 1132Z/26th in 54° 34' N. 11°
04' W.
(C) (1) Aircraft dropped 2 depth charges on oil patch moving
north-east at 1320Z/26th in 48° 10' N. 05° 31' W.
(D.D.I.C., 271746B.)

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) The remaining strong points in the Cherbourg Peninsula were being mopped up today, and the British attack S.W. of Caen made steady progress. A cumulative total of 22,871 prisoners of war had passed through our Reception Camps and Base Hospitals at 1800 today.

(b) In the Assault Area a S.W'ly wind, force 4 to 7, continues to hamper the build-up operations, slows down unloading, prevents the sailing of L.C.T. Convoys and Mulberry tows, and interferes with minesweeping.

(c) In the Western Sector a total of 231 enemy mines had been accounted for tonight since D + 1, of which 204 have been swept. 12 ships in this sector have been sunk by mines, and 9 ships have been damaged.

Enemy
Action.

2(a) At 0055 today the destroyers HURON and ESKIMO engaged an enemy patrol of three trawlers S.W. of Minquiers (Channel Islands) and sank two Trawlers and damaged the third.

(b) U-Boats. At 1434B the Admiralty considered that there may be two U-Boats within 25 miles of 50° N. 00° 40' W., two off the Channel Islands, three near Ushant, and one within 35 miles of the Lizard; and it is intended to maintain a permanent A/S patrol between Cap de la Hague and Portland Bill in addition to the existing Escort Group Patrol north of the Assault Area.

(c) Mines. In Area "S" many enemy mines have self-detonated today, and at 0846 M/S.F.150 detonated 22 in four minutes. In Area "J" M.M.S. 40 and M.G.B.326 were mined and sunk, and the trawler STELLA RIGEL was mined but is afloat. At 2310 the L.S.I.(H) MAID OF ORLEANS was sunk, probably by mine, when northbound 37 miles N.E. of Cap Barfleur.

(d) Coastal Batteries. At 1830 today LARGS (Flag of Com. Force "S") was hit by a shell and slightly damaged.

General

Convoy
attacked.

3. Convoy E.T.C.21 was shelled by enemy coastal batteries between 1629 and 1710 today while passing through the Dover Strait and the British DALEGARTH FORCE, 825 tons, was set on fire and taken into Dover with three of her crew killed and three injured. Two rounds fell in Dover and caused ten casualties.

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

4. During operations to clear an alternative channel north of Cani Rocks sweepers of the 160th B.Y.M.S. Flotilla have cut 58 mines. 13 mines were swept in the Civita Vecchia area during extension of the inshore channel to Piombino.

East Indies

Night
fighters.

5. The Japanese are known to be developing night air torpedo attacks, and consideration is being given in the Eastern Fleet to developing counter measures.

Carriers.

6(a) BEGUM and SHAH are at present engaged on A/U operations with Escort Group 60. C. in C. E.F. now intends to form a second escort group for which BATTLE and AMEER will shortly commence working up.

(b) The arrival of VICTORIOUS and INDOMITABLE who left Aden on 29th to join the Eastern Fleet will render unnecessary the retention of ATHELING as a fighter escort carrier with the Fleet, and C. in C. E.F. proposes to employ her as a training carrier and for ferrying duties on the station.

Routine
Troop
Convoys.

7. C. in C. E.F. sends today ^{also} proposes for instituting routine troop convoys between Durban, Kilindini and Aden.

China.

8. A U.S. submarine reports attacking successfully today a convoy of 4 ships 20 miles southwest of Takao, Formosa.

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

- Biak I. 9. Enemy resistance on Biak Island collapsed today, although some small isolated pockets continued to resist.
- New Guinea. • 10. M.T.Bs. operated successfully last night against enemy supply and troop barges south of Manokwari. M.T.Bs. also attacked motor transport west of Wewak with success.

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28.6.1944.

Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Naval.

Cositintrep No.50, Part 2, Naval.

(A) General. Wind was W.S.W. Force 5 at beaches and Force 6 in mid Channel at 1800, has now moderated, but is expected to freshen again tomorrow.

M.T.Bs. engaged three enemy trawlers and two minesweepers at about 0145/27 south of Jersey. Shore batteries took part in the action, in which considerable damage is claimed inflicted on the enemy and one minesweeper probably sunk. M.T.Bs. sustained minor damage and 2 casualties.

(B) Troops etc. landed. 24 hours to p.m./26th Gold, Juno and Sword 11,078 personnel, 2,372 vehicles, 18,688 tons stores. U.S. reports not received.

(C) Casualties. H.M.S. PINK (Corvette) damaged, reported mine in 49° 48' N. 00° 49½' W.

(Ad. Ramsay, 280011B to Admty.)

Cositintrep No.51, part 2, Naval.

(A) General. Wind S.S.W. force 4 this morning at beaches, but S.W. force 6 in mid Channel.

Sailing of L.C.T. stopped from 1900/27 June.

N.C.W.T.F. reported at midnight minesweeping Cherbourg Approaches impracticable through continued activity of several enemy batteries.

HURON and ESKIMO engaged 3 enemy minesweepers about 10 miles N.W. of St. Malo early this morning and sank 2.

Gale damage to Mulberry A has forced a decision that its construction and use shall be restricted in scope.

(B) Casualties. H.M. M.M.S.40 sunk, mine, in area Juno.

H.M. M.G.B.326 sunk, mine, in area Juno. STELLA RIGEL, trawler danlayer damaged, mine, in area Juno.

(Ad. Ramsay, 281456B to Admty.)

(1) Wrecks of 2 U-Boats have now been carefully fixed in positions 50° 01' N. 2° 59' W. and 50° 03' N. 2° 56'30" W. One of these is the U-Boat sunk by BICKERTON. It is considered the other was sunk by AFFLECK on night of 25th/26th.

(2) No fresh sightings or attacks during part 24 hours. HURON and ESKIMO attacked a force of 3 trawlers S.W. of Minquiers last night, and sank two, damaging the other who escaped to the eastward.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 282100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

With a view to ensuring all possible measures are taken to provide necessary equipment and organisation to counter minelaying by enemy aircraft, representatives of Admiralty, Air Ministry and

A.E.A.F. will visit Assault Area at an early date for discussion with you, Fowest and local air and army representatives.

(2) Request you will state place, date and time convenient to all concerned on far shore.

(A.N.C.X.F., 282343B to F.O.B.A.A.)

*/Cositintrep ...

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War Diary.28.6.1944.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports

Cositintrep No.52, part 2, Naval.

(A) General. South-westerly wind reached moderate gale force 7 during the afternoon. In four minutes between 0846 and 0850 this morning 150th M/S. Flotilla detonated 22 mines at edge of Sword Area.

(B) Troops etc. landed. Only one report received:- Omaha (24 hours to p.m./26th) 10,747 personnel, 2,984 vehicles, 14,449 tons stores.

(E) Intelligence. Intelligence material at German Naval H.Q. in Cherbourg was largely destroyed. Little of value has been captured.

(A.N.C.X.F., 282359 to Admty.)

Air.

Cositintrep 51, part 3, Air. Sunrise to 2100B hours 27th June. Total sorties, 1432.

Summary of targets. Details of operations. 85 flying bombs were plotted of which 69 flew over land, 26 penetrated to London area and 33 were shot down.

(Leigh-Mallory, 281030B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 52, part 3, Air. 2100/27 to sunrise 28th June. Total sorties, 780. Summary of targets. Details of operations. Enemy operations. 37 flying bombs operated. 23 made landfall and 11 reached Greater London area. 28 E slash A operated over beachhead and other areas in France. Two long range bombers operated over U.K.

(H.Q.A.E.A.F., 282200 to S.H.A.E.F.)

Military.

Communique No.45 (Extracts).

In the battle south-east of Tilly-sur-Seulles, Allied armour succeeded in widening the breach by the infantry on Monday. Advancing on a 4 mile front our forces have driven across the main Villers Bocage - Caen Road after particularly heavy fighting on the left in the area of Tourville. The enemy is resisting stubbornly but the advance continues to make good progress. In the vicinity of Cherbourg Allied Forces made progress in cleaning out enemy remnants hemmed in the horns of the Peninsula. (S.H.A.E.F., 281100B to Agwar.)

Para. (1) Operations.

Mopping up of remnants continues in Peninsula.

Para. (4) Prisoners of War.

Total passed through Reception Camps and base hospitals up to 1800 hours 27th June - 20,263. Of 15,000 prisoners of war received in U.K. up to D+ 18 12.5 per cent were foreigners. In subsequent days foreigners have averaged 25 per cent of intake. No final total prisoners of war taken in Cotentin Peninsula but 3460 claimed yesterday.

(S.H.A.E.F., 281400B to Agwar.)

/Communique ...

28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Communique No. 46 (Extracts.)

The Allied attack S.W. of Caen is making steady progress in spite of more bad weather and intense opposition. The enemy was driven out of Rauray, S.E. of Fontenay, where resistance had been most stubborn. After further heavy fighting in Grainville and Tour-Ville, our armour and infantry crossed the river Odon south of Tour-Ville on a front of about 2 miles.

Our advance continues towards the high ground south of the Odon. In the Cherbourg Peninsula enemy strong points E. and W. of the City are being steadily cleaned up.

Early this morning two destroyers HURON and ESKIMO encountered three armed enemy trawlers near the Channel Islands. Action was joined and two of the enemy ships were destroyed by gunfire. The third which made off during the action was believed to be damaged.

(S.H.A.E.F. 282330B to Agwar.)

Assault Areas.

Cable repair. Following from Cable ship ALERT begins: addressed N.C.W.T.F. Ref. O.N.14 section G. Repairs to Task 2 completed T.O.O. 281900B. Ends. (GENTIAN 281912B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Bombardment Forces.

Your 281619. I am opposed on principle to any further naval bombardment of batteries. (A.N.C.X.F. 282345B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from Plymouth. TARTAR (S.O.), ASHANTI form Force 28 and proceed to pass Gate at 0700B/28 to take up patrol in accordance with my 272328B. 2. Force 27 return to Plymouth by reverse route as in my 271347B. (C. in C.Plymouth 280347B.)

My 272336. Patrol of gun zone Sevenstones to Lizard may be discontinued. Patrol Z.237, Z.232 with major effort in latter square. (C. in C.Plymouth 281213B to E.G.6.)

/Information...

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28.6.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Information. Own.

5th E.G. Z.228 and 229. 1st E.G. Z.235 and 240 E.

2nd E.G. Z.233 and 238 E. 234 N. and 239 N.E.

6th E.G. Z.232 and 237 3rd E.G. Z.225 and 226.

9th E.G. North of Channel Islands.

Enemy. 1 Narvik, 1 ELBING and several M-class minesweepers believed in Brest. U-Boats in Western Channel and possibly off Brest. Possible convoy seen at anchor inside Ile de Croix at 2128/27.

Intention. 2. Force 28 TARTAR (S.O.), ASHANTI, BLYSKAWICA, HURON to sweep Brest Approaches tonight.

Object. 3. To destroy enemy ships and to support own surface forces.

Execution. 4. After meeting at FF 49° 15' N. 5° 22' W. at about 2000B today Force 28 is to sweep through GG 48° 28' N. 5° 45' W. to reach HH 48° 00' N. 5° 22' W. at 2359.

5. From HH sweep through JJ 47° 40½' N. 4° 27½' W. and then turn and sweep back through HH and GG to FF passing GG by 1st light 29th if possible.

6. Unless otherwise ordered Force 28 after passing FF is to return to Plymouth by centre of Q.Z.S. 417, 477 and 443.

(C. in C.Plymouth 281358B to D.F.10.)

P.C.W.O. 120. Patrols to be carried out weather permitting.

1. A. Unit G.P.1 M.T.Bs. 679 (S.O.), 664, 713, 678 carry out patrol as ordered in para. 1 of my 271356B.

2. A. Unit G.Q.1 M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 735, 736, 727 are to sail at 1830B/28 to carry out patrol as ordered for Unit G.Q.1. in para. 2 of my 271356B.

3. Delete all reference to Unit G.Q.2.

4. Westerly limits to patrol areas will not apply..

(C. in C.Plymouth 281417B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Cancel my 281417B. One unit to be at short notice from 2300 in harbour.

(C. in C.Plymouth 281649B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Cancel my 281358B.

2. TARTAR and ASHANTI comprising Force 28 are to patrol within 5 miles each side of line joining: RR. 49° 00' N. 6° 00' W. and SS. 49° 30' N. 6°

00' W. 3. BLYSKAWICA and HURON return to Plymouth.

(C. in C.Plymouth 281800B to D.F.10.)

Patrols from
Dover.

O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.L.442, 445 Z.1. F.N.2
M.T.B. 706, 703, 710 Z.2. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE Z.3.
F.U.5 ORWELL Z.5. F.U.7 SAVAGE Z.7.

2. OPPORTUNE and ORWELL freedom of action in Z.4
and Z.6 respectively.

(V.A.Dover 281231B.)

/Patrols...

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth 1 para. 38. Cover night 28/29th. A. ONSLAUGHT (G.H.1), ORIBI (G.H.2), BEAGLE (G.H.3) WESTCOTT (G.H.4) patrol on line 01° 00' W. between 49° 43' N. and 50° 05' N. Report night dispositions TALYBONT (G.F.1) in Z.10 between positions 50° 02' N. 00° 10' W. and 50° 05' N. 00° 02' W. LA COMBATTANTE (F.G.2) between 58 C Buoy and position 49° 57' N. 00° 22' W. BRISSENDEN (G.F.3) in Z.9 on lat. 50° 25' N. between 00° 01' W. and 00° 11' W. Force G.F. to be in positions by 2300. B. THORNBOROUGH (G.A.1) in Z.17. TORRINGTON (G.A.2) in Z.13. C. Unit G.A.3 M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O.), 209, 208. Unit G.A.4 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 691. Unit G.A.5 M.T.Bs. 253 (S.O.), 250, 251. Unit G.A.6 M.T.Bs. 602 (S.O.), 614. Units G.A.3 and G.A.4 with THORNBOROUGH in Z.17. Units G.A.5 and G.A.6 with TORRINGTON in Z.13. Force G.A. to be in position by 2300. D. Units G.B.1 M.T.Bs. 680 (S.O.), 613 in Z.14 N. Unit G.B. 2 M.T.Bs. 730 (S.O.), 704, 701 in Z.203. Unit G.B.1 to be in position by 2300. Unit G.B.2 via 270 Casquets 8 miles passing position at 2230. (C. in C.Portsmouth 281328B.)

My 281328B. Cancel para. C. and D.
Para. B to be on patrol by 2300.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 281742B to N.C.E.T.F. N.C.W.T.F.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night Channel report 28/29th June. 1. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE Z.3, Z.4. F.U.5 ORWELL Z.5, Z.6. F.U.7 SAVAGE Z.7. G.F.1 TALYBONT Z.10. G.F.2 LA COMBATTANTE between Z.16 and Channel 58. G.F.3 BRISSENDEN, Z.9 G.A.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.17. G.A. 2 TORRINGTON Z.13. 11th E.G. vicinity Z buoy. Fleet destroyers and Hunts of E.T.F. patrolling south of 49° 40' N. 2. Wellingtons cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N. 01° 15' E.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 281813B to Ships.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Western night Channel report 28/29th June. G.H.1 ONSLAUGHT, G.H.2 ORIBI. G.H.3 BEAGLE, G.H.4 WESTCOTT. on meridian of 01° W. between 49° 43' N. and 50° 05' N. 11th E.G. vicinity Z buoy., 5th E.G. Z.228, Z.229. 6th E.G. Z.232, Z.237. 1st E.G. Z.235, Z.240 E. 3rd E.G. Z.225, Z.226. 2nd E.G. Z.233, Z.238 E. Z.234 N. Z.239 N.E. 9th E.G. Z.126, Z.127, Z.128 N. Z.200, Z.201, Z.202 N. 2. Air patrols all areas W. of 01° 38' W. Swordfish on convoy route. Albatrosses standing by for Z.203.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 281841B to Ships.)

GLASGOW. Admiralty 280347. Intend GLASGOW leave at 1600 for Plymouth, E.T.A. Gate 2015.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 281420 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

My 281420 sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 281607 to C. in C.Plymouth.)

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Western Sector. Advanced patrol groups tonight. Three groups each consisting two P.Ts. All lats. 49 - 46. TADPOLE long. 001 - 23 W. MINNOW 001 - 18 W. SUNFIRE 001 - 14 W. Two steam gunboats BULLFROG lat. 49.38 long. 001.05 W. FRANKFORD call Hot Dog point L two will guard 8400 k/cs. Unless in action vessels will not proceed north 49.50 or east of 001.05 W. except when south of 49.40 N.
(?Originator 281750B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Mining.

Examination of Mines. Para. 2 of your 251943B. Two L.I.S. Officers will be available at short notice to proceed to recover mines in any area on receipt of report in Admiralty, D.T.M. Request transport facilities be arranged when required. Comnavu concurs.
(D.T.M. 281520B to A.N.C.X.F.)

STELLA RIGEL damaged. A. 2015/27th June. B. Not sweeping, at anchor. C. - D. HARRIER - position 049° 23.3' N. 00° 27.7' W. J. Mine detonated astern of trawler STELLA RIGEL under way at apparent speed of 7 - 8 knots.
(M/S 1 280848B to Admty.)

Western Sector since D Day. Part 1. Following is summary of mines accounted for in Western Task Force Area From D+1 to 282200B D+22 inclusive. A. By minesweeping: 126 acoustic and/Magnetic ground mines and 78 moored mines (all type G.R.) Total swept 204. B. By other means detailed below in para. 1 to 3 27
Total mines accounted for to date 231.

Part 2. 1. Casualties. Sunk by mines DE RICH (3 mines), D.D. MEREDITH, D.D. GLENNON. A.M. TIDE, A.P.SUSAN B. ANTHONY (all forementioned on D+1) MINSTER (net layer), 3 in number L.S.Ts. L.C.T.777, L.C.I.232 and M.M.S.229. (12/6)

2. Damaged by mines A.M. NUTHATCH, Y.M.377, M.M.S.297, GLEN, ROYAL (transport) one tug, one merchant vessel and one L.S.T.

3. Miscellaneous. Two floating mines sunk by sweepers with gunfire. One mine cut by warships Paravane and three mines observed to detonate for reasons unknown.

Total ships for (1)-12 (sunk by mines).
Total ships for (2)-9 (damaged by mines).
Total mines for (3)-6.

Part 3. With exceptions of GLEN, ROYAL, the merchant vessel, tug and two L.S.Ts. all casualties occurred outside swept waters. Magnetic or combined magnetic and acoustic ground mines predominated up to D+5, since when acoustic mines only appear to have been laid in this area.

(Com. M/S West 282339B to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy Action.

Two trawlers sunk. 3 minesweepers bearing 130° distance 2.5 miles. My position 062° Grand Lejon 14 miles. (HURON 280103 to Plymouth W/T.)

Two trawlers sunk. Am proceeding R/V with ESKIMO in position AA. My position 048° 52' N. 002° 19' W. course 315° speed 30 knots. (HURON 280300B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

At 0055/28th HURON and ESKIMO when on patrol S.W. of Minquiers obtained Radar contact with 3 ships, closed, illuminated, and engaged them. The enemy were probably trawlers of whom one was engaged by HURON and seen later to blow up. Second engaged by ESKIMO was heavily hit and made smoke. ESKIMO on closing range of this one to point blank came under fire from third who was sheltering behind smoke and received number of hits from close range Oerlikon fire which put number 2 and 3 boilers temporarily out of action and reduced her speed for about 20 minutes to 4 knots. Whilst ESKIMO was repairing damage the 3rd trawler though hit and damaged managed to make good her escape. The 2nd was finally sunk by HURON and our forces retired at about 0300. The enemy lost 2 trawlers sunk, 1 damaged. HURON no damage no casualties, ESKIMO some damage and 6 wounded, none serious. (C. in C.Plymouth 281325B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

U-Boats sunk. Since the Start of Operation "Neptune" the following A/S attacks by aircraft are considered to have destroyed U-Boats.

A. Liberator G/224 on 8th June. B. Mosquitoes T.S.W.V/248 on 10th June and Liberator K/206.
C. Catalina B/162 (R.C.A.F.) on 11th June* D. Catalina T/162 (R.C.A.F.) on 13th June* E. Catalina D/333 on 17th June*.
2. Request you will convey our congratulations to those concerned on these brilliant successes.
(1st S.L. 280216B to Air Ministry.)
* Not "Neptune".

We congratulate the 14th E.G. on their successful hunt of a U-Boat on 18th June, 1944 under the guns of the enemy's shore defences.
(1st S.L. 280217B to E.G.14.)

Channel situation.

Little new in English Channel area and cause of damage to corvette 20 miles N.E. of Cap Barfleur is still uncertain but torpedo from U-Boat is considered probable. There may be two U-Boats within 25 miles of 50° 00' N. 00° 40' W. and two in Channel Islands area.

/Probably...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Channel
situation
(Contd.)

Probably three near Ushant and another within 35 miles of Lizard.
Inconclusive indications of two probably eastbound within 30 miles east or west of 49° 30' N. 09° 40' W.
(D.D.I.C. 281434B to A.I.G. 331.)

A/S Patrol.

It is intended to maintain permanent anti-submarine patrol between Cap de la Hague and Portland Bill. Escort Groups will carry out patrol north of Assault Area. Please confirm that you will maintain A/S patrol in continuation of this line inside the Assault Area as soon as enemy batteries are silenced.
(A.N.C.X.F. 282347B to N.C.W.T.F.)

Port Facilities.

Cherbourg.

With immediate effect, Port of Cherbourg is declared a gun defended area by day and an inner artillery zone by night. Restricted area is enclosed within a circle centred on grid reference point 142 and radius 12000 yards, excluding an area bounded by following grid references, 2326, 2427, 2524, 2520, 2220, 2326.
(A.N.C.X.F. 281103B to Ships.)

Area S.

Following re-allocation of S & R Flotillas are to take effect forthwith. All serviceable craft of S & R Flotilla 30 to Juno from Sword. All serviceable craft of S & R Flotilla 35 to Gold from Sword. L.B.E. required for Sword beach repairs to be retained. Craft under repair are to re-join their Flotillas when ready. Individual numbers of craft transferred are to be reported.
(F.O.B.A.A. 281500B to N.O.I.C. S.)

Eastern
Sector.
New Shelter.

My 252147. Intend to lay a shelter in approx. 49° 22' 30" N. 0° 31' W. using eighteen bombardons moored in 4 to 6 fathoms for use of petrol craft. Ten bombardons to be in the line of flood tide, and four on each wing at an angle towards the shore not exceeding thirty degrees. D.B.D. is arranging for the necessary mooring to be sent from England as a matter of urgency, approx. date 3rd July.
Bombardons are now ready and will be sailed to conform with the laying of the moorings and as tugs become available.

/With...

28.6.0944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune"Port Facilities.Eastern
Sector.
New Shelter.
(Contd.)

With the assistance of FRATTON, F.O.B.A.A. is requested to arrange darning of site. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail Boom Defence vessels to Arromanches as required by B.D.O. Gosport.

The object of this shelter is to enable petrol craft to be kept out of the Gooseberries and to provide a separate fuelling area for small craft. (A.N.C.X.F. 281546B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

N.L.Dock No. 4. Request 475 tons N.L.Dock No. 4 allocated to N.C. W.T.F. be prepared for towage from Port Edgar to Portsmouth by 10th July.
2. C.O. Tug will arrange for towage.
(A.N.C.X.F. 281609B to Admty.)

Casualties & Defects..

L.C.M.1174. L.C.M.(III) 1174 aground at Lee on Solent. Stores are being removed.
(CRICKET 281016B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

U.S.L.S.T.61. Have sustained serious damage to bottom of ship due to obstruction in water when beaching?. Doubtful as to operation (?). Have requested temporary repairs from S.O.A. at Juno.
(U.S.L.S.T.61 281230B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Two "Whale" tows foundered. EMPIRE ROGERS "Whale" tow foundered at 0300/28th near Juno Light Vessel.
2. SAUCY's "Whale" tow foundered at 1400/27th near 58C Buoy.
3. Tugs returning to U.K.
(N.O.I.C. Arromanches 281504B.)

L.B.V.79. L.B.V.79 has today arrived in Omaha area having been retained at Sword since D+1.
(N.O.I.C. Omaha 281700B to F.O.B.A.A.)

CHANT 58. CHANT 58 shell plating set up in Gley pump room No. 4 double bottom bulkhead. Pump able to control leak but fitting cement box for crossing. Expect to sail a.m. 29th.
(M.W.T.R. Port en Bessin 282215B to Portsmouth.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Casualties & Defects.

MAID OF
ORLEANS
mined.

MAID OF ORLEANS mined in 131° E. 3 6 miles.
EGLINTON and tug EMPIRE ROGER standing by. Depth
30 fathoms, speed 15 knots.
(STORK 282310B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.X.P.18.

B. REDPOLE, HOTHAM. E. For Gold 1 ship.. For Juno
2 ships. For Juno/Gold 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280004.)

E.C.P.18.

B. 113 E.G. E. For Utah 3 ships, for Omaha 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280005B.)

E.W.L.20.

B. GAIRSAY, HEATHER. E. For Gold 3 L.S.Ts. two
towing pontoons. For Juno 4 L.S.Ts. two towing
pontoons.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280321B.)

E.B.C.23.

B. 141 E.G. E. For Omaha 9 ships. For Utah 3 ships
(A.N.C.X.F. 280551.)

E.T.C.20.

B. COTSWOLD, GODETIA. E. For Gold 16 ships, For
Sword 5 ships, For Juno 4 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280611, 281229.)

E.C.M.16.

A. E.C.M.16. E. For Omaha 13 ships. For Utah 6
ships and L.S.T.317.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280817, 281153B.)

E.T.M.19.

B. EKINS, HOLDERNESS, NARCISSUS, STATICE.
E. For Gold 8 ships, 6 L.S.Ts. 1 U.S.L.S.T.
For Juno 8 ships, 3 L.S.Ts. For Sword 1 ship.
For Gold and Juno U.S.L.S.T.157.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280903B.)

F.T.M.

A. Sailing F.T.M. CAMPBELL, STARWORT, VIVACIOUS,
CLOVER for The Nore. CHASER 12 for Portsmouth.
E. For Tilbury 15 ships, 5 L.S.Ts. For Isle of
Wight area 3 ships, 2 L.S.Ts.
(Capt. N.S. 280932B.)

F.T.C.20.

Sail B. AVONVALE, CURZON for The Nore M.Ls. 1411,
1415 for Portsmouth. E. 16 ships and CHANT 42.
(Capt. N.S. 281145B.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- 5th Divn. 12 M.T.vessels moving 5th Division sail p.m. 6th
move. July. Troopers p.m. 7th July. All arrive Utah
9th July. 12 M.Ts. (names). 4 troopers (names).
(H.Q.Etousa 281455B.)
- F.W.L.19. A. Sailed. B. GAIRSAY, HEATHER, CHASSEUR 10.
E. 16 L.S.Ts. Bottom damaged L.S.T.327, 50
survivors.
(Capt. N.S. 281611B.)
- E.P.L.21. Intend at 2200B/28. B. ROCHESTER, CLARKIA, M.L.
212. E. L U.S. L.S.T. 56 (commodore) 372, 509,
230, 310, 500, 27, 262, 533. 2. First 4 Utah
remainder Omaha.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 281701B.)
My 281701B sailed less 56 plus 505, 371 and 532
all Utah.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 282215.)
- F.B.C.12. A. Sailed. B. E.G.106 plus M.Ls. 309, 1387 and
S.Cs. 1282, 1322. E. 21 ships.
(C.T.G. 122.7 281715B.)
- F.C.M.17. A. Sailed. B. E.G.121 (S.O. in SCARBOROUGH).
E. For Southampton 8 ships, 21 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 122.7 281726B.)
- DUKE OF Sailed from Juno for Southampton 340 casualties
ROTHESAY. on board.
(S.O.A.C. Juno 281838B.)
- Plan The continuation of plan Fortitude calls for a
Fortitude. concentration of shipping in the Thames Estuary
and S.E.ports.
2. There are at present some 30 loaded Liberty
ships at Belfast and Oban waiting to be called
forward to the Assault area.
3. Request consideration may be given to transferring these
ships and subsequent arrivals of a similar nature from U.S.to
Thames Estuary to await calling forward.
(A.N.C.X.F. 281921B to Admty.) *Reply: 062200B July.*
- F.X.P.18. A. Sail B. STORK, REDPOLE, EGLINTON, HOTHAM.
E. 4 ships.
(Capt. N.S. 281931B.)

/Starlight...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Starlight
nineteen.

Sailed. 7 L.C.I.(L)s. 9 U.S.L.C.I.(L)s.
E.T.A. 0900/29th Gold and Juno.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven (Turco) 282001B.)

C.P.13.

A. Sailed for C.P.13. B. E.G.113 S.O. in part*
E. For Portland PRINCE HENRY, QUEEN EMMA, for
Plymouth ULSTER MONARCH, for Southampton 1 ship.
(C.T.F. 122.7 282230.)
* as received ?HART intended.

Balloons.

A number of cases have occurred of balloons flown
by ships of "Overlord" convoys being hit by shell
splinters and shot down while passing through the
Straits of Dover. In one case the burning balloon
fell on the deck of an M.T.ship fracturing the fuel tank of a
vehicle. Had the fuel been petrol instead of diesel oil the ship
might well have been burnt out.

2. Although balloons are close hauled between N. Foreland and
Dungeness they generally show above smoke screens, and it would
seem this must provide a useful aid to enemy radar.
3. I consider these balloons to be more of a menace than a benefit
at present and I recommend that they should not be flown by
"Overlord" convoys sailing between France and the Thames Estuary.
(C. in C.Nore 282248B to Admty. A.N.C.X.F.)

E.C.M.17P.

Intend A. E.C.M.17P at 0430/29. B. As for E.C.M.17
E. 1. U.S.L.S.T.56 (commodore) 58, 516, 208.
2. All Utah.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 282335B.)

Organisation and Administration.

Cruisers
released.

Following cruisers can be released now ARETHUSA,
BELLONA, GLASGOW, SIRIUS, BLACK PRINCE, GEORGES
LEYGUES, MONTCALM. 2. It is expected that BELFAST,
ARGONAUT and DIADEM will be released shortly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 280012B and 281155B to Admty.)

Broad Pen-
nant of
Com. G.

Propose to transfer my Broad Pennant from BULOLO
to MASTODON at 0800/29th June.
(Com. G 281926B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Your 281926B. Approved.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 282311B to Com. Force G.)

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HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

LOBELIA. LOBELIA has been ordered to West Africa Command.
(2) Request you will sail LOBELIA as additional escort to O.S.82 leaving U.K. July 2nd.
(C. in C. W.A., 281016B to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

UNSEEN, My 261431B June. Add 24 hours all times.
UNRUFFLED. (Capt. (S) 7, 281105B and 281144 to F.O.S.)

Operations

Operation Request you take METEOR and MATCHLESS under your
D.C. orders and carry out programme outlined in my 222143 which is to be known as Operation D.C.
(2) Leave Scapa a.m./29th June and proceed to arrive Skaalefiord, at 1800B/29th June and fuel.
(3) On completion proceed by following route Blue passing through following positions.
(AA) 063° 00' N. 004° 40' W. (BB) 067° 15' N. 004° 30' E.
(CC) 072° 10' N. 015° 50' E. (DD) 072° 55' N. 028° 40' E.
(EE) 071° 45' N. 036° 00' E. and see K.I.G.M. part 1, para. 2(C).
(4) Pass through position (AA) at 0400B/30th June thence proceed at speed of advance 17 knots weather and fuel permitting.
(5) On arrival at Kola destroyers are to embark personnel listed in S.B.N.O. North Russia 240004.
(6) Return by route Blue unless otherwise ordered.
(7) British submarines will be patrolling north of 069° N. and west of 002° W. during your outward and homeward passage.
(C. in C. H.F., 281033B to MUSKETEER.)

Operation 363 P. With reference to para. 6 of my postagram
"Overlord". 241732 June 1944, preliminary discussions with
Channel Army Authorities confirm that the total lift is
Islands much increased for the following reasons:-
Plan. (i) Provisions for both light and heavy A/A
defences. (ii) Increased R.E. commitments to
deal with expected demolitions and obstructions,
including airfields. (iii) Increased Naval
commitments to deal with similar obstructions.
(2) The total initial lift for all services is now provisionally
estimated as follows:-
Personnel approximately 4,580
Vehicles " 428
Motor Cycles " 190
Pedal Cycles " 550
Stores " 3,550 tons, of which 1,200 tons are
for Civil Affairs. It is understood great importance is
attached to rapid discharge of the latter, if possible on the
first day. The above figures are not firm and may require
revision in the light of further Army planning.
(3) Further consideration strengthens the expectation that first
entry will need to be made over beaches for the reasons following:
(1) The probable damage and obstructions to ports and port
facilities ashore and afloat referred to in para. 4 of my 241732.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Operation "Overlord". Channel Islands Plan. (Contd.)

(2) Inadequacy of the ports and facilities, even if undamaged, to deal expeditiously with increased lift now envisaged.

(4) The most suitable beaches are considered to be Lancrease Bay in Guernsey and St. Aubin Bay in Jersey, and it is understood the Military Force Commander raises no objection in principle to beach landings.

(5) Of the vessels enumerated in the Rankin C - Channel Island Plan, Part III, Section IV, para. 13, none now remain available to the Commander in Chief, Plymouth, for this operation with the exception of the 6 L.C.T. of the X and D Flotilla at Appledore, and confirmation is requested whether even these should now be used.

(6) In view of the above considerations the proposed ships for the initial lift are:-

2 L.S.I.(L) or an equivalent lift of L.S.I.(L) and/or L.S.I.(S) or (H), and/or L.C.I.(L). 7 L.S.T. 12 L.C.T.(5) or (6), or a combination of L.C.T. and Rhino Ferries for unloading L.S.T. Sufficient coasters for civil affairs stores as indicated above. (Note: It is intended the coasters should beach and dry out).

(7) The provision of L.S.T. is considered very desirable for the initial lift for the following reasons:-

(i) The large number of vehicles and the nature of many of them, e.g. heavy A/A guns etc.

(ii) Suitability for quick transference of vehicles to L.C.T.(5) or (6) or Rhino Ferries for passage to the shore. It is considered such transference will be necessary even if St. Peters Port and St. Helier are usable. St. Peters Port might accommodate L.S.T. one at a time, St. Helier could not. Neither port could accept large M.T. ships.

(8) As regards ferry service it is considered L.C.T.(5) or (6) would be more suitable for this operation than Rhino Ferries on account of the unhandiness of the latter in strong currents or inside the small harbours concerned.

(9) The following ancillary craft are also considered necessary:-
2 Trawlers } Local Flotilla to be at the disposal of
Half a Flotilla of M.Ls. } N.O.I.C. Guernsey as previously planned.
1 Oiler for fuel oil and diesel oil.

1 dumb lighter for 100 octane and 87 octane fuels.
1 tug to tow the dumb lighter and thereafter for general service at St. Peters Port.

2 L.B.E. - one each for Guernsey and Jersey.
2 L.B.O. or fuelling trawlers - one each for Guernsey and Jersey.
2 L.B.W. one each for Guernsey and Jersey.
1 trawler with equipment for establishment of minesweeping base.
4 Harbour service launches.

(10) As regards build-up preliminary figures received from Army Authorities indicate that a further early lift is required as follows:-

Personnel	approximately	1,160
Vehicles	"	450
Motor Cycles	"	100
Stores	"	2,450 tons

It is proposed that the Force suggested in para. 6 should be retained to enable this to be carried out in one lift.

(11) After this initial lift it is considered that L.S.I.(L), L.C.T., L.S.T. and L.C.I.(L) could all be released and any further build-up required could best be conducted by:
Personnel ships of the Cross Channel type for personnel and mails.

/Coasters ...

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Operation "Overlord".
Channel Islands Plan.
(Contd.)

Coasters for stores, of which it is anticipated that 4,700 tons will be required between Landing Day + 8 and Landing Day + 28 and a further 7,150 tons between Landing Day + 29 and Landing Day + 90.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 281944 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Intelligence

DIXIE. On June 17th Norwegian vessel DIXIE 1,571 tons was sunk or damaged off Kirkenes. No details. Graded B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 281556 to Admty.)

U-Boats

Oil patch and wreckage. Nr.2. Investigating oil patch position 49.25 N. 09.40 W. Wreckage.
(A/C NSW.10, 281020 to 19 Group.)

Casualties and Defects

FAIRHAVEN. My 271725. FAIRHAVEN refloated at 2325Z/27th June and was towed to Reykjavik Harbour. Vessel is now beached in sheltered position to await slipping.
(A.C.I.C., 282047B to Admty.)

SIRIUS. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail SIRIUS on 29th June to R/V with BLACK PRINCE for passage to Sheerness. A.M. 282349 refers.
(2) SIRIUS will be taken in hand at Chatham on 2nd July for docking and examination of underwater fittings.
(5) SIRIUS will be required to sail for Mediterranean on 25th July.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 282335B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

BLACK PRINCE. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail BLACK PRINCE on 29th June for Tyne passing Dungeness at 0245B/30th or as required by C. in C. Nore. SIRIUS will join off the Isle of Wight as ordered by C. in C. Portsmouth for passage to Sheerness. A.M. 282335 refers.
(3) On arrival BLACK PRINCE will be taken in hand at Messrs. Middle Dock Co. Ltd., South Shields for docking and such radar and other A's and A's as can be completed by 24th July.
(6) BLACK PRINCE will be required to sail for foreign service on 25th July.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 282349B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

48 U.S.A. Modify 272214 (See Special File) as follows.
D.D. Tanks. To arrive Barry Roads as early as practicable
 but not later than 1300/30th. Comtrans 11th
 Phib. arrange with F.O.I.C. Greenock to sail
 three X.A.P. to Avonmouth for loading 48 U.S.A.
D.D. Tanks, 16 in each ship. This group will be issued
sailing directions later to R/V with BB CA and transport convoy
leaving Clyde area 3rd July.
(Com. 12th Fleet, 282011.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

ONICE,
JALEA

Intend to sail Italian Submarines ONICE and JALEA escorted by U.S.S. FESSENDEN at 1010/30 for Horta. (route).

2. Communications.

3. Codeword "Rounders".

4. S.B.N.O. Azores is requested to sail ships for Bermuda. (route). Admiralty 171544B not to all refers after submarines have embarked diesel fuel and fresh water at Horkam (? Horta intended).

5. Italian Submarines have private signal and single aircraft letter only for recognition purposes.

(F.O.G.M.A.281603Z)

T.G.22.5
A/S
Operations.

Proceed on 30th June and operate against submarines proceeding between Azores and North West Africa. Keep south of 40 North.

(C. in C. Lant 282006Z to C.T.G.22.5)

Unknown
signals
in mid
Atlantic.

Ministry of Marine informs me that Master of a Spanish ship recently arrived Spain has reported sighting in mid Atlantic destroyer(s) and aircraft which made signal O - E in morse the meaning of which could not be understood in view of position of ship. Similar reports have been received from other Masters. Ministry re requests clarification of seen signals.

(A.N.A. Madrid 282030B)

South Atlantic.

T.G.22.6
A/S
search.

Set course for approx. position 26 North and 20 West your 281027. Get homebound U-Boat presently reported at 22 North 20 West while en route area operations of C.T.G.22.5 transfer planes.

(Cinclant 281959Z to C.T.G.22.6)

c.f. C. in C. Lant 28006Z in North Atlantic.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SS. WILLIAM
HAWKINS.

U.S. ship WILLIAM HAWKINS 7177 tons (Liberty ship) grounded position 015° 49' N. 041° 00' E. 29th May 1944 refloated 30th May 1944 with assistance from H.M. Tug HENRIETTA MOLLER and sent to Massawa. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria 281521.)

Cositintrep
No. 355.

5. H.M. Submarines report having destroyed corvette, Lighter and Siebel Ferry in Aegean and F-Lighter 3,000 ton merchant ship and 7,500 ton tanker off South Coast of France. (C. in C. Med. 282032B.)

Situation
report No.
385.

1. Coastal force attacked enemy convoy north of Leros during night 23/24th June but had to break off action after second attempt owing to casualties.
2. Night 24/25th June APHIS and SCARAB with coastal force carried out patrols in two groups between Porto Fino and Arno River. One group was illuminated and engaged but did not return fire as enemy could not be seen. The other group engaged a small target but claims no hits.
3. P.T. boats operating off Mesco Point night 25/26th June were forced to withdraw by heavy fire.
4. During night 26/27th June P.T. boats in Leghorn/Spezia area made unsuccessful attack on unknown stationary ship, other coastal forces were on patrol in vicinity Vada Rocks. M.T.B. 640 was sunk by mine. 5 ratings missing believed killed.
5. During operations to clear alternative channel north of Cani Rocks sweepers of 160th B.Y.M.S. Flotilla have cut 58 mines. During extension inshore channel to Piombino 13 mines swept in Civitavecchia area.
6. UNSPARING reports having destroyed a U-Boat* a lighter and a Siebel Ferry northeast of Cape Malea 036° 27' N. 023° 12' E. on 21st June.
7. ULTOR reports sinking F-Lighter on 20th June and 3000 ton M/V and 7500 ton tanker off Nice on 27th June. (C. in C. Med. 282118B.) Amended 021142 July and 032253B.

*? U-boat chase intended
W. I. R. 225/12.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B No.72. No fresh information. No changes in
dispositions. scale of air escort.
(C. in C. E.F. 280331Z)

Ship	Duty	Squadron	Aircraft	I.E.	A.R.
BEGUM	A/U	832	Avenger Wildcat	12 4	Nil Nil
SHAH	A/U	851	Avenger Wildcat	12 4	3 1
AMEER	A/U	845	Avenger	12	Nil
BATTLER	A/U	834	Swordfish Wildcat	12 6	3 1
ATHELING	Fighter Protect- ion.	890 889	Wildcat Seafire	10 10	0 Nil

2. BEGUM and SHAH are at present on A/U operations with Escort Group 60.

It is now intended to form a second escort group for which BATTLER and AMEER will shortly commence working up. With the present number of escort vessels available after formation of the second escort group it will not be possible to form a third escort group nor is it considered that a fifth A/U Carrier is required for A/U operations with the first two escort groups.

Fighter Escort Carrier.

3. Further to my 241556 March it is now considered that in view of the arrival of additional Fleet Carriers the necessity for retaining ATHELING as a Fighter Escort Carrier with the Fleet no longer arises.

Training Carrier for Eastern Fleet.

4. There is a requirement on this station for a Training Carrier for the following duties.

A. Deck Landing training. B. Squadron carrier training at sea. C. Ferry carrier between Madras, Cochin and Ceylon for transferring F.A.A. aircraft to and from the repair yards in Southern India.

5. Up to the present UNICORN has been employed when necessary for deck landing training particularly for Squadrons destined for Fleet Carriers but this training has resulted in a reduction in the progress of her repair work on board and has involved disembarkation of the spare aircraft carried for Fleet Carriers.

6. Unless there are other requirements for ATHELING it is now proposed that she should be used for the duties in para. 4 and her fighters and pilots utilised for other services shown in para 9 below.

Increase of Fighter Complement in INDOMITABLE and FORMIDABLE.

7. The I.E. of the fighter squadrons allocated to the above two carriers are as follows:-

A. To INDOMITABLE - Hellcat Squadrons 1839, 1844, of 10 aircraft each.

B. To FORMIDABLE - Corsair Squadrons 1837, of 14 aircraft and 1838 of 10 aircraft.

8. It is considered desirable to increase the I.E. of each of all the above squadrons to 14 aircraft as soon as sufficient aircraft

/and ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies.

U/B
dispositions
(contd.)

and trained fighter pilots are available in Ceylon.
Allocation of Fighters and Fighter Pilots ex ATHELING.

9. The following re-allocation of 890 and 889 Squadron is advised.

(a) Sufficient pilots from 889 Squadron together with 10 Seafire Pilots now on passage to Ceylon to undergo conversion course in Ceylon to meet requirements in para. 8.
(B) 890 Squadron to be equipped with an I.E. of 10 Corsairs as spare Corsair Squadron and to be trained as bombardment spotting unit and escort as an interim measure.
(C) Seafire and Wildcat aircraft of the above Squadron to be put into storage.

10. A very early decision is requested of paras. 6 and 9.
(C. in C. E.F. 280347 to Admty.)

Night
Fighters

Night Fighters. Consideration is being given in the Eastern Fleet to developing counter measures to the Japanese night air torpedo attacks which the enemy are known to be developing.

2. The following information is therefore requested:

(A) anticipated date by which night Firefly aircraft and pilots will be available in Ceylon for Eastern Fleet carriers.
(B) If it is probable that a considerable time will elapse before (A) can be implemented whether a limited number of night Fulmar fighters could be supplied as an interim measure.
(C) Any known details concerning possible use of Hellcat with no A/S equipment as night fighters, as this possible interim measure has been suggested.

(C. in C. E.F. 280352Z to Admty.)

U/B
report.

By D/F on 8030 kcs. at 0106Z and 0419Z/28 a U-Boat within 250 miles of 001 degs. S. 089 degs.E.
(C. in C. E.F. 280600Z)

China
Summary of
events for
week ending
21 June.

3. U.S. Air.
19 June. In an attack of shipping at Nanking 3 Mitchells B.25s and 13 Lightnings P.38s damaged one gunboat.

(S.A.C.S.E.A. 280945FG.)

Aircraft
Repair
Yards.

It is becoming increasingly apparent from experience that with the provision of seven repair yards class B which includes Ratmalana provided it does not interfere with other approved projects the hangar area will be totally inadequate

/to ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies.

Aircraft. to deal with:
Repair (A) Major inspection of aircraft.
Yards (B) Minor repairs to aircraft.
(Contd.) (C) Modification and equipping of aircraft which
 is proving a major task.
Unless development of full C.R.O. facilities for
the repair of airframes is proceeded with
forthwith there will be a grave danger of
operations being impeded owing to insufficient serviceable
aircraft. I understand that repair pooling policy in India as
arranged by breaks has been altered and that D.A.M.R. is in
touch with Air Ministry on the new policy. Request an early
decision may be communicated concerning this policy.
(C. in C. E.F. 281236Z to Admty.)

Operation My 230751. Para (1) amend sailing date of
"Toddy" J.C.54 immediately to read 0600Z July 2nd.
 E.T.A. Chittagong 0130Z July 8th.
 Para. (2) Add EGRA.
 2. S.S.T.O. Colombo 280455 ✓
 (C. in C. E.F. 281301Z)
 ✓ EGRA not now required by D.S.T.O. E. Af.

Routine The following are proposals for instituting
Troop Routine Troop convoys between Durban, Kilindini,
Convoys. and Aden. P.S.T.O. Capetown's 101623, My
 131322 and Admty's 202306 not to F.O.E.A. refer.
 (2) (A) Convoys to comprise up to four Indian
 Ocean Troopships speed below fourteen knots.
 (B) Eleven knot convoy cycle as follows:-
Leave Durban Day One-arrive Aden Day 15 leave Aden Day 28-arrive
Durban Day 42 next convoy to leave Durban Day 50.
(C) Escort to be provided throughout by three ships of Kilindini
Escort Force who would boiler clean at Aden and Durban-Escort
to be reinforced when possible by ship on passage to or from
refit in South Africa.
(3) It is realised that this cycle is unduly long but escorts for
a 37 day cycle to connect with M.K.F. and K.M.F. convoys cannot
be provided from the Eastern Fleet until re-inforcements arrive.
(4) F.O.E.A. is requested to remark on whether the remaining
ships of the Kilindini escort force will be sufficient to run
the trade convoys between Aden and Kilindini.
(5) P.S.T.O.I. and P.S.T.O. Capetown are requested to remark on
paras. 2(A) and (B)
(6) C. in C. S.A. is requested to remark on whether the three
corvettes which will be re-joining the South Atlantic Station
could provide escort between Durban and Kilindini. If this
were possible a 37 day cycle could be introduced.
(C. in C. E.F. 281334Z)

Escort A.M. 231534/May para 3 (a).
force Following ships have been nominated.
re-inforce- A/A Sloops. CRANE, PELICAN, REDPOLE, MERMAID,
ments Frigates. AWE, HALLADALE, CAM, DEVERON, LOCHY,
for E.F. SWALE.

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Escort
force
re-incorpe-
ments
for E.F.

2. AWE and HALLADALE are expected to leave U.K. mid July.
3. Sailing date of remainder will be notified in due course.
4. None of the above ships are due to refit this year.
5. Request accounting bases for all ships.
(D.O.D.(F) 281831B to C. in C. E.F.)
See amendment 071629B July.

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

ATENGO
overdue

ATENGO (British Tug) E.T.A. Balboa 23rd June
reported overdue on passage from Salina Cruz.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica 280906Q)

Convoy
O.N.M.240

56 ships arrived New York.28th June.
(P.D. New York 281228Z)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(Cominch 281250Z, 281546Z)

NIEUW
AMSTERDAM.

Diversion order.
(D.O.D.(H) 281522B to NIEUW AMSTERDAM)

SS QUEEN
MARY.

U.S.A. sources have accidentally compromised date
and time of departure A.T.129 from security
aspect U.S.W.D. and ourselves consider much too
dangerous to sail her as at present planned
midday 30 June. Next possible hour of departure
is some 25 hours after namely 1300 hours 1 July. thus arriving
U.K. 11 July instead of 10 July. Is this acceptable. Request
most immediate reply.
(B.A.S. Washington 281645Q to W.O.)

T.C.U.28

Off Oversight 0015Z/27. All arrived.
(D.T.D.281806B)

T.G.27.7

Task Group 27.7 composed of TULAGI, KASAAN BAY and
Cortdiv.47 will depart Quonset 1300Z/30 via Points
as follows:
A.39-30 N. 70-18 W. B. 40-25 N. 55-00 W.
C.39-00 N. 40-00 W. D. 35-45 N. 24-00 W.
Speed 15. Crossing Chop 24 degs. W. 062000Z. Enter Mediterr-
anean approaches 080000Z. E.T.A. off Gibraltar 081200Z. Plan
air operations en route. Request air coverage until dusk
30 June and daylight period in Mediterranean approaches.
(C.T.G. 27.7 282017 to Com. one., F.O.G.M.A.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 890.

27th June.
(12) Delayed report states M.T.Es. operating Wewak
area night 23rd/24th sank one barge probably sank
another.

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28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 890. (15) One enemy aircraft carrier reported Davao
(Contd.) Gulf evening 25th. Next morning several groups
shipping reported at north-east entrance Guimarras
Strait (Between Panay and Legros ? Islands central
Philippines) four transports, three loaded tankers,
three warships described cruisers heading south-east: one hour
later seven unidentified warships heading north-east: half an hour
later seven large transports heading south: later still single
loaded tanker heading south. Considered about 18 vessels
involved these sightings. but possibility some duplication.
(16) Night 26th/27th M.T.Bs. contacted probable enemy submarine
north-west of Biak Island heading East.
(20) Night 25th/26th M.T.Bs. straffed enemy coastal positions
around New Ireland Coast.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 280900Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
and
sighting
summary.

Para B.
1. A/C of A.D.G.B. reported two small
stationary U-Boats at 1542Z/27 in approx. 54.35 N.
10.45 E.
2. ROCHESTER attacked contact and H.M. Ship
damaged by possible Gnat torpedo at 1423Z/27
in 49.56 N. 00.53 W.
3. A/C V/201 obtained disappearing contact at
0330Z/28 in 50.02 N. 11.02 W.
(D.D.I.C.281058B)

U/Bs
attacked -
summary.

My 221059/July 1942.
At 0230/21 Wellington A/304 straddled U-Boat with
depth charges in 50.00 N. 02.50 W. Large oil
patch seen.
2. At 1450/21 Sunderland L/228 and Halifax D/502
made three attacks on a U-Boat in 49.36 N.
08.28 W. Oil observed.
3. At 1332/22 U.S. Liberator M/103 attacked U-Boat in 49.13 N
05.12 W. Oil and wreckage seen.
4. At 1927/24 H.M.C.S. HAIDA and ESKIMO sank U-Boat in 48.50 N.
05.42 W. U-Boat surfaced after depth charge attack. Survivors
picked up.
5. Catalina P/162 sank U-Boat p.m./ 24th in 62.55 N. 00.00

/Aircraft ...

28.6.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

- U/Bs
attacked -
summary.
(Contd.)
- Aircraft shot down by U-Boat. Survivors of both P/162 and U-Boat seen by Catalina D/333. Former were in dinghies and were rescued. No U-Boat survivors found by rescue craft.
6. U.S. Liberator J/103, Fortress D/206 and 9th Escort Group carried out attacks on a U-Boat p.m./24th. Oil patch seen.
- U.269 7. At 0425/25 BICKERTON (5th E.G.) sank U-Boat in 50.00 N. 03.00W. U-Boat surfaced after depth charge attack. Survivors picked up.
- U.719 8. At 1240/26 BULLDOG attacked U-Boat with Hedgehog in 54.33 N. 11.02 W. Considered three hits scored. Much oil appeared.
- U.317 9. At 2320/26 Liberator N/86 sank U-Boat in 62.03 N. 01.45 E. 15 survivors seen in water.
- U.987 10. SATYR reports she attacked U-Boat in 68.01 N. 05.08 E. at 0915/15. Two torpedoes seen to hit. U-Boat appeared to break in half.
(D.A.U.D. 281306B)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions (D.D.I.C.281425B, 281442B)

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORTHome CommandsOperation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) All the Cherbourg forts surrendered at 1115 today. Minesweeping in Channel L there began early this morning, and at 2048A a swept channel one mile wide had been established from the St. Vaast approaches to the Grande Rade. The Cherbourg Docks are severely damaged and the whole anchorage has been heavily mined; but the Bassin a Flot and the Avant Port de Commerce can soon be in operation and some hards and beaches can be used for unloading L.S.T. and Craft.

(b) In the Assault Area the S.W. wind eased today, though the weather is still unsettled. No Mulberry units have been sailed to the Western Sector since the gale began; two Whale tows on passage foundered on the night 27th/28th; and all Whale roadway sailings tonight were cancelled at 1325B today.

Enemy
Action.

2. U-Boats. (a) At 1355B today the Admiralty considered that there were three or four U-Boats in the Channel East of 03° W., two or three more between Ushant and the Lizard, and two more further to the westward.

Mines. (b) Minelaying by aircraft continues in the Assault Area, where 33 mines detonated today and 3 more were swept. Five enemy A/C minelaying in the Eastern Sector were shot down by Cruiser gunfire during last night.

(c) At about 1600 today four U.S. Ammunition Ships in Convoy E.C.M.17 were damaged by under water explosion about 30 miles South of St. Catherines Point. One was able to proceed with the Convoy but the other three had to be towed to Spithead.

(d) At 1859 the British EMPIRE PORTIA in Convoy F.T.M.22 was damaged by mine about 26 miles East of St. Catherines Point and is proceeding in tow to the Solent. *(Later awarded to U/boat. Became total loss)*

(e) B.Y.M.S.2069 was damaged by a near mine in the Western Sector.

(f) In Area "J" M.T. Ship 25 was sunk by a mine.

R-Boats. (g) Seven R-Boats were attacked off Treport at 0615 today by four Typhoon A/C who sank one R-Boat and damaged two.

Mediterranean

3. BIRMINGHAM, who was torpedoed on 28th November 1943 sailed from Gibraltar today for Norfolk Va. for repairs.

29.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

4. Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser K.C.B., K.B.E. has been appointed to relieve the present C. in C. E.F. and will take up his appointment at the end of July.

China

5(a) A U.S. Liberator sank a 250 ft. vessel in Tong King Gulf today.
(b) In the Formosa Straits area B.24s. sank two large vessels and probably a third, and damaged a fourth.

Australia and New Zealand

6. Three Allied destroyers bombarded with 1000 rounds a suspected enemy concentration near Yakamul in the early hours of today. Patrols subsequently found the area empty. P.T. Boats operated along the coast to Yakamul tonight, and two co-operating Beaufighters bombed a slipway in the same neighbourhood.

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military.

Communique No.47 (Extracts).

More Allied Forces have crossed the River Odon and the width of the bridgehead has been increased. There has also been heavy fighting including armoured clashes, north and north-west of Caen. Enemy resistance has ceased in the area of the Maupertus Airfield east of Cherbourg. A few strong points remain to be dealt with in the Cap de la Hague area.
(S.H.A.E.F., 291100B to Agwar.)

(1) Operations. Mopping up virtually completed in Cotentin Peninsula.

Enemy offering fierce resistance to our bridgehead over the River Odon and counter-attacking strongly against flanks of our salient north of River. Enemy reacting strongly north of Caen.

(4) Prisoners of War. Accumulative total passed through reception camps and base hospital up to 1800 hours 28th June, 22,871.

(S.H.A.E.F., 291500B to Agwar.)

Air.

Cositintrep 53, Part 3, Air. Sunrise to 2100B hours 28th June 1944. Total sorties 1,182.

Summary of targets. Enemy operations. 64 flying bombs despatched against south-east England. 47 made landfall and 26 reached the Greater London area. 13 are claimed destroyed. About 65 enemy aircraft were plotted over areas in Northern France including the Normandy beachhead.

(H.Q.A.E.A.F., 291200B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 54, Part 3, Air. 0100B hours 28th June to sunrise 29th June 1944. Total sorties 214. Summary of targets. Enemy operations.

85 flying bombs were detected, 51 making landfall, 28 reaching London Area and 35 being reported as shot down by A.E.A.F.

(H.Q.A.E.A.F., 292110B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Naval.

IVES reports all Cherbourg Forts surrendered at 1115B. Commenced sweeping Channel L from L.1 westward early this morning.

(N.C.W.T.F., 291247B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cositintrep No.53, part 2, Naval.

(A) General. S.W. wind had eased to force 4 at 0900 this morning. Preliminary survey of Cherbourg Harbour indicated that the docks are severely damaged and probably no use for some time; Bassin a Flot and Avant Port de Commerce can soon be in operation and certain beaches and hards can be used for unloading L.S.T. and craft. Entire anchorage has been heavily mined.

/Enemy ...

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Enemy batteries fired 50 rounds at coaster convoy passing Dover between 1629 and 1710 yesterday. One ship on fire towed into harbour. Two rounds fell in Dover causing ten casualties.

LARGS, Flag of Naval Commander Force S, hit by shell at 1830 but without serious damage or casualties.

(B) Casualties. L.S.I. MAID OF ORLEANS, sunk, believed mined, 50° 06' N. 00° 41' W.

M.T. Ship 25, mined in Juno area. Total loss.

LARGS, minor damage, gunfire.

(C) Coastal Command weather reduced scale of patrols. A U-Boat was attacked at 0820 30 miles N. of Cap Levi, where escort group is investigating.

(Ad. Ramsay, 291443B.)

Bombardment Forces

Proposed reduction of Force.

Admiralty inform me that BELFAST is due to be taken in hand for docking in Tyne about 5th or 6th July.

It is my intention that you should leave the assault area when BELFAST is withdrawn as bombardment force will thereafter be progressively

reduced to four cruisers. Request you will inform me of your intentions with regard to transfer of your flag which could conveniently be effected at Scapa on BELFAST's passage to Tyne. (A.N.C.X.F., 291056B to C.S.10.)

A.N.C.X.F. 291056B. For BELFAST to arrive Tyne River p.m. July 6th allowing for one night at Spithead in order to pass Lands End in daylight, calling at Clyde for books and possibly visiting Scapa (where my office is disembarked), she should leave Assault Area p.m. July 1st.

(2) Intend to transfer my Flag to GLASGOW if available or failing her to BERMUDA, but C. in C. H.F. is requested to advise.

(3) Request instructions from A.N.C.X.F. as regards sailing of BELFAST from Assault Area. It is not intended to complete BELFAST with ammunition prior to refit.

(C.S.10, 291948B to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. H.F.)

Covering Forces

Eastern Sector.

Defence policy night 29th/30th as in my 271135 amended as follows. Para. 3 delete and substitute "(3) For reporting purposes use position A one".

(N.C.E.T.F., 291221 to E.T.F.)

Patrols from Portsmouth.

O.N. Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 29th/30th.

(A) ONSLOW (G.K.1), OFFA (G.K.2), ONSLAUGHT (G.K.3) ORIBI (G.K.4) patrol on line 01° 00' W. between 49° 43' N. and 50° 05' N. Report night dispositions.

/COTTESMORE ...

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.)

COTTESMORE (G.C.1) between 58 C Buoy and 49° 57' N. 00° 22' W.
 MELBREAK (G.C.2) in Z.10 between 50° 02' N. 00° 10' W. and 50° 05' N. 00° 02' W.
 BRISSENDEN (G.C.3) between 50° 03' N. 00° 25' W. and 50° 06' N. 00° 18' W.

(B) THORNBOROUGH (G.A.1 in Z.17. TORRINGTON (G.A.2) in Z.13 and Z.15.
 (C) Unit G.A.3, M.T.Bs. 451 (S.O.), 447. Unit G.A.4, M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 691. Unit G.A.5, M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O.), 209, 208. Unit G.A.6, M.T.Bs. 615 (S.O.), 608. Unit G.A.7, M.T.Bs. 253 (S.O.), 250, 247. Units G.A.3 and G.A.4 with THORNBOROUGH in Z.17. Units G.A.5, G.A.6 and G.A.7 with TORRINGTON in Z.13 and G.A.7 in Z.15. Force G.A. to be in position by 2300B.
 (D) Unit G.B.1, M.T.Bs. 611 (S.O.), 6161 in Z.14 East. Unit G.F.1, M.T.B.721 (S.O.), 714, 696 in Z. 203. Unit G.B.1 to be in position by 2300B. Unit G.F.1 via 270 Casquets 8 miles passing position at 2330B. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 291228B.)

O.N.1, para. 52 (B).

Western Channel night report 29th/30th June.

(1) G.K.1 (ONSLAW), G.K.2 (OFFA), G.K.3 (ONSLAUGHT) G.K.4 (ORIBI) on 01° 00' W. between 49° 43' N.

and 50° 05' N.

Eleventh E.G. vicinity Z Buoy. 5th E.G. Z.227 North, 222 North West. 6th E.G. Z.232 North, Z.237 North. 1st E.G. Z.234 South, Z.239 East. 3rd E.G. Z.225, Z.226. 2nd E.G. Z.233, Z.238 East, Z.234 North, Z.239 North East. 9th E.G. Z.126, Z.127, Z.128 North, Z.200, Z.201, Z.202 North. Force 26 BLYSKAWICA and PIORUN on 6° W. between 49° N. and 49° 30' N.
 (2) G.F.1, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.203.
 (3) Air patrols all areas west of 01° 38' W. Swordfish on convoy route.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 291804B.)

Patrols from Dover.

O.N. Dover 67.
 F.N.1, M.L.467, 466, Z.1. F.N.2, M.T.B.354, 358, 362, Z.2. F.U.3, SAVAGE, Z.3. F.N.5, M.T.B. 699, 700, 697, Z.5. F.U.7, ORWELL, Z.7.
 (2) SAVAGE and F.N.5 freedom of action in Z.4 and Z.6 respectively.
 (V.A. Dover, 291253B.)

Patrols from Plymouth.

O.N. Plymouth 5, section 2 Sups.
 (A) E.G.2, Z.230 North East quarter, Z.234 South East quarter, Z.233, Z.229. E.G.1, Z.240.
 (C) E.G.2 and E.G.1 0630/30th.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 292250B to E.G.2, E.G.1.)

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Mining

MAID OF ORLEANS sunk. MAID OF ORLEANS sunk (my 2310). Position 062° E.4B Buoy 1.6 miles. All survivors picked up and in EGLINTON, HOTHAM and EMPIRE ROGER. (STORK, 290050 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Mines cut. One G.R. type mine cut in 050° 10.3' N. 001° 01.6' W.
(M/S.4, 291300B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Q.Z.Y.580. 2 laps in G completed. 1 G.R. type mine cut and sunk 50° 10.3' N. 01° 01.6' W. My 291300B refers. Released mines detonated in sweep 50° (09?) .4' N. 01° 07.2' W. Mines mooring completely recovered. Average width swept to date from southern edge 6 miles.
(M/S.4, 292238B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Convoy E.C.M.17. My 291543B. 4 ships mined in position 000° J Buoy 2 miles. Convoy's course and speed was 157°, 10 knots. Explosion apparently damaged all ships aft. Ships were in 3rd and 4th position in each column.

EGLANTINE and ACANTHUS standing by. Salvage Tugs required for 3 ships. Have asked passing F.C.M. convoy to detail empty L.S.T. to pick up survivors. Have warned all ships in sight. Floating mine sighted by EGLANTINE 5 mins. prior to first explosion.
(DEVERON, 291605 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Request salvage tug. One Liberty ship mined vicinity J Buoy. Am standing by.

(EGLANTINE, 291619B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

My 291619. Three ships. Two further tugs required.

(EGLANTINE, 291648B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Ships require assistance near J Buoy.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 291721B to STAFF.)

Am standing by 3 damaged M.T. ships near E.3 Buoy. Intend to remain and take charge unless otherwise ordered. All ships floating.

(DACRES, 291803B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Following ships of Convoy E.C.M.17 mined in the vicinity of J Buoy, JAMES FARRELL and HENRY BLASDEL for Utah. J.A. TREUTLAN for Omaha, mine laid still afloat. Salvage tugs on way. EDWARD M. HOUSE for Utah damaged and flooded forward but still able to continue with convoy.

(DEVERON, 291845 to N.C.W.T.F.)

M.T.337 proceeding Portsmouth in tow W. FAROLION escorted by U.S. M/S.114 and 59. DACRES and CALDY stand by M.T.274 and M.T.271 awaiting tugs. L.S.T.336 has 54 casualties and sailing shortly. L'ESCARMOUCHÉ, RIGHTO all proceeding Portsmouth. M.T.271 abandoning. Boarding party has been supplied from DACRES. Intend proceeding B.A.A. on arrival of tugs who require 1 additional escort with them.

(DACRES, 291923 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

/Western ...

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

Western Sector on 9th and 15th June.

(1) Mine explosion 49° 33'54" N. 01° 08'42" W., at 1005B on 9th June 1944. Details.
(2) Mine explosions 49° 33'50" N. 01° 04'05" W., at 0820B on 15th June 1944. Details.
(3) Mine explosion 49° 36'42" N. 01° 04'36" W., at 0850B on 15th June 1944. Details.
(4) Mine explosion 49° 34'36" N. 01° 08'36" W., at 1315B on 15th June 1944. Details.
(NUTHATCH to Admty., No T.O.O., Recd. 291745.)

Western Sector. B.Y.M.S. 2069 damaged.

Following M/S carried out today. My series number 001 refers.
(A) Acoustic and magnetic task. (3) (4) and if search (3) and (4) also Colchester Rade and Saint Vaast Approaches. 2 mines swept 180° and 160° 1000 yards F 14 Buoy. 1 mine spontaneous detonation in 049° 27.4' N. 000° 43.2' W.

B.Y.M.S. 2069 damaged near mine (F) 2 minor cases casualties (B) Oropesa in Approaches Saint Vaast. Negative result. (? Origin, 292040B to Admty.)

Swept Channel established.

Following Swept Channel has been established. Saint Vaast approaches. From L.3 Buoy 240° to Grande Rade. Channel is one mile wide. (L.S.T.199, 292048B to C.T.F.125.)

EMPIRE PORTIA damaged.

EMPIRE PORTIA damaged by mine in 050° 33'30" N. 000° 35'30" W. Stopped. Engine room flooded. Being taken in tow by L.S.T.416. Screened by STATICE. Ordered to proceed Solent. (EKINS, 291859 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

U-Boats

A/S Patrols.

O.N. Plymouth 5, section 2, Sups.
(A) E.G.6 along gun zone between Seven Stones and 5° W. E.G.5 along gun zone between 5° W. and Eddystone.

(D) To cover important convoy movements. Inconclusive D/F bearings indicate U-Boat could have reached this area. (C. in C. Plymouth, 291145B to E.G.5, E.G.6.)

When silencing of enemy batteries permits establish in the Assault Area A/S patrol from Cap de la Hague North to join the patrol line mentioned in A.N.C.X.F. 282347B. Notify N.C.W. T.F. and Info. addressees when patrol is established. (N.C.W.T.F., 291311B to ?).

/Channel ...

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-BoatsChannel
situation.

Three or four in English Channel east of 03° 00' W. Two or three between Ushant and Lizard. Two eastbound within 60 miles east or west of 49° 30' N. 09° 15' W.
(D.D.I.C., 291355B to A.I.G.331.)

U-Boats
reported.

Third class bearing of U-Boat making B signal obtained by GARLIES at 1244Z. Bearing 134° from 048° 54' N. 005° 31' W. Classified by Sky wave. Transmission heard by 2 other ships but no bearing obtained.
(E.G.1, 291500B to Admty.)

Bearing by D/F of enemy at 1242Z is 157° 2nd class Sky wave position 049° 40' N. 005° 16' W.
(E.G.6, 291520B to Admty.)

Contact
attacked
PORT
COLBORNE
damaged.

A/S contact attacked by PORT COLBORNE in 50° 13' 30" N. 02° 19' W. First HH attack caused tremendous explosion. Following articles have been picked up. Number of American blue prints, tropical clothing and helmet, one of which is marked G. Walsh, and great quantity oil fuel. Consider probable wreck of ammunition ship. PORT COLBORNE has suffered considerable damage to radar A/S and pipe lines throughout ship and is being sent to Portland for repairs. Attack took place 1446B.
(E.G.9, 291641B and 292359B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Note: G. Walsh is understood to have been serving in BLACKWOOD which was sunk in approximately the above position on 15th June, 1944.

Port FacilitiesWhale
sailings.

Cancel all Whale Roadway sailings tonight 29th.
(A.N.C.X.F., 291325B.)

Mulberry
Harbours.

Reference minute of meeting held at Metropole Building on 28th June by Director of Transportation to discuss future of Mulberry "A" and "B" in regard to S.H.A.E.F. requirements. First, appreciate that object of meeting was to discuss technical methods and not phased programme for production of Phoenix but must emphasise vital importance of time factor. If Mulberry is to have chance of withstanding equinoctial gales it is essential that last of additional Phoenix be delivered on far shore by 1st September. Request you bear in mind that delivery of Phoenix to far shore will involve heavy towing commitment at time when there will be big demands for tugs elsewhere. It is essential therefore to phase completion and delivery of additional Phoenix units starting as early as possible in August.

/Second ...

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Port FacilitiesMulberry
Harbours.
(Contd.)

Second, reference para. 10, survey of site at Mulberry "B" now in progress and believed to be almost complete.

Third, A.N.C.X.F.(R.A.M.P.) wishes technical advice as to whether necessary or desirable to double-bank Phoenix Units in detached mole so that he can make firm estimate of requirements of additional Phoenix by types. Request you advise A.N.C.X.F. direct informing S.H.A.E.F.
(A.N.C.X.F., 291700B to S.H.A.E.F.)Casualties and Defects

ARETHUSA.

C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail ARETHUSA for Clyde to be taken in hand at Govan for docking and damage repairs.
(2) It is desired that ARETHUSA should be ready for foreign service by 24th July.
(D.O.D.(H), 290112B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)EMPIRE
LOUGH.EMPIRE LOUGH survey held at low water today. Vessel stem to beach. Water about 8 feet forward 22 aft fire now out but all vessel full of gas fumes from possible remaining cargo and consider it dangerous to go alongside with open fires or possible sparks. Condition may improve after a few more tides have washed over hold. Masts, decks, all collapsed and all hatches and decks littered with empty petrol containers so not possible to estimate what good cargo if any remains. Hull badly holed along port side and now tidal, but vessel could be salvaged. Suggest underwriters visit vessel with salvage officer in three or four days time at low water. Ends.
(Salvage Officer, Dover, 291530B to V.A. Dover.)L.C.M.(3)
1174.Your 281016. L.C.M.(3) 1174 is being returned to you this evening from Lee-on-Solent.
(Com. L.C.B., 291816B to CRICKET.)Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.19.

(B) LARK, CHELMER, CRANE.
(E) For Gold 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290147.)

E.C.P.19.

(B) 112th E.G.
(E) H.M.S. ST. HELIER for British Sector.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290148B.)

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.L.21. (B) ROCHESTER, CLARKIA.
(E) 10 U.S. L.S.T. for Utah. 6 for Omaha.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290149B amended 290457B, 290556B.)
- E.W.L.21. (B) MIMICO, BRESSAY, SWITHA.
(E) For Sword 5 U.S. L.S.T. For Juno and Gold
2. For Gold One.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290150.)
- E.C.M. 17P. My 282335B sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 290505B.)
- E.B.C.24. Sailed.
(B) 140th E.G.
(E) For Omaha 6 ships. For Utah 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290625B.)
- E.T.C.21. (B) OXLIP.
(E) For Gold 10 ships. For Juno 7 ships, T.I.D.
26, H.M.T. MINNA, V.S.I.S. BALTEAKO. For Sword
one ship. For Port en Bessin 2 ships. For
Arromanches EMPIRE SEAMAN, H.M.S. BARNWELL, H.M.S.
THE WAY, and for onward routeing OLEV for E.T.F.
BREN.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290728B amended 291219 and 291303.)
- F.T.M.22. (A) Sailing.
(B) EKINS, HOLDERNESS, NARCISSUS, STATICE for the
Nore. M.L.589 for Portsmouth. PIQUE for onward
routeing to Plymouth.
(E) 14 ships, 6 L.S.Ts.
(Capt. N.S., 290900B.)
- ST. JULIAN. ST. JULIAN sailed Juno for Southampton E.T.A.
1700 today. 285 casualties on board and she
requests these may be unloaded on arrival.
(S.O.A.G. Juno, 290947B.)
- E.T.M.20. (A) Sailed. (B) GARTH, MEYNELL, CHARLOCK,
SWEETBRIAR.
(E) For Gold 12 ships, 5 L.S.Ts. For Juno 4
ships, 1 L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F., 290950B.)
- F.T.C.21. (A) Sail. (B) COTSWOLD, GODETIA for the Nore.
NORTHERN RIVER for Portsmouth.
(E) 4 ships, 2 Chants.
(F) V. KEYNOR, VILK, GWENTHILLS, JARGOON, SUMMITY,

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.T.C.21.
(Contd.) ALGOL, FLATHOUSE, WHEATCROP, ASEITY, STERHAVEN,
CHARLES SALTER, ULSTER HERO, ERNA, GLADONIA,
ANTIQUITY, ERNEST HILL, Tug FALLARON, towing
H.M.S. STELLA RIGEL.
(Capt. N.S., 291102B.)
- E.C.M.17. (A) Sailed. (B) 107 E.G.
(E) For Utah 14 ships, 6 L.S.Ts. For Omaha 3
ships, 5 L.S.Ts. Gunboat SOEMBA for O.R. to
Sword.
(A.N.C.X.F., 291110B amended 291217.)
- Balloons. From an operation point of view concur with
para. 3 of C. in C. Nore 282248*.
(A.N.C.X.F., 291137B.)
* Re Balloons flown by "Overlord" convoys between
France and Thames Estuary.
- Starlight
71. Intend at 291400. 2 L.C.I.(L) for Utah.
5 L.C.T., U.S. L.C.T.20 for Omaha. 11 L.C.T.
for Utah. M.M.S.301, HELP, ABIGAIL following
close astern.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 291140.)
My 291140B. Starlight 7 sailed less U.S.
L.C.T.20.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 291430.)
- F.W.L.20. Sailed.
(B) MIMICO, BRESSAY.
(E) 17 L.S.Ts.
(Capt. N.S., 291630.)
- Routeing. Until route U is confirmed clear of mines intend
to route all shipping from Wight area to E.T.F.
area by route T. Request routeing authorities
may be instructed to conform.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 291652B to A.N.C.X.F.,
Info. Admty., C. in C. Nore, N.C.E.T.F.)
Request you comply with C. in C. Portsmouth's 291652.
(A.N.C.X.F., 291847B to C. in C. Nore, N.C.E.T.F., Info. Admty.,
C. in C. Portsmouth.)
- F.W.P. 7. (A) Sailed. (B) E.G.123 (S.O. in ROCHESTER).
(E) For Southampton EMPIRE RAPIER.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 291705B.)
- F.B.C. 35. (A) Sailed. (B) E.G.141.
(E) 21 ships.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 291720.)

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Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- F.X.P. 19. (A) Sail. (B) LARK, CRANE, CHELMER.
(E) 2 ships.
(Capt. N.S., 291731B.)
- F.W.M. 5. Sailed. (B) E.G.108 (S.O. in L'AVENTURE).
(E) For Southampton L.S.T.51 towing L.C.T.969,
541, 379, 336, 384, 388, 306, 494 K.L. JAMES
WOOLSON, (Comm.) GEORGE STEERS, ABIEL FOSTER,
JOSEPH K.L. JOHNSON, BOSTON, ENOCH TRAIN. For Portland
8 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 122.7, 291740.)
- E.P.I. 22. Intend (A) E.P.L.22 at 2200B/29.
(B) SCARBOROUGH, PETUNIA, M.Ls. 212, 454.
(E) (1) 6 U.S. L.S.Ts., 1 H.M. L.S.T. (2) All
Utah. (3) As ordered. (4) 10 to 16 inclusive.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 291845.)
- F.C.P. 14. (A) Sailed. (B) E.G.112.
(E) ST. HELIER for Plymouth.
(C.T.F. 122.7, 291845.)
- E.P.L. 22. My 281845B sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 292230.)
- Starlight
73. Buco. Intend Starlight 73 at 300001.
1 U.S. L.C.I.(L) empty, 1 L.C.T. for Omaha,
7 L.C.T. for Utah.
(F.O.I.C. Portland, 292235.)

Organisation and Administration

- Y Tankers
in Western
Sector. My 191646B, your 211042B and C.T.G. 127.2's
250912B. U.S. Army agreeable to retention eight
Yoke Tankers U.S. Areas until greater need is
determined for other employment these vessels.
(Comnaveu, 291313 to C.T.F.122.)
Note by U.S.N.:-
- Ref. 191646B - Advise whether C.T.G. 127.2 can return 5 Y
Tankers on D + 15 as originally agreed with U.S. Army.
211042B - Submit recommendation concerning Comnaveu's 191646B.
250912B - C.T.G.127.2 to C.T.F. 122 owing to L.B.O. casualties
desire retain 8 Y Tankers in U.S. Area.
- F.O.B.A.A. F.O.B.A.A. will assume command of the Eastern
Task Force area at 1200/30th June.
(N.C.E.T.F., 291501 to E.T.F.)
- RAMILLES. RAMILLES can now be released from "Overlord".
(A.N.C.X.F., 292235 to Admty.)

29.6.1944
Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

HALLADALE. My 281803. (1) HALLADALE is allocated to Eastern Fleet.
(3) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to report earliest date HALLADALE can be ready to sail.
(C. in C. W.A. 291150B to N.O.I.C.Greenock)

ROCKAWAY. Com. 12th Fleet 281237. Intend to sail U.S.S. ROCKAWAY at 1400B/29th June to Norfolk, Virginia.
(2) Route.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 291159B to Com. 12th Fleet)

UNSEEN, Sailed my 261431. Amended by my 281105.
UNRUFFLED. (Capt. S.7, 291703B to F.O.S.)

A/S operational Staff Telephones. It is intended to arrange with G.P.O. for telephone conference facilities to be made available to enable a maximum of 6 persons at each of your respective H.Q.'s and at Admiralty to confer with any or all of the other four H.Q.'s in connection with post "Overlord" U-Boat operations.
(2) It is hoped to provide full loud-speaker facilities for reception, but use of headphones or telephone handsets has proved to be quite workable in recent experience.
(3) Request you will indicate the room which should be fitted for this purpose, so that G.P.O. can be informed of the overall requirement.
(A.C.N.S. H. 291823B to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. Plymouth, A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

Operations

Coastal Patrols. (C. in C. Nore, 290950B)

S/M Patrols. After reaching position 059 degs. N. 001 degs. W. at approx. 1600B/2nd July you are to proceed independently on surface at C.O.'s discretion direct to patrol line midpoint 058 degs. 30' N. 000 degs. 50' E. length 40 miles, direction 045 degs. 225 degs. F.O.(S) 201358 and 261529 refer.
(Capt. (S) 9, 291037B to VORACIOUS)

Operation C.W. Following is provisional programme for operation C.W. (a) GOODALL and BULLEN to join C.W. 1st July. (b) OXFORD CASTLE to leave C.W. a.m. 1st July for Liverpool to join B.2 Group.
(c) When ready BULLDOG to relieve INMAN as S.O. thence INMAN to Belfast for 4 days lay over. (d) GOODALL and Bullen to Liverpool about 5th July. (e) AWE to Liverpool about 6th July. (f) DUNCAN to rejoin C.W. when ready.
(g) ST. THOMAS to Tobermory about 6th July to complete work up.
(C. in C. W.A. 290003B to INMAN)

Have /...

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ThursdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations

Operation C.W. Have attacked doubtful contact in 055 degs. 50' N. 010 degs. 17' W. Am remaining in vicinity until darkness.
(INMAN, 292203B to C. in C. W.A.)
2 short barred transmissions bearing 084 degs. series one believed near consider possible sighting of O.N.S.242. P.C.S. 055 deg. 743' N. 025 degs. 09' W. 257, 8.
(C.3, 292310Z to C. in C. W.A.)
My 292203. 2 Hedgehog, one Squid attacks on 2 stationary targets. Suspect S.B.T. No further contact am remaining in Area.
(INMAN, 292359B to C. in C. W.A.)

Allied Air Activity

Ships attacked by A/C. Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in the Dover Command from 0900/28 to 0900/29.
E. 78 D. Four size C operating between Calais and four miles west of Cap Blanc Nez from 2312 to 0420 at 7 knots. Attacked by 1 Albacore A/C at 0300 and 1 Swordfish at 0335. Results not known.
E.79 D. Four size A operating between Boulogne and four miles north of Cap Gris Nez from 2330 to 0425, at 9 knots. Attacked by Swordfish A/C at 0116. Results not yet known.
E.80 D. Two size B, six size A from one mile north of Dunkerque at 2330 westbound at 6 knots, turned at Dunkerque B.W. Buoy at 0135 faded 2 miles north of Dunkerque at 0415. Attacked by Swordfish A/C at 0225. Flames observed in attack position.
(V.A. Dover, 291331B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Flying Bomb shot down on 28th June. One flying bomb shot down at 2247B on 28th by ROYAL EAGLE in 51 degs. 40' N. 01 degs. 19' E.
(C. in C. Nore, 291215B to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence

Convoy off Lorient. A/C report tanker with 1 escort vessel and 4 trawlers in 47 degs. 37' N. 3 degs. 51' W. at 1630. Estimate enemy may reach 48 degs. 04' N. 5 degs. 15' W. about 0001/30 and then steer for Brest.
(2) Force 28 proceed with despatch through (TT) 48 degs. 28' N. 5 degs. 31' W. Force 26 join Force 28 as ordered by TARTAR. All ships form Force 28 after joining and endeavour to intercept enemy.
(3) If no contact by 0100 return northward keeping 25 miles west of Ushant.
(4) U-boats may be in Brest Area.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 291946 to Forces 28 and 26)
A/C reports 1 merchant vessel, escort 4 Minesweepers, 1 Trawler in 47 degs. 45' N. 04 degs. 18' W. at 2050, course 300 deg. speed 5 knots.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 292229B to Force 28)

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Thursday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

U-Boats

U-Boat
attacked
by A/C.

- (1) R.A.F. Thorney Island 848 Avenger 1 C.A.
(2) 29 June 0803 day.
(3) 50.00 N. 01.27 E. (5) Explosion seen at
head of oil slick and air bubbles. Oil slick
proceeded out of disturbance C.O.220. T. No change
in oil slick. Air bubbles ceased.
(R.A.F. Thorney Island, 292359B to Admty.)

Casualties and Defects

BELFAST.

BELFAST cannot be accepted in Tyne until
BLACK PRINCE has sailed. A.M.282349 June refers.
(N.O.I.C. Tyne, 291002B to Admty)

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Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SS. ALBAREDA, SERANTES. Your 211802 June. Spanish ALBAREDA and SERANTES both vessels intercepted and sent in. Search completed, found in order and released. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 290925B to Admty.)

BIRMINGHAM (torpedoed 28th November 1943.) Intend to sail BIRMINGHAM 2100B/29 for Norfolk Va.
2. Route and arrangements.
5. State of BIRMINGHAM.
A. Speed available full in moderate sea.
B. Full (?fuel intended) ten per cent short of normal stowage.
C. Ammunition full outfit for all H.A. armament.

No six inch.
D. Radar W/T equipment fully efficient. 2 line ship for W/T purposes.
E. No asdic. D.G. and S.A. equipment correct.
F. Hand capstan only. Can anchor in emergency.
6. BIRMINGHAM may require to enter Bermuda for fuel. (F.O.G.M.A. 291126B.)
Sailed as per my 291126.
(F.O.G.M.A. 292340B.)

SS. GENEROSO. Swiss SS.GENEROSO will leave Barcelona 1200 B.S.T. 3rd July for Marseilles. (D.E.W.D. 291600B to F.O.G.M.A. C. in C.Med.)

ERISKAY, GRUINARD. Island Class Trawlers ERISKAY and GRUINARD returned to British Flag by Portuguese have arrived Gibraltar. *
2. Pending arrival of crews asked for in my 241533 not to C. in C. Med., reducing ERISKAY to care and maintenance and commissioning GRUINARD with coastal complement only drawn from LAPAGERIA and Pool.
(F.O.G.M.A. 291730B.) * Not identified in W.R.

SS.MONTE JARINDO. Add SS. MONTE JARINDO to list of interceptions. Due Las Palmas about 10th July for orders. My 161417 June refers. (D.E.W.D. 291845B to F.O.G.M.A.)

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29.⁶1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy vessels transiting Dardanelles. Vessels in my 271732 passed Kannale at 2035/28th. (Capt. S.1 290024B to VIGOROUS.)

ULTOR, patrol report. ULTOR reports 1. at 0751/20 fired two torpedoes 1,000 yards range at 320 ton F-Lighter in 43° 30' 07° 02'. One possible two non contact hits observed. Lighter sunk.
2. 0504/27 in 43° 38' 07° 19' fired four torpedoes range 1000 yards at 3000 ton merchant vessel escorted by 1 corvette and two destroyers. Two were heard to hit and terrific explosion followed. Vessel considered sunk.
3. At 0831/27 in 43° 38' 07° 17' fired two torpedoes at 7000 tanker at range of 1500 yards four destroyers two corvettes one U/J boat two R-Boats and five aircraft formed escort. Two hits vessel sunk.
4. Considerable A/S activity experienced throughout patrol. (S.10 291131.)

VOX. Proceed to patrol on Piraeus-Crete traffic routes.
2. You will pass VAMPIRE about noon 30th. (Capt. S.1 291435 to VOX.)

SS. ANITA, AGATHE. P.R. Porto Lago a.m. 29th arrived 2 R-Boats. May mean ANITA, AGATHE due to sail tonight 29/30th. (F.O.L.E.M. 291809C to Capt. S.1, (R) UNRULY.)

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ThursdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U-Boat No.73. Lettered Area.
dispositions. No fresh information. No change in scale of air escort.

Indian Ocean. U-Boat (German) indicated by D/F at 0106Z/28 with (?in) 250 miles of 001 degs. South and East and at 1546Z/28 within 150 miles of Equator and 090 degs. east.
(C. in C. E.F. 290335Z)

Pyrotechnic F.O.N.I.C. (435). A.M. 223A of 17th June, 1944.
signal. (2) Stocks are now held by N.A.S.Os at Bombay (?Shortly) Calcutta, Colombo, Levant, Durban, Diyatalawa, Kilindini.

(3) Master of ships not yet supplied are to be instructed to apply to N.C.S.O. the first time calling at one of the above ports.

(5) N.C.S.Os of issuing port are to ensure that all masters thoroughly understand that use of these candles has been extended to independent ships and avoiding action to be taken by ship if signals are sighted.

(7) Cancel F.O.13 C (?F.O.N.I.C. intended)420.
(C. in C. E.F. 290604)

New C. in C. E.F. Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser K.C.B., K.B.E. has been appointed to relieve me as C. in C. Eastern Fleet and will take up his appointment at the end of July.

This appointment has not been published and is to be regarded as confidential.

(C. in C. E.F. 290916Z)

BRAGANZA II. H.M.S. BRAGANZA II will cease to exist and the appointment of S.O. A.S.C.(1) will lapse as from 30th June. All signals and correspondence previously addressed to these authorities should be sent to H.M.S. BRAGANZA and S.R.N.O. Bombay respectively from that date.

(C. in C. E.F. 290948Z)

Convoy orders. F.O.N.I.C. (437). C.J. - J.C. Convoys negative release Class D ships forthwith.

(2) Release Class A ships from above convoys.
(C. in C. E.F. 291054Z)

Escort Force reinforcements. Your 191529. It is intended that all reinforcements to the Escort Force Eastern Fleet from now onwards shall consist of Sloops, Frigates and Castle Class corvettes until the target figure of 120 for the total force is reached.

(2) It is unlikely that Bangors, Bathursts and Trawlers can be replaced until after the defeat of Germany.
(A.C.N.S. (F), 291218B to C. in C. E.F.)

SS. WILEY POST /...

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29.6.1944
Thursday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd

SS. WILEY
POST.

U.S. ship WILEY POST grounded in 12 degs.
40' N. 43 degs. 23' E. on 24th June. JASMINE
with Salvage Tug CONFEDERATE refloated her 28th
June when she proceeded Aden. Owners U.S. War
Shipping Administration, ship carrying general
cargo. Agreement order K.R. 899 not signed, Lloyd standard
form not signed. Vessel now arrested. Grounding was a marine
casualty.
(Com. Aden, 291506Z)

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Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

SS. QUEEN MARY. Delayed sailing of A.T.129 agreed. (W.O. 291000B to B.A.S.Washington.) A.T.129 QUEEN MARY delay sailing 25 hours. Admty. 241917B is hereby changed. (Com. 10th Fleet 291418Z.)

U.S.S. WEST POINT. Diversion order. (Cdr. 10th Fleet (C. & R.) 291341 to U.S.S. WEST POINT.)

U/B dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. 291410Z, Cominch 291518Z.)

ATENGO. ATENGO now reported to have sailed Punta Arenas 26th June. E.T.A. Balboa 30th June. My 280906 refers. (S.O.I. Jamaica 291448Q.)

H.M.C.S. ESQUIMALT. H.M.C.S. ESQUIMALT grounded and refloated after 30 minutes. No serious hull or machinery damage visible. Fighting efficiency and seaworthiness not impaired. Starboard propeller one blade tip bent 30°. (PRESERVER 291732Z.)

H.X.S. 294. Average speed 7.45 knots. Off Oversay at 0800Z/18. All arrived. (D.T.D. 291841B.)

SS. NIEUW AMSTERDAM. Diversion order. (D.O.D.H. 291934B to SS. NIEUW AMSTERDAM.)

Convoy G.U.S.42. New York Section. 40 ships arrived 29th June. CARELIA straggling. Chesapeake Section 31 ships. Last arrival 0755Z/29th. PROMETHEUS and GLACIER PARK detached for St. John N.B. (P.D.New York 291941Z.)

Stragglers report No.58. One ship arrived Halifax from H.X.F. 296, L.T.118 (U.S.) June 23 engine repairs. One ship arrived St. Johns N.F. from H.X.F. 296. LUCULUS June 25th engine defects. One ship arrived Halifax from H.X.S. 297 WISLA (Pol.) June 28th unable to maintain convoy speed. One ship arrived Sydney from H.X.S.297 LAKE CHELAN June 27th unable to maintain convoy speed. (N.S.H.Q. 292140Z.)

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29.6.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

- Digest No. 10. M.T.Bs. operating around Muschu Island night
891. 26/27th destroyed 15 barges plus one probable also
June 28th. attacked ammunition and supply dumps on shore.
Following night similar craft attacked motor trans-
port west of Wewak destroying two trucks plus four
probables, shore fire encountered.
11. Night 27/28th M.T.Bs. operating south of Manokwari sank two
barges. Two Formosans captured who reported barges carried
ammunition and 30 enemy personnel.
12. Same night two Liberators bombed Peleliu aerodrome Palau.
18. U.S. submarine reported three groups enemy shipping Formosa
area morning 28th as follows, 9 ship convoy 25 miles north of
Takao heading north, 12 ship convoy 70 miles west of Takao heading
towards Hong Kong, 4 ship convoy 20 miles S.W. of Takao course
unstated. Last convoy successfully attacked.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 291000.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack &
sighting
summary.

- Para. A. 1. A/C Q/210 attacked U-Boat on surface
course 090° with depth charges at 1810Z/28 in
62° 30' N. 01° 08' E.
2. A/C C/333 attacked periscope, course 350° with
depth charges at 1800Z/28 in 63° 20' N. 01° 50' E.
- Para. B. 1. A/C of 848 Squadron attacked U-Boat at
0604Z/29 in 50° 00' N. 01° 27' W.
(D.D.I.C. 290856Z.)

U/B dis-
positions.

(D.D.I.C. 291405B, 291411B.)

30.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). At 2330B today S.H.A.E.F. reported that our troops in the Caen sector have improved their positions, but that resistance in the Cap de la Hague area still continues. At 1800 today a cumulative total of 29,700 prisoners of war had passed through our Reception Camps and base hospitals.

(b). In the assault area a S.W'y wind reached force 5 off the beaches this afternoon, and no Mulberry pier roadways could be sailed or have been sailed for the last thirteen days.

(c). In the Eastern sector F.O.B.A.A. assumed command of the Area at noon today, when N.C.E.T.F. and the E.T.F. Assault Force Commanders withdrew. The weather grounded all spotting A/C today, and accurate shelling by enemy batteries has forced the Bombarding Ships under C.S.10 to withdraw to the N.W. But the military situation is estimated to require heavy long-range naval fire-support for several days ahead; and RODNEY, ARGONAUT and BELFAST have engaged shore targets accordingly.

(d). In the Western Sector our minesweepers have cleared a total of 207 mines and detonated 32 more since D day.

*J.W. Rivett - Comac
(P. 593)*

Enemy
Action.

2. Convoys. (a). An enemy convoy was attacked off Brest this afternoon by A/C of 19 Group who left one tanker and two minesweepers on fire.

U-Boats. (b). A U-Boat was attacked at 0115B today by Liberator L/224 in 48.37 N. 03.41 W. (about 38 miles south of Start Point). At 1340B ESSINGTON of E.G.3 attacked the same U-Boat, and it is believed sank it. At 1255 another U-Boat was sighted by A/C 15 miles east of the Lizard.

(c). The Admiralty considered this afternoon that there were two or three U-Boats between the Lizard and Ile de Bas, three or four more east of 03° W. and probably two eastbound south or S.W. of the Scillies.

U.988 sunk

General.

U-Boat sunk
by A/C.

U.478

3. Liberator E/86 sank a U-Boat at 2115B today in 63.28 N. 00.50 W. (about 170 miles N.W. by W. of Stadtlandet, Norway), some 30 survivors being seen in the water.

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30.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

Losses of
coasters.
Further
trawlers
required.

4. F.O.C. West Africa reports that most of the losses of merchant ships on the station have been coasters too slow for inclusion in convoy. These ships maintain an important role in west coast exports and the brunt of the work of protecting them falls upon trawlers helped out by motor launches. The general state of the trawlers is bad, and two, viz. BIRDLIP and SOUTHERN PRIDE have been lost during the present month. F.O.C. W.Af. requires a reinforcement of 3 trawlers; failing reinforcement there will inevitably be a slow up of trade as long as the U-Boat menace remains.

Mediterranean.

Raid near
Valona.

5. Last night TERPSICHORE, TUMULT and TENACIOUS bombarded a lookout station in 40.19.30 N. 19.23 E. (south of Valona (Albania)). Troops were landed subsequently, the station was demolished and prisoners were taken.

Coastal
force
operations.

6. Coastal forces last night sank one or possibly two lighters and damaged a Siebel Ferry in 42.53 N. 17.21 E. (Dalmatian Islands.) Successful attacks were made on small supply vessels in the Aegean. U.S.P.T. 471 engaged 2 E-Boats north of Elba last night. One was damaged and the second was abandoned and was subsequently towed to Bastia and identified as Italian M.A.S. 562. 14 prisoners were taken.

Piombino
opened.

7. The port of Piombino was opened today. 9 L.C.T. and 2 L.S.T. berths are available. 1009 tons were discharged.

30.6.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval Cositintrep number 54, part two, Naval.
A. General.
At 1540/29 in southbound convoy 50.70 N. 00.47 W.
4 M.T. ships were damaged aft by underwater explosion. Cause is at present uncertain, possibly torpedoed by U/Boat. One ship was able to continue in convoy, remainder hoped salvageable. Wind has dropped off beaches, but weather still unsettled.

B. Troops etc. landed.
Cumulative to p.m. June 26th.

	Personnel	Vehicles	Stores	Tons.
British Area	363,616	76,674	160,918	
U.S. Area	406,154	49,753	197,259	
Total (D + 20)	769,770	126,427	358,177	
From figures since received it is estimated total 29th exceeds:-	800,000	130,000	400,000	

C. Casualties.
M.T. Ship JAMES FARRELL damaged, underwater explosion.
M.T. ship H.G. BLASDEL damaged, underwater explosion.
M.T. Ship JOHN TREUTLEN damaged, underwater explosion.
M.T. Ship (Unnamed) damaged, underwater explosion.
B.Y.M.S. 2169 (?2069 intended) damaged, near 14 F Buoy.
(Ad. Ramsay 300008B to Admty.)

Cositintrep Number 55, part two, Naval.

A. General. Five enemy A/C were shot down by Cruiser Gunfire in Eastern Area Night of 28th/29th June during usual mine-dropping, which also continues nightly in western area. Three convoys passed Dover without incident yesterday: A fourth was shelled between 1455 and 1610 but sustained no damage, although four rounds falling inland caused some casualties. Wind off the beaches at 0900 - S.W. Force 4 with outlook unsettled.

B. Casualties. SS. EMPIRE PORTIA: Damaged, Mine, 50° 33½' N. 00° 35½' W.

C. Coastal Command. At 0125 a U-Boat was sighted and attacked 35 miles south of Start Point with unobserved results. Mosquitoes attacked one 1,000 ton tanker, six minesweepers and one trawler making for, and 35° south of, Brest at 2050/29. Hits with 6 pounder cannon caused explosion on tanker and cannon hits also claimed on five minesweepers.
(Ad. Ramsay 301408B to Admty.)

1. 19 Group A/C sighted a convoy of small ships off Ile de Groix, yesterday afternoon 29th. A strike BT Mosquitoes at 2045 did some damage.
2. TARTAR, ASHANTI, BLYSKAWICA, PIORUN, swept round approaches to Brest last night in hope of meeting the convoy but returned without having found it.
3. Convoy attacked again p.m. 30th by Beaufighters of 19th Group who claim damage with R.P.
4. U-Boat attacked by A/C 36 miles S. of Start at 0132/30. Much oil seen by other A/C in this position at daylight. Attack by ESSINGTON of 3rd E.G. during forenoon on moving target in same area produced large quantity diesel oil. Hunt continues.

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

5. A/C sighted S.N.O.R.T. 16 mins. E. of Lizard at 1255B/30, E.G.6 are searching area. (C. in C. Plymouth 302158B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Air Cositintrep 55, Part 3, Air.
Sunrise to 2100/29 June, 1944. Total Sorties: 2254. Summary of Targets: Details.
Enemy Operations: 92 E/A operated over Northern France including the beach head.
74 flying bombs operated, 57 made landfall and 24 reached the Greater London Area.
(H.Q. A.E.A.F. 301000B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 56, part three, 2100B hours 29th June to sunrise 30th June, 1944.
Total Sorties:- 509. Summary of targets. Details.
Enemy Operations:- 51 flying bombs operated.
37 made landfall, 14 reached Greater London area.
(H.Q. A.E.A.F. 302100B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Military Communique No. 49 (Extracts) The Allied Bridgehead over the River Odon has been extended on both flanks.
Elsewhere the situation remains generally unchanged. The Forts in the Cherbourg breakwater have surrendered and mopping up continues in the Cap de la Hague area. Coastal batteries on the Cap de la Hague were attacked by medium bombers.
(S.H.A.E.F. 301100B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Para. one. Operations.
Enemy still holding out in N.W. of Cotentin Peninsula estimated about 3 battalions. Some coastal guns Querqueville area still reported firing. Very heavy fighting south-east of Tilly.
Para. 4. Prisoners of War.
a. Accumulative total passed through reception camps and base hospitals up to 1800 hours 29th June, 26,174.
(S.H.A.E.F. 301500 to A.G.W.A.R.)

Communique No. 50 (Extracts)
Allied Forces driving their salient towards the Orne River in the Caen Sector have compelled the enemy to throw in strong armoured reserves in an effort to halt our advance. In spite of repeated counter-attacks by these formations, our positions have not only been held but improved.
Further west, ground had been gained near St. Jean de Daye. Resistance in the Cap de la Hague area of the Cherbourg Peninsula has continued.
(S.H.A.E.F. 302330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Assault Area

Eastern Sector My 291301 and N.C.W.T.F.'s 282147. S.M.Ts. of both groups A and B are in future to be employed by F.O.B.A.A. as required for defence of Arromanches, Port En Bessin and possibly St. Honorine. Servicing arrangements for group A will remain at Portland and Group B at Southampton. Fowest is requested to sail any ships of group A now at St. Laurent to Arromanches.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301603 to F.O.B.A.A.)

Bombardment Forces

The enemy are bringing deliberate and accurate fire to bear on the bombarding ships who are forced to shift berth or accept the certainty of damage and casualties. Unobserved naval fire is not at present capable of subduing enemy batteries and bombarding ships are thus being forced to the North West. Only solution in absence of air spotting would seem to be counter battery fire by army or the provision of fuller information to ships to enable them to engage with more chance of stopping an active battery. The position is further complicated by the mining situation which precludes ships shifting berth quickly or remaining under way.
(C.S.10, 301227B to F.O.B.A.A.) *Reply from A.N.C.X.F. 011227 B July.*

Military situation now calls for defensive fighting against Panzer divisions necessitating heavy long range naval fire support for several days.

2. Request ROBERTS may be sailed for Portsmouth as soon as possible to re-ammunition and victual.
3. RODNEY should be prepared to deal with situation meanwhile.
(F.O.B.A.A. 302343B to C.S.10.)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth.

ESKIMO (S.O.) and JAVELIN forming Force 27 are to pass gate at 1200B today and proceed by centre of Q.Z.S.443 to establish patrol within 5 miles each side of line joining (AA) 49° 00' N. 5° 15' W. and (BB) 49° 00' N. 6° 10' W.

2. Object: To support own force against surface attack.
3. Force 26, BLYSKAWICA and PIORUN are to leave vicinity of 49° 15' N. 6° 00' W. at 1600 today and return to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 301044B to D.F.10)

Force 27, ESKIMO (S.O.) JAVELIN will patrol tonight in southern half Z.234, 239.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 301753B.)

/Patrols...

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover
Ondover 67.
F.N.1 M.T.B. 699, 710, Z.1
F.N.2 M.T.B. 433, 436, 437, Z.2
F.U.3 OBEDIENT, Z.3
F.N.5 M.T.B. 361, 362, 24, Z.5
F.N.7 SAVAGE, Z.7
2 OBEDIENT and F.N.5 freedom of action in Z.4 and Z.6. respectively.
(V.A. Dover, 301203B.)

Patrols from Portsmouth.
F.O.C. Coastal Forces (C) is embarking in STAYNER for night operation and will proceed assault area on completion of patrol to visit you and Captain (P) to discuss future co-operation between forces in the Portsmouth Command and assault area blockading Havre.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 301235B to F.O.B.A.A.)

O.N. Portsmouth one, para. 38. Cover night 30th June to 1st July.
A. ONSLAUGHT (G.A.1), OFFA (G.A.2), CRIBI (G.A.3), WESTCOTT (G.A.4). Commence East West Patrol at 2230B as far as 01° 38' W. southern limit 49° 54' N. northern limit 50° 02' N. Report night dispositions. MELBREAK (G.F.1) between 50° 11' N. 00° 01' E. and 50° 15' N. 00° 10' E. BRISSENDEN (G.F.2) between 50° 12' N. 00° 21' W. and 50° 17' N. 00° 11' W. COTTESMORE (G.F.3) between 50° 02' N. 00° 25' W. and 50° 05' N. 00° 15' W.
B. STAYNER (G.B.1) in Z.17. TROLLOPE (G.B.2) in Z.13 and Z.15.
C. Unit G.B.3 M.T.Bs. 478 (S.O.) 449. Unit G.B.4 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.) 675. Unit G.B.5 M.T.Bs. 211 (S.O.) 207, 205. Unit G.B.6 M.T.Bs. 602 (S.O.) 613, 614. Unit G.B.7 M.T.Bs. 257 (S.O.) 251, Units G.B.3 and G.B.4 with STAYNER in Z.17. Units G.B.5 and G.B.6 with TROLLOPE in Z.13 and Z.15. Unit G.B.7 315 Cape d'Antifer 8 miles. Force G.B. to be in position by 2330.
F. Force G.B. to Fleet 270° 10 miles if detected by A/C.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 301327B and 301607B.)

O.N.1, para. 52 (B).
Western Night Channel Report 30th June/1st July.
1. G.A.1 ONSLAUGHT, G.A.2 OFFA, G.A.3 CRIBI, G.A.4 WESTCOTT, All in area 01° 00' W. 01° 38' W. 49° 54' N. 50° 02' N.
11th E.G. Vicinity Z. Buoy. ESKIMO, JAVELIN, Z.234, Z.239.
1st E.G. Z.240.
2nd E.G. Z.229, Z.230, Z.233, South East Z.234 North East
3rd E.G. Z.218. 6th E.G. Convoy route edge gun zone Prawl Point to Lizard.
9th E.G. Z.126, Z.127, Z.128, Z.200, Z.201, Z.202.
2. Air patrols all areas West of 01° 38' W. SWORDFISH on convoy route.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 301751B.)

O.N.1 Para. 52 (B)
Eastern Night Channel report 30th June/1st July.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

1. F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.N.7 SAVAGE Z.7.
G.F.1 MELBREAK, Z.11 North. G.F. BRISSENDEN
between 50° 12' N. 00° 21' W. and 50° 17' N. 00°
11' W. G.F. COTTESMORE between 50° 02' N. 00° 25'
W. and 50° 05' N. 00° 15' W. G.B.1 STAYNER Z.17. G.B.2 TROLLOPE
Z.13, Z.15. 11th E.G. vicinity Z buoy.
2. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.1. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2 F.N.5 3 M.T.Bs.
Z.5. G.B.3 2 M.T.Bs. G.B.4 2 M.T.Bs. both Z.17. G.B.5 3 M.T.Bs.
G.B.6 3 M.T.Bs. Both Z.13, Z.15. G.B.7 3 M.T.Bs. 315° Cap
d'Antifer 8 miles.
3. Wellingtons cross over 50° 03' N. 00° 43' E. to 50° 15' N.
01° 15' east.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 301801B.)

Mining

Eastern
Sector.
M.M.S.40.

During Thursday/Friday night some mine laying
reported East of Juno Light Vessel. Three mines
accounted for today. M.M.S.40 who had to be
beached at dead low water should be ready p.m.
tomorrow for towing to U.K.

A.N.C.X.F.'s 261204B. A(2) one, A(3) one, B(4) one
My 300257B para. 3, figure for Thursday should be amended to read
A(11) two instead of A(11) one. My 302008B refers.
(Capt. M/S X. 302302B to F.O.B.A.A.)

Enemy Action

Seine
Bay

Radar contacts indicate considerable activity in
the mouth of the Seine.
(F.O.B.A.A. 302010 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

U-Boats

U-Boats
reported

Have obtained a bearing by H/F D/F bearing believed
to be of enemy submarine transmitting a B signal.
A 2nd class German bearing 144° operator estimates
between 15 and 30 miles reciprocal bearing 326°
groups 8. Position 48° 49' 04" 10' W. at 0001Z.
(34 Aux M/S Group 300058 to Admty.)

/3rd...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

3rd Class bearing of U-boat (German) transmitting B signal on 3920 kcs. obtained by BALFOUR at 2205Z bearing 255° classified Sky wave ship position 048° 47' N. 005° 18' W. (E.G.1 300101B to Admty.)

Following received from U.S.S.RODMAN.
"Had disappearing surface Radar contact 0508B today. Latitude 50.50 N. Longitude 04.05.42 W. Two Destroyers sound searched area for one hour.

Results negative. Am proceeding.
T.O.O. 300615B".
Verification of position being obtained.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 300928B to C. in C.W.A.)

U-Boat reported sunk. *U.988*
Enemy submarine transmitting a naval enigma signal 2nd class German bearing 012° operator estimates between 15 and 30 miles. My position 49° 41' N. (?longitude) at 1015B. (DUCKWORTH 301040B to Admty.)
Unless you consider you have sufficient proof U-boat is sunk in 049° 35' N. 003° 44' W. leave 2 ships to watch and patrol in Z.224 with remainder.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 301934B to E.G.3.)

Your 301934*.
1. Consider target destroyed probably U-boat.
2. Position by Q.H.3 49° 36' N. 03° 39' W.
3. Only evidence of nationality 1 packet of Nutt made in Berlin.
4. Am patrolling Z.224 and Z.225 pending further instructions. (S.O.E.G.3, 302335B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
*Unless you consider you have sufficient proof U-boat is sunk leave two ships to watch patrol.

Search by E.G.6 and E.G.2. Am proceeding to close U-boat reported by A/C LYW.46. My position 114° the Lizard 14 miles. (WASKESIU 301352B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

E.G.6 is hunting U-boat reported in 50° 00' N. 04° 46' W. at 1255. (C. in C. Plymouth, 301538B to Force 26.)

E.G.2 and E.G.6 are to continue search under your orders throughout night. It is very likely that submarine bottomed after being sighted and vicinity of sighting and area inshore should be well searched.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 301933B to E.G.2.)

/Chamel...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-boats

Channel
situation

In English Channel two or three between Lizard and Isle de Bas and three or four E. of 03° 00' W. Probably two eastbound within 60 miles south or southwest of Scillies.
(D.D.I.C. 301503B to A.I.G.331.)

Port Facilities

Repair
of
Gooseberry
shelters.

Ramp. My 221337 June not to all. Intend to employ Corncocks as follows:
2. 10 U.S. and two British ships to reinforce Gooseberry two the ships being placed close to existing Corncocks on inshore side.
3. Two British ships to Gooseberry four one being used to prolong each arm.
4. One British ship to Gooseberry three to reinforce Saltersgate.
5. Remaining five ships to be retained in U.K. as spares.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301152B to Admty.)

Casualties and Defects

L.C.T.529.

SALVAGE CHIEFTAIN reports located L.C.T.529 in 6 fathoms. Divers survey incomplete. Can be salvaged. Attached red conical buoy to vessel.
2. Operational salvage vessel cannot be spared to raise L.C.T. Suggest Admty. Salvage Department be requested to allocate lifting craft.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301151B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

L.S.T.493.

L.S.T.493 holed by uncharted underwater obstacle when beaching 0627 Juno area 28th June, 1944. No damage to personnel. Vessel hauled up on beach hole stopped with cement. Now only moderate leakage which ship's pumps (2 corrupt groups) can (corrupt group). Vessel to be towed to U.K. for repairs.
(L.C.T.A.391, 301730B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

TULLY
CROSBY.

Coaster TULLY CROSBY damaged by near miss condenser door cracked. Main steam valve damaged other minor damage in E.R. Master reports ship can steam to Southampton but not Thames. F.O.B.A.A. requested to route ship accordingly.
(P.S.T.O.X.F. 302258 to D.S.T.)

/EMPIRE...

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³
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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Casualties and Defects

EMPIRE
PORTIA.

EMPIRE PORTIA has at present taken ground at low water. Port-side badly holed engine room stokehold cross bunker tidal. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 holds dry. Stoke hold and engine room bulk-heads leaking slightly. Awaiting further instructions. (BOSTON SALVOR, 302310 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Shipping and Convoys

- E.X.P.20 A. Sailed E.X.P.20, 2 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 300050.)
- E.C.P.20 A. Sailed E.C.P.20 3 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 300052.)
- E.B.C.25. A. Sailed E.B.C.25, 4 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 300525B.)
- F.T.M.23 A. Sailed F.T.M.23, 18 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
 (Capt. N.S. 300900B.)
- E.C.M.19. A. E.C.M.19.
 E. For Omaha 12 ships and 3 L.S.Ts.
 For Utah 8 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 300936B.)
- My 300936. Following five ships did not sail.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 301407B.)
- E.T.M.21 A. E.T.M.21.
 E. For Gold 11 ships and 5 L.S.Ts.
 For Juno 4 ships and 2 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 300958B.)
- F.T.C.22. A. Sailed F.T.C.22, 23 ships, 2 tugs.
 E. MARSWORTH (ST?), ENOGAT, EASTWOOD, CHANT (Tug?)
 MAURICE, ROSE, LARCHFIELD, CHELWOOD, CORAL,
 HAWARDEN BRIDGE, STALEY BRIDGE, (MO?) IDER, (HAVE?)
 N ST. ANGUS, ROSE MARIE, NAVIEDALE, CHORZOW, EDENSIDE, NATO
 ME(JA?)SSA, THORNABY, WALDOHILL, MELITO, JERN(LAND?) CYRUSSEAR,
 Tug SALVITOR, Tug ST. (LINEAR,) MFV.103 4 110 and (55) (ANDRE?)
 BLONDELL.
 (Capt. N.S. 301100B.)
- E.C.P.21. A. Sailed E.C.P.21, 4 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 301126B.)

/E.T.C.22...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.T.C.22 My 300555 E.T.C.22 the following five ships did not sail.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301345)
- F.W.L.2 Sailing A. F.W.L.2.
E. HILARY, L.S.T.200.
(Capt. N. and S.S. 301602B.)
- F.X.P.20 Sailed A. F.X.P.20.
E. BEN-MY-CHREE, VICTORIA.
(Capt. N.S. Capt. S.S. 301641B.)
- F.C.M.18 A. F.C.M.18. 13 ships and 20 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.F.122.7, 301645 and 010045.)
- F.B.C.14 A. Sailed F.B.C.14. 13 ships.
(C.T.G.122.7 301710)

Organisation and Administration

- F.O.B.A.A. F.O.B.A.A. will assume command Eastern Task Force Area 1200 today.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301035B.)
- F.O.B.A.A. has assumed command of British Assault Area.
2. N.C.E.T.F. and Assault Force Commanders of E.T.F. will have withdrawn by p.m. today.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301200B to Ships.)

Destroyer Allocations.

- Consequent on the reduction in numbers of destroyers in "Overlord", numbers to be maintained in British Assault area are to be reduced to nine normally consisting of four Fleets and five Hunts. V.A.(D) H.F. is requested to make necessary arrangements with F.O.B.A.A.
2. LA COMBATTANTE and COTTESMORE are to be transferred from operational control of V.A. Dover to V.A. (D) H.F. a.m. first July.
3. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to maintain two Coastal Force Control Frigates in British Assault Area.
(A.N.C.X.F., 301308B.)

DIADEM. Para. 2 of my 280012. DIADEM can now be released.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301315B to Admt.)

S.O.A.G
and
S.O.F.C.
Area "G".

S.O.A.G. and S.O.F.C. Gold are transferred to ISLE OF THANET.
(N.O.I.C. Gold, 301509B to Ships.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration

A.N.C.X.F. S.H.A.E.F. 282140. Except for post hostilities planners, A.N.C.X.F. (S.H.A.E.F.) will be accommodated at forward headquarters. My 311148 May is therefore cancelled with effect 1st July (A.N.C.X.F. 301802B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Fuelling arrangements It is intended that the following re-organisation of fuelling arrangements in the British Assault Area be brought into force as soon as possible. Details.
(A.N.C.X.F. 301813B to F.O.B.A.A.)

N.C.E.T.F. The title of N.C.E.T.F. has lapsed.
(N.C.E.T.F. 302048B.)

N.C.W.T.F. Your 301828. Approved to transfer your flag to THOMPSON and to sail AUGUSTA to Plymouth tomorrow.
(A.N.C.X.F. 302212B to N.C.W.T.F.)

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Policy.

GEORGES
LEYGUES.
MONTCALM.

C. in C. Plymouth 291210. On completion of boiler cleaning, defects and leave to British Liaison personnel request you will sail GEORGES LEYGUES and MONTCALM for Mediterranean.

2. Destination Algiers or as ordered by C. in C. Mediterranean.

(A.C.N.S.F. 301613B to F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)

AJAX.

Request you will sail AJAX for Gibraltar on July 10th. A.M. 280410 refers.

2. On arrival AJAX will come under the orders of C. in C. Mediterranean.

(D.O.D.H. 301756B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Flag of
F.O.C.R.F.

My 231115 June. Flag of F.O.C.R.F. is to be hoisted in DOUGLAS at colours tomorrow consequent on discharge of Admiral Harris to duty.
(DOUGLAS 301800 to F.O.C.R.F.)

Operations.

Operation
C.W.

At 1400B/1st July my P.C. and S. 180° BB 5 miles 090° 12 knots.

(INMAN 301353B to Cdre. D.W.A.)

Cancel my 290003 and 291730. Ships are to proceed as follows forthwith. INMAN to Belfast for 4 days

lay over OXFORD CASTLE to Liverpool. AWE and ST. THOMAS to Merville to fuel.

2. AWE (S.O.), ST. THOMAS, GOODALL and BULLEN will be required to sail for further operations about noon 1st July.

3. BULLDOG will be required to sail p.m. 2nd July to join AWE. (C. in C.W.A. 301606B to INMAN.)

VINDEX, AWE (S.O. escort until BULLDOG joins) ST. THOMAS, GOODALL, BULLEN have been allocated for operations in Cape Wrath area under A.C.O.S. who is requested to signal necessary orders.

2. N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail VINDEX a.m. 1st July to Merville for conference with escorts, on completion of which Cdre. D.W.A. is requested to sail the force.

3. BULLDOG is to be sailed p.m. 2nd July to join remaining.

4. Intend to relieve escorts as necessary keeping numbers up to not less than 4 ships.

(C. in C.W.A. 301803B to A.C.O.S.)

Cancel my 301353B.

(INMAN 301955B to Cdre. D.W.A.)

C. in C.W.A.'s 301803. At your discretion carry out A/S search in area bound by 060° 30' N. 057° 30' N. 009° 00' W. 004° 30' W. until further orders.

(A.C.O.S. 302137 to VINDEX.)

/S/M Patrols...

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30.6.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

S/M Patrols. R/C of Jan Mayen not now required. At your discretion make land fall on Jan Mayen to check your position and proceed through VD. 071° 30' N. 005° 00' W. at about 2000B/2nd July thence on course 105° towards Andenes.

2. Diving as much as practicable throughout. Your S.O.A. estimated at 70 miles per 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 301756B and 302009B to VIKING.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Units off Denmark on 24th June. Three German naval units sighted southbound off Hanstheim (N.Denmark) on 24th June are identified from photographs as torpedo boats or M class minesweepers.
Comment:- This is unusual and indicates that the west coast of Denmark route is being used by shipping probably to reduce traffic through Kiel Canal owing to bomb damage to Brunsbüttel Locks.
(D.D.I.C. 302015B to H.Q.C.C.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat sunk by A/C. Have attacked U-Boat with depth charge. U-Boat sank. About 30 survivors. Position 63° 27' N. 00° 15' W.
(A/C 302115B to 18 Group.)

Casualties & Defects.

ELONA, MAJA. ELONA and MAJA have been in collision in Methil anchorage. Damage to ELONA superficial port side of lower bridge demolished. MAJA starboard break of fo'c'stle superficial. Both ships will require taking in hand on arrival at destination.
(WALLACE 301355B to C. in C.Rosyth.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Balloons in Dover Strait. Your 271925. Convoys continue to make passage of Dover Strait by day in both directions with balloons at too great a height.

2. Available evidence is almost conclusive that

A. enemy batteries do not engage unless the convoy is actually sighted. Fire is then opened if necessary using dead reckoning for subsequent salvos.

B. R.C.M. cover is effective.

3. The effect of smoke protection is reduced if balloons are flown proud of the screen.

4. Request early action may be taken to impress on Masters that balloons must not be flown at heights greater than 50 feet while between North Foreland and Dungeness in daylight.

5. C. in C.Nore's 282248 para. 3 is entirely concurred in.
(V.A.Dover 301600B to A.N.C.X.F.)

LACKLAN. LACKLAN sailed Molotovsk for Kola Inlet at 1300B Russian escort, S.O.A. 10 knots.
(S.B.N.O.Archangel 302029C to S.B.N.O.N.Russia.)

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Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic

Losses of
coasters.
Further
trawlers
required.

The losses of merchant ships on this station due to U-Boat actions have mostly been coasters too slow for inclusion in convoy. These ships maintain an important role in West coast exports and must be protected both on passage and when loading off surf ports as long as U-Boats are about. The brunt of this work falls upon trawlers helped out by motor launches as larger vessels cannot be spared from escorting convoys.

General state of trawlers is bad and breakdowns very frequent due to postponement of refits and inexperience of personnel resulting in bad maintenance. In view of loss of BIRDLIP and SOUTHERN PRIDE and that even with them I was unable to provide protection south of Duala it is requested that this station may be reinforced by three trawlers in good running condition and fully operational. If no reinforcements can be made available there will inevitably be a slow up of trade as long as the U-Boat menace remains.

(F.O.C.W.A.F.301741Z to Admty.) *Reply: 101152 July, page 227.*

SS COLUMBINE
(sunk 16
June)

Your 231705B/. Regret this cannot be approved.
(1st Lord 302114B to C. in C. S.A.)
* Re: release of full story of sinking of
COLUMBINE.

Gnats

Ref. Admty.'s 251830 to B.A.D. Technical details
of two Gnats recovered.
(S.B.N.O. W. At. 302225Z)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Black Sea.

From reports June 22nd to June 28th inclusive.
1. Naval, 2 enemy S/MS sighted off Caucasus coast June 24th. 4 magnetic mines exploded in Port Nikolaivak June 23rd and June 24th.
4. Intelligence report June 1st to June 21st all adrift (as received).
(N.L.O. Black Sea 301145.)

UNTIRING.

Intend sailing P.59 (UNTIRING) to patrol in zones SU and SW at 1735/1st routed through 042° 14' 00" 13' at 2100/2nd.
(Capt. S.10 301219.)

UNRULY,
VIGOROUS.

At dusk first July UNRULY proceed west of Kinaros to patrol in North Aegean between lats. 039° 30' and 037° 45' and east of long. 025° 30'.
2. From dawn 2nd July VIGOROUS keep outside UNRULY area.
(Capt. S.1 301854 to UNRULY, VIGOROUS, (R) F.O.L. E.M. VOX, PIPINOS.)

VAMPIRE,
patrol report.

Sank 50 ton caique 23rd. Destroyed 2 large severely damaged 3 medium caiques Mandraki (Niseros) 24th No (corrupt group) sighted.
2. Request escort 0601/2nd and D.G. Range before entering. Acknowledge. 3. Weather report.
(VAMPIRE 302105B to Capt. S.1.)

Situation
report No.
386

1. Only target sighted by coastal force patrols off west coast of Italy, night 27/28th June, was 1 F-Lighter which beached itself.
2. Night 28/29th June, coastal force attacked with torpedo southbound target off Leghorn. Result of attack unobserved though 1 explosion seen.
3. (P.63) UNSWERVING reported sinking 2 patrol vessels in Aegean on 23rd June. 7 prisoners taken.
(C. in C. Med. 302122B.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

Area A No. 74. Area A, B, C, D, E north of 012° N. and F believed clear U-Boats. Scale air escort W. Area E south of 012° N. and G no fresh information but U-Boats considered to be still in these areas scale air escort Y.
(C. in C.E.F. 300408Z.)

Calcutta,
Bombay.

2. Transportation and construction work in Calcutta are proceeding most satisfactorily and are in advance of schedule. Port is not congested.
3. Bombay port clearance and dock restoration proceed according to plan. Victoria Dock has been emptied.
(Armindia 301730.)

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N.S.H.Q. S/M. Para. D. U.S. Transport A/C sights U-Boat 47 degs. attack and 34' N. 57 degs. 30' W. at 1541Z/29th. sighting summary. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 300802Z)

U-Boat Estimates. dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 301327Z, Cominch, 301530Z)

U-Boat Para. D. U.S.S. SEGUNDO sighted periscope incidents. 33.14 N. 69.50 W. 1423Z/29. Brazilian escort dropped depth charges on sound contact 22.55 S. 41.20 W. 1600Z/29. (Cominch, 302045Z)

Australia and New Zealand

Torres A.M. 232127B not to CHALLENGER.. Strait. The following action, in order of priority, is required in order to make full use of Torres Strait for passage of battleships and carriers between the Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

(h) Details.

(2) It is proposed that the work should be co-ordinated by Captain Wyatt of CHALLENGER under the general supervision of A.C.N.B.

(3) It is suggested that CHALLENGER should commence work as soon as her refit is completed and that WHITE BEAR should also be employed together with any R.A.N. surveying ships which you can allocate. It would much accelerate the survey if suitable vessels fitted with asdic and echo sounding could assist for items (e) and (f).

(4) WHITE BEAR will be given full details of the areas required to be surveyed and will be sailed direct to Australia via Panama.

(5) It is further suggested that U.S. authorities be asked to wire-drag Prince of Wales Channel as in 1 (c) unless this has already been done.

(6) Information is requested as to the number and type of dredgers in Australia which could be made available for work required in connection with 1 (a).

(1st S.L.300222B to A.C.N.B.)

Digest
892.

June 29th.

(7) M.T.Bs co-operating with two each Beaufighters Aircobras sighted S/M forty miles north west Wewak heading northwest. Aircobras strafed S/M.

(12) On Biak Island all organized enemy resistance collapsed 28th although some small isolated pockets still resisting.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 300910)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
and
sighting
summary.

Para. A. (1) JAMES A. FARRELL, JOHN A. TREUTLEN,
H.G. BLASDEL and EDWARD M. HOUSE torpedoed (or
possibly mined) at 1338Z/29 in 50 degs. 07' N.
00 degs. 50' W. All reported afloat.

(2) A/C L/224 attacked U-Boat, course 220 degs.
at 2315Z/29 in 49 degs. 37' N. 03 degs. 41' W.

(3) A/C H/330 sighted periscope course 115 degs.
at 0855Z/29 in 62 degs. 36' N. 02 degs. 13' E.

(4) A/C P/210 attacked U-Boat course 200 degs. at 1055Z/29 June
in 63 degs. 12' N. 01 degs. 02' E.

(5) UNSWERVING attacked J.U.-Boat (amendement 020829Z/July)
on 21st June in 36 degs. 27' N. 23 degs. 12' E.

Para. B. (1) H.M.Ship attacked contact at 2003Z/29 in 55 degs.
50' N. 10 degs. 17' W.

(2) A/C F/330 had A.S.V. contact at 0610Z/30 in 62 degs. 45' N.
02 degs. 13' E.

(D.D.I.C. 301015Z)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 301430B, 301437B)

C.A.S.O. No.5. Following summary of U-Boat Mediterranean tactics
is based on experience in recent operations and
interrogation of German U-Boat survivors.
2 - 10 Technical.
(A.C.N.S. (U.T.) 302146B)