

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

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

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

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

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

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

1.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General

- (1)(a) Allied progress in the Western Sectors continues. Brecey has been taken and the River See reached; and in the Caumont area our troops have crossed the River Souleuvre.
- (b) There is nothing to report from the Assault areas.
- (c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | <u>Men</u> | <u>Vehicles</u> | <u>Stores</u> |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| British Area | 687,771 | 172,759 | 852,501 |
| U.S. Area | 933,169 | 174,543 | 898,053 |
| Total | <u>1,620,940</u> | <u>347,302</u> | <u>1,750,554</u> |

General

Flying bombs

(2) Increasing numbers of Flying Bombs are now being launched from the neighbourhood of Walcheren; and, starting to-night, a Coastal Force Patrol will operate regularly off the Dutch Coast in order to plot the tracks of such Flying Bombs as cross it with a view to locating the new launching sites.

Transfer of Warships to Soviet Navy.

(3) At noon to-day the destroyers ROXBOROUGH and GEORGETOWN were transferred to the Soviet Navy in the Tyne and re-named JESTKYI and DOBLESTNYI respectively.

South Atlantic

Convoys E. Africa.

(4) C.D.-D.C. (Capetown/Durban) convoys were recommenced and D.K. (Durban/Kilindini) convoys were discontinued, as from to-day.

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SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Air
attack on
U.G.S.48.
(Contd.)

(5) A light air attack was made on Convoy U.G.S.48 in the early hours of to-day, north-west of Bougie. No damage is reported.

(6) UPSTART reports that on 28th July off Cap Cepet (Toulon) she torpedoed and sunk an enemy M/V of 4000 tons.

East Indies

U-Boat
off Madras.

(7) WALLOWA (U.S.Tanker) reported a periscope this forenoon in 14.17 N. 81.28 E. (100 miles N.E. of Madras).

America and West Indies

Task
Group 22.3.

(8) BOGUE's group sailed from Bermuda today to operate against a U-Boat which was reported on 28th July in the North Atlantic in 46.15 N. 21.15 west.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Naval.

(A) General. Reference Cositintrep No.117. The M.T. ship sunk was SS. SAMWAKE and not as previously reported.

(B) Assault area. Night 30th/31st July. Torpedo bombers attacked B.A.A. patrols at 2330 without success. One bomber was destroyed by a coasters balloon off Barfleur harbour. L.C.G.1062 was mined and sunk near H.6 anchor berth in B.A.A. at 0630. Three of crew missing.

(C) Unloading figures to p.m. 31st July.

| | Troops | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| British | 683,082 | 171,164 | 829,510 |
| U.S. | 920,486 | 172,807 | 867,729 |
| Total D + 55 | <u>1,603,568</u> | <u>343,971</u> | <u>1,697,239</u> |

(Ramsay, 012302B, as amended 020102 and 040650)

Communique No.114 (Extract)

Allied progress in the Western Sectors continues. Armoured forces pushing on from Avranches have captured the dams South East of Ducey and near Vezins, while others have taken Brecey and reached the River See in this area. Fighting is going on South of Villedieu though the town itself has not yet been taken.

Our forces have driven further forward in the Tessy area and are now within a mile of the town. There has also been some progress south of Torigni Sur Vire.

In the area South of Caumont Allied troops have crossed the River Souleuvre and taken Le Beny-Bocage.

(S.H.A.E.F. 012330B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs 240, 229, Z.2. F.N. 2 M.T.Bs, 751, 612, 610 in position 208 degs. Z. 2 5.8 miles. F.U.3 ORWELL in position 050 degs. Z.3 3 miles. F.N.4 M.T.Bs 433, 432, 436 in position 50 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5 E.

F.U. 5 OPPORTUNE in position 050 degs. Z.5 3 miles.

F.U.6 M.T.Bs. 358, 353, S.5 in position 230 degs. Z.6 2 miles.

F.U. 7 SAVAGE Z.7.

(2) A/C under Swingate V.H.F. control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius from Boulogne break-water light.

(A.C. Dover, 011310B)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth One, Para. 38. Cover night 1st/2nd. (1) ONSLAUGHT (G.H.1), TALYBONT (G.H.2), ONSLOW (G.H.3) at 2300 Patrol in Z.102 and Z.9 West of longitude of Greenwich. 6th Escort Group (NEW WATERFORD (S.O), CAPE BRETON, WESCOTT) at 2300 Gamma Search from 50 degs. 15' N.

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Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.)

01 degs. 30' W. on a line 150 degs. to 49 degs. 52' N. ORIBI (G.C.1) patrol on line between 50 degs. 11' N. 00 degs. 01' E. and 50 degs. 14' N. 00 degs. 09' E. WENSLEYDALE (G.C.2) patrol on line between 50 degs. 04' N. 00 degs. 15' W. to 50 degs. 07' N. 00 degs. 07' W.
Force G.C. to be on patrol by 2300.

(B) THORNBOROUGH (G.D.1) in Z.8.

(C) Unit G.D.2 M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O) 453, 481.

Unit G.D. 3 M.T.Bs. 480 (S.O), 477, 473 and Unit G.D.4 M.T.Bs.414 (S.O) 431, 483 with THORNBOROUGH in Z.8.

Force G.D. to be in position 2315.

(F) (i) Force G.D. W/T Watch on 2980 K/cs. R/T Watch on 8400 K/Cs. Unit G.D. 1 R/T Guard on 8200 K/cs.

(ii) Operation "Purblind" free bombing area bounded on the North by a line joining Boulogne to position 50 degs. 00' N. 00 degs. 10' W. on the west by Meridian 00 degs. 10' W. and on the South and East by the French Coast.

(iii) In the event of Operation "Purblind" being cancelled Force G.D. will patrol in Z.13. Waiting position for Force G.D. will then be 8 miles South of North West Corner of Z.16.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011410B)

O.N. 1 Para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report
1st/2nd August, 1944.(1) F.U.3 ORWELL Z.3. F.U.5 OPPORTUNE Z.5. F.U.7 SAVAGE Z.7.
G.H.1 ONSLAUGHT, G.H.2 TALYBONT, G.H.3 ONSLOW, Z.102, Z.9.
G.C.1 ORIBI, Z.8. G.C.2 WENSLEYDALE Z.11 North West.
G.D. 1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13.(2) G.D.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.D.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13.
G.D.4 3 M.T.Ss. Z.13. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs.
Z.2 West. F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs 50 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5' E.
F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6 West.

(3) A/C have freedom to illuminate and attack in Area 8 miles radius from Boulogne breakwater light. Wellington patrol as follows: 50 degs. 37' N. 01 degs. 29' E. 50 degs. 09' N. 01 degs. 22' E. 49 degs. 55' N. 00 degs. 37' E. 50 degs. 14' N. 00 degs. 37' E.

(4) G.M.6 PYTCHLEY, G.M.7 STEVENSTONE, Pike.
G.M.8 BLENCATHRA and BLANKNEY, Tunny North.
G.K.1 KINGSMILL, G.K.2 2 M.T.Bs., G.L. 5 QUORN, G.L.4 KRAKOWIAK,
G.L.1 DUFF, G.L.3 3 M.T.Bs, G.L.2 2 M.T.Bs, Tunny South.
G.L.6 LA COMBATTANTE - Area Juno North West. Group A 8 M.Ls.
A.25 (B.A. 5871) Westward. Group B 8 M.Ls A.9 (B.A.6767) to A.
25, Group C.8 M.Ls Area Juno.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011842B and 020516)

O.N. 1 Para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel report 1st/2nd August. (1) 6th E.G. on line 50 degs. 15' N. 01 degs. 30' W. to 49 degs. 52' N. 01 degs. 10' W.

1st E.G. Z.232 N.Z. 237, N. Z.243 N. 3rd E.G. Z.212 W Z.213, W. Z.217, Z.222. 9th E.G. Z.120 S.W. Z.121, W.Z.127 S.Z.218.
15th E.G. Z.130 Z.132, Z.126 Z.127 N.(2) G.S.1 3 M.T.Bs, Z.209 N.Z.203. G.S.3 3 M.T.Bs. Z.210.
G.W.1, 3 M.T.Bs, Z.209 S.

(3) A/C all areas west of 2 degs. W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011944B)

Amend/...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.) Amend my 011410B as follows:
Para. (A) ORIBI Patrol on line between positions 50 degs. 22' N. 00 degs. 15' E. and 50 degs. 26' N. 00 degs. 22' E.
WENSLEYDALE Patrol on line between positions 50 degs. 11' N. 00 degs. 01' E. and 50 degs. 14' N. 00 degs. 09' E.
Para. (F) Section (2) is cancelled. Force G.D. is to carry out section (3).
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 012259B)

Mining

Operation K.N.30. Prepare to carry out operation K.N.30 on next suitable night.
(A) Three M.T.Bs. of 13th Flotilla.
(C) E.A.3 buoy at 2000B thence to position of lay.
(D) 276 Cap D'Antifer one 2 miles. Three lines 350 degs. 110 degs. and 230 degs. each of 4 miles. 0100B.
600 feet. (E) Reverse of (C).
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011250B to HORNET)

U-Boats

A/S Patrols. O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.
(A) E.G.1 Northern half of 2243, Z.237 and Z.232 up to 50 degs. O.N.
E.G.3 Z.222, Z.217, western half of Z.213 and Z.212. E.G.9 Gamma centre 50.00 N. 01.58 W.
length 20' direction 158/338.
E.G.15 Gamma centre 50.18 N. 2.10 W. length 20' direction 158/338.
(C) Forthwith.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 011022B to E.G's 1,3,9 and 15)
Changing from day to night Patrols or the reverse to afford maximum day protection of Spout traffic. Spout patrols are to be maintained as long as possible, subject to meeting night disposition requirements.
(2) In future unless in contact with the enemy or unless otherwise ordered, the following change-over routine is to be adopted.
(a) Ships are to be in their night stations punctually at the time of evening nautical twilight.
(b) Ships are to leave their night stations at the time of morning nautical twilight.
(3) O.N. Portsmouth will be amended in due course.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 012125B)

Channal Situation. Two or three in English Channel east of 02 degs. 30' W. Probably two within 30 miles of 49 degs. 30' N. 05 degs. 30' W.
One eastbound within 60 miles east or west of 47 degs. 00' N. 10 degs. 00' W.

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Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Channel Situation (Contd.) Two quite unfixed possibly inward bound in Inner Bay of Biscay. (D.D.I.C.011413B to A.I.G.331)

Contact attacked by E.G.9. Have attacked contact on bottom in 50 degs. 08' N. 02 degs. 35' ? W. Oil brought to the surface but believed wreck. Am still investigating.

(E.G.9, 011545B to C. in C. Plymouth)

My 011545B. Contact classified as wreck. Oil still rising. Am proceeding.

(E.G.9, 011723B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Your 011723B. Report reasons for classification. (C. in C. Plymouth, 012029B to E.G.9)

Your 012029. After 3 hours and after 2 Hedgehog and 2 depth-charges attack only oil came to the surface. Target was stationary and attacks were accurate, also Echo sounder trace bore no resemblance to outline of S/M. This may not however be conclusive as it has now been found that wrong paper speed was used.

(E.G.9, 012220B to C. in C. Plymouth)

U-Boats reported. U-Boat made B signal at 1418Z. Only bearing obtained runs S. Westward from Isle of Wight. Position may be in Bay of Biscay. (D.D.I.C.011659B to E.G.'s 15, 6, 9 and Force 26)

A.M. 011659B. Bearings from Ships suggests position of U-Boat was within 20 miles of 49.45 N. 02.15 W. (D.D.I.C.011755B to E.Gs. 15,6,9,1,3, and Force26)

U-Boat made B signal at 2039Z. Bearings from shore stations indicate Eastern Channel 01 degs. to 01 degs. 30' E. (D.D.I.C. 012321B to Ships.)

At 2334Z bearing of 030 degs. or 210 degs. 3rd class was obtained of a Naval enigma. My Position 50 degs. 00' N. 02 degs. 01' W.

(E.G.9, 012334 to Admty)

A/S procedure. The following action to be taken by searching vessels if a U-Boat reveals her presence by attacks on shipping.

- (A) On completion of search in the limited area (circle 4000 yds. radius from wreck or last known position) if still without Asdic contact plaster the area liberally with depth charges: setting being those nearest to depth of water.
- (B) On completion of (A) carry out box search of area.
- (2) My 021912B June also refers.
- (3) Attention is drawn to A.N.C.X.F. 051905B/July. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 011918B to Ships.)

In recent operations in the Channel, although certain U-Boats have dived after being sighted at moderate or short range, counter-attacks have been withheld with the object of delivering later a deliberate and more effective attack on Asdic information.

The /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats.

A/S
procedure.
(Contd.)

The U-Boats, however, escaped without ever being attacked, as Asdic contact was never established. (2) Asdic conditions in the Channel are difficult and often unfavourable. For these reasons the following action is to be taken if a U-Boat is sighted or reveals her presence by attacking

shipping.

- (a) Deliver an immediate counter-attack. This is to be by eye if Asdic contact is not established immediately.
- (b) On completion, if still without Asdic contact, plaster the area liberally with depth charges on the assumption that the U-Boat will bottom close to her diving or attacking position.
- (C. in C. Portsmouth, O21912B to Ships.)

Allied Air Activity

Operation
"Purblind".

Conditions favourable 1st August ZM.
(F.O.B.A.A. 011055 to Admty)
Operation "Purblind" postponed 24 hours. Weather at base.
(A.N.C.X.F. 011841B to F.O.B.A.A.)

Casualties and Defects

RAPIDOL
damaged.

RAPIDOL holed between light and load waterline port side aft. Temporary repairs carried out by ship's staff. More efficient repair in U.K. essential before reloading to make vessel seaworthy. Estimated time required 4 days. Will retain RAPIDOL at Cherbourg until empty about 10th August. Request return destination.
(C.T.F.125, 011610B to Admty)

ASCANIUS.

Divers examination ASCANIUS now area 22 East shows following damage. Vessel can safely proceed in present condition to Southampton to discharge. 3 tugs necessary for towage to Southampton.
(Salv. Officer, Cowes, 012030B to C.S.V.O., Portsmouth)

Shipping and Convoys

E.P.P.8.

E.P.P.8. 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F.010145)

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Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.W.L.54 B. E.W.L.54 B. 6 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 010358)

E.W.L.54 A. E.W.L. 54 A. 4 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 010445)

Blue Sky 81. (A) BLUE SKY 81.
 (C.T.U.125-1-3, 010706)

E.B.C.57. E.B.C. 57. 16 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 010710)

F.T.M.55. Sailed F.T.M.55. 19 Ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
 (N.S.B.S. 011005)

E.T.M.51. E.T.M.51. 10 ships and 3 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 011020)

E.T.C.54. E.T.C.54. 13 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 011042)

F.T.C.54. Sailed F.T.C.54. 25 ships.
 (N.S.B.S. 011109B and 011243)

L.S.T.
Convoys. E.T.M.59 will be the last such convoy in which
 L.S.T. from the Thames will be included.
 Thereafter no more L.S.T. will be loaded in London
 or Tilbury.
 (2) On and after 4th August no L.S.T. are to be
 routed to Thames in F.T.M. convoys. Para. 2 (A)
 of my 151253 July is to be amended accordingly.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 011129)

F.P.M.23. (A) F.P.M.23. 4 ships and 20 L.S.Ts.
 (C.T.U.125.1.3, 011250B)

Timing of
F.T.M.
Convoys. Enemy attacks on Convoys during dark hours
 between Beachy Head and Dungeness are likely to
 continue as nights grow longer.
 (2) In order to reduce to a minimum the (?period
 of) Convoy passing danger areas in the night

it /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

Timing of
F.T.M.
Convoys.
(Contd.)

it is proposed F.T.M. Convoys should leave B.A.A. in time to pass Dungeness at the end of evening nautical twilight.
(3) This would involve reduction of speed between Dungeness and Dumpton unless night passage north of Dumpton can be accepted and would involve meeting E.T.M. Convoy between Dungeness and Dover. If Q.Z.S.517 could again be used for Eastbound traffic meeting danger would be avoided.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 012109B)

Organisation and Administration

Functions
on transfer
of
A.N.C.X.F.
to France.

Your 241421B July. Suggest following be substituted for present para. 5. "The U.S. occupied ports are under the command of the Commander U.S. Ports and Bases France (Comusbas-france). He is operationally responsible to A.N.C.X.F. and administratively and logistically responsible to Comnaveu".
(Comnaveu, 011604 to Admty)

R.A.F.
Liaison
Officer
for
C.T.F.125.

Ref. your 311740. Assignment of R.A.F. Liaison Officer acceptable. Desire he be assigned Headquarters as soon as practicable.
(C.T.F.012203B to H.Q.C.C., Admty, A.N.C.X.F.)

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HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

GEORGETOWN and ROXBOROUGH transferred as DOBLESTNYI and JESTKYI. Transfer of Flag in GEORGETOWN and ROXBOROUGH taking place noon today. Russian Admiral does not wish to sail before 2nd August. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 011030B to C. in C. Rosyth.) My 011030B. GEORGETOWN now U.S.S.R.N. DOBLESTNYI ROXBOROUGH now U.S.S.R.N., JESTKYI Flag transferred at noon. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 011441B to C. in C. Rosyth.)

North Russian Convoys. Admiralty 302311. Pending final decision on policy propose 5th E.G. is nominated for this transfer. (C. in C. Plymouth, 011748B to C. in C.W.A.)

Defence of U.K.

Detection of Flying bombs. Air Ministry Whitehall 311255. Request you will arrange for such assistance as is possible to meet the requirements in para. 3 (b). (A.C.N.S.H. 010014B to C. in C. Nore.) My 301300 and 301558. After further detailed discussion with Naval Fighter Direction officer at Sandwich of inherent difficulties of fighter direction at night without full Radar facilities I strongly favour trying out the use of the Estuary Forts in first instance and the fitting of Frigates with full facilities to proceed concurrently. (C. in C. Nore, 011020B to Admty.)

A.M. 291932 and C. in C. Nore's 301300. It has been decided that 4 Flower-Class Corvettes are to be made available temporarily to C. in C. Nore for duty in connection with the shooting down of flying bombs..

2. C. in C.W.A. is accordingly requested to transfer 4 Flower-Class Corvettes from those being returned to him from the Channel Commands.

3. C. in C. Nore is requested to arrange for the fitting (if not already fitted) of:-

a. Type 87 with Type 86 M. as standby.

b. Type 89.

c. Q.H.

d. Type 253.

4. It is not possible to have Type 277 fitted in these ships and no others are available now or will become available in the near future.

5. Crystals will be provided for the necessary frequencies. (V.C.N.S. 011230B to C. in C.W.A.)

Air Ministry's 311255 para. 3 (B). Starting tonight. Coastal Force Patrol will operate nightly in area indicated. (C. in C. Nore 011432B to Admty.)

A.C. Dover, 281324. Request Admiralty arrange supply of projectors and rockets to ships suggested. Essential rockets are only fired when flying bomb is seen within distance of one mile from ship flying on course to English coast. Rockets to be fired by day only. Do ships of other commands also operate in Diver area and could they give similar service. (H.Q. A.D.G.B. 011630B to Admty.)

/Your...

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HOME COMMANDS

Defence of United Kingdom

Detection of Flying Bombs. (Contd.) Your 301558. Much appreciate useful offer. Understand each Fort equipped with 10" search-light, could operate Snowflake rocket-gun, and has at least three lines to mainland. Consider Forts could be very useful if linked by landline to Sandwich G.C.1 for giving warnings and exact positions of flying bombs for visual direction by searchlight and/or Star shell or Snowflake rocket and possibly as orbit beacon for A/C. Whether actual control of A/C from Forts would be desirable in view of close proximity to Estuary gun box under detailed consideration of No. 11 Group. Suggest conference be arranged with No. 11 Group representative to discuss details. Await your comments and suggestions.

(H.Q. A.D.G.B. 011735B to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 011020B. Urgently request project as previously agreed and confirmed in your 301245B be pressed forward with utmost despatch. How successful visual control will be can only be tested in practice and in any case there is urgent and vital requirement for increased warning and more knowledge as to launching area of flying bombs.

(H.Q. A.D.G.B. 011845B to C. in C. Nore.)

A.M. 011230. POTENTILLA, VERVAIN, LAVENDER, HEATHER are nominated for temporary service with C. in C. Nore.

(C. in C.W.A. 011916B to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 011020. There is no objection to trying out the use of the Estuary Forts for this purpose.

(D.L.D. 012002B to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 301558B. Concur.

2. Approved to fit equipment proposed in your para. 3.

(D.R.E. 012205B to C. in C. Nore.)

Movements

SPORTSMAN,
SCEPTRE.

B.A.D.'s 311711 July. It is desired SPORTSMAN be accepted in Philadelphia 1st November and SCEPTRE 15th December.
(F.O.S. 011007B to Admt.)

RAMILLIES

A.M. 19164? para. 5. Route.
2. A.M. 291827 also refers.
(D.O.D.H. 011754B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Operations

SUPREME
and
UPSHOT
patrols.

After reaching position 059° N. 001° W. at approx. 1300B/4th August S/Ms are to proceed independently on the surface at C.O.'s discretion as follows:-
A. SUPREME through 058° 47' N. 001° 20' E. to patrol line mid point 058° 30' N. 000° 50' E. length 40 miles, direction 045° to 225°.
B. UPSHOT through 058° 40' N. 000° 01' W. and 057° 18' N. 000° 10' E. to patrol line from point 057° 30' N. 000° 40' E. length 40 miles, direction 050° to 330°

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and
UPSHOT
Patrols.
(Contd.)2. Capt. S.3 is requested to inform S/M of my 271031 para. 2 and my 271033.
(Capt. S.9, 011225B to SUPREME, UPSHOT)MiningEXMOUTH
mined on
31st July.

At 0803B July 31st S O S and subsequently several distress signals were received from SS. EXMOUTH. Search was carried out in foggy weather by 1 trawler, 2 H.S.Ls. and A/C. H.S.L. 2721 returned to Dundee with 68 survivors of SS. EXMOUTH, this being total crew who were picked up from 4 lifeboats in 56° 28' N. 01° 54' W. at 2125B/31st July. Master states two explosions almost simultaneous at 0715B/31st July and ship sank at 0820B. Master gave his latest position as 56° 30' N. 02° 12' W. and states he made 22 buoy and 23 buoy, Bell buoy, but not 24 buoy, his course being then 020° speed 10½ knots. By Radar Plot an unknown ship left convoy F.N.33 at about 0400B/31st July in vicinity of 21D buoy, proceeding on course 020° speed approximately 12 knots, Plot fading out at 0721 in approximately 56° 33' N. 01° 37' W. Consider ship was sunk by mine.
(C. in C.Rosyth 010122B to Admty.)

Shipping and Convoys

Straggler.

Stragglers return week ending 0915B/01/08/44
GRAINTON O.N.M.246 - defective boilers.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 010915B to Admty.)Convoy
J.W.59

My 261905 and Admiralty 302311. Intend to use two fleet oilers to fuel destroyer escorts of Fleet Carrier force in area south west of Spitzbergen during this operation.

2. If three additional destroyers or frigates can be made available these oilers would be sailed from Scapa after convoy J.W.59 proceeding well clear of the convoy route so as to arrive at fuelling area undetected.

3. If, however, additional escorts cannot be provided it will be necessary to include these oilers in J.W.59 and detach them with portion of convoy escort on reaching Bear Island area to proceed to waiting position for fuelling. Disadvantage of this is that U-boats shadowing convoy may follow oilers to waiting position.

(C. in C.H.F. 011432B to Admty.)

1.8.1944.
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Naval Units sighted by ?enemy A/C. Following has been passed by A.H.Q. Gibraltar to 19 Group repeated H.Q.C.C. begins: A.C.160 31st July following received from 70 M.T.S.P. Beau-fighter M.T.894 (Captain Flying Officer White 1 F.T.U.) reports sighting nine destroyers and three heavier vessels (probably cruisers) in 47 degs. 40' N. 07degs. 40' W. at 0745Z/31st July, course 140^Q(T) 25 to 30 (enemy?) aircraft at 5000 feet ten minutes after sighting aircraft entered cloud report considered reasonably reliable, 311420Z T.O.O. 311813B. Ends.
(F.O.G.M.A. 011106B and 011128B to Admty., C. in C. Plymouth).

Escort of RAMILLIES One destroyer only is required to R/V with RAMILLIES. Para.4. of A.M. 291827[✓] July and your 301143 July refer.
(2) Dependent on date of which there is as yet no information in Admiralty request you will consider using the remaining two destroyers for the purpose of para.1. of your 311726 July.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 011325B to F.O.G.M.A.). [✓] Top Secret Hush.

South Atlantic

Convoys E. Africa Reference my 311031[✓] July. C.B. - B.C. convoys will be (?maintained) for the present D(?K) due convoys being discontinued forthwith. (As received - W.D.).
(C. in C.S.A., 011658B)
[✓] Intend re-commencing C.D.- D.C. convoys as from 1st August, when D.K. convoys will be discontinued.

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1. 8. 1944.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Enemy force. Nr. 2. My 0025*. Enemy force entered Genoa Harbour before attack could be made. (A/C OPZC 010140B.) *N.T.

Air attack on U.G.S.48. My 0100* first attack completed. Number under water explosions. As far as we know, no damage. (?DELHI 010200 to C. in C.Med.)
*Not recd. in Admty.
A light air attack on U.G.S.48 about 0130/1. N.W. of Bougie, no damage reported. (F.O.W.M. 010214B.)

ULTIMATUM. Intend sailing ULTIMATUM at 0700/3rd through 041° 07' 007° 34' at 1830/3rd thence direct 036° 56' 003° 03' at 1100/5th to R/V with escort for Algiers
2. Request P.34 ULTIMATUM be sailed with M.K.S.57 to Gibraltar for onward routing to U.K. for refit. (Capt. S.10 011129 to F.O.W.M.)

UPSTART report. UPSTART reports: 1. at 0316/28 in 152° Cap Cepet 6 miles fired four torpedoes with non contact pistol set to 12 feet at 4000 ton merchant vessel escorted by two destroyers, and one heavily armed merchant vessel. One contact hit observed, target sunk. Slight counter attack.
2. Two eastbound convoys sighted sailed from Toulon at 2000 preceded by R-Boat sweep. (S.10 011213 to C. in C.Med.)

VIGOROUS. P.74 (VIGOROUS) leaves patrol to arrive in position 035° 49' 023° 29' at dawn 5th thence through Antikithera Channel. (Capt. S.1 011755B to VIGOROUS, (R) 1st S/M F. F.O.L.E.M. PIPINOS.)

R.SCOTSMAN, Subject to your operational requirements, it is
KEREN, PRINSES very desirable the following ships should return
BEATRIX, to U.K. for refit as soon as assault and immediate
PRINS ALBERT, follow-up phases of current operations are com-
PRINCE BAUDOUIN pleted: ROYAL SCOTSMAN (your letter 4264/Med. 821/
36/44 of 23rd June refers), KEREN, PRINSES
BEATRIX, PRINS ALBERT, PRINCE BAUDOUIN.
2. Ships quoted may be used to return personnel of all services to U.K. (V.C.N.S. 011826B to C. in C.Med.)

SS. MONTE Aznar Company requests permission to (?sail) Span.
NURIA. MWETTE (?MONTE intended) NURIA from Lisbon to Haifa via Med. with cargo of (?timber) and preserved food in British interests. Request your comments. (B.N.A.Madrid 011930B to C. in C.Med. (Naples))

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1.8.1944.

Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions. No fresh information. No change in scale of air
escort.
(C. in C.E.F., 010325).

CLYDE For Commander Helbert. Approved for CLYDE to
remain in Australia between Carpenter 1 and 2.
Your 280041 refers.
(C. in C.E.F., 010624Z to C.T.F.71).

Daily (Extract) 29th July.
Opsum 870. Visuals. Possible M/V 8/10,000 tons believed
grounded close inshore N.W. North East shore of
Klah Island. Sabang coaling quay further damage
seen on Godowns. Godown on commercial quay
severely damaged and 2 strikes on quay itself. Preliminary
examination reveals no damage to W.T. station.
(A.C.S.E.A., 010859Z).

U-Boat SSSS SSSS 14 R 17 N. 81 R 28 E. Periscope
off sighted.
Madras (KVL1, WALLOWA No T.O.O./1, Recd. 1140).

Docking of Further to my 120310 June not to all.
ships joining (2) In cases where it has not been possible to
Eastern dock ships in the U.K. shortly before they sail
Fleet. to join the Eastern Fleet it is requested that
consideration be given to docking them for
bottom cleaning during the passage out.
(C. in C.E.F., 011351Z to Admty., (R) C. in C.
Med., F.O.L.E.M., F.O.G.M.A.).

1.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

BOGUE's group. Compliance Cinclant 290214 T.G.22.3 departs Bermuda Sea Buoy 011000Z (?SKS) 059 speed 15, Q.J.B.14. No flight operations today. (C.T.G., 22.3 010158Z.)

Convoy U.G.F.49. Com. 10th Fleet C. and R re-encyphers C.T.F.63 312242 42-28 TULSA stopped at 2000Z for four hours to repair condensers thence to stragglers route at 7 knots for day and half. R.SHERMAN with one leaky boiler at 2000/30 slowed to 7 knots for repairs and is now 140 miles astern. All times Z. (33.15 011357Z.)

U/B dis-positions. Estimates. (Cominch 011503Z, N.S.H.Q. 011532Z.)

Marianas. 1. Tinian. 4 Marine Div. captured Tinian town afternoon 30 July after increased opposition. 2. Guam. Apra harbour in excellent condition and already in use. Front lines intact with patrols across island to Togcha and Ylig Bays. Major advance scheduled for dawn 31 July. (B.A.S.Washington 011710Q.)

S/Ms 0.21 and 0.24. Dutch S/M 0.24 is due to complete refit (ex trials) at Philadelphia 7th August. 2. Still Admty. intention that 0.21 and 0.24 shall both operate in N.E.I.waters. A.M. 092245 Feb. not to Philadelphia refers. 3. Information is requested to enable spare gear etc. to be despatched to appropriate port. (B.A.D. 011713Z to Admty. (R) C. in C.E.F. F.O.S. B.N.L.O. Philadelphia.)

SANTA MARIA MADALENA. My 131248 June para. 2. This vessel leaves Greenland Bank for Newfoundland Bank 4th August. She will tow ILLHAVENSE 2 (my 211803 July refers), part of way as latter held up by contrary winds. (N.A.Lisbon 011820B to Admty. N.S.H.Q.)

C.O.N. Effective 1st Aug. 1944 the title commanding officer reserve divisions is replaced by commanding officer naval divisions short title C.O.N. (N.S.H.Q. 011828Z.)

U/B incidents. CARD reports oil slick and contact vicinity 27.30 N. 54.00 W. prior to 2015Z/31. (Cominch 012030Z.)

/KING...

1.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

KING Cominch informs me that Norwegian N.As. in London
HAAKON VII. wish KING HAAKON VII to be transferred to U.S.
Operational control for the winter months, preferably before the end of September.
2. A similar transfer was arranged last winter (A.M. 302027 September, 1943, refers.)
3. Cominch requests Admiralty concurrence.
(B.A.D. 012215Z to Admty. (R) C. in C.C.N.A. N.S.H.Q.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 924. United States Forces made further unopposed landing
July 31st. early daylight Saneaport Plantation, 2 miles south of original beachhead whence excellent progress made (10 groups missing) opposition encountered except for 3 small groups stragglers who offered no resistance.
2. During early hours Navy search Catalina attacked 4 ship convoy off Ambon apparently heading east: direct quarter ton bomb hits sank one medium transport almost immediately. Same plane strafes large lugger in Piroe Bay.
13. One navy patrol Liberator midday 30th attacked 2 small craft Talaud Group destroying 70 foot wooden vessel.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 010940.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B incidents. Para. A. 1. E.G.2 heavily attacked U-Boat at 1809Z/31st July in lat. 49° 39' N. long. 07° 28' W.
2. H.M.S. WALDEGRAVE attacked stationary contact at 1652Z/31st July in lat. 49° 48' N. long. 00° 26' W.
Para. B. 1. Azores A/C obtained disappearing Radar contact at 2206Z 30th July in lat. 43° 11' N. long. 26° 39' W.
2. Fisherman sighted U-Boat course N.E. at 1800Z/28th July in lat. 25° 35' S. long. 33° 30' E.
(D.D.I.C. 011139Z.)

U/B destroyed My 221059 July, 1942. 1. E.G.2 attacked contact by LOCH KILLIN on bottom in 49° 39' N. 7° 28' W. at 2009/31. After & STARLING. 5 Squid attacks and 6 depth charge attacks wreckage and human remains came to surface.
(D.A.U.D. 011618Z.)

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (D.D.I.C. 011401B, 011414B.)

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

- 1(a) Allied troops have today reached Vire, have taken Estry, and are approaching Aunay. Villedieu has been captured, and heavy fighting continues near Tilly-la-Campagne.
 (b) The main functions and responsibilities during Operation "Overlord" of A.N.C.X.F. and the Cs. in C. of Home Commands were set forth in detail in an Admiralty signal today.
 (c) A first R/C of Granville shows considerable damage to the port and harbour buildings and many concrete barriers in the port approaches.
 (d) Considerable damage was done to shipping at Havre at 1900 today when 59 A/C dropped about 298 tons of bombs on the port.
 (e) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | <u>Personnel</u> | <u>Vehicles</u> | <u>Stores</u> |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| British Area: | 701,516 | 173,242 | 869,348 |
| U.S. Area: | 945,714 | 177,618 | 929,540 |
| Total: | 1,647,230 | 350,860 | 1,798,588 |

Enemy
Action.

2. U-Boats. (a) At 1545B today Convoy F.T.M. 56 was attacked by a U-Boat 40 miles E.S.E. of St. Catherine's Point. Two torpedoes were sighted by CURZON and WALPOLE of the Convoy Escort who searched for the U-Boat without success, and the SS. OCEAN VIGOUR was slightly damaged by underwater explosion. No other damage was sustained.

General

Largest
Atlantic
Convoy.

3. Convoy H.X. 300 arrived today in the U.K. It consisted of 167 ships carrying 1,056,413 tons of cargo, and is the largest convoy which has so far crossed the Atlantic.

2 U-Boats
attacked.

4. At 1330 two escorted U-Boats were attacked by two Mosquito A/C 5 miles north of Egersund, Norway.

Home Fleet.

5. At 2208 today C.S.1 in INDEFATIGABLE with FURIOUS, BERWICK, JAMAICA and 7 destroyers left Scapa, for Operation "Turbine" (air strike off Norway)

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

North Atlantic

FISKE
torpedoed.

6. The U.S. destroyer FISKE (of T.G. 22.6) was reported by WAKE ISLAND to have been torpedoed at 021335Z in 47° 10' N. 32° 40' W. (about 470 miles N. by W. of Flores (Azores)).

Mediterranean

7. C. in C. Middle East reports the movement of TSAR FERDINAND (Bulgarian) to Lemnos. He states that this is a striking new departure since Bulgarian vessels have hitherto been employed only on the sheltered Piraeus - Salonika - Stratonis runs and is a probable further indication that the enemy appreciates the need to build up the Eastern Islands.

8. German troops (according to the Daily Operations Report) are reported to have landed yesterday and today on the islands of Zirje, Kakan and Kaprije, off Sibenik (Dalmatian coast). No further details are yet available.

East Indies

U/B
attacked
by WOLF
CREEK.

9. WOLF CREEK (U.S. tanker, 10,400 tons, routed Melbourne to Madras) reported sighting a periscope at 020130 G.M.T. in 00° 48' N. 78° 00' E. (about 280 miles E.N.E. of Addu Atoll). The U/B was pursued until it submerged, and WOLF CREEK reported scoring 2 hits with 3-inch guns.

SIRDAR
patrol.

10. S/M SIRDAR reports that on 16th July while on patrol north of the Malacca Straits she fired 6 torpedoes at 500 yards at a Japanese U/B in 7° 01' N. 97° 18' E. but missed. SIRDAR then broke surface and was machine-gunned by U/B with slight damage to radar and W/T aeriels. On 21st July one enemy coaster of 350 tons was attacked by SIRDAR in 7° 47' N. 98° 41' E. with gunfire and sunk. Later that day another enemy coaster of 400 tons was similarly attacked in 7° 45' N. 98° 32' E. left burning and considered a total loss.

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

America and West Indies

Troopships
in C.U. - 6
U.C. Convoys.

11. Cominch announces that beginning with Convoy C.U. 35 departing from New York on 4th September troopships will be accepted in all C.U. - U.C. convoys. The designation of certain C.U. convoys will cease after T.C.U. 35.

But see 27 August re CU 37.

Australia and New Zealand

Japanese
destroyer
hit by
Catalina.

12. A Catalina A/C on lone search bombed a Japanese destroyer 25 miles N.E. of Boeroe Island (New Guinea) scoring one direct hit and one near miss leaving the vessel circling. The Catalina also scored a hit on a large lugger off the S.W. tip of Ceram Island.

2.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military. Allied formations have now reached Vire and the road from Vire to Conde. Estry has been taken and progress continues. There is also heavy fighting in the area of Ondefontaine. Our troops are approaching Aunay.

In the Caen area bitter fighting continues against enemy armoured formations in the region of Tilly la Campagne. In the western sectors, allied armoured formations have progressed beyond Pontorson, while other forces are approaching St. Pois and advancing south east of Brecey. Villedieu has been captured and further progress has been made south of Torigni.
(S.H.A.E.F. 022335B to Agwar.)

Naval. A. Assault area. Twenty four hours ending 2300 hrs 1st. A quiet and uneventful day with negative results reported by all minesweeping flotillas.
2. Enemy air activity slight R.A.F. claimed one Ju. 88 destroyed and one possible on the night 31/1st. Three aircraft were destroyed during the day.

B. Unloading figures to p.m. 1st August:

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 687,771 | 172,759 | 852,501 |
| U.S. | 933,169 | 174,543 | 898,053 |
| Total D+56 | 1,620,940 | 347,302 | 1,750,554 |

(Ad. Ramsay 022355B to Admty.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N.Portsmouth 1 para. 38. Cover night 2/3.
A. ONSLAUGHT (G.A.1,) TALYBONT (G.A.2), BRISSENDEN (G.A.3) at 2300 Gamma from 50° 28' N. 00° 03' W. in a direction 215° to 50° 05' N.
6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.)), CAPE BRETON, WESTCOTT) at 2300 Gamma from 50° 25' N. 01° 12' W. in a direction 155° to 50° 00' N.
WENSLEYDALE (G.H.1) patrol on line between 50° 11' N. 00° 01' E. to 50° 14' N. 00° 09' E.
ONSLow (G.H.2) patrol on line between 50° 22' N. 00° 15' E. and 50° 26' N. 00° 22' E. Force G.H. to be on patrol by 2300.
B. TORRINGTON (G.D.1) in Z.13 and Z.17.
C. Unit G.D.2, M.T.B. 454 (S.O.), 478, 482, Unit G.D.3, M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O.), 691, 694, Unit G.D.4, M.T.Bs. 474 (S.O.), 472, 476 and Unit G.D.5 S.G.B. GREY WOLF, GREY GOOSE with TORRINGTON in Z.13, Z.17. Force G.D. to be in position by 2315.
Waiting position for Force G.D. N.W. corner of Z.16.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 021232B.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night channel report 2/3 August.
1. F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.U.5 ORWELL Z.5. F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.
G.A.1 ONSLAUGHT, G.A.2 TALYBONT, G.A.3 BRISSENDEN, 6th E.G. all in vicinity 50° 05' N. 00° 37' W.

/G.H.1...

2.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.)

G.H.1 WENSLEYDALE between 50° 11' N. 00° 01' E. and 50° 14' N. 00° 09' E.
 G.H.2 ONSLOW between 50° 22' N. 00° 15' E. and 50° 26' N. 00° 22' E.
 G.D.1 TORRINGTON Z.13, Z.17.
 2. G.K.3 BLENCATHRA, G.M.1 STEVENSTONE, G.M.1 LA COMBATTANTE area Tunny north.
 G.K.1 KINGSMILL, G.L.1 DUFF, G.L.4 QUORN area Tunny south.
 G.M.2 EGLINTON, G.M.3 BLANKNEY, G.M.4 KRAKOWIAK area Pike.
 3. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2 F.N.2 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.4 3 M.T.Bs. 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E.
 F.N.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6. G.D.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.D.3 3 M.T.Bs. G.D.4 3 M.T.Bs. G.D.5 2 S.G.Bs. Z.13, Z.17.
 4. G.K.2 2 M.T.Bs. G.L.2 2 M.T.Bs. G.L.3 4 M.T.Bs. area Tunny S. (C. in C.Portsmouth 022109B.)

O.N.1 para. 52B.

Western night channel report 2/3 August.

- 1st E.G. Z.232 north, Z.237 north, Z.243 north.
 3rd E.G. Z.212 west, Z.213 west, Z.217, Z.222.
 9th E.G. Z.127 south, Z.128, Z.121 west.
 15th E.G. Z.130, Z.132, Z.126 west, Z.127 north.
 BLYSKAWICA, SALADIN, SCIMITAR Z.216, Z.221.
2. SCORPION, STORD, 2 P.Cs. Z.122.
 SAUMAREZ, ULYSSES Z.115. MALOY Z.111. 3 P.Cs. Z.111 to area "Hickory". P.Cs. in area "Hickory and "Elder".
3. Aircraft all areas west of 02° W. (C. in C.Portsmouth 022123B.)

Patrols from Dover. O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 359, 353, Z.2.
 F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 612, 610, 605 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles.
 F.U.3 SAVAGE in 050° Z.3 3 miles.
 F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 432, 418 S.5 in 050° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. F.U.5 ORWELL in 050° Z.5 3 miles
 F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 235, 202, 229 in 230° Z.6 2 miles.
 F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.

2. Aircraft under Swingate V.H.F. control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne Breakwater Light. (A.C.Dover 021329.)

Patrols from Plymouth. Information. Own.
 1st E.G. Z.232 N. Z.237 N. Z.243 N.
 3rd E.G. Z.212, Z.213, Z.217, Z.222.
 9th and 15th E.G. between Portland Bill and Cap de la Hague. Force 26 returning Plymouth a.m. 3rd from southwestward.

Enemy. U-Boats in Western Channel, 7 M-class minesweepers and about 20 auxiliaries in St. Malo to Channel Islands area on 1st August, 1 ELBING seen in Lorient on 30th July not present 1st August, 2 E-Boats believed in Brest. Occupation of St. Malo by U.S.Force today may result in withdrawal of above force to westward

/Intention....

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from
Plymouth.
(Contd.)

Intention. 2. Force 30 BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), SALADIN and SCIMITAR to patrol between Les Hanois and Ile de Bas.

Object. 3. To intercept and destroy enemy shipping Execution. 4. Force 30 is to pass Gate at 1930B today and proceed to reach position AA 49° 03' N.

3° 03' W. about 0030B/3rd.

5. After reaching AA Force 30 is to patrol the French coast between 3° 00' W. and 4° 00' W. until further orders.

6. Force 30 is not to proceed east of 3° W. unless ordered.

7. Friendly aircraft have freedom to attack all targets east of 3° W.

(C. in C.Plymouth 021724B.)

Enemy Action.

E-Boats on
night 30/31
July. M.T.B.
675 damaged.

Night 30/31 July coastal force actions. E-Boats operated in at least two groups in area of Seine Bank. In bright moonlight and extreme visibility their effects to penetrate the patrols were unsuccessful although only one engagement developed.

M.G.Bs. (324), 317, had a brief engagement with 4

E-Boats which immediately retired to the eastward. One may have been set on fire as glow was observed on enemy's bearing. One group of E-Boats reforming was shelled by DUFF at 10,000 yds. No results observed.

M.T.B. 675 was damaged by shore batteries of Cap d'Antifer. It is considered that due to constant harrassing E-Boat morale is low and that these activities were a chicken-hearted attempt to break through into the anchorage. The possibility of mine-laying cannot however be overlooked. (F.O.B.A.A. 022155 to A.N.C.X.F.)

** doubtful -
under X's
at Plymouth*

U-Boats.

Contact
attacked.

Contact regained at 0355B in identical position. Oil still coming to surface. Request instructions. Your 020104B refers. (MEON 020555B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Your 021446. Further attacks produced heavy flow of oil from stationary target. Good samples obtained. No other wreckage. Intend rejoining. (MEON 021530B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Oil appears low grade kerosene, same colour but more volatile than Admiralty diesel. Lump of graphite also recovered. Your 021814 refers.

(MEON 021955B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

2.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Channel
situation.

E.G.9 may have attacked a U-Boat south of Portland at 1345Z/1st August and there may be two in area between Seine Bay and southern England. Possibly one south of Cornwall and one or two in Ushant area (D.D.I.C. 021342B to A.I.G.331.)

Convoy
F.T.M.56
attacked.

F.T.M.56 attacked by submarine? approx. position 020° E.5 Buoy 3 miles. (No ship?) hit. Torpedo sighted.
(WALPOLE 021555 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)
My 021555. Torpedo sighted by CURZON and track by WALPOLE. Probable "Gnat". Operation "Observant" carried out. No definite contact. CURZON detached to carry out search. 2nd torpedo definitely heard by WALPOLE.
(WALPOLE 021711B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Allied Air Activity.

Operation
"Purblind".

Operation "Purblind". Conditions not favourable tonight.
(F.O.B.A.A. 021104 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Port Facilities.

Granville.

Preliminary R/C of Granville discloses following disruption of port. Grave de Heral extensively mined. Jetic Ouest badly demolished in three places in vicinity of Knuckle. Jetic Sud and Lock extensively damaged with Lock rendered useless. On Quai Sud cranes scuttled and buildings burned out. Bassin A Flot, at least nine sunken barges and wrecks. Avant Port, repair dock gates demolished with barge scuttled inside. Numerous wrecks throughout. East wall fair condition. Barracks readily repairable. Arsenal and Poudriere demolished. Ville Haute ransacked but readily repairable. Numerous concrete barriers in approaches to port. Town proper, normal condition expected after an assault.
(C.T.125 021942B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Casualties & Defects.

L.B.O.30 and
L.B.O.57.

Your 011829. Trawler GOOSANDER has never been reported in B.A.A. Her whereabouts are unknown. L. B.O. 30 is at Courseulles and L.B.O.57 on Nan Beach. Both L.B.O. have oil tanks badly displaced. When vessels have been made seaworthy they will be towed to U.K.
(F.O.B.A.A. 021145 to A.N.C.X.F.)

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

E.X.P.35. E.X.P.35, 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020110.)

E.W.L.55A. E.W.L.55A, 1 ship and 7 L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020111 and 020555.)

E.W.L.55B. E.W.L.55B, 1 ship and 6 L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020112.)

E.B.C.58. E.B.C. 58, 14 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020627 and 021420B.)

E.T.C.55. E.T.C.55, 20 ships and 2 mine recovery vessels with
tow.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020629.)

E.T.M.52. E.T.M.52, 10 ships and 2 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 020825.)

F.T.M.56. F.T.M.56, 14 ships and 2 tugs and 3 L.S.T.
(N.S.B.S. 021002B.)

F.T.C.55. F.T.C.55, 24 ships and M.M.S.252.
(N.S.B.S. 021106.)

F.P.M.24. F.P.M.24, 3 ships and 19 L.S.T.
(C.T.U.125.1.3 021210B.)

E.P.M.23. E.P.M.23, 10 ships and 12 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 021308B.)

F.X.P.34. Sailed F.X.P.34, 2 ships.
(N.S.B.S. 021536B.)

F.W.L.45. F.W.L.45, 8 L.S.Ts.
(N.S.B.S. 021605B.)

F.B.C.43. Sailed F.B.C.43, 11 ships.
(C.T.U.125.1.3 021745B.)

/Timing...

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

Timing of F.T.M. convoys. C. in C. Portsmouth 012109. It is considered that attacks in the Dover Command are just as likely to develop to the northeastward of Dungeness as further westward.

2. Reduction of speed is not acceptable between Dungeness and Sandhead, but it is agreed that the shortest time possible during the dark hours should be spent by the F.T.M. convoys between Beachy Head and Sandhead.

3. If no mines have been detected in Q.Z.S. 517 by August 8th, it is intended to ask for its cancellation.
(A.C.Dover 021923B.)

Organisation and Administration.

Priority bombing in Channel. Admiralty resumed control of Channel through normal chain of command with effect from 0001 hrs. on Tuesday 25th July.

2. Propose to revert to procedure by which requests for priority bombing of naval targets were made through H.Q.C.C. and not through A.N.C.X.F.
(A.C.N.S.H. 020035B to Air Ministry.) *R.H.: P. 47*

Request for further patrol craft in B.A.A. 1. Present state of operational M.T.Bs. and M.G.Bs. in B.A.A. is: A. 70 ft. M.T.Bs. 4. B. 71 ft. 6 inch M.T.Bs. 4. C. D-class 8, which enables only 4 or 3 weak units to operate alternate nights.

2. With existing dispositions of E/R Boats in Le Havre it is considered that a minimum of 3 strong units should be available each night and it is requested that a further 12 D or C class may be allocated releasing A if necessary.

3. Club run between Le Havre and Cap d'Antifer last night 1/2nd August shows enemy are still active in spite of previous nights bombing.
(F.O.B.A.A. 021215B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Balloon Servicing ships for Western area. After consultation with representative Kite Balloon Station Plymouth Command on excessive losses balloons from ships sailing U.S. assault area, establishment of Depot servicing vessels at Utah, Omaha and Cherbourg offers good possibility reducing these losses. Request arrangements be made to supply depot ships for above areas at early date.
(C.T.F. 125 021430B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Functions...

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Functions of A.N.C.X.F. and Cs. in Chief Home Commands. Main functions and responsibilities of A.N.C.X.F. and Commanders in Chief Home Commands as regards "Overlord" are as follows:-

2. A.N.C.X.F. is naval adviser to the Supreme Commander and is responsible for the Naval support of Allied armies in occupied territory, for the defence of the continental coastal area, and for co-ordinating the operation and defence of the occupied ports. He will interpret the needs of the Army with regard to reinforcement and maintenance requirements and inform Admiralty and Commanders in Chief accordingly. He will plan future amphibious operations within the sphere of the Supreme Commander.
3. The F.Os. in charge of British operated Continental ports are responsible to A.N.C.X.F. for the efficient working, upkeep and local defence of the ports under their immediate control.
4. The Commanders in Chief Home Commands are responsible to the Admiralty for the security of sea communications in the Channel, except in such areas as may be agreed to be necessary for A.N.C.X.F. to retain operational control. They are responsible for meeting the requirements of A.N.C.X.F. to the limit of their resources.
5. As the defence of anchorages is closely linked with operations in the Channel for the protection of convoys, the F.Os. in charge of Continental ports should co-ordinate the operations of their local surface forces with the appropriate Commanders in Chief Home Commands.
6. In British operated ports:-
 - A. A.N.C.X.F. will inform the Admiralty and Commanders in Chief Home Commands concerned of his assessment of the personnel and material required to meet the operational needs of the ports. The relevant Home Commands should meet these needs with the resources available, applying in the ordinary manner to the Admiralty for further resources if necessary. A.N.C.X.F. will inform Admiralty if he is not satisfied with the scale of defence provided.
 - B. With regard to the maintenance, supply, discipline, and welfare of personnel, the F.Os. in charge are to deal direct with the Commanders in Chief of the Home Commands, the chain of administration and command of personnel being through the ordinary channels of the Home Commands.
 - C. These arrangements do not debar a Commander in Chief Home Command, or his staff, from visiting a port to investigate whether the administrative arrangements provided by the Home Command are adequate and economical. Should it be desirable to make a change, which might affect the operational policy of A.N.C.X.F., ref. should be made to A.N.C.X.F., and the Admiralty informed.
7. For your information, the U.S.-operated ports are under the command of the Commander U.S. Ports and Bases France (Comusbasfrance). He is operationally responsible to A.N.C.X.F. and administratively and logistically responsible to Commaveu.
(V.C.N.S. 022132B to Cs. in C. Nore, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Rosyth, V.A. Dover.)

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

General

Defence of the United Kingdom

Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.

Regret that a radar equipped ship cannot now be made available. Para. 3(a) of your 311255 July refers.

(2) Your para. 3(b) A.M. 010014 refers.
(D.O.D.(H), 020055B to Air Ministry.)

Your 011020, A.M. 011230, para. (4) refers.

(2) It is intended to continue the preparation of corvettes (your 012010 refers), although it is appreciated that they are unsuitable for fighter direction. They may, however, be able to assist A.D.G.B. with early warning.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 021220B to C. in C. Nore.)

Operations

Operation
"Kinetic".

Detached from Force 26 at 1800/1st in 47° 02' N. 05° 30' W. owing to shortage of oil fuel. My P.C.S. at 0001/2nd 48° 04' N. 06° 35' W., 163°, 16 knots through position (G) to Plymouth. E.T.A. 1130/2nd.

(BLYSKAWICA, 020005B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

At 1500 detach 2 destroyers to proceed to Falmouth at maximum speed possible with fuel remaining.

(2) These ships are to proceed through position (G), reporting names and E.T.A. Falmouth when north of 49° 20' N., and fuelling with despatch on arrival.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 021153B to C.S.10.)

Proposed
A/S
operation.

The conduct of an offensive against U-Boats operating from Norwegian waters when the Bay ports are denied to the enemy has been under consideration and discussed with C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.O.S., and A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command.

(2) The organisation must allow for operating surface and air forces in any area from S.W. of the Faroes/Iceland (C) minefield, covering all the exits east of Iceland, to the Norwegian coast.

(3) It has been decided that the offensive operations must be conducted from a single A.C.H.Q. irrespective of the boundaries between the Naval Cs. in C., and that C. in C. Rosyth in conjunction with A.O.C. 18 Group should be responsible for the conduct of the offensive.

(4) It is not intended to alter the boundaries of the Commands of C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Rosyth or A.C.O.S., who will retain all normal responsibilities with their own Commands other than as described in para. (3) for the U-Boat offensive.

The surface forces operating in this offensive will be drawn from W.A. Command, but they will continue to be administered by C. in C. W.A., and the air forces will be operated by A.O.C. 18 Group, whether working west or east of the minefield.

(1st S.L., 021713B to C. in C. H.F.)

Anti-
shipping
patrol off
Brittany.

Force 30, BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), SALADIN, SCIMITAR sail Plymouth at 1930/2nd to carry out anti-shipping patrol off Brittany coast between 003° W. and 004° W. until further orders.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 021810B to Force 26.)

/Channel ...

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperations - Contd.

Channel Islands search. It is intended to carry out an exploratory search in Channel Is. area between Roches Douvres and approaches to Saint Malo as soon as possible using 16th M/S. Flotilla.
(2) Request 3 HUNT class destroyers may be allocated forthwith to support this operation as ships of 10th D.F. are not considered suitable and are required for offensive sweep.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 022357B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity

Jan Mayen. Reported by Jan Mayen. A/C crossed defence area 0445, course south-east. Fog prevented observation. T.O.O. 020500Z.
(A.C.I.C., 021326B to Admty.)

Northern Waters. Russians report German Air Force activity July 16th - 31st as follows. Details.
(C) Cover for convoy. 21st 4 Me.109 covering convoy off Kibergnes. Russians report air opposition to raids on convoys and Kirkenes as week or absent.
(D) Bombing. No reports received.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 021530B to C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Intelligence

Flash off Thames Estuary. M.T.Bs. on patrol night 1st/2nd report large distant flash bearing 090° from 51° 27'30" N. 03° 04'45" E. at 0146B. Nothing further seen or heard.
(C. in C. Nore, 021137B to H.Q. A.D.G.B.)

TIRPITZ. From B.2 reports received concerning TIRPITZ Admiralty appreciate TIRPITZ has completed repairs and carried out trials. She can probably carry out operations of a limited nature or make the return passage to a German port. Request Russians may be asked to carry out P.R. of Alten Fiord whenever weather conditions permit.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 021936B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

U-Boats

U-Boat reported. By D/F at 1210Z/2 U-Boat estimated within 75 miles of 63° 30' N. 12° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C., 021501B to Escorts U.R. 130.)

Attack Instructions. Total submarine attacks instructions are in force 40 miles either side of line as follows:-

30

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

U-Boats

Attack Instructions. (Contd.) (A) 070° 03' N. 001° 35' W. through 069° 00' N. 005° 00' W. to 067° 15' N. 004° 40' from 1200B/1st to 0400B/3rd August.
(B) 067° 15' N. 004° 40' W. to 064° 06' N. 004° 15' W. from 1200B/2nd to 0400B/4th August.
(C) 064° 06' N. 004° 15' W. through 062° 00' N. 004° 00' W. and 090° Muckle Flugga 10 miles to Lerwick from 1200B/3rd August until further notice.
(A.C.O.S., 022329B to C.S.1.)

Shipping and Convoys

Convoy J.W. 59. C. in C. H.F. 011432. 3 corvettes can be made available for this commitment but no destroyers or frigates are available.
(2) If this is acceptable request I may be informed on what date escorts should arrive at Scapa and the estimated duration of the commitment.
(C. in C. W.A., 021257B to Admty.)
Your 260941. Tankers LAURELWOOD (capacity 10,000 tons) and LUCULUS (capacity 9,000 tons) will be included in J.W. 59 for Murmansk.
(2) Each tanker will carry 750 tons Navy diesel oil, the balance being furnace oil.
(3) Approximately 5,000 gallons (in drums) lubricating oil Navy symbol 9250 for diesel frigates will be divided between the tankers.
(4) Diesel and lubricating oil and balance of furnace oil not required for fuelling at sea should be discharged at Murmansk for future requirements.
(5) Request you will report quantities of furnace oil and diesel oil (of gas oil quantity suitable for diesel frigates) which will be available in N. Russia on arrival of J.W. 59.
(6) Composition of escort will be signalled later, and will probably include 3 diesel frigates.
(D.O.D.(H), 021445B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

BRILLIANT,
RAMILLIES.

Your 011325 and my 301143 neither to all.
Intend to sail BRILLIANT from Horta to R/V
RAMILLIES in about 045 degs. N.
(2) Request RAMILLIES time of sailing and speed
of advance.
(F.O.G.M.A., 021123B to Admiralty, (R) C. in C.
Portsmouth, RAMILLIES).

FISKE
torpedoed.

At 1335Z in lat. 47.10 long. 32.40 U.S.S. FISKE
torpedoed.
(C.T.G. 22.6, 021358 to Cinclant, Info. Cominch,
Admty., C. in C.W.A., S.B.N.O. Azores, Comnavzor).

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Wednesday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

MIAOULES

F.O.T.A.L.Is. 011912~~/~~ R/V 040 degs. 20' N.
018 degs. 55' E.
(TENACIOUS, 020501 to G.S. MIAOULES, (R) URCHIN,
UNDAUNTED).
~~/~~ Not received.

Aegean
Shipping
summary.

Joint Naval Army R.A.F. Intelligence Appreciation
24 hours to 0900 hours 2nd August 1944. All
times G.M.T.
Movement TSAR FERDINAND to Lemnos striking new
departure since Bulgarian vessels hitherto
employed only sheltered Piraeus - Salonika -
Stratoni runs. Probably further indication
enemy appreciates need to build up Eastern Islands.
(C. in C. Middle East, 021315C).

Proposed
return of
Landing
Craft to U.K.

D. of S.T. 012156 para. 4a. and A.M. 011826 not
to P.S.T.O. Mediterranean.
Landing Craft flotillas should be retained in
L.S.I. mentioned and brought to U.K.
(2) If possible without delaying ships opportunity
should be taken to lift other minor landing
craft in these ships for repair in U.K.
(D. of P. (Q), 021626B to C. in C. Med., Info.
P.S.T.O. Med.).

Minesweeping

(1) 40% of area given in para.6 of my 312153
July (N.T. in W.R.) cleared.
(2) 4 mines detonated in sweeps, 3 with much
heavier explosions than might have been
expected from type "G.M." mine 8 of which were swept in addition
today.
Detonations were not as heavy as type "G.O." mine.
(3) All mines were in vicinity 043 degs. 27' 010 degs. 08' and
discloses the existence of a further unknown minefield.
(4) Clearance being continued August 3rd from 0630.
(SOM/SF 12, 022148B to F.O.W.It.).

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat Areas A, C, D believed clear of U-Boats. Scale of air dispositions. of air escort W.
 Area B submarine reported sighted 0622Z 1st August 025 degs. 43' N. 057 degs. 07' E.
 (No?) other indication U-Boats in area. Scale of air escort remains W.
 Area (E?) and G no fresh information but U-Boat(s) considered to be still in these areas. Scale of air escort remains Y.
 Area F periscope reported sighted by U.S. tanker WALLOWA 100 miles north east of Madras at 0907Z 1st August, ship was not attacked. Pending further information scale of air escort remains W.
 (C. in C.E.F., 020330Z).

Transfer of Flag of R.A.(A) E.F. Flag of R.A.(A) Eastern Fleet was transferred to INDOMITABLE on 30th July.
 (R.A.(A) E.F., 020458Z to Admty. Info: C. in C. Eastern Fleet, V.A.2, Eastern Fleet, F.O.N.A.S. I.O.).

U-Boat sighted and attacked by WOLF CREEK. SSSS Position 00 degs. 48' N. 77 degs. 00' E. Sighted periscope at 0130Z/2.
 (WOLF CREEK, No T.O.O./2 recd. 020514).
 00 degs. 48' N. 78 degs. 00' E. sighted periscope 0130 G.M.T. 2 hits with 3 inch gun. We gave chase he submerged 0153 G.M.T. signalled (?patrol) plane unit.
 (WOLF CREEK, 020530Z to C. in C.E.F.).

SIRDAR, TEMPLAR patrol summaries. SIRDAR second Far East patrol summary.
 (2) 16 July 0830 seven degs. 01' N. 97 degs. 18' E. missed Japanese U-Boat with 6 torpedoes at 500 yards. SIRDAR broke surface after firing and was machine gunned by U-Boats causing slight damage to Radar and W/T aerials. U-Boats course 270 degs.
 (3) 18 July 1814 7 degs. 50' N. 98 degs. 35' E. Sank 100 ton Junk leaving Puket with gun fire. 2 prisoners taken.
 (4) 21st July 0739 7 degs. 47' N. 98 degs. 41' E. attacked with gunfire and set on fire 350 ton east bound coaster. Vessel sank at 1220.
 (5) 21st July 1600 convoy of 1 250 ton coaster and two motor Sampans escorted by 2 M.Ls. sighted steering for Lem Hualan at 1700 in position 7 degs. 48' N. 98 degs. 32' E. attacked with gunfire 400 ton coaster probably straggler from above convoy. Vessel was left abandoned and burning fiercely at 1821 and considered total loss.
 (6) 25 July 1451 07 degs. 50' N. 98 degs. 41' E. sighted west-bound convoy of 4 ships escorted by 3 M.Ls. SIRDAR was unable to close to reasonable torpedo range but was either seen or detected by escorts who hunted SIRDAR for about 3 hours. 8 depth charges were dropped but no damage was caused. Reconnaissance of Puket next day showed no sign of this convoy.
 (7) TEMPLAR 8th Far East patrol.

/(8) 16th...

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

SIRDAR,
TEMPLAR
patrol
summaries.
(Contd.).

(8) 16th July 1429 7 degs. 01' N. 96 degs. 01' E. missed Japanese U-Boat with 8 torpedoes from 4000 yards range course 270 degs. speed 13 knots. U-Boat was heard to decrease speed temporarily early in the attack having apparently heard TEMPLAR closing the range at speed and again reduced speed shortly after torpedoes were fired.

(9) 25th July 1215 Chidoru class torpedo boat was observed in position 5 degs. 55' N. 96 degs. 05' course 090 degs, apparently coming from Sabang.

(10) All times F.G.
(C. in C.E.F., 020543Z).

A/C. action
against
U-Boats.

Procedure for indicating the scale of U-Boat threat and degree of air A/S. protection considered necessary daily. Areas (details). This signal cancels information contained in 5630 of 8th Jan. 1944, and 7240 of 14th April 1944. (C. in C.E.F., 021417).
See Lion Copy.

Defence of
Kilindini.

D.B.C.(44) 13 (final) of 9 Mar lays down A.A. D.E.F.S. Kilindini (Mombassa) as 16 H.A.A. to be implemented at discretion G.O.C. in C. Propose man only 8 H.A. guns operationally. Remaining 8 H.A.A. guns will be maintained in present sites on care and maintenance but personnel available to man for short periods in an emergency C. in C.E.F. agrees. (G.O. C. in C. East Africa, 021610C to W.O.). Note by M.O.7, this step is in accordance with the defence plan referred to. Two H.A.A. Btys. will still be required for Kilindini. Only one, however, will now be fully operational.

7100
SECRET

E.I.
34A

IN

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

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

021407/August.

From. C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

Date. 3. 8. 44.

Recd. 2225.

NAVAL CYPHER (GG) BY W/T

Addressed. East Indies Station 919C.
Repeated. Comtask Force 71, Com. 7th Fleet,
Admiralty, Group 222 Group 225,
ASCEA, New Zealand Naval Board, Wellington,
N.O.I.C. Freemantle, 10 GROPS 246 Wing
Air H.Q. East Africa, Air H.Q. Aden.

In order to conserve the number of aircraft used for close A/S escort and to ensure that adequate numbers will be available for offensive action against U-Boats, the following (?procedure) for indicating the scale of U-Boat threat and degree of air A/S protection considered necessary daily in the area concerned is to be brought into force as from (?15th) August 1944.

(2) Areas. The following areas are established.
Area BB Bombay Area. BB 1 (one) North of 019 degs. North East of 063 degs. East. BB 2 between 014 degs. North and 019 degs. North and East of 063 degs. East (?). BB 3 between 008 degs. North and 014 degs. North and East of 063 degs. East. Area VP Vizagapatam Area. VP 1 (one) North of 014 degs. North and West of 090 degs. East. VP 2 between 010 degs. North and 014 degs. North and West of 090 degs. East. Area CB Colombo Area. CB 1 (one) between 004 degs. South and 008 degs. North and between 063 degs. East and 073 degs. East.

CB 2 between 004 degs. South and 008 degs. North on the West of India (?and) 010 degs. North on the East of India and between 073 degs. East and 090 degs. East.

CB 3 between 017 degs. South and 004 degs. South and between 063 degs. East and 073 degs. East.

CB 4 between 017 degs. South and 004 degs. South and between 073 degs. East and 090 degs. East.

Area AD Aden Area. AD one North KN 019 degs. North and West CF 063 degs. East AD 2 between 012 degs. North and 019 degs. North and West of 063 degs. East.

AD 3 between 005 degs. North and 012 degs. North and West of 063 degs. East.

Area KD Kilindini area. KD 1 (one) between 012 degs. South and 005 degs. North and West of 054 degs. East.

/KD 2

KD 2 between 012 degs. South and 005 degs. North and between 054 degs. East and 063 degs. East.

KD 3 Mozambique channel between 012 degs. South and 018 degs. South.

KD 4 between 033 degs. South and 012 degs. South and 045 degs. East and 063 degs. East.

These areas generally coincide with the operational area allotted to R.A.F. GR formations in the Indian Ocean.

(3) Degrees of U-Boat threats. Degrees of threats are indicated as follows. W, no known threat X, possible threat Y, at least 1 (one) U-Boat believed to be in area.

Z more than one U-Boat believed to be in area. Note letter YY or ZZ will be used where one or more U-Boats are known repetition known to be in area.

(4) Categories of importance of shipping (vide signal) category one units of exceptional value for which special arrangements have been made. E.G. damaged Capital ships, Merchant ships with irreplaceable equipment, floating docks troop convoys.

Category 2 most important units. E.G. Capital ships or convoys of special importance.

Category 3 important units E.G. Cruisers, routine trade convoys, large depot ships or store ships.

Category 4 valuable units E.Gs. small convoys, minor units of special type.

Note all pre - sailing telegrams are to include these categories, C's in C. 469 of 17th November 1943 refers.

(5) Scale of Air escort. 1 (one) close Air Escort with appropriate offensive A/U sweeps. 2. Close Air Escort to category I, II and III ships or convoy. 3. Wing Air Escort to Category I and II ships or convoy. 4. Close Air Escort to category I ships or convoy only 5 close Air Escort (?to) the Suffix P to indicate that patrol of establish shipping lanes in the Area is to be maintained in addition to close escort.

(6) (?The) necessary information and directions will be issued daily in the following form - area CB 1 (one) Y 3, CB 2 X-4/I and II ships in Area C 1 (one) where threat is Y, and close air escort for category 1 (one) ship only in Area C 2 where threat is X.

(7) It must not be forgotten that experience has shown that night air escort even on light nights is of limited value compared with day escort.

(8)

indicating that close air escort is considered necessary for category

SECRET

34^B.

IN

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

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

- 3 -

(8) When U-Boat contacts are made or when U-Boat attacks develop in any area local R.A.F. Commanders in tune with local naval authorities are authorized to alter the scale of air effort in the area to meet the new situation. C. in C. E.F. and Group 222 must at once be informed by signal of any such change.

(9) This signal is made in (? further consideration) with AOC 222 Group.

(10) This signal cancels information contained in 563C of 8th January 1944 and 724C of 14th April 1944.

021407.

Advance Copy Sent. Ops., O.D., Plot.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (2)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (W)
A.C.N.S. (A) (2)
A.C.N.S. (UT) (2)
U.W.R.
Capt. Pime
Ops. (2)
Plot.
C.D. (5)
O.I.C. (3)
D.A/S.W.
D.A/U.D.
D.S.D. 9. (2)
W.D.
I.P. (2)
D.N.A.O. (2)
D.A.W.T.
D. of P. (2)
C.C.L.S. (2)
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (C)
M. (8)
D.S.D. (2)
D.T.S.D.
D.A.C.R. (3)
H.W.R. (2)
W/T Room.
Air Branch. (2)
S.N.S.O. H.Q.C.C.
File M.A. In.

A.11.

E.C.

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q., 021315Z, Cominch, 021511Z).

C.U. - U.C. Convoys to include troopships. Beginning with convoy C.U.38 departing New York 4 Sept. troopships will be accepted in all C.U. - U.C. convoys. Designation of certain C.U. convoys as T.C.U. to cease after T.C.U.35. My 221655 refers.
(Cominch, 021410Z to Comeastseafon, C. in C. Lant, (R) Admty., Comnavo, S.H.A.E.F., Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.).

6th Canadian Mid-Ocean Group. Following is anticipated composition of 6th Canadian Mid-Ocean Group EASTVIEW, ST. THERESE, THETFORD MINES, TILLSONBURN, COPPER CLIFF, COBOURG, PETERSBOROUGH, ST. LAMBERT, SNOWBERRY, EASTVIEW is fitted for S.O.
(C. in C.C.N.A., 021430Z).

North Atlantic convoys. Provision of this group will be most welcome. Your 242039/ July refers.
(V.C.N.S.(H), 021527B to N.S.H.Q.).
/(Provision of additional Escort Group from Canadian sources).

Marianas. Following from A.2 Daily Summary 2nd August.
(1) Guam. Situation up to 1800K/31. U.S. Forces have cut across island to Zago Point in almost unopposed move. Patrols to southern half of Island met only stragglers. Rota airfield not yet operational. Enemy dead to date 6,205.
(2) Tinian. Situation up to 1225K/31. Attack begun at 0830 hours preceded by heavy bombardment. Advance slow due to difficult terrain. Estimate 2,600 enemy troops remain effective on extreme southern tip of island.
(B.A.S. Washington, 021730Q).

UNRUFFLED. Your 231510 July and 020005 and S.B.N.O. W. At. 241554 July. Concur that original arrangements should stand.
(B.A.D., 022045Z to C. in C.C.N.A., (R) S.B.N.O. W. At., Admty. F.O.(S), N.S.H.Q.).

U-Boat incidents. Para. (A). U.S.S. FISKE torpedoed 47.10 N. 32.40 W. 1335Z/2nd.
(Cominch, 022053Z).

2.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
No.925.

August 1st.

(6) Single navy Catalina over Soela Islands night 31st July - 1st August attacked single medium merchantman with two escort vessels anchored off northwest coast Mangobe Island. Two direct hits and two near misses with quarter ton bomb scored on merchantman causing severe explosions and fires.
(10) P.T. boats night 31st July - 1st August destroyed single enemy barge also shelled Teop Island (north east Bougainville). (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 020854Z).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

U-Boat
incidents.

Para.A.

(1) Am. WALLOWA sighted periscope on 1st August in lat. 14 degs. 17' N. long. 81 degs. 28' E.

Para.B.

(1) H.M. S/M. TELEMACHUS attacked Japanese S/M. at 0038Z/17th July, in latitude 00 degs. 58' N. 101 degs. 05' E.
(2) Am. WOLF GREEK attacked p/s with gunfire at 0130Z/2nd August in lat. 00 degs. 48' N. long. 77 degs. 00' E.
(3) E.G.9 attacked contact at 1145Z/1st August in lat. 50 degs. 08' N. long. 02 degs. 35' W.
(4) WENSLEYDALE obtained radar contact at 0220Z/2nd August in lat. 50 degs. 10' N. long. 00 degs. 04' W.
(D.D.I.C., 021257B).

U-Boat
dispositions.

Estimates.

(D.D.I.C., 021406B, 021419B).

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a). The port of Cherbourg is now handling shipping on a considerable scale. Besides L.S.Ts and many smaller craft 12 Liberty Ships are now being berthed in the harbour at one time.

(b) Occasional shelling of the Lagrune area - occurred to-day.

(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| British Beaches: | 712,739 | 175,097 | 888,059 |
| U.S. Beaches: | 951,970 | 179,266 | 944,576 |
| Total: | <u>1,664,709</u> | <u>354,363</u> | <u>1,832,635</u> tons. |

Enemy
Action.

2. British Area attacked. Between 0250 and daylight to-day a heavy attack was made on shipping in the British Assault Area by E-Boats, Explosive M.B's, Human Torpedoes, and low-flying A/C; and, after the attack, a number of Booby-Traps consisting of transparent domes painted with men's heads and shoulders were found anchored at various points in the Area.

During this attack the Destroyer QUORN was sunk by Mine or Human Torpedo at 0251 in position 040 degs. A.11 miles; the Trawler GAIRSAY was sunk by Human Torpedo; and L.C.G.764 was sunk by an Explosive M.B. The Destroyer BLENCATHRA was slightly damaged while recovering a Human Torpedo; the M.T. ship SAMLONG was damaged by Human Torpedo and may have to be beached; the M.T. ship FORT LAC LA RONGE was damaged by Human Torpedo and has been beached with her cargo undamaged; M.T.B.608 was damaged at 0320 in an action with E-Boats 17 miles S.W. by W. of Cap d'Antifer; and two Corncob ships of Gooseberry 5 were damaged by Human Torpedo. One E-Boat was sunk and another damaged by our Coastal Patrols; one apparently Midget S/M was chased by A/C and beached in the mouth of the Seine; at least 20 Explosive M.Bs. and 30 Human Torpedoes, including 2 Human Torpedoes caught in the defensive nets on the Eastern flank of the Area, were accounted for; and some 31 Prisoners from E.M.Bs. and Human Torpedoes were taken.

Between 0635 and 1033 six Human Torpedoes were destroyed by Spitfire A/C in the Area.

General

Operation
"Kinetic".

3. C.S.10 in DIADEM with STRIKER and 5 Destroyers arrived at Plymouth to-day having obtained no contact with the Enemy.

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Appreciation
from H.M.
the King.

4. After his return from Italy to the United Kingdom on 2nd August, H.M. the King directed C. in C. Med. to-day to convey to all concerned his appreciation of the efficiency and appearance of the Allied Ships and establishments and their companies seen by him in Italian waters.

Naval
Assistance
to Turkey,
policy.

5. In a signal to-day to C. in C. Med. the 1st S.L. confirms and clarifies in detail the policy concerning Naval assistance to Turkey.

Enemy
Convoy
attacked
by A/C.

6. 4 Wellington A/C and 4 R.P. Beaufighter A/C attacked a large convoy off Porto Fino in the Gulf of Genoa, scoring numerous R.P. Strikes and bomb hits on the vessels.

East Indies

U-Boat
attack on
CORVALLIS.

7. A report was received today of an unsuccessful attack on the CORVALLIS (U.S. Tanker) by a U-Boat on 26th July in 19 degs. 50' S. 93 degs. 40' E. en route from Fremantle to Colombo and Madras.

Australia and New Zealand

Landing at
Korim
Bay.

(Dutch East
Indies).

8. Early today forces from Biak supported by M.T.Bs. landed unopposed at Korim Bay (N.E. coast Schouten Island) after a light aerial bombardment. Patrols moving inland encountered slight disorganised enemy resistance. Considerable quantities of ammunition and equipment were captured.

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports.

Naval A. Assault Area. Determined attack was made on B.A.A. by E-boats, explosive motor boats, and human torpedoes.
Allied losses and damage were QUORN and L.C.G.764 sunk. Two M.T. ships, one M.T.B. and two sunken Corncobs damaged. Enemy estimated losses.
20 E.M.Bs. 30 Human torpedoes, 2 caught in net. One E-boat sunk and one damaged. 31 prisoners from Human Torpedoes and E.M.Bs. Unloading figures:-

| | Troops | Vehicles | Stores |
|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 701,516 | 173,242 | 869,348 |
| U.S. | 945,714 | 177,618 | 929,540 |
| Total | 1,647,230 | 350,860 | 1,798,588 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 032247B to Admty.)

Covering Operations

Patrols ON. Dover 67.
from F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 359, 362, Z.2.
Dover. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 751, 603 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles.
F.U.3 OBEDIENT in 050° Z.3 3 miles.
F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 432, 418 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E.
F.U.5 SAVAGE in 050° Z.5 3 miles.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 240, 202 in 230° Z.6 6.2 miles.
F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7.
2. Aircraft under Swingate V H/F control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne Breakwater light.
(A/C Dover, 031256B.)

Patrols ON. Portsmouth one, para. 38. Cover night 3/4.
from A. ONSLAUGHT (G.B.1, WENSLEYDALE (G.B.2)
Portsmouth. ROWLEY (G.B.3) at 2300B patrol in Z.102 and Z.9
West of longitude of Greenwich. 6th Escort Group
(NEW WATERFORD (S.O.) CAPE BRETON, OUTREMENT) at
2300B Gamma from 50° 15' N. 01° 25' W. 150° to 49°
52' N. 01° 10' W. TALYBONT (G.C.1) Patrol on line between 50° 04'
N. 00° 15' W. to 50° 07' N. 00° 07' W. BRISSENDEN (G.C.2)
Patrol on line between 50° 11' N. 00° 01' E. and 50° 14' N. 00°
09' E. Force G.C. to be on patrol by 2300B.
B. RETALICK (G.F.1) in Z.8.
C. Unit G.F.2, M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O.) 453, 481, Unit G.F.3, M.T.Bs.
773 (S.O., 741, 690. Unit G.F.4, M.T.Bs. 414 (S.O.) 483 and
Unit G.F.5, S.G.B. GREY WOLF (S.O.) to be in position by 2315B.
Force G.F. to S.G.B. GREY WOLF (S.O.) GREY GOOSE with RETALICK
in Z.8 Force G.F. to be in position by 2315B.
F. 3. G.F. will patrol in Z.13 and Z.17. Waiting position for
Force G.F. will be the north west corner of Z.16. TALYBONT patrol
line will be between 50° 11' N. 00° 01' E. and 50° 14' N. 00° 09' E
and BRISSENDEN's patrol line will be between 50° 22' N. 00° 15' E.
and 50° 26' N. 00° 22' E.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 031312B and 031828B.)

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

- Patrols from Portsmouth (Contd.)
- ON.1 Para. 52 (B)
Western Night Channel Report 3rd/4th August.
1. Sixth E.G. (NEW WATERFORD), CAPE BRETON, OUTREMONT from 50° 15' N. 01° 25' W. to 49° 52' N. 01° 10' W.
First E.G. Z.232 North, Z.237 North, Z.243 North.
Second E.G. Z.234 South, Z.239 South, Z.235 North, Z.240 North.
Third E.G. Z.212, West, Z.213 West, Z.217, Z.222.
Ninth E.G. Z.130, Z.132, Z.126 West, Z.127, Z.128, Z.121 West.
2. G.P. 1. 6 M.T.Bs. Z.209 North, Z.203. G.P.2 6 M.T.Bs. Z.209 South. G.P.3 6 M.T.Bs. Z.210.
3. Air patrols all areas West of 01° 37' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 032012B.)
- ON.1 Para. 52 (B) Eastern night channel report 3rd/4th August.
1. F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.U.5 SAVAGE Z.5
F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7. G.B.1, OMSLAUGHT, G.B.2 WENSLEYDALE, and G.B.3 ROWLEY, Z.120, Z.9 West of Greenwich Meridian.
G.C.1 TALYBONT Z.11 North-west. G.C.2 BRISSEIDEN Z.8, G.F.1 RETALICK Z.13, Z.17.
2. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. and F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2.
F.N.4 2 M.T.Bs. South of Z.4. G.F.2 3 M.T.Bs, G.F.3 3 M.T.Bs. G.F.4 2 M.T.Bs. and G.F.5 2 S.G.Bs. Z.13, Z.17.
3. Air patrols within 8 miles of Boulogne and Wellington cross-over patrol between St. Valery En Caux and St. Valery Sur Somme, between 19 miles and 7 miles off French coast.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 032017B.)
- Patrols from Plymouth.
- PCWO 120.
A. Unit G.P.1, M.T.Bs. 745 (S.O.), 727, 746, 735, 743, 736. B. 1845/B.
C. (AA) 270° Les Hanois 12 to arrive 22(00)(BB) 184° Les Hanois 9 (CC) 315 La Corbiere 9.5 to arrive 2115.
D. From (CC) Separate at S.O.'s discretion to cover St. Peters Port and Approaches. Unit has freedom of action in Z.2030. Unit is not to go south of a line 270 La Corbiere unless in emergency or in action.
E. Destruction of enemy shipping.
F. 0500B/4 from (BB) (G)(AA) to Brixham.
2. (A) Unit G.P.2 M.T.Bs. 239 (S.O.), 92, 90, 98, 227, 91.
B. 1830B/3. C.(DD) 270 Les Hanois 16 to arrive 2130 (EE) 225 La Corbiere 8 to arrive 2315.
D. From (EE) separate at S.O.'s discretion to cover Approaches to St. Helier. Unit is not to go north of a line 270° La Corbiere unless in emergency or in action.
E. Destruction of enemy shipping.
F. 0500B/4 from (EE) 20 knots (G) (DD) to Dartmouth.
3. (A) Unit G.P.3, M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.) 676, 620, 720, 717, 716
B. 1700B/3. C. (DD) 270 Les Hanois 16 to arrive 2000 (FF) 225 La Corbiere 15.5 (GG) Cap Frehel 9.5 to arrive 2200 (D) From (GG) Separate at S.O.'s discretion to cover inshore area West of St. Malo.
E. Destruction of enemy shipping.
F. Time of leaving, patrol to be at S.O.'s discretion.

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

- Patrols from Plymouth (Contd.)
4. A. Unit G.V.1, M.T.Bs. 724 (S.O.) 749, 739.
 B. 1730B/3. C. (HH) 009° Ile de Bas 6 to arrive 2200.
 D. From (HH) Investigate Approaches to St. Morlaix and area to eastwards passing between Triagoz and Sept. Iles.
 E. Destruction of Enemy shipping.
 F. Unit to pass through 49° N by 0530B/4.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 031321B)

Mining

Mines swept There have been no reports of enemy minelaying during past 24 hours. Moderate sea and swell. One magnetic swept on western edge Q.Z.S.536. One magnetic swept at eastern end of Q.Z.S.538. One magnetic one acoustic swept on outer night defence line. Swell increasing. Summary A(2) 3 A(3) 1. State of Flotillas M.S.F. 150th 7 165th 6 ships 18th 5 7th 4 143rd. 101st 3 115th 2 6th 1. Defects in GOXO and MELITA reduce 6th M.S.F. to 1 ship.
 (Capt. M/S X 031701 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Routine searches of channel, middle, and outer anchorages and Mulberry carried out today 3rd August magnetic and acoustic.
 2. One red magnetic mine detonated bearing 146° 1.5 miles (approx.) from L.5 buoy. Orepesa and S/AA Dixie line also outer edge of Elder and Hickory negative result.

3. No enemy minelaying report received.
 (M/S Beaches 032003B to C.T.F.125.)

No reports of enemy minelaying during past 24 hours. Moderate sea this morning increased to rough this afternoon. Despite intensive sweeping of suspected area in prevailing conditions negative results reported from all quarters.
 (Capt. M/S X 032300B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action

Attack on British Assault Area. QUORN, GAIRSAY, and L.C.G.764 sunk. BLENCATHRA, M.T.B.608 SAMLONG, FORT LAC LA RONGE & 2 Corncob ships damaged. One E-boat 20 explosive M.Bs. and 30 Human Torpedoes sunk. 1 E/B and 1 Midget S/M damaged.

QUORN sunk by human torpedo or mine in position 040 A 11.5.
 (G.L.1 030251 to F.O.B.A.A.)
 G.L.2 engaged 4 E-boats position 233° Cap D'Antifer 17 miles. M.T.B.608 on fire.
 (G.L.1, 030320 to F.O.B.A.A.)
 LA COMBATTANTE and STEVENSTONE covering M.T.B. in tow 264° 245 Cap D'Antifer 18 miles. DUFF searching for survivors of QUORN. G.L.3 ordered to join her. EGLINTON patrolling 25 line from daylight.
 (Capt. P. 030514 to F.O.B.A.A.)
 M.T. FORT LAC LA RONGE torpedoed starboard aft. After hold and shaft tunnel flooded. Leakage in Engine room. Bulkheads holding. Other compartments dry. Cannot steam or steer. Intend beaching Nan Green to discharge cargo.
 (P.F.B.O. 031114 to F.O.B.A.A.)

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Attack on British Assault Area. QUORN, GAIRSAY, & L.C.G.764 sunk. BLENCATHRA, M.T.B.608, SAMLONG, FORT LAC LA RONGE, and 2 Corncob ships damaged. One E-boat, 20 Explosive M.Bs. and 30 Human Torpedoes sunk. One E-boat and one Midget S/M damaged.
(Contd.)

Booby trap consisting of transparent domes with men's heads and shoulders painted (on?) them have been found anchored in anchorage. They appear to have been carried by a hum(an?) torpedo (and?) or explosive M/B (which?) attacked anchorage this morning.

These booby traps to be reported to me and are to be (embarked?) with care.
(F.O.B.A.A. 031145B to B.A.A.)

Heavy attack was made on anchorage by explosive motor boats and human torpedoes between 0250 and daylight today Thursday.

2. E-boats and low flying aircraft also played their part in the general enemy plan in addition an air raid was in progress at the time of the attack.

3. Casualties to own ships so far confirmed are
A. QUORN sunk in position 040° A.11 miles whilst steaming 8 knots under full wheel. Commanding officer saved: number of remaining survivors at present unknown.

B. BLENCATHRA slightly damaged after hoisting human torpedo whose scuttling charge blew up, one feed tank out of action: no casualties.

C. L.C.G.764 hit and sunk by enemy motor boat. Casualties at present unknown.

D. M.T. ship SAMLONG hit by human torpedo and damaged.

E. M.T.B. 608 damaged in action against E-boats.

F. Two Corncobs of G.5 hit by human torpedo.

4. At least 20 explosive motor boats and 30 human torpedoes accounted for by defence forces including 2 human torpedoes caught in net. One E-boat sunk, one damaged. One apparent Midget submarine chased by aircraft and beached in mouth of Seine. Approximately 31 prisoners from enemy motor boats and human torpedoes.

5. Enemy motor boats and human torpedoes appear to conform to descriptions in Admiralty 301934 with addition of dummy H.T. booby trap with man's head and shoulders painted on transparent dome. Last weapon is anchored.

(F.O.B.A.A. 031326 to A.N.C.X.F.)

P.S.T.O. 030845. Arrangements are to be made to tow torpedoed M/T ship SAMLONG to Nore. Tow should be sailed to Captain N.S.B.S. a.m. tomorrow to join E.T.C. Convoy leaving at 1000.

(F.O.B.A.A. 031435B to S.N.O.A.)

Your (?031435). Further inspection of M.T. SAMLONG shows buckling of ship side and deck (?rear) owing to swell. It may become necessary to beach ship. Cancel sailing arrangement meantime.

(P.S.V.O. 031840B to F.O.B.A.A.)

FORT LAC LA RONGE torpedoed No. 5 Starboard side during night 2nd/3rd August. Vessel now beached. All cargo No.1, 2, 3, 4, undamaged and will be discharged. Work to commence a.m. 4th August. Salvage officers on board. Vessel cannot steam or steer. No casualties to crew. SAMLONG torpedoed in engine room starboard side during night 2nd/3rd August. Engine room stoke-

/hold...

*Amended,
072340,
page 129.*

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Attack on
British
Assault Area.
QUORN, GAIRSAY
& L.C.G.764
sunk.
BLENCATHRA,
M.T.B.608,
SAMLONG, FORT
LAC LA RONGE,
& 2 Corncob
ships damaged.
1 E-boat, 20
explosive M.Bs.
and 30 Human
Torpedoes sunk.
1 E-boat & 1
Midget S/M
damaged.
(Contd.)

hold and deep tank flooded. Salvage officers
on board. Vessel to be towed to U.K. Cannot
steam or steer. Two fatal casualties, four
injured.
(S.S.T.O. Juno, 031930 to D.S.T.)
My 031326 Para. 3, add (G) H.M. Trawler GAIRSAY
sunk by Human Torpedo. Number of survivors
at present unknown.
H. M.T. FORT LAC LA RONGE was damaged by
Human Torpedo and has been beached off Gooseberry.
4. Her Cargo is being discharged.
(F.O.B.A.A. 032048B to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-boats

U-boats
reported.

Preliminary bearings of U-boat making enigma
message at 2253Z/2 suggests a position in the
vicinity of Brest.
(D.D.I.C. 03027B to Ships.)

Am in contact with submarine on my port side,
position 050° 11' N. 000° 35' W.
(ONSLAUGHT, 031240B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

A/S Patrols

ON. Plymouth 5 Sups.
A. E.G.2 Southern half of Z.239, Z.234 Northern
half of Z.240, Z.235.
C. Forthwith.
(C. in C. Plymouth 031028B to E.G.2.)

O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.

A. E.G.2 Area between 48° 30' and 48° 10' N. and 5° 20' and 6°
0' W.

E.G. 1 Z.239, Z.234.

E.G.3 Patrol area between Longships and Eddystone Down to
Latitude 49.45 N.

C. E.G.2 at 0400/4. E.G.1 at 0200/4. E.G.3 2300.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 031705B and 032121B to E.Gs. 2, 1 and 3.)
Join me in 049° N. 005° W. at 2130B.
(E.G.2, 031624B to LOCH FADA.)

Convoy

F.T.M.56
attacked on
2nd/August.
OCEAN VIGOUR
damaged.

ON. 15 para. 115.

A. 1545B 2nd August 1944. F.T.M.56 head of
convoy 020° E.5 buoy 3 miles.

B. Submerged U-boat.

C. Suspected to have been 3 miles on starboard
bow of convoy.

/D. ...

War Diary3. 8. 1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-boats

Convoy
F.T.M. 56
attacked
on 2nd
August.
OCEAN
VIGOUR
damaged.
(Contd.)

D. Two torpedoes and possibly a third were fired, one after many charges had been dropped.
E. WALPOLE ahead. CURZON position W. VERVAIN position F. Torpedo sighted and H.E. heard by CURZON and was seen to surface between her and convoy. Track sighted by WALPOLE. CURZON took avoiding action. WALPOLE increased to 24 knots and turned towards. Depth charges were dropped at intervals. Convoy warned. WALPOLE and CURZON commenced observant. Contact obtained by WALPOLE who carried out depth charge attack. CURZON followed with H.E. no positive results. CURZON detached to hunt. WALPOLE being S.O. rejoined taking avoiding action from H.E. of second torpedo immediately afterwards
F. OCEAN VIGOUR (P.T.15) reported slight damage to engine room by underwater explosion.
G. None to own forces. Damage to enemy unknown.
(WALPOLE 031253B to C. in C. Nore.)

Channel
situation.

In English Channel one or two between Ushant and Lizard and about three between Portsmouth and Seine Bay. One outward and one or two inward in Inner Bay of Biscay.
(D.D.I.C. 031425B to A.I.G. 331.)

A/S
procedure

Recent experience has further emphasised the difficulty of obtaining Asdic Contact with a bottomed U-boat and from Prisoners of War Intelligence it is clear that U-boats are aware of this and are bottoming on detecting the approach of escort vessels. With foxer or cat gear streamed a ship or group not only advertises its presence but also reduces its Asdic efficiency.

2. Under present conditions in the Channel these disadvantages are bound to affect seriously the chances of detecting a U-boat. It is, therefore, considered that the risk entailed by not streaming fixer or cat gear is acceptable when searching or on patrol.
3. The tactical use of cat and foxer is, however, at the Commanding Officer's discretion.
4. My 291620 refers.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 032001B to A/S Support Groups.)

Allied Air Activity

E-boats
bombed

P.C.S. of enemy 5 E-boats 49° 23' N. 02° 16' W. 320° 15 knots.
(A/C RJQ34 030655B to 19 Group.)
Have attacked enemy with bombs. Estimated one hit. Returning to base. Position 49° 10' N. 02° 50' W.
(A/C RJQ 34 030710B to 19 Group.)

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Movements

- L.S.Ts. On instructions of S.H.A.E.F. 3 L.S.T. are being
for loaded with P.O.L. for your advanced elements.
Brittany. 2. Only suitable beaches for discharge are
 Binic in Saint Brieuc Bay and Saint Michel en
 Greve East Morlaix.
 3. L.S.T. could not arrive before 1000 Saturday
5th for navigational reasons.
4. Request immediate information if, when and where these
ships can be accepted so that arrangements can be made for
escort and air cover.
5. On receipt of your reply a decision will be made as to
whether to sail these ships and you will be informed accordingly.
(A.N.C.X.F. 032348B to C.G.3rd, U.S. Army.)

Port Facilities

- St. Malo. Information received from Comz. that army wish
 to develop St. Malo and adjacent beaches for
 landing stores up to a maximum of 5,000 tons
 a day as soon as practicable.
2. In order that necessary arrangements can be put into train
with Admiralty and Comnavu, request very early report on state
of the port and approaches including navigational marks, enemy
batteries remaining effective and condition of beaches at
Cancale and Dinard with estimate of earliest date at which
convoy could be received either in the port or to discharge over
beaches.
(A.N.C.X.F. 031629B to C.T.F.125.)

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.P.10. E.P.P.10. 7 Ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 030102)

- E.W.L.56A. E.W.L. 56A. 1 Ship, 9 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 030242)

- E.W.L.56B. E.W.L.56B, 2 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 030347)

- E.T.C.56. E.T.C.56. 14 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 030624)

- Bluesky 49. Bluesky 49. 3 L.C.Ts.
 (N.O.I.C.Arromanches, 030647)

- F.T.M.57. F.T.M.57. 18 ships and ? 4 L.S.Ts.
 (N.S.B.S. 031001B)

- F.T.C.56. F.T.C.56. 18 ships.
 (N.S.B.S.031015B)

- F.B.C.44. F.B.C.44. 7 ships.
 (C.T.U.125.1.3, 031107B)

Timing of
F.T.M.
Convoys.

C. in C. Portsmouth 012109 and A.C. Dover's 021923. There is no objection to night passage of F.T.M. convoy north of Dumpton Buoy but is is not acceptable for convoys or PHOENIX and other tows to pass each other at night in the narrow channels of the Downs and Thames estuary. Unless there-

fore arrival and departure of convoys and tows in the Assault area during dark hours can be accepted the existing time tables cannot be much altered except that when QZS.517 is again brought into use the F.T.M. could pass Dungeness about 0100.

(2) I suggest that the solution of the problem should be sought in reinforcement of the escort during dark hours from the forces based in each command rather than employing those forces on patrol. Intend to allocate additional escort to each E.T.M. and F.T.M. convoy during dark hours whenever practicable at the expense of the East coast.

(C. in C. Nore, 031202B to Admty)

Request you will arrange mutually with other Commands concerned an agreed programme for the timing of these convoys. Your 012109 refers.

(V.C.N.S. 031438B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

F.P.M.25 /...

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.P.M.25. F.P.M.25. 14 ships and 2 M.T.Ss.
(C.T.U.125.1.3, 031230B and 031556)

E.T.M.53. E.T.M.53. 12 ships and 3 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F.031308)

E.P.M.24. E.P.M.24. 9 ships and 10 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 031400 and 031501)

LADY CONNAUGHT. LADY CONNAUGHT E.T.A. Southampton 032400, 200 casualties.
(C.T.U.125.1, 031744)

Bluesky. Bluesky. 2 L.C.Is and 12 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.U. 125, 031752)

F.P.M.25. Sailed F.P.M.25. 3 ships.
(C.T.G.125.2, 031759B)

Escorts of E.T.M. and F.T.M. Convoys. My 311838B July. Additional escorts duties will be carried out by destroyers instead of frigates, two destroyers being detailed for each E.T.M. and F.T.M. convoy whenever possible.
(C. in C. Nore, 031800B)

Organisation and Administration

Priority bombing procedure. (1) Reference your signal 020035B, not addressed Bomber Command or A.D.G.B., your proposal to revert to procedure whereby requests for priority bombing of naval targets are made through Headquarters, Coastal Command and not through A.N.C.X.F. is agreed.

(2) This agreement is given on understanding that where resources of Coastal Command are inadequate or unsuitable to meet your requests A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command will continue to submit the request to Air C. in C. A.E.A.F. or S.H.A.E.F. as appropriate in accordance with paras. 4 and 5 of Coastal Command Operational Instruction No.2/1944.
(Air Ministry, 031401B to Admty)

/Destroyers...

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicyNore
Command
Coastal
Forces.

C. in C. Portsmouth's 021941. In view of the present disposition of E-Boats and the consequent greater need of the Channel Commands, I am prepared to surrender the following Flotillas for the time being.

(2) C Class M.G.B. (b) 3rd or 4th M.T.B. Flotilla in exchange for 1st M.T.B. Flotilla.

(2) This reduction of the Nore Coastal Forces can only be accepted for so long as the enemy refrains from attacking East Coast convoys and it will practically stop all our offensive operations on the Dutch Coast.

(C. in C. Nore, 031142B to Admty)

UPRIGHT,
UNITED.

My 131702 July. As an alternative to unescorted passage for UPRIGHT and UNITED to Newfoundland, request your views on (a) Inclusion of these submarines in suitable convoy (b) Possibility of providing special escort.

(2) Sailing date could not be earlier than 14 Aug. (F.O.S.031838B to C. in C. W.A.)

Force X.

Sailed Force X in convoy U.C.32. LOTHIAN S.O. Force X. Force consists of GLENEARN, LAMONT, EMPIRE MACE, EMPIRE SPEARHEAD, EMPIRE ARQUEBUS, EMPIRE BATTLEAXE.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 032018B to Adty.)

Transfer of
Destroyers.
STORD.

A.M. 291955. For SAUMAREZ read STORD.

(2) Request you will sail STORD to arrive Scapa as convenient before 12th August.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 032130B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Defence of U.K.Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.

My 301558 your 012205 and A.D.G.B. 011735 none to all addressees.

(1) After further meeting with A.D.G.B. and 11 Group to-day it is not desired to proceed further with the fitting of fighter direction communications in the Thames Estuary Forts.

(2) It is however intended to re-arrange L/T circuits to provide telephone communication between Tongue Sand Fort and R.A.F. Sandwich and between Sunk Head Fort and R.A.F. Trimley Heath for warning of flying bombs.

(3) It is further intended to send two Naval Fighter Direction Officers to each of the forts from the training class now at Sandwich as a temporary measure to initiate reporting procedure.

(C. in C. Nore, 031444B to Admty)

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSMovements.

RAMILLIES. Intend to sail RAMILLIES passing Spithead Gate at 1000B/4th for Gibraltar.
 (2) Route. E.T.A. Gibraltar 2100B/9th.
 (3) H.M.S. RAMILLIES will be escorted by WHELP, WESSEX to Gibraltar and by NARBOROUGH to R/V latitude 045 degs. 20' N. at 2200B/6th where BRILLIANT will take over escort, NARBOROUGH return as ordered by C. in C. Plymouth. F.O.G.M.A. is requested to sail BRILLIANT accordingly (F.O.G.M.A. 021123 and Admiralty 291827 refer).
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 031001B to C. in C. Med.)

Operations

Operation "Kinetic". Your position by Radar is 216 degs. Eddystone 45½ at 0315. E.G.3 patrolling vicinity 151 degs. Eddystone 12 miles.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 030323B to Force 26)
 My 012332. Operation completed. Leave patrol and return to Plymouth forthwith.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 030747B to HURON)
 My 012332. Operation completed. Leave patrol forthwith proceed through position (BB) 048 degs. 50' N. 008 degs. 31' W. and thence Plymouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 030748B to BELLONA)
 Operation "Kinetic". Force 26 report no contact with enemy. My 291839 July refers.
 (2) Reference para. 6 of above message intend to sail Force 26 under command of C.S.10 in DIADEM with TARTAR, ASHANTI, HAIDA and IROQUOIS a.m. tomorrow to carry out sweep on night 4th/5th August in the Belle Ile-Brest area, returning to Plymouth p.m. 5th on completion.
 (3) Intend to sail STRIKER p.m. to-day for Scapa.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 031329B to Admty)

Force 30. My 021724B. If no enemy information by 1400 to-day leave Patrol and return to Plymouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 031111B to Force 30)

Channel Islands area. Proposed search. It is not clear what form of enemy attack you envisage in your 022357.
 (2) When carrying out operations in areas adjacent to Assault Area or on the flank of the Army request you will arrange with Comusbas France or A.N.C.X.F. as appropriate, for such support which you are unable to meet from your own resources, Admiralty being kept informed.
 (V.C.N.S. 031441B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Force 26. Information. Own A/S Support Groups operating in Western Channel. U-Boats probably in Western Channel and in Approaches to Brest and Biscay Ports. U-Boats when in coastal waters may be accompanied by M-Class Mine-Sweepers and Escort Vessels. Two E-Boats believed in Brest. One Elbing seen in Lorient on 30th July, not present on 1st August. Small convoys use the coastal route between Brest and the Gironde. D.O.217 and H.E.177 have recently operated with glider bombs in the Ushant Area.

(2) /....

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperationsForce 26.
(Contd.)

(2) Force 26 C.S.10 in DIADEM with 19 Division TARTAR (Captain D.10), ASHANTI, HAIDA and IROQUOIS to operate between Belle Ile and Chausse de Sein on night 4/5 August.

(3) Destruction of enemy ships.

(4) Force 26 is to pass Gate at 1030B/4 August and proceed through positions LL 49 degs. 08' N. 6 degs. 15' W. (MM) 48 degs. 30' N. 6 degs. 45' W. (NN) 47 degs. 16' N. 6 degs. 00' W. and (OO) 47 degs. 16' N. 3 degs. 42' W. to reach (PP) L 47 degs. 22' N. 3 degs. 33' W. at 0130B/5.

(5) From (PP) Force 26 is to sweep North West past Iles de Glenen and Pen March Point to (QQ) 47 degs. 58' N. 5 degs. 10' W. and sweep D? out Audierne Bay at discretion.

(6) From (QQ) If no enemy information Force 26 is to proceed at high speed through (MM) to (LL) and thence to (RR) 270 Longships four. On passing (RR) C.S.10 is to detach 19 Division to Plymouth and proceed in DIADEM by Standard Route and Minches to Scapa, BELLONA will be sailed from Plymouth to Join C.S.10 off Trevoise Head.

(7) If Force 26 has met the enemy the whole force is to return to Plymouth after passing (LL).

(8) Attention is invited to QZX 280 which may be entered if in pursuit of the enemy.

(9) Air protection by long range fighters will be arranged. Details will be signalled.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 031703B to C.S.10)

Para. 6 of my 031720. Force 26 is to leave (QQ) not later than 0500 unless prior enemy information has been received.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 032301B to C.S.10)

ULA
Patrol.

Return of forces in my 022206 is probably delayed 24 hours. H.M.S. P.66 ULA is to remain within 10 miles of UA.062 degs. 00' N. 004 degs. 00' W. dive as much as practicable until further directions. (F.O.S.032151B to S/M's)

MiningMining off
Trondheim.

It is reported that mines have been laid from 64.29 N. 10.11 E. to 64.29 N. 10.37 E. Grading B.2. Comment: Position seems probable but length exaggerated. (D.D.I.C. 031845B to C. in C. H.F., C.S.10)

Shipping and ConvoysConvoy
J.W.59.

Your 021257 is acceptable. Request corvettes may arrive Scapa by 15th August.

Estimated /...

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayHOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys

Convoy J.W.59. (Contd.) Estimated duration of operation up to 12 days. (C. in C.H.F. 031310B to C. in C. W.A.) If approval is given for your 302311 para. 1 (B) intend to operate three escort carriers inside convoy J.W.59 and fourth escort carrier acting with escort group in support. If available request fourth carrier may be allocated for this purpose arriving Scapa with escort group by 12th August.

(C. in C. H.F. 031316B to Admty)

A.M. 302311. The following ships are to arrive Loch Ewe a.m. 14th August and on arrival they are to come under orders of C. in C. H.F. for escort of J.W. 59. LOCH DUNVEVAN S.O. CYGNET, MERMAID, PEACOCK, KITE, BULLDOG and 6 returners from "Overlord" to be nominated as soon as possible by Capt. (D) Greenock.

(2) On conclusion of escort duties C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail ships for their W. Approaches bases.

(C. in C. W.A. 032230B. to C. in C. H.F.)

STARWORT (S.O), POPPY, DIANELLA are to be sailed so as to arrive Scapa by noon 15th August.

(2) On arrival ships come under orders of C. in C. H.F. for special escort duty.

(3) On conclusion of duty C. in C. H.F. is requested to sail ships to Londonderry.

(4) C. in C. H.F. 031310 refers.

(C. in C. W.A. 032308B to Cdre. D. W.A.)

War Diary.

3.8.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

LIPARI~~WAS~~.

^{was} German SS. LIPARI~~WAS~~ docked at Cartagena p.m./
28th July for bottom cleaning and repair to
propellers. Period of docking about 10 to 12
days. Cargo which includes 200 tons oil
unloaded in arsenal under supervision German
Consulate.
(F.O.G.M.A., 031220B.)

DROTTNINGHOLM Your 031500B to B.N.A. Lisbon. DROTTNINGHOLM
sailing at 0600B on 4th August. E.T.A. at
position (E) 1700B/8th August, expected time
of arrival Bar Light Vessel 1500B/9th August.

Admiralty pass to other addressees concerned.

(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 031909B.)

W.D. Note: Sailing postponed 12 hours.

(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 040315B to Admty.)

War Diary.

3.8.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Appreciation
of H.M. The
King.

His Majesty the King directs me to convey to all concerned his appreciation of the efficiency and appearance of the Allied ships and establishments and their companies which he saw in Italian waters. (C. in C. Med. 030934B to Med. Station.)

P. 74
(VIGOROUS)

From 035° 41' 023° 16' about 1102B/5th proceed to R/V with escort in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 0603B/7th. 2. Diving by day east of Port Said 023°. Thence on the surface at 10½ knots. (Capt. S.1 031002B to P.74 (VIGOROUS))

Black Sea
report.

From intelligence report July 27th to August 2nd. A. naval. Enemy submarine reported off Novorossisk July 28th. Sukhum July 31st, attacking Soviet (?convoy) (?off) Poti Aug. 2nd and in N.W. corner of (?Black Sea) Aug. 1st. 38 contact mines swept off Odessa and one off Ochakov.

3. Air. Naval A/C drove enemy M.L. ashore off Dneister estuary July 27th and damaged one barge, one tug, and one dredger at Sulina mouth of Danube July 30th. Enemy A/C night July 31st/August 1st dropped 5 H.E. bombs at Nikolaievsk and 10 at Odessa. (N.L.O. Black Sea 031505Z.)

Methods of
sweeping mines
in "Neptune"
area.

No satisfactory method of sweeping Katie mines has yet been evolved although snag lines where fitted can be pulled. Your 291342 July refers. 2. Cherbourg Katies laid in waters where clearance is not yet required but individual mines have been recovered by divers. Experiments are proceeding and further details will be signalled when available

Most effective method may be by bottom sweep with object of breaking the horn and/or overturning the mine.

3. Underwater clearance parties including divers were used to examine important berths basins and lock gates and although few enemy devices were discovered reports that these areas were clear were of the greatest assistance in opening up the port.

4. GZ mines fitted with delay release sinkers have been encountered in Grande Rade and approaches to harbour, samples of these have been obtained by the clearance parties.

(D.M.S. 031520B to C. in C. Med. Info. A.N.C.X.F. Comusbasfrance, Capt. M/S Med.)

JOHANNA
(German)

JOHANNA is being detained by Turkish authority. My 311039C refers.

2. Report B.3 that escort of 3 E-Boats or similar craft and one aircraft were awaiting vessel off Bosphorus 1st and 2nd Aug.

3. Report C.4 that colliers being escorted by Turkish warships between Zonguldak and Straits.

(S.O.I. Istanbul 031540C to N.L.O. Black Sea.)

3.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

59th M.T.B. Flotilla bases. Request you will indicate bases to which 59th M.T.B. Flotilla will be attached on first arrival in Mediterranean. A.M. 121859B and 191302B July refer.
(D.D.O.D. (I) 031641B to C. in C.Med.)

Naval assistance to Turkey. Following is to confirm and clarify policy concerning Naval assistance to Turkey.

2. Naval vessels. A. Four B.Y.M.S. and PUNNET and BARCLOSE are not to be transferred to Turks but will wear Turkish Ensign so long as Turkey is not belligerent.

B. Four A/S M/S trawlers may be transferred on loan as Turkish crews are made available.

C. Four H.D.M.Ls. are to be transferred permanently to Turkish Navy in further discharge of our liability for delivery of H.D.M.Ls.

D. Further M/S trawlers may at F.O.L.E.M's discretion be transferred to Turks on temporary loan while Turkish trawlers are being fitted for M/S.

3. Personnel. A. Personnel on board vessels having complete British crews may wear plain clothes so long as Turkey is not belligerent. In the event of Turkey becoming involved in hostilities they will wear R.N. uniform and fight the ships under the White Ensign.

B. Personnel in vessels to be transferred to the Turks will therefore wear plain clothes until turnover takes place. It is desired that those remaining afterwards in the vessels to instruct Turks should wear their R.N. uniform not plain clothes or Turkish uniform. Should Turkey become involved in hostilities, they will fight in R.N. uniform under Turkish Flag.

C. All personnel will for disciplinary purposes be responsible to S.B.N.O. (N.A.Ankara's 281814 refers) not to any Turk. They are, however, when appropriate to be instructed to carry out orders which are not unreasonable or contrary to British interests

4. General Orbay's proposal that British personnel remaining on board ships transferred should wear Turkish uniform is not acceptable because

A. it would give Turks greater hold on personnel and render their task more difficult.

B. If applied to the B.Y.M.S. it would encourage Turks to insist upon operational control.

C. Enemy will very soon learn of presence of British vessels and personnel in Turkish waters. If they do not take hostile action upon breach of relations or by reason of the fact that British warships have been infiltrated into Turkish waters, they will not do so merely because personnel are wearing their proper uniform.

5. Although we have undertaken to give Turks every assistance within our power if they break off relations, we are not in the position of having to bribe the Turks to do so. We do not therefore propose to allow Turks either (a) to make the breach of relations the occasion for acquiring from us vessels we are unwilling to transfer, or (b) to dictate the terms upon which our assistance is given.

6. Supplies. Policy is to resume forthwith the flow of military supplies agreed last January so far as possible, i.e. without undue prejudice to other requirements. Programme is under detailed consideration.

War Diary.

3.8.1944.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Naval
assistance
to Turkey.
(Contd.)

7. If Turkey becomes involved in hostilities we shall lend all assistance within our power, i.e. subject to the requirements of major operations.
8. Although we are prepared to agree to personnel under para. 3 above wearing plain clothes as a temporary measure, this is not considered satisfactory and you should warn the Turks that if

B.Y.M.S. or other British manned vessels remain long in Turkish waters we will wish to raise the question of crews wearing British uniform when afloat.

9. Foreign Office are in agreement.

(1st S.L. 032215B to C. in C.Med. N.A.Ankara, Info. F.O.L.E.M.)

SECRET

Received by W.D.
22 August IN 55A.
031150B/August.
RECEIVED:—

From British Naval Attache
Madrid.

DATE 4.8.44.

TIME 0041.

Naval Shore Code O.T.P. by Cable

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

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

Addressed Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

My 172000 / July. Owners of SEVILLANO pressing Shipping Attache for admission ship sunk by H.M. Submarine with a view to obtaining compensation.

S.A. has naturally admitted nothing and owners now inclined to take the matter up with the Spanish Government. Grateful to receive your immediate instruction.

031150B.

/ Spanish vessel SEVILLA reported sunk off Cerbere.

Advance copies sent Ops., M.O.I.C.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
U.W.R.
O.D.(5)
Ops.(2)
O.I.C.(2)
Plot.

D.N.I.(5)
M.(4) for action.
F.O.S. by courier.
D.T.D.(4)
D.E.W.D.(3)
W.D.

War Diary.3.8.1944.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U/B dispositions. Area E and G. Scale of air escort reduced to X. All other areas no fresh information and scale of air escort remains the same. (C. in C. E.F., 030450Z.)

Report of U/B attack on CORVALLIS on 26 July. Ref. C. in C. E.F.'s E.F.7164/71/2723/4/(43). (A) CORVALLIS. (B) 019° 50' S. 093° 40' E. (C) S/M believed to be similar (? Type) of L.124 on page 6 of OU.6118 (4) February 1941. (D) Torpedo unsuccessful (near miss) (probably ?) one. (F) No consultation. (G) No. (H) Yes, T.O.O. 252214Z July. (I) S/M first sighted in above position at 2214Z/25th July drifting starboard bow about 50 yards away, sighted again on starboard (? side) at 0100Z/26th July when one torpedo was fired which crossed (? the) bow at a distance of 10 feet. Ship did not open fire in order to avoid giving away ship's position. (N.C.S.O. Madras, 030608.)

PORPOISE,
SEVERN.

From Commander Herbert.

(1) Present programme for PORPOISE is to sail on 27 day R/C of Natunas 48 hours after arrival Fremantle followed after four days in harbour by 35 day Hornbill sortie then seven days in harbour and a 30 day voyage and for pick up Hornbill operatives. Consider time in harbour insufficient for repairs and rest. (2) Propose Natuna R/C and Hornbill sortie be carried out by different submarines. Suggest SEVERN if available be sent Australia to carry out R/Cs as consider PORPOISE unable to carry out full programme as at present arranged. S.R.D. has been consulted and concurs. (C.T.F.71, 031332Z to C. in C. E.F., (R) S.4, A.C.N.B., Admty.)

Allocation of Corsair A/C Sqdns.to FORMIDABLE.

A.M. 111629 July. 1841 and 1842 Squadrons have been allocated to FORMIDABLE to provide her with 36 Corsairs. (2) Request you will reorganise the Corsair Squadrons now in Eastern Theatre in four squadrons of 18 I.E. each. This would leave you a small number of spare Corsair Pilots and provide ILLUSTRIOUS and VICTORIOUS with 36 Corsairs each. (D.N.A.O., 031655B to C. in C. E.F., Info. R.A. A.E.F., R.A.N.A.S.I.O.)

War Diary3.8.1944
ThursdayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

N.S.H.Q. S/M
Attack and
sighting
summary. No report since my 260635. Para. D. U.S.
Transport A/C sights U-Boat 51 degs. 28' and 45
degs. 16' W. at 1948Z/2nd.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 030700Z)

North
Atlantic
Convoys. Comnavu 011522 approved as emergency measure
not to establish a precedent. It is hoped that
Admiralty will soon find means of putting into
effect proposals of Com.10th Fleet's 200110 and
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 212053 thus relieving present
unsatisfactory conditions as to port congestion
and lost shipping days.
(Com. 10th Fleet, 031446Z)

U-Boat
dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 031506Z, Cominch, 031600Z)

Canadian
Hunting
Group. Regret E.G.16 cannot be spared and will, there-
fore, not be available for duty proposed in
Admiralty's 220606 July. N.S.H.Q.'s 241519
July/refs.
(N.S.H.Q. 031935Z to Admty)
/ Operation of A/S Grp. with Russian Convoys or
in Channel.

U-Boat
incidents. Para. C. WAKE ISLAND reports suspicious sighting
47.10 N. 31. 44 W. and depth charge attack 47.24
N. 31.32 W. at 021455Z 021647Z respectively.
(Cominch, 032020Z)

C.T.G.22.6. Take steps to effect expeditious R/V with
GEORGE W. INGRAM and OCHMITT, C.T.G.21.7 031429
and my 031918. Continue offensive operations
against Subs until relieved by BOGUE.
(Cinclant, 032106Z to C.T.G.22.6, Info. GEORGE
W. INGRAM, Cominch, C. in C. W.A., C.T.G.22.3.)

Landing
Ships and
Craft. In reply to my letter based on A.M. 211730 July,
Cominch has replied:- "The following comments and
proposals are submitted with reference to your
stated requirements of landing ships and craft
(details)".
(B.A.D. 032111Z to Admty).
See Lion copy.

Stragglers
Report
No.63. 2 arrived Halifax from H.X.M.301, NORBRIS (Pan.)
July 29th broken piston. AUGUSTINE B. MCMANUS
(YS) July 29th boiler defects.

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Stragglers
Report
No.63.
(Contd.)

One arrived St. Johns Newfoundland from H.X.M.301.
PORT HALIFAX July 31st engine trouble.
One arrived St.Johns Newfoundland from O.N.S.245.
MERTON July 29th damaged in collision with
iceberg.
(N.S.H.Q.032137Z)

6th
Canadian
Mid-Ocean
Group.

(1) My 021430 it would seem advisable that this
group should assemble in U.K. and then work up
with PHILANTE before proceeding to operation.
(2) In anticipation of C. in C. W.A. concurrence
of this arrangement COBOURG, PETERBOROUGH, ST.LAM-
BERT will be sailed on completion of working up
at Bermuda to St. Johns Newfoundland for boiler

cleaning after which F.O.N.F. is requested to sail them to U.K.
as additional escorts with the next convenient convoy.

(3) Grateful if C. in C. W.A. will arrange to install any
necessary equipment in these ships.

(4) Anticipated EASTVIEW, ST. THERESE, THETFORD, MINES, SNOW-
BERRY will be sailed to arrive U.K. by end of August. Request
TILLSONBURG and COPPER CLIFF presently in U.K. join the group
after working up.

(C. in C. C.N.A. 032145Z to F.O.N.F., C. in C. Western Approaches.

(R) N.S.H.Q. Admty. Comdre. D. W.A., C.N.M.O. Capt. D. Halifax.
Capt. D. Newfoundland.)

List of ships anticipated to compose 6th Canadian mid Ocean group.

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
No.926.

August 2nd. Early hours lone search Catalina
attacked single Destroyer type vessel, 25 miles
North East of Boeroe Island and heading South-
East, scoring one direct hit and one near miss
with quarter tonners leaving vessel circling.

Same aircraft also scored hit on single large lugger off South
West tip of Ceram Island.

(12) P.T. Boats operating Wewak area night 31st July-1st August
encountered four loaded Eastbound Barges probably sinking one,
damaging three.

(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 030730)

A. W. I.
58A.

TOP SECRET

IN

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

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

032111z/August.

From: B.A.D.

Date: 4.8.44
Recd: 0043

OTP BY T/K

Addressed: Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

In reply to my letter based on A.M.211730 July COMINCH has replied:

"The following comments and proposals are submitted with reference to your stated requirements of landing ships and craft:-

(a) LSI (L): All APAS built and building will be required for operations in the Pacific. The two LSI(T)s requested as replacements for possible casualties will probably not be available for transfer at the time requested.

(b) LST and LSE: It is proposed to transfer to U.K. 35 LST's from among those U.S. LSTs now in U.K. as follows:-

| | |
|---------------|----|
| 1944: October | 10 |
| November | 15 |
| December | 10 |

It is estimated that 33 LSTs will give the required lift assuming that the 19 LSTs and 18 LSTs which you consider may be either lost or not worth repairing are available. Consideration will be given to replacing casualties when replacements actually become necessary.

The two additional LSTs proposed to be transferred can be converted in U.K. to LSES.

(c) LSD: All available LSDs will be required for continuous Pacific operations. When the need arises in South East Asia, consideration will be given to placing the required number of LSDs under the operational control of that command for specific approved operations.

/ (d)

(a) LCI (L): It is proposed to transfer to U.K. the 52 LCI(L)s requested from among those U.S. LCI(L)s now in U.K. as follows

| | | |
|-------|----------|----|
| 1944: | October | 10 |
| | November | 10 |
| | December | 19 |
| 1945: | January | 3 |
| | February | 3 |
| | March | 3 |
| | April | 4 |

Consideration will be given to replacing casualties when the need arises.

The established procedure should be followed if the craft offered above are desired".

2. It is recommended that this offer be accepted as the best that can be obtained at present.

032111z

Adv. copy D.C., D.O.D.(F), D.O.D.(H)

mgb

1st Lord
 1st S.L. (2)
 D.F.S.L.
 3rd S.L.
 Vice Contr.
 4th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 Sec.
 A.C.N.S. (W)
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 U.W.R.
 P.A.S. (F)
 P.A.S. (H)
 D.O.D. (F) (2)
 D.O.D. (H) (4)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 Hd. of M. (057625/44) (4)
 Hd. of M.A.S. (4)
 D. of P. (2)
 D. of P.(Q) (2)
 D.C.
 D.B.I.C. (2)
 D.N.I. (4)
 A.D.O.D.(C.O.)

D.C.O.D. (4)
 D.C.O.M. (4)
 D.C.C.P. (2)
 D. of S.T. (6)
 D.N.O.
 D.D. of D.
 COREP (2)
 D. of P. (2)
 D. of P.(Q) (2)
 Admiral Blake (5)
 C.C.O. (2)
 I.P. (2)
 W.D.
 Dep. Contr.)
 D.N.C.) Bath (6)
 D. of D.)
 Hd. S.W.R. (3))

04

War Diary

3.8.1944
Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

U-Boat
incidents.

Para. A. (1) A/C E/333 attacked two escorted
U-Boats course 130 degs. 10 knots at 1147Z/2nd
August in lat. 58 degs. 27 N. long. 05 degs. 45 E.
(2) Ref. A.M. 021257B para. A 1 sighting was at
0907Z 1st August.

Para. B. (1) Convoy attacked probably by U-Boat at 1355Z/2nd
August lat. 50 degs. 06' N. long. 00 degs. 37 W.
(D.D.I.C.03113B)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 031430B, 031436B)

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

- 1.(a). Allied troops reached Rennes today and are approaching Dinant, and progress has also been made S.E. of Caumont.
- (b). In the British assault area some bombing of the anchorages and beaches occurred, and two circling torpedoes fell on land at Banville. But no damage is reported.
- (c). The last "Phoenix" for Mulberry A arrived today
- (d). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British area | 717,543 | 176,327 | 904,018 |
| U.S.area | 957,471 | 181,572 | 955,597 |
| Total | 1,675,014 | 357,899 | 1,859,615 |

General.

Home Fleet.

(*Amphib*)

2. At 2116 C.S.1 in INDEFATIGABLE, with FURIOUS, JAMAICA, BERWICK and 7 destroyers returned to Scapa having abandoned his operation owing to the weather.

RAMILLIES.

3. At 1121 RAMILLIES with 2 destroyers left Portsmouth for Gibraltar.

U-Boats
attacked.

4. At 0934 and 0945 respectively two U-Boats were attacked by A/C about 135 miles S.E. of Iceland.

Mediterranean.

5. The submarine VOX reports that at 0158 an R-Boat was sunk with 3 torpedoes in 35° 41' N. 25° 18' E. (N. of Candia (Crete)).

6. Convoy U.G.S.48 was attacked by two enemy torpedo bombers at 11.48 p.m. about 60 miles N.N.E. of Benghazi. SAMSYLARNA (Brit. 7100 tons) was torpedoed and her engine room flooded.

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

7. BENJAMIN D. WILSON (American) en route from Aden to Colombo and Madras reports sighting a submarine in 7° 07' N. 79° 31' E.

America & West Indies.

MAGDALEN,
OREGON I,
EMPIRE CONRAD,
collision.

8. During dense fog off the entrance to St. John New Brunswick, collisions occurred involving MAGDALEN, OREGON I (Br.) and EMPIRE CONRAD (Br.) Preliminary reports indicate that all three vessels sustained damage above the water line.

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military.

Communique No.118 (Extract).

Allied forces have reached Rennes and have elements to the south of the town.

Another column advanced through Dol and moving westward along the north side of the Brittany Peninsula has reached the area of Dinan.

Other Allied formations east of the Percy-Villedieu Road have captured Beaumesnil and are in the area of St. Sever Calvados. Further south our forces have captured Mortain..

South-east of Caumont Allied troops have made progress towards Villers Bocage and Aunay.

(S.H.A.E.F., 041100B to Agwar.)

Naval.

(A) General. Nothing to report.

(B) Unloading figures to p.m. 3rd August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 712,739 | 175,097 | 888,059 |
| U.S. | 951,970 | 179,266 | 944,576 |
| Total D + 58 | 1,664,709 | 354,363 | 1,832,635 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 042351B to Admty.)

Covering Operations

Patrols

P.C.W.O. 120.

from

(A) Unit G.U.1, M.T.B. 679 (S.O.), 719, 620, 255.

Plymouth.

(B) 1900B/4th.

(C) (AA) 270° Les Hanois 12 to arrive 2200. (BB) 184° Les Hanois 9. (CC) 315° La Corbiere 9.5 to arrive 2315.

(D) Patrol in vicinity (a.m.) to cover approaches to St. Peters Port. Unit is not to go south of a line 270° La Corbiere or north of a line 270° Les Hanois to 003° W. or east of a line Sark Light to Grosnez Point unless in an emergency or in action.

(E) (i) Destruction of enemy shipping. (ii) Operation "Knitting"

(F) 0500B/5th from (BB). (G) (AA) to Dartmouth.

(2) M.T.B.255 is to retire to (BB) if unit makes contact enemy.

When operations at (CC) are completed M.T.B.255 is to return alone through (BB) leaving them at 0230B/5th to pass (AA) and thence Dartmouth, speed 20 knots.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 041215B.)

My 041215B. Add -

(3) (A) Unit G.W.1, M.T.Bs. 742 (S.O.), 749, 787. (B) 1730B/4.

(C) (DD) 270 Les Hanois 16 to arrive 2100. (EE) 225 La Corbiere 8 to arrive 2245.

(D) From (EE) patrol area to eastwards to cover approaches to St. Helier. Unit is not to go north of a line 270° La Corbiere unless in emergency or in action.

(E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) 0500B/5th from (EE).

(G) (DD) to Plymouth.

(4) (A) Unit G.U.2, M.T.Bs. 748 (S.O.), 727, 726, 745, 743, 742.

(B) 1700B/4th. (C) (DD) 270° Les Hanois 16 to arrive 2000.

(FF) 225 La Corbiere 15.5. (GG) 325 Cap Frehel 9.5 to arrive 2200.

/(D) ...

War Diary.4.8.1944.
Friday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. (Contd.) (D) From (GG) separate at S.O.'s discretion to cover inshore area west and north of St. Malo. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Unit to remain in area until after daylight, time of leaving to be at S.O.'s discretion. (G) (FF) and (DD) to Brixham. (5) American P.T. Boats from Cherbourg will operate in squares Z.208 and 203. (C. in C. Plymouth, 041331B.) My 041331, para. (5). One unit only of 3 P.T. Boats will operate and will be in square Z.203. (C. in C. Plymouth, 041840B.)

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 359 (S.O.), 358, Z.2. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 612, 603 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE in 050° Z.3 3 miles. F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 418, 55 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. F.U.5 OBEDIENT in 050° Z.5 3 miles. F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 235, 229 in 230° Z.6 6.2 miles. F.U.7 ORWELL, Z.7. (2) Aircraft under Swingate V/H.F. control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne breakwater light. (A.C. Dover, 041224B.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N.1, para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 4th/5th August. (1) F.U.3 OPPORTUNE, Z.3. F.U.5 OBEDIENT, Z.5. G.D.1 OFFA, G.D.2 ROWLEY, G.D.3 WENSLEYDALE on line 50° 30' N. 00° 05' W. to 50° 03' N. 00° 28' W. G.H.1 TALYBONT, Z.10 south-east. G.H.2 BRISSENDEN, Z.11 north-west. G.A.1 STAYNER, Z.8. (2) G.A.2 3 P.Ts., G.A.3 3 M.T.Bs., G.A.4 3 P.Ts., Z.8. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs., Z.1. F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs., Z.2. F.N.4 2 M.T.Bs., Z.4. F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs., Z.6. (3) Aircraft freedom to illuminate and attack in area 8 miles radius Boulogne breakwater light. Operation "Purblind". Free bombing areas bounded on the north by a line joining Boulogne to 50° 00' N. 00° 10' W., on the west by meridian 00° 10' W. and on the south and east by the French coast. G.K.1 STEVENSTONE, Pike. G.K.4 LA COMBATTANTE, G.K.2 KRAKOWIAK, G.M.2 TORRINGTON, G.M.4 DUFF, Tunny North. G.K.3 BLANKNEY, Sword. G.M.1 3 M.T.Bs., G.M.3 2 M.T.Bs., G.M.5 3 M.T.Bs., Tunny South. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 041833B and 042207B.) O.N.1, para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 4/5 Aug. (1) 6th E.G. on line 49° 45' N. 00° 55' W. to 50° 05' N. 00° 55' W. 1st E.G., Z.229, Z.230. 2nd E.G., 11th E.G. between 48° 10' N. 48° 30' N. and east of 6° W. 3rd E.G., Z.227 to Z.243. 9th E.G., Portland Bill to Cap de la Hague. (2) C.U.1, G.W.1, Z.209. G.U.2, Z.210. (3) Aircraft all areas west of 2° W. (4) P.T. Boats from Cherbourg Z.208, Z.203. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 042037B.)

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Attack on
B.A.A. on
3rd August.

My 031326.

- (1) According to Prisoner of War interrogations a total of 75 human torpedoes were meant to have been launched but it is considered that less were actually operating.
- (2) It is believed human torpedoes were launched from (MARATTA) a ship of 7,000 tons, 2 miles outside Le Havre. This fits with a plot from Monrads.
- (3) MARATTA is stated to have arrived at Le Havre 0100 to 0200 night 1st/2nd from Stettin Area. Suggest this might be checked with V.A. Dover radar plot.
- (4) Other human torpedoes were said to have been launched direct from shore or by crane, localities unknown.
- (5) Crews were told to look out for British flak to lead them to the anchorage. It would be noticed that there was an air raid on at the time of the attack.
- (6) Brief description of explosive motor boat captured by support squadron, but which later foundered. Length 15' - beam 6', painted white single step 1 man cockpit and whip ariel. Similar to W/T set type SCR 610. Number 111B were painted on red light forward, green light aft.
- (b) No details of speed. Prisoner of War's statements Ford V.8 engine, 2,000 revolutions. Crews vary between one and three men.
- (c) Crews equipped with combined cape and inflate rubber dinghy. Rudder is locked when boat is aimed at target, and crew jumps overboard.
- (d) No evidence from prisoners that these craft are remote controlled.
- (7) Human torpedoes are fitted with scuttling charges with 9 minute fuse - verified by BLENCATHRA.
- (F.O.B.A.A., 040100B and 041000 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats.

Channel
situation.

Two or three in English Channel east of line
Needles - Cape Barfleur.

One or two between Scillies and Ushant of which
one possibly attacked by BELLONA 1737Z/3rd August.

About half a dozen in Inner Bay of Biscay south of
latitude of Ushant. Majority of these probably outward bound
and their numbers may be increased if German military situation
in Brittany deteriorates.

(D.D.I.C., 041433B to A.I.G. 331.)

A/S Patrols.

Daylight patrols 5th August.

6th E.G. zig-zag search Z.10, Z.16 westward to
00° 20' W.

(2) Spout Patrol. WENSLEYDALE - D, OFFA - E,

ROWLEY - F, BRISSENDEN - S, TALYBONT - T.

(3) ORIBI and VERSATILE pass Gate at 0900/5th August.

(4) VERSATILE relieve WENSLEYDALE. WENSLEYDALE return to
harbour on relief.

/(5) ...

War Diary.4.8.1944.
Friday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

A/S Patrols. (5) Adjust patrols as follows:-
(Contd.) ORIBI - U, BRISSENDEN - V, TALYBONT - W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 041901B.)
O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.
(A) E.G.2, E.G.11 as one group patrol between
47.30 46.59 N. and 4.10 and 4.26 W. (C) Forthwith.
(D) The military situation is such that U-Boats may be expected
to evacuate Lorient and St. Nazaire.
(2) Aircraft will operate east of longitude 4° W. Ships are
not to proceed east of this line by night unless specifically
ordered to do so. By day AXC sightings may be followed up.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 041953B to E.G.2, E.G.11.)
O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.
(A) E.G.1 patrol between 48.30 to 48.10 N. 5.20 to 6.0 W.
(C) Forthwith.
(D) U-Boats may be expected to evacuate Brest. Aircraft will
be operating east of 5° 15' W. from 2300 till dawn.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 042014B to E.G.1.)
On completion of present duty proceed at sweeping speed to
patrol rectangle enclosed by sides 225° 20 miles and 315° 30
miles from 49.25 N. 3.47 W.
(2) Lay-over is postponed for approximately 48 hours.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 042026B to E.G.3.)
Am investigating suspicious A/S contact in 205° Beachy
Head 20 miles.
(STAYNER, 042227B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Lost contact. Consider possible (submarine ?) in 186
Beachy Head 21.
(STAYNER, 042316B to Portsmouth.)

Allied Air Activity

Operation "Purblind". Operation "Purblind". Conditions favourable
tonight.
(F.O.B.A.A., 041056B to 83 Group.)

Casualties and Defects

THYSVILLE. Your 011604B. THYSVILLE requires minimum of 12
days to complete essential repairs and bunkering.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 041225B to A.N.C.X.F.)

SAMLONG. My 031326, para. 3(D). Intend to sail SAMLONG to
Portsmouth for decision regarding disposal. Ship
torpedoed amidships. Engine room and boiler room
wrecked; upper deck and ships side buckled forward
of bridge. No steering or deck steam.
(F.O.B.A.A., 041733B to A.N.C.X.F.)

FORT LAC LA My 031326 and 032048 para.3(H) not to all. FORT LAC
RONGE. LA RONGE has been grounded in shallow water to
facilitate discharge of cargo from damaged compart-
ments. Ship will be able to proceed to U.K. in
tow on completion of discharge in about 10 days time. Torpedo
damage is confined to No.5 hold. All forward compartments, engine
room, boiler room, and No.4 hold are intact.
(F.O.B.A.A., 041740 to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary4.8.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

| | |
|------------|--|
| E.X.P.36. | E.X.P.36. 4 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 040045) |
| E.P.P.11. | E.P.P.11. 3 ships. (A.N.C.X.F.040046B) |
| E.W.L.57A. | E.W.L.57 A. 12 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 040355B and 040745B) |
| E.W.L.57B. | E.W.L.57B. 3 ships and 5 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F.040357B) |
| E.B.C.59. | E.B.C.59. 17 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 040452B and 041136) |
| E.T.C.57. | E.T.C.57. 15 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 040747B) |
| E.T.M.54. | E.T.M.54. 9 ships, 3 L.S.Ts, 5 C.G.Cutters. (A.N.C.X.F. 040929) |
| F.T.M.58. | Sailed F.T.M.58. 1 ship and 4 L.S.Ts. (N.S.B.S.041006B) |
| F.T.C.57. | F.T.C.57. 16 ships. (N.S.B.S. 041103B) |
| E.P.M.25. | E.P.M.25. 9 ships and 9 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 041139B) |
| F.P.M.26. | Sailed 1415, F.P.M.26. 1 ship, 5 L.S.Ts, 1 L.T. (C.T.G.125-2, 041503B) |
| F.W.L.47. | F.W.L.47. 3 L.S.Ts. (N.S.B.S. 041602B) |

War Diary

4.8.1944
Friday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration.

Channel
Islands
Area.

Your 311740. It is preferred that no rigid line of demarcation should be established between Plymouth Command and that of Comusbas France in Channel Island area.

(2) Co-ordination between the two Commands should enable Forces from either to be operated as circumstances may require.

(V.C.N.S. 042215B to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary4.8.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicy

Reduction of Destroyers in Ports-mouth Command Your 311608 July. It was expected that with the forces allocated to you by A.M. 291454 July and A.M 291452 July you would be able to meet the requirements of A.N.C.X.F. as requested in his 231429 July, and still have sufficient to maintain in the Channel a fast hunting group in addition to the A/S support group and escort destroyers.

2. In allocating these forces it was appreciated that insurance against enemy attack in the channel area would be less than hitherto, and unless A.N.C.X.F. is agreeable to proposals in your 310137/July, it is requested you will meet his requirements as in his 231429/July in full.

3. These allocations are subject to review in the light of experience as in A.M.29145A/July para. 4.
(V.C.N.S. 041607B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Operations

C.S.1 operation. Operation cancelled owing to weather. Returning to Scapa. E.T.A. Gate 2129B today.
(C.S.1, 041152B to C. in C.H.F.)
(URBINE)

ULA Patrol Cancel my 032151. Own forces arrive Scapa p.m. today.
2. ULA returns to Lerwick.
(F.O.S.041459B to S/Ms.)

Sweeps by Force 26 and Force 28. Reverse course.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 041753B to Force 26)
Sweep ordered in my 031720B is cancelled.
2. DIADEM, HAIDA, and IROQUOIS return to Plymouth
3. TARTAR and ASHANTI patrol in vicinity of (MM) 48° 30' N. 6° 45' W. Orders follow.
(C. in C. Plymouth 041818B to C.S.10)
My 041818. TARTAR and ASHANTI forming Force 28 proceed forthwith to establish patrol within 5 miles each side of line joining (AA) 047° 13' N. 005° 03' W. and (BB) 047° 23' N. 004° 32' W. to support Second and 11th Escort Groups against surface attack.
2. Second and 11th Escort Groups will operate in area laid down in my 041953.
3. Keep 30 miles off Raz Point when moving to take up patrol. Endeavour to economize in fuel.
6. Long range fighters are at immediate readiness to cover force 28 and second and 11th Escort Groups if required.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 041954B to TARTAR, ASHANTI.)

Supplies to Brittany. My 032348. Information as to destination is still awaited.
2. Following are present intentions.
3. Force available L.S.T.421 (S.O.) with U.S. L.S.T. 57 and U.S. L.S.T.344. Escort S.O.
Author

War Diary4.8.1944
FridayHOME COMMANDSOperationsSupplies
to Brittany
(Contd.)LA DECOUVERTE with HOTHAM, MIDDLETON, and
ALBRIGHTON. 16 M.S.F. if required by C. in C.
Plymouth.

4. Object - To provide emergency P.O.L. and stores for advanced elements of 12 Army Group entering Brittany.
5. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to conduct the operation.
6. The Three L.S.T. will be loaded with P.O.L. in trucks and ammunition and stores in bulk at Southampton at 1900 today. Estimate loading will be completed and convoy ready to sail at 0800 tomorrow. Route to be by swept channel to off Portland Bill thence as ordered by C. in C. Plymouth. On arrival L.S.T. are to discharge by drying out. Escort should remain in vicinity until beaching of L.S.T. is assured.
7. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to place L.S.T. at Southampton today and to make the escorts available.
8. A.E.A.F. is requested to arrange fighter protection when the convoy leaves A.D.G.B. area, until L.S.T. are unloaded.
9. If the destination is Binic in St Brieuc Bay A.E.A.F. are requested to arrange for air bombardment of the heavy gun batteries at Paimpol (034333) and on the island of Guernsey (395066) at the time the convoy is passing Roche Douvres.
10. Further signal will be made giving destination and confirming that the operation is to take place.
(A.N.C.X.F. 041913B to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth.)

U-boatsU-boat
reportedOne submarine estimated position 53.02 N. 15.53 W.
from H/F D/F at 0132Z. T.C.U.33 altered course
to 026 at 0(?)217Z to 53.38 N. 16.10 W, thence
069 to MM, speed 14.

(?Origin 040335Z to C. in C.W.A.)

H.Q. R.A.F. Iceland 041120 to 15 Group. Further report
from aircraft at 1805B/4 indicates oil streak still persists and
then in 62.01 N. 15.08 W.2. Two A/S whalers will arrive in area about 1400B tomorrow 5th.
My 041216 refers.3. Request consideration be given to despatch of additional
hunting force.

(A.C.I.C. 042020B to C. in C.W.A.)

ANGLE escorting W.N.16 reports as follows:-
Suspect sighted periscope. Position Rd Stoer bearing 154° 5 miles
LEICESTER CITY remaining in vicinity until convoy clear of Arch.
042201. Ends.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 042311B to Admty.)

Assessment
agreements.In view of the saturation of anti-submarine
attacks in the invasion area I propose that our
present assessment agreements be modified so that
all A/S attacks since D-day in which United States
Forces United Kingdom based participated occurringin the BCA and NSA areas be assessed by Admiralty Assessment
Committee augmented by one member appointed by Com. 12th Fleet.
Aircraft attacks by Fairwing 7 1525Z 13 June and 1118Z 22 June
are cases in point.

(Cominch, 041740 to Admty.)

/U-boats...

4.8.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSU-boats - Contd.

U-boats attacked by A/C

A. 115° true. B. 1. 90° Red. On U-boat portside.
 B.2. Estimated 150 feet ahead. C. 30".
 D. Aircraft course 195° true. E. In front of U-boat bows. F. 150 estimated. 105 knots.
 T.A.S. G. 182/22. H. Moderate. K. Yes.
 L. Yes. M. Appeared to turn towards U-boat stern. N. 62° 25' N. 14° 30' W. O. None. P. F/162.
 Q. 4th August 1025B.
 (R.A.F. Iceland, 042054Z to H.Q.C.C.)

A. No U-boat seen only oil slick 191° true. B. 1. 90° true Green. 2. 50 feet from head of oil slick.
 C. N/A. D. Aircraft course 181° true. E. N/A. F. 150 Radio altimeter 105 knots T.A.S. G. 208 true 25K. H. Moderate. K. Yes. L. Yes. M. Seen to run under water from point of entry. N. 62° 41' N. 14° 20' W. O. No.
 P. K/162 Q. 4th August 1419B.
 (R.A.F. Iceland, 042117Z to H.Q.C.C.)

Search for U-boat

Proceed forthwith with all despatch to hunt U-boat reported by aircraft in 62° 08' N. 17° 05' W. course 240° 2 knots at 2134B/4th. TILLSONBURG R/V as ordered by BURGESS, BURGESS AND TILLSONBURG report forthwith anticipated P.C. and S. at 0800B/5th August.
 (C. in C.W.A. 042316B to BURGESS, BAZELEY, TILLSONBURG.)

Casualties and Defects

ALEXANDER RAMSEY. S.O.S. Ashore between Strathie and Wolburn Head. (ALEXANDER RAMSEY, 040724)
 Heavy fog, vis. Nil.
 (ALEXANDER RAMSEY, No T.O.O. Recd. 040950)
 S.O.S. Now believe position Brimsness.
 (ALEXANDER RAMSEY 040803Z.)

Intercepted by Ormesby Radio. Three tugs and one trawler coming now with Salvage Officer.
 (Wick Radio, 041102B to ALEXANDER RAMSEY.)

EMPIRE SNIPE. S.O.S. In collision 35 buoy 3264 miles 1115 B.S.T. Badly damaged forward. Settling by head.
 (EMPIRE SNIPE 040925Z to Wick Radio)
 Not sinking. Proceeding. Ends.
 (EMPIRE SNIPE to Ships. No T.O.O. Recd. 041241)

LONE STAR (First part unread). Have collided with small craft approximately 5 miles south number K one buoy damage undetermined, dense fog, standing by.
 (LONE STAR No T.O.O. Recd. 041420)
 Have not yet located drifter. Still searching for him.
 (LONE STAR to Lands End. No T.O.O. Recd. 041445.)

War Diary

4.8.1944
Friday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Convoy
J.W.59

KEPPEL, WHITEHALL, BLUEBELL, CHARLOCK, OXLIP, HONEYSUCKLE detailed. Your 032230 refers. (Capt. D. Greenock, 041540 to C. in C.W.A.) It is not intended to allocate a fourth escort carrier for J.W.59. Your 031316 refers. (A.C.N.S.(H) 042007B to C. in C.H.F.)

Oilers in
North
Russia.

Your 031522. In view of A.M. 241854 March and Admiral Fisher's 061212 March, Russians are expecting use of LACKLAN until October. Before I inform Russians request confirmation of intention to withdraw LACKLAN from use on Russian account.

2. I do not consider either LAURELWOOD or LUCULLUS can be substituted as which ever is retained in North Russia will be required to hold fuel oil of various grades on Admiralty account your 021445 refers. Shore stowage in Kola is full to capacity already. (S.B.N.O. North Russia, 041946 to Admty.)

TRAVANCORE,
MANGALORE.

Following from Chiefs of Staff. Normal route for carrying Red Cross supplies for prisoners of war via Marseilles and Geneva has broken down owing to disorganisation of French railways.

2. American Red Cross are anxious to divert two neutral ships (TRAVANCORE and MANGALORE), which have already reached Barcelona, to Gothenburg.

3. We have agreed to this proposal and arrangements are being made for granting of safe conduct for these ships. For the future, we agree that other Red Cross ships carrying supplies for prisoners of war from United Nations should be granted similar facilities, subject to any overriding operational considerations from time to time.

4. Arrangements in para. 3 are subject to agreement that onward carriage of Red Cross supplies from Gothenburg will be by Helsingborg-Helsingor Ferry.

(A.M. S.S.O. 042300Z to A.F.H.Q.)

War Diary4.8.1944
FridayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

DROTTNING- My 031909. Sailing of DROTTNINGHOLM postponed.
HOIM. 12 hours owing to last minute complication.
(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 040315B to Admty)

DERWENTDALE. Your 270004 arrived. (DERWENTDALE (T) in tow
HESPERIA).
(F.O.G.M.A.040810B to N.O.I.C.Tunisia)

BRILLIANT, Request BRILLIANT be sailed at S. of A. 15 knots
RAMILLIES. as necessary to R/V RAMILLIES in (A) 045 degs.
20' N. 017 degs. 00' W. at 2200B/6th. and act as
additional escort to Gibraltar.
(2) RAMILLIES escorted by WHELP, WESSEX and
NARBOROUGH is routed through -
(M) all positions N. and W. 048 degs. 017 degs.
(B) 041 degs. 017 degs. (O) 037 degs. 013 degs.
(P) 036 degs. 009 degs. S. of A. 14 knots.
(3) On relief by BRILLIANT, NARBOROUGH will part company and
proceed to Plymouth.
(4) RAMILLIES codeword "Bathford".
(F.O.G.M.A.040907B to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

South Atlantic

H.D.M.Ls. I have been approached by the Union Defence Force
as to the necessity for taking up and manning any
more of the H.D.M.Ls allocated to the S.A.N.F.
and have informed them that I do not consider
it necessary.
(2) U.D.F. have taken over 11 boats and 5 more are building in
South Africa and have not yet been taken over.
(3) Request covering approval and instructions for the disposal
of the remaining 5 boats. It is suggested that if converted to
gun boats they might be useful to C. in C. E.F. for river work.
(C. in C. S.A. 041131 to Admty)

QUANZA Reference WPPS 1437. QUANZA intercepted by
(Ps) E.G.59 being escorted into Dakar for onward
intercepted. routing to Gibraltar in accordance with
A.M.022142B (QUANZA to be intercepted and sent
to Gibraltar) (N.T. in W.D.) My 031046 to
escort only refers.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 041912Z to Admty)

War Diary

4.8.1944

FridayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

VOX report. Encountered R-Boat with 3 large Caiques leaving Santarin 1930/3. At (?20)00 missed R-Boat with 2 torpedoes. At 0158 sank R-Boat with 3 torpedoes position 035 degs. 40' N. 025 degs. 18' E. Subsequently sank one caique at 0310 and one at 0630 by gunfire. At 1715/1 sank one small caique. (VOX, 040903B to Capt. (S) 1, (R) F.O.L.E.M.)

Daily Opsum No.464. August 2. One Wellington successfully laid mines in Khalkis Harbour Greece. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. T.O.O.040944/Z.)

M.A.A.F. Air Report. Summary of Operations for period ending 1800 hours Aug. 3rd. Coastal details. 4 Wellingtons and 4 RP Beau-fighters attacked a large convoy off Porto Fino scoring numerous RP strikes and probable bomb bursts among the vessels. 1 Beaufighter scored cannon and RP strikes on 4 F boats off Monago Semicln and another Beaufighter obtained hits on Riva Tresgosa shipyard. (H.Q. M.A.A.F. 041121B)

MARIE LOUISE MACKAY. Can information be given whether cable ship MARIE LOUISE MACKAY will return to Gibraltar area and if so can approx. date be given. (C. in C. Med. 041136B)

RAMILLIES. C. in C. Portsmouth, 031001 not to all addressees. Request you will instruct RAMILLIES not to be within 20 miles of Cape Spartel before 092215B and then to proceed at best speed to Gibraltar to fuel. (2) RAMILLIES escorted by WESSEX, WAGER, WAKEFIELD and WHELP is to be sailed for Algiers so as to be out of sight of land by daylight 10th. (3) RAMILLIES will be required to sail with same escort from Algiers on 12th August. (C. in C. Med. 041222B to F.O.G.M.A.)

SAMSYLARNA (U.G.S.48) torpedoes by enemy A/C. Help TAMBOURINE, (Convoy U.G.S.48) (DEPTFORD, 042344 to Malta W/T) Attacked by A/C one ship torpedoed sinking rapidly. (DEPTFORD, 042348 to Alex. W/T)

SECRET

IN 43A.

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

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

041800B/August

Date 18.8.44.

From: C. in C. Med.

Recd. 2150

NAVAL CYPHER JJ BY W/T

Addressed: Med. Station 992 B.

Admiral Jaujard has hoisted his flag in F.S. MONTCALM and Admiral Aubyneaux is flying (?his) flag in F.S. EMILE (?BERTIN). 992B was a (BGRM?).

041800B

Advance copy sent D.S.O.

1st S.L. (2)
D.F.S.L.
2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (UT)
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
U.W.R.
Capt. Pim.
Ops. (2)
Plot
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8.
M. (2)
D.S.D. (2)
N.A. (Mails)
Mails
Movts.
C.N.I.
D.P.D.
N.A. 2nd S.L. (2)
C.V. (2)
A.C.N.P. (4)
D.S.D. 9 (2)
W.B.
I.P. (2)
D.S.O.
B.N.L.O. (FN) (2)
P.N.L.C.
D.N.I. (5)
M.A. File IN.
H.V.R.

JD.110.

War Diary

4.8.1944
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat Areas A.B.C.D.F. Believed clear of U-Boats scale dispositions. of air escort W (?). Areas E and G. In view of continued inactivity in these areas scale of air escort X.
(C. in C. E.F. 040325Z)

"S" Report Following has been read: SSSS SSSS SSSS from BENJAMIN, KE.2 PP 7 degs. 07' N. 79 degs. 30' E. D. WILSON. Sighted sub. (Am.) (Colombo W/T, 040400Z to Admty)

Escort 923C. Intend following organization of escort Carriers. carriers.
First Division BEGUM SHAH. Second Division AMEER BATTLER. Third Division ATHELING.
(2) When ATHELING becomes an A/?U Carrier she will change division with BATTLER.
(C. in C. E.F. 040429Z)

CORVALLIS Request CORVALLIS be further interrogated and attacked replies to following reported: by U-Boat (A) First sighting - (1) Who sighted U-Boats. on 26th July. (2) What were conditions of light. (3) What avoiding action taken. (4) Did ship attempt to ram. (5) Did U-Boat submerge.
(B) Second sighting - (1) Who sighted U-Boat.
(2) Was U-Boat on surface, i.e. conning tower or periscope visible. (3) Distance of U-Boat when sighted.
(4) What avoiding action taken.
(C) Sketches of U-Boat should be obtained from all who saw her and sent to S.O.(I) East Indies by first opportunity. Your 030608 refers.
(C. in C. E.F. 040635Z to N.C.S.O. Madras)

TANTALUS TANTALUS, third Far East. Patrol Summary. Patrol (2) 15th July 2156 3 degs. 59' N. 100 degs. 09' Summary. E. sighted one 3,500 ton M/V with two escorts which forced TANTALUS to dive on surfacing to give chase was again forced to dive and counter attacked with 15 depth charges. One pattern

fairly close.
(3) 17th July, 0630 2 degs. 54' N. 100 degs. 54' E. sighted large southbound Japanese U-Boat out of range.
(4) Remainder of patrol blank. (5) Times F.G.
(C. in C. E.F. 041012)

MAIDSTONE. It is intended to sail MAIDSTONE for Fremantle about 24th August.
(2) Admiralty's 202015 May.
(C. in C. E.F. 041013 to A.C.N.B.)

War Diary

4.8.1944
Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

Aircraft
repair
Yards.

Your 281236 June. The proposal, in connection with the pooling of A/C repair resources in India, to build an additional large R.A.F./R.N. Repair Depot near Madras, is under consideration, and the decision will be largely dependent on the general strategy decided for the Eastern Fleet.

- (2) Request you will signal as soon as possible:
- (a) Estimated arisings for major inspection and medium repair per 100 I.E. per month in the light of your experience to date:
 - (b) Estimated capacity in numbers of major inspections and medium repairs to airframes and of complete overhauls of engines per month of R.N. A/C establishments in the India/Ceylon area on 1st October, 1944, 1st January, 1945, 1st April, 1945, 1st July, 1945, 1st October, 1945, 1st January, 1946.
- (3) The following assumptions should be made (details).
Station workshops for attached squadrons and reserves.
- (4) Capacity of each establishment to be shown separately and approximate percentage of its total effort devoted to modification and equipping work to be stated.
- (5) Where capacity of completed establishments is estimated to be below designed figure full particulars are to be stated.
(5th S.L. 041344B to C. in C. E.F.)

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B report. Bearings on W.W. transmission at 0128Z fix U-Boat within 150 miles 48.00 N. 34.30 W. (Cominch 040202Z to C.T.G. 22.6, C.T.F.24, C.T.G. 22.3, U.S.S. GEORGE WILLIAM INGRAM, Cinclant, C. in C.W.A. U.S.S. PENETRATE.)

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (Cominch 041538Z.)

C.T.G.22.3. Your target is still the westbound submarine reported vicinity lat. 47.15 N. long. 36.00 W. Relieve C.T.G.22.6 and get submarine. (C. in C.Lant 042033Z to C.T.G.22.3.)

U/B incidents. Para. C. 040317Z GUADALCANAL had Radar contact and about 0600Z/4 attacked sound contact 35.33 N. 52.12 W. (Cominch 042052Z.)

C.T.G.22.6 When relieved by C.T.G.22.3 my 042033Z about 1200Z/5 Aug. operate against weather patrol submarine reported at 48 ?N. 34.30 W. until noon Z 7th August. At that time unless in contact proceed Norfolk. On departing area direct GEORGE W. INGRAM and SCHMITT proceed Argentina and report C.T.F.24. (C. in C.Lant 042104Z to C.T.G.22.6.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No. 12. Previous night (?2/3.8.44) P.T.boats operating
927, Aug. 3. off shore sank unidentified power craft with two small craft alongside near Cape Waioa - ships were heading west carrying ammunition fuel and stores - three prisoners taken.

13. Night 1/2 August. Pair M.T.Bs. heavily strafed signal station Cape Asi 33 miles east northeast Sorong.

21. Night 2/3, M.T.Bs. silenced shore guns northeast coast New Ireland 20 miles from Kavieng. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 040640Z.)

War Diary.

4.8.1944.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B incidents. Para. A. 1. A/C Y/502 sighted U-Boat course 100° at 0124Z/4th in lat. 47° 26' N. long. 04° 04' W.
Para. B. 2. BELLONA attacked smoke cloud from possible Snort at 1737Z/3rd in lat. 49° 25' N. long. 06° 30' W.
3. BENJAMIN D. WILSON sighted U-Boat at 0400Z/4th in lat. 07° 07' N. long. 79° 30' E.
(O.I.C. 041118B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 041428B, 041437B.)

5.8.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

- 1. (a). Allied troops have made rapid progress in Brittany. Our forward troops are beyond Fougères, and others are in the areas of Barenton, Vacognes, and Amaye sur Orne. Ondfontaine has been captured.
- (b). In the Assault area the sea was moderate with less swell; and at Caen the clearance of berths was completed.
- (c). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| British area | 725,366 | 177,805 | 923,111 |
| U.S. area | 968,777 | 183,196 | 970,952 |
| Total | 1,694,143 | 361,001 | 1,894,063 tons |

Enemy action.

- 2. (a). U-Boats. At 0300 today the frigate STAYNER, with OFFA, WENSLEYDALE and ROWLEY in company, sank U.671 about 20 miles south of Beachy Head, two officers and four ratings being picked up. At 0855 another U-Boat was attacked by a Wellington A/C about 30 miles S.S.E. of Start Point.
- (b). Mines. At 1045 today M.M.S.279 was damaged by a near miss mine in the western area.
- (c). Aircraft. At 2251B eight attacks were made on THORNBOROUGH and RETALICK by torpedo bomber A/C off Cap d'Antifer, six torpedoes being seen. No damage was done.

General.

U-Boat
attacked.

- 3. At 0030 a U-Boat was attacked by a Halifax A/C S.W. of Lorient.

North Atlantic.

- Repatriations. 4. DROTTNINGHOLM with exchanged British prisoners of war sailed a.m. today from Lisbon for U.K.

5.8.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

U-Boat.

5. Destroyers were in contact with a U-Boat in the Straits of Otranto following an aircraft sighting a.m. today. The hunt continues with air co-operation.

Axis Units.

6. SS. CAROLA and destroyer CALATAFIMI (It.) arrived Syra today from Piraeus. Destination probably Leros. PIPINOS was instructed by Capt. S. 1 to intercept.

7. Shipping was bombed by A/C in Portolago Bay (Leros) and hits were scored near the naval workshops, stores and Lepeda seaplane base.

East Indies.

A/C attack
on Cocos Is.

8. An attack was carried out on the Cocos Islands by one Japanese A/C. Minor damage was caused to installations.

Wreckage
presumed from
EMPIRE CITY
attacked by
U-Boat.

9. At 0736Z/6 aircraft reported wreckage and 3 lifeboats in 11° 23' S. 41° 25' E. (about 380 miles west of Diego Suarez presumed to be from EMPIRE CITY (Br. 7295 tons) who had reported being attacked by a U-Boat at 2245Z/5.

Australia & New Zealand.

Enemy convoy
attacked in
the Bonin Is.

10. On the night of 4/5th aircraft and surface craft of an American Task Force attacked a convoy in the Bonin Islands, about 480 miles south of Yokohama. One new destroyer, four escort vessels, six merchant ships and four barges were sunk, and one old destroyer, one landing ship, one submarine chaser, one landing craft and sixteen smaller vessels were damaged. Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed and five damaged. U.S. losses were sixteen aircraft all from A/A gunfire.

War Diary.

5.8.1944.

Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military. Communique No. 119 (extracts.)
 Allied troops have made rapid progress in Brittany fanning out to the neighbourhood of Loudeac, Mauron, Derval and Chateaubriant. Rennes is in our hand and Dol has been cleared of enemy. Our forward troops are already beyond Fougères. Other forces are advancing southeast of Landivy and while fighting continues for Mortain, advanced troops have reached the area of Barenton. A large part of the Forêt de St. Sever is in our hands. Esquay and Evrecy have been cleared of enemy and leading troops are reported in the area of Vacognes and Amaye Sur Orne. Further south our position has been improved by the capture of Ondefontaine (S.H.A.E.F. 051100B to Agwar.)

Naval. A. General. STAYNER destroyed U-Boat 20 miles south of Beachy Head at 0300/5, 2 officers and 4 ratings taken prisoner.
 B. Assault area - clearance of berths at Caen completed. Enemy air Activity in B.A.A. increased night of 3/4 over anchorage and beaches with some bombing, no damage reports 2 circling torpedoes fell on land at Banville. 4 enemy aircraft shot down by fighters - sporadic shelling of Langrune area reported 3rd August. Last Phoenix for Mulberry A arrived 4th Aug.
 C. Unloading figures to p.m. 4th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 717,543 | 176,327 | 904,018 |
| U.S. | 957,471 | 181,572 | 955,597 |
| Total D+59 | 1,675,014 | 357,899 | 1,859,615 |

(Ad. Ramsay 052329B to Admty.)

Britanny.

Operation "Author". A.N.C.X.F.'s 041913. 3 L.S.Ts. will probably complete loading 2100 tonight. C. in C.Plymouth 042310. When loaded intend sailing L.S.Ts. and escort for Portland.
 (C. in C.Portsmouth 051124B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Orders for Operation "Author".
Information. Own - A/S hunting groups in Channel. Details will be signalled. Enemy - U-Boats in Western Channel. 7 M-class minesweepers and about 20 auxiliaries have been operating in St. Malo - Lezardieux - Channel Islands area. Some of these may have been withdrawn westward. 1 ELBING in Lorient. 2 E-Boats believed in Brest. Coastal batteries on S.W. of Guernsey. Range 40,000 yards. Railway battery at Paimpol. Range 40,000 yards. Air bombardment of these batteries will be carried out by A.E.A.F.
Intention. 2. Force 30 - under command of M.S.16 in SHIPPIGAN with 16th M.S.F. LA DECOUVERTE (S.O.) close escort with HOTHAM, MIDDLETON, ALBRIGHTON, M.Ls. 122 (S.O.), 117, 124, 233 to escort L.S.T.421 (S.O.), U.S.L.S.T.57 and 344 to land stores for

/American...

5.8.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Brittany.

Operation
"Author".
(Contd.)

American 12th Army Group at either A. Binic in Saint Brieuc Bay, or B. Saint Michel en Greve, east of Morlaix in accordance with A.N.C.X.F. 032348 and 041913. Decision as to destination will be signalled.

Object. 3. Safe and timely arrival of L.S.Ts. at their destination.

Execution. 4. F.O.I.C. Portland will be requested to sail Force 30 when destination and date are known.

Route. R. For destination A. through NN. 296° Les Hanois 22 00. 244° Les Hanois 22 thence as close north and east of Roches D'Ouvres as convenient and thence west of Grand Lejon to destination.

6. For destination B through MM 305° Triagoz Light 8 to destination

7. L.S.T. convoy is to be swept from 3° W. if for destination A and from MM if for destination B M.Ls. are to be employed in sweeping in shallow water and for smoke making.

8. To reduce risk from mines in shallow water L.S.Ts. are to beach near time of high water.

9. On arrival L.S.T. are to discharge by drying out. S.O. Force 30 is to report when L.S.Ts. have beached and is to await further instructions for his force.

10. Air cover will be arranged.

12. Attention is called to Q.Z.X. 957 and 1218.

(C. in C.Plymouth 052239B to F.O.I.C. Portland, M/S 16.)

Possible
Enemy sea-
borne re-
inforcement.

It is possible that Germans may try to reinforce Brittany Peninsula from the southward by sea.

Request I may be kept informed of any measures taken to guard against such action.

(A.N.C.X.F. 051141B to Admty.)

There are at present no indications of this.

Your 051141 refers. 2. Tonight 5/6th, the fol-

lowing forces are in the area:- A. BELLONA and 4 Tribals between Belle Ile and Ile d'Yeu.

B. 2nd and 11th E.G. 47° 15' N. 04° 15' W.

C. 1st E.G. 48° 20' N. 05° 30' W.

3. A constant watch is being kept by Coastal Command.

(A.C.N.S.H. 051824B to A.N.C.X.F.)

In order to deal with any enemy seaborne attempts to reinforce or to evacuate Northern Biscay Ports I am detaching temporarily two Beaufighter R.P.Squadrons to Davidstow Moor for operations under A.O.C.19 Group.

(H.Q.C.C. 051840 to Admty.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from
Dover.

O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 353, 362, Z.2.

F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 751, 610 in Z.2 208° Z.2 5.8 miles.

F.U.3 ORWELL in 050° Z.3 3 miles.

F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 231, 240 in 050° 46' N.01° 16.5' E.

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Patrols from Dover. (Contd.) F.U.5 OPPORTUNE in 050° Z.5 3 miles.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 235, 202 in 230° Z.6 6.2 miles.
F.U.7 SAVAGE Z.7.
2. Aircraft under Swingate V.H/F control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne breakwater light. (A.C.Dover 051209B.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38, cover night 5/6th.
A. OFFA (G.A.1), ROWLEY (G.A.2), BRISSENDEN (G.A.3) at 2300 search area between Greenwich Meridian and Q.Z.S. 511 and between line joining N.E. corner Z.10 to 58 A Buoy and Q.Z.S. 488. 6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.), WASKESIU, OUTREMONT) at 2300 zig-zag search 175° St. Catherines Point 16 miles, centre line 155° for 27 miles, distance apart 5 miles.
ORIBI (G.F.1) patrol on line between 50° 09' N. 00° 11' E. to 50° 13' N. 00° 20' E.
TALYBONT (G.F.2) patrol on line between 50° 03' N. 00° 04' W. to 50° 06' N. 00° 04' E.
VERSATILE (G.F.3) patrol on line 00° 20' E. between 50° 20' N. and 50° 26' N.
B. THORNBOROUGH (G.B.1) in Z.17 (RETALICK (G.B.2) in Z.13.)
C. Unit G.B.3 U.S.P.Ts. 510 (S.O.), 512, 514, Unit G.B.4 M.T.Bs. 773 (S.O.), 691, 741 and Unit G.B.5 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 454, 482 with THORNBOROUGH in Z.17. Unit G.B.6 U.S.P.Ts. 516 (S.O.), 517, 519, Unit G.B.7 M.T.Bs. 209 (S.O.), 206, 208, 210 and Unit G.B.8 S.G.Bs. GREY WOLF, (S.O.), GREY GOOSE with RETALICK in Z.13.
Force G.B. to be in position by 2315. Waiting position for Force G.B. N.W.corner of Z.16.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 051251B.)

Western Sector. Unit G.W.3 P.Ts. operating Z.203, Z.208 and northward of Z.209. E.T.D. 2230/5 and return 0500/6. (C.T.F. 125 051655B.)

Mining.

Cherbourg. Routine searches of Approaches and outer anchorage also inshore end of Pluto carried out today. Negative.
Routine search and extension of Grande Rade carried out. One mine in 032° 3.65 cables St. Annes (?) Church. (*resumed Katie) had previously been sighted off routine search of inner harbour. Negative result.
At approx. 1530 a dredging Hopper was mined in position 186° Fort de l'Est 12.5 cables. Depth of water 14 feet. Dredger was drawing 10 feet at the time. Believed hit amidships to Port of Keel. Probably Katie Mine. Area previously searched 100% with

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(Contd.)

Oropesa. Grounding sweep wires also LL/SA. Weeds to the height of eight feet have been found in the harbour by divers locating underwater obstructions. Sweeping of area by M/S recommended at 2000 with negative result at present.
(Cdr. M/S Cherbourg 050100B to M/S West.)

British area. There have been no reports of enemy minelaying during past 24 hours. Moderate sea and swell decreased this afternoon.

One magnetic mine swept at eastern end of Q.Z.S.

537. Three spontaneous explosions reported during early hours this morning near outer night defence line. Summary:

A. (2) - 1. B. (4) - 3.

(Capt. M/S X. 052230 to A.N.C.X.F.)

"Oyster"
mines.

Ref. A.G.M's 274A and 423A. Recent examination of GC/MP unit shows following characteristics.

A. Pressure unit is not actuated by swell which is likely instead to render the mine inert to the passage of ships whilst the swell persists.

B. Mine will not therefore be reduced to a simple magnetic unit under swell conditions.

C. Pressure unit is not likely to be actuated by wave-making methods.

2. In consequence of above, this mine will not be swept by LL. unless an adequate pressure sweep is used concurrently.

3. Displacement sweeps for this purpose are being built. Meanwhile normal LL/SA sweeping is still effective against the acoustic "Oyster" under swell conditions as recommended in A.G.M. 274A paras. 9, 11 and 12.

(D.T.M. 052239B: A.G.M.459A.)

M.M.S.279
damaged.

M.M.S.279 damaged by near miss from acoustic mine detonated 20 feet from Port bow at 1045 today. Extensive engine defects, no major structural damage visible, no casualties. Ship will require to be towed to U.K.

(M/S Beaches 052254B to C.T.F.125.)

St. Malo.

1. Following are my intentions for the clearance to and in St. Malo. C.T.F.123's 031005 para. E. refers.

A. C. in C.Plymouth is requested to establish approach channel as far as Le Vieux Banc Bell Buoy using 16th M.S.F. and M/S M/L now at Plymouth.

B. C.T.F.125 to conduct clearance inwards from Le Vieux Banc Bell Buoy using:-

1. forces detailed from those already allocated to Western Assault area. 2. M/S M/L detached from 16th M.S.F. on completion of initial sweep of approach channel.

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St. Malo. (Contd.)

3. 2 P party M.F.V. to be detailed by F.O.I.C. Portland.

4. Naval party 1571 or 1572: Naval party 1573 will be available to sail as relief on 11th August.

2. Consider approach channel must be established south of Roches d'Ouvres and that this should not be started until coastal batteries west of St. Malo have been silenced.

3. If entry into Brest is necessary before completion of St. Malo clearance, following reinforcements will be allocated to C.T.F.125

A. one additional B.Y.M.S. Flotilla.

B. 8 M.M.S. equipped for sweeping British mines.

C. 4 LL/SA Trawlers.
(A.N.C.X.F. 052359B and 061102 to Admty.)

Enemy Action.

Channel Islands. Nr. 1. 2 destroyers 49° 05' N. 02° 56' W. 000° 15 knots.
(A/C WQG 41 050810B to 19 Group.)

2 surface vessels 49.04 N. 03.53 W. course 058°, 11 knots possibly torpedo boat.
(A/C PGN 68 051045B to 19 Group.)

Off Lorient. Following from 83 Group begins:-
10 cruisers or destroyers 47° 15' N. 4° 25' W. at about 2100, proceeding at high speed.
(F.O.B.A.A. 052214 to Admty. C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, A.N.C.X.F. C.T.F.125.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. U-Boat made B signal at 2217Z. Bearings from shore stations indicate area within 30 miles of 47.30 N. 4.30 W.
(D.D.I.C. 050110B to E.Gs. 1, 2, 3, 11, Forces 27 and 28.)

Contact attacked. DOMINICA and LOCH KILIN investigating bottom contact attacked at 2345B/4th in 048° 10' N. 005° 12' W. until daylight.
(E.G.2 050131B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Your 050431B. BALFOUR and GORE relieved DOMINICA. Your 0715 refers. Reported that she had never (2 corrupt groups). BALFOUR and GORE have searched around position reported by LOCH KILIN. Am now sweeping into 005° W. north of The Saints. First E.G. in company.

/If...

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Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Contact
attacked.
(Contd.)

If nothing found intend resuming north - south patrol. My P.C. and S. 048° 06' N. 005° 10' W. 090° 12 knots.
(E.G.1 050920B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

U.671 sunk
by STAYNER.

WENSLEYDALE and STAYNER in contact with possible S/M in 173 Beachy Head 19 miles. TOWEY in company.
(OFFA 050159 to Portsmouth.)
My 050313. Submarine sunk. 6 survivors.
(STAYNER 050400 to Portsmouth.)

Submarine sunk in (?175°) Beachy Head 20. Total survivors 2 officers, 4 ratings in WENSLEYDALE and STAYNER. Have completed attack on wreck. Survivors report number U.671. Am resuming patrol.

(STAYNER 050405 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Petty Officer prisoner states 6 submarines in Channel.

(WENSLEYDALE 051125 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Channel
situation.

In English Channel two or three U-Boats on passage between longs. of Plymouth and St. Catherines. One or two in Ushant area.
(D.D.I.C. 051508B to A.I.G.331.)

A/S Patrols.

1st E.G. west of Ushant, 2nd and 11th E.G. off Lorient, 3rd E.G. Z.218, 219. 15th and 9th E.G. Z. 206. 14th E.G. Z.234. Coastal forces Unit G.O.1 6 M.T.Bs. Z.209. Unit G.O.2 6 M.T.Bs. Z.210. M. G.B. 318 Z.221. Unit G.W. P.Ts. from Cherbourg Z. 203.

(C. in C.Plymouth 051739B.)

Shift patrol forthwith to rectangle enclosed by side 15 miles 305° and 20 miles 215° from 049° 18' N. 005° 37' W.

(C. in C.Plymouth 051911B to E.G.1.)

Have detached 11th E.G. to investigate aircraft NYY 93's 2309.

(E.G.2 052325B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Allied Air Activity.

Supply
operation.

14 Halifax aircraft towing W.A.C.O. Gliders will carry out supply operation tonight. Route as follows.

Fighter escort will be provided on outward route and night fighters screen on return route. Height 2500 feet or below cloud base.

(A.N.C.X.F. 051127B to Ships.)

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Operation "Neptune".

Casualties & Defects.

FORT LAC
LA RONGE.

F.O.B.A.A's 041740. 2. FORT LAC LA RONGE can be repaired at Mount Stuart, Cardiff.

3. Request vessel be towed there after discharge of cargo.

(Corep 051111B to A.N.C.X.F.)

EMPIRE
BEATRICE.

EMPIRE BEATRICE at high water. Ship now stern to beach with bower anchor laid out. After bulk-head strengthened with wires and rigging screws and now considered reasonably safe. Discharging sand number four grab arrived. Will rig and use tomorrow. Concentrating on making engine room tight. Weather now moderate and conditions much improved.

(Salvage Off., Dover 051630B to A.C.Dover.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.P.12.

E.P.P. 12, 12 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 050100.)

E.W.L.53B.

E.W.L.53B, 3 ships and 7 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 050505.)

E.W.L.58A.

E.W.L.58A, 8 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 050507.)

E.B.C.60.

E.B.C.60, 27 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 050635.)

E.T.C.58.

E.T.C.58, 23 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 050713 and 051055.)

E.P.M.26.

E.P.M. 26, 8 ships and 10 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051001 and 051256B.)

E.T.M. 55.

E.T.M.55, 7 ships and 2 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051015.)

F.T.M.59E.

A. F.T.M.59 E. 18 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
(N.S.B.S. 051102B.)

F.W.P.27.

F.W.P.27, 6 ships.
(C.T.G. 125.1.3 051314B.)

/F.P.M.27...

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Shipping & Convoys.

- F.P.M.27. 1. F.P.M.27, 14 ships, 10 L.S.Ts., S.C.1321, C.G.12.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3 051315B.)
- F.B.C.45. F.B.C.45, 25 ships, 3 L.B.Vs, one L.B.E.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3 051325B.)
- F.P.M.27. Sailed F.P.M.27, 6 ships.
(C.T.U. 125.2.1 051832B.)
- E.P.P. 13. E.P.P. 13, 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 052358B.)

Organisation and Administration.

Destroyers in western area. Your 031649. Shortage of destroyers largely? due to action damage and need for overhaul after constant running since D day. It is appreciated that this has been inconvenient to you.
2. It is intended to maintain six destroyers in Western area for the present but it may be necessary to use some of them for operations in connection with Army advance into Brittany.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051858B to C.T.F.125.)

Destroyers for A.N.C.X.F. Admiralty 041607. Owing to the probable necessity for using destroyers in the Saint Malo area as Army advances consider that number allocated A.N.C.X.F. must for the present remain at 13.
2. The requirements will be kept under review and a reduction made when possible.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051859 to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Control of Channel Is. area. Comnavau pass to S.H.A.E.F. C. in C.Plymouth. C. in C.Plymouth pass to C.T.F.123. The preference expressed by Admiralty 042215B is unsatisfactory and further consideration of clean cut operating areas is requested. In theory co-ordination between the two commands is possible but it has numerous practical difficulties such as slowness of timely information upon which to base daily operations. Prevents advantage being taken of information received by this command from U.S. Army operating in this area until after consultation with Plymouth. Adequate Naval support to U.S. Army is impossible with divided Naval Command. Recommend that complete control of area east of long. 3° west be vested in C.T.F.125 and that he be furnished forces adequate to exercise this control.
(C.T.F. 125 051905B to A N.C.X.F.)

/Bombing...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Bombing of
Naval
Targets.
Procedure.

Admiralty's 020035 and Air Ministry 031440 concerning procedure for requests for bombing of naval targets. Although these two signals do not specifically indicate it, it is understood that procedure will only be in relation to targets directly affecting "Control of the Channel" and to types of targets that might have presented prior to "Neptune". Request confirmation that requests for air action against Naval targets, not connected with Channel control, should continue to be made through A.N.C.X.F. to A.E.A.F. as hitherto.
(A.N.C.X.F. 052145B to Admty.)

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UPRIGHT, F.O.S. 031838.
UNITED. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to sail Rescue
Trawler detailed for O.N.M.249 to R/V with
UPRIGHT and UNITED at 1400B/15 in 180 degs. Barra
Head 10' and escort to longitude 30 degs. W. where
Trawler is to part company and join O.N.M.249, S/Ms thence pro-
ceeding unescorted.
(C. in C. W.A. 051620B to F.O.I.C. Liverpool)

Operations

Force 26 Information. Enemy as in my 031720B. Owing to
off St. military situation southward movement of enemy
Nazaire. forces seems likely. Own, 1st E.G. operating
off Brest, 2nd and 11th E.Gs. between 040 degs.
59' N. and 047 degs. 30' N. and between 004 degs.
10' W. and 004 degs. 26' W.

(2) Intention. Force 26, BELLONA S O., TARTAR, ASHANTI, HAIDA,
IROQUOIS to operate off St. Nazaire.

(3) Object. Destruction of enemy ship.

(4) Execution. BELLONA take HAIDA and IROQUOIS under his orders
to form Force 26 passing the Gate at 1230B to-day and proceed
through position (CC) 048 degs. 38' N. 005 degs. 32' W. (DD) 048
degs. 26' N. 005 degs. 34' W. (FF) 048 degs. 02' N. 005 degs.
25' W. to R/V with Force 28, TARTAR and ASHANTI in position.
(GG) 047 degs. 18' N. 004 degs. 47' W. at 2130B/5th.

(5) TARTAR and ASHANTI are to form part of Force 26 on joining.

(6) From (GG) Force 26 proceed to reach (HH) 046 degs. 43' N.
002 degs. 31' W. by 0130B/6th and then establish patrol (?)
between (HH) and (JJ) 047 degs. 10' N. 003 degs. 00' W.

(7) If no enemy information by 0400B/6th Force 26 is to leave
patrol line and proceed to (GG) where S.O. Force 26 is to detach
HAIDA and IROQUOIS to form Force 29 which is to cover 2nd and
11th E.G. (?as) in my 041954B.

(8) From (GG) BELLONA, TARTAR, ASHANTI return by reverse route
to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth 051122B to BELLONA, HAIDA, IROQUOIS, Force
28).

A/C call sign LPX.4805 1612. Type of enemy doubtful.
Probably SPERRBRECHER. Position 047 degs. 28' N. 004 degs. 00'
W. Course and speed reported S.W. stationary.

(2) Investigate and rejoin Force 26 eastward of GG.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 051833B to Force 28. (R) E.Gs. 1, 2, 11 and
Force 26)

U-Boats

Search Your 042316B. Anticipated P.C.S. at 0800B/5th
for 59 degs. 10' N. 7 degs. 55' W. 304 degs. 14 knots.
U-Boat. (TILLSONBURG 050014B to C. in C. W.A.)

/ Your...

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Search for U-boat. (Contd.)

Your 042316B. My anticipated P.C.S. at 0800B/5 056° 46' N. 008° 16' W. 320° 18.4. BAZELY in company.
(BURGES 050100B to C. in C.W.A.)
C. in C.W.A.'s 042316B.

1. Complete further aircraft contacts are reported. R/V in 061° 42' N. 015° 50' W.
2. After R/V intend to sweep along estimated track on course 223°.
3. My P.C.S. at 2000B/5, 059° 39' N. 012° 33' W. 321° 18.4 knots (BURGES 051925B to TILLSONBURG.)

U-boats attacked on 4th August.

U-boat was first sighted by Aircraft at 0945 4th August and attacked at 1355 in 062° 16' 015° 02' resulting in moving oil slick.

2. THIRLMERE (S.O.), WINDERMERE sailed from Iceland estimated to arrive in U-boat area about 1400B/5th.

(C. in C.W.A. 050108B to Force 31.)

At 041023 in 62° 25' N. 14° 30' W. A/C ER 162 attacked U-boat with 3x250 D/Cs from 50 feet spaced 100 feet from 090 green to track of U-boat ahead of C/T as U-boat was in act of crash diving. Plumes of D/Cs appeared to straddle one to starboard and two to port just ahead of C/T, but observations difficult. U-boat broke surface at same time and fired with heavy flak subsequently disappearing in fog patch and not seen again, but long oil streak extending 10 - 12 miles left thin oil streak after first attack and U-boat appeared greatly reduced in speed on re-surfacing as D/Cs in first attack exploded, U-boat tail appeared then U-boat submerged and later re-surfaced. No other results observed.

At 042128 in 62° 08' N. 15° 05' W. A/C attacked a U-boat with 6 X 250 D/Cs. Estimate straddle between Nos. 4 and 5, explosions possible, large oblong dark object seen to rise on tip of initial mushroom of D/C before final plume developed. Before attack U-boat had been sighted at head of oil streak 1½ miles long, and immediately after attack oil seemed to increase then disappeared, traces later returning 3 miles to starboard.

(R.A.F. Iceland 050730B to H.Q.C.C.)

U-boat reported on 26th July.

ULA report.
2042/26th July sighted U-boat approximate P.C.S. 072° 55' N. 012° 05' E. 190° 8 knots. Passed out of range.

(S.O. S/M. Lerwick, 051253B to F.O.S.)

Casualties and Defects

CHARLES.
CHAS. D.
MCIVER.

Received at 1900 G.M.T. CHARLES D. MCIVER begins:
Request tugs may be able to save ship. 58.42 N.
03.15 W. Master. Ends.
(Wick Radio, 052102 to Ad. Lyness.)

/Intercept...

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Casualties and Defects

CHARLES.
CHAS. D.
MCIVER.
(Contd.)

CHARLES.
Intercept at 1850 G.M.T. from CHAS. D. MCIVER
begins:
S.O.S. Have been collided with, in sinking
condition abeam Stroma Light. No. 4 and 5 holds
filling. Ship settling. Crews standing by
in life boat, sea smooth, heavy fog, 1845 G.M.T.

ends.

(Wick Radio, 052156 to Ad. Lyness.)

At 2008 begins:

Pass to Long Hope Lifeboat position of casualty W.N.W. 4 miles
from Stroma Light. Use caution.

(C.G. Wick, 052204B to Ad. Lyness.)

Following from SS. CHARLES D. MCIVER. In collision with
CLYDE L. SEAWAY anchored 3 miles N.E. Stroma Lighthouse, sinking,
require assistance.

(Wick, 052208B to Ad. Lyness.)

Shipping and Convoys

Oilers
in
North
Russia.

Your 041946* Necessity for retention of LACKLAN
not understood as Kola oil storage full to
capacity request vessel be sailed in accordance
with my 031522. Should necessity arise for
further ferry trips from Archangel to Kola one
of the oilers in J.W. convoys could be retained.
(D. of Stores 051439B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

DROTTNINGHOLM. My 040315B.

DROTTNINGHOLM sailed at 0305B/5th. E.T.A. at position (E) and E.T.A. Bar light vessel remains same as in my 031909B.

(N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 050313B to Admty.)

C.T.G. 22.10. If results this area continue negative, at 051200Z will stand towards contact reported by transport aircraft 37.28 N. 38.02 W., course 085, E.T.A. 060400Z 36 N. 43 W.

(C.T.G. 22.10, 050906Z to C. in C. Lant.)

Cancel my 050906. 052000Z position 36.46 N. 40.31 W. course 310, speed of advance 16. At 0300Z will change course to 040. Weather 2030Z.

(C.T.G. 22.10, 052048 to C. in C. Lant.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

SAMSYLARNA (U.G.S.48) torpedoed 4th, by enemy A/C. Attacked by one or two torpedo bombers. SS. SAMSYLARNA torpedoed in 033° (? 05' or 57'), 020° 16', engine room only flooded. SOUTHERN MAID has survivors on board and is standing by to (corrupt portion) (corrupt groups) combated 1000 yards from DEPTFORD. (DEPTFORD, 050203C to C. in C. Med., (R) F.O.L.E.M N.O.I.C. Alexandria.)

Your 050304C (not received)
(2) Ship left stopped in position 33° (corrupt group) N. 20° 16' E., with SOUTHERN MAID standing by. SOUTHERN MAID (3 groups missed) to you.

(DEPTFORD, 050710C to S.N.O. Cyrenaica, (R) SOUTHERN MAID.)
My 051501 towing unsuccessful ship very heavy aft and will not steer. Derelict has 130 fathoms of cable and anchor hanging from port bow which will complicate cutting away with acetylene burner. Intend to proceed to Malta with two seriously injured crew of SAMSYLARNA transferred to SOUTHERN MAID who will patrol in the vicinity with KINGSTON CYANITE. SAMSYLARNA position 033° 01' N. 020° 04' E.
(PETARD, 051700Z to F.O.L.E.M., (R) C. in C. Med., V.A.M., KINGSTON CYANITE, SOUTHERN MAID, BRIGAND, S.N.O.C., DEPTFORD.)

U/B sighted by A/C. Am over enemy submarine in position 40° 10' N. 19° 19' E. based on a fix taken within ½ hour of 0900, submarine was sighted on surface and observed to submerge.
(A/C VZKC, 050845B.)

My 0845B. Have dropped sea marker or pyro-technic float smoke in position 40° 10' 19° 19' E., based on fix taken within ½ hour of 0900.
(A/C VZKC, 050857B.)

U-Boat sighted by aircraft in 040° 10', 019° 34' at 0845/5th, probably southbound.
(Capt. (S) 1, 051124 to VIGOROUS, Info. 1st S/M F., PIPINOS.)
In contact 040, 15 N. 019.21 E.
(ALDENHAM, 051245B to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Cositintrep No. 393. Signed Wilson.
Cositintrep Nos. 391 and 392 not issued.
In southern entrance to Leghorn one tug lifted on 2nd and one on 4th giving gap 100 feet by 26 feet by 20 restricted to ship of 200 feet due to curve in breakwater. Demolitions of blockships also continues.
(2) Torpedo bombers attacked convoy U.G.S.48 north of Benghazi a.m./5th Aug. SS. SAMSYLARNA damaged. One E/A shot down by A/A fire.
(3) Destroyers were in contact with U-Boat in Straits of Otranto following aircraft sighting a.m./5th Aug. Hunt continues with air co-operation.
(C. in C. Med., No T.O.O./5 recd. 060940.)

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Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

BELVOIR
patrol.

Intend to sail BELVOIR to establish (? patrols) between (A) $042^{\circ} 52' 34''$ N. $010^{\circ} 33' 47''$ E. (B) $042^{\circ} 48'$ N. $010^{\circ} 40'$ E. from 2100/5th until daylight 6th. LAUDERDALE at anchor in $042^{\circ} 54' 30''$ N. $010^{\circ} 34'$ E.
(LAUDERDALE, 051330B to F.O.W.It., (R) BELVOIR.)

CAROLA.

P.R. Syra 1035/5th Santa Maria arrived 1 destroyer and CAROLA.
(2) Appreciation most probably bound Portalago.
(F.O.L.E.M., 051621 to Capt. (S) 1, (R) P.71 (PIPINOS))

CAROLA and one destroyer arrived Syra today from Piraeus. Appreciate her passage to Leros is imminent.
(2) Patrol immediately so as to intercept. Cancel my 040942 and my 050956.
(Capt. (S) 1, 051816B to P.71 (PIPINOS), (R) FO.L.E.M.)

War Diary.

5.8.1944.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B Area E and G - reduce scale of air escort to W.
dispositions. Other areas - No fresh information no changes in
 scale of air escort.
 (C. in C. E.F., 050312Z.)

CORVALLIS CORVALLIS sailed for Calcutta prior to receipt
attacked of your 040635 which is answered on information
by U/B on already obtained.
26th July. (A) (1) Officer head of watch.
 (2) Poor owing to darkness.
 (3) Action stations taken steered away from S/M
 increased to utmost speed and commenced (number
11*) zigzag. (4) No neither (? was) fire opened.
(5) Not observed. (B) (1) Officer on A.M. and G.O.
(2) Yes conning tower and mast on fore part visible for 50
yards on starboard bow.
(4) Same as (A) (3) above.
(C) Rough sketch obtained from Master only agreed upon by G.O.
being despatched to you.
(N.C.S.O. Madras, 050503Z to C. in C. E.F.) * As coded.

5.8.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-boat
dispositions Estimates.
 (N.S.H.Q. 051420Z, Cominch 051612Z amended
 051745Z.)

MAGDALEN, My 042101Z MAGDALEN reports damage as follows
OREGON I, Port Boat and A Davits badly damaged Bulwarks
EMPIRE Port side amidships slightly buckled; vessel
CONRAD, seaworthy. Damage cause when stern of Br. SS.
collision. OREGON I collided with MAGDALEN.
 (N.O.I.C. St. John, N.B. 051605Z to C. in C.
 C.N.A.)

Following is a paraphrase of my 042101Z addressed
C. in C. C.N.A. (R) N.S.H.Q. begins - During dense fog off
entrance to harbour collisions involving MAGDALEN Br. SS.
OREGON I and Br. SS. EMPIRE CONRAD occurred. Preliminary
reports indicate all three vessels are damaged to some extent
above water line further report will be made when weather clears
and vessels can re-enter harbour. T.O.O. 042101Z ends.
(N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.B. 051821Z to B.A.T.M. Ottawa Admiralty
(R) C. in C. C.N.A., N.S.H.Q.)

KING As the Norwegian Naval Authorities in London
HAAKON VII. wish KING HAAKON VII to be transferred to
 U.S. Operational Control for winter months cancel
 my 041450 as KING HAAKON is presently required
 for current operations. Anticipated that this
ship will be turned over to U.S. Control about the end of
September and Radar could be fitted at that time.
(C. in C. C.N.A. 051805Z to N.O.I.C Sydney.)

U/Boat D. 041905Z, U.S. Tanker COULEE DAM reports
incidents surfaced submarine sighted 12.38 N. 71.06 W.
 Fishing vessels report submarine sighted 050740Z
 in about 40.53 N. 68.50 W. and 051840Z in area
 43.00 N. 65.30 W.
 (Cominch, 052132Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 928 18. Biak Forces landed part unopposed Korim Bay
August 4th. On Northeast Coast first light 3rd August support-
 ed by Motor Torpedo Boats following light aerial
 bombardment. Slight disorganized enemy resist-
 ance encountered by patrols moving inland.
Considerable quantities ammunition equipment captured. Five
Mitchells attacked enemy concentrations South of Korim Bay
during 4th August.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 050656Z.)

War Diary

5.8.1944
Saturday

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN

U-boat
incidents

Submarine attack summary.

- A. 1. A/C F/162 attacked U-boat co. 180° at 0745Z 4th August in Lat. 62° 16' N. long. 15° 03' W.
2. A/C attacked U-boat co. 240° at 1934Z 4th Aug. in Lat. 62° 08' N. Long. 15° 05' W.
3. H.M.S. STAYNER attacked U-boat contact at 2027Z 4th August in Lat. 50° 25' N. Long. 00° 11' E.
4. A/C K/502 attacked U-boat Co. 270° at 2223Z/4th August in Lat. 47° 32' N. 03° 42' W.
B. 1. A/C S/59 reported U-boat contact at 1745Z/4th August in Lat. 62° 04' N. Long. 14° 30' W.
2. E.G.2 attacked U-boat contact at 2145Z/4th August in Lat. 48° 10' N. Long. 05° 12' W.
3. A/C attacked conning tower at 0605Z/5th August in Lat. 50° 02' N. Long. 03° 02' W.
C. 1. Bomber A/C reported submerged U-boat at 1752Z/4th August in Lat. 49° 36' N. Long. 03° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 050958Z.)

U-boat

Estimates.

dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 051502B, 051520.)

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) In Brittany St. Malo still holds out, and the enemy is withdrawing into Lorient, St. Nazaire, and Brest. In Normandy the enemy has withdrawn to the line Vire/Thury Harcourt/East bank of the Orne, where his resistance continues; and the heaviest enemy attack on this section since D-day was launched tonight on a front extending from Mortain to Sourdeval.

(b) At Cherbourg the clearance of the Darse Transatlantique began today; and at 1437B A.N.C.X.F. requested that all smoke trawlers should be sailed from U.K. to the British Area.

(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| British Area: | 732,823 | 179,595 | 942,597 |
| U.S. Area: | 978,067 | 185,779 | 996,307 |
| Total: | 1,710,890 | 365,374 | 1,938,904 tons |

Enemy
Action.

2(a) E-Boats. At 0135B three U.S. P.Ts. and THORNBOROUGH on patrol 14 miles west of Cap d'Antifer engaged three E-Boats who retired towards Havre under smoke.

(b) Coastal Batteries. At 0246B the frigate RETALICK was shelled by shore batteries off Cap d'Antifer.

(c) R-Boats. At 0300 four R-Boats returning to Havre were engaged close under Cap la Heve by M.T.Bs. 474, 475 and 476 who damaged two of the R-Boats, one very heavily.

(d) Aircraft. Minelaying by A/C in the Assault Area was on a small scale last night; and at 0510B RETALICK was machine-gunned without result by A/C off Cap d'Antifer.

U.736 Sunk.

(e) U-Boats. At 1625 today U.736 was sunk about 55 miles S.W. of Lorient by the frigate LOCH KILLIN of E.G. 2 who picked up 3 officers, including the Captain, and 16 men.

General

Two Convoys
attacked off
St. Nazaire.
Six enemy
ships sunk.

3(a) At about 0001 today Force 26, consisting of BELLONA (S.O.), TARTAR, HAIDA, ASHANTI and IROQUOIS, attacked an enemy convoy of 3 or 4 M/Vs. and 3 or 4 escort ships N.W. of the Ile d'Yeu at a range of 7 miles. The action lasted about one hour and it is estimated that six enemy ships were sunk and that one may have escaped.

/(b) ...

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

General

Two Convoys
attacked off
St. Nazaire.
Six enemy
ships sunk.
(Contd.)

(b) At 0330 when about 12 miles S.E. of Belle Ile Force 26 engaged a second group of 4 or 5 enemy ships proceeding to St. Nazaire. The enemy escaped into St. Nazaire with some of his ships damaged, and HAIDA had 2 ratings killed and 2 wounded.

(c) There was no indication that either of these enemy forces was evacuating troops.

Convoy
attacked off
St. Malo.
One trawler
sunk.
One T.L.C.III
damaged.

4. At 0523 an enemy convoy of one trawler and four T.L.C.III's. was attacked off Cap Frehel by M.T.Bs. 717 and 676 and at 0545 was attacked again by M.T.Bs. 720, 716, and 677 who sank the trawler and left on fire one of the T.L.Cs. which is believed to have blown up later.

Mediterranean

Adriatic
landings,
29th July
and night
1st/2nd
August.

5. It was reported today that:

(a) At 12.15 a.m. on July 29th a British assault force landed unopposed on the Albanian coast about 1½ miles E. of Spilje. After a bombardment by 2 destroyers, the attack was launched against the German garrison at Himare (20 miles N. of Corfu). Almost all the enemy positions were taken and after our forces had evacuated, the remnants of the German garrison were rounded up by partisan forces.

(b) During the night of 1st/2nd August a British and partisan force landed on Korcula Island (Adriatic) with the object of shelling enemy installations on the Island and on the Peljesac Peninsula. After successfully accomplishing their mission, our forces evacuated the Island without loss.

Toulon S/M
pens bombed.

6. The S/M pens at Toulon were bombed today by the Mediterranean Strategic Air Force and two large explosions occurred.

100

War Diary.

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies.

U/B search.

7. Force 66 was instructed to hunt the U/B which sank the (presumed) EMPIRE CITY at 2245Z/5 in approx. 11° 23' S., 41° 25' E. (about 380 miles west of Diego Suarez). The frigate PLYM was also requested to assist in the search.

6.8.1944
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military. (Extracts.) In Brittany enemy resistance light in North and centre except for pocket still holding out at St. Malo. On South Coast enemy forces withdrawing into fortress of Lorient and St. Nazaire. Elsewhere delaying movements back to fortress Brest where 343 Infantry Division, 2 Parachute Division, elements 266 Division and miscellaneous refugees from remainder of peninsular expect to make stand. In East Brittany Allied elements now in Domfront and approaching Mayenne and Laval. Enemy completed withdrawal to general line Vire-Thury Harcourt and then East bank of Orne and showing signs of resistance in this new position. In Brittany considered that enemy will attempt evacuation key Naval and Air personnel via South Coast road or by sea with only serious stands probably to be made at Lorient and especially Brest.
 (S.H.A.E.F. 061700B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Naval. A. General. During night 5th/6th THORNBOROUGH and RETALICK were attacked by torpedo bombers whilst proceeding to patrol off Cap d'Antifer. 8 attacks were made and 6 torpedoes were sighted. Later THORNBOROUGH and U.S. P.T's engaged E-Boats off Cap D'Antifer without known result. No damage to own ships or craft. Force 26 consisting of BELLONA, TARTAR, HAIDA, ASHANTI and IROQUOIS contacted enemy convoy off the De Yeo. In action which followed at least 7 enemy ships were destroyed. Later Force 26 attacked another convoy off St. Nazaire but it escaped into harbour damaged. HAIDA suffered superficial damage. M.T.Bs. engaged with gunfire convoy of about 5 ships off St. Malo results unknown. Slight damage to M.T.Bs. B. Assault Area. Enemy air activity during night 4th/5th was slight. Coastal Command A/C operated against E-Boats off Cap d'Antifer. Bad visibility interfered but hits were scored on one group of craft. Circling torpedoes and various types of mines have been found floating in B.A.A. C. Unloading figures to p.m. 5th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 725,366 | 177,805 | 923,111 |
| U.S. | 968,777 | 183,196 | 970,952 |
| Total D + 60. | 1,694,143 | 361,001 | 1,894,063 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 062332B to Admty.)

Assault Areas

Nacqueville Bay. S.N.O.Pluto has info. as my 062015 your 291650. Nacqueville Bay has been accepted by all parties concerned as satisfactory landing-place for Pluto. Lay may begin 12th August as planned.
 (Comusbasfrance, 061718B to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary6.8.1944
SundayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Brittany

Proposed operations. It appears that enemy may be withdrawing from parts of the Brittany Coast. In view of the importance of keeping close touch with events it is requested that you will consider intensification of operations on the Brittany coast with the object of - (a) investigating which ports are still occupied by the enemy, (b) obtaining local information, (c) showing the flag.

(2) Two Fleet Destroyers and one Hunt are being lent to you to assist in such operations. Names will be signalled later. (A.N.C.X.F. 061215B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67.
F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 359, 25. Z.2.
F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 418, 436 in 208 degs. Z.2 5.8 miles
F.U.3 SAVAGE in 050 degs. Z.3 3 miles.
F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 612, 610 in 050 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5' E.
F.U.5 ORWELL in 050 degs. Z.5 3 miles.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 353, 358 in 230 degs. Z.6, 6.2 miles.
F.U.7 OBEDIENT. Z.7.

(2) A/C under Swingate V H/F control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne break-water light.
(A.C. Dover, 061222B)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth one para. 38 cover night 6/7th.
(A) OFFA (G.D.1), ORIBI (G.D.2) DRUMHELLER (G.D.3) at 2300 Gamma search from 00 degs. 15' W. to Q.Z.S.511 between 50 degs. 05' N. and 50 degs. 30' N. 6th Escort Group (NEW WATERFORD (S.O), WASKESIU, OUTREMONT) at 2300 zig-zag search 175 degs. St. Catherines Point 16 miles, centre line 155 degs. for 27 miles, distance apart 5 miles.
ONSLow (G.A.1) patrol on line between 50 degs. 09' N. 00 degs. 11' E. to 50 degs. 13' N. 00 degs. 20' E.
BRISSENDEN (G.A.2) patrol on line between 50 degs. 03' N. 00 degs. 04' W. to 50 degs. 06' N. 00 degs. 04' E.
VERSATILE (G.A.3) patrol on line 00 degs. 20' E. between 50 degs. 20' N. and 50 degs. 26' N. Force G.A. to be on patrol by 2300. Report night dispositions.
(B) STAYNER (G.H.1) in Z.17. THORNBOROUGH (G.H.2) in Z.13.
(C) Unit G.H.3 U.S. P.Ts. 516 (S.O), 517, 519 and Unit G.H.4 M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O) 453, 481 with STAYNER in Z.17.
Unit G.H.5 U.S. P.Ts. 510 (S.O) 512, 514. Unit G.H.6 M.T.Bs. 693 (S.O) 690, 692 and Unit G.H.7 GREY WOLF (S.O) GREY GOOSE with THORNBOROUGH in Z.13.
Force G.H. to be in position by 2330. Waiting position for force G.H. N.W. corner in Z.16.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061310B)
My 061310B. Delete ONSLOW. BRISSENDEN take over ONSLOW's

call /...

War Diary6.8.1944HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Portsmouth. (Contd.) call sign and patrol. VERSATILE take over BRISSENDEN's call sign and patrol. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061458B) O.N. 1 Para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 6th/7th August. 1(a) 6th Escort Group (New WATERFORD (S.O), WASKESIU, OUTREMONT) from 175 degs. St. Catherines Point 16 miles centre line 115 degs. for 27 miles. 1st Escort Group Z.238, Z.239. 2nd Escort Group, West of Belle Isle. 11th Escort Group, South West of Belle Isle. 14th Escort Group, West of Ushant. 15th Escort Group, South West of Chaussee De Sein.

(b) RELIANT, Z.122. MALOY, Z.115. FAULKNOR, Z.111.
 (2) (a) G.T.1 6 M.T.Bs. Z.216. G.T.2 4 M.T.Bs. Z.221.
 (b) 2 P.C.s. Z.122.
 (3) Air Patrols all areas west of 01 degs. 37' W. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061938B) O.N.1 Para. 52 (b). Eastern Night Channel Report 6th/7th August. (1) (a) F.U.3 SAVAGE, Z.3. F.U.5 ORWELL, Z.5. F.U.7, OBEDIENT, Z.7. G.D.1 OFFA, G.D.2 ORIBI, G.D.3 DRUMHELLER Western edge of Z.9, Z.10 to Q.Z.S.511. G.A.1 BRISSENDEN, Z.11, E.Z.14. G.A.2 VERSATILE, Z.10 S E Z.11 S.W. G.H.1 STAYNER Z.17. G.H.2 THORNBOROUGH, Z.13.
 (b) G.K.1 STEVENSTONE vicinity 58 F Buoy. G.K.2 KRAKOWIAK, G.K.3 COTTESMORE, G.K.4 PYTCHLEY, G.M.3 DUFF - Tunney North.
 (2) (a) F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. F.N.2, 2 M.T.Bs - Z.2. G.N.4, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs. Z.6. G.H.3, 3 P.Ts. G.H.4 3 M.T.Bs. G.H.5 3 P.Ts - Z.17. G.H.6, 3 M.T.Bs. G.H.7, 2 S.G.Bs - Z.13.
 (b) G.M.1 3 M.T.Bs. Tunney North.
 (3) V H/F controlled A/C within 8 miles of Boulogne Wellington crossover patrol between St. Valery en Cauz and St. Valery sur Somme between 7 and 19 miles off French Coast. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061940B)

Patrols from Plymouth. P.C.W.O.120. (A) Unit G.T.1, M.T.Bs, 745 (S.O), 727, 736, 735, 726, 746. (B) 1745B/6. (C) (AA) 294 Les Heaux 1.3 to arrive 2200. (D) from (AA) patrol Z.216. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Unit to remain in area after daylight. Time of leaving to be at S.O's discretion. (2) (A) Unit G.T.2, M.T.Bs, 227 (S.O) 239, 94, 98. (B) 1730B/6. (C) (BB) 49 degs. N. 3 degs. 52' W. to arrive 2130. (D) (BB) patrol Z.221. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Unit to leave area at daylight at S.O's discretion. (C. in C. Plymouth, 061431B) P.C.W.O. 120. (A) Unit G.W.1, M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O), 742, 739, 724, 787. (B) 1700B/6. (C) Position 090 degs. Eddystone 2 (CC) 270 degs. Creach PT 5 to arrive 2315 (DD) 201 Creach PT 14 (EE) 215 St. Mathieu 13.4 (D) from (EE) patrol area to cover close approaches to Brest. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping.

(F) /...

6.8.1944
Sunday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. (Contd.) (F) Unit to leave area after daylight at S.O's discretion.
 (G) (DD) and (CC) to Plymouth.
 (2) E.G.14 will act as support force and provide W/T link between C F and Plymouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 061602B)

Western Area. Force G.P. MALODEAR and 4 P.T. boats operating tonight in Z.209, Z.210. E.T.D.1800.
 Force G.N. 3 P.T. boats in Z.203. E.T.D. departure 2100.
 (C.T.F. 125, 061503B)

Mining

Cherbourg. Routine searches of approach channels. Outer anchorage. Both harbours and inshore end of Pluto carried out to-day. Negative result. Clearance of Bassin Napoleon 111 continued. One B.Y.M.S. and an M.F.V. with hammer (ships secured head and stern) were used. Negative. Search continues. An attempt is being made with mock-up chain sweeps against Katie mines (without snag lines) in the Eastern Petite Rade. Lack of sea room will of necessity limit operations in this area.
 (Cdr. M/S Cherbourg, 060110B to Cdr M/S West)
 Routine searches of approach channels, outer anchorage, and both harbours, also inshore end of Pluto carried out to-day Sunday, negative result. Clearance sweep of Darse Trans-Atlantique commenced. 2 Z mines and one acoustic detonated. Bassin Napoleon 111 searched LL/SA, negative result.
 (C.T.F.125, 062303B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Reports of Explosions. Request you will cancel your 051151B which conflicts with A.M.281, A.B.5 and 876A, Z.B.6.
 (D.M.S.061740 to A.N.C.X.F.)

St. Malo. A.N.C.X.F. 052359 para. 1 A. Request position of terminal point of centre line of channel and direction of channel.
 (C.T.F.125, 061845B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Eastern Area. Reports of enemy minelaying during the past 24 hours indicate that mines may have been laid. All in or near Q.Z.S.507. 6 were dropped at 1830 to-day. In search of area west of Maim Channel 1 Acoustic was swept about 3 miles N.W. of 56 H buoy. 3 Spontaneous explosions occurred, one 3 miles west of Q.Z.S.536 and 2 close to outer night defence line. Weather quiet. D.E.A. and Swell very slight.
 (Capt. M/S.X. 062230 to A.N.C.X.F.)

6.8.1944
SundayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy ActionEngagements
off Cap
d'Antifer.

(fighter)
At 2251B/5th THORNBOROUGH and RETALICK were attacked by torpedo bombers in 49 degs. 54' N. 00 degs. 14' W. while proceeding to patrol off Cap d'Antifer. 8 attacks were carried out and 6 torpedoes were sighted, one missing 5 yards astern of THORNBOROUGH.

(2) 3 E-Boats were detected by THORNBOROUGH at 0126B/6th in 270 Cap d'Antifer 14½ miles steering 130 degs. at 36 knots and Unit G.B.3 (U.S P.Ts, 510, 512, 514) were ordered to steer to intercept. E-Boats were heavily engaged by G.B.3 at 0135B for 2 minutes at range of 500 yards and were further engaged by THORNBOROUGH at range of 1 mile. Enemy retired at high speed behind smoke towards Cap d'Antifer being chased by Unit G.B.3.

(3) At 0246B RETALICK was shelled by shore batteries and at 0510B was machine-gunned by unknown A/C. Allied Forces suffered no casualties or damage.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061208B to Admty)

Attack
on B.A.A.
on 3rd Aug.

My 031326 para. 4. Analysis shows the following numbers of enemy craft destroyed.

E.M.B's certain 29, probable 2, possible 2, total 33.

H.T's. certain 20, probable 1, possible 13, total 34.

This includes 4 certain and 11 possible by fighter A/C.

(F.O.B.A.A. 061216 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Engagement
with R-Boats
off Havre.

Night August 5/6th Coastal Force Actions.

An intruder patrol of 3 M.T.Bs of 30 M.T.B.F.

M.T.Bs. 475, 476, 474 operated off Le Havre.

Several Radar Plots were passed but owing restriction on area to north of Cap La Heve M.T.B.s were unable to contact on outward passage. 4

R-Boats were plotted returning to harbour at 0300 and unit made an unobserved attack from close inshore south of Cap La Heve. The last R-Boat in line was very heavily damaged and one other received numerous hits. Our Unit received very slight damage to one boat and no casualties. It is considered that the enemy were again given a shock to their morale by this well planned attack literally on their doorstep.

(F.O.B.A.A. 062235 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-BoatsU-Boat
reported.

D/F of transmission at 2311Z/5 of enigma message gives position within 25 miles of Brest.

(D.D.I.C., 060209B to Force 26, Force 28, E.G.2, E.G.11.)

A/S Patrols.

2 E.G. now patrolling in rectangle side 234 degs. 25 (miles)? (and) 144 degs. 10 miles from 047 degs. 29' N., 004 degs. 10' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 061345B to IROQUOIS.)
/Daylight ...

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6.8.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"U-Boats

A/S Patrols. Daylight patrols 7th August.
(Contd.) 6th E.G. A/S search Z.108, 112, 113, 114 limits
49 degs. 52' N. 50 degs. 28' N.
(2) Spout Patrols - BRISSENDEN - S, VERSATILE - T,
ORIBI - B, OFFA - C. (2) DRUMHELLER join 6th
E.G. (4) ONSLAUGHT pass Gate at 0900B. Take patrol V. Adjust
patrols BRISSENDEN - U, VERSATILE - W. (5) NEW WATERFORD leave
patrol at 0900B and return to harbour.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061758B.)
Have (? detached) KOOTENAY to comply with your 061835.
(ST. LAURENT, 062015B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Channel 2 or 3 in English Channel east of 3 degs. 00' W.
situation. and another 2 between 04 degs. 00' W. and 06 degs.
00' W. Probably still only 2 or 3 inward and 2
or 3 outward in Inner Bay of Biscay.
(D.D.I.C., 061441B to A.I.G. 331.)

U.736 sunk U-Boat sunk by LOCH KILLIN in 047 degs. 19' N. 004
by LOCH degs. 16' W. at 1625. Am picking up survivors.
KILLIN. (E.G.2, 061634B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
My 061634. LOCH KILLIN sighted periscope and
then obtained asdic contact. She attacked with
squid. Gnat exploded off her port quarter simultaneously with
squid explosion, but without damaging ship. U-Boat surfaced
under LOCH KILLIN and hung under her stern for 5 mins. before
slipping aft and sinking. 3 officers including Captain and 16
men who abandoned U-Boat before she sank, picked up by LOCH
KILLIN. Target was depth charged twice on the bottom by STARLING.
Oil, including lubricating oil, rising in great quantities.
Contact still obtainable from wreck in 048 degs. 19' N. 004 degs.
16' W. Have resumed patrol. ^{7 (page 165)}
(E.G.2, 061837B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
My 061634 submarine was U.736. From prisoner of war papers
she was in Lorient on 5th August.
(E.G.2, 062010B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Enemy Air Activity

THORNBOROUGH My 060915. C.A.F.O. 1353/44. (A) 2240B/5th 49
attack on degs. 53' N. 00 degs. 12' W. 2315B/5th 49 degs.
5th August. 45' N. 00 degs. 11' W. 2345B/5th 49 degs. 46' N.
00 degs. 10' W. (B) THORNBOROUGH. (C) one in
each attack Ju.88. (D) Torpedo bombing 1000 feet
2 torpedoes in each attack. (E) Nil. (F) Nil. (G) No. (H) Nil.
(THORNBOROUGH, 060916B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Casualties and Defects

L.C.T. 427. Enquiries have been made from Portsmouth, Portland,
Plymouth and F.O.B.A.A. and no information or know-
ledge of whereabouts of L.C.T.427 or welfare of
crew is known. It appears probable that craft is a total loss.
(M.C.L. Southampton, 061514B to Admty.)

War Diary.6.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P. 37. E.X.P.37: 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060003B.)

Timing of F.T.M. Convoys. C. in C. Portsmouth 012109B.
(Ref: Because of enemy attacks on convoys during dark hours proposed F.T.M. convoys should leave B.A.A. in time to pass Dungeness at nautical twilight).

(1) Owing to time required to form convoy, and indirect route and speed restrictions necessitated by mining in B.A.A., F.T.M. convoys cannot reach Dungeness by nautical twilight unless they proceed before first light. This is impracticable.

(2) During August, by leaving at first light, F.T.M. convoys could be sailed one and a half hours earlier than at present; they would then reach Dungeness shortly after midnight zone minus two. Time of sailing must be later as days grow shorter.

(3) Earlier sailing than at present will entail a larger number of ships missing the convoy.

(4) In view of the above, do not consider alteration in convoy sailing time warranted.

(F.O.B.A.A., 060114 to A.N.C.X.F.)

E.W.L. 59B. E.W.L.59B: 4 ships and 7 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060136B.)

E.T.C. 59. E.T.C.59: 10 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060710B and 061305B.)

E.T.M. 56. E.T.M.56: 6 ships and 1 L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060716B.)

E.B.C. 61. E.B.C.61: 13 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 060721B and 061052.)

F.T.M. 60. F.T.M.60: 19 ships and 4 L.S.Ts.
(N.S.B.S., 061001B.)

F.B.C. 46. F.B.C.46: 11 P.Ts.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 061120B.)

F.B.C. 46. Sailed F.B.C.46: 14 ships.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 061135B.)

F.W.P. 28. F.W.P.28: 7 P.Ts.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 061145B.)

/F.P.M.28 ...

6.8.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

F.P.M. 28. F.P.M.28: 10 ships and 4 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 125.1.3, 061200.)

F.T.C. 59. F.T.C.59: 19 ships.
(N.S.B.S., 061201B.)

E.P.M. 27. E.P.M.27: 13 ships, 4 C.G. Cutters, 9 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061307B.)

F.W.P. 28. F.W.P.28: 7 ships.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 061312B.)

F.B.C. 46. Sailed F.B.C.46: 1 ship and 4 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.U. 125.2.1, 061610.)

F.P. 36. F.P. 36: 3 ships.
(N.S.B.S., 061945B.)

Organisation and Administration

Control of
Channel
Islands
Area.

I desire to support the view expressed in C.T.F. 125 signal 051905.
(2) Operation by forces of Plymouth Command in the area east of longitude 3° W. can always be arranged in the event of it not being possible for C.T.F.125 to operate his forces.
(3) Request Admiralty 042215 may be reconsidered as a matter of urgency.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061217B to Admty.)

Salcombe
Base.

Closing Usnaab Salcombe as an amphibious base as of 7th August. This is repetition signal T.O.O. 052337 from Comphibsukay, begins. Making final preparations to have personnel and equipment ready for movement to far shore on 48 hours notice, ends.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 061233B to Admty.)

Smoke
trawlers.

My 311424. Request all smoke trawlers may be sailed as soon as convenient to B.A.A.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061437B to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth.)

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Operations.

Enemy convoys attacked off St. Nazaire and St. Malo. Six enemy ships sunk off St. Nazaire, and 1 enemy trawler off St. Malo. 2 T.L.Cs. damaged off St. Malo. M.T.Bs. 717, 720, 716 and 677 damaged.

P.C. and S. of 10 enemy minesweepers, 2 Sperr-breakers 47° 42' N. 03° 28' W. 130° 6 knots. (A/C SMG 62 060015 to 19 Group.)

2 unknown vessels bearing 320° distance 8 miles course 180° my position 46° 47' N. 2° 35' W. (?Origin 060034 to Plymouth P.W.)

Enemy previously reported position 47.42 N. 03.28 W. course 130°, speed 6 knots. Not attacked. (A/C SMG 62 060040 to 19 Group.)

Enemy consists of one M-class M/S one trawler, one coaster, position 46° 49' N. 02° 30' W. (HAIDA 060050B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

3 unknown vessels bearing 056° distance 3 miles, course 135°, 47° 15' N. 02° 54' W. (TARTAR 060338B to Plymouth.)

One unknown vessel bearing 040° distance 5 miles course 160° 47° 10' N. 02° 55' W. (S.O.Force 26 060341 to Plymouth.)

4 unknown vessels in position 47° 16' N. 02° 50' W. (HAIDA 060345B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

2 minesweepers bearing 075° distance 2 miles, course 250° position 47° 12' N. 02° 53' W. (ASHANTI 060417 to Plymouth.)

One unknown ship position 46° 35' N. 02° 38' W. (A/C SMG 57 060530 to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of one auxiliary vessel 46° 33' N. 2° 1' W. 090° 10 knots. (A/C LHB 34 060705B to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of 3 merchant vessels, one escort vessel, 47° 39' N. 03° 28' W. (A/C POK 28 060727 to 19 Group.)

Enemy previously reported are flak ship 46.33 N. 02.01 W. 090° 10. (A/C LHB 34 060740 to 19 Group.)

My 0727. 3 small M.Vs. 47.39 N. 03.28 W. Stationary. (A/C POK 28 060745B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. Posn. of 3 enemy minesweepers 47° 40' N. 03° 30' W. (A/C SJX 20 060855 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. 2 minesweepers, 21 (?small craft), bearing 340°, distant 2 miles, course 180° speed 8 knots. Position 47° 00' N. 02° 37' W. (A/C RLN 16 061225B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. P.C. and S. of 2 minesweepers, 1 S.P. 47° 00' 2° 38' W. 170° 10 knots. (A/C POK 22 061255B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 2. 2 minesweepers 47° 21' N. 03° 10' E. speed 0. (A/C RLN 16 061320B to 19 Group.)

When returning to Plymouth proceed by Q.Z.S. 347, 417, 477 and 443.

2. After parting company with Force 26 to support second E.G. IROQUOIS is to form Force 29. My 051122B para. 7 refers. (C. in C.Plymouth 061348B to Force 26, IROQUOIS.)

/Early...

6.8.1944.

Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Enemy convoys attacked off St. Nazaire and St. Malo. Six enemy ships sunk off St. Nazaire, and 1 enemy trawler off St. Malo. 2 T.L.Cs. damaged off St. Malo. M.T.Bs. 717, 720, 716 and 677 damaged. (Contd.)

Early this morning at about 0001/6th Force 26, BELLONA with TARTAR, HAIDA, ASHANTI, IROQUOIS obtained contact on enemy convoy consisting, with escorts, of 7 ships N.W. Ile d'Yeu. The action continued till about 0240 when BELLONA reported convoy and escorts at least 7 ships destroyed. 2. Sweep continued and at 0330 another convoy was sighted off St. Nazaire. This was also attacked but escaped into harbour damaged. No ships of this convoy are claimed sunk. HAIDA suffered superficial damage and casualties 2 killed, 2 wounded. 3. Coastal force unit G.O.2 M.T.Bs. 717, 716, 720, 676, 677 sighted convoy of about 5 ships approaching St. Malo at about 0530/6th and engaged them with gunfire. Result unknown. Own ships sustained 1 killed in M.T.B. 676, 2 wounded in 716, and slight damage to 717, 720, 716, 677.

(C. in C. Plymouth 061350B to Admty.)

Am about to attack in position 46° 55' N. 02° 34' W. (A/C POK 22 061408 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 2. Have attacked flak ship with bombs. Estimate no hits. (A/C POK 22 061415 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. Position of one destroyer, one Sperrbrecher, one auxiliary vessel 47° 38' N. 03° 28' W. (A/C KAO 27 061425B to 19 Group.)

My 1425. Ships anchored (corrupt group) mile off Island between Island and Mainland. (A/C KAO 27 061440B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. Suspicious fishing ships Spanish 300° 10 knots in action. (A/C PFF 15 061445B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 2. Still in touch with enemy previously reported. They are anchored Estuary. Request instructions. (A/C TFF 35 061455A to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of 2 merchant vessels and 1 Sperrbrecher 46° 39' N. 01° 21' E. course 240° 12 or 21 knots. (A/C LHB 74 061504B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 3. Still in touch with enemy previously reported. Shadowing. Enemy has altered course to 320° 15 knots. (A/C POK 22 061530 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. 2 enemy minesweepers bearing 270° distant 3 miles course 000° position 47° 24' N. 03° 10' W. (A/C RNL 31 061620B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 5. My 1430. Enemy has altered course to 015° 7 knots 46° 52' N. 02° 38' W. (A/C LHB 74 061645B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 4. Contact regained position 46° 52' N. 2° 48' W.

Stationary.

(A/C POK 22 061706 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 5. Enemy has altered course to 080° 10 knots. (A/C POK 22 061730B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. P.C. and S. of 2 destroyers, 1 merchant vessel 46° 56' N. 02° 42' W. 350° 8 knots. (A/C PHV 72 061802 to 19 Group.)

My 1425. Enemy has altered course to Lorient. (A/C KAO 27 061805B to 19 Group.)

6.8.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Enemy convoys attacked off St. Nazaire and St. Malo. Six enemy ships sunk off St. Nazaire, and 1 enemy trawler off St. Malo. 2 T.L.Cs. damaged off St. Malo. M.T.Bs. 717, 710, 715 and 677 damaged. (Contd.)

Nr. 6. Enemy has altered course to north, position 46° 56' N. 02° 42' W. (A/C POK 22 061820B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. P.C. and S. of 2 destroyers 1 merchant vessel 47° 10' N. 02° 32' W. course 090° speed 8 knots. (A/C KAO 79 061845B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 2. Am about to attack in position 47° 10' N. 02° 32' W. (A/C KAO 79 061845B to 19 Group.)

2 small craft, 1 merchant vessel 47° 39' N. 03° 18' W. (A/C POK 10 062157 to 19 Group.)

My 061350 para. 3. At 0330/6th M.T.Bs. 717 and 676 sighted convoy of one trawler and 4 T.L.C.III 1 mile south Grandjeon. They shadowed and attacked at 0523 with torpedo and gunfire scoring hits with guns but not torpedo.

These boats then disengaged and M.T.Bs. 720, 716, 677 attacked off Cap Frehel at 0545 firing torpedoes at 1000 yds. One hit on trawler sank her and T.L.C. were engaged by gunfire unit retiring at 0600 leaving one T.L.C. on fire. Large flashes and heavy explosions from bearing of enemy heard later indicates this T.L.C. may have blown up.

(C. in C. Plymouth 061929B to Admty.) [For 062029, see p. 112]

Nr. 1. 3 unknown ships 47° 39' N. 03° 30' W. Stationary. Flak from land.

(A/C LHB 67 062215 to 19 Group.)

Nr. 2. P.C. and S. of enemy, 8 unknown vessels 47° 42' N. 3° 23' W. course 307° speed 4 knots.

(A/C POK 10 062217 to 19 Group.)

My 061350, paras. 1 and 2.

Force 26 were on southeasterly course off Ile d'Yeu proceeding towards HH when at 0001 Radar contact was obtained with enemy force on port beam. Our force was in single line, destroyers ahead of BELLONA, and altered course to northeast to get inshore of enemy. This was successfully done and force 26 then turned in together on line of bearing opening fire with star shell at range of 7 miles and engaging enemy, who consisted of three or four merchant vessels and three or four escorts. The enemy made smoke but force 26 closed and after about 1 hour 6 of the enemy were either sunk or very heavily on fire. BELLONA then rejoined the force and continued the patrol to northwestward. It is possible that one enemy ship may have escaped but the remainder estimated as 6 in number were sunk.

2. When about 12 miles southeast of Belle Ile contact was made with another enemy force of about 4 or 5 ships to the northeastward who were proceeding to St. Nazaire. Force 26 waited about quarter of an hour hoping to get them further from minefields off Quiberon Bay and then turned back and attacked at 0330. Owing to lack of sufficient star shell it was difficult to see the enemy who were down moon. Headache reports indicated an imminent attack by E-Boats none of which were however seen, and after a

/short...

6.8.1944
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Enemy convoys attacked off St. Nazaire and St. Malo. Six enemy ships sunk off St. Nazaire, and 1 enemy trawler off St. Malo. 2 T.L.Cs. damaged off St. Malo. M.T.Bs. 717, 710, 715 and 677 damaged.
(Contd.)

short engagement force 26 withdrew to the westward hoping to return and finish off the enemy at dawn. The enemy however managed to escape inshore though subsequent headache reports indicated that some ships had been damaged. 3. There was no indication that either force was evacuating troops.
(C. in C.Plymouth 062224B to Admty.)

~~Anti shipping operation.~~

Information. Own. A/S and Port Groups operating in western channel and Bay of Biscay. Details will be signalled. Liberators, Sunderlands, Wellingtons, Mosquitoes and Beaufighters of 19 Group operating against U-Boats and shipping in western channel and Bay of Biscay.

Enemy. U-Boats in western channel and approaches to Biscay ports. U-Boats in coastal waters to be escorted by M-class minesweepers and auxiliaries: surface ships as in Intelligence Summary N.1 of 6th August (to ships only). Military situation may cause a southerly movement of all available ships. Do.217 He.177 aircraft have recently operated in Bay with glider bombs. Ju.88 operating as heavy fighters or R/C bombers may be encountered.

2. Intelligence. Force 26 BELLONA (S.O.), URSA, PIORUN, ONSLOW to operate off St. Nazaire.
3. Object. To destroy enemy ships.
4. Execution. BELLONA take URSA, PIORUN, ONSLOW under his orders pass The Gate 1300B/7 Aug. and proceed through positions CC. 48° 38' N. 05° 32' W. DD. 48° 26' N. 05° 34' W. FF. 48° 02' N. 05° 25' W. GG. 47° 18' N. 04° 47' W. to reach HH 46° 43' N. 02° 31' W. by about 0130B/8.
5. From HH force 26 is to establish patrol between HH and JJ 47° 10' N. 03° 00' W.
6. If no enemy information by 0400B/8 Force 26 is to leave patrol line and establish patrol in vicinity of 6° W. between 46° 30' N. and 47° 30' N.
7. Force 26 is to support 2nd, 11th, 14th and 15th E.G. against surface and air attack if required.
(C. in C.Plymouth 062029 and 071521B to BELLONA, URSA, PIORUN, ONSLOW.)

6.8.1944.

Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen. Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft have been south of Island 1140Z, course west. Weather foggy. (A.C.I.C. 061900B to Admty.)

Mining.

Harwich. My 061526. At 061430B one ground mine detonated by sweepers in 51° 51' 27" N. 01° 20' 24" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 061902B to Admty.)

Enemy Intelligence.

TIRPITZ. Following received from C.C. Russian Northern Fleet grade C. Begins. It is inferred from information received that the enemy is making preparations for the passage of TIRPITZ from Alten Fjord to Germany. Ends. (S.B.N.O.N. Russia 061040B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

Contacts attacked. I am attacking suspicious contact in 061° 44' N. 015° 56' W.

(TILLSONBURGH 060502Z to Admty.)

TILLSONBURGH 060502Z. Have joined search.

(BURGES 060820B to Admty.)

Have attacked suspected submarine in 61° 19' N. 16° 18' W. (BURGES 060935B to Admty.)

Firm contact in 061° 54' N. 015° 30' W. Carried out (?attack). Have expended all depth charges. Directed WINDERMERE (?in) three further attacks oil and large air bubbles seen.

2. Have (3356) called for assistance of force 31 which we R/Vd 0350. Request instructions.

(THIRLMERE 061059B to A.C.I.C.)

3 Canso's will patrol area bounded by following positions.

2. 1 Liberator will patrol area bounded by following positions.

(A.C.I.C. 061148B to Force 31, THIRLMERE, WINDERMERE.)

Your 060502Z. Report situation by immediate signal and inform VINDEK.

(C. in C.W.A. 061222B to TILLSONBURGH.)

THIRLMERE and WINDERMERE are to act under the orders of the S.O. of Force 31. My 051208 refers.

2. VINDEK with MORPETH CASTLE and (?PETROLIA) will be in vicinity about 1400B/6th.

(A.C.I.C. 061242B to THIRLMERE, BURGES, VINDEK.)

THIRLMERE's 061052. Presume you concur that THIRLMERE remains in contact and that VINDEK takes charge of all forces in the area.

(C. in C.W.A. 061507B to A.C.I.C.)

My 061255B. No change in situation. Numerous non submarines.

Weather unchanged. My position 61° 14' N. 16° 06' W.

(BURGES 061602 to Admty.)

One A/C searching carried out 0730. Recalled 0900 owing to fog. No further flying possible.

(VINDEK 061625B to C. in C.W.A.)

6.8.1944.

Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

Contacts attacked. (Contd.) Original contact probably non submarine. Numerous echoes of the same characteristics in vicinity. Am leaving area and carrying out sweep as in your 061227B. BAZELY and TILLSONBURGH in company. My P.C. and S. at 1700B 061° 15' N. 016° 00' W. 097° 13 $\frac{1}{2}$.
(BURGES 061705B to Admty.)
My P.C. and S. 60° 25' N. 15° 24' W. 000° 13 knots. (VINDEX 061720B to Force 31.)
Your 061645. Position approx. 061° 49' N. 015° 32' W. WINDERMERE in company. Contact lost. (THIRLMERE 061932B to VINDEX.)
BURGES, BAZELY and TILLSONBURGH will hunt from position of THIRLMERE's 061059. My 061824 refers.
2. Intend remaining about 30 miles to southeastward.
3. When weather permits aircraft will keep area of para. 1 above covered, also search to eastward.
(VINDEX 062046B to C. in C.W.A. Force 31, THIRLMERE.)
Assessment of aircraft attack coupled with situation in Bay of Biscay ports may indicate that U-Boats will return Norway possibly south of Faroes. If TILLSONBURGH's contact proves to be non submarine your search should therefore be conducted in a southeasterly direction. Coastal command aircraft are carrying out wide search between southwest and southeast of last position of sight. Report intentions.
(C. in C.W.A. 061227B to VINDEX.)
My 060935B. Have carried out 2 creeping attacks. No decisive results. Am continuing hunt.
(BURGES 061255B to Admty.)
Your 061507. Lost (?contact) in 061° 54' N. 015° 32' W. (and) are carrying out search.
(?Origin 061715B to C. in C.W.A.)

Casualties & Defects.

^E
ZANE GRAY. S.O.S. Ramm'd mid ship port side lat. 58.42 N. long. 03.24 W. Please send assistance. Master.
(ZANE GRAY No T.O.O/6th.)
Correct last message. Damage not quite under control. May need assistance. May be able to make Scapa Flow.
(ZANE GRAY No T.O.O/6th, recd. 061049.)
Two tugs needed immediately master.
(ZANE GRAY 060840 to Wick Radio.)
FREEBOOTER standing by. He suggests proceeding to port in morning. Visibility nil. Any orders.
(ZANE GRAY 061945 to Admty.)

Convoy W.N.16. Fogbound off Dunnet Head. No. 5 hold flooded.
CHARLES D. No further flooding has taken place. C.S.V.O. on board EMPIRE MUSCAT in vicinity. Contact with
MCIVER. FREEBOOTER lost.
CLYDE L. (CHARLES D.MCIVER 060835Z to Wick Radio.)
SEAVEY, JOHN Intercepted at 0855 G.M.T. Begins: de LOTUS CHIEF.
CATRON, To all LOTUS please call LOTUS CHIEF and notify
ALBERT S. if you are still at anchor and your number. 060730Z.
BURLESON.

/At...

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

Convoy W.N.16. At 0859 LOTUS CHIEF de 25. Anchored dragging slightly. 25.
CHARLES D. At 0900 10 de 37. Still at anchor. 060900.
MCIVER, At 0902 LOTUS CHIEF de 11, still at anchor await-
CLYDE L. ing tugs. Master.
SEAVEY, JOHN At 0904 10 de 21. Still at anchor (unread).
CATRON, Have had two collisions and still afloat will not
ALBERT S. get underway under any circumstances till fog
BURLESON. lifts. Master 21.
(Contd.) At 0906 LOTUS CHIEF de 12. No immediate
danger waiting for fog to clear and to proceed
to Scapa Flow for repairs not at anchor.
At 0912 LOTUS CHIEF de 14. At anchor 36 miles 127° from Torness
able to proceed. Master 060900Z.
At 0926 10 de 22 at anchor approx. position 58.48 N. 03.31 W. de
22 ends.
(Wick Radio 060930Z to Ad. Lyness.)
Received from Portrush Radio at 0800 at 0756 de 11 S.O.S.
Ship 11 rammed, abandoning ship, 58.42 N. 03.24 W.
(Port Patrick Radio 061000 to Greenock.)
Intercept 1104Z, begins:- 10 de 11. No. 5 hold flooded
due to collision. Tug standing by, making delayed request to
leave convoy and to proceed Scapa Flow for necessary repairs
haste.
(Humber Radio 061048Z to Immingham.)
Intercepted at 1229 G.M.T. from LOTUS CHIEF begins:-
All LOTUS de LOTUS CHIEF now forming to leave Commodore. At
1235 G.M.T. 29 de 10 are you able to proceed Commodore. 061232Z.
At 1236 G.M.T. 10 de 29 yes. Have two holes in bow abaft water
line. Ends.
(Wick Radio 061440 to Ad. Lyness.)

H.D.M.L. An ammunition explosion occurred on board H.D.M.L.
1060. 1060 at approx. 0926 today. Vessel lying along-
side May and Hassells Yard Poole.
(TADPOLE 061045B to F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Pentland Ships north of Flamborough are not to proceed
Firth. through Pentland Firth but are either to enter
nearest port and remain there until further orders
or alternatively they may proceed by route north of
Orkneys.
2. Merchant ships have been directed accordingly.
(C. in C.Rosyth 062102 to Rosyth Command.)

J.W.59. J.W.59. S.O. of W.A. escorts will be in BULLDOG
additional. 2. My 032230 should be amended
accordingly.
(C. in C.W.A. 062245B to C. in C.H.F.)

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

RAMILLIES. Your 032315 not to all addressees. Comply with C. in C. Med. 041222 and arrive in position 20 miles to westward of Cape Spartel at 2215B August (as received) thence make best speed to arrive Gibraltar as soon as possible.

(2) You will be required to sail at 0415B/10th by which time fuel sufficient only for passage Algiers should have been embarked.

(F.O.G.M.A., 061133B to RAMILLIES.)

C. in C. Med. 041222. E.T.A. Europa Pt. 0145B/10th August. Request occulting and amber lights may be lit.

(4) Intend sailing at 0515B. S. of A. to Algiers 14½ knots. (RAMILLIES, 061745B to F.O.G.M.A.)

C.T.G. 22.6 My 042104Z modified. Unless in contact depart operating area in time for GEORGE W. INGRAM, SCHMITT to R/V with U.C.32 prior dark 7th August. Direct these destroyer escorts report

C.T.G. 21.6 for duty. U.C.32 estimated noon Z 6th position 48.55 N. 21.30 W. routed through positions north and west - (JJ) 43.00, 25.00. (DD) 42.00, 29.00. (EE) 42.50, 41.30. (FF) 42.10, 54.15, speed 13. WAKE ISLAND with remaining escorts support U.C.32 until this convoy passes 50 W. At that time proceed Hampton Roads. Direct escorts proceed YS to New York for assigned availabilities. Task Group dissolved upon arrival.

(Cinclant, 061827 to C.T.G. 22.6.)

South Atlantic

ROBIN Overdue shipping (KUBN) ROBIN GOODFELLOW Capetown
GOODFELLOW 16th for Bahia 31st July not yet arrived.
torpedoed (Asst. B.N.S.O. Recife, 061202Z to Admty.)
26th July. W.D. Note: See D.T.D., 071726B.

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

M.A.A.F. Summary of operations for period ending 1800
Air Report. 5th August.
Coastal details: Wellingtons, Cants and
Marauders on operation fence sighted submarine
at 0845 hours 40° 10' N. 19° 19' E. Hunt
continues. R.P. Hurricanes sunk one schooner and one barge
and damaged one siebel ferry in Adriatic. One Hurricane is
missing. 4 P.R. Beaufighters scored hits on M/V and possible
E/V off Cape Mele.
(H.Q.M.A.A.F., 060830B.)

Daily August 4th/5th. 9 Wellingtons despatched to
Opsum. attack shipping Portolago Bay, Leros. Bursts
No. 466. seen near naval workshops, stores and seaplane
base Lepida cove. 2 vessels vicinity of San
Giorgio straddled by bombs from one aircraft and
left covered in grey smoke.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E., 060900Z.)

PURSUER. C. in C. Med. 280858 not to Admty. Ready to
operate.
(PURSUER, 061031B to C. in C. Med., Admty., (R)
F.O. Escort Carriers, V.A. Malta, F.O.L.E.M.)

JOHANNA JOHANNA is unloading cargo today. My 031540
(German). refers.
(2) Reported that she will leave for Black Sea
on Tuesday 8th in ballast.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 061710C to N.L.O. Black Sea.)

Destroyer At 2030B/5th established patrol line, my 051810B
patrol. (N.T. in W.R.) sent Saturday at 7 hours, moved
patrol south 5 miles and put flagships into line.
At 0904 U.S.D. HOBSON plus one destroyer departed
for D 508 30 position at best speed, but at 1000
upon receipt of 0925/5 U.S. destroyer closed same at full boiler
power. Arriving 11 hours dove-tailing all with other 5 friendly
escorts co-operated since. No further contacts although at
least 4 aircraft seen repeatedly. Passage south-east of Fano
Island sealed by U.S.D. MACOMB since 1030B. Am leaving search
after daylight tomorrow arriving base 10 hours Monday.
(Cdr. D.D.20, 061801B to N.O.I.C. Gaspe, Com. D.D.72, (R) Capt.
(D) 5, C.T.G. 86.5, Group O.S., D.S.10, less RODMAN, UNDAUNTED,
V.A.M., Com. D.S.10, C. in C. Med., ALDERHAM.)

Adriatic Cositintrep No.393. Parts four Cositintreps No.
landings, 348 to 392 not issued.
29th July - Para. 1. At 0015 hours 29th July an assault force
2nd August. consisting of Number 2 Commando, "C" Coy. of the
2nd Highland Light Infantry and 150 other British
troops landed unopposed on the Albanian coast 1½
miles east of Spilje. After a naval bombardment

/by two ...

6.8.1944.

Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Adriatic
landings,
29th July -
2nd August.
(Contd.)

by two destroyers and a low flying attack by the Balkan Air Force, an attack was launched against the German garrison at Himare at 0625 hours. Almost all the enemy positions were taken against determined resistance. Enemy casualties are estimated at 40 killed and 30 wounded. Thirty prisoners were taken off by our forces. Our own casualties were one officer and 6 other ranks, killed and 3 officers 44 other ranks wounded. All our casualties were evacuated together with 7 British airmen. After our forces had evacuated, the remnants of the German garrison, including the garrison Commander, were mopped up by Partisan Forces. Para. 2. During the night 1st/2nd August a battery of 111 Field Regiment landed with Partisan Forces on the Island of Korcula with the object of shelling enemy installations on the Island and at Orebic on the Peljesac Peninsula. After successfully accomplishing their mission our forces evacuated the Island without losses.
(A.F.H.Q., 061949B to W.O.)

C.T.F. 69.

Your 051915 (N.T. in W.D.) garbled between 8th Flt. and training. Is CINCINNATI destination changed to Oran. If so off Oran unless otherwise directed will designate Cdr. Larkin in WAINWRIGHT as Comtasforce 69 vice Capt. Worth in CINCINNATI.
(CINCINNATI, 062224 to C.T.F. 86.)

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SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U-boat Area D. SSSS from EMPIRE CITY at 2318 G.M.T.
dispositions 5th August no position given but ship by plotting
vicinity Kilindini. Pending further information,
scale of air escort X.
Other area no fresh information. No change in
scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 060340Z.)

SAVORGNAN DE A.C.N.B. reports F.S. SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA will be
BRAZZA, ready to sail from Fremantle on 18th August to
DUMONT August to join Eastern Fleet. His 041221
D'URVILLE. August refers.

2. C. in C. Med. in his 151902 July states
F.S. DUMONT D'URVILLE will join Eastern Fleet
shortly.

3. Cominch's 212031 December 43, and B.A.D.

Washington's 141425 March (repeated to C. in C. E.F. in
Admiralty 280018 March) indicate that one but not both of these
ships will be allocated to Indian Ocean though both ships could
be usefully employed.

4. Request clarification.

(C. in C. E.F. 060527Z to Admty., (R) A.C.N.B., C. in C. Med.,
N.O.I.C. Fremantle.) See reply by D.O.D.(F) 071854B.

S.E.A. 2/3 August. 2 U.S. Liberators (B.24) sea sweep
Air south China by night, no shipping seen. Attacked
Report. Kowloon Docks believed bombs well placed.
(A.C.S.E.A. 060748Z.)

Wreckage Aircraft report being over wreckage and three
presumed lifeboats in 11° 23' S. 41° 25' east at 0736Z/6,
from EMPIRE sails marked E.Y.4, E.Y.3, E.Y.1.
CITY attacked 2. Presumed from EMPIRE CITY who reported being
by U/B 5th. attacked by U-boat at 2245Z/5.
3. Augment air search continuing.
4. Am sailing JASMINE to position.
(F.O.E.A. 060852Z to C. in C.E.F.)

Force 66, Request you will operate force 66 as required to
search for hunt U-boat which sank ship in approximate position
U/boat which 011° 23' S. 041° 25' E. today 6th August.
sank S.O. Force 66 report P.C. and S. and number of
(presumed) days Force 66 will be able to continue survey.
EMPIRE CITY. PLYM also at your disposal after arrival of C.B.8.
(C. in C.E.F. 061318Z to N.O.I.C. E.Af., (R)
Group 222, N.O.I.C. Aden, Force 66, Admty., PLYM,
FINDHORN, C. in C.S.A., A.H.Q.E.A.)

C. in C. E.F.'s 061318 and (R) Force 66 para. 2. My
P.C. and S. 002° 45' S. 068° 24' E. 270° 13½ knots.
2. Force 66 can operate for a further 14 days. Course 270° 15
knots.

(S.O. Force 66, 061730Z to N.O.I.C. E.Africa, (R) C. in C.
E.F., FINDHORN, C. in C. C.S.A., Air H.Q. E.A., E.G.60.)

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6.8.1944.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesH.X./O.N.
convoy
cycle,
S.C./O.N.S.
schedule.

Subject to the availability of one additional Canadian and one additional Western Approaches escort group being confirmed it is intended to close the H.X./O.N. cycle to 5 days overall from the 6th Sept. Sailing intervals to be 6, 6 and 3 days with speed sequence of 10 - 10 - 8 respectively as under.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| H.X.F. 307, 6th September | O.N.F. 252, 7th September |
| H.X.F. 308, 12th | O.N.F. 253, 13th |
| H.X.S. 309, 15th | O.N.S. 254, 16th |
| H.X.F. 310, 21st | O.N.F. 255, 22nd |

(2) It is further intended to reintroduce the S.C./O.N.S. schedule as soon after mid-September as the necessary escorts become available. The H.X./O.N. convoys will then revert to the original advertised speed of 10 knots sailing at 5 day intervals. Departures from New York to be 2 days after each N.G. convoy.

(3) The schedule in para. (2) allows for escort lay over of a minimum of 6 days in Newfoundland.

(4) Request your concurrence.

(V.C.N.S., 061320B to Comtenthfleet C. & R, N.S.H.Q., C. in C. W.A., Info. C. in C. C.N.A., F.O.N.F., B.A.D.)
Concur - Com. 10th Fleet C. & R., 081415Z.

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q., 061427Z, Cominch 061549Z.)

Proposed
transfer
on loan to
French Navy
of 2
frigates and
4 corvettes.

A.M. 040055B April. French Naval Authorities state that they can provide crews immediately to man two frigates and that they will later be able to man four additional corvettes.
(2) Request you will obtain authorisation of C.C.S. to transfer this number of vessels on loan to French Navy in accordance with C.C.S. 358 para. (7).

(3) Date of transfer and selection of particular vessels would be subject to operational requirements.
(1st S.L., 061522B to B.A.D., Info. C. in C. Med. C. in C. W.A.)

U/B
incidents.

Para. (C) 060853 U.S.S. CARD investigating contact 38.45 N. 41.12 W. All times Z.
Para. (D) 042115 transport A/C sighted U-Boat in position corrected to 37.28 N. 44.02 W.
(Cominch, 061940Z.)

6.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
929.

August 5th.

(13) Three Beauforts co-operating with M.T.Bs. off Wewak Coast night 4th/5th bombed gun positions vicinity, but one P.T. Boat damaged by shore fire.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 060730.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

U/B
incidents.

Para. (B) (1) ULA sighted U/B course 190°, 8 knots at 1846Z/26th July in 72° 55' N. 12° 05' E.
(2) A/C O/172 attacked U/B on surface, course 180°, 5 knots at 2303Z/5th August in 49° 57' N. 04° 13' W.

(3) TEMPLAR attacked Japanese U/B course 270°, 13 knots at 1429Z/18th July in 07° 01' N. 96° 01' E.

(4) TANTALUS sighted Japanese U/B, southbound at 0630Z/17th July in 02° 54' N. 100° 54' E.

Para. (C) (1) A/C F/612 sighted U/B at 2109Z/5th August in 47° 25' N. 05° 15' W.

(2) TILLSONBURG attacked suspicious contact at 0302Z/6th August in 61° 44' N. 15° 56' W.
(D.D.I.C., 061150B.)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 061442B, 061443B.)

7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) Allied troops continued today to strengthen their positions near Brest and have reached Vannes and Redon; and, on the eastern sector, Mayenne has been taken.

(b) The Admiralty decided today not to adopt the proposal made on the 5th August by C.T.F. 125 and supported by A.N.C.X.F. on the 6th that a new Channel operational area should be established under C.T.F. 125 to include the Channel Islands area with Cherbourg. ~~But~~ At 1835B C.T.F. 125 ~~again~~ requested that, to enable full support to be given to the U.S. Army's operations in Brittany, control over the waters adjacent to the Army's advance and to the ports being captured by them may be vested in C.T.F. 125 and that forces adequate to enable him to exercise that control may be allocated to him.

(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | <u>Men</u> | <u>Vehicles</u> | <u>Stores</u> |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| British Area: | 738,015 | 181,502 | 966,694 |
| U.S. Area: | 991,592 | 187,094 | 1,031,311 |
| Total: | 1,729,607 | 368,596 | 1,998,005 |

Enemy
Action.

2(a) Mines. At about 0703 today the Hospital Carrier AMSTERDAM was sunk, probably by a mine, about 4 miles N.N.E. of Arromanches while returning to the U.K. About 320 survivors were transferred to DUKE OF LANCASTER, but some 74 personnel are missing.

(b) Aircraft. At 0530 the M.T. ship WILLIAM M. MARCY was damaged, probably by a circling torpedo, at H.34 Berth in the Juno area. She had discharged her cargo, and is being temporarily repaired for towage to U.K.

Mediterranean

Black-out,
coast of
Turkey.

3. From today complete black-out will be imposed on all of the coast of Turkey.

Mines,
Leghorn.

4. During the first week of August 88 moored mines were swept in the approaches to Leghorn, and several ground mines were detonated in the harbour.

/Enemy ...

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7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean - Contd.

Enemy
shipping
sunk by A/C.

5. On the night of 6th/7th Hurricanes sank three schooners off Rab (near Fiume). Fighter bombers sank a merchant vessel in the Gulf of Genoa.

East Indies

EMPIRE DAY
(Convoy
D.K. 21A)
sunk by U/B.

6. EMPIRE DAY (Br., 7,242 tons) proceeding from Lourenco Marques to Aden in convoy D.K. 21A, was torpedoed and sunk off Zanzibar today by a German U-Boat. 23 survivors have been landed at Zanzibar.

7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military.

Communique No. 121 (extract.)

In the Brittany Peninsula allied troops continue to strengthen their positions in the vicinity of Brest. Our armour has freed Carhaix Vannes and Redon and other units have reached the Villaine River at various points from Rennes to the sea. Chateau Gontier and Houssay have been cleared of the enemy. Mayenne River has been crossed 17 miles south of Laval. Mayenne is in our hands. Allied armour is in the outskirts of Vire. (S.H.A.E.F. 071100B to Agwar.)

Naval.

Cositintrep No. 125, part 2, Naval.

A. General. M.T.Bs. referred to in my Cositintrep No. 124 off St. Malo sank one trawler and one T.L.C. which was left burning is believed to have blown up.

B. Assault area. The hospital carrier AMSTERDAM was sunk by mine 4 miles N.N.E. of Arromanches at 0747 today while returning to U.K. 74 personnel unaccounted for.

On the night 5/6th M.T.Bs. damaged two R-Boats south of Cap la Heve. Mines were laid by enemy aircraft on a small scale.

C. Unloading figures to p.m. 6th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 732,823 | 179,595 | 942,597 |
| U.S. | 978,067 | 185,779 | 996,307 |
| Total D+61 | 1,710,890 | 365,374 | 1,938,904 |

(Ad. Ramsay 072333B to Admty.)

Assault Areas.

Channel Islands.

C. in C.Plymouth informs me that it is now intended that troops to occupy Channel Islands will be furnished by a Brigade of 21 Army Group now in France.

2. I had assumed that under conditions which will obtain namely no resistance in Islands whilst fighting continues in France some low grade formation still in U.K. would be employed.

3. In view of present military situation it is considered we should be ready for operation "Nestegg" at short notice. If information in para. 1 above is correct request immediate advice of intentions regarding return of Brigade to U.K.

(A.N.C.X.F. 070943B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Floating
Infernal
Machines.

1. 3 ships are believed to have been damaged by floating mines or torpedoes and there is now abundant evidence of a variety of infernal machines which may float to and fro on the tide within the outer defence lines.

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7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Assault Areas.

Floating
Infernal
Machines.
(Contd.)

2. Some of these objects may be dropped by aircraft inside the defence lines, in fact one circling torpedo has been retrieved from a tree.

3. Vigorous steps are to be taken to rid the anchorage of this menace thus:-

A. an M.L. patrol is being established to discover and destroy.

B. All ships are to organise specially briefed lookouts and be ready to send away a boat or to fire at the objects.

C. All boats and landing craft are to be warned to look for and sink the objects by gunfire.

D. Objects which cannot be sunk by gunfire are to be reported to S.N.O.A. or N.O.I.C. Arro as appropriate (R) F.O.B.A.A. Boats are not to lose sight of an object and are to be prepared to fire green Verys lights to draw attention.

E. Energetic steps are to be taken to clear the harbour area of driftwood, nets, pellets, or M/S gear which has broken adrift, and to prevent boxes and rubbish being thrown overboard.

4. Admiralty is requested to issue urgent orders to merchant ships to implement para. 3 as far as applicable.

(F.O.B.A.A. 072336 to B.A.A.)

Brittany.

Proposed
operations.

Your 051735. My general intentions are as follows:

A. Channel Is. area - to leave the area free for air attack by day and reserved for coastal force operations by night, coastal force to be withdrawn by night by arrangement on specific occasions when

special operation by coastal command aircraft are required. Squares 202, 203, 208, 209 and 210 to be continuously available for U.S. coastal force night operations and only filled by British coastal forces if U.S. are not available.

B. From 003° 00' W. to Brest inclusive. To use British coastal forces on patrol off close approach to all harbours day and night working in 24 hour periods or longer as endurance permits. 2 destroyers on patrol in close support.

C. Minesweeping. To commence clearance in accordance with A.N.C.X.F. 052359 August as soon as possible.

2. Request information whether you wish to operate U.S. coastal forces in squares named above by day as well as by night.

(C. in C.Plymouth 071711B to C.T.F.125.)

7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Bombardments.

Ile de Cezembre. Intend to carry out bombardment of Ile de Cezembre with 3 destroyers night 8/9th.
2. Request 16th M.S.Flottilla may be made available to sweep ahead of Bombarding Force.
3. Channel joining following points is required to be swept. First part conforms to para. 1A of A.N.C.X.F. 052359 Extension required for bombardment firing area D
A 49° 13' 30" N. 3° 14' 30" W. B. 49° 01' 30" N. 3° 00' 00" W.
C. 48° 43' 30" N. 2° 13' 30" W. thence 070° for 9 miles.
4. 16th M.S.Flottilla should R/V with destroyers in 50° 00' N. 2° 54' W. 1900B/8th.
(C.T.F.125 072250B to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C.Plymouth.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 235, 358.
Dover. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 751, 610 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles.
F.U.3 OBEDIENT in 050° Z.3 3 miles.
F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 418, 436 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E.
F.U.5 SAVAGE in 050° M.Z.5 3 miles.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 231, 229 in 230° Z.6 2 miles M.
F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7.
2. Aircraft under Swingate V.H/F control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne break-water light.
(A.C.Dover 071224B and 071544B.)

Patrols from O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38, cover night 7/8th.
Portsmouth. A. ONSLAUGHT (G.B.1), OFFA (G.B.2), VERSATILE (G.B.3), Gamma from 090° 58A Buoy 3 miles in direction 018° to N.E. corner of Z.102.
6th E.G. OUTREMONT (S.O.), WASKESIU, DRUMHELLER
Gamma from 49° 43' N. 00° 53' W. in a direction 350° to 50° 05' N.
ORIBI (G.C.1) patrol on a line between 50° 12' N. 00° 12' E. to 50° 16' N. 00° 19' E.
BRISSENDEN (G.C.2) patrol on a line between 50° 03' N. 00° 02' W. to 50° 07' N. 00° 04' E. Reporting night dispositions.
B. STAYNER (G.F.1) in Z.17. RETALICK (G.F.2) in Z.13.
C. Unit G.F.3 U.S.P.Ts. 520 (S.O.), 521, 511 with STAYNER in Z.17.
Unit G.F.4 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.), 478, 482.
Unit G.F.5 U.S.P.Ts. 459 (S.O.), 457, 460.
Unit G.F.6 M.T.Bs. 773, (S.O.), 741, 694.
Unit G.F.7 GREY SHARK (S.O.), GREY OWL with RETALICK in Z.13.
Force G.F. to be in position by 2330B.
Waiting position for force G.F. N.W. corner of Z.16.
D. Unit G.A.1 M.T.Bs. 206 (S.O.), 210, 208, 270° Cap d'Antifer 1.5 miles.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 071237B.)

7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night channel report
Portsmouth. 7/8th August.
(Contd.) 1. F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3. F.U.5 SAVAGE Z.5.
F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7. G.B.1 ONSLAUGHT on line 50°
30'. G.B.2 OFFA 1° 15' W. to 50°.
G.B.3 VERSATILE 00' N. 00° 30' W.
G.C.1 ORIBI on line 50° 12' N. 00° 12' E. to 50° 16' N. 00° 19' E.
G.C.2 BRISSENDEN on line 50° 03' W. 00° 02' W. to 50° 07' N. 00°
04' E. G.F.1 STAYNER Z.17, G.F.2 RETALICK Z.13.
2. G.F.3 3 U.S.P.Ts. Z.17. G.F.4 3 M.T.Bs. G.F.5 3 U.S.P.Ts.
G.F.6 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13. G.F.7 2 S.G.Bs. G.A.1 3 M.T.Bs. 270°
Cap d' Antifer 1½ miles. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs.
Z.2 west. F.N.4 2 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs. Z.6.
3. Aircraft all areas east of 00° 30' E. cross over patrol fol-
lowing positions:
50° 10' N. 01° 08' E. 50° 18' N. 01° 01' E. 49° 57' N. 00° 35' E.
50° 05' N. 00° 29' E.
4. G.K.1 TORRINGTON. G.K.3 STEVENSTONE Tunny north. G.L.2
KRAKOWIAK. G.K.4 2 M.T.Bs. Tunny north. G.M.2 SEYMOUR. G.M.4
EGLINGTON Tunny south. G.M.3 2 M.T.Bs. G.M.5 4 M.T.Bs.
G.L.1 COTTESMORE, PYTCHLEY, PIKE. G.M.1 3 M.T.Bs. Scallops.
G.K.2 3 M.T.Bs. Scallops plus.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 071937B.)

Patrols from Information. Own. 1 E.G. Z.223, Z.224. 2nd, 14th.
Plymouth. 15th E.G. operating in N.E. Bay of Biscay. Force
26 BELLONA, URSA, PIORUN, ONSLOW, operating off
Biscay coast from Brest to Gironde. Unit G.T.1
5 M.T.Bs. S.O. M.T.B. 735 in Z.221. Aircraft patrolling Western
Channel have freedom to bomb surface targets in Channel Island
area east of 3° W.
Enemy. U-Boats in Western Channel. 7 M-class minesweepers and
about 20 auxiliaries have been operating in Channel Island - St.
Malo area.
The military situation may cause a withdrawal of these forces to
westward. 1 ELBING in Lorient. 2 E-Boats believed in Brest.
Heavy coastal battery at Paimpol may still be in action.
Intention. 2. Force 27 SALADIN (S.O.), ALBRIGHTON to patrol off
north Brittany coast.
Object. 3. To destroy enemy shipping and to obtain intelligence
of situation along the coast.
Execution. 4. Force 27 is to pass The Gate at 1900B today and
proceed to reach position SS 000 Les Heaux Light 8 by 0001B/8.
5. From SS Force 27 is to patrol French coast at discretion in
area Z.216, Z.220, Z.225, Z.226 and Z.231 until further orders.
Any intelligence obtained of situation ashore is to be signalled.
6. Force 27 is not to proceed east of 3° W. unless ordered.
7. Force 27 is to support Unit G.T.1 if latter is attacked by
superior surface forces. Force 27 is not to enter Z.221 by night
except to support Unit G.T.1
(C. in C.Plymouth 071605B.)

/Last...

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7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from
Plymouth.
(Contd.)

Last night between 0130/7 and 0730/7 Coastal Force units were in position 170° St. Mathieu 8 and 330 Pointe de Ray 5. They saw no activity and were not interfered with. Visibility extreme in bright moonlight.

(C. in C.Plymouth 071710B to Admty.)

Shift patrol to Z.221 at 2000B/7.. Remain in area until 0700B/8 fuel permitting, then return Brixham. Force 27 SALADIN and ALBRIGHTON will patrol in Z.231, 226, 225, 220, 216 in support. Unit must inform Force 27 if returning early, or moving outside Z.221.

(C. in C.Plymouth 071732B to G.T.1.)

Mining.

AMSTERDAM
sunk.

Hospital ship AMSTERDAM sunk in vicinity L.7 Buoy when proceeding to U.K. at 0703 approx. today.

(F.O.B.A.A. 070921 to A.N.C.X.F.)

My 070921. Approx. 320 survivors ex hospital ship AMSTERDAM have been transferred to DUKE OF

LANCASTER for return to U.K. Understood there were 215 walking cases, 59 cot cases, and crew of approx. 120, totalling 394 which means that approx. 74 are unaccounted for.

2. Sinking probably due to mine.

(F.O.B.A.A. 071810 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Operation
K.N.30.
(Minelaying
off Cap
d'Antifer.)

Carry out my 011250B tonight. Amend para. D.1 point 2 miles to read 1 point 6 miles. C. Return to waiting position.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 071040 to HORNET.)

British area. There have been no reports of minelaying during past 24 hours. At 0705 today hospital ship AMSTERDAM was sunk by underwater explosions in 060° 5 cables from L.7 buoy. This channel was

swept on the previous day and 51 times since last suspected mining lay with negative results. Fog prevented sweeping early today. One magnetic swept at eastern end of outer night defence line. Spontaneous explosions, one X.A. on outer night defence line one mile east of Q.Z.S. 507 and one - 3 cables east of Juno L/V. Sea calm.

(Capt. M/S X 072230B to M/S Beaches.)

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7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy Intelligence.

Fecamp and Havre. Sortie 7th August shows Fecamp. No change since 30th July in shipping. Le Havre. Shipping seen. No. 5 dry dock flooded. Crane seen working over submerged Moewe type T.B. Wreckage suggests M class minesweeper also submerged. Two German corvettes, probably two M-class minesweepers, one 500 ton U-Boat in Bassin le Maree. Two T.L.C. S.P.240 ft., 12 E/R Boats, three in dry dock. (35 Wing 071525B to H.Q.A.E.A.F.)

Attack on B.A.A. on 3rd August. My 031326 para. 4. Score has now reached E.M.B. Certain 31, probably 2, possible 1, total 34. H.T. Certain 20, probably 3, possible 13, total 36. (F.O.B.A.A. 072340 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats.

Channel situation. In English Channel probably two in or approaching Spout and two or three in area Scillies to Ushant. (D.D.I.C. 071515B to A.I.G.331.)

U-Boat reported. U-Boat made long enigma signal at 2014Z. D/F bearings inconclusive but area probably 03° 30' to 05° 30' W. and south of 47° N. (D.D.I.C. 072249B to E.Gs. 2, 15, 14 and Force 26.)

A/S Patrol. My 071944. Amend disposition of 2nd E.G. to read rectangle side 234° 25 miles and 144° 10 miles from 047° 20' N. 004° 10' W. (C. in C.Plymouth 072359B to Force 26.)

Enemy Air Activity.

WILLIAM L. MARCY damaged. M.T.ship WILLIAM MARCY torpedoed in No. 5, starboard side. No. 4 Bulkhead holding, tunnel flooded, W/T door to engine room leaking. Salvage officers on board. One fatal casualty. (S.S.T.O. Juno 071645B to D.S.T.)

M.T.(?26) torpedoed in No. 5 hold, starboard hard. Bulkhead holding, other compartments dry. Leakage into engine room through shaft gland. SEA SALVOR in attendance, tugs standing by. Present anchorage one. 7 miles 153° from L.8 buoy, may decide to shift to inner M.T.anchorage. (S.S.V.O.FROBISHER 071225 to F.O.B.A.A.)

/My...

7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Enemy Air Activity.

WILLIAM L.
MARCY
damaged.
(Contd.)

My 071225. Further inspection shows M.T.26 left crack across upper deck from No. 3 hatch coaming and for 10 feet down ship side on (?port) side. 3 heavy girders have been bolted and left to weld alongside deck to reinforce same. Ship side sealed and reinforced with concrete. Will complete 0700 Tuesday, intend sailing ship 0900. Essential she proceed during this fine weather.

Urgently request that 2 tugs be made available for this duty. Understand suitable Pinnacle Tug now at Arro.
(S.S.V.C. in FROBISHER 072205 to F.O.B.A.A.)

M.T.ship WILLIAM L.MARCY damaged probably by circling torpedo in H.34 berth at 0530 today.

2. She had completed discharge.
3. Damaged in No. 5 hold starboard side.
(F.O.B.A.A. 072214 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Operation
"Purblind".

My memo BA. 1170 of 27.7.44. Operation "Purblind" Operation will be repeated with following amendment Details.
(F.O.B.A.A. 071458 to General.)

Casualties & Defects.

ARTHURTOWN.

ARTHURTOWN ex F.B.C.45 reported sunk off Padstow after grounding near Trevoise Head.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 071107B to N.O.I.C. Ardrossan.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.P. 14.

E.P.P. 14, 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 070147.)

E.W.L.60B.

E.W.L.60B, 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 070215 and 070530B.)

E.W.L.60A.

E.W.L.60A, 13 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 060216 and 070439B.)

E.T.C.60.

E.T.C.60, 16 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 070605.)

E.B.C.63.

E.B.C.63, 24 ships and one L.C.I.(L).
(A.N.C.X.F. 070911B.)

7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

- Designation of "Neptune" convoys.
1. Consider existing three-letter self-evident system vide O.N.13 para. 9 has been very successful in view of its flexibility and that it should, if possible, be extended to cover French ports outside original "Neptune" area.
 2. Following proposals are made for this.
 - A. Convoys to and from original "Neptune" area including Cherbourg to be designated as at present.
 - B. "Neptune" convoys to and from other French ports also to be designated by three self-evident letters omitting letter E or F, by substituting a letter for the area of arrival or departure in France and by showing direction of convoy by relative positions of letters for areas. In U.K. and France as is practised elsewhere.
 3. Designation of these latter convoys would be as follows.
 - 1st letter. Area of departure if in U.K. as for other "Neptune" convoys as at present. If in France as in para. 4 below.
 - 2nd letter. Area of arrival if in U.K. as for other "Neptune" convoys as at present. If in France as in para. 4 below.
 - 3rd Letter. Nature of convoy as at present.
 4. Areas of arrival or departure in France could be shown as follows: O - St. Malo. R - Brest. L- Lorient. Q - Quiberon Bay. Z. - St. Nazaire. N - Nantes.
 5. Examples of new convoys would be B.O.C.3 - Third Coaster Convoy from Bristol Channel to St. Malo. L.C.M.1 - First M.T. Ship Convoy returning from Lorient to Cornwall (and Devon.)
 6. This system would seem capable of further expansion later if required. It should be noted that letters E or F would designate convoys bound to or from original "Neptune" area. (A.N.C.X.F. 070929B and 071109B to Admty.)

Bluesky 45. A. Bluesky 45, 7 L.C.I.(L).
 (N.O.I.C. Arro 070935.)

Timing of C. in C.Portsmouth's 012109. Concur with F.O.B.A.
convoys. A's 010114. It is considered impracticable for
 convoys to proceed before first light in B.A.A.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 071003B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

Bluesky 46. A. Bluesky 46, 4 L.C.I.(L)
 (N.O.I.C. Arro 071043B.)

F.P.M.29. A. F.P.M.29, 11 ships and 12 L.S.Ts.
 (C.T.G. 125.1.3 071145.)

F.W.P.29. F.W.P.29, 7 ships.
 (C.T.G. 125.1.3 071151B.)

Bluesky. A. Bluesky 5 L.C.I.
 (C.T.G. 125.1.3 071159B.)

7.8.1944.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

F.B.C.47. A. F.B.C.47, 23 ships.
(C.T.F.125.1.3 071200B.)

E.P.M.28. E.P.M.28, 10 ships and 15 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071319B and 071600B.)

E.T.M.57. E.T.M.57, 14 ships and 9 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 071321B.)

F.T.M.61. F.T.M.61, 17 ships and 3 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 071439 and 071840.)

F.T.C.60. F.T.C.60, 14 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A. 071444B and 071838B.)

F.P.M.28. Sailed in F.P.M.28 6 ships and 4 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.U.125.2.1 071655B.)

F.W.L.50. F.W.L.50, 5 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 071916.)

Organisation and Administration.

Bombing of Naval Targets. Procedure. The intention of A.M. 020035 is that H.Q.Coastal Command should be the normal channel through which Admiralty and Cs. in C. of Home Commands should make their applications for bombing Naval targets at sea or in harbour. This applies to all Naval targets whether in the Channel, North Sea, Norwegian Waters or the Atlantic. A.N.C.X.F. would be informed of all applications. Air Ministry 031401 and A.N.C.X.F. 052145 also refer.

2. It is not intended that this procedure should in any way alter procedure by which A.N.C.X.F. now places his bombing requirements, but it is important that Admiralty and H.Q.Coastal Command should be kept informed of all important Naval targets stated by A.N.C.X.F.

(A.C.N.S.H. 071034B to A.N.C.X.F., H.Q.C.C.)

Operational control of Brittany Waters.

Repeated requests are being received from U.S.Army Commands to A. support Tusa. B. Inform A.B.S.E.C. when convoys can enter Granville, Cancale, St. Malo. C. What Allied surface craft operating along French coast from St. Nazaire to Cherbourg. D. Take offensive action against enemy escaping from threatened ports. E. What action being taken

/against...

7.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Organisation and Administration.

Operational
control of
Brittany
Waters.
(Contd.)

against Channel Isles and Belle Isle.
To none of these requests for information or action
can any intelligent reply be given due
A no knowledge of current operation plans of
responsible British authorities.
B. Not being informed in advance of offensive
operations being conducted by British forces.
C. Incomplete replies to requests for information.

D. Slow and unreliable communications preventing close co-
ordination with Plymouth.

E. Insufficient forces capable of offensive action being under
my command.

Present anomalous position this Command intolerable. To fully
support the U.S. Army's operation on the Continent it is again
requested that control over waters adjacent to the army's advance
and adjacent to ports being captured be vested in C.T.F.125
and adequate forces assigned to exercise this control.
(C.T.F.125 071835B to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C.Plymouth.)

Full consideration has been given to question of operational
areas in Channel and it is confirmed that it is not intended to
establish new area to include Channel Islands with Cherbourg. It
is for you to ensure that perfect co-operation exists between
C.T.G. 125 and C. in C.Plymouth. Your 051905 refers.

2. When Brittany Peninsula is secured operations west of Cher-
bourg are likely soon to be limited to those against U-Boats.
To introduce a line of demarcation between the A/U surface
forces and the traffic they are protecting, or another authority
with whom coastal command must keep touch, would complicate
matters and restrict freedom to operate available forces with
efficiency and economy.

3. It is envisaged that coastwise shipping off far shore would
be arranged by you, C. in C.Plymouth and 19 Group being kept
informed so that they could provide necessary protection. Special
arrangements would be required for communications and mine-
sweeping. No dividing line would be required except as already
arranged for the assault area or as necessitated by limitations
of port waves.

(1st S.L. 072254B to A.N.C.X.F.)

SECRET

*Neptune
Shipping*

Lion Copies

IN

133^A

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

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

From: Lee signed Eisenhower.

Date: 13.8.44

Recd. 1642

P/L

Addressed: AGWAR for Somervell, Lutes and Gross
29893.

Ref. No. EX-42044.

Subject: Turnaround of ships

1. Average time for a BOLERO ship in United Kingdom waters approximates 22 days, which included time for berthing, discharging, repairs and husbanding, and final movements to join westbound convoys.
2. Discharge of several hundred thousand long tons of cargo in United Kingdom and subsequent transshipment to France would have required four handlings in the United Kingdom and would have placed demands on inland transport which could not have been met. Further, such cargo handling operations would have been concurrent with mounting of the operation. Neither labor nor berths would have been available to accomplish such operations.
3. Had it been physically possible to accomplish the foregoing operation, world shipping pool would still have been called upon to furnish bottoms to lift the freight ex United Kingdom. This would have required approximately 27 days shipping time to deliver freight to France. Without consideration for labor, lack of berths, port congestion, and strain on inland transport (none of which could have been met) the world shipping pool would have had to plan on a minimum of 49 days shipping time in European Theater of Operations waters to deliver the freight to France. 49 days interval is estimated to be 22 days for delivery to United Kingdom, 10 days outloading in United Kingdom, 3 days enroute to France, 10 days for discharge in France and 4 days to join westbound convoys.
4. The present operation in France requires a change of ocean bases and the transshipment of United States armies of well over a million men during actual combat, a feat being attempted for the first time in history. Development of ports in France is obviously contingent upon tactical progress and the elements. Weather conditions have retarded progress. Each day of bad weather causes a loss in cargo discharged of approximately 15,000 tons, besides delaying towing of floating equipment to France. Discharge at French ports is essentially of a lighterage nature since quays do not exist. To date, no barges or tugs have been captured.

5.....

5. It is impossible to schedule the arrival of ships in exact consonance with tactical successes and it is considered that the developments of the past 10 days justify this contention. There being a time lag of several weeks between loading cargo in New York and its discharge in France, the Theater cannot contemplate any method to insure proper supplies being on hand as required, available for discharge, other than by projecting a schedule based on estimates of tactical progress (which are contingent upon enemy resistance and weather for accuracy)

6. Tonnage discharged in France 6 August was approximately 34,900 long tons. Theater feels same urgency for turning ships as was expressed by War Department in WAR-76034. A factor which will contribute materially in the near future is the release of 400,000 tons of coaster shipping, which will result in more concentration on vessels sailed ex United States. The ferrying program of rolling stock to clear ports is now well under way, to reach an average flow of 125 cars per day when developed fully. Cherbourg has received more than 7,000 long tons per day for the past 2 days. Capacity at Cherbourg will continue to develop as barges and rolling stock are ferried in.

7. Theater cannot concur in a commitment that commodity loaded ships be phased so that they are not held at anchor beyond 1 convoy interval of 7 days since it is considered that such phasing is impossible of accomplishment at this time.

8. In computing statistics set forth in your radio WAR-76034, consideration must be given to the fact that 33 commodity loaded and prestowed ships were in United Kingdom waters an average of 9 days before the first ship was sent to France on schedule.

072105Z.

Recd. in W.R. 1759/13.
from ETOUSA.

1st Lord
1st S.L.(2)
D.F.S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(UT)(2)
A.C.N.S.(W)
N.A. 1 S.L.
Ops.(2)
O.D.(7)
Plot
D. of P.(3)
D. of P.(Q)(2)

D.T.D.(5)
D.T.D.(C)
D. of S.T.(15)
D. of L.D.(3)
C.O.R.E.P.(3)
O.D.(C.O)(4)
D.C.O.M.(4)
D.C.O.D.(4)
D.A./S.W.
D.A./U.D.
D.G.D.(2)
D.T.S.D.
D. of S.(3)

D.N.I.(5)
O.I.C.(3)
I.P.(2)
W.D.
Ad.Blake
M.(2)

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War Diary7.8.1944
Monday.HOME COMMANDSGeneralPolicyDIADEM,
BELLONA.

Request you will arrange for DIADEM and BELLONA to be loaned to C. in C. Plymouth for further operations in the Bay, C.S.10 transferring his flag as arranged by you.
(V.C.N.S. 072326B to C. in C. H.F.)

Defence of U.K.Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.

Following from Capt. 'D' 16 Begins:
WALPOLE on night of 2/3rd August and HAMBLEDON at about 0700 on 5th August, when in the vicinity of Dover, were endangered by excessively low barrage fired at Flying Bombs. Both ships report that H.E. probably four inch, burst at bridge height and lower close ahead and astern and also at about five hundred feet overhead. Both ships had many fragments on-board but luckily no casualties. 061313B. Ends.
(2) Other reports from Convoy escorts show that Convoys are constantly illuminated in this area by searchlights and hit by shell fragments. On night 26th/27th July there is little doubt that the E-Boats which torpedoed two ships were justly assisted by the silhouetting of the Convoy by searchlights on shore.
(3) In view of the value of many of these convoys it is strongly recommended that searchlights should not be used when convoys are so placed that they will be silhouetted or illuminated. Some restriction on gunfire also appears desirable. Suggest this matter be taken up immediately with A.D.G.B. Possibly A.C. Dover would be in a position to impose the requisite restrictions on shore defences during the passage of convoys.
(C. in C. Nore, 071058B to Admty)
Request your comments on C. in C. Nore's 071058B.
(D.L.D. 071943B to H.Q. A.D.G.B.)

OperationsNorth
Biscay
Area.
Anti-
shipping
Operations.

Nr.2. My Nr.1 (062359). For 5 Transports, 1 unknown, change to possibly 6 destroyers position 46.20 N. 01.57 W. course 360 degs.
(A/C. KAO.91, 070110B to 19 Group)
P.C.S. 4 unidentified craft, 47 degs. 38' N. 03 degs. 35' W. 270 5 knots.
(A/C POK.10, 070125B to 19 Group)
Nr.1. 6 ships in position 47 degs. 30' N. 04 degs. 15' W. course 040, Suspect Escort Group.
(A/C. KAO,23, 070410B to 19 Group)
One large vessel 47 degs. 38' N. 03 degs. 27' W. lighted.
(A/C TDY.83, 070755B to 19 Group)
2 surface vessels, 3000 tons, 2000 tons, anchor outside Groix 47 degs. 42' N. 03 degs. 27' W.
(A/C KAO,58, 070815 to 19 Group)
P.C. and S. of 2 medium vessels and 3 M/S 47 degs. 55' N. 04 degs. 09' W. stationary. 3000 and 750 tons.
(A/C KBO,57, 071022B to 19 Group)

My /...

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7.8.1944
MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations

North My Nr. One. Have attacked enemy with bombs.
Biscay Estimate one hit.
Area. (A/C KBO.57, 071105B to 19 Group)
Anti- P.C.S. of 2 enemy M/V's 46 degs. 29' N. 01 degs.
shipping 47' W. stationary, 2500 tons.
Operations. (A/C RON 29 to 19 Group, T.O.R.071418)
(Contd.) My 062029B amend as follows.
Para.2. Force 26 - to operate off Biscay Coast
between Chausee De Sein and Gironde.
(2) Para. 3. Add "and to obtain intelligence of
situation and to show the flag".
(3) Para. 4. Force 26 to pass Gate at 1600B/7. After passing
(FF) proceed to reach (KK) 47 degs. 34' N. 4 degs. 06' W. by
0400B/8. After passing (KK) Force 26 is to patrol off Biscay
Coast proceeding at discretion as far south as the Gironde.
(4) Para. 5 and 6. Cancel.
Further orders will be signalled.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 071240B to BELLONA, URSA, PIORUN, ONSLOW)
Position of enemy, 2 escort vessels, one merchant vessel,
one tanker, 7 unknown, 47 degs. 16' N. 02 degs. 12' W.
(A/C RON.29, 071520 to 19 Group)
Position of enemy 2 merchant vessels 300 tons and 1500 tons
47 degs. 39' N. 03 degs. 28' W., stationary.
(A/C RON.29, 071540 to 19 Group.)
Nr.1. 4 M-class minesweepers, 1 E-Boat position 47 degs.
54' N., 04 degs. 07' W., stationary.
(A/C KBO.88, 071900 to 19 Group.)
19 Group aircraft will patrol tomorrow 8th/9th August as
follows: 2 Liberators Ras de Sein to Belle Ile. 2 Liberators
Belle Ile to Isle de Re. Avenger Beaufighter and Mosquito
sweeping inshore from Brest to Gironde.
(2) A section of 10 Group night fighters will be at immediate
readiness from 2300/7th to 0600/8th.
(3) No Liberators available for direct co-operation with Force
26.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 071936B to Force 26.)
Dispositions of E.Gs.
2nd E.G. rectangle - sides 234 degs. 25 miles and 144 degs, 10
miles from 047 degs. 40' N. 003 degs. 53' W.
14th and 15th E.G. between 048 degs. 10' N. and 048 degs. 20' N.
and between 005 degs. 10' W. and 005 degs. 45' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 071944B to Force 16.)
Military situation indicates probability of general
evacuating of Lorient tonight. Proceed with all despatch to
reinforce E.G.2. Shift to read B.N. at 2300.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 072236B to E.G.14, (R) E.Gs. 2, 15
and Force 26.)
Evacuation Lorient by sea believed imminent, probably to
Gironde.
(2) Estimate enemy shipping will keep well inshore and may be
as far south as Les Sables d'Olonne by daylight tomorrow.
(3) Cut them off and sink the lot.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 072326B to Force 26.)
My 072236. At first light proceed to operate against
escaping shipping between Belle Ile and Ile de Groix.
(2) Sec. Q.Z.X.1176 and 368.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 072340B to E.G.14, (R) E.G.2, E.G.15,
Force 26.)

/Operation ...

7.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Offspring". Operation "Offspring". Route as follows: Scapa, passing west of Orkneys to - 60.54 N., 01.40 W (WW) to 63.10 N., 02.00 E. (BB) to 63.10 N., 04.00 E. (AA).
(2) If postponement is then necessary intend to operate in area bounded by 64 N. and 62 N., 03 degs. W. and Norwegian coast.
(C.S.1, 071514B to F.O.(S), 18 Group.)

Russian S/MS. Owing to further British operations request Russian submarines should not operate west of 23 degs. E. until further signal. A.M. 222218 July refers.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 072350B to S.B.N.O. North Russia.)

Goodwood

Enemy Intelligence.

PRINZ EUGEN, My 051327 August.
LÜTZOW Reliably reported from Helsingfors August 5th that cruiser PRINZ EUGEN has been in vicinity of Abo for some days. B.2.
(2) Pocket battleship LÜTZOW was sighted steaming northward near Gotland yesterday August 6th supposed proceeding to Abo area. A.2.
(3) On Island Loon north-east of Abo Germans have prepared fleet anchorage with net defence which is now believed in use by these warships. A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 081751 to Admty.)

U-Boats

Anti-U-Boat A/C from Stornoway. I appreciate that enemy may attempt to repeat U-Boat operation in North Minches now that nights are longer.
(2) Intend to operate 2 Swordfish Squadron from Stornoway Airfield. It is understood Transport Command has no objection.
(3) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested sail FENCER a.m./7th August to Stornoway to disembark 3 Swordfish, air staff and sufficient squadron and armament stores and personnel to maintain her 12 Swordfish fully operational for at least 14 days. On completion FENCER is to comply with C. in C. H.F. 051813 re transfer of Wildcat.
(4) R.N.A.S. Hatston is requested fly remaining 9 Swordfish of 842 Squadron to Stornoway a.m./8th August.
(5) A separate signal will be made concerning landing Swordfish of 825 Squadron from VINDEX.
(C. in C. W.A., 070005 to A.C.O.S.)
On approaching North Minches (my 071308) number 825 Squadron is to be flown off to Stornoway airfield.
(2) After anchoring off Stornoway VINDEX is to disembark air staff and sufficient squadron and armament stores and personnel to maintain squadron for at least 14 days.
(3) FENCER is to disembark a similar party. Both C.V.Es. will subsequently anchor in Loch Ewe.
(C. in C. W.A., 071816B to VINDEX.)

/Search ...

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7.8.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSU-Boats - Contd.

- Search for U-Boat. Cansos will patrol area bounded as follows. (A.C.I.C., 070306B to Force 31, THIRLMERE, WINDERMERE.)
My 070306 and 070726. All aircraft are returning to base owing to weather.
(A.C.I.C., 071214B to Force 31.)
- Appreciate U-Boat may proceed north of Faroes to Norway.
(2) Coastal Command are covering to southward.
(3) Take up patrol on line between 062 degs. 17' N. 008 degs. 28' W. and 062 degs. 56' N. 008 degs. 46' W., sweeping on passage.
(4) I will be about 30 miles south of you. My A/C searching to north-eastward.
(VINDEX, 071217B and 071647B to BURGES.)
With the approach of longer nights I appreciate that the enemy may attempt to renew U-Boat operations in North Minches area.
(2) If not in contact with enemy Force 31 proceed forthwith to sweep through 060 degs. 48', 013 degs. 42'. Aircraft N of 120 Squadron 070055Z refers. Thence towards Butt of Lewis where BURGES and BAZELY are to part company to Scapa for fuel, thence Stornoway. VINDEX, MORPETH CASTLE, TILLSONBURG, PETROLIA proceed to Stornoway where VINDEX is to disembark Swordfish of 825 Squadron. Separate signal follows.
(3) A.C.I.C. is requested to resume operational control of THIRLMERE and WINDERMERE forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A., 071308B to Force 31, A.C.I.C.)
Completed box sweep 10 miles. P.C.S. 061 degs. 30' N., 015 degs. 46' W., 121 degs., 11 knots.
(THIRLMERE, 071403B to ?)
HONNINGSVAAG (S.O.), and NAMSOS are being sailed to patrol 30 miles either side of 061 degs. 40' N., 016 degs. 01' W. on a line 120 degs. and 300 degs.
(A.C.I.C., 071416B to Force 31.)
Flying postponed from 1915 owing to fog.
(2) My P.C.S. at 2200, 060 degs. 49' N., 013 degs. 41' W., 120 degs., 13 knots.
(3) BURGES, BAZELY and TILLSONBURG sweeping 15 miles ahead.
(VINDEX, 072129B to C. in C. W.A.)
- U-Boats reported. (1) One U-Boat is estimated in area 54 degs. 30' N., 34 degs. 30' W. and another in area 56 degs. 00' N., 34 degs. 00' W.
(2) U-Boats apparently transmit weather reports about 0200Z and 1200Z each day using "Off Dan" procedure. Admiralty message 850A of 262110A October 1943 refers.
(D.D.I.C., 071336B to Escorts O.N.F. 247.)
- Assessment procedure. Entirely concur with your 041740.
(2) Appointment of member by Com. 12th Fleet most welcome. Admiralty will inform him in advance of attack to be considered at next meeting.
(D.A/U.D., 071413B to Cominch.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

H.X./O.N.
convoy
cycle.
S.C./O.N.S.
schedule.

C. in C. W.A., 071311B.
See America and West Indies.

6th Canadian
Mid Ocean
Group.

C. in C. W.A., 071321B.
(See America and West Indies.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

VASCAMA,
CAPE
PORTLAND.

Request you will report position regarding taking over of VASCAMA and CAPE PORTLAND from Portuguese and when it is anticipated transaction will be completed.

(F.O.G.M.A., 071122B to S.B.N.O. Azores, (R)
B.N.A. Lisbon, Admty.)

GENEROSO
(Swiss).

My 021533 steamship GENEROSO. Sailing postponed to 1000 local time 10th August.

(D.E.W.D., 071903B to F.O.G.M.A.)

COSME
SOLER
(Spanish)

Spanish owners request permission to sail their motor sailing vessel COSME SOLER from Lisbon to Malta with wines and conserves.

(B.N.A. Madrid, 071940B.)
See C. in C. Med., 091150.

South Atlantic

ROBIN
GOODFELLOW
torpedoed
25th July.

M.V. PRIAM picked up distress message from ROBIN GOODFELLOW reporting being torpedoed in 20° 03' S. 14° 21' W. at 0015Z July 25th.

Your 061202Z and Cominch's 271355 to Com. 4th Fleet also refer.

(D.T.D., 071726B to Asst. B.N.S.O. Recife.)

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MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

- M.A.A.F. Air Report. Air Cositintrep No.393. Strategic Air Force. Day 6th Aug. Toulon S/M pens were well covered two large explosions. (M.A.A.F. No.T.O.O/7 recd. 080130)
- PIPINOS. Proceed forthwith to patrol in vicinity of position 098 degs. BB 39 miles by dawn 8th. (Capt. (S) 1, 071029 to PIPINOS)
- CURIE, UNIVERSAL. (F. French) CURIE leave patrol to pass 042 degs. 20' 007 degs. 02' at 0501/10th and UNIVERSAL leave through 042 degs. 39' 007 degs. 26' at 0459/10th. Both S/MS escort to arrive Maddalena at 0915/11th. (Capt. (S) 10, 071435 to CURIE, UNIVERSAL.)
- Fort Agami, attempted sabotage. Investigation reveals possibility of attempted sabotage at Fort Agami. Further investigation by security and C.I.D. proceeding. R.A. Alexandria's 181225/ refers. (F.O.L.E.M.071449C to C. in C. Med. Info: Admty, R.A. Alexandria, D.A.E.M.).
/ Loss of S.P.2538 (20) (Small Ships Signal Code)
- Air Cositintrep No.393. 6th. Coastal Air Force. A Marauder, two Hurricanes, a Beaufighter and 5 Venturas attacked a S/M, 80 foot schooner, JU.88 dropped incendiaries, bombed barges at Rab, Corfu and Gulf of Genoa. Schooner was left sinking, oil patches were observed after depth charges had been dropped on S/M. (M.A.A.F. 071543B to W.O)
- Blackout coast of Turkey. Turkish General Staff inform me that as from to-day 7th August complete blackout will be imposed on all coast of Turkey. (B.N.A.Ankara, 071850C to F.O.L.E.M.)
- Destroyers Patrol. Capt.(D) 5's 071716/. My P.C. and S. at 2045B/7 40 degs. 49' N. 18 degs. 13' E. 137 degs. 24 knots. Request R/V. E.T.A. West End of patrol line 0100. (WHADDON, 072030B to LAMERTON (R) Capt. (D) 5)
/ Not received.
- Situation Report 406. During past week 88 moored mines of 4 parcel type swept in approaches to Leghorn and several ground mines detonated in harbour. (2) VOX reports sinking small Caique on 1st and R-Boat with torpedo and 2 large Caiques by gunfire on 4th all between Santorin and Crete. (3) A/C mined Marmara Bay Paros and off Rhodes Harbour night 31st July/1st Aug. and returned anchorage (?for) torpedo attack during night 2nd/3rd. (C. in C. Med. 072314B)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

- U/B dispositions. Area D. At 0730Z(?) / 6th August aircraft sighted wreckage 011° 25' S. 041° 25' E., believed to be from EMPIRE CITY. Scale of air escort Y. Other areas, no fresh information. No change in scale of air escort. (C. in C. E.F., 070325Z.)
- U/B. By D/F at 0110Z / 7th a U-Boat (German) within 150 miles of position (indicated). Positions are N. and W. unless otherwise indicated 008° S. 042° 30' E. (C. in C. E.F., 070854Z.)
- H.D.M.Ls. Concur with para. (3) of C. in C. S.A's 041131 that these craft would be most useful in the Eastern theatre. (C. in C. E.F., 070854Z to Admty., C. in C. S.A., Info. Com. i/c Durban, C.S. Durban.)
- PORPOISE. For Commander Helbert. In view of the general conditions of PORPOISE and the state of her machinery I consider the period between operations given in your 031332 are inadequate. (2) As no other submarine is available to carry out the R/C you should arrange that programme of operation be amended to ensure proper period for rest of personnel and maintenance of machinery between each sortie. (C. in C. E.F., 070938Z to C.T.F. 71.)
- Cocos Islands A/C attack. An attack was carried out on Brown by one Japanese medium bomber between two hours of 0430 and 0540 G.M.T. on August 5th. Home and Direction Islands were bombed and all three inhabited islands strafed, height from 10,000 down to 50 feet. Casualties naval ratings D/F mechanic killed, one D/F operator wounded, three Malays killed, three Army other ranks slightly wounded, damage by fire to civilian property. (C. in C. E.F., 071143Z to Admty., (R) R.N.L.O. Delhi.)
- TOTLAND patrol. Have patrolled position Xray 11 hours. (2) P.315 (TRUCULENT) not met. My P.C. and S. at 1800Z 14° 18' N. 55° 25' E., 255°, 11 knots to 14° N. 54° E., wind force 7 sea 44. (TOTLAND, 071815Z to C. in C. E.F., (R) N.O.I.C. Aden, P.315 (TRUCULENT))
- SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA, DUMONT D'URVILLE. Your 060527. It has been approved by Cominch as Executive Agent of C.C.S. for both SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA and DUMONT D'URVILLE to join Eastern Fleet. (2) French proposal in para. 1(b) of B.A.D. Washington's 141425 March was not accepted by Admiralty. (D.O.D.(F), 071854B to C. in C. E.F., Info. A.C.N.B. C. in C. Med., N.O.I.C. Fremantle.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q., 071230Z, Cominch, 071606Z.)

H.X./O.N. A.M. 061320 concur one additional Western
convoy Approaches Group will be available for required
cycle. date.
S.C./O.N.S. (C. in C. W.A., 071311B to Admty., Info. N.S.H.Q.,
schedule. C. in C. C.N.A., Cdre. 10th Fleet, C. & R.,
 B.A.D.)

6th Canadian Your 032145. In normal circumstances I should
Mid-Ocean of course gladly concur in your proposal that
Group. C.6 Group should assemble in U.K. and do PHILANTE
 training before starting operations.
 (2) It appears however, from an examination of the
 intended new cycle in A.M. 061320 (not to all)
that an extra group will be required to start from Canada about
mid-September, and it is therefore presumed that you will, in
the circumstances, prefer to assemble C.6 on your side for this
duty.
(3) If this is confirmed I would arrange for the Group to visit
PHILANTE during their first lay-over in U.K. and for the
necessary equipment in your para. (3) to be installed as ships
become available during lay-overs at Londonderry.
(C. in C. W.A., 071321B to C. in C. C.N.A.)

H.X.S. 300. Average speed 7.7 knots. Off Oversay at 0600Z/
 2nd August. All arrived.
 (D.T.D., 071409B.)

U BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack Para. (A) (1) H.M. ship attacked U-Boat at 1434Z/
and sighting 6th Aug. in 47° 19' N. 04° 16' W.
summary. (2) U-Boat reported by P.R.U. at 1030Z/6th Aug.
 in Le Havre harbour.
 (3) EMPIRE CITY made SSSS at 2318Z/5th August.
 A/C sighted wreckage and lifeboats (probably
EMPIRE CITY) at 0736Z/6th August in 11° 23' S. 41° 25' E.
(amended - See Cominch, 101005Z.)
Para. (B) (1) H.M. Ship obtained stationary contact at 1050Z/6th
August in 50° 00' N. 00° 20' W.
(2) H.M. Ship attacked firm contact at 1213Z/6th August in 50°
00' N. 00° 29' W.
Para. (C) (1) H.M. Ships attacked firm contact at 0859Z/6th Aug.
in 61° 54' N. 15° 30' W.
(2) A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0055Z/7th August in 60° 48' N.
13° 42' W.

/(2) ...

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U BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

(3) Fighter A/C sighted U-Boat at 0815Z/6th Aug.
in 50° 02' N. 01° 39' W.
(4) A/C E/103 sighted doubtful periscope feather
course 070° at 1353Z/6th August in 48° 57' N.
04° 55' W.
(D.D.I.C., 071610Z.)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 071503B, 071505B.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). In Brittany Chateauneuf and St. Briec have been taken, and St. Malo is cut off; and in Normandy Vire has been taken and Allied troops are attacking south of Caen.

Enemy Action.

2. (a). R-Boats. At 0246B three U.S. Patrol Boats controlled by RETALICK engaged four R-Boats about 7 miles N.W. by N. of Cap d'Antifer, scoring some hits and driving the R-Boats off to the eastward. (b). Coastal Batteries. A coastal unit carrying out the minelaying operation K.N.30 off Cap d'Antifer were shelled during last night by coastal batteries at Etretat without result. (c). U-Boats. At 1414 today a U-Boat was attacked by the U.S. Patrol Boat 4Y1 about 45 miles E.S.E. of the Lizard, and E.G.1 are searching the area. (d). Mining. At 0859 the British FORT YALE in convoy F.T.M.62 was damaged by mine while under way 1 mile south of 56H Buoy where the channel has been swept 18 times since 21st July. There were no serious casualties. At 2143 the U.S. EZRA WESTON, 7176 tons, in convoy E.B.C.66 was mined* and sunk about 10 miles north of Trevoise Head; and at 2325 the corvette REGINA, with the same convoy, was also mined and sunk in the same position.

** probably U-boats, not mines.*

General.

North Biscay Operations.

3. Force 26, consisting of BELLONA (S.O.), URSA, PIORUN and ONSLOW, were operating today off the Biscay coast to intercept any attempt to evacuate Lorient and Brest to the southward by sea. E.G.2, 14 and 11 are also watching this coast; and at 0900B today Force 28, consisting of TARTAR and ASHANTI left Plymouth to patrol between Brest and Belle Ile. At 2207B BELLONA reported that no shipping had passed him today; but the coastal batteries at Belle Ile and Ile de Groix off Lorient engaged our forces during the day; BELLONA bombarded the Radar station at Belle Ile; and at 2141 the destroyer ST. LAURENT of E.G.11 was slightly damaged by a near miss bomb from a Do. 217 about 44 miles west of Lorient. Aircraft co-operated throughout today; and at 1823 25 Beaufighters attacked four enemy minesweepers 22 miles south of St. Nazaire and left three of them on fire.

/Operation...

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation
"Offspring".

4. At 0816 C.S.1 in INDEFATIGABLE, with the cruiser DEVONSHIRE, the escort carriers TRUMPETER and NABOB, and 8 destroyers left Scapa.

Enemy convoy
attacked by
A/C.

5. At 1441 forty Beaufighter A/C attacked an enemy convoy about 4 miles south of Egersund, Norway, and left four M/Vs and five escort ships on fire.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

F-Lighters
sunk off
Vis Island.

6. On the night of 7/8th M.G.Bs. sank one F-Lighter by torpedo and another by gunfire off Vis Island, 44° 20' N. 15° 05' E. 14 German prisoners were taken. One M.G.B. was damaged.

East Indies.

U-Boat
sighted by
SAN CIRILO.

7. The SAN CIRILO (Tanker Br.,) today reported sighting a U-Boat on the surface in 14° 07' N. 52° 30' E. (about 100 miles N.W. of Sokotra.)

China.

Yangtse River
mined.

8. On the 7th and 8th the Yangtse River at Shanghai and Woosung was mined by 4 Liberator A/C. One ship was bombed and hit in the same area.

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

H.X/O.N.
convoy cycle.

9. Subject to the availability of one additional Canadian and one additional Western Approaches group it has been agreed to close the H.X/O.N. convoy cycle to 5 days overall from the 6th Sept.

6th Canadian
Mid Ocean
Group.

10. C. in C.C.N.A. today states that it has been confirmed that the 6th Canadian Mid Ocean Group will assemble and work up in North American waters in readiness for operation about the middle of September.

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military.

Communique No.122 (Extract).

The largest attack against the Western Sector since D day was launched by the enemy Sunday night on a front extending from Mortain to

Sourdeval. Mortain has changed hands for the third time and is now held by Allied troops.

The enemy penetrated some three miles in the area of Cherence Bousel where a tank battle is in progress. Another enemy penetration has been made to St.Barthelemy.

In the Brittany Peninsula Allied troops have freed Chateauneuf, and fighting is in progress outside St. Malo which is now cut off. St. Briec has been taken and the advance is continuing beyond the town.

No changes are reported in the areas of Brest and Lorient.

Auray has been reached by Allied forces. Chateaubriant has been freed. Sporadic fighting continues over the Peninsula. In Normandy Allied troops have taken Vire, and are attacking south of Caen.

(S.H.A.E.F., 081100B to Agwar.)

Naval.

(A) General. At approximately 0130/8 RETALICK controlling 3 U.S. P.T. Boats detected 4 R-Boats off Cap d'Antifer. The P.T. Boats engaged at close range and hits were observed. The enemy withdrew at high speed. Coastal force minelayers also off Cap d'Antifer successfully completed their task although shelled by Etretat batteries. No casualties to our forces.

(B) Assault Area. Nothing to report.

(C) Unloading figures to p.m./7th August

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 738,015 | 181,502 | 966,694 |
| U.S. | 991,592 | 187,094 | 1,031,311 |
| Total (D + 62) | 1,729,607 | 368,596 | 1,998,005 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 082337B to Admty.)

Assault Areas

St. Malo.

Your 052359.

Propose to commence sweeping to St. Malo approach channel as soon as possible. Consider destroyer support necessary as long as enemy has his present force of 6 or 7 M-class M/S in Channel Islands area, and suggest 2 destroyers from those detailed for operation "Author" are used. If approved request they may be sailed to Portland now. If Paimpol battery has not already been destroyed, request it may be neutralised by air action during minesweeping operations.

Intend approach channel to run from:-

(A) 049° 00'00" N. 002° 55'30" W. in direction 119½° to terminate at, (B) 000° 1.3 miles Le Vieux Banc group occulting light buoy.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 080153 to A.N.C.X.F.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Brittany

Proposed operations.

Your O71711B. By night until more forces are assigned me. Air being requested to cover area by day.

(C.T.F. 125, O81705B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Bombardments

Bombardment of Alderney.

(on 12/8)
p. 224, 229, 255.

Intend that RODNEY shall carry out a deliberate bombardment with air spotting of 305 mm. battery on Alderney.

(2) Firing position to be approximately Grid reference O332, where ship will be shielded from enemy radar by Cap de la Hague.

(3) Not more than 75 rounds 16-inch H.E. shell are to be fired, on conclusion of which 2nd T.A.F. is requested to arrange photographic R/C of battery so that damage may be assessed before further bombardment is decided upon.

(4) As soon as convenient C.T.F.125 is requested to sail 2 destroyers from W.A.A. to Plymouth, informing C. in C. Plymouth date and time of arrival. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to arrange onward passage with RODNEY to Portland. C. in C. Portsmouth is requested to sail ships early the following morning for W.A.A. via Channel How, informing A.N.C.X.F. time of arrival in W.A.A. so that airspot can be arranged. Should however it appear that weather conditions will not be fully suitable for airspot, C.T.F. 125 should so inform all concerned in order that sailing of RODNEY can be postponed.

(5) Whilst in assault area RODNEY will be under operational control of C.T.F. 125 who is requested to arrange for sweeping and escort of ship to firing position, and for escort back to Portland on conclusion of bombardment. RODNEY to arrive Portland before nightfall and remain there pending decision re further bombardment. Escort to return to W.A.A. as convenient.

(A.N.C.X.F., O80107B to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C.T.F. 125.)

RODNEY is to pass the Gate at 1200B/9th escorted by FAULKNOR and STORD and proceed by standard route to Portland. A.N.C.X.F.'s O80107 refers.

(C. in C. Plymouth, O81930B to RODNEY.)

Bombardment of Ile de Cezembre.

Your O72250. It is considered that this operation would be valueless and is not to take place.

(2) Further air attacks on Ile de Cezembre should be asked for.

(A.N.C.X.F., O80725B to C.T.F. 125.)

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Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67.
 F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 358, 25 Z.2. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 751, 612 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles. F.U.3 OPPORTUNE in 050° Z.3 3 miles. F.T.4 M.T.Bs. 231, 229 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. F.U.5 OBEDIENT in 050° Z.5 3 miles. F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 359, 353 in 230° Z.6 2 miles. F.U.7 ORWELL Z.7.
 (2) Aircraft under Swingate V.H/F control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne breakwater light.
 (A.C. Dover, 081242B.)

Patrols from Plymouth. (A) Unit G.X.1, M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O.), 787, 728, 739.
 (B) Leave Falmouth 0730B/9.
 (C) (TT) 49° N. 50° W. to arrive 1100 to R/V with Force 29 and Units G.X.1, 2 and 3 and refuel.
 (2) (A) Units G.X.2 and 3 M.T.Bs. 720 (S.O.), 717, 719 and M.T.Bs. 679 (S.O.), 676, 677.
 (B) Leave Dartmouth 0600B/9.
 (C) (TT) 49° N. 5° W. to arrive 1100 to R/V with Force 29 and Unit G.X.1 to refuel.
 (3) On completion of fuelling Force G.X. comprising units G.X.1 2 and 3 proceed through following positions (UU) 270° Creach Lt. 18. (WW) Raz Pt. 20. (WW) 235 Penmarch Lt. (flashing every 5 secs.) 15. (YY) 247 Pen Men Lt. 10 to arrive 2330.
 (4) At (YY) Force to separate into Units to patrol the following areas:- Unit G.X.1 south-eastwards of a line 010 Pt. Tudy Lt. Unit G.X.3 north-westwards of a line 010 Pt. Tudy Lt. Unit G.X.2 approaches to Concarneau and Benodet.
 (5) Object, destruction of enemy shipping.
 (6) Force is to return by reverse route at daylight or earlier at the S.O's discretion.
 (7) E.G.15 will provide W/T link between Coastal Forces and Plymouth on 2300 k/cs.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 082150B.)
 (A) Unit G.P.1, M.T.Bs. 227 (S.O.), 94, 239. (B) 1730B/8.
 (C) (AA) 314° Triagoz 11.5 to arrive 2130. (D) From (AA) patrol Z.221 Unit is not to leave the area during dark hours without informing Force 27. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping.
 (F) Unit is to remain in the area until after daylight time of leaving to be at S.O's discretion.
 (2) Force 27, SALADIN and ALBRIGHTON will patrol in Z.216, 220, 225, 226, 231 in support.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 081516B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 8th/9th.
 (A) OFFA (G.F.2), ORIBI (G.F.3), VERSATILE (G.F.4), VIDETTE (G.F.5), line abreast patrol ships 1 mile apart from E.A.3 Buoy to S.E. corner of Z.102.
 6th Escort Group (OUTREMENT (S.O.), WASKESIU, DRUMHELLER, GROU) Gamma from 49° 52' N. 01° 10' W. in a direction 330° to N.W. corner of Z.112. WENSLEYDALE (G.H.1) patrol on a line between 50° 12' N. 00° 03' W. and 50° 15' N. 00° 05' E. MELBREAK (G.H.2) patrol on a line between 50° 06' N. 00° 19' W. and 50° 09' N. 00° 11' W. Report night dispositions.

/(B) ...

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Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols (B) RETALICK (G.D.1) in Z.8. (C) Unit G.D.2
from M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O.), 453, 454. Unit G.D.3 U.S.
Portsmouth. P.Ts. 520 (S.O.), 511, 521. Unit G.D.4 M.T.Bs.
(Contd.) 693 (S.O.), 691, 692. Unit G.D.5 S.G.Bs. GREY

SHARK (S.O.), GREY OWL with RETALICK in Z.8.

Force G.D. to be in positions by 2330B.

(F) (2) Operation "Purblind" free bombing area
bounded on the north by a line joining Boulogne to 50° 00' N.
00° 10' W., on the west by meridian 00° 10' W., and on the
south and east by the French coast.

(3) In the event of Operation "Purblind" being cancelled Force
G.D. will patrol in Z.13.

Waiting position for Force G.D. will then be north-west corner
of Z.16. WENSLEYDALE's patrol will then be between positions
50° 25' N. 00° 15' E., and 50° 28' N. 00° 23' E. MELBREAK's
patrol will be between 50° 12' N. 00° 03' W., and 50° 15' N.
00° 05' E.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081307B.)

My 081307. Para. (F) (2) cancelled. Comply with para.

(F) (3).

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081506B.)

Daylight patrols 9th August.

6th E.G., DRUMHELLER Gamma patrol 49° 55' N. 01° 15' W.,
direction 340° to 50° 29' N.

Spout Patrol. (2) OFFA - Q, MELBREAK - V, WENSLEYDALE - W,
VERSATILE - D, ORIBI - E, VIDETTE - F.

(3) TALYBONT pass Gate at 0900B and relieve OFFA. OFFA return
harbour on relief.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081808B.)

MiningFORT YALE
damaged.

M.T.85 (FORT YALE) mined whilst underway at slow
speed 1 mile south 56 H Buoy at 080859 in engine
room starboard side. Master, mate, and 2 boat
loads of survivors standing by to return on board,
remainder of crew taken to FROBISHER. No serious

casualties. SALVEDA, BERTHA, ZWARTE ZEE ordered to casualty.

(FROBISHER, 081028B to F.O.B.A.A.)

FORT YALE mined near L.8 Buoy at 0900 today when proceeding
F.T.M.62. Empty, retaining buoyancy, but engines apparently
damaged. This channel has been swept 18 times since last
suspected minelaying on 21st July.

(F.O.B.A.A., 081206 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Reports of minelaying during past 24 hours indicate 2 mines
laid. M.T.85 FORT YALE was damaged by suspected mine in Punitiog
270° 2.5 miles L.8 Buoy in Q.Z.S.537. This channel is swept
daily and since last suspected lay has been swept 18 times.
Channel between L.7 and L.8 buoy has been closed. Q.Z.S.536
has also been closed and traffic diverted by Q.Z.S.540. Latter
channel has been swept over 50 times, since last suspected lay
with negative results. One magnetic swept in Q.X.K. repeat
Q.X.S. 538, 228° two cables from C.A. Buoy. Sea calm.

(Capt. M/S.X., 082230B to A.N.C.X.F.)

8.8.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Engagement with R-Boats. Patrol shelled. At 0132B/8th RETALICK patrolling N.W. off Cap d'Antifer plotted 4 R-Boats in 035 Cap d'Antifer 7 miles steering 090° 12 knots. Unit G.F.5, U.S. P.T. Boats 469, 459, 457 steered to intercept and after shadowing engaged heavily at 0246B, range 900 yards closing to 400 yards, and hits were observed. U.S. P.T. 459 sustained slight damage to one engine, but remainder of unit re-engaged at 0303B and R-Boats were driven to the eastward. G.F.5 suffered no casualties. Unit G.A.2 carrying out K.N.30 were shelled by batteries at Etretat but completed the operation at 0022B after evasive action.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 081609B to Admty.)

U-Boats.

Contact attacked. Am attacking stationary contact 270° 14 C. Buoy 6.7.
(VERSATILE, 080752B to Portsmouth.)

Channel situation. In English Channel up to two in the Spout. Two or three on passage off Ushant and in Western Channel.
(D.D.I.C., 081459B to A.I.G. 331.)

U-Boat attacked. My 081909 not to Admty. and your 081913. First E.G. is co-operating with aircraft in position 049° 37' N. 004° 33' W. If no direct contact is found intend plastering area with mass depth charge attack.
(E.G.1, 082025B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

P.B.4Y1 BUNO 32297. 110B 15 attacked submerged U-Boat at 1414 G.C.T. on 8th August in 49.38 N. 04.08 W. Schnorkel attacked with 8 depth charges at 0749 G.C.T. with no evidence damage. Sonobuoy pattern of 8 sowed after attack results negative until 1348 G.C.T. when numbers 7 and 8 down 3 1/2 hours became positive.

Water noises only after attack. No visual evidence. Preceded by depth charge attack at 0749 G.C.T. on Schnorkel on course 018° true. After 0749 G.C.T. attack Escort Group closed and attacked with depth charges departing shortly after attack.

(Combomron 110, 082047 to Cominch.)

Have swept a .2 mile area around position marked by Sunderland, GE E fitted Halifax however has marked a position 3.2 miles 076° from this as diving position. Have searched this area thoroughly. Blitzed it with 192 depth charges. No result. Intend carrying out 20 mile Gamma north and south of centre position 049° 41' N. 004° 32' W.

(E.G.1, 082335B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

8.8.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

E.W.L. 61B. E.W.L.61B: 3 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080202B.)

E.P.P. 15. E.P.P.15: 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080205B.)

E.W.L. 61A. E.W.L.61A: 1 ship and 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080215B.)

E.B.C. 64. E.B.C.64: 21 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080828B.)

E.T.C. 61. E.T.C.61: 21 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F., 080855B.)

F.P.M. 30. F.P.M.30: 12 ships and 5 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 081130.)

F.B.C. 48. F.B.C.48: 14 ships.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 081245.)

F.P.L. 11. F.P.L.11: 15 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 125.1.3, 081320B.)

E.P.M. 29. E.P.M.29: 14 ships, 4 C.G. Cutters, 7 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F., 081325B.)

F.W.P. 30. F.W.P.30: 2 ships.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3, 081325B.)

F.T.M. 62. F.T.M.62: 10 ships and 5 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A., 081346B.)

F.T.C. 61. F.T.C.61: 14 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A., 081438B and 081725.)

F.P.M. 30. Sailed 1400 F.P.M.30 for Southampton.
(C.T.U. 125.2.1, 081727B.)

Bluesky 50. (A) Bluesky 50.
(B) L.C.T.821 (boat loaded whale equipment), 671
(loaded propellers ex-FURY), CONGRE towing L.B.E.
5, 43, 51.
(N.O.I.C. Arrow 081907B and 082135B.)

8.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.W.L. 521-16. F.W.L. 521-16. 9 L.S. Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A., 081907B.)

Bluesky 51. (A) Bluesky 51. (B) L.C.I.(L) 386 (S.O.),
T.81 and U.S. 229.
(N.O.I.C. Arrow, 082127B.)

E.X.P.X457. E.X.P.X457. 5 ships.
(N.O.I.C. Arrow, 082309.)

Organisation and Administration

M/S
organisation.
Proposals.

Heavy minesweeping commitments in the Brittany Peninsula will necessitate a reduction of the minesweeping forces available for the Bay of Seine.

(2) To make the best and most economical use of available sweepers it is proposed that all sweeping in the Normandy beach area should be placed under control of Captain M/S East with the title of Captain M/S Seine. Line of demarcation between Captain M/S Seine and Commander M/S Cherbourg to be longitude 01° 20' W. Commander M/S Beaches to be retained and to be accommodated ashore. St. Vaast is suggested.

(3) Under above conditions it is considered that a relief for CHIMO will not be necessary.

(4) Request your remarks.

(A.N.C.X.F., 081622B to F.O.B.A.A., C.T.F. 125.)

Operational
control of
Brittany
Waters.

Your 071835. Your reply to United States Army as regards Ports should be based on the proviso that until I am fully informed of the position of the Army the condition of the Ports (my 031629 refers) and the state of the shore defences (my 071607) refers I do not intend to run convoys

into the Gulf of St. Malo. You should be in a position from your own knowledge to deal with requests of this kind and you should keep me informed.

(2) Action intended on French Coast is referred to in my 061215, 061315 and C. in C. Plymouth 071711. Action against Channel Islands in my 080107 all of which are addressed to you. Information of action of forces under command of C. in C. Plymouth (C. in C. Plymouth's 080236 refers), South and East of Brest will in future always be passed to you. The imputation in your signal that you have not been fully informed cannot be accepted.

(3) Steps should be taken to improve your own communications. It is considered that close co-ordination between yourself and C. in C. Plymouth should be possible.

(4) No further forces are immediately available for operations in the Gulf of St. Malo but it is hoped that you will make the

/maximum ...

8.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Organisation and Administration

Operational
control of
Brittany
Waters.
(Contd.)

maximum use of DD's, DE's and P.T. Boats assigned to you. I have received no specific request from you for reinforcement and in default of such request and of full information of your dispositions and the results of operations (my 071127 refers) it is difficult for me to assist you.

(5) Admiralty do not agree to the proposed extension of the Assault Area but this should not interfere with your close collaboration with C. in C. Plymouth and I desire that you should take steps to achieve this.
(A.N.C.X.F., 081911B to C.T.F. 125.)

8.8.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

General

Policy

Flag of
C.S.10.

The Flag of C.S.10 will be transferred from
DIADEM to JAMAICA at 1600 to-day.
(C. in C. H.F. 081224B to H.F.)

Defence of U.K.

Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.

C. in C. Nore 071058 August.
Concur that assistance to E-Boats attacking Convoy
is afforded by unrestricted use of searchlights
in Anti-flying bomb role. No reason is seen
against imposing restrictions on Searchlights
during the passage of convoys when E-Boats are on
the plot in view of the present infrequency of
this occurrence and the fact that the bomb is lighted. Normally
one westbound and two eastbound convoys pass through the area
each night.

(2) With regard to gunfire, so far as is known only one casualty
has been caused afloat up to the present, and that in EMPIRE
BEATRICE undergoing salvage off the inner Lade Buoy. Several
cases of near misses have been reported by minesweepers and
coastal Forces. It has not hitherto been considered necessary
to suggest restrictions re gunfire, it being the view that this
risk must be accepted in the same way as that from H.A. gunfire
in any area, whether at flying bombs or aircraft. This view
may require reconsideration if a tendency now apparent to send
very low flying bombs increases.

(A.C. Dover, 081125B to Admty)

In order to provide increased visual aid to fighter pilots
in the detection and location of flying bombs when crossing the
Channel, it is desired to establish look-out patrols of R.M.L's
in the Eastern Channel area.

(2) 61st and 68th R.M.L. Flotillas will be available to carry
out these patrols and may be considered as available for Air/
Sea recue duties simultaneously.

(3) A.C. Dover is requested to assume responsibility for
operating the R.M.L's working in conjunction with H.Q. A.D.G.B.
whose 011845 refers.

(A.C.N.S.(H), 081928B to A.C. Dover) *See also 101944, p. 196.*

Operations

North Biscay area. Nr. 1. 6 Unknown ships position 47 degs. 37' N.
03 degs. 34' W. Flak.
Anti-ship- (A/C KBO, 34, 080005B to 19 Group)
ping Operations. P.C.S. of 3 enemy escort vessels 45 degs. 48' N.
01 degs. 21' W. 270 degs. 15 knots.
(A/C KBO.59, 080029 to 19 Group)
TARTAR and ASHANTI form 28 Force, pass Gate 0900B
to-day and proceed at 22 knots through position - (CC) (DD)
and (FF) and then to patrol between Belle Isle and Chaussee de
Sein in anticipation attempt by enemy to evacuate Brest by sea
to southward.

(2) /...

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TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations

North Biscay area. (2) Object to destroy enemy ships, obtain intelligence of situation, and show the flag.

Anti- (3) Information as in my 062029B. Evacuation by shipping sea of Lorient believed imminent and of Brest Operations. probable.

(Contd.) (C. in C. Plymouth, 080304B to TARTAR, ASHANTI) Shift patrol area forthwith to rectangles 10 miles 234 degs. and 25 miles 144 degs. from 047 degs. 25' N. 003 degs. 50' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 080409B to E.G.2, E.G.14)

Am engaging 3 M.V. off Ile-de-Groix.
(E.G.14, 080625B to C. in C. Plymouth)

My 080625. 2 patrol vessels retired behind Ile de Groix. Have been engaged by shore battery on island up to range of 10 miles. Several ships, including possible destroyer, anchored inside island. Am proceeding southward.
(E.G.14, 080756B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Have swept Belle Isle to Ile de Groix close inshore. Northing found. Ile de Groix battery still active.
(E.G.14, 081031B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Nr. 1 P.C.S. of one escort vessel, 3 transports, 2 small craft 47.39 N. 03.27 W. Stationary.
(A/C MFW.16, 081140B to 19 Group)

3 Merchant Vessels, 1 minesweeper, 090 degs. stationary position 47 degs. 40' N. 03 degs. 30' W.
(A/C TOH, 67. 081300 to 19 Group)

Leave present duty so as to be off approaches to Brest by 2100 to establish anti-U-Boat and anti-shipping patrol.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081308B to E.G.14)

Following information has been received from forces on west and north coast of Brittany.

(2) Several ships including possible destroyers anchored inside Ile de Groix at 0800/8th. Shore batteries on Ile de Groix still active.

(3) Enemy batteries in action on Belle Ile and Quiberon Peninsula at 1300/8th.

(4) Enemy Radar Stations on Belle Ile and Ile D'Yeu operating at 0900/8th.

(5) BELLONA bombarded Radar Station on Belle Isle (047 degs. 18' N. 003 degs. 14' W.) probably damaged it at 1230/8th.

(6) French fishermen report that garrison of Ile D'Yeu formerly 700 to 900 men now half evacuated to Sables D'Olonnes, average age of troops 30 years, morale high. No mines around island. French survivors of action night 5/6th August estimate 8 or 9 ships involved and about 800 German troops drowned.

(7) No shipping movements seen during daylight 8th.

(8) Nothing moving on North coast Brittany. Dense fog on 8th.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 081548B to Admty)

P.C.S. of 9 unidentified craft 46 degs. 22' N. 03 degs. 22' W. 135 degs. speed 10 knots.
(A/C UTC.68 081619B to 19 Group)

P.C.S. of enemy, 3 merchant vessels, 3 escort vessels, 3 escort vessels, 1 3000 tons, 2 1500 tons, 47 degs. 21' N. 03 degs. 08' W.
(A/C JMV.16, 081630B to 19 Group)

Am about to attack on 47 degs. 39' N. 03 degs. 27' W.
(A/C UAX, 62. 081641B to 19 Group)

Contact regained with large launch in 46 degs. 32' N. 3 degs 26' N. speed 9 knots, Red and Yellow markings.
(A/C UTC.68, 081800 to 19 Group)

Attacked /...

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Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations.

North Biscay area. Anti-
 shipping Operations. (Contd.)

Attacked 4 minesweepers, 3 burning, 46 degs. 55' N. 02 degs. 08' W.
 (A/C RDP.25. 081823B to 19 Group)
 5 sailing Boats 46 degs. 28' N. 02 degs. 05' W. course 230 degs. speed 8 knots.
 (A/C NGJ.61, 082010B to 19 Group)
 Am being attacked by enemy A/C. Position 47 degs. 30' N. 03 degs. 36' W.
 (ST. LAURENT to Plymouth No.T.O.O. Recd. 082152)
 Nothing further to report. Traffic at standstill. Nothing has passed. Intend (?remaining) area south Ile D'Yeou during night with occasional east to north westward.
 (S.O. Force 26 082207B to C. in C. Plymouth)
 Was attacked in 47 degs. 30' N. 04 degs. 36' W. at 2141B by Dornier 217 with glider bombs. Near miss. No casualties. No hull damage. A gun damaged. 25% effective and gyro damaged.
 (ST. LAURENT, 082256B to C. in C. Plymouth)
 C. in C. Plymouth's 081637. R/V with me in 047 degs. 35' N. 004 degs. 40' W. at 0700B/9.
 (Force 28, 082326B to IROQUOIS)

Operation "Goodwood".

Operation "Goodwood". In order to allow more sea-room for flying operation and greater flexibility for approach routes of air strikes request you will arrange for Russian S/Ms to keep to eastward to 28 degs. E. from 19th August. (C. in C. H.F. 081125Z to Admty)

Operation "Victual".

Following escorts of J.W.59 will require fuel at Kola Inlet:
 1 cruiser, 6 Fleet destroyers, 3 escort destroyers, 4 sloops, 4 corvettes and 7 frigates, 3 of which are diesel. Your 260941/July and A.M.021445 refer.
 (D.O.D. (H), 081312B to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

(1) Following operation is to be carried out. Object safe passage of convoy J.W.59 and R.A. 59A. between U.K. and North Russia.
 (2) D day is day J.W.59 sails from Loch Ewe. Date codeword and route are in my 081930.
 (3) Force taking part. (a) Cruiser escort JAMAICA wearing flag of C.S.10 who will conduct operation.
 (b) Escort Carriers STRIKER (S.O) NABOB, TRUMPETER.
 (c) Fleet Destroyers MILNE (S.O. 3rd D.F.), MUSKETEER, MARNE, METEOR, NUBIAN, CAPRICE.
 (d) Through escort BULLDOG (S.O), CYGNET, MERMAID, PEACOCK, KITE, KEPPEL, WHITEHALL, BLUEBELL, OXLIP, HONEYSUCKLE, LOCH DUNVEGAN, CHARLOCK.
 (e) Supporting Group, 5th Escort Group BICKERTON (S.O), AYLNER, BLIGH, GRINDALL, KEMPTHONE, KEATS.
 (f) Local escort operating from Kola as arranged S.B.N.O. North Russia.
 (g) Up to 12 Russian M.L. will be included in convoy sailing from Loch Ewe.
 (h) Covering force will be provided as necessary from Home Fleet.

War Diary

8.8.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

- Operation "Victual" (Contd.)
- (4) Preliminary movement. S.O's concerned are requested to order preliminary movements as follows. Escort proceeding Loch Ewe should arrive in daylight if possible. Reference sub. para in para. (3) (D) Arrive Loch Ewe by D minus 1 (A) F.O. C.S.10 in JAMAICA to attend convoy conference at Loch Ewe on D day, then to return to Scapa. (C) Capt. (D) 3 in MILNE to attend convoy conference then to proceed to fuel at Skaalefiord. Remainder Fleet destroyers to proceed direct to Skaalefiord arriving a.m. D plus one and fuel (E) Support group proceed from Scapa to arrive Skaalefiord a.m. D plus one and fuel.
- (5) J.W.59 is to sail p.m. D day escorted by through escort in para. (3) (D). Route Red unless otherwise ordered. All ships should be capable of 10 knots.
- (6) C.S.10 is to proceed with STRIKER, NABOB and TRUMPETER escorted by 4 destroyers temporarily attached so as to join J.W.59 about latitude 063 degs. N. a.m. D plus 2, when 4 destroyers are to proceed to fuel at Skaalefiord.
- (7) S.O. 3rd D.F. is to proceed with Fleet destroyer escort and Support Group so as to join J.W. 59 about 063 degs. N. a.m. D plus 2.
- (8) Support Group may subsequently be attached to one escort carrier. 18 Group CC. is requested to provide A/S air escort as far Northward as possible for both outward and homeward convoys.
- (10) Russian battleship ARCHANGEL escorted by 8 Russian destroyers will overtake and join convoy a.m. D plus 5.
- (11) These Russian warships will remain in convoy until arrival in approx. 030 degs. E. when they will proceed ahead to arrive Kola, a.m. D plus 8.
- (12) While in convoy Russian destroyers may require to fuel from oilers.
- (13) S.B.N.O. North Russia is requested to sail R.A. 59A as soon as practicable after arrival J.W. 59. Route Blue unless otherwise ordered.
- (14) If necessary to alter route by signal new positions are to be ordered with reference to lettered positions on route Red and Blue.
- (15) Attention is called N.R.C.I. Article 142 (D) (E) and (F)
- (16) Movement on completion unless otherwise ordered.
- (A) Through escort and support group return to W.A. bases.
- (B) JAMAICA escort carrier and Fleet destroyer return to Scapa.
- (18) Communications.
- (C. in C. H.F. 081706B to H.F.)
- Para. 2 of my 081706 D-Day 15th August. Codeword "Victual"
- Route Red through position - all the following positions are north and west unless stated -
- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| A 059 degs. 00' | 005 degs. 30' | B. 059 degs. 38' | 004 degs. 35' |
| C 063 degs. 20' | 005 degs. 30' | D. 072 degs. 50' | 002 degs. 20' E. |
| E. 075 degs. 20' | 013 degs. 30' E. | F. 075 degs. 20' | 024 degs. 00' E. |
| G. 071 degs. 50' | 036 degs. 00' E. | thence M.U.014 degs. | Cape Teriberski 34½ miles. |
- Route Blue. Through position M.U. and G. as above.
- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| W. 074 degs. 20' | 027 degs. 40' E. | X. 073 degs. 20' | 015 degs. 20' E. |
| Y. 070 degs. 30' | 007 degs. 00' E. | Thence C.B, and A. | as above. |
- (C. in C. H.F. 081930B to H.F.)

War Diary

8.8.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations - Contd.

Operation C.X. My 071308. Intend to carry out operation C.X. with object of destruction of U-Boats which may attempt to operate in the North Minch Area.
(2) Forces taking part. Force 31, BURGESS (S.O) BAZELEY, INMAN, MORPETH CASTLE, PETROLIA, ABELIA, A/C of 825 and 842 Squadrons from Stornoway Airfield. Additional air and sea forces may be ordered to join.
(3) N.O.I.C. Stornoway is requested to issue copies of my Memorandum No. W.A. 0770/106 of 30th March, 1944 to Forces in para. 2, FENCER and VINDEX.
(C. in C. W.A. 081540B to N.O.I.C. Stornoway, Force 31)

Operation "Offspring". Operation "Offspring".
Visibility prevented a rehearsal to-day. Intend keeping west of Orkneys and Shetlands tonight, carrying out rehearsal tomorrow in this area and operation on Thursday 10th.
(C.S.1, 082012B to C. in C. H.F.)

Mining

EZRA WESTON mined. EZRA WESTON has been mined in position 050 degs. 42' N. 005 degs. 03' W.
(Convoy E.B.C.66). Attempting to beach ship at Padstow.
(REGINA, 082143B to Admty)
EZRA WESTON abandoning ship in (remainder of message unread).
(REGINA, 082223B to Admty)

U-Boats

Ship attacked. Handed in 0455 G.M.T. from GEORGE P. GARRISON.
Torpedo crossed bow 0400Z, visibility nil, 56.20 N. 02.13 W.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 080435Z to Admty)

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8.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

VASCAMA,
CAPE
PORTLAND. Trawlers have been taken over from Portuguese today Tuesday and are now being prepared for sea. Including trials this is expected to take about one week.
2. Owing to their reduced complement especially in Communications Branch consider inadvisable they should proceed independently and propose sail them to join S.L. 167/M.K.S. 58 for passage to U.K. Your 071122.
(B.N.S.O. Azores 081056Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

ALBULA
(Swiss.) My 311245 July. Steamship ALBULA postponed again. Now sailing 1000 local time 9th August.
(Admty. 081542B to F.O.G.M.A.)

Spanish
Fishing
Vessels. My 312000B July. Vessels leaving Pasates 1800B/8th? August, S.O.A. 9 knots.
(B.N.A. Madrid 081901B.)

Spanish
Shipping
interceptions. August interception programme.
A. South America to Las Palmas for orders. SS. MONTE SOLLUBE, MONTE SERANTES and MONTE NARANCO.
B. West Africa to Mediterranean ports SS. RIO FRANCOLI.
(D.E.W.D. 081909B to F.O.G.M.A.)

C.T.G. 22.10. Cominch 081545. Your 081940 (N.T. of either in W.D.) Keep after two homewardbound submarines they are both yours now. Do not proceed east of 20 W. unless in hot pursuit. Keep those interested advised. Ref. not to all.
(Cinclant 082142Z to C.T.G. 22.10.)

South Atlantic.

U/B search. Have good contact in 023° S. 036° E. Intend hunting MARGUERITE proceeding with C.B.8.
(PLYM 080112Z to C. in C.S.A. (R) N.O.I.C. E.Af. C. in C.E.F. MARGUERITE.)
W.D. Note:- See C. in C.E.F. 061318Z (East Indies)
My 080112Z. Consider contact non submarine after ?carrying out 4 attacks. Am rejoining C.B.8.
(PLYM 080430Z to C. in C.S.A. (R) C. in C.E.F. N.O.I.C. E.Af. (MARGUERITE.)

GRIQUA. Your 081643 GRIQUA sailed from Matadi 1100/6th Aug. for Capetown via Walvis Bay 0600/11th. N.C. S.O. Matadis 061245 to C. in C.S.A. refers.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 081625Z to C. in C.S.A.)

Request whereabouts of Z.S.C.G. GRIQUA. No information since departure from Walvis. Your 080855 refers.
(C. in C.S.A. 081643B to F.O.C.W.Af.)

War Diary.

8.8.1944.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SEARCHER. R.A.E.C's 071737B (not received by W.R.) E.T.A. Boccapiccola 0730 request R/V with cruisers. (SEARCHER 080050B to 15th C.S. (R) R.A.E.C. N.O.I.C. Naples.)

Destroyers patrol. Your 080105 (N.T. in W.D.) Have been in vicinity of position with BEAUFORT since 0110. Have ordered LAMERTON and ? STONECROP to join me. Will concentrate Lunts (?Hunts intended) at daylight and carry out square search. There is considerable floating debris in area which might give A.S.V. contacts. (2 corrupt groups) in daylight. (Capt. D.5 080253 to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Air attack on SAMSYLANA (U.G.S.48) torpedoes 4th Report of air attack on convoy U.G.S.48 in accordance with C.A.F.O. 1353/44. A. At 2315B/4 in 33° 05' N. 20° 16' E. B. Convoy U.G.S.48. C. Number and type of aircraft unknown. D. Type of missiles - torpedoes, height of attack zero feet, four torpedoes known to have been fired. 3. One ship SS. SAMSYLANA damaged by torpedo. E. One enemy aircraft destroyed by ships. G. No. H. None. (DEPTFORD 080945C to Admty.)

Assessments of attacks on U-Boats. Summary of attacks on U-Boats assessed by Med. Joint Assessment Board. My 051610 July. Following attacks previously reported have been assessed as follows.

| Serial | Assessment. |
|--------|-------------|
| 85 | H |
| 88A | I |
| 92 | H |
| 94A | G |
| 96 | H |
| 98A | H |
| 101 | H |
| 102 | H |
| 103 | H |
| 109 | H |
| 111 | G |

(C. in C.Med. 080958.)

DUMONT D'URVILLE. Am being shadowed by one enemy aircraft - convoy codeword "Yardarm" - position 33° 23' N. 19° 24' E. (estimated) course 128 speed 11 knots. (DUMONT D'URVILLE 081045Z.)

ACHILLES. A.M. 171343 July. Subject to completion of minor defects it is intended to sail ACHILLES 16th Aug. from Clyde. 2. Request Mediterranean destination and intermediate ports, if any. (D.O.D.F. 081307B to C. in C.Med.)

8.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Black Sea
report.

Have had very friendly meeting today with C. in C. Black Sea Fleet who called at Sochi on his way through by air. He stated present inactivity due to Fleet being busy moving bases towards Crimea and referred to nuisance value of presence of

German submarines along Caucasus coast though they had actually inflicted very little damage he stated Feodosia and Yalta in use but of course not Sevastopol. He seemed to be unaware of my tour with Shirass.

2. He fully agreed on desirability of my being nearer to and in closer touch with staff but gave no indication that my move to vicinity of Sevastopol with staff was imminent. He said arrangements must be made to find accommodation.

3. I mentioned my request for new Liaison Officer and he (?concurred). I replied I must have one I can trust. (N.L.O. Black Sea 081505.)

DUQUESNE.

DUQUESNE is not required for forthcoming operations and it would be preferred if she were kept out of the Mediterranean for the present. A.M. 291841 July not to F.O.W.M. refers.

2. Understand French wish ship to be degaussed in U.K. this would solve the problem temporarily. (C. in C. Med. 081852B to Admty.)

Summary of
operations
3rd Aug. to
6th August.

2. Navy. A gap has been made in the block at the southern entrance to Leghorn Harbour. A convoy was attacked by torpedo bombers north of Benghazi on 5th Aug. and one ship was damaged. (A.F.H.Q. 082108B.)

M.A.A.F.
Air report.

Coastal air force night 6/7th. Spitfires and Hurricanes left 3 schooners sinking off Rab and Marauders strafed and left schooner sinking N.E. of Corfu. 5 P.R. Beaus. scored hits on 2 merchant vessels 1500/2000 tons entering Imperia. (H.Q.M.A.A.F. 081335B.)

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8.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

Area D. German U-Boat by D/F at 0110Z/7th within
150 miles of 008° south 042° 30' E. Scale of air
escort remains Y.

Other areas. No fresh information, and no change
in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 080330.)

S report
SAN CIRILO
(Tanker, Br.)

SSSS SSSS SSSS from (GZMR) SAN CIRILO. 14.07 N.
52.30 E. on surface.
(MANTOLA No T.O.O. Recd. 081042Z to Aden W/T.)

EMPIRE CITY
(sunk by
U/B 5th)

EMPIRE CITY sunk by U-Boat 052245Z in position 011°
33' S. 041° 25' E.
(C. in C.E.F. 081145Z to Admty.)

U/B report.

By D/F at 1758Z/8th a U-Boat within 200 miles of
008° S. 044° E.
(C. in C.E.F. 082104Z to S.& As. E.I.Station.)

8.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B search
by E.G.16.

At 0130Z/8 sailed E.G.16 SPRINGHILL (S.O.),
ORKNEY, CHARLOTTETOWN, TORONTO, speed 15 knots to
A.44.15 N. 48.10 W. to carry out a Gamma search
until further orders between A and B.45.15 N. 48.
10 W.
(C. in C.C.N.A. 080212Z to N.S.H.Q.)

Assessment
of A/S attacks
since D.day by
U.S.forces
based in U.K.

It has been agreed between Admiralty and Cominch
that all A/S attacks since D.day in which U.S.
forces U.K. based participated occurring in the
B.C.A. and N.S.A. areas, boundaries shown on
operations chart appearing in U.S.Fleet anti-
submarine bulletin, will be assessed by Admiralty
Assessment Committee augmented by one member
appointed by Com. Twelfth Fleet. U.S.forces
involved should forward original action report with track chart,
traces and/or photographs to Admiralty and send copy of action
report direct to Cominch.
(Cominch 081310Z to C. in C.Lant, Comfairawing, Seven Com.
Twelfth Fleet, (R) Admty.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 081329Z, Cominch 081610Z.)

H.X/O.N.
convoy cycle,
S.C/O.N.S.
schedule.

Concur your 061320. For planning purposes request
earliest possible indication of sailing dates 1st.
S.C. and O.N.S. to Halifax.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 081415Z to Admty. Info.
N.S.H.Q. C. in C.W.A. C. in C.C.N.A. F.O.N.F.
Comeastseafon.)

6th Canadian
Mid Ocean
Group.

Your 071321B. It is confirmed that C.6 will
assemble and work up on this side in readiness
for operation about mid September. Request
TILLSONBURG and COPPER CLIFF be sailed to Canada
on completion of working up in order to join the
group.

2. Arrangements for group visit to PHILANTE and installing of
necessary equipment will be greatly appreciated.
(C. in C.C.N.A. 081719Z to C. in C.W.A.)

A.T.141A
(MARIPOSA.)

Diversion.
(Connav 081831Z to MARIPOSA.)

Offer of
Dairlong?
craft in lieu
of Elco coas-
tal forces
craft.

Lorsa 21560. Request contained in Salor 13281
(161429 May) was Elco craft are in short supply and
urgently needed in the Pacific Navy Dept. may offer
in lieu eight 85 foot Dairlong? designsair sea
rescue boats being built by the U.S.Army. (details)
3. Would these craft be acceptable.
(B.A.D. 081847Z to Admty. (R) C. in C.Med.)

/H.X/O.N...

8.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

H.X/O.N. Admiralty's 061320 concur.
convoy cycle. 2. 1 additional Canadian Escort Group will be available for H.X.F. 308.
3. Request early promulgation S.C/O.N.S. and H.X/O.N. schedule to facilitate planning Canadian Coastal Convoy Cycles.
(N.S.H.Q. 082109Z to Admty.)

U/B incidents. No report 7th all times Z. Para. D 081608 C.47 aircraft sighted submerging U-Boat 47.26 N. 61.36 W. 072145 Coastal watchers sighted U-Boat about 47.15 N. 55.25 W. 071426 Fortress A/C sighted periscope 40.22 N. 29.30 W. course 270 speed 2. (Cominch 082120Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B incidents. S/M. attack and sighting summary for 24 hours to 0800Z/8th.
Para. B. 1. A/C H/114 obtained contact, sighted wake course 090° and small black object at 2254Z/6th in 49° 17' N. 05° 09' W.
2. A/C X/179 sighted possible periscope course 270° at 1605Z/7th in 49° 02' N. 05° 17' W.
3. A/C O/149 sighted westbound U-Boat at 2021Z/7th in 47° 53' N. 05° 25' W.
4. H.M.ship attacked contact at 0552Z/8th in 49° 52' N. 00° 56' W.
Para. D. 1. A/C W/220 sighted possible periscope course 270° at 1428Z/7 in 40° 22' N. 29° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 081153B.)

U/Bs attacked. My 221059 July 1942. 1. A U-Boat was sunk by H.M. Ships twenty miles south of Beachy Head at about 0400B/5. Six survivors picked up.
2. At 1625B/6 LOCH KILLIN sighted periscope and obtained Asdic contact in 47° 19' N. 4° 16' W. Attacked with Squid. U-Boat surfaced under LOCH KILLIN then broke free and sank. C.O. and 18 other survivors picked up. This is second successful Squid attack. My 011618Z refers.
(D.A.U.D. 081851B.)

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (D.D.I.C. 081448B, 081501B.)

9.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

General.

1(a) In Brittany the Allied Forces are closing in on St. Malo, Brest, and Lorient. In Normandy the enemy is resisting S. and S.W. of Vire, but our troops have made progress south of Caen and the bridgehead over the Orne has been extended.
(b) The beaches between Lyon and St. Aubyn were heavily shelled this evening.
(c) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | <u>Men</u> | <u>Vehicles</u> | <u>Stores</u> |
|---------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| British Area: | 748,626 | 184,770 | 1,006,555 |
| U.S. Area: | 1,016,806 | 190,996 | 1,158,239 |
| Total: | 1,765,432 | 375,766 | 2,164,794 |

Enemy
Action.

2(a) E.M.Bs. Between 0245 and 0500 today the Assault Area was attacked by Explosive Motor Boats of which over 40 are reported destroyed. No damage was sustained by our forces.
(b) Surface craft. At 0142 four R-Boats with four small craft were attacked about 6 miles N.E. of Cap d'Antifer by four M.T.Bs. who saw two large explosions among the enemy.
At 0305 two S.G.Bs. engaged four R-Boats escorting two vessels off Fecamp and left one of the vessels on fire.
At 0545 one of several E/R Boats was sunk by Spitfire A/C off Trouville.
At 0630 U.S. Patrol Boats engaged two M class minesweepers and a convoy of six ships three miles south of La Corbiere, Jersey, and made a second attack on the minesweepers at 0800 in St. Helier Roads. One of the minesweepers was damaged, but the U.S. P.T.509 is missing.
(c) Torpedo. At 0730 FROBISHER was damaged by torpedo while at anchor off Courseulles. There were no casualties.
(d) U-Boats. At 0845 a U-Boat was attacked off Ushant by a Sunderland A/C.

General

North
Biscay
operations.
U.608 sunk.

3(a) The watching of the Biscay Coast by ships and A/C was continued throughout today. No southbound shipping was seen; but TARTAR of Force 28 and ONSLOW of Force 26 were both straddled by Coastal Batteries, and at 2158 Force 26 was attacked without result by enemy A/C off St. Nazaire.

/PIORUN ...

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9.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

General

North
Biscay
operations.
U.608 sunk.
(Contd.)

PIORUN and ONSLOW were detached today from Force 26, which now consists of BELLONA (S.O.), URSA, TARTAR, ASHANTI and IROQUOIS.

(b) At 1430B a U-Boat (later found to be U.608) was attacked by Liberator A/C WOU.69 about 40 miles S.W. of St. Nazaire, and at 2158 WREN of E.G. 2 depth-charged the position. The U-Boat was destroyed.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

PIPINOS
report.

4. The Greek S/M PIPINOS reports that today she torpedoed and sunk the Italian destroyer CALATAFIMI outside Karlovassi (Samos); a ship said to be the ORION (German approx. 800 tons) and two 500 ton barges were damaged by her inside the harbour.

East Indies

STORM 5th
Far East
Patrol.

5. STORM reports that on the 1st August she sank by gunfire three coasters and one schooner in the Southern Moscos Channel (off the southern Burmese coast)

War Diary

9.8.1944
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military.

Communique No.123 (Extract)

Allied forces in Brittany are closing in on the ports of St. Malo, Brest, and Lorient. Converging columns have pushed to within 5 miles of Lorient, and other forces have engaged the enemy four miles from Brest. Fighting is now in progress in the outskirts of St. Malo. Large fires are burning at both St. Malo and Lorient, indicating destruction by the Germans of their supplies in both ports. Confused fighting is in progress around Mortain. In the vicinity of Vire, the enemy is offering stubborn resistance South and Southwest of the town. The Allied drive South of Caen progressed some 7,000 yards yesterday.

The bridgehead over the river Orne has been extended.

(S.H.A.E.F. 091100B to A.G.W.A.R.)

Report of situation on west coast of France to a.m. 9th.

(1) Force 26 report no sign of movement. Convoy of one Elbing, 3 motor-ship, and 2 M-Class M/S sighted and attacked by A/C off east coast of Belle Isle.

(2) Questioning of more French fishermen indicates they know nothing of movement down coast or of German withdrawal from Sables D'Olonnes.

(3) They report escort vessel who escaped from St. Nazaire sunk by Allied A/C at Sables D'Olonnes on Sunday.

(4) Unidentified battery on Belle Isle fired at Force 26 at 1248/8. Fire inaccurate.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091247B to Admty)

Assault Areas

A/A fire
from
M/V's.

Cancel my 121057 June. Request you will instruct all Merchant Ships sailing to assault area as follows.

A/A fire from Merchant Ships is totally prohibited whilst in Assault Area except.

(a) By ships who are themselves individually attacked by bombers or fighters.

(b) By ships at night who have received orders to take part in the night barrage controlled from Naval Plot Ashore.

(A.N.C.X.F. 091823 to C. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth, Nore.)

Bombardments

Bombardment
of Alderney
by RODNEY.

My 081930B. For 1200B/9 read 1400B/9th August.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091152B to F.O.I.C. Portland)
My 080107. (1) Intend flying off spotting A/C

to /...

War Diary

9.8.1944
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Bombardments

Bombardment
of Alderney
by RODNEY
(Contd.)

to arrive on Station at 1045 tomorrow.
(2) Admiralty will pass AMETEUR Telegram to RODNEY.
(3) C.T.F. 125 is requested to provide a tug
if available, to assist in keeping RODNEY pointed
during bombardment.
(A.N.C.X.F. 092241B to C.T.F.125, RODNEY)

Covering Operations

Patrols
from
Portsmouth.

O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 9th/10th.
(A) ORIBI (G.D.1), WENSLEYDALE (G.D.2), VERSATILE
(G.D.3) VIDETTE (G.D.4). Line abreast patrol,
ships 1 mile apart from E.A.3 buoy to southeast
corner of Z.102. 6th Escort Group (OUTREMENT
(S.O.), WASKESIU, DRUMHELLER, GROU). Gamma from
14 D buoy in a direction 330 degs. to the northeast corner of
Z.109. TALYBONT (G.A.1) patrol on a line between 50 degs. 12' N
00 degs. 03' W. and 50 degs. 15' N. 00 degs. 05' E.
MELBREAK (G.A.2) patrol on a line between 50 degs. 06' N. 00 degs.
19' W. and 50 degs. 09' N. 00 degs. 11' W. Report night dis-
positions.

(B) THORNBOROUGH (G.C.1) in Z.8.
(C) Unit G.C.2 U.S.P.T's 460 (S.O) 457, 459.
Unit G.C.3 M.T.Bs. 773 (S.O) 694, 741. Unit G.C.4 M.T.Bs 450
(S.O) 481, 482 with THORNBOROUGH in Z.8.
Force G.C. to be in position by 2330B.

(2) Operation "Purblind" free bombing area bounded on the north
by a line joining Boulogne to position 50 degs. 00' N. 00 degs.
10' W., on the west by meridian 00 degs. 10' W. and on the south
and east by the French Coast.

(3) In the event of operation "Purblind" being cancelled force
G.C. will patrol in Z.13. Waiting position for force G.C. will
then be N.W. corner of Z.16. TALYBONT's patrol will then be
between 50 degs. 25' N. 00 degs. 15' E. and 50 degs. 28' N.
00 degs. 23' E. MELBREAK's patrol will be between 50 degs. 12'
N. 00 degs. 03' W. and 50 degs. 15' N. 00 degs. 05' E.

(C, in C. Portsmouth, 091143B)
O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 9th/10th
August. (1) F.U.3 ORWELL, Z.3. F.U.5 OPPORTUNE Z.5.
F.U.7 SAVAGE Z.7. G.D.1 ORIBI, G.D.2 WENSLEYDALE, G.D.3
VERSATILE, G.D.4 VIDETTE - From E.A.3 buoy to S.E. corner of Z.102.
G.A.1 TALYBONT Z.10 N.E. Z.11 N.W. G.A.2 MELBREAK Z.10 E.
G.C. 1 THORNBOROUGH Z.8.

(B) G.K.1 TORRINGTON, G.K.4 PYTCHLEY, G.K.5 KRAKOWIAK, EGLINGTON -
Tunney North West of "Purblind" Area.

(2) F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs, F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs - Z.2
F.N.4 2 M.T.Bs - Z.4. F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs - Z.6. G.C.2 3 P.Ts,
G.C.3 3 M.T.Bs, G.C.4 3 M.T.Bs - Z.8.

(B) G.K.2 2 M.T.Bs Tunney North West of "Purblind" Area.

9.8.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols
 from
 Portsmouth.
 (Contd.)

(3) Operation "Purblind" free bombing area bounded on the North by a line joining Boulogne to 50 degs. 00' N. 00 degs. 10' W. on the West by Meridian 00 degs. 10' W. and on the South and East by the French coast.

Wellington cross-over patrol between St. Valery en Caux and St. Valery Sur Somme 7 to 19 miles off French coast. V.H/F controlled A/C within 8 miles off Boulogne.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 092016B)

O.N.1 Para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 9th/10th August. (1) 6th E.G. (OUTREMENT (S.O), WASKESIU, DRUMHELLER, GROU) from 14D Buoy to North East Corner of Z.109.

1st E.G.2 in Z.223 W. Z.228 E. E.G.4 in Z.236.

12th E.G. Patrol 30 miles north west of Ushant.

14th E.F. Sail Plymouth 1800B/9th to Ushant Area.

Force 27, SALADIN, ALBRIGHTON, Z.216, Z.220, Z.225, Z.226, Z.231

(1) (B) ONSLAUGHT Z.111, GRENVILLE Z.122.

(2) G.N.1 6 M.T.Bs Z.210.

(B) 1 P.C. Z.115. 2 P.Cs. Z.122.

(3) Air patrols all areas west of 01 degs. 37' W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 092021B)

Patrols
 from
 Dover.

O.N. Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs 358, 362 Z.2.

F.N.2 M.T.Bs 612, 610 in 208 degs. Z.2 5.8 miles.

F.U.3 ORWELL in 050 degs. Z.3 3 miles.

F.N.4 M.T.Bs 418, S.5 in 50 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5' E.

F.U.5 OPPORTUNE in 050 degs. Z.5 3 miles.

F.N.6 M.T.Bs 359, 25 in 230 degs. Z.6 2 miles. F.U.7 SAVAGE.

(2) A/C under Swingate V.H.F. control will illuminate and attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne Breakwater light.

(A.C. Dover 091225B)

Mining

Mining of
 convoy
 Approach
 Routes.

A plan for the laying of deep A/S minefields on and in the vicinity of the convoy routes to the assault area is being signalled to C. in C. Portsmouth and A.N.C.X.F.

(2) C. in C. Nore is requested to sail PLOVER for Portsmouth at first opportunity.

(3) Outfit at present embarked should be retained for passage and will be re-adjusted on arrival at Portsmouth. (V.C.N.S. 090029B to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore)

FROBISHER
 damaged
 by explosion.

My 090717. Damage confined to flooding of forward compartments. No danger of sinking. Believed very few casualties if any. (FROBISHER, 090749 to F.O.B.A.A.)

FROBISHER /...

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War Diary9.8.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Mining

FROBISHER
damaged by
explosion.
(Contd.)

FROBISHER has been damaged by under water explosion at about 0730 this morning. All ships take all possible precaution.

(F.O.B.A.A. 090812B to B.A.A.)

(1) FROBISHER torpedoed at 0715 this morning whilst at anchor off Courseulles.

(2) Flooded from 49 bulkhead forward. Hole extends from 10 feet below water line to keep approx. 30 feet *keel* length. Damage is full width of ship.

(3) No casualties. (4) Expect to sail ship to U.K. about 1300 tomorrow. Probably capable of 15 knots.

(F.O.B.A.A. 091201 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Barfleur
Approaches.

Detonated 13 magnetic mines in Barleur Approaches and anchorage. Suspect mine damage to tail. Abandoning operation for INSECT (corrupt group). Consider area not clear.

(Capt. M/S. W. 091921B to C.T.F. 125)

Following is M/S situation report for 9th August.

(1) All channel anchorage approaches and Mulberry searched magnetic and Acoustic sweep.

(2) 13 Red magnetic mines swept by 132nd M/S Flotilla whilst sweeping approaches to Barfleur Harbour.

(3) Establishing approach channel into Barfleur tomorrow and clearing anchorage. Centre line channel 065 degs. and (?133 degs.) between position 049 degs. 40'.8 N. 001 degs. 15' W. 049 degs. 41'.9 N. 001 degs. 11' .3 West. 5 cables wide.

(?4)) OROPESA and acoustic search L 4 to L (?2) negative result. (M/S Beaches, 092226B to C.T.F.125)

Cherbourg.

Routine sweeps of all areas and harbours carried out to-day Wednesday. Negative. Oropesa sweep of Bassin Napoleon III progressed. Negative. Special sweep with Trawlers attempted in Eastern

end of Grande Rade. Due to underwater growth reaping only possible at present. Negative result for mines.

(C.T.F.125, 092353 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action

Enemy
Craft
attacked
by A/C.

P.C.S. of enemy, 9 small craft 50 degs. 38' N. 01 degs. 18' E. 000 degs. 20 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive.

(A/C MGFA, 090250 to 16 Group)

Type E-Boat position 50.03 N. 01.05 E. course 240 degs. Have attacked E-Boat with bombs.

(A/C MBRQ, 090327 to 16 Group)

Have /...

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9.8.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Enemy craft attacked by A/C. (Contd.)

Have attacked E-Boat with bombs, speed of E-Boat 20 knots.
(A/C MBRQ, 090405 to 16 Group)

R-Boats attacked off Cap d'Antifer.

Plot. G.1. One Auxiliary and 5 R-Boats in 030 degs. Cap d'Antifer 4. Unit D.5's attack completed.
(RETALICK, 090312 to Portsmouth)
My 090312. 1 ship hit, on fire.
(RETALICK, 090320 to Portsmouth)
My P.C.S. are 332 Cap d'Antifer 6½, 315 degs. 13 knots. 1 Boat G.D.3 in tow. All G.Ds. in company 1 casualties embarked. No damage or casualties to G.D.4, G.D.5. Nr. 1A still stopped in 222 Cap D'Antifer 3. Under-water explosion heard.
(RETALICK, 090510 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Last night 8th/9th. RETALICK on patrol N.W. of Cap D'Antifer plotted approx. 4 Auxiliary vessels and 4 R-Boats in 220 Cap D'Antifer 3½ miles at 0043B. Unit G.D.4, M.T.Bs. 691 (S.O), 690, 692 were vectored to intercept at 20 knots and at 0142B when enemy was in 055 Cap D'Antifer 6 miles attacked with 6 torpedoes at ranges of 1600 and 1800 yards. Two large explosions were observed and unit withdrew under heavy fire. An engagement amongst enemy forces was observed before the latter withdrew to Fecamp.

(2) At 0223B enemy force was detected 330 1 mile from Fecamp steering 270 degs. at 8 knots and Unit G.D.5, S.G.Bs. GREY SHARK (S.O) and GREY OWL were steered to intercept. Unit stopped within 1 mile of enemy and sighted 4 R-Boats and 2 large vessels, one possibly a T.L.C., before enemy opened fire, and unit attacked at 0305B with 4 torpedoes at a range of 1600 yards. One hit was observed, followed by a large fire on one vessel. S.G.Bs. withdrew to northward under very heavy fire from shore batteries at Fecamp, being shelled for five miles.

(3) Enemy continued towards Cap D'Antifer zig-zagging widely and P.T.boats 520, 511, 521 endeavoured to attack before the enemy rounded Cap D'Antifer. At 0338B unit was illuminated and engaged heavily by shore batteries at Etretat, and were forced to abandon torpedo attack. Engine damage was sustained by P.T.521. Allied Forces suffered one slight casualty.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 091751B to Admty)

Engagement with minesweepers. One Mine-sweeper damaged. P.T.509 missing.

Position of enemy La Corbiere 9 miles, course 150 degs. speed 12 knots.
(MALLOY, 090521 to C.T.F.125)
Plot one. Position of enemy Bearing 296 degs. La Corbiere 4.7 miles, course 180, speed 18 knots.
(MALLOY, 090540B to C. in C. Plymouth, C.T.F.125)
P.T. boats have attacked convoy of six ships in 180 La Corbiere three, results unknown. Enemy entering St. Helier. My Position 180 La Corbiere 5 miles.
(MALLOY, 090656B to C.T.F.125, C. in C. Plymouth)

Cannot /...

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9.8.1944

WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Enemy Action

Engagement with minesweepers. One Mine-sweeper damaged. P.T. 509 missing. (Contd.)

Cannot locate P.T.509. Am searching in vicinity. (MALLOY, 090716B to C.T.F.125, C. in C. Plymouth) P.T. Boats made second attack on 2 M-Class in St. Helier Roads 0800. Result unknown. 2 killed 2 wounded. One M Class damaged by guns. P.T. 509 still missing after search. Fog clearing. My P.C.S. 192 La Corbiere 7 miles, 29, 20. 4 P.T. Boats in company. Returning west of Guernsey. (MALLOY, 090847B to C. in C. Plymouth, C.T.F.125)

British Assault Area attacked by E.M.B's. Over 40 E.M.B's destroyed.

Anchorage was attacked by Explosive Motor Boats from 0245 to 0500. No damage reported. Over 40 E.M.S. destroyed. Number of Prisoners not yet known. (F.O.B.A.A. 090542 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats

U-Boat attacked on 8th August.

Lt. Comdr. Robert Brent in P.B.4Y1 BUNO 32256 at 1504 G.C.T. on 8 Aug. attacked a submerged U-Boat 49.03 N. 04.57 W. Sowed pattern of 5 Sonobuoys after sighting disturbance in water at 1425 G.C.T. Proctor dropped about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of centre buoy on median line between southwest and southeast buoys in best estimated S/M position. Across track. Unknown. Cavitation swish heard. 112 to 120 RPM counted at time of drop. Entered water normally and seen to turn to left toward center buoy and heard to run on this buoy for about 8 minutes. No evidence. Not applicable. No. (Combomron 110, 090815 to Cominch)

Channel situation.

Two in Western English Channel between 03 degs. 00' W. and 06 degs. 00' W. and two in area Isle Wight/Seine Bay. One off North Cornish Coast within 30 miles of Trevoze Head from attack 1945Z/8th August. Up to a dozen in Bay of Biscay east of 09 degs. 00' W. (D.D.I.C. 091445B to A.I.G.331)

Contact attacked.

Three accurate attacks contacted on bottom in position 271 degs. Cap D'Antifer 22.8 miles carried out without producing evidence of nature of target. Asdic (spotting?) after third attack. Position is danned. MELBREAK

join me. Contact possibly sensitive wreck but there was some evidence of movement before first attack. (WENSLEYDALE, 092250B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

War Diary

9.8.1944
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

E.P.P.16. E.P.P.16. 4 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 090307B)

E.W.L.628. E.W.L.628. 3 ships and 8 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 090320B)

E.T.C.62. E.T.C.62. 15 ships.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 090744)

E.B.C.65. E.B.C.65. 8 ships.
 (ANC X.F. 090929)

F.W.P.31. Sailed F.W.P.31. 1 ship.
 (C.T.G.125-1-3, 091105B)

F.P.M.31. F.P.M.31. 6 ships and 1 L.S.T.
 (C.T.G.125-1-3, 091114B)

E.P.M.30. E.P.M.30. 13 ships and 6 L.S.Ts.
 (A.N.C.X.F.091130)

F.T.M.63. (A) F.T.M.63. 16 ships and 4 L.S.Ts.
 (B) BRITOMART for Harwich.
 (C) Position Z 1800B/9th Nore 1200B/10th.
 (D) ASPHALT 9 W.
 (E) For Thames SAMINVER (Commodore) FORT FINLAY, HENRY AUSTIN,
 PART, BENJAMIN COTTON, MATHER, SANVERN, EMPIRE SWORDSMAN,
 OCEAN VISION, EMPIRE PITT, FORT CHIPEWYAN, FORT LA TRAITÉ.
 For Solent SAM SELBU, SULPHUR BLUFF, L.S.T. 304, 302, 164, 420.
 (F) Nil. (G) For onward routeing to Birkenhead SELBU for Sunder-
 land FORT LA TRAITÉ.
 (F.O.B.A.A. 091209B and 091425B)

F.B.C.49. F.B.C.49. 20 ships and M.L.1295.
 (C.T.G.125-13, 091330B)

F.P.L.13. F.P.L.13. 5 L.S.Ts.
 (C.T.U.125-13. 091751)

F.B.C.49 /...

9.8.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.B.C.49. Sailed F.B.C.49 for Mumbles. EMPIRE RUSSEL
for Plymouth, L.T.S.5 and 62.
(C.T.G.125-2, 091955B)

F.W.L.52. F.W.L.52. 8 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 092134)

Organisation and Administration.

C.T.F.125. Advance information on your proposed rotation D.D.
Information Assigned this Force essential if conflicting orders
required. and re assignments to D.D. while under operational
control (?this) command are to be avoided. Your
081617B to URANIA is an example. My 081125B to
Plymouth refers.
(C.T.F.125, 091202B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Minesweeping Your 081622. Concur in principle. Consider
organisation. proposed re-organisation will increase
Minesweeping efficiency through link-up of
general Minesweeping policy based on Minesweeping
Intelligence now centred at Arrowmanches under
the direction of Capt. M/S.
(2) If Flotillas are reduced in strength the night Northern
Defence Line in B.A.A. and minewatching organisation in both
areas will be correspondingly reduced in efficiency with consequent
increased risk of attack to Shipping.
(F.O.B.A.A. 091241 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Proposal your 081622B satisfactory subject to following
comment. Recommend demarcation line Barfleur through L.2
Buoy. Commander M/S Beaches provide own communication facili-
ties and personnel. Under whom will Comdr. M/S Seine operate.
(C.T.F. 125, 091901B to A.N.C.X.F.)

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9.8.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.GeneralPolicy

Commodore (D). Broad pendant of Commodore (D) will be struck in TYNE at sunset 17th August and re-hoisted in GREENWICH.

(3) At 2359/12th August operational control of H.F. destroyers transfers to shore from which signals will be accepted by Commodore (D)'s signal station at Lyness. (C. in C. H.F., 091900B to H.F.)

Operations

North Biscay operations. U. 608 sunk. My 0600. Force 28's 082326B. Ship appeared to be stranded but failed to reply when challenged 3 times by LAWSON at short range. (E.G.15, 090615B to C. in C. Plymouth.) 2 E-Boats, one M/V, one Gunboat in 47.39 N., 04.33 W. anchored.

(A/C KXC.64, 090735 to 19 Group.) Investigate U-Boat sighted on surface by aircraft in 047° 57' N. 005° 27' W. at 0815. Aircraft KLQ.62 is homing on 385 k/cs.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 090901B to E.G. 15.)

No enemy movements or activity in patrol area during last 18 hours. Dense fog inshore in d'Audierne Bay. Reference H.Q. 19 Group's 090815, request further information.

(S.O. Force 28, 091000B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Your 091000. Aircraft sighted surfaced U-Boat (German) 047° 57' N. 005° 27' W., course - 320°, 7. U-Boat submerged. Escort Group 15 now searching in area.

(2) ELBING destroyer sighted yesterday by aircraft at anchor east Ile de Groix. One NARVIK off Le Verdon on 7th. No other change in destroyer disposition.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091232B to Force 28.)

PIORUN and ONSLOW are to be detached from Force 26 p.m. today to arrive Plymouth 0700B/10th.

(2) Force 28 is to R/V with Force 26 p.m. today as ordered by S.O. Force 26. On joining, TARTAR, ASHANTI, IROQUOIS are to form part of Force 26. Force 28 is then dissolved.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091236B to Force 26. Force 28.)

Concarneau and Ile de Groix area examined visually. 90 small sailing fishing ships in Concarneau. 2 gun batteries of about 9.2 calibre on west end of Ile de Groix straddled TARTAR with second salvo at 21,000 yards. Am continuing to southern end of patrol.

(Force 28, 091330B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Nr.1. Position of 2 merchant vessels 47° 38' N., 03° 50' W.

(A/C UPK.77, 091355B to ?)

Nr.2. Enemy previously reported position 47° 40' N.

(? long.) stationary with steam up Groix Harbour.

(A/C UPK.77, 091425B to 19 Group.)

O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.

(A) E.G.2 Port Madoc 150° 20 miles 240° 25 miles from 046° 41' N. 003° 03' W. (C) Forthwith. (D) Expect Mosquito in your area from 1800.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091432B to E.G.2.)

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9.8.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperations

North Biscay operations. U. 608 sunk. (Contd.)

3 Halifax aircraft will carry out anti-shipping strike in Lorient/Ile de Groix area between 1600 and 1700 today. If no target found aircraft will sweep down coast to Sables d'Olonne. 2 sorties of 13 Mosquitoes will sweep from Ushant to Gironde between 1700 and 2300. On completion of sweep Mosquitoes will patrol in the vicinity of 2nd E.G.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091512B to Force 26, Force 28.)

83 Gr. R.A.F. report 5 destroyers 24 miles W. of Ile de Rhe steering N.W. at 1250.
(F.O.B.A.A., 091517 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)
Am investigating aircraft WOV.69 report position 46° 52' N. 03° 08' W. A/C circling.
(E.G.2, 091553B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Report situation and your P.C.S. Aircraft reports 5 destroyers 24 miles west of Ile de Rhe, course N.W. at 1250B.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091555B to Force 26, (R) Force 28.)
Nr.1. 2 tankers 10,000 tons 48° 23' N. 04° 30' W. 1 M/V 5000 tons 48° 20' N. 04° 30' W. stationary. 15 escort vessels 48° 21' N. 04° 28' W.
(A/C JYO.98, 091649B to 19 Group.)
Nr. 1. P.C.S. 1 Sperrbrecher, *(1 M D) 47° 39' N., 03° 27' W., stationary.
(A/C RFJ.23, 091705B to 19 Group.)
* As received.
Nr.2. 2 E-Boats stationary 48° 27' N., 05° 07' W.
(A/C JYO.98, 091715B to 19 Group.)
Nr.1. Have attacked 2 M/Vs. with bombs 47.40 N., 03 W. No results seen due to evasive action.
(A/C JYO.59, 091751B to 19 Group.)
My 091553. Oil and some wooden wreckage in position but no contact. WREN and LOCH KILLIN continuing search until 0800/10th. Am complying with your 091432 with rest of group.
(E.G.2, 091905B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
P.C.S. of 3 unknown vessels 45° 10' N., 01° 53' W., 200°, 6 knots.
(A/C KXC.54, 091920B to 19 Group.)
Nr.3. Result of strike, 1 tanker damaged 48° 22' N. 04° 30' W.
(A/C JYO.98, 092025B to 19 Group.)
Nr.1. One (? barge or flak ship) 47° (corrupt group) N. 03° (25'?) W., moving into Lorient.
(A/C WOU.92, 092040 to 19 Group.)
Force 26 being attacked by enemy aircraft position 47° 05' N., 03° 20' W., course 155°, 24 knots.
(S.O. Force 26, 092158 to Devonport P.W.)
Nr.1. Your 1910. (? Ten) large vessels, 5 escort vessels, 47.13 N. 02.22 W., West*, 12 knots. Request instructions.
(A/C WOU.31, 092220B to 19 group.)
* Presume course 270 intended.
Nr.2. 1 aircraft last seen in 47° 00' N. 03° 20' W., East, 500 feet, attacked convoy 47° 10' N. 03° 20' W.
(A/C JCF.72, 092255B to 19 Group.)
My 2158. No hits.
(Force 26, 092300B to Devonport P.W.)
My 092311B. Aircraft reports convoy is northbound.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 092327B to Force 26.)

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9.8.1944.
Wednesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSMiningEZRA
WESTON
and REGINA
sunk on
8th August.

Regret to report that at 2143/8 U.S. Merchant ship EZRA WESTON in Convoy E.B.C.66 was sunk in 50° 42' N. 5° 03' W. and at about 2225 H.M.C.S. REGINA escort to the convoy was also sunk in same position. Evidence at present indicates that both ships were sunk by mines and not by torpedoes.

(2) Believed no casualties in EZRA WESTON. 6 officers and 60 to 70 ratings picked up from REGINA. All survivors landed at Padstow.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091152B to Admty.)

Casualties and DefectsPROPHET
damaged.

SS. CRETE was in collision with H.M.T. PROPHET at 1700 on 5th August in 53° 32'36" N. 0° 21'00" E. causing slight damage to PROPHET.
(Capt. M/S Humber, 091236B to Admty.)

Shipping and ConvoysEMPIRE BARD,
EMPIRE
ELGAR.

Embassy have received request from People's Minister for Foreign trade for EMPIRE BARD and EMPIRE ELGAR to remain at Murmansk for forthcoming season.

(2) They guarantee necessary repairs being carried out on EMPIRE BARD.

(3) They state all possible measures have been taken for labour etc., in Northern Port but consider work at Murmansk will be hampered by withdrawal of above-mentioned ships.

(Ad. Archer, 091141B to Admty.)

Cape
Wrath
area.

(1) Until further orders no merchant ships, except fish carriers and fishing craft, are to sail unescorted between Pentland Firth and the North Minch.

(2) Ships from the southward are to be routed to Methil or Loch Ewe accordingly. Ships may be transferred from F.N. to E.N. convoys at sea when convenient.

(D.T.D., 091318B to C. in C. W.A.)

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9.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic.

VASCAMA,
CAPE
PORTLAND.

Your 081056 approved, (trawlers taken over by Portuguese.)
(F.O.G.M.A. 091132B to S.B.N.O.Azores, (R) Admty.)

C.T.G.22.10
patrol.

Proceeding towards U-Boats reported North Azores speed 14. My 092000Z position 38.41 N. 40.54 W. Weather.
(C.T.G. 22.10 092058B to C. in C.Lant.)

South Atlantic.

ILLUSTRIOUS,
ROEBUCK,
QUALITY,
PALADIN.

Sailed ILLUSTRIOUS, ROEBUCK, QUALITY, PALADIN to Capetown route. 2. S.O.A. 18 knots.
3. E.T.A. 1230Z/11 August Table Bay Docks 1400Z.
(Com. i/c Durban 091441Z to Admty. C. in C.E.F. C. in C.S.A. F.O.2nd in Command, F.O.C.A.E.F. Com. D. Capt. D.11, Capt. D.4, C.S.Simonstown.)

9.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy vessel sunk by A/C. Have attacked enemy. Result of attack one small vessel sunk.
(A/C XNFL via Malta 090037 to A/C Base 162.)

COSME SOLER (Spanish.) Movement in B.N.A.Madrid 071940* most undesirable. (C. in C.Med. 091150 to Admty. (R) B.N.A.Madrid, F.O.G.M.A.)
* Spanish Owners requesting permission to sail their motor sailing vessel COSME SOLER from Lisbon to Malta.

MATHILDE SIMONNE collision. H.M.D.MATHILDE SIMONNE damaged in collision and in hand for repairs to complete approx. 19th. (V.A.M. 091731 to C. in C.Med.)

Aid to Turkey information. To what extent can our present offers of aid to Turkey be divulged to A. my U.S.Colleague.
B. My U.S.S.R. Colleague.
2. Presume U.S. Attache can be told about all except actual operation to get ships through but I am not sure to what extent I am entitled to inform U.S.S.R. Attache.
3. False rumour has already been current in Istanbul that 2 out of 4 British minesweepers on way to Turkey were attacked and sunk by enemy in Aegean. U.S.S.R. Naval Attache has been asking us if true.
(B.N.A.Ankara 091831C to Admty.,Info. F.O.L.E.M. C. in C.Med.)

Situation report No. 407. 1. My 022234, SS. SAMSYLARNA now beached near Benghazi.
2. Night 6/7th August M.L. entered Port Iero inlet and captured a 30 tons caique also bombarded German strongpoints with Bofors.
3. P.74 (VIGOROUS) report on 27th July attacked with gunfire and left sinking and on fire large armed caique North Suda Bay.
(C. in C.Med. 092218B.)

PIPINOS report. At 1705/9th sunk by torpedo, one destroyer CURTATONE class outside Kalovassi, Samos, damaged ORION and 2 500-ton barges inside harbour, no torpedo remaining.
(PIPINOS 092355B.)

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9.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

Area D. U-Boat estimated by Admty. by D/F bearing at 1758Z/8th to be within 150 miles of 005° S. 043° E. Scale of air escort remains Y. Other areas. No further information and no change in scale of air escort. .
(C. in C.E.F. 090455.)

STORM,
patrol
summary.

STORM 5th Far East Patrol Summary.

2. 23rd July 0940 6 miles north of Port Owen sank 200 ton northbound coaster by gunfire. One Japanese one Malay ex Malayan R.N.V.R. taken prisoner.
3. 23rd July 1050 STORM entered Port Owen AGU while inside Edward Island engaged with gunfire and sunk 2 300 ton patrol vessels lying at anchor. One of submarine's gun's crew was wounded by return fire from heavy machine guns.
4. 23rd July 1700 off King Island Sound attacked two landing craft with gunfire. STORM broke off action and dived due to hot machine gunfire from enemy during a temporary stoppage of three inch gun. Two small depth charges were dropped causing no damage.
5. 1st Aug. in vicinity of Southern Moscos Channel following vessels were sunk by gunfire.
 - A. At 0443 northbound (?) 350 ton coaster.
 - B. At 0515 southbound hundred motor schooner, one Indian and one Malay prisoner taken.
 - C. At 1125 southbound 250 ton coaster.
 - D. At 1255 northbound 300 ton coaster apparently laden with ammunition which caused numerous explosions.
6. Ships encountered all appeared to have Japanese officers.
7. All times F.G.
(C. in C.E.F. 090503Z.)

ORBITA
aground
2nd July.

Your 081258 (N.T. in W.D.) not to all addressees refloating attempt unsuccessful a salvage vessels is necessary until future policy with regard to salvage of ORBITA is decided this is under consideration.
(Com. Aden 090831 to F.O.L.E.M. (R) C. in C.E.F. Admty.) See Com. Aden 101335Z.

U/B search.

I had already altered southward to search slightly south of area given in para. 3 your 090814Z/10th Aug. (N.T. in W.R.) 2. Present intention is to search beyond this area to southwestward assuming enemy's northern progress is slow. 3. As my Squadrons are untrained in night deck landings suggest Catalina aircraft co-operate with Force 66 by homeing on to us at dark and search around force until dawn using direct inter-communication on convoy H/F and 2410 k/cs R/T. My P.C. and S. 002° 59' S. 053° 59' E. 244°, 15, course 240° speed 15.
(BEGUM 091730Z to N.O.I.C. E.Af. (R) C. in C.E.F. A.H.Q.E.A. JASMINE, SHAH, E.G.60, FALMOUTH.)

9.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

N.S.H.Q. S/M No report since my 030700Z. Para. D. U.S. transport
attack and A/C sights U-Boat which submerged in 47.26 N.
sighting 61.36 W. at 1608Z/8th.
summary. (N.S.H.Q. 090641Z.)

A/C report R.A.F. transport A/C report sighting ship either
of ship ? on fire or brightly lighted 053° 50' N. 037° 00' W.
on fire. at 0430Z/9th.
 (C. in C.C.N.A. 091320Z to G.B.7A.)

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (N.S.H.Q. 091403Z, Cominch 091613Z.)

NELSON In reply to my request to Admiral King to confirm
modernisation. that NELSON would complete by June 1945 to meet
 the Admiralty forecast programme received with
 A.L. M/P D. 0241/43 of 24 Nov. he has now informed
 me as follows:-

D. There is serious doubt whether the planned modernisation of
NELSON can be handled in time to enable her to contribute to the
war effort.

F. On the foregoing basis he will assign a higher priority with
an estimated completion date 1st Sept. 1945, provided final
decision is made by 1st Sept. 1944.

2. Details. View of these proposals.

4. If Admiralty insist on the present modification scheme our
opinion is that it will be regarded as a job which should not be
done and planning and execution will suffer accordingly.

5. We do not consider any useful purposes would be served by
further discussion with King except on questions of detail.

The alternatives are:-

A. to accept King's proposals, or

B. to complete repairs and defects, and normal As. and As. which
can be done during this period.

6. Request reply by 28th August.

(B.A.D. 091731Z to Admty.)

Assessment Cominch has informed B.A.D. that he had expected
of attacks assessments of attacks on U-Boats from Mediter-
on U/Bs. ranean Board would include sufficient information
Mediterranean to form a basis for the issue of proportional
Policy. responsibility for successful A/S action.

2. C. in C.Med's 012029 June did not give that
information for three attacks in which U.S. ships
were concerned, and C. in C.Med's 090823 June

(addressed Cominch, info. 8th Fleet) stated that credit would not
be apportioned by the Mediterranean Board.

3. It is possible that there may be special circumstances relating
to these three attacks, but Cominch states that it would be
appreciated if a policy of indicating Major or Minor credit due to
the various units involved in actions assessed as "known" and
"probably sunk" could be adopted.

(B.A.D. 091743Z to C. in C.Med. (R) Admty.)

/U/B...

9.8.1944.

Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B incidents. Para. B. Commencing at 081135 U.S.S. O'TOOLE made a series of attacks on sound contacts 10.09 N. 49.02 W. and at 081945 Tripoli A/C twice attacked sound contact same area. All times Z.

Para. C. Commencing 090100 U.S.S. SOLAR and JENKS attacked sound contact 33.17 N. 52.49 W. and made several Radar contacts.

Para. D. 091615 Q.B.M. Radar contact 23.05 N. 79.06 W. 081815 Army plane reports U-Boat crash diving 28.05 N. 94.20 W. 081955 Panam. plane sighted object resembling C/I 10.25 N. 65.30 W. (Cominch 092111Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Attack on enemy convoy in Bonin Is. by U.S.T.F. Following Hicom from Capt. Tufnell. Task Force (758) strike on Bonin Islands 4/5th caught and mangled a convoy and ships in harbour. Aircraft and surface ships shared spoils which were: auxiliary vessels. One new DD 4 escort, 2 landing ships, 5 A.K., one A.O., 4 barges plus one S/M chaser 7 small A.K. 5 barges, 4 luggers.

A/C, 13 destroyed and 5 damaged among few encountered and seen on ground. Our losses in combat from A/A fire 16 aircraft with 12 pilots, 7 crew men.

(C. in C.Pacific Fleet 090105Z to C. in C.E.F.)

Digest No. 13. Four U.S. destroyers bombarded enemy shore positions southeast of Aitape 8th. 932. Aug. 8th. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 090814Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B incidents. Para. A. 1. A/C X/461 sighted U-Boat course 310° which submerged at 2158Z/8th in 48° 23' N. 05° 03' W.
2. A/C M/228 attacked with depth charges U-Boat which submerged course 320° at 0630Z/9th in 47° 57' N. 05° 27' W.

3. Liberty ship and H.M. ship mined or torpedoed at 1945Z/8th in 50° 42' N. 05° 03' W.

4. A/C K/423 sighted U-Boat at 1647Z/8th in 49° 40' N. 04° 36' W.

Para. B. 1. A/C P/110 attacked possible periscope course 020° at 0749Z/8th in 49° 39' N. 04° 09' W.

2. WENSLEYDALE attacked bottomed contact at 1053Z/8th in 50° 28' N. 01° 19' W.

3. A/C L/110 obtained submerged contact at 1800Z/8th in 49° 38' N. 04° 35' W.

4. Tanker SAN CARLO reported U-Boat on surface before 1042Z/8th in 14° 07' 52° 30' E.

/Para. C...

9.8.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

U/B incidents. Para. C. 1. A/C P/110 attacked submerged contact
(Contd.) at 1430Z/8th in 49° 35' N. 04° 08' W.
2. A/C L/110 attacked submerged contact at 1504Z/8th
in 40° 53' N. 03° 42' W.
Para. D. 1. GEORGE P. GARRISON reported torpedo
crossed bow in bad visibility at 0400Z/8th in 56° 20' N. 02° 13'
W.
(D.D.I.C. 091120B as amended 101005Z.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 091439B, 091451B.)

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1. (a). Our troops reached Le Mans and Nantes today and are nearing Angers. In Brittany St. Malo and Morlaix have been entered, but Dinard and Brest still resist. In Normandy the enemy holds Mortain, and our troops are nearing Potigny.
(b). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British area | 751,487 | 185,229 | 1,020,041 |
| U.S. area | 1,024,532 | 192,052 | 1,194,315 |
| Total | 1,776,019 | 377,281 | 2,214,356 |

Enemy Action.

2. (a). Mines. At 1113 today the minesweeper VESTAL was damaged by a near miss Acoustic Mine close to the Juno Light Vessel and is to return to U.K. for repair.

(b). Torpedo. At 0635 today the store ship IDDESLEIGH was damaged, probably by a torpedo, at G.20 berth in the Juno area and was beached at Langrune. There were two fatal casualties.

General.

North Biscay operations.

3. (a). Force 26 (S.O. in BELLONA) continued to operate today between Ile d'Yeu and the Raz de Sein and left patrol for Plymouth this evening; and at 0738 TARTAR was engaged without result by batteries on Ile d'Yeu.

(b). At 2057 a U-Boat (later found to be U.385) was engaged by E.G.2 for 30 minutes at 11,000 yards range about 60 miles west of La Rochelle and dived at 7,000 yards, when contact was lost.

(c). At 2043B E.G.11 reported that OTTAWA and CHAUDIERE had heavily attacked another U-Boat sighted by A/C at 1218 about 40 miles west of Belle Ile and that since 1515 the U-Boat appeared to have stopped.

(d). At daylight today the crew of U.608, destroyed yesterday by A/C and WREN, were picked up in dinghies by E.G.2.

(e). Sixty mines were laid last night off the Biscay Ports by A/C of Bomber Command.

Operation "Offspring".

4. C.S.1 in INDEFATIGABLE, with the Escort Carriers NABOB and TRUMPETER, the cruiser DEVONSHIRE, and 8 destroyers laid 37 mines today in the Christiansund (Norway) area, destroyed 6 Me. A/C and 2 hangars at Gossen, and left two armed ships and an oil tank in the area on fire. Two of our A/C are missing.

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

General.

Enemy con-
voy attacked.

5. At 2106 today 21 Beaufighter A/C attacked a convoy of 5 M/Vs and 10 escort vessels about 18 miles south of Heligoland. One escort vessel was sunk; two M/Vs were left burning; and four M-class minesweepers were set on fire of which one was seen to be sinking.

Foreign Stations.

South Atlantic.

U/B threat
to Mozambique
Channel.

6. C. in C.S.A. informed C. in C.E.F. today that the threat to the Mozambique Channel traffic would appear to necessitate the re-introduction of D.K/K.D. convoys (Durban - Kilindini) and states that it will probably be necessary to escort Durban traffic using the route east of Madagascar for at least 300 miles from the coast. He requests the assistance of two groups from the Kilindini escort force and any reinforcement of Catalinas that C. in C.E.F. can spare.

Mediterranean.

TONI (German)
torpedoed by
UNSWERVING.

7. UNSWERVING reports that at 5.25 a.m. today she torpedoed TONI (German 683 tons) escorted by 1 R-Boat in 36° 53' N. 24° 19' E. (off Milo, Aegean.)

Landing party
on Lussino
Island.

8. M.T.Bs. landed a party on Lussino Island (off Dalmatian Coast) on the night of 9/10th. A bridge was destroyed and 4 Germans captured.

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10.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

East Indies.

U/B attacked
by A/C.

9. Aircraft from the SHAH sighted on the surface
and attacked a U-Boat today in 04° 10' S. 49° 50'
E. (about 400 miles S.E. of Mogdishu.)

China.

Nagasaki
bombed.

10. 24 U.S. Super-Fortresses bombed Nagasaki and
another bombed the dock area at Sasebo (N. of
Nagasaki.)

10.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval.

Report of situation on west coast of France to a.m. 10th.

1. Force 26 swept off Gironde during the day but sighted no shipping. Reports continuously held by enemy Radar.

2. At 1820 Force 27 reported being fired on by batteries at L'Abervrach. No damage.

3. At 1936 ONSLOW was straddled by small calibre battery at approx 13000 yards range in 47° 17' 24" N. 03° 05' 48" W.

4. At 2158 Force 26 reported attack by enemy aircraft in position 47° 05' N. 03° 20' W. No hits. 2 of the enemy aircraft were subsequently shot down by Allied planes.

(C. in C.Plymouth 101050B to Admty. S.H.A.E.F.)

A. General. During night 8/9th P.T.Boats attacked shipping in Channel Islands area, entering St. Helier Roadstead to press home attacks. Owing to fog results of torpedo fire were unobserved. Effective gunfire observed on upper works of type M sweepers. One P.T. lost.

B. Assault area. M.T.Bs. attacked small vessel escorted by 6 R-Boats off Havre. Vessel was sunk. One R-Boat probably sunk. One M.T.B. superficially damaged. Spotting aircraft ex Lee on Solent successfully shot up two enemy vessels. Store ship IDDESLEIGH and VESTAL damaged by underwater explosions today 10th.

C. Unloading figures to p.m. 9th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 748,626 | 184,770 | 1,006,555 |
| U.S. | 1,016,806 | 190,996 | 1,158,239 |
| Total D+64 | 1,765,432 | 375,766 | 2,164,794 |

(Ad. Ramsay 102341B to Admty.)

Military.

Communique No. 124. (extract.)

Le Mans has been liberated by Allied forces, and our troops are in the vicinity of Angers in the Loire Valley.

Nantes has been reached and our columns are converging on Lorient. In the Brittany Peninsula we are now in St. Malo, but the enemy at Dinard is resisting stubbornly.

Along the North coastal road we have passed through Morlaix.

At Brest the enemy garrison has rejected an ultimatum to surrender and fighting is in progress outside the city. Lt. Gen. Karl Spang, Commanding the German 266th Infantry Division, was captured near Brest.

On the Normandy front, there has been no major change in the line. The enemy holds Mortain.

The allied advance toward Falaise has reached the neighbourhood of Potigny.

(S.H.A.E.F. 101100B to Agwar.)

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Assault Areas.

Cherbourg.

The port of Cherbourg has now become stabilized to the extent that needs for restriction no longer exist. No further requests for clearance need be made to this command. All sailings to Cherbourg now becomes the responsibility of C.G. Com. Zone. (C.T.F. 125 101700 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Propose sailing coastal force mobile unit number two, which is an advance truck-borne M.T.B. repair base, to Cherbourg arriving 15th August. Suggest it be sent by road as soon as practicable to a suitable port on west coast of Brittany. In the meanwhile unit, which is self contained, could camp as convenient outside the town. 2. When base is established in operating port a small fuel tanker would be sailed as soon as mining situation permits. This will enable coastal forces to operate in the Bay of Biscay.

3. Request your remarks.

(A.N.C.X.F. 101833B to C.T.F. 125.)

Operation "Pluto". S.N.O."Pluto" take ships addressed under your orders and pass Needles 0700B/11th and proceed Cherbourg by Q.Z.S. 284 and 512 speed 9 knots expected time of arrival H.10 Buoy 1330/11th.

3. Air escort has been arranged codeword "Flint". S.N.O."Pluto" in CAMPANULA.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 102328B to S.N.O."Pluto," H.D.M.L.1383, MAGPIE, M.L.297, TOMPAZIS G.S., DANUBE V., ARMERIA, M.L.291, MIMICO, LATIMER, BRINMARIC. (R) A.N.C.X.F. C.T.F.125, S.O. M/S F.9, C.T.F.125.4.)

Bombardment Forces.

Bombardment of Alderney by RODNEY.

Raise steam for full speed with all despatch. You are required to R/V with RODNEY at A.3 buoy at 9700/10th.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 100208B to SAUMAREZ.)

My 080107. Operation postponed.

Weather conditions unsuitable for air spot. RODNEY return to Portland.

(A.N.C.X.F. 100658 to RODNEY, SAUMAREZ.)

My 100658. Intend to carry out operation on next suitable day for airspotting, RODNEY sailing from Portland at 0730. At 0700 A.N.C.X.F. will inform F.O.I.C. Portland by telephone whether or not conditions are suitable and will confirm by signal to all concerned.

(A.N.C.X.F. 100905B and 101441B to C. in C.Portsmouth.)

A.N.C.X.F.'s 100905. Request you sail one destroyer (not ULYSSES) to arrive Portland 0730B/11th.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 101726B to C.T.F.125.)

C. in C.Portsmouth's 101726. Proceed at 0200/11th by (corrupt group) channel L and H and thence to Portland, E.T.A. 0730.

(C.T.G. 125.4 102312B to URANIA.)

10.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 353, 362, Z.2.
 Dover. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 751, 610 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles.
 F.U.3 SAVAGE in 050° Z.3 3 miles.
 F.T.1 M.T.Bs. 432, 436 and F.T.2 M.T.Bs. 204, 236
 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. at about 0130/11 on
 completion of sweep ordered in my 101303.
 F.N.5 ORWELL in 050° Z.5 3 miles.
 F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 418, S.5 in 230° Z.6 2 miles.
 F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.

2. Aircraft under Swingate V.H/F control will illuminate and
 attack vessels in an area within 8 miles radius of Boulogne
 breakwater light.
 (A.C.Dover 101247B.)

Tonight Units F.T.1 and F.T.2 are to sail in company to
 arrive in 50° 30½' N. 01° 13½' E. at 2330, proceeding thence
 as requisite to pass through 50° 27½' N. 01° 20' E. at 2359
 whence sweep is to be carried out along 10 fathom line of
 Bassure da Bas northwards to lat. 50° 40' N. Object to attack
 and destroy enemy units encountered. On completion and unless in
 contact with the enemy force F.T. is to proceed direct to patrol
 ordered in my 101247.

(A.C.Dover 101303B to M.T.B. 204, 432.)

My 101303. Postponed 24 hours for weather.

(A.C.Dover 101946.)

Patrols from O.N.Portsmouth one, para. 38. Cover night 10/11th.
 Portsmouth. A. ORIBI (G.B.1), MELBREAK (G.B.2), VIDETTE (G.B.3)
 Gamma patrol from the N.W. corner of Z.9 to 50° 07'
 N. 00° 31' W. 6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.),
 WASKESIU, GROU, DRUMHELLER) Gamma patrol from S.E.
 corner of Z.109 to 50° 25' N. 01° 30' W. Report night disposi-
 tions. TALYBONT (G.H.1) patrol on a line between 50° 25' N. 00°
 15' E. and 50° 28' N. 00° 23' E. WENSLEYDALE (G.H.2) patrol on a
 line between 50° 12' N. 00° 03' W. and 50° 15' N. 00° 05' E.
 B. THORNBOROUGH (G.F.1) in Z.13 and Z.17 (V) Units G.F.2 U.S.P.Ts.
 515 (S.O.), 513, 518, Unit G.F.3, U.S.P.Ts. 519 (S.O.), 517, 516
 Unit G.F.4 M.T.Bs. 468 (S.O.), 455, 469, Unit G.F.5, S.G.Bs.
 GREY SHARK (S.O.), GREY OWL with THORNBOROUGH in Z.13 and Z.17.
 Force G.F. is to be in position by 2330B waiting for force G.F.
 N.W.corner of Z.16.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 101258B.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night channel report 10/11th Aug.
 1. F.U.3 SAVAGE Z.3. F.U.5 ORWELL Z.5. F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.
 G.B.1 ORIBI, G.B.2 MELBREAK, G.B.3 VIDETTE from N.W. corner of Z.9
 to 50° 07' N. 00° 31' W. G.H.1 TALYBONT Z.8 N.W. G.H.2
 WENSLEYDALE Z.10 N.E. Z.11 N.W. G.F.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.13, Z.17.
 B. G.L.1 COTTESMORE, BLEASDALE Pike. G.L.2 MIDDLETON, LA
 COMBATTANTE Tunny north. G.K.1 SEYMOUR, G.L.3 EGLINTON Tunny north
 2. F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.T.1 2 M.T.Bs. F.T.2
 2 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs. Z.6. G.F.2 3 P.Ts. G.F.3 3 P.Ts.
 G.F.4 3 M.T.Bs. G.F.5 2 S.G.Bs. Z.13, Z.17.

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from
Portsmouth.
(Contd.)

2B. G.K.2 2 M.T.Bs. Tunny north.
3. V.H/F controlled aircraft within 8 miles of
Boulogne, Wellington crossover patrol between S.
Valery en Caux and St. Valery sur Somme 7 to 19
miles off French coast.
(C. in C.Portsmouth 101910B.)

Mining.

Barfleur.

Barfleur harbour closed due to enemy mining until
further notice.
(C.T.F. 125 100900B to C.T.U. 125.12.3.)

"Oyster"
mines.

Admiralty 14041 July and B.A.D's 012235 August.
Present position with regard to "Oyster" mines as
follows:-
Enemy minelaying confined to Seine Bay area ex-
pending about half his total aircraft minelaying
effort.

2. It is considered unlikely the enemy will be able to increase his minelaying capacity.
3. By far the most attractive areas for the enemy in U.K. are the Thames Estuary and Solent.
4. Evidence to date shows that a large number of acoustic "Oysters" seem to have been swept by swell in English Channel plus normal S.A. sweeping. On the other hand magnetic "Oysters" are probably not being swept, but it is possible that under swell conditions these mines are made insensitive against small ships.
5. In order to reduce unproductive effort on counter-measures to the minimum it has been decided to base our requirements on keeping open vital sea approaches only; i.e. Normandy beaches, French ports, Solent and Thames.
6. Counter-measures in hand in U.K. are as follows. Details.
(Admty. 102058B to B.A.D.)

Western
Sector.

M/S Situation Report for today.

A total of 6 magnetic mines were swept today in
approaches to Barfleur harbour 4 Blue and 2 Red.
Consider clearance not yet complete.

All (?mines) yesterday and today total (?19) and
one exploded 50 yards ahead of merchant ship DONA FLORA on evening
of 7th August, in area radius 1 mile 124° 1.5 miles from Barfleur
lighthouse.

(M/S Beaches 102201B to C.T.F.125.)

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Mining.

VESTAL damaged. No reports of minelaying by aircraft during the past 24 hours. Enemy E-Boats were reported operating early this morning in Q.Z.S. 554 between 58D and 58E Buoys. Fleet sweepers later searched this area Oropesa and SA/LL with negative results. VESTAL was damaged by near miss acoustic at 1113 in 060° 9 cables from Juno Light Vessel. Ship returns to U.K. tomorrow for repairs. Closed section of Q.Z.S. 537 between L.7 and L.8 has now been swept 15 times in 2 days. One acoustic swept today 050° 3 cables from L.7 buoy. Spontaneous explosions near A.52 berth. G.31 berth and one close in shore off St. Aubin. Sea calm. (Capt. M/S 102230B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Action.

Ships attacked by A/C. Enemy surface craft plotted by Radar in the Dover Command from 0900/9 to 0900/10. E.61.D. 4 size A operating off Calais from 2320 to 0115 then proceeded east at 7 knots faded at Dunkerque C.W. Buoy at 0300. E.64D. 6 size B operating 2 miles west of Dunkerque from 0025 to 0015. (A.C.Dover 101006B to Admty.) My 101006. E.6.D. Attacked between 0010 and 0240 by 4 Albacore bombs. One vessel claimed set on fire. E.64.D. Attacked by two Avengers with bombs at 0204. One hit claimed on E/R Boat. (A.C.Dover 102011B to Admty.)

IDDESLEIGH damaged. Store ship IDDESLEIGH, full cargo, damaged by underwater explosion possibly torpedo at 0700 today in G.20 berth. May have to be beached. L.C. Fs. from Trout line towed until relieved by Tugs. (F.O.B.A.A. 101238B to A.N.C.X.F.)

IDDESLEIGH seriously damaged by underwater explosion at 0635 this morning. Suspected torpedo. Explosion occurred on port side engine room and No. 4 hold flooded at once. Salvage officers have vessel in hand. Beaching ship at Langrune to complete discharge. Two fatal casualties. (S.S.T.O. Juno 101409 to D.S.T.)

U-Boats.

Channel situation. About three U-Boats in English Channel east of 03° 00' W. and one between 04° 00' W. and 05° 00' W. One probably still within 60 miles of Trevoze Head

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Channel
Situation.
(Contd.)

Two or three are likely to be within 40 miles of Brest.
Sightings and D/F activity suggest up to ten U-Boats in Inner Bay of Biscay east of line joining 48° 00' N. 05° 30' W. and 44° 00' N. 03° 00' W. One or two outward and one inward within 75 miles of 46° 30' N. 08° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 101519B to A.I.G. 331.)

A/S Patrols. Daylight patrols 11th August. 6th E.F. DRUMHELLER. Gamma patrol from 49° 52' N. 01° 30' W. Direction 020° to 50° 22' N.

2. Scout patrol. ORIBI - D, TALYBONT - E, WENSLEY-DALE - F, MELBREAK - S, VIDETTE - T.
3. BRISSENDEN, ANNAN pass Gate at 0900B, BRISSENDEN relieve ORIBI. ANNAN form part of 6th E.G. relieve WASKESIU. R/V as arranged by NEW WATERFORD.

4. ORIBI, WASKESIU return Harbour on relief.

5. MELBREAK leave patrol at daylight, return to harbour complete fuel and depth charges, return to patrol.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 101730B.)

One submarine submerged 165° Z Buoy 2.5 miles.
(HOTHAM 102050 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Detach 2 ships to relieve HOTHAM in contact with submerged submarine in 165° Z Buoy 2.5 miles.

(Portsmouth C.C.C. 102122B to NEW WATERFORD.)

My 102122B. Contact now reported wreck. Carry out search to westward of Z Buoy before proceeding to night patrol.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 102232B to E.G.6.)

Enemy Air Activity.

E.G.1
attacked.

Being attacked by enemy aircraft position 49° 56' N. 03° 14' W.

(AFFLECK 100150B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

My 100150. A/C dropped bombs 100 yards astern of me. Can still hear aircraft. My position 049° 58' N. 003° 21' W.

(AFFLECK 100200B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Salvage.

EMPIRE
BEATRICE.

EMPIRE BEATRICE. Water in engine room appears under control, pumped out and holding. Please send tug to stand by as soon as possible.

(S.V.O. C.G. Lade 101200B to A.C. Dover.)

My 101200. Engine room pumping not complete success. Unsafe to move ship this tide. Weather also unfavourable Request LADY DUNCANNON stand by.

(S.V.O. 101625 to A.C. Dover.)

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.P. 17. E.P.P. 17, 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100057.)

E.X.P. 39. E.X.P. 39, 5 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100059.)

E.W.L.63A. E.W.L.63A, 10 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100159.)

E.W.L.63B. E.W.L.63B, 5 ships and 4 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100252B.)

E.T.C. 63. E.T.C. 63, 17 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100727.)

E.B.C. 66. E.B.C. 66, 14 ships and L.C.I.(L) 321.
(A.N.C.X.F. 100841.)

Infernal
machines.

Masters of merchant ships bound for the assault area are to be warned that the enemy is using a variety of infernal machines which may float to and fro on the tide within the outer defence lines.

2. The following precautions are to be observed by merchant ships:-

- A. organise specially briefed lookouts posted high up and armed with a stripped lewis gun or rifle.
 - B. Open fire with close range weapons on suspicious objects in the vicinity vide Cross Channel Operation. Instructions to Masters of 10th May page 8, para. 8.
 - 3. It is essential that the anchorages be kept clear of driftwood nets, etc., and that no boxes or rubbish are thrown overboard.
- A.M. 291828 July refers.
(D.T.D. 100954B to C. in C.Nore, Portsmouth, Plymouth.)

F.T.M.64. F.T.M. 64, 10 ships and 3 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 101129B.)

F.P.P. 5. F.P.P.5, 4 ships.
(C.T.G. 125.13 101131B.)

F.T.C. 63. F.T.C. 63, 24 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A. 101146B.)

E.P.M. 31. E.P.M. 31, 6 ships and 16 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 101215.)

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Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

F.P.M. 32. F.P.M. 32, 7 ships and 8 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 125.13 101245B.)

F.B.C. 50. F.B.C. 50, 14 ships.
(C.T.G. 125.13 101325B.)

E.T.M. 58. E.T.M. 58, 19 ships and 7 L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F. 101331B and 101831B.)

F.W.L. 53. F.W.L. 53, 3 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 101914.)

F.X.P. 38. F.X.P. 38, 3 ships.
(N.O.I.C. Arro. 101939.)

F.P.M. 52. Sailed 101645 in F.P.M. 52 for Southampton,
STEPHEN KEARNEY, BILLY SUNDAY.
(C.T.G. 125.2 102336B.)

U.S. Troop Convoys. Adsec. Following is re-encypherment of my 101659 in two parts. Begins: Your 311856 not to Comnavu and Comzebra.

1. A. Is being put to Comzebra as reply from C.T.F. 125 was inconclusive. But it is understood that U.S. Army do not favour the use of Cherbourg by troopships.

2. 1B and 1C are also being put to Comzebra but answers are likely to be as follows:
1B only unit loaded equipment is acceptable with limitations of 500 dead weight tons of cargo per hatch.
1C approx. personnel movement during September will be 95,000 instead of 190,000 for August i.e. reduction by half D.T.G.
101659. Ends.
(A.N.C.X.F. 102343B to Admty.)

E.P.P. 18. E.P.P. 18, 1 ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 102350.)

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10.8.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSGeneralDefence of the United KingdomDefence
against
flying
bombs.

Para. (3) of A.M. 081928. Meeting today decided that for operational reasons it is essential that 61st Flotilla is also based at Dover. Request they may be sailed at an early date.
(A.C. Dover, 101944 to Admty.)

OperationsNorth
Biscay
operations.
U.608 sunk
by A/C and
WREN.

Nr.1. 2 unknown surface vessels in 47° 20' N. 04° 55' W. (? No) flak encountered. Resumed patrol.
(A/C UPK.87, 100020 to 19 Group.)
Re-encypherment of C.T.U. 125.1.1's 092300 passed for information. "Between 1915 and 1930 today what appeared to be a battleship or cruiser was seen in harbour at Brest. 20 or 30 transport in harbour appeared to be evacuating troops.
(2) Also 2 destroyers were seen coming in. This was observed from height of about 14,000 feet". Above message received by telephone from 9th Tactical Air Command at 2210/9.
(C.T.F. 125, 100119B to Cs. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth.)
4 unidentified surface vessels course 120. Position 49° 10' N., 04° 50' W., speed 3 knots. No I.F.F.
(A/C WN.287, 100235B to 19 Group.)
2 enemy vessels type unknown course 090°, speed 8 knots.
My position 045° YY 6.15 miles.
(G.X.3, 100308 to Plymouth.)
D/F bearings at 0212Z give position of U-Boat in Brest area.
(D.D.I.C., 100506B to Force 26, E.Gs. 12, 11, 15, 2.)
A.M. 100506. Further additional bearing gives position within 20 miles of 46° 30' N. 04° W.
(2) Bearings of U-Boat transmission at 0242Z gives fix within 20 miles of 45° N., 04° W.
(D.D.I.C., 100532B to Force 26, E.G.12, 11, 15, 2.)
P.C.S. of 5 minesweepers 47° 44' N., 03° 58' W.
Stationary.
(A/C LGT.36, 100730B to 19 Group.)
P.C.S. of 1 minesweeper, 2 medium vessels 45° 23' N., 01° 34' W., 110°, 10 knots.
(PYT.45, 100800 to 19 Group.)
Enemy previously reported position 47° 44' N., 03° 58' W., East, 5 knots.
(A/C LGT.36, 100810B to 19 Group.)
Sighted one enemy minesweeper in harbour. Information for 11 E.G.
(A/C WGJ.12, 101030 to 19 Group.)
Your 100834B. Have searched inside Ile de Glenan. One ship reported by aircraft inside Concarneau Harbour. Have bombarded with negative visible results. 5 M/S's reported by aircraft inside Benodet Harbour.
(E.G.11, 101031B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Operate between Ile d'Yeu and Razdesein today.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 101041B to Force 26.)
My 101041B. Detail 2 Tribals forthwith to act in support of 2nd E.G. until 2000 today when 2nd E.G. will be withdrawn and Tribals are to return to Plymouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 101130B to BELLONA.)

/JKT.56 ...

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10.8.1944.

Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperations

North JKT.56 1215. Am proceeding to hunt.
 Biscay (E.G.11, 101221B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
 operations. Own. A/S Support Groups operating in Western
 U.608 sunk Channel and Bay of Biscay.
 by A/C and 19 Group A/C operating against shipping and
 WREN. U-Boats in Western Channel, Bay of Biscay.
 (Contd.) Coastal Forces operating in Benodet, Concarneau,
 and Ile de Groix area tonight.
 Force 26, BELLONA and 4 destroyers operating
 off Biscay coast. Probably leave patrol for
 Plymouth p.m./10th August.
 Enemy. U-Boats in Western Channel and approaches to Biscay
 ports. 1 ELBING sighted at anchor east of Ile de Groix and 1
 NARVIK at Le Verdon a.m./9th.
 Other surface forces as in Intelligence Summary No.1 of 6th Aug.
 Do.217 have recently operated in Bay of Biscay with glider bombs.
 Enemy coastal batteries are still active.
 Intention. (2) Force 28, DIADEM (S.O.), PIORUN, ONSLOW to
 operate off Biscay coast from Chausee de Sein to Gironde.
 Object. (3) To destroy enemy ships, to obtain intelligence
 of situation ashore, and to show the flag.
 (4) DIADEM take PIORUN and ONSLOW under his orders to form
 Force 28, pass the Gate at 1600B/10th and proceed through
 positions: (CC) 48° 38' N., 05° 32' W. (DD) 48° 26' N., 05°
 34' W. (FF) 48° 02' N., 05° 25' W., and thence to patrol at
 discretion off Biscay coast as far south as Gironde.
 (5) Force 28 is to support A/S Hunting Groups against air and
 surface attack if required.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101244B to DIADEM, PIORUN, ONSLOW.)
 If not in contact leave present patrol forthwith and proceed
 towards Z.236. Carry out asdic sweep to 048° 25' N., 005° 45'
 W., thence adjust sweep so as to arrive by 2359/10th.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101303B to E.G. 15.)
 Carry out broad zig-zag search between 049° 30' N., 004°
 13' W. and Z.127.
 (2) INCONSTANT join E.G. 14.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101304B to E.G. 14.)
 Probably Schnorkel sighted by LAWSON in 047° 48' N., 005°
 21' W. All ships searching.
 (E.G. 15, 101420B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
 My 100419. U.608 was attacked by aircraft WOU.69 at 1430B/
 9th. E.G.2 arrived 1540 and swept area for 3 hours without
 contact. A patch of thick fresh smelling oil and some wooden
 wreckage marked the spot. Black trail of oil led away.
 Consider in spite of lack of contact U-Boat was on bottom damaged
 and left WREN and LOCH KILLIN to watch.
 No asdic contact was obtained, but WREN and LOCH KILLIN obtained
 echo sounder trace and WREN dropped bottom pattern of depth
 charge on the spot at 2158. At 0300/10th ship obtained radar
 contact which faded at 0310. On following up found whole crew
 of U-Boat floating in dinghies. They were left till daylight
 owing to suspected presence of another U-Boat and then picked
 up.
 (E.G. 2, 101509B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
 Estimate 2 or more U-Boats in your vicinity.
 (2) Report number of your late victims.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101721B to E.G. 2.)
 O.N. Plymouth 5 Sups.
 (A) E.G.3 square 000/270 15 miles from 047° 25' N., 005° 00' W.
 (C) Forthwith. (D) E.G. 3 take over search from E.G.15. E.G.
 15 comply with my 101303 on relief. Coastal force operate Brest
 area only tonight.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 101746B to E.Gs. 15, 3, 12.)
 Concentrate ...

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

North Biscay operations, U.608 sunk by A/C and WREN. (Contd.)
Concentrate on northern half of your area. (C. in C. Plymouth, 101759B to E.G.2.) Your 101226 (or 101137). OTTAWA and CHAUDIERE heavily attacked good contact position 047° 13' N., 004° 18' W. Target stopped since 1515. Explosions from 3 hedgehog attacks. No visible evidence. Echo sounder trace indicated S/M on bottom. Intend boxing until 2200 and then returning to patrol area. (E.G.11, 102043B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
S/M surfaced in position 46° 16' N., 02° 45' W., then dived. (E.G. 2, 102104B to Plymouth.)
C. in C. Plymouth 101926. Intend passing through 048° 00' N., 005° 50' W. at 2359. thence direct Lizard Head, S.O.A. 24 knots. E.T.A. 595 0700/11. URSA and IROQUOIS in company. (Force 26, 102106B to C. in C. Plymouth, Force 28, Force 26.)
STARLING's 102104. Remain in support while hunt is in progress. (C. in C. Plymouth, 102153B to TARTAR, ASHANTI.)
My 102104. Am searching. No contact since S/M dived. Request A/C co-operation. (E.G.2, 102209 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Force 26 pass 048° 00' N., 005° 50' W., northbound at 24 knots at 2359. (C. in C. Plymouth, 102244B to E.Gs. 3, 15, 12.)
My course and speed at 2300, 046° 30' N., 003° 31' W., course 115°, 23 knots. C. in C's 102153 refers. (TARTAR, 102245B to E.G. 2.)

Operation "Author". (Supplies to U.S. Troops). My 061650B. Escorts detailed VOLUNTEER (S.O.), VANQUISHER, LA DECOUVERTE, TYLER. Your 052239B being passed to them. Escorts sail 1500B/10th August to Portland for briefing. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 101131B to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Operation "Author" is to be carried out tonight to destination (B) in accordance with my 052239B amended as follows:-
Para. (2) amend composition of close escort to read VOLUNTEER S.O., VANQUISHER, LA DECOUVERTE, TYLER.
(2) Anticipate L.S.T. and close escort will arrive Portland about 1900 today.
(3) F.O.I.C. Portland is requested to sail Force 30 at 2200B/10. (C. in C. Plymouth, 101335 to F.O.I.C. Portland, M/S.16.)
Your 101335B. Force 30 sailed. E.T.A. destination (B) 1300/11th. For U.S.L.S.T. 57 read U.S.L.S.T. 519. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 102207 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operation C.X. My intentions are as follows.
(1) If there is no evidence of presence of U-Boat in the area Force 31 is for the present to be employed sweeping ahead of E.N. and W.N. convoys

/and ...

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Operation and other Units as ordered by C. in C. W.A.
C.X. Limits of sweep are to be 57° 50' N. at one end
(Contd.) and 4° 30' W. at the other.
(2) If evidence is received that a U-Boat has entered the area Force 31 is to proceed without further orders to hunt it to destruction keeping C. in C. W.A. fully informed.
(3) If Force is organised in two divisions (A) Fast ships are to be kept together. (B) At least one H/F D/F ship is to be in each division.
(C. in C. W.A., 101451B to Force 31.)
My 101451, para. (1).
Force 31 consisting of BURGES (S.O.), BAZELY, INMAN, PETROLIA, ABELIA is to sweep ahead of convoy W.N.19 (S.O. Escort in WOLVES) expected to leave Loch Ewe 2200B/10th, S.O.A. 8 knots. On reaching 004° 30' W. Force 31 is to sweep between Cape Wrath and Butt of Lewis.
(C. in C. W.A., 101458B to Force 31.)
My 101451, para. (3) Add (C) if (A) and (B) above cannot both be complied with, (A) is to take preference.
(C. in C. W.A., 102204B to Force 31.)
Your 101451B and 102204B. Composition of Force 31 on ANGUILLA joining. First division 3 frigates, second division 3 corvettes.
(BURGES, 102358B to C. in C. W.A.)

Russian A.M. 072350 about S/M operation will be complied
S/Ms. with by Russians.
(S.B.N.O. North Russia, 101520B to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity

Enemy Nr.1. Result of attack: hits observed. P.C.S.
Convoy of 6 enemy merchant vessels and 7 escort vessels
bombed. 53° 55' N., 07° 53' E., 250°, 8 knots.
(A/C JWKJ, 102106B to 16 Group.)

La Pallice In order that A/S forces may be released from the
and Channel for operations elsewhere it is important
Bordeaux. that the U-Boat threat in the Channel should be
Attacks removed or reduced as soon as possible.
requested. (2) It is appreciated that the U-Boats now operating in the Channel from Brest, Lorient and St. Nazaire will, when these bases are denied to them, continue these operations from La Pallice and Bordeaux.
(3) The length of time during which the U-Boats will be able to operate from these latter bases will depend, inter alia, on the amount of diesel oil available for them. When stocks are exhausted, the U-Boats will probably move to their Southern Norwegian bases and, although they may still operate in the Channel from these bases, the distance from the operating area will render their task more difficult and the threat correspondingly less.
(4) It is therefore considered that every effort should be made to reduce the stocks of U-Boat fuel oil at La Pallice and Bordeaux by bombing attacks on the storages and that these targets be given high naval priority.
(5) Details of targets are being despatched by separate hand message.
(A.C.N.S.(U.T.), 102146B to A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

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10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

U-Boats

U-Boats
reported.

One U-Boat probably bound south or south-west is estimated at 1200Z/10th within 90 miles of 56° 00' N. 30° 30' W.

A U-Boat making weather reports about 0200Z and 1200Z using "off Dan" procedure is in general area 54° 30' N. 34° 00' W.

(D.D.I.C., 101055B to Escorts O.N.S.248F.)

By D/F U-Boat at 1213Z within 25 miles of 62.15 N., 05° E.
(D.D.I.C., 101557B to A.I.G. 47.)

Casualties and Defects

CADUCEUS
and
CLEODORA
collision
on 5th
August.

(1) My 051908 and 081712.

(2) CADUCEUS in collision at about 0900/5th off Mew Island in dense fog with SS. CLEODORA flying Dutch flag.

(4) CADUCEUS received considerable damage in port side all above water-line and is under repair by Harland and Wolff Belfast. Date of completion 12th Sept.

CLEODORA suffered above water damage port side and is hand by Harland and Wolff Belfast. Due to complete 16th August.

(F.O.I.C.N.I., 101753 to Admty.)

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10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Convoy
N.Y. 118

Diversion.
(D.O.D.H. 101540B to T.G. 27.4.) A.M. 101734 not
to all, arrived Horta 2228Z/10 PAUL JONES and 4 Y
tankers. (S.B.N.O. Azores 102258Z.)

SANTA MARIA
MADALENA,
ILLHAVENSE II

Vessels in my 011820* parted company 1200Z/8th.
Trawler should reach Newfoundland Banks 12th.
ILLHAVENSE II was in 057° 20' N. 054° 00' W. at
2300Z/9th.
(N.A. Lisbon 101745B to Admty.)
* Trawler SANTA MARIA MADALENA leaving Greenland
Bank for Newfoundland Bank towing ILLHAVENSE II
part of way.

C.T.G.22.10
patrol.

Your 092058. Desire more definite information
concerning area proposed operations. Present
intentions your group will return Norfolk not
later than 24 August. Your 092131.
(C. in C.Lant 102056Z to C.T.G. 22.10.)

U/B report.

United States Air Transport Command aircraft reports
sighting from 7000 feet U-Boat at 1615Z/10th in
approx. 46.20 N. 47.10 W. U-Boat on surface when
first sighted, course 220°, and dived as aircraft
approached.
(S.B.N.O. Azores 102346Z to N.S.H.Q.)

South Atlantic.

Threat to
Mozambique
Channel pro-
posed re-
introduction
of D.K/K.D.
convoys.

It would appear that threat to Mozambique Channel
traffic will necessitate re-introduction of D.K/
K.D. convoys.
2. At same time it will probably be necessary to
escort Durban traffic using route east of Madagas-
car for at least 300 miles from the coast.
3. Forces available do not permit of this heavy
escort programme. Two trawler groups only could be
spared for the D.K/K.D. run. Can two groups from
Kilindini escort force make up the requested

numbers to enable the normal cycle to be maintained. If this can
be done suggest all traffic for East Africa, Aden and Persian
Gulf be included in D.K. convoys leaving only Indian shipping for
the D.N. route.

4. My total available air strength consists of 8 Catalinas
serviceable and 15 P.V. Is. This is inadequate for maintaining
efficient air escort and eliminates any chance of a hunt to ex-
haustion should a U-Boat be located anywhere but close to the
Union Coast.

6. Any reinforcements of Catalinas that you can spare would be
most welcome.

(C. in C.S.A. 101031B to C. in C.E.F. (R) F.O.E.A. Admty.)

[Reply: 130525, page 269.]

/Revised...

10.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic - Contd.

- Revised scale of attack, West Africa.
- 1st. Revised scale of attack. The only conceivable form of attack is by U-Boat. Single U-Boat might bombard special targets, but even this is so unlikely that it can be discounted. Minelaying operations are also possible, but unlikely except off focal harbours such as Takoradi or Lagos, where the possibility is slightly greater.
- 2nd. In view of this reduced scale of attack and the fact that areas covered by A.M.T.B. are also covered by heavier calibres consider all A.M.T.B. could be relegated to care and maintenance in addition to your proposals.
- 3rd. Grateful your early views.
(G.O.C. in C.W.Af. 101645B to W.O.)

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10.8.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

VOX patrol. At 0100 in 035° 50' 025° 18' missed one R-Boat, coaster, 2 caiques southbound. Torpedoes expended. (VOX 100214B to Capt. S.1st, F.O.L.E.M.)

M.A.A.F. Summary of operations for period ending 1800 hrs.
Air report. 9th August.
9th. Fighter bombers operating in N.W. Italy sank an M/V in Imperia Harbour. Spitbombers, Kittyhawks and Mustangs damaged an R-Boat at Chioggia. (H.Q.M.A.A.F. 100845B.)

Small floating docks. 1. There is a theatre requirement for two in number small floating docks primarily for M.M.S. and B.Y.M.S. Principal particulars. (C. in C.Med. 100934 to F.O.T.A.L.I. (R) C.S. Taranto, Admty. Capt. M/S V.A.M. C.S. Malta.)

VIVID, From 035° 49' 023° 29' VIVID proceed with despatch
VISIGOTH. through 036° 07' 026° 02' W. of Ophidusa to pass Kinaros Channel about dusk 11th thence west of Buey Rock to patrol in north Aegean as subsequently ordered.

VISIGOTH proceed by route in para. 1 to pass through Kinaros Channel about dawn 12th to patrol on Piraeus/Leros route as subsequently ordered. (Capt. S.1 101028B to VIVID, VISIGOTH.)

Gibraltar 1. Govt. and C. in C.Gibraltar proposes reducing
Harbour to care and maintenance four of the six anti-
defence. motor torpedo boat guns sited on the moles.
2. Coast artillery defence of Gibraltar Harbour would then comprise two six inch and two A.M.T.B. guns which is considered adequate for the scale of attack of human torpedo carried by U-Boat.
3. 100 personnel would be released.
4. Defence of Bases Committee approve but before submitting to Chiefs of Staff would be grateful your views. (W.O. 101645B to A.F.H.Q. (R) Govt. and C. in C.Gibraltar.)

Naval as- Request information as to when ships other than
sistance B.Y.M.S. mentioned in Admiralty 032215 may be made
to Turkey. available.
(B.N.A. Ankara 101715C to F.O.L.E.M.)
Reply - See (F.O.L.E.M. 111321C to B.N.A. Ankara.)
Can any reply be given to my 051600 please.
2. I have stalled Turks so far by saying that B.Y.M.S. needed few days to make good minor defects.
3. Turks have arranged accommodation for minesweeping advisers in GUNEYSU (passenger ship) in which they have sent minesweeping personnel to Erdek in anticipation of commencement of training. (B.N.A. Ankara 101745C to F.O.L.E.M.)

/Black...

10.8.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Black Sea
report.

Intelligence 3rd to 9th.

1. Naval. Enemy submarines reported near Poti 3rd and 8th. 5th enemy schooner 500 tons sunk by submarine S.E. of Bourgas. Following enemy (corrupt group) mines swept: 6 off Odessa, 1 off Ochakov and 3 off (? or in) entrance to Skadousk.

3. Air. 7th. Naval aircraft damaged 1 barge and 1 dredger in Sulina and 1 minesweeper M.L. outside. Soviet air R/C off coast down to Bourgas apparently now kept up daily. Early hours 4th 11 high explosive bombs dropped at Odessa and 3 mines off coast: considered mines dropped in harbour 6th.
(N.L.O.Black Sea 101925.)

TONI (German)
688 tons,
sunk by
UNSWERVING.

At 0525 attacked and hit TONI escorted by one R-Boat P.C. and S. of enemy were 036° 53' 024° 19' 162° 7. 4 torpedoes remain.
(UNSWERVING 102110B to Capt. S.1.)

STORK patrol.

No contact since 1300. Had commenced search to southward course 160° 12 knots on receipt your 101929 (not recd. by W.R.) LAMERTON and DAHLIA in company.
(STORK 102203B to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

War Diary.

10.8.1944.

Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.U/B dis-
positions.No fresh information. Scale of air escort remains
the same.

(C. in C.E.F. 100330Z.)

BLINJOE.

N.T. in W.D.

 A.M. 251437B July and your 250446Z July. *N.T. in W.D.*
 Further discussions have been held with the
 Netherlands authorities who insist that they must
 be represented in BLINJOE.

2. An acceptable compromise to them is the retention of the Master
 C.O., Chief Engineer and Second Engineer only. In these circum-
 stances it is considered preferable to retain mercantile Lascar
 seamen and engine room ratings to maintain BLINJOE, with which
 the Netherlands authorities agree.

3. The Netherlands authorities will only agree to the allocation
 of the ship under these terms.

(D.D.O.D.I. 101108B to C. in C.E.F.)

U/B sighted.

 U-Boat sighted on surface and attacked by aircraft
 from SHAH in 004° 20' S. 049° 49' E. at 0955Z.
 (S.O. Force 66 101230Z to E.I. Station.)
A/C action
against U/Bs.Amendment to East Indies Station Message 919 C of
2nd.

1. Amend area K.D. 3 in para. 2 to 831 Mozambique
 Channel between (?12°) S. and A line joining Beira
 to 030° S. 040° E. to 033° S. 045° E. thence
 (?along) long. 45° E. to Madagascar.

2. Add note at bottom of para. 2. The part of area K.D. 3 south
 of 18° S. lies in the South Atlantic Station so that the scale of
 escort (para. 5 below) indicated C. in C.E.F. will not necessarily
 be applicable in this portion of K.D. 3 but will be governed by
 instructions issued by C. in C.S.A. *

(C. in C.E.F. 101300FG to E.I. Station Message 932C.)

TRADEWIND
patrol.
 Negative patrol in accordance with C.S.P. 91 para.
 8. My P.C. and S. at 2200FG 005° 35' N. 098° 55'
 E. 295° 10.

(TRADEWIND 101331Z to Capt. S.4.)

ORBITA
aground 2nd
July.ORBITA reported afloat and proceeding towards
(?Perim).

(Com. Aden 101335Z to C. in C.E.F. Admty.)

See Com. Aden 090831.

U/B report.

By R.D.F. at 1400Z/10th August Japanese U-Boat
within 150 miles of 003° S. 089° E.

(C. in C.E.F. 101539Z.)

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10.8.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

N.S.H.Q. S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. (D) U.S. Transport A/C C.54 sights two U-Boats seen to submerge in 47.20 N. 49.30 W. at 1515Z/9th PD GUC. (N.S.H.Q., 100627Z.)

U/B dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q., 101441Z, Cominch 101542Z.)

Stragglers report No. 64. One return Norfolk from U.G.S.50, HENRY D. THOREAU (U.S.) 4th, no reason given. One returned New York from C.U.34, BROOKFIELD (U.S.) 5th, no reason given. One arrived Sydney from H.X.S.302, BELGIAN SAILOR (Belg.) 8th, unable to maintain speed due to poor bunkers. (N.S.H.Q., 101615Z.)

E.G. 16, U/B search. Cease Gamma search last light 11th August and proceed from position (C) 44.45 N., 48.10 W. to (D) 44.15 N., 55.10 W. carrying out A/S search en route adjusting speed to arrive (D) last light. Thence carry out Gamma search until further orders between position Bra E, Bra 43.45 N., 55.10 W., and Bra F Bra 44.45 N., 55.10 W.
(2) Anticipate aircraft will sweep area 45 miles either side of line from 43.00 N., 54.00 W., to 45.30 N., 54.00 W.
(3) Issue necessary orders for LA HULLOISE to join you. My 100645 refers.
(C. in C. C.N.A., 101909Z to E.G. 16.)

CIERZO, ABREGO (Spanish Fishing Vessels). Request you will inform Com. 10th Fleet C and R of route particulars of Spanish fishing vessels CIERZO and ABREGO. B.N.A. Madrid's 312000*July and 081901 refers. (D.T.D., 101918B to N.S.H.Q.)
* Sailing of Spanish fishing vessels.

U/B incidents. (C) 101526 R.C.A.F. aircraft sighted periscope 47.21 N., 51.04 W., all times Z.
(D) 100246 U.S.S. PERIL attacked sound contact 33.41 N., 55.42 W.
(Cominch, 101922Z.)

? C.3 U/B search. Have relieved W.7 in 047° 26'., 051° 15' at 2145Z. Carrying out A/S hunt. Your 101705 (not received in W.R.) refers. (4 corrupt groups) (? C.3, 102145Z to F.O.N.F., (R) C. in C. C.N.A., E.G.16.)

U/B sighted. Pendant 23 SS. SALMON^P CHASE O.N.F.247 reported sighting S/M periscope at 2230Z 047° 03' N., 050° 46' W. Have swept area, negative contact. (THUNDER, 102345 to F.O.N.F.)

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10.8.1944.
Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New Zealand

Digest 933.

August 9th.

(3) Navy R/C Liberator bombed single small freighter in Beo Bay (Talaud Islands) noon scoring near miss: vessel also strafed.

(15) Patrol landed vicinity Cape Wios (Central North Coast Vogelkop) night 7th-8th but withdrawn as numerous Jap. troops encountered.

(20) Philippines reports:- 1 large transport, 4 escorts including possibly 2 destroyers, 1 light cruiser arrived Dulag on East Coast Leyte 5th August. 1 merchant ship, 1 possible cruiser off south-eastern Panay heading North forenoon 8th; 2 warships northbound from Guimaraw Strait midday 8th; Tawi Tawi reported clear of enemy except for 100 Japs at Bongao. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 100740Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGNS/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. (A) (1) A/C C/53 attacked periscope, course 060° with depth charges at 1230Z/9th in 46° 54' N., 03° 18' W.

(2) A/C H/224 sighted U-Boat course 040° at 0100Z/10th in 46° 47' N., 03° 10' W.

(3) H.M. Ship attacked U-Boat with depth charges between 0100Z and 0219Z/10th in 46° 47' N., 03° 10' W.

Para. (B) (1) H.M. Ship obtained contact at 0934Z/9th in 50° 03' N., 00° 32' W.

(2) A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 2345Z/10th in 46° 43' N., 03° 35' W.

Para. (C) (1) A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0715Z/9th in 42° 37' N., 10° 48' W.

(2) A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 0759Z/9th in 43° 46' N., 11° 06' W.

(3) A/C sighted two U-Boats at 1207Z/9th in 41° 18' N., 31° 03' W.

Ref. A.M. 091120B, para. (A)(1) position of sighting amended to 48° 23' N., 05° 03' W. and grade D. Para. (A)(2) date should read 9th.

Ref. A.M. 071610Z, para. (A)(3) EMPIRE CITY sunk by U-Boat at 2245Z/5th in 11° 33' S., 41° 00' E.

(D.D.I.C., 101005Z.)

U/B

Estimates.

dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 101507B, 101512B.)

11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune".

General.

1.(a). Nantes and Angers were entered today by our troops; Lorient is surrounded on the land side; Brest and St. Malo are still resisting strongly; and hard fighting continues in the Mortain/Vire area.

(b). F.O.B.A.A. points out today that one ship in the British assault area has been lost or damaged within two hours after daylight every morning for the last six days by underwater explosion. He doubts whether these explosions were caused by mines or human torpedo, and considers that the army should be warned of the present vulnerability of the anchorage which, if it continues, may compel a reduction in shipping. At 0125 and 0635 today torpedo tracks were reported in the area; and at 0255 a human torpedo was reported sunk by Trout line.

OP. Author.

(c). M/S 16 reports that, in Operation "Author" supplies for the U.S. army were landed without resistance at 1340 today on the North Brittany coast about 12 miles east of Morlaix from three L.S.Ts.

Enemy action.

2.(a). Torpedo. At about 0700 today ALBATROSS, acting as a repair ship in the B.A.A., was damaged off Courseulles by an underwater explosion, and it is proposed to tow her to the U.K. for repair. 55 of her crew are dead or missing, 2 are dying, and 50 are injured or gassed.

(b). R-Boats. At 0153B today six R-Boats with one trawler were attacked 2 miles W.N.W. of Cap d'Antifer by three U.S.P.T.boats, one of which was slightly damaged and sustained two serious casualties. The results to the enemy were unobserved.

General.

North Biscay
Operation.
U.385 sunk.

3.(a). The Biscay coast as far south as the Gironde was closely watched today by force 28 (DIADEM, PIORUN and ONSLOW), by E.Gs. and by A/C. Bordeaux and La Pallice were heavily bombed last night and again this afternoon; 66 mines were laid by A/C last night off Brest, La Pallice, and Le Verdon; and at 1800 today 276 Liberator A/C attacked Brest. No enemy shipping was seen by force 28, but the enemy coastal batteries were active and at 1600 ONSLOW was straddled from Ile d'Oleron without result.

(b). At 0641 today U.385, which had been engaged yesterday by E.G.2, and attacked again today by A/C. U.385. UTC-38, was sunk by gunfire from E.G.2 (S.O. in STARLING) 33 miles S.W. of Ile d'Yeu. Her crew were picked up by STARLING and WREN.

11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

A/C attacks
off Greece
and Leros.

4. During the past 10 days targets in Greece and Leros have been attacked by our bombers. Damage has been caused to enemy supply shipping in the Aegean and off the coast of Greece.

Leghorn, gap
in block
ships widened.

5. C. in C. Med. reports that the gap in the centre of the southern entrance to Leghorn is now 120 feet wide by 24 feet deep.

SAMSYLARNA
(torpedoed
5th Aug.)

6. It is reported that SAMSYLARNA torpedoed by aircraft on the 5th in convoy U.G.S.48 was subsequently beached near Benghazi.

Mines in
Danube.

7. Liberator aircraft last night dropped 78 mines in designated places in the Danube.

R/C party
landed on
Mulat Island.

8. A reconnaissance party was landed by M.T.Bs. on Mulat Island (Dalmatian coast) last night and were recovered on the night of 11/12th.

East Indies.

ORBITA
(aground 2nd
July) re-
floated.

9. ORBITA aground near the southern entrance to the Red Sea on 2nd July has been refloated and proceeded under her own steam, assisted by tugs, to Aden outer harbour where she is now anchored.

Mines in
Moesi River
Channel.

10. Super-Fortresses laid 16 mines in the Moesi River Channel (Banka Straits) last night.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military. Communique No.125 (Extract).
Allied troops have entered Nantes and Angers.
Lorient has been completely surrounded by Allied troops on the land side.
The enemy is maintaining strong resistance at Brest.
St. Malo is offering stubborn resistance. Dinard is still being strongly defended.
Hard fighting continues in the Mortain - Vire area of Normandy.
Enemy resistance to the Allied thrust toward Falaise increased considerably yesterday.
(S.H.A.E.F., 111100B to Agwar.)

Naval. (A) General. Nothing to report.
 (B) Assault Area. ALBATROSS was damaged by underwater explosion 2 miles off Courseulles at 0650 today. On the evening of 9th August heavy shelling took place of the beaches between Lyon and St. Aubin. One human torpedo sunk 0255 today. No evidence of others.
 (C) Unloading figures to p.m./10th August.

| | <u>Personnel</u> | <u>Vehicles</u> | <u>Stores</u> |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| British: | 751,487 | 185,229 | 1,020,041 |
| U.S. | 1,024,532 | 192,052 | 1,194,315 |
| Total (D + 65) | 1,776,019 | 377,281 | 2,214,356 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 112329B to Admty.)

Assault Areas

Cherbourg. In view indefiniteness of date when small port will be available from which Coastal Forces may operate in Bay of Biscay and crowded conditions existing Cherbourg recommend Coastal Force Mobile Unit Number 2. (Your 101833B) be held in U.K. for present.
 (C.T.F. 125, 110944 to A.N.C.X.F.)
 Your 110944. C.F.M.U.2 will be retained U.K. for the present.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 111749B to C.T.F. 125.)

Vulnerability of B.A.A. There have been losses or damage by underwater explosion to one ship each morning for 6 days. These have been attributed to mine or torpedo. But the alleged mining was in a well-swept channel with no swell conditions present, and the torpedoes if human torpedoes would have had to pass in daylight through patrols which it is most unlikely they could have evaded, more especially as their appearance is well-known.
(2) A common factor is that all ships were damaged within 2 hours after daylight which may indicate that the weapon is launched in darkness, and that the results may be seen by reconnaissance. In this morning's attack on ALBATROSS the visibility was however only a few cables. Four of the ships were at anchor and two under-way.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Assault Areas

- Vulnerability of B.A.A. (Contd.) (3) At 0635 this morning an M.L. near D.8 reported and attacked without result bubbles proceeding West at 10 knots. At 0125 two M.T.Bs. five miles each of trout line reported six tracks like torpedo tracks moving at more than six knots in several different directions.
- (4) The only additional defensive measure which can be suggested is the provision of net to the eastward and northward of the anchorage as a matter of the greatest urgency.
- (5) It is considered also that the Army should be warned that the present vulnerability of this anchorage may if it continues have to dictate strategy and compel the use of ports, and that it may shortly be necessary to reduce shipping to those secured inside Arromanches and coasters and L.S.T. which can dry out.
- (6) The enemy are now shelling as far West as the west of Juno which might limit drying out to the neighbourhood of Arromanches. (F.O.B.A.A., 111217 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Bombardments

Bombardment of Alderney. Operation postponed further 24 hours due to weather. My 100658. (A.N.C.X.F., 110711B to RODNEY.)

Brittany

Operation "Author". Operation "Author" completed. L.S.Ts. beached at 1340 today in (corrupt group) reference position R.651 (corrupt group) not met by Army. No mines or encounter with enemy. (M/S.16, 111351B to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. Intend to operate 6 M.T.Bs. of 65th Flotilla in Z.210 tonight. Squares 208, 203, 209 are allocated to you. (C. in C. Plymouth, 111124B to Combusfrance.) (A) Unit G.O.1 M.T.Bs. 735 (S.O.), 726, 727, 743, 745, 746. (B) 1645B/11.

(C) (AA) position 49° 02' N. 3° W. to arrive 2115.
(D) From (AA) patrol in 2210 to cover approaches to St. Malo. Unit is not to go outside the limits of 2210 unless in emergency or in action. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Unit to remain after daylight time of leaving to be at discretion of S.O. (G) (AA) to Brixham.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 111314B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

/(A) Unit G.O.2 ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. (Contd.)

(A) Unit G.O.2, M.T.Bs. 719 (S.O.), 620.
 (B) 1630B/11.
 (C) (TT) 270 Creach Pt. 5 to arrive 2300. (UU)
 201 Creach Pt.14 348 Teve NNEC 1.5 to arrive
 0100B/12.
 (D) (From (VV) patrol area to cover Channel
 through Raz de Sein.
 (E) Destruction of enemy shipping.
 (F) Return at daylight to Plymouth.
 (G) (UU) and (TT).
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 111514B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Patrols from Dover.

Tonight Units F.T.1 and F.T.2 are to carry out
 operation ordered in my 101303B August.
 (A.C. Dover, 111219B to M.T.Bs. 204, 432.)
 O.N. Dover 67.
 F.N.1, M.T.Bs. 359, 358 Z.2. F.B.2, M.T.Bs.
 751, 612 in 208° Z.2 5.8 miles. F.U.3,
 OBEDIENT in 050° Z.3 3 miles. F.T.1, M.T.Bs. 432, S.5 and
 F.T.2, M.T.Bs. 204, 231 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. at about
 0130/12 on completion of sweep ordered in my 111219 (not to all).
 F.U.5, SAVAGE in 050° Z.5 3 miles. F.B.6, M.T.Bs.353, 25 in
 230° Z.6 2 miles. F.B.7, OPPORTUNE Z.7.
 (A.C. Dover, 111229B.)

Patrols from Portsmouth.

O.N. Portsmouth 1, para. 38. Cover night 11th/
 12th.
 (A) TALYBONT (G.F.1), WENSLEYDALE (G.F.2),
 VIDETTE (G.F.3) zig-zag search in area bounded
 by Q.Z.S.511 00° 05' E., Q.Z.S.488 line 055° from
 E.4 Buoy.
 6th Escort Group (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.), GROU, ANNAN, DRUMHELLER)
 zig-zag search in area bounded by Q.Z.S.512 01° 10' W., 49° 52'
 and 50° 25' N. Report night dispositions. Zig-zag search see
 C.B.4097, paras. 353 and 354.
 BRISSENDEN (G.D.1) patrol on a line between 50° 17' N. 00° 13'
 E. and 50° 20' N. 00° 22' E.
 MELBREAK (G.D.2) patrol on a line between 50° 11' N., 00° 02' W.
 and 50° 14' N., 00° 06' E.
 (B) STAYNER (G.A.1) in Z.13 and Z.17.
 Unit G.A.2, M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O.), 447, 454. Unit G.A.3, M.T.Bs.
 458 (S.O.), 455, 468. Unit G.A.4, M.T.Bs. 209 (S.O.), 208,
 210, 206. Unit G.A.5, S.G.Bs. GREY SHARK (S.O.), GREY OWL
 with STAYNER in Z.13 and Z.17. Force G.A. to be in position
 by 2315B. Waiting position for Force G.A. N.W. corner of Z.16.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 111228B.)

Mining

ALBATROSS damaged.

Approx. 0700 today ALBATROSS in K.32 berth damaged
 by underwater explosion (so far unexplained).
 Ship reported flooded for'd one third of her
 length. Propelling machinery correct.
 (F.O.B.A.A., 111053 to A.N.C.X.F.)

/My ...

11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Mining

ALBATROSS
damaged.
(Contd.)

My 111053. ALBATROSS identical explosion damage to FROBISHER.
(2) Casualties approx. 50 missing (including 28 port repair party No. 1530), 5 dead, 2 dying, 50 injuries and gassing.
(3) Explosion occurred 25 station port side.

Flooding extends from 10 to 36 bulkheads.

(4) Intend to tow by ZWARTE ZEE stern first. Estimated speed 7 knots. E.T.D. 1400 today. Will require docking on arrival Portsmouth.

(5) BLEASDALE will escort.
(F.O.B.A.A., 111231 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Cherbourg.

Routine searches of approach channels, outer anchorage, inshore end of Pluto, both harbours and basins carried out today. Negative result. Special trawler sweep in eastern ends of harbours progressed. Negative result. Operations in Darse

Transatlantique and Bassin Napoleon Third continued. Negative result. LL/SA and Oropesa sweep half mile each side of a line running 266° 6 miles from Howe 10 Buoy carried out. Negative result.

(C.T.F. 125, 111955B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Proposed
deep
minefields.

A number of U-Boat attacks have taken place since June 28th in a limited area on the convoy route to the Assault Area. Counter-measures have proved unsuccessful. It is desired that a series of deep minefields should be laid in and near the convoy route.

(2) Request you will carry out an operation on following lines using PLOVER who is being sailed to Portsmouth.

(3) (a) Area. General area of the minefields bounded by lines joining - (i) 50° 16' N., 01° 04' W. (ii) 50° 16' N., 00° 41' W. (iii) 50° 01' N., 00° 31' W. (iv) 50° 01' N., 00° 54' W.

(b) Lines of mines. PLOVER carried 100 mines. It is recommended that the fields should be laid in seven parallel lines spaced about 3 miles apart in a direction 030°, the initial line to be completed joining positions (iv) and (ii) of the above area.

(V.C.N.S., 112054B to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Barfleur
Approach
Channel.

M/S situation report 11th August.

(1) Barfleur Approach Channel established. My 092226B refers. Also anchorage 100½ miles square south of centre line channel commencing one mile off shore joining following positions. All positions N. and W. 49° 41', 001° 14.2'.

049° 39.3', 001° 13.1'. 049° 41.6', 001° 12.2'. 049° 40', 001° 11'. has been cleared. Harbour now considered clear.

(2) All other sweeping abandoned today owing to fog.

(3) No enemy minelayer reports received.

(M/S. Beaches, 112144B to C.T.F. 125.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Engagement with R-Boats. At 0107B/11th THORNBOROUGH patrolling off Cap d'Antifer plotted 6 R-Boats and 1 trawler in 298° Cap d'Antifer 2 miles. Enemy was attacked with torpedoes at range of 800 yards by Unit G.F.2 (U.S. P.Ts. 515, 513, and 518) at 0153B in approx. 300° Cap d'Antifer one mile. Results were unobserved and G.F.2 retired after engaging enemy with gunfire. P.Ts. sustained slight damage and two serious casualties.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 111508B to Admty.)

Human Torpedo sunk. 0255 today, one human torpedo was sunk by Trout line steering north-west. No evidence of other H.T.
(F.O.B.A.A., 111904 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats

U-Boats reported. U-Boat at 2122Z made uncompleted signal. No fix from shore stations bearings, which run north and south between 03° W. and 03° 30' W. (D.D.I.C., 110011B to E.G.6, E.G.14.)
In contact with submarine on my port side bearing 069° Cap de la Hague 14 miles.
(ONSLAUGHT, 112315B to Portsmouth W/T.)
Am in contact with submerged submarine in 050° 20' N., 005° 30' W.
(LORING, 112329B to Plymouth.)
Join ONSLAUGHT in contact with submarine in 069° Cap de la Hague 14.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 112333B to E.G. 6.)

Contact attacked. Have attacked stationary target in 048° 58' N., 005° 02' W. One possible hedgehog hit. No result seen. Intend holding contact until daylight. Radar out of action.
(BERRY, 110120B to E.G.3.)

My 11000B?*. Quantity lubricating oil seen at daylight. (? Further) attacks brought no result. Consider it is a wreck. Rejoining.
(BERRY, 110800B to E.G.3.)
* Presumably 110120B intended.

Channel and Biscay situation. About three U-Boats in English Channel east of line St. Albans Head/Cape Barfleure and one between Start Point and Guernsey. One probably still off North Cornish Coast.
Sightings and attacks again confirm estimate of about a dozen U-Boats between Ushant and Gironde some possibly proceeding to or from English Channel but prisoners of war state U-Boats from Brest, Lorient and St.

/Nazaire ...

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Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Channel
and Biscay
situation.
(Contd.)

Nazaire are likely to transfer to La Pallice and
Bordeaux. U-Boats bound south-east should
therefore be expected within 60 miles of French
Coast.
(D.D.I.C., 111435B to A.I.G. 331.)

Shipping and Convoys

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| E.W.L. 64B. | E.W.L.64B: 1 ship and 6 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F., 110340.) |
| E.W.L. 64A. | E.W.L.64A: 2 ships and 9 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F., 110344.) |
| E.T.C. 64W. | E.T.C.64W: 7 ships. (A.N.C.X.F., 110852B.) |
| E.B.C. 67. | E.B.C.67: 11 ships. (A.N.C.X.F., 111059B.) |
| E.P.M. 32. | E.P.M.32: 6 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F., 111157B.) |
| F.T.M. 65. | F.T.M.65: 5 ships and 5 L.S.Ts. (F.O.B.A.A., 111211.) |
| F.T.C. 64. | F.T.C.64: 21 ships. (F.O.B.A.A., 111228B and 111718B.) |
| F.T.M. 64, F.T.M. 65. | F.T.M.64 and F.T.M.65 sailing delayed owing to fog. (F.O.B.A.A., 111454B.) |
| F.B.C. 51. | F.B.C.51: 12 ships. (C.T.U. 125.1.3, 111625B.) |
| F.P.M. 33. | Sailed F.P.M.33: 6 ships and 9 L.S.Ts. (C.T.U. 125.1.3, 111640B.) |
| F.P.M. 33. | Sailed F.P.M.33, TWICKENHAM FERRY. (C.T.F. 125.2, 111759B.) |
| F.W.P. 32. | F.W.P.32: 2 ships. (C.T.F.125.1.3, 111835B and 112116B.) |

/F.W.L.54 ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping and Convoys

F.W.L. 54.

F.W.L.54: 1 ship and 4 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A., 111906.)

Arrivals in
darkness.

Sailing authorities are requested to ensure
that ships and craft sailed to B.A.A. do not
arrive during darkness.

(2) If delayed by weather or if for any reason
arrival must be in dark prior warning must be
given to F.O.B.A.A. and signals repeated to Capt. (P) and
prefixed Immediate.
(3) It is equally important that B.A.A. is informed when ships
turn back. Uncertainty regarding arrivals interferes with
patrol organisation and gives the enemy the chance he needs.
(A.N.C.X.F., 112213B to Ships.)

Organisation and Administration

S.N.O.A.
Juno.

Following from F.O.B.A.A.
EREBUS is now S.N.O.A. Juno, anchorage berth in
vicinity of K.32.
(A.N.C.X.F., 112209B to Ships.)

War Diary

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Friday

HOME COMMANDS

General

Defence of U.K.

Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.

Your 011603 August. Action has been taken to supply OPPORTUNE, OBEDIENT, ORWELL and SAVAGE with Snowflakes. (My 061319B August refers). No other ships could give similar service. (Head of M.II, 110202B to H.Q. A.D.G.B.)

Movements

ACHILLES.

A.M. 081307 not to all. Request you will sail ACHILLES on August 16th for Gibraltar for onward routing to Algiers. (3) On arrival at Gibraltar ACHILLES is to come under the orders of C. in C. Med. (D.O.D.(H), 111016B to F.O.I.C.Greenock)

Ships
for
Eastern
Fleet.

My 311447. (1) Following are reported ready to sail dates DEVERON 21st August, LOCHY 21st August, PELICAN 26th August, SWALE 29th August, (or 27th August without calibration), REDPOLE 31st August. (2) Definite dates cannot yet be given for CRANE and CAM and HIND. (C. in C. W.A. 111959B to Admty)

UPRIGHT,
UNITED.

Cancel my 051620B. F.O.I.C.Liverpool is requested to sail NORTHERN SKY to R/V with UPRIGHT and UNITED at 1400B/15th in 180 degs. Barra Head 10 miles and escort to St. Johns. (C. in C. W.A. 112003B to F.O.I.C.Liverpool)

Operations

Biscay
operations.
U.385
sunk by E.G.2.
STARLING.

Fuel situation will require TARTAR and ASHANTI to leave E.G.2 at about 0400/11th. Request approval to proceed? to Plymouth at that time. (D.F.10, 110100B to C. in C. Plymouth)
Nr. 1. Position of 7 unidentified enemy vessels 46 degs. 10' N. 01 degs. 40' W. (A/C JMV, 62, 110335 to 19 Group)
Your 110329. Am searching vicinity this marker. (E.G.2, 110446B to C. in C. Plymouth)

My 0446 not to all. U-Boat surfaced ahead STARLING at 0636. Group opened fire. U-Boat sunk at 0641 in 46 degs. 17' N. 02 degs. 55' W. Am picking up survivors. (E.G.2, 110643B to C. in C. Plymouth)

No shipping activity between FF and Ile d'You last night, nor off entrance River Loire early this morning. Shore battery inactive. Intend sweep Southward Ile d'You day-light to-day.

(S.O. Force 28, 110650B to C. in C. Plymouth)

My /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Biscay
operations.
U.385
sunk by E.G.2
~~STARLING~~
(Contd.)

My 110046. Proceed through 047 degs. 13' N. 004 degs. 18' W. in which E.G.11 attacked stationary contact between 1515 and 2200/10th, and report if any surface evidence exists.
(2) Your 110643. Confirm that U-Boat had previously been attacked by A/C at 0228/11th and report number of U-Boats.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 110908B to E.G.2)

My 110643. U.385 surfaced 11000 yards ahead of the group at 2057/10th and was engaged with gunfire for 30 mins. before she dived 7000 yards from STARLING. No Asdic contact could be obtained during subsequent search. Intercepted and attacked 10 miles to westward by Sunderland A/C UTC.38 at 0228/11th who then led Group to spot and patrol till 0600 keeping S/M down.

At 0636/11th enemy surfaced 3000 yards ahead of STARLING and was heavily engaged and hit by gunfire. Crew abandoned and S/M sank at 0641. Crew picked up by STARLING and WREN.

Prisoners of War papers show S/M was in harbour 1st August.
(E.G.2, 111119B to C. in C. Plymouth)

Force 28 is to patrol tonight between (GG) 46 degs. 32' N. 2 degs. 15' W. and (HH) 45 degs. 44' N. 01 degs. 43' W. passing through (GG) at 2300B/11.

(2) Unless in contact with the Enemy, Force 28 is to be North of 46 degs. N. from 0400B/12th to let 19 Group Anti U-Boat patrols operate off Gironde.

(3) In addition Halifax A/C will carry out armed antishipping and anti-U-Boat patrol N.E. of line Penmarch Point - Belle Ile - Ile D'Yeu from 2330B/11 to 0800B/12.

(4) 19 Group Mosquitoes will R/V with Force 28 in vicinity of 45 degs. 40' N. 1 deg. 50' W. at 2000B/11 and will escort until 2200.

(5) 10 Group Mosquitoes or Beaufighters will R/V with Force 28 in vicinity of 46 degs. 10' N. 2 degs. W. at 2130B/11 and escort until 2330B.

(7) If R/V in para. 3 and 4 are convenient (?inconvenient intended alternatives are to be signalled by 1800.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 111524B to Force 28)

Report of situation on West Coast of France to a.m. 11th August.

(1) During 10th Force 26 operated between Ile de Yeu and Raz de Sein, thence proceeding to Plymouth on reaching P.L.E.

(2) M.G.B.720 reported having detonated a mine in 047 degs. 33' N. 003 degs. 55' W. at 2350 on 9th. Boat undamaged.

(3) TARTAR was fired on by a shore battery (small calibre) at Pointe de Butte (Ile De Yeu) at approx. range of 10,000 yards at 0738/10th. No hits.

(4) Unit GX one reported medium batteries at St. Mathieu active but heavy battery most active. Radar apparently working and harbour navigation lights burning all night. Saw no shipping.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 111528B to Admty)

Your 110908. Position passed. No surface evidence sighted.

(E.G.2, 111539B to C. in C. Plymouth)

(1) No shipping activities in the vicinity of River Gironde entrance buoys at 1400 to-day. Force 28 then 12 S.W. Ile D'Oleron until 1600, where only fishing boats were encountered, 2 of which were interviewed by ONSLOW. Force was held by Radar during latter period but although boats were stopped inside

range /...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Biscay operations. U.385 sunk by ~~CC~~. STARLING. (Contd.)

range of shore batteries these did not open fire until Force was leaving. ONSLOW straddled, no damage. Had unintelligible communications by lights with signal station at Pointe De La Coubre.

(2) Following intelligence obtained:
(a) Fishing boats work from Chateau and are not (corrupt group) out after (2 corrupt group) or North Point De Chassiron.
(b) Mine(s) on spikes on Oleron Beach and mine barrage South Plateau De Chauveau, 6 fishing boats recently mined.

(c) No guns of any size on Oleron.
(d) No information about enemy shipping chiefly owing to (2) (a) above.

(Force 28, 111750B to C. in C. Plymouth)
My 111524 para. 6. Call signs.

(2) DIADEM is to act as fighter directing ship.
(3) 2 sorties each consisting of 24 Beaufighters and Mosquitos will sweep from Brest to Gironde at first light tomorrow.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 111911B to Force 28)
Am being attacked by two Do.217 in 45 degs. 15' N. 02 degs. 00' W.
(A/C MFK.20 112114B to 19 Group)
Attacked unknown contact, flak damage. One casualty.
Position 47 degs. N. 04 degs. 20' W.
(A/C USJ.71 112330 to 19 Group)

Operation "Offspring".

Operation "Offspring" successfully concluded. 29 mines laid in Jocap, 17 in Derby. In addition 6 M.E.110's destroyed and one damaged on ground, 2 hangars and some storehouses left burning at Gossen; Many subsidiary targets in Lepsoy area attacked including 3 Radar and 2 wireless stations; a dredger in Channel and gun positions; 3 armed ships of which 2 left burning and an oil tank which was left smoking. Losses, one Avenger shot down in flames and one Fire-fly ditched crew seen with dinghy.
(C.S.1, 110732B to C. in C. H.F.)

Operation "Goodwood".

Operation "Goodwood". In order to allow more sea room for Home Fleet operations, request Russian S/Ms be kept to the Eastward of 28 degs. E. A.M. 072350 refers.
(A.C.N.S. (H), 111022B to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Spitzbergen.

Work to prevent fire from spreading and if possible extinguish it started on 29th July above mine number 28. Work proceeding well but with man-power and material short it seems certain will not be able to extinguish fire in less than two months.
("Ploughshare", 111300Z to Admty)

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FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperations - Contd.

Operation "Victual". Flag of C.S.10 will be flown in VINDEX while at sea during operation "Victual" being transferred to JAMAICA during stay of escort force at Kola. Request VINDEX and JAMAICA may be allocated adjacent berths in Vaenga Bay on arrival. (C.S.10, 111521B to S.B.N.O. North Russia)

Amendment No.1 to my 081706. Para. (3)a. delete all after JAMAICA. Para.(3)b. delete and substitute: escort carrier VINDEX (wearing flag of C.S.10 who will conduct operation) and STRIKER. Para.(3)e. delete. Add new para. (3)j. escort carrier TRUMPETER, NABOB, and 5th Escort Group will join R.A.59A. Para.(4)a. add F.O. C.S.10 will then shift his flag to VINDEX. Para. (4) e. delete. Para. (6) Amend to read F.O. C.S.10 is to proceed VINDEX with STRIKER, JAMAICA escorted by 7 destroyers temporarily attached etc. Para. (7) delete and support group. Para. (8) delete. (C. in C. H.F. 112336B to H.F.)

S/M patrols. Positions of S/Ms at 0800/12th August and movements for following 24 hours.
(B) SUPREME, UPSHOT as in my 061719.
(C) SPARK on patrol in vicinity 59 degs. 30' N. 00 degs. 10' E. leaves patrol 0600/13th to R/V SHIKARI in 59 degs. N. 01 degs. W. at 1200/13th. (F.O.S.111658B to Admty.)

U-Boats

U.385 sunk. See Operations.

U-Boat reported. A.M. 101055. U-Boat referred to in second para. fixed by D/F at 1311Z using same procedure within 75 miles of 52 degs. 00' N. 33 degs. 30' W. (D.D.I.C.111622B to O.N.S. 248F)

U-Boats at Spitzbergen. U-Boat observed in Sassen Fjord 6th August at 2230, 7th August at 2145, 8th August at 0100 and 9th August at 1400 hours G.M.T. New reconnaissance patrol is out. ("Ploughshare", 112000Z to Admty)

U-Boat observed in Sassen Fjord 6th July at 2230, 7th July at 2145 hours G.M.T. M.G.B. seen crossing Sassen Fjord from Tempel, landing about 20 men on South side of Fjord 8th July at 0100 hours. Landing Force not seen next day but U-Boat still in Fjord 9th July at 1400 hours. ("Ploughshare", 112100Z to Admty)

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11.8.1944
Friday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence.

Cruiser and
Destroyer
at Copen-
hagen.

(a) NURNBERG-class cruiser arrived Copenhagen August 7th and was reported still there August 9th well camouflaged.

(b) KARL GALSTER destroyer arrived Copenhagen August 7th and sailed August 9th proceeding southward.

Graded B.2.

(N.A.Stockholm, 111017 to Admty)

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11.8.1944.
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

C.T.G.22.10 11/0800Z position 43.23 N. 32.11 W. proceeding
U-Boat towards U-Boat reported. Your 101150.
search. Answering your 102056. 4873 1725.
 (C.T.G. 22.10, 110804 to C. in C. Lant).
 Your 110804 Cominch 110150 was for information.
 Your targets are homeward bound S/Ms. by 082142Z.
Fuel escorts at Horta when required.
(Cinclant, 112013Z to C.T.G. 22.10).

MONTE SAJA Your 201918 July. Spanish MONTE SAJA intercepted
(Spanish). and sent in. Search completed. Found in order.
 Vessel released.
 (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 110925B to Admty.).

South Atlantic

H.D.M.Ls. Your 041131. Presume that 5 H.D.M.Ls. now
 building in U.K. are not required.
 (2) Further signal will be made regarding re-
 allocation of 5 building in South Africa.
(3) No H.D.M.Ls. are being converted to gunboats.
(Head of M.II.111201B to C. in C.S.A., Info. C. in C.E.F.,
C. in C. Durban, C.S. Durban).

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11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

UNSWERVING. You have freedom of action on Piraeus to Crete routes north of lat. $036^{\circ} 10'$.
2. Leave patrol on 12th to arrive $035^{\circ} 49' 023^{\circ} 29'$ about 2002B/12th.
(Capt. S.1 110832 to UNSWERVING.)

P.77 (VIVID) Proceed to patrol on Salonika - Mudros route. My 101028.
(Capt. S.1 111155B to VIVID.)
See Capt. S.1 130858B.

PIPINOS. From $035^{\circ} 49' 023^{\circ} 29'$ about 0400B/12th proceed dived (corrupt group) to $035^{\circ} 41' 023^{\circ} 16'$ thence dived until 1630B/12th and on surface at 10 knots to R/V with escort in $035^{\circ} 49' 015^{\circ} 18'$ at 0630B/14th.
(Capt. S.1 111224B to PIPINOS.)

Naval assistance to Turkey. Details of LL gear are not available to Turks until they are certain to enter the War. Minesweeper advisers are limited at present to assistance with fitting and using Oropesa and to help Turks choose suitable ships for fitting with LL sweeps when released. B.Y.M.S. have been sent to Turkish waters as an insurance to cover period between time Turkey is certain to enter the war and her own facilities become available.
(F.O.L.E.M. 111321C to B.N.A.Ankara.)

N.A.Ankara's 091831 not to Admiral Archer or B.N.L.O.Black Sea. Admiral Archer is requested to inform Soviet Naval Staff that A. one of the precautionary measures taken upon Turkish breach of relations was to send minesweepers to sweep channels for essential Turkish coal trade in the event of German mining attacks B. 4 British manned B.Y.M.S. flying Turkish flag were due to reach Dardanelles today, 10th August. These will remain British manned.

C. A few other minesweepers and harbour defence craft may be turned over to Turks on loan.

2. N.A.Ankara may - A. inform U.S.S.R. Attache that above has been passed to Soviet Naval Staff in Moscow.

B. Inform U.S. Naval Attache of such details of naval aid to Turkey as he thinks fit.

3. F.O. agree.

(V.C.N.S. 111751B to N.A. Ankara, Admiral Archer, Info. C. in C. Med. F.O.L.E.M. B.N.L.O.Black Sea.)

Do not intend to send further vessels until more indications that Turkey will be involved in the war.
Your 101715 (101751 intended). Suggest that Turks should again be approached to send suitable vessels to Levant for fitting and training as A/S and M/S auxiliaries also mobile (corrupt group) units your 271155 July to F.O.L.E.M. only.

(F.O.L.E.M. 111935 to B.N.A.Ankara.)

/CURIE...

11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd..

CURIE report. CURIE reports - at 2216/3 in 152° Cassa Daigne reef 2 miles fired four torpedoes with non contact pistol set to eight feet at 3000 ton M/V escorted by at least one destroyer and one ELAN class, one possible hit. Slight counter attack.
(S.10 111331 to C. in C.Med.)

Report of A/C attacks on convoy U.G.S.48, SAMSYLARNA torpedoed 5th August. Cancel my 101452 Aug. First attack A. 0015 to 0140 Aug. 1st N.W. of Bougie. B. U.G.S.48. C. 50 aircraft unidentified. D. Torpedo attack, attack from all directions approach between 2000 feet and 8000 feet from north turned west ahead of convoy dropping to 1000 feet. E. Nil. F.(1) Nil. (2) Nil. G. No. H. (one?) DELHI 032300 Aug. Second attack. A. 0200 Aug. 5th 033° 01' N. 020° 16' E. B. U.G.S.48. C. 1 or 2 torpedo bombers.

D. Torpedo attack details not known.
E. SS. SAMSYLARNA torpedoed now grounded in 234° Benghazi lighthouse 2.5 miles.
F. (1) Nil (2) one shot down by DEPTFORD.
G. No. H. No.
(C. in C.Med. 112108B to Admty.)

Proposed return of landing craft to U.K. A.M. 021626. Orders L.C.A. Flotillas embarked in L.S.I.(L) to be returned to U.K. in ships. Embarked in DUNERA is 560 L.C.A. Flotilla one of those allocated Med. Station and normally shore based. Request approval to retain this flotilla on station.
(C. in C.Med. 112140 to Admty.)

Minesweeping. Your 072011B para. 2. (1) Extension of western limits of Q.B.B. 392 from lat. 043 degs. 25' N. to lat. 043 degs. 13' N. commenced in (g) formation.
(2) Total of 10 mines swept including 3 in sweep.
(3) Intend to resume clearance tomorrow Saturday.
(4) Anchored Porto-Baratti.
(ACUTE, 112246 to F.O.W.It.) as amended 121845.

NICOLA FABRIZI NICOLA FABRIZI has engine failure and stopped. breakdown. LIBRA Callsign 5 RMV is towing toward Taranto by outward channel.
Request tug to relieve LIBRA.
(FENICE, 112300B to F.O.T.A.L.I)

Assessments of attacks on U-Boats from Med: Board. B.A.D. 091743 refers. Special circumstances related to the three serials concerned see para. 3 of my 090813 June being passed.
(2) Consider that apportioning credit should not be undertaken until all sources of information have become available. Para. 2 of my 090813 refers. Request ruling on this matter.
(C. in C. Med. 112318B to Admty (R) B.A.D.)

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11.8.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

VISIGOTH.

Proceed to patrol eastern approaches to Doro Channel, Steno Pass and Mykoni Channel between lats. $037^{\circ} 20'$ and $038^{\circ} 10'$ W. of a line 322° from $037^{\circ} 20' 025^{\circ} 59'$.
(Capt. S.1 112327B to VISIGOTH.)

Situation
report No.
(7408).

The gap in centre of block ships in southern entrance to Leghorn is now 120 feet wide by 24 feet depth.
2. PIPINOS reports sinking destroyer CALATAFIMI by torpedo off Karlovasi (Samos) and damaging (7965) ton and 2200-ton barges inside the harbour on 9th August.
(C. in C.Med. 112332.)

ORION, see page 180

War Diary

11.8.1944.

Friday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat Area D.
dispositions. Aircraft from SHAH sighted and attacked submarine sighted on surface in position 004 degs. 10' S. 049 degs. 50' E. at 0955Z, 10th August. Scale of air escort remains Y.

Indian Ocean. Japanese U-Boat by D/F within 150 miles of 003 degs. south, 089 degs. east at 1400Z on 10th.

Area A B C E F G. . Believed clear of U-Boats. Scale of air escort remains W.

(C. in C.E.F., 110335Z).

GUARDIAN,
PROTECTOR.

Request information whether it is intended that GUARDIAN should join the E.F. and if so at what date. A.M. 091826 Jan. refers.

(2) Such a ship is a requirement if full value is to be obtained from H.S.B.P.Ts.

(3) PROTECTOR is not expected to be ready until 1945.

(C. in C.E.F., 110357Z to Admty., (R) C. in C. Med., V.A.E.F.).

ORBITA,
aground
2nd July.

ORBITA refloated proceeded under own steam assisted by tugs now anchored outer harbour Aden. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 110650Z to C. in C.E.F., Admty., D. of S.T., F.O.L.E.M., P.S.T.O.M.E., S.N.O.R.S.C.A., M.W.T.M.E.).

Force 66,
Search for
U-Boats.

Para.1, your 110706Z (N.T. in W.R.) confirming my impression of U-Boats intention which we shall endeavour to dislocate.

(2) Suggest FALMOUTH and GENISTA guard U-Boat approaches to Aden alternatively instead of joining me.

(3) Intend searching for U-Boats from westward. Catalina night search ahead will always be helpful. Would it assist if anticipated dusk position was signalled daily.

(4) My anticipated position at 0400Z/12 is 003 degs. 15' S. 051 degs. 50' E. weather report 5450 0115 0012 8790 0009 0307 course 060 degs. speed 10 knots.

(S.O. Force 66, 111900Z to F.O.E.Af., (R) C. in C.E.F., (?Force 60), FALMOUTH, SHAH, Air H.Q. E.Af.).

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11.8.1944

Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

C.T.G.22.3. Your 102208Z my 110100Z position 44.56 N. 48.42 W. search for U-Boat. Weather permitting am searching area one hundred miles each side of U-Boat track and 120 miles ahead and astern of estimated position day and night until contact made. Endeavouring remain within 60 miles estimated position Q modifying as necessary to avoid fog and rain. Expect recover last night flight approx. 44.45 N. 50.12 W. at sunrise W.X. 5271 1444.

(C.T.G.22.3. 110215Z to Cinclant)

Air search terminated at 1330Z by fog over entire area after 44 hours continuous operations. Information available indicates present conditions will persist at least 48 hours. Expected arrive 44.30 N. 50.45 W. at 1800Z. Unless otherwise directed will conduct surface search until weather clears in area U-Boat estimated position WX 2344 1262.

(C.T.G.22.3, 111625Z to Cinclant)

N.S.H.Q. Para. C. R.C.A.F. Canso L/160 sights U-Boat S/M attack and sighting summary. course 210 degs. which submerged in 47.21 N. 51.04 W. at 1526Z/10th. Para. D. 1 A.T.C. A/C sights U-Boat surfaced course 220 degs. in 46.20 N. 47.10 W. at 1615Z/10th. (2) U.S. Army C.54 A/C sights U-Boat surfaced course 270 degs. in 46.40 N. 48.30 W. at 1700Z/10th.

(3) U.S. C.54 A/C sights conning tower which submerged in 46.38 N. to 48.37 W. at 2018Z/10th.

(4) Merchant ship in O.N.F. 247 sights periscope in 47.03 N. 50.46 W. at 2230Z/10th.

(N.S.H.Q. 110652Z)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q.111502Z, Cominch, 111542Z)

E.G.16 U-Boat search. My position 044 degs. 24' N. 048 degs. 21' W. at 2005Z/11. Conducting search on course 210 degs. TORONTO reported sighting torpedo track on port quarter. Numerous doubtful A/S contacts in area.

(E.G.16, 112150Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)

11.8.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

U-Boat Campaign

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

- Para. A. (1) A/C L/110 attacked U-Boat, course
110 degs. at 1011Z/10th in 48 degs. 15' N.
04 degs. 18' W.
(2) H.M. Ships sighted U-Boat at 1904Z/10th in
46 degs. 16' N. 02 degs. 45' W.
(3) H.M. Ships attacked U-Boat at approx. 1315Z/10th
in 47 degs. 13' N. 04 degs. 18' W.
(4) A/C P/461 and H.M. Ships attacked U-Boat at 0028Z/11th
in 46 degs. 09' N. 03 degs. 10' W.
(5) A/C attacked U-Boat at 0957Z/10th in 04 degs. 20' S. 49 degs
49' E.
- Para. B. (1) H.M. ship sighted possible U-Boat at 1220Z/10th
in 47 degs. 48' N. 05 degs. 21' W.
- Para. C. (1) Transit A/C sighted U-Boat course 240 degs. at 1855Z/
10th in 38 degs. 33' N. 26 degs. 34' W.
- Para. D. (1) Transit A/C sighted U-Boat on southerly course at
0910Z/10th in approx. 63 degs. 30' N. 20 degs. 45' W.
(D.D.I.C.111125B)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C.111420B, 111424B)

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands.

Operation "Neptune" (D + 67).

General.

1(a). Allied troops today crossed the Loire and are south of Nantes. St. Malo, Brest and Lorient still hold out; and the Mortain/Vire sector is still stubbornly defended by the enemy.

(b). The 12 inch coastal battery on Alderney was successfully bombarded today by RODNEY who returned to Portland on completion. 75 rounds of 16 inch shell were fired, and three of the four battery guns were probably damaged. (p.253)

(c). A B.2 report received by the Admiralty states that the Germans have a special explosive weapon for use in the assault area which, the Admiralty consider, may be a 21 inch electrical torpedo fired from near Havre and set to run straight into the area and then to describe large trackless circles at 6 to 9 knots for about 10 hours. It is believed that the casualties to FROBISHER, VESTAL, IDDESLEIGH and ALBATROSS may have been caused by this weapon.

(d). The first "Pluto HAIS" lay between Naqueville and Sandown Bay was completed today when the ends were connected.

(e). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| British area | : 760,742 | 188,258 | 1,065,292 |
| U.S. area | : 1,039,543 | 196,176 | 1,265,026 |
| Total | : 1,800,285 | 384,434 | 2,330,318 |

Enemy action.

(2) Surface Craft. At about 0400 today the U.S.S. BORUM and five P.T. boats attacked an enemy convoy of eight ships about 3 miles N.N.W. of La Corbiere, Jersey, and drove it into St. Helier. P.T.506 was damaged.

GENERAL.

North Biscay operations.

(3)(a). The watch on the North Biscay coast was maintained today by force 28 (DIADEM (S.O.), ONSLOW and PIORUN) assisted by E.G.3, E.G.11, E.G.12 and aircraft.

(b) At 0410B two trawlers were driven ashore on fire and a third trawler damaged by E.G.12 off the Ile de Sein; and SKEENA and QU'APPELLE collided during the action but are proceeding to the U.K. with damage.

(c) At 1746B DIADEM reported an 8000 ton armed M/V sunk by her gunfire and a torpedo from PIORUN; off La Rochelle; and during the day one minesweeper and one Sperrbrecher were sunk, three M/Vs left burning, and three armed trawlers damaged by A/C

/ off ...

War Diary

12.8.1944
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune"

North Biscay
Operations
(Contd.)

off the Gironde, and one M/V and one escort vessel left on fire by A/C off La Rochelle.
(d) Brest and La Pallice were also bombed in clear weather.

General

4. 63 Lancasters dropped 278 tons on the U-Boat pens at Brest, La Pallice and Bordeaux to-day. The weather was clear and bombing was accurate.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Human
Torpedoes.

5. The Admiralty to-day informed C. in C. Mediterranean that a report (graded C.3) has been received that 60 German human torpedoes passed Milan on July 14th destined for Voltri.

Karlovassi
Harbour bombed.

6. Wellington A/C bombed Karlovassi Harbour (Samos) last night.

East Indies

U-Boat sunk
W.N.W. of
Seychelles.
U. 148.
(Inv. 6843)

7. A U-Boat which was sighted by A/C from BEGUM was later attacked and possibly damaged by aircraft from SHAH. After hunting the U-Boat all day a promising attack was made by FINDHORN in 03° 45' S. 52° 58' E. (about 180 miles W.N.W. of Seychelles) and the U-Boat was considered finally destroyed.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Australia & New Zealand.

- Philippines. 8. (a). A U.S. submarine effectively attacked a southbound convoy comprising 2 large tankers, 2 freighters and 3 escorts off the western extremity of Mindoro Island.
(b). A Liberator A/C sank a merchant ship in the Davao Gulf.
- Southern Wide Bay (New Britain) bombarded. 9. At dawn an Australian sloop bombarded the Southern Wide Bay (New Britain.)

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military

Communique No.126. (Extract).

Allied troops have crossed the Loire river and have reached a point 10 miles south of Nantes. Some fighting continues in the areas of Nantes and Angers.

One remaining strong point at St. Malo is still holding out. Heavy fighting is in progress in Dinard. The situations at Brest and Lorient remain unchanged.

In Normandy, the enemy is maintaining a stubborn defence in the Mortain-Vire sector.

East of Vire Allied troops advanced from 1000 to 2000 yards on a 6 mile front.

Thury-Harcourt and St. Martin De Sallen were cleared of enemy and Esson was taken.

(S.H.A.E.F., 121100B to Agwar).

Assault Areas

Depot
ships in
B.A.A.

I am much concerned by the present serious situation with regard to Depot ships for ferry service craft etc. in the British Assault Area, which has recently been accentuated by:-

(A) The mining of ASCANIUS.

(B) The fact that THYSVILLE now in U.K. has been reported as unfit to proceed to sea again until very extensive repairs have been carried out. This virtually precludes her further employment as a Depot ship.

(C) The very bad condition of CAP TOURAINE which will force her return from the B.A.A. shortly. F.O.B.A.A's. 291223B July and letter No. BA 741/8 of 31st July 1944 refer.

(D) The torpedoing of FROBISHER which precludes her further service as a Depot ship. It is noted that DESPATCH is offered as relief for her by Admiralty Message 080035B August.

(2) The following action has been taken to alleviate this:-

(1) The construction of Naval and Victualling Stores ashore at Arromanches is in hand, and should, on completion in about 3 weeks' time, cater for all Naval Personnel at the base.

(II) L.S.T.238 is now in British Assault Area as temporary relief for ASCANIUS. She has the necessary stores on board but cannot otherwise be considered as a satisfactory substitute for a Depot ship.

(3) Extra commitments for which no provision was originally made are:-

(A) Coastal Force Base personnel. They will be satisfactorily catered for if MISOA is allowed as coastal force Depot ship, Admiralty Message 091031B August refers.

(B) Support squadron craft of which a large percentage now have to remain in the B.A.A. and which are self-supporting only to a very small extent. In the original plans for Depot ships, they were budgetted to stay in the B.A.A. until D+10 only.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Assault Areas.

Depot
ships in
B.A.A.
(Contd.)

The following action is now proposed to alleviate the present difficult state of affairs outlined above which has led to continued bad living conditions for ferry service crews:-

- (A) DESPATCH to relieve FROBISHER as in para. 1 (D) above DESPATCH however has been in the Assault Area since D+2 and should return to U.K. for a short period before relieving FROBISHER.
- (B) As WAVENEY's refit may be prolonged, it is requested that DACRES now operating on anti-driver patrol with C. in C. Portsmouth, may be allocated as temporary relief for DESPATCH until return of WAVENEY about the end of August.
- (C) CERES to be allocated for temporary duty as depot ship after re-storing and giving a short period of leave.
- (D) CAP TOURAXNE to remain as long as possible and return to U.K. after arrival of CERES or return of DESPATCH which ever is last.
- (5) Personnel ex Administrative Unit in THYSVILLE to supplement ships company of CERES as necessary to enable her to carry out duties of Depot ship.
(A.N.C.X.F., 122334B to Admty.).

Brittany.

C.F.M.U.2. A.N.C.X.F. 101833 and Comusbasfrance 110944.
Request that C.F.M.U.2 be sent to Morlaix if situation permits.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121426B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Operation
"Pluto"

Intend to sail S.N.O. "Pluto" in CAMPANULA with SANCROFT, DANUBE V, BRINMARIC, M.L.291, 297 and H.D.M.L. 1383 escorted by MAGPIE (S.O.), TOMPAZIS, ARMERIA and MIMICO from Needles 0730B/13 to carry out operation "Pluto" (Hais) number two as laid down S.N.O. "Pluto" DC/HH/2 of 12th August.
(2) Routed Q.Z.S.512, speed nine knots. E.T.A. H.10 1430B/13th.
(4) 9th M/S. Flot. will sail in company and sweep ahead of (?lay).
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 122208B to C.T.F.125).

Bombardments.

WARSPITE

On completion of working up WARSPITE is to replace RODNEY as bombarding battleship for "Neptune".
(2) On relief by WARSPITE, RODNEY is to be sailed to Scapa where she will remain for the present under the orders of C. in C.H.F.
(V.C.N.S., 120337B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/ Bombardment...

War Diary12.8.1944.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"BombardmentsBombardment
of Alderney
by RODNEY.

My 100905.

RODNEY will sail at 0730 today. Spotting aircraft
on station at 1200.

(A.N.C.X.F., 120656B to C.T.F.125).

A.N.C.X.F. 080107. Sailed RODNEY, FAULKNER,
JERVIS.

(N.O.I.C. Portland, 120741 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Low clouds dissipating rapidly. Confidence high weather
will allow operation today. My 120510B.

(C.T.F., 120747B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Upon completion of bombardment return to Portland via Q.Z.S.
512, 490 and 399. FAULKNER and JERVIS escort to Portland, and
to return Western Assault Area. Submit brief summary of days
(?firing) prior to departure.

(C.T.F. 125, 121622B to RODNEY).

Covering ForcesWestern
Area.Leave ELM and take CEDAR. Take charge of screen
in absence of SAUMAREZ and ONSLAUGHT. Following
is present disposition of screen.

(C.T.G., 125.4, 121030B to URANIA).

Patrols
from
Portsmouth.

O.N. Portsmouth 1 para. 38. Cover night 12th/13th.

A. OFFA (G.A.1, VIDETTE (G.A.2), BRISSENDEN (G.A.3)

zig-zag search in area bounded by Q.Z.S.511, 00

degs. 05' E. Q.Z.S.488, line 055 degs. from E.4

buoy. 6th Escort Group, NEW WATERFORD (S.O),

PENNYWORT, GROU, ANNAN zig-zag search in area

bounded by Q.Z.S.512, 49 degs. 52' N. 50 degs. 25' N. and 01 degs.
25' W. report night dispositions.

Zig-zag search see C.B.4097 paras: 353 and 354.

TALYBONT (G.F.1) patrol on a line between 50 degs. 17' N. 00 degs.

13' E. and 50 degs. 20' N. 00 degs. 22' E.

MELBREAK (G.F.2) Patrol on a line between 50 degs. 11' N. 00 degs.

02' W. and 50 degs. 14' N. 00 degs. 06' E.

(B) STAYNER (G.B.1) in Z.13 and Z.17. Unit G.B.2 U.S. P.Ts.

519(S.O), 517, 516. Unit G.B.3 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O) 453, 481.

Unit G.B.4 M.T.Bs. 773 (S.O) 741.

Unit G.B.5 S.G.Bs. GREY WOLF (S.O), GREY GOOSE.

With STAYNER in Z.13 and Z.17. Force G.B. to be in position by

2315B. Waiting position for Force G.B. N.W. Corner of Z.16.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 121144B)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel report 12th/13th

August. (1) 6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O), PENNYWORT, GROU,

ANNAN) Z.108, Z.112, Z.113, Z.114.

4th E.G. Z.227 North East Z.222 North West. 15th E.G. Z.236.

ALBRIGHTON, Z.226, Z.221, Z.216.

(1)B URANIA Z.115.

(2) Unit G W off Brest. (B) 2 P.Cs . Z.111, 3 P.Cs . Z.122.

(3) Air Patrols all areas West of 01 degs. 37' W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 122103B)

/ ON...

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Covering Forces

Patrols from Portsmouth (Contd.) ON.1 para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 12th/13th August. (1) F.U.3, OPPORTUNE Z.3. F.U.5, OBEDIENT Z.5. F.U.7, ORWELL Z.7. G.A.1, OFFA, G.A.2 VIDETTE In area bounded by Q.Z.S. 511 00 degs. 05' E. Q.Z.S. 488 line 055 degs. from E.4 buoy. G.A.3, BRISSENDEN In area bounded by Q.Z.S.511 00 degs. 05' E. Q.Z.S. 488 line 055 degs. from E.4 Buoy. G.F.1, TALYBONT Z.8 south. G.F.2, MELBREAK Z.11 north west. G.B.1, STAYNER Z.13, Z.17. 1.(B) G.M.2 MIDDLETON and LA COMBATTANTE area Pike. G.K.2, SEYMOUR, G.K.5, EGLINTON, G.N.3, BLEASDALE, COTTESMORE Tunny north. (2) F.N.1, 3 M.T.Bs. B.F.N.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.4, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.4. F.N.6, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.T.1, 2 M.T.Bs. in 50 degs. 27' N. 01 degs. 20' E. G.B.2, 3 P.Ts. G.B.3, 3 M.T.Bs. G.B.4, 2 M.T.Bs. G.B.5, 2 S.G.Bs. Z.13, Z.17. (2) (B) G.K.1, 2 M.T.Bs. G.K.3, 6 M.T.Bs. Tunny north. (3) Wellington cross-over patrol between St. Valery en Caux and St. Valery aux Somme between 7 and 19 miles off French Coast. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 12212B).

Patrols from Dover. ON. Dover 67. F.N.1, M.T.Bs. 418, 432, 485 in 050 degs. Z.2 3 miles. F.N.2, M.T.Bs. 461, 466 in 208 degs. Z.2 5.8 miles. F.U.3, OPPORTUNE in 050 degs. Z.3 3 miles. F.N.4, M.T.Bs. 231, 236 in 50 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5 mins. E. F.U.5, OBEDIENT in 050 degs. Z.5 3 miles. F.N.6, M.T.Bs. 359, 358 in 230 degs. Z.6 2 miles. F.U.7, ORWELL Z.7. F.T.1, M.T.Bs. 607, 605 in 50 degs. 27 1/2' N. 01 degs. 20' E. from 2345/12 passing east Bullock at 2300/12 and 0445/13. (A.C. Dover, 121255B).

Patrols from Plymouth. (A) Force G.W.1, S.T. Division M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O.), 739, 742, 2nd Division M.T.Bs. 724, 787, 728. (B) M.T.Bs. 738, 739, 742, 724, 1600B/12 from Plymouth M.T.Bs. 787, 728, 1730B/12 from Falmouth. (C) All boats R/V (TT) 49 degs. N. 5 degs. W. at 2100 thence (UU) 270 Creach PT 15 to arrive 2200 (VV) 159 Creach PT 20. (D) From (VV) report at S.Os. discretion to cover Approaches to Brest including the channel through Raz De Sein. (E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Force to leave area after daylight at S.Os. discretion. (G) (UU) to Plymouth. (C. in C. Plymouth, 121344B). (A) Unit G.Q.1., M.T.Bs. 98 (S.O.), 90, 92, 91, 94, 239. (B) Immediate notice from 1700B/12. (C) (AA) Position 188 Les Hanois 9.

/ (D)...

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Saturday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Forces

Patrols from Plymouth (Contd.)

(D) From (AA) patrol in Z.210 to area approaches to St. Malo. Unit is not to go outside the limits of 2210 unless in emergency or in action.
 (E) Destruction of enemy shipping.
 (F) Unit to remain until after daylight, time of leaving to be at discretion of S.O.
 (G) (AA) to Dartmouth.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 121409B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth).

Mining

Barfleur Barfleur and approaches now considered clear. Approach Channel centre line 049 degs. 40.8' N. 001 degs. 15' W. 049 degs. 41.9' N. 001 degs. 11.3' W.
 Anchorage cleared $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of centre line of Channel commencing one mile off shore joining following positions.
 (C.T.F. 125, 121044B to C.T.U., 125,12.3).

Western area. Following is M/S. Summary 12th August. All channels, anchorages, approaches, and Mulberrys searched magnetic and acoustic sweeps.
 (3) Oropesa and (corrupt group) Operation 42 line carried out. All sweeps negative result.
 No enemy minelayer reports received.
 (?M/S. West, 122108B to C.T.F. 125).

Eastern area. No reports of enemy minelaying during past 24 hours. Two Acoustic mines swept on night outer defence line near A.24 berth, sea calm.
 (Capt. M/S X., 122230B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Enemy Action

Attack on enemy convoy. Plot Nr. 1 bearing 328 degs. La Corbiere 3 miles, course 350 degs. speed 13 knots.
 (BORUM, 120307 to C.T.F. 125).
 Have been shelled in 290 La Corbiere 9. P.Ts. have attacked convoy in 335 La Corbiere 3. Result unknown. Two casualties, P.Ts. have attacked possible U-Boat in 325 La Corbiere 9.
 (BORUM, 120402B to C.T.F. 125).
 My 0307. Enemy has returned to St. Helier. Consider one ship damaged by gunfire.
 (BORUM, 120425B to C. in C. Plymouth, C.T.F.125).
 My P.C.S. are 270 degs. La Corbiere 12 miles, 285 degs. 10 knots.
 (BORUM, 120507 to C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Portsmouth).

/ My...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Attack on enemy convoy (Contd.) My 120402. U-Boat report doubtful. My P.C.S. 272 La Corbiere 13, 285, 10. P.T.506 in tow with underwater damage. (BORUM, 120515B to C. in C. Plymouth, C.T.F.125). Sail SAUMAREZ and ONSLAUGHT at best speed to area 220 degs. Les Hanois 14 miles. BORUM and 4 P.T. in area last contacted with enemy convoy which returned St. Helier 0120B/12. P.T. believed submarine in area. (C.T.F. 125, 120848B to C.T.G. 4-4).

Special Circling torpedo. It is reported (B.2) that the Germans have a special explosive weapon, other than the one-man torpedo or explosive motor boat, for use off the Assault area. (2) The casualties to FROBISHER, VESTAL, IDDES-LEIGH, and ALBATROSS may have been caused by this weapon. (3) As far as is known no weapon was sighted during these attacks and it appears likely that the weapon used was some form of torpedo fired from the vicinity of Havre on the westgoing stream. (4) From technical appreciation of German torpedo design it is possible that this weapon is a special 21-inch electrical torpedo which can be set to run straight and then describe large circles at dead slow speed whilst drifting down with the tide. The following features could be incorporated. (1) Torpedo speed about 6 to 9 knots. (2) Endurance up to 10 hours. (3) Depth setting about 10 feet. (4) Impact firing. (5) Tracklessness. (A.C.N.S.(W), 121335B to F.O.B.A.A.). *Fragment of 21-in torpedo found in FROBISHER - see 24-8-44, page 671*

Engagement with R-Boats. Coastal Force action night Aug. 11th/12th. Unit of 3 M.T.Bs. of 30th M.T.B.F. 474, 472, 480 operated an intruder patrol south of Cap Le Heve making contact with 1 auxiliary escorted by 8 plus R-Boats in 204 Cap D'Antifer 11.5 at 0158. Unit made individual attacks under heavy shell fire at 0211. Results were obscured by smoke but control ship reported 2 heavy explosions during the attack. It is considered that 1 Auxiliary was probably hit by torpedoes. (F.O.B.A.A., 121703 to A.N.C.X.F.).

U-Boats

Contacts attacked. My 112329. Attacked with Hedgehog. No result. Contact regained gives fast movements then lost at 700 yards and not regained. Depth charge attack made on doubtful contact. INGLIS in company doing box search (could not?) confirm contact. (LORING, 120009B to C. in C. Plymouth).

/ My...

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Saturday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune".U-Boats.Contacts
attacked.
(Contd.)

My 112(302?). One good attack carried out.
Contact (stationary?) in approx. 049 degs. 48'
30" N. 001 degs. 37' W. Echo sound, shows
object below (7) fathoms. Remaining in contact
until daylight when attempt (will be?) made to
bring up wreckage. GROU in company with
remainder of 6th Escort Group resuming patrol.
D.23 has been in company and (responsible?).
(ONSLAUGHT, 120205 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

U-Boats
reported.

Investigating contact 224 Beachy Head 17 miles.
(G.F.2, 120306 to C. in C. Portsmouth).
Following received from LINCOLNSHIRE.
Begins:- Submarine submerged 270 Juno LV 6 cables
Ends. Take all A/S precautions.
(F.O.B.A.A., 121647 to ships).

Channel
situation.

Up to five may be in English Channel E. of 03
degs. 00' W.
Contact at 2129Z/11th August indicates one may be
off coast between Lands End and Lundy Island.
One possibly between Lizard and Start Point.

Two or three in Ushant area.

Probably up to ten on passage on coastal waters from Brest to
the Gironde.
(D.D.I.C., 121428B to A.I.G. 331).

A/S
patrols.

Daylight patrols 13th August.
6th Escort Group PENNYWORT A/S. search limits
49 degs. 52' N. 50 degs. 25' N. Centre line
meridian of 01 degs. 30' W.
(2) Spout patrols.

VIDETTE B, MELBREAK C, TALYBONT U, OFFA V, BRISSENDEN W.
(3) OUTREMONT, VERSATILE pass Gate at 0900B.
VERSATILE relieve VIDETTE. OUTREMONT join 6th E.G.
(4) VIDETTE return to harbour on relief.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 121721B).

Casualties and Defects.GALLIONS
REACH.

Intend to sail salvage steamer GALLIONS REACH to
Southampton for essential repair and refit.
(P.S.V.O. in EREBUS, 121109B to F.O.B.A.A.).

MIRABELLE

Your 111948B. MIRABELLE is not in fit state to
proceed under her own steam on account of boiler
defects. The following repairs are required.
Estimated time required to complete is 5 weeks. It is highly
undesirable that the work should be done at Southampton. Request
arrangements may be made to tow her to another port.
(F.O.I.C. Southampton, 121230B to Admty.).

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

| | |
|------------|---|
| E.X.P.40. | E.X.P.40, 3 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 120213B.) |
| E.P.M.59. | E.P.M. 59, 13 ships and 1 L.S.T. (A.N.C.X.F. 120214B.) |
| E.W.L.65B. | E.W.L.65B, 3 ships and 7 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 120344B.) |
| E.W.L.65A. | E.W.L.65A, 2 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 120345B.) |
| E.T.C.64. | E.T.C.64, 22 ships and 4 C.G.Cutters. (A.N.C.X.F. 120815B and 122039.) |
| E.P.P.19. | E.P.P.19, 2 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 120947B.) |
| E.B.C.68. | E.B.C.68, 27 ships. (A.N.C.X.F. 121303B.) |
| F.T.M.66. | F.T.M.66, 10 ships and 4 L.S.Ts. (F.O.B.A.A. 121306B.) |
| E.P.M.33. | E.P.M.33, 8 ships and 11 L.S.Ts. (A.N.C.X.F. 121315.) |
| F.T.C.56. | F.T.C.56, 23 ships. (F.O.B.A.A. 121340B.) |
| F.W.P.33. | F.W.P.33, 1 ship. (C.T.U. 125.1.3 121507B.) |
| F.B.C.52. | F.B.C.52, 20 ships. (C.T.U. 125.1.3 121509 and 121945.) |
| F.P.M.34. | Sailed F.P.M.34, 12 ships and 12 L.S.Ts. (C.T.G. 125.1.3 121511.) Sailed F.P.M.34 3 ships and 1 L.S.T. (C.T.G. 125.2 121721B.) |
| F.B.C.52. | Sailed F.B.C.52, 2 ships. (C.T.G. 125.2 121724.) |

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Shipping & Convoys.

F.W.L.55. F.W.L.55, 1 ship and 7 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 122001B.)

Organisation and Administration.

U.S.C.G. C. in C.Portsmouth 051844 and C.T.F. 101359.
Rescue 1. Maintenance requirements and administrative
Flotilla considerations make it necessary that if U.S.Coast
at Poole. Guard Rescue Flotilla is to operate under present
demands it remain undivided and in its present
location at Poole. Alternatives have been exam-
ined and carefully considered and this conclusion reached.
(A.N.C.X.F. 120029B to C. in C.Portsmouth, C.T.F. 125.)

Minesweeping My 081622. Intend these arrangements should come
organisation. into force as soon as possible.
2. Line of demarcation between Captain M/S Seine
and Commander M/S Cherbourg to be 01° 20' W. in
order that responsibility for the Barfleur area
may be clearly defined.
3. Capt. M/S Seine and Commander M/S Beaches will operate under
F.O.B.A.A. who is requested to confirm suitability of St. Vaast
as base for latter and to review communication and other require-
ments.
4. In addition to present forces allocated to him one M.S.S.
Flotilla, one B.Y.M.S. Flotilla, one F.M.S. Flotilla (Bangors)
and two groups of LL/SA trawlers will comprise forces under con-
trol of F.O.B.A.A. These will include all M/S Forces remaining
after withdrawal of those required for Brittany ports except one
B.Y.M.S. Flotilla for Cherbourg.
5. Except for one B.Y.M.S. Flotilla requirements of C.T.F. 125
for clearance of Brest and Quiberon Bay (vide his 062257) will
have to be met from those forces already under his control.
These will be as follows.
2 F.M.S. Flotillas - 14th and 31st.
1 B.Y.M.S. Flotilla - 159th of which one division is now at Ply-
mouth (6 ships) and 4 ships now available in Humber area.
2 M.F.Vs. only are available for all Brittany ports.
No Flotilla is available to relieve Y.M.S. in the Beaches area.
No relief for CHIMO will be required.
Portable pulsing set is available at Plymouth.
(A.N.C.X.F. 122055B to C.T.F.125, F.O.B.A.A.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Policy.

Leave resumed. As from 15th August, Admiralty O52249 is cancelled. From that date nine days' seasonal leave to personnel in shore establishments may be resumed under the following conditions. Details. (2nd S.L.121655B to A.I.G.21..)

Baltic. Chief objective of our economic pressure on Sweden Intended is withdrawal of Swedish shipping from German trade action. Swedes have said that if naval activity is intensified in the Baltic they will arrange to withdraw their ships by removing insurance facilities on the ground of excessive war risks.

2. In order to accelerate Swedish action and provide them with good pretext it is the intention -

A. to carry out mining and bombing attacks on Stettin;

B. to re-declare the Baltic danger areas;

C. to invite the Russians to support A and B with appropriate action.

3. When declaration in B has been issued you should immediately draw attention of Swedish Naval Staff to the declaration and emphasize the very serious risks which will be run by Swedish ships if its terms are disregarded.

(1st S.L. 122126B to N.A.Stockholm.)

Defence of United Kingdom.

Defence against Flying Bombs. In order to ensure prompt engagement of flying bombs A.A. guns sited in Sussex/Kent and Essex/ Kent I.A.Z's which are operative up to 10,000 ft. have been permitted at all times to engage unseen aircraft not identified as friendly up to specified height limit. It is therefore essential in the interests of safety of friendly aircraft that the provisions laid down in my A.61 21/July be strictly observed and particularly those measures for establishing friendly identity laid down in para. 4.

(Air Ministry 121528B to H.Q.A.E.A.F.)

Operations.

North Biscay operations. Investigate unidentified radar contact reported by A/C at 2330 in 047° 00' N. 004° 20' W. A/C was damaged by flak. Rover aircraft is searching for marker and will home when found.

(C. in C.Plymouth 120015B to E.G.11.)

Submerged submarine bearing 306° distance 2.5 miles course unknown, my position 45° 58' N. 01° 53' W.

(DIADEM 120154B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

My 0154. Submarine has dived.

(DIADEM 120156B to Plymouth.)

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Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

North Biscay operations. (Contd.) 3 unknown vessels bearing 072°. My position 025° JJ 3.7. (QU'APPELLE 120225B to Plymouth P.W.) My 120225B. 3 small craft bearing 060° distance 2 miles, course 180° position 47° 54' N. 04° 24' W (E.G.12 120243B to Plymouth.)

By D/F at 2341Z/11 and 2335Z/11 U-Boat making B barred signal estimated within 15 miles of 45° 30' N. 01° 40' W. (D.D.I.C. 120316B to Force 28, E.Gs. 3, 11, 12.)

My 120243. 2 trawlers set on fire and driven ashore. Third hit and probably ashore. QU'APPELLE, SKEENA in collision and withdrawing to westward. ALBRIGHTON, RESTIGOUCHE, ASSINIBOINE continuing action. My P.C. and S. 047° 52' N. 004° 26' W. 280° 10 (E.G.12 120410B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

At 0231Z U-Boat transmitted a B barred message. No fix obtainable on bearings at present available but area indicated is the Bay of Biscay probably north of 45° N. and east of 3° 30' W. (D.D.I.C. 120523B to Force 28, E.Gs. 3, 11, 12.)

U-Boat making enigma message fixed by D/F at 0316Z within 15 miles of 46° 00' N. 01° 50' W. (D.D.I.C. 120556B to Force 28, E.Gs. 3, 11, 12.)

Position of enemy 3 merchant vessels, 8 escort vessels, 45° 35' N. 01° 02' W. (A/C TKX 99 120700 to 19 Group.)

D/F of B barred message at 0425Z gives position within 15 miles of 46° 00' N. 01° 40' W. (D.D.I.C. 120716B to Force 28, E.Gs. 3, 11, 12.)

Have attacked merchant vessel with bombs stationary. Left burning. Previous position. (A/C TKX 99 120730 to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of 1 M/V, 48° 10' N. 04° 50' W. 060° 6 knots. (A/C TQD 34 121001 to 19 Group.)

Position of 4 enemy minesweepers 46° 07' N. 01° 18' W. (A/C JLD 57 121040B to 19 Group.)

1 unknown small craft in 48° 13' N. 04° 50' W. (A/C RJK 74 121115B to 19 Group.)

O.N.Plymouth 5 sups.

A. Square sides 15 miles 150° and 240° from 046° 27' N. 003° 00' W.
C. Forthwith if not in contact.
D. Carry out broad zig-zag search en route. (C. in C.Plymouth 121117B to E.G.11.)

Nr. 2. Contact lost. Last seen position (?46.07 N.) 01.18 W. course 111, speed probably 6 knots. Attacked by flak. (A/C JGY 57 121125B to 19 Group.)

Nr. 1. Position of one merchant vessel 48° 10' N. 04° 50' W. (A/C TQD 54 to 19 Group No T.O.O. Recd. 121142.)

Proceed toward 045° 30' N. 002° W. 2. Orders follow. (C. in C.Plymouth 121222B to Force 28.)

Attempted to interrogate fishing boat in position ?047.16 N. 002.56 W. (Corrupt group) of fire from 4 inch gun on Houat Island. No damage. Am proceeding to southward. (S.O.Force 28 121225B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

At 0225/12. 12 E.G. QU'APPELLE, SKEENA, RESTIGOUCHE, ASSINIBOINE and ALBRIGHTON attacked 3 trawlers and 1 merchant vessel off Penmarch Point. They report enemy destroyed.

/ASSINIBOINE...

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Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.North Biscay
Operations.
(Contd.)ASSINIBOINE received one hit, no casualties.
QU'APPELLE and SKEENA in collision.
Both ships damaged, but returning to Plymouth
under own steam escorted by ASSINIBOINE and
RESTIGOUCHE.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121233B to Admty.)

My Nr. 1. Have attacked M/V with bombs. Estimate nil hits.
M/V position 48° 15' N. 04° 40' W. course N.E. speed 6 knots.
(A/C TQD 34 121315B to 19 Group.)Position of 4 merchant vessels, 1 destroyer, 10 escort
vessels, 47° 13' N. 02° 16' W. Stationary.

(A/C NOX 23 121342B to 19 Group.)

Position of 2 minesweepers 46° 55' N. 02° 09' W. Stationary.
(A/C NOX 23 121355 to 19 Group.)On arrival at 45° 30' N. 02° 00' W. detach PIORUN and ONSLOW
to search within 10 miles of 45° 35' N. 01° 29' W. where U-Boat
was probably damaged by aircraft at 0553B/12.

2. U-Boat may be attempting to carry out repairs on bottom.

3. DIADEM is to remain to westward in support.

4. Force 28 is to leave area to carry out sweep as in my
111524B commencing from HH at 2200B/12.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121406B to Force 28.)

Nr. 1. P.C. and S. of 1 M/V 46° 03' N. 01° 40' W. 250° 5 kts
(A/C TQD 98 121415 to 19 Group.)Ref. M.S.M. 46 1430. Am proceeding to this position. My
P.C. and S. 47° 50' N. 04° 39' W. 155° 17 knots. BRAITHWAITE in
company.

(COOKE 121500B to DUCKWORTH.)

Detach 3 ships to proceed to 047° 06' N. 004° 09' W. U-Boats
reported by A/C MSM 46 disabled on surface. A/C is homing on
385 k/cs.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121512B to E.G.3.)

P.C. and S. of 1 M/V 46° 08' N. 01° 45' W. 2500 tons,
stationary. (?E.G.) present.

(A/C NOX 23 121515B to 19 Group.)

19 Group Mosquitoes will R/V with force 28 in vicinity 45° 30
mins. N. 1° 55' W. at 2100B/12 and escort till 2215.2. 10 group Mosquitoes will R/V in vicinity 45° 40' N. 1° 50' W.
at 2145B/12 and escort until about 2245.4. if R/V in para. 1 and 2 are not convenient alterations are to
be signalled by 1900.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121633B to Force 28.)

My 121512. U-Boat has dived. A/C now homing is KWR 82.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121634B to E.G.3.)

My 121406B. Unless in contact with the enemy force 28 is
to be north of 46° N. from 0400B/13. 19 group patrols will
operate off Gironde from this time.2. In addition to normal air patrols, Halifax will carry out
sweep as in para. 3 of my 111524B tonight 12/13th.3. Beaufighters and Mosquitoes will sweep at first light from
Penmarch Point inshore to Sables D'Olonne.

(C. in C.Plymouth 121652B to Force 28.)

2. Found dinghies position 46° 45' N. 03° 24' W. German.
3. Am investigating suspected torpedo.

(E.G.11 121724B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

My target was armed M/V of 800 tons, with 2 four inch guns
forward, 1 six inch aft, and A/A gun.
Engaged by gunfire and finished off by PIORUN with torpedo. No

/survivors..

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

North Biscay survivors picked up. Fire not returned.
Operations. Am complying with your 121406.
(Contd.) (Force 28 121746B to C. in C.Plymouth.)
Information. Own. A/S support groups in Western Channel and Bay of Biscay. 19 Group aircraft on anti-U-Boat and anti-shipping patrol in Western Channel and Bay of Biscay. Force 28 DIADEM and two destroyers operating in Bay of Biscay leave patrol for Plymouth 0001/14.
Enemy. U-Boats in Channel and approaches to Biscay ports. 1 ELBING sighted by aircraft at Nazaire and 1 Narvik at Leverdon p.m. 12th. Other surface forces as in Intelligence Summary No. 1 of 6 August (to ships only). Do. 217 have recently operated in Bay of Biscay with glider bomb. Enemy coastal batteries are still active.
Intention. 2. Force 27, MAURITIUS (S.O.), URSA, IROQUOIS to operate off Biscay coast from Chaussee de Sein to Gironde.
Object. 3. To destroy enemy ships, to obtain information of situation ashore, and to show the flag.
Execution. 4. MAURITIUS take URSA and IROQUOIS under his orders to form force 27. Pass The Gate at 1100B/13th August and proceed through positions CC 48° 38' N. 05° 32' W. DD. 48° 26' N. 05° 34' W. FF 48° 02' N. 05° 25' W. GG 47° 33' N. 05° 00' W. to reach HH 47° 18' N. 03° 24' W. by 0001B/14.
5. From HH Force 27 is to sweep southeastward until daylight 14th and then patrol at discretion off Biscay coast between Chaussee de Sein and Gironde.
6. Force 27 is to support A/S hunting groups against air and surface attack if required.
(C. in C.Plymouth 121858B and 122326B to MAURITIUS, URSA, IROQUOIS)

Operation C.X. Your 121515B? and 121845B. Am detaching PETROLIA and ABELIA to continue patrol off Butt of Lewis, leaving area in time to rejoin force 31 and E.N. convoy tomorrow.
(BURGES 122130B to C in C.W.A.)

Operation "Victual". J.W.59.1. BULLDOG is not available owing to collision damage.
2. My 032230 for BULLDOG read CAMELLIA.
3. My 062245. S.O. Commander Thorold in CYGNET additional.
(C. in C.W.A. 122223B to C. in C.H.F.)

Allied Air Activity.

Operation "Backdoor". Carry out operation "Backdoor" tonight.
(C. in C.Plymouth 121522B to 16 Group.)

Casualties & Defects.

SKEENA and QU'APPELLE collision. My 120410. Collision damage. SKEENA lower half of bow ripped back to (?collision) bulkhead which is holding. Cable locker flooded capable of 10 knots.

/QU'APPELLE...

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

SKEENA and
QU'APPELLE
collision.
(Contd.)

QU'APPELLE holed in starboard quarter at and above
waterline. Tiller flat partly flooded, rudder
jammed, steering gear out of action.

(E.G.12 120532B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Take ANTIC under your orders and proceed forthwith
to 270° Ushant 10 to assist QU'APPELLE damaged in
collision.

(C. in C.Plymouth 120852B to KINGSTON ANDALUSITE.)

Your 120852. Assistance not required.
(E.G.12 121017B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

BULLDOG
damaged.

LOCH DUNVEGAN collided with BULLDOG in Gourock Bay
p.m. today.

2. BULLDOG has been cut through to a distance of
about 4 feet inboard and from upper deck to 3 feet
below waterline. Between 160 - 161 stations
starboard.

3. No apparent damage sustained by LOCH DUNVEGAN.
(Capt. D.Greenock 121744 to C. in C.W.A.)

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

GENEROSO
(Swiss).

My 071903 and 180542 (sic).
Sailings postponed to 1000 local time 15th Aug.
(D.E.W.D., 121539B to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic

Revised
scale of
attack,
West
Africa.

- (1) In view of reduced scale of attack agree all A.M.T.B. btys. can be relegated forthwith to care and maintenance.
- (2) This entails reduction of 12 pr. btys. Lagos and Takoradi.
- (3) Recommend, however, that 6 pr. twin should be moved from Takoradi, and kept on B.O.D. Freetown until peace armament Freetown decided.
- (4) Presume Admiralty agree to scale of attack and reduction of all A.M.T.B. as F.O.C.W.A. considered reductions proposed in my RWA/4063/G of 3rd July were maximum acceptable.
- (5) Am assuming that my original proposals are sanctioned and am implementing reductions forthwith.
(G.O.C. in C. W.Af., 121100ZA to W.O.)

War Diary12.11.1944
SaturdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanP.63
(UNSWERVING).

From 035 degs. 49' 023 degs. 29' about 2003B/12th to dive to 035 degs. 41' 023 degs. 16' thence on the surface at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to R/V with escort in 035 degs. 49' 015 degs. 18' at 1502B/14th. (Capt. (S) 1, 120951B to P.63 (UNSWERVING)).

M.A.A.F.
Air
Report.

Air Cositintrep No.398.
Strategic Air Force. Night 10/11. 13 Liberators dropped 78 Mark V mines in designed areas in the Danube.
(H.Q. M.A.A.F.121345B)

Operation
"Dragoon".

"Dragoon" a.m. one sailing dispatch part three (part (?one)) was my 102136B (ADV) (LP)(9) two British Destroyers Escort U.S.S. DENEbola and RUBOIN at best speed. Ships for Propriano routed through 41.35 N. 08.09 E. 41.41 N. 08.58.45

E. not covered by Q.B.B. SMHS operational units embarked First Artillery Bon.68th Regt. 11 Eme Gerd one ER Squadron 407, 408, 409, 410 Port Companies 88 Bataillon de Genie 20 Escadron du 90 RCA two Regt. Cuirassiers. 432 Bn. Medical First Bn. de Zouaves Fip Regt. Chasseurs 30 Souaves 10 Cie 117 Engr. M.A.P. Depot Det. second Regt. de Spahis numerous small groups embarked (corrupt groups) groups embarked in several ships. (Comnob Oran, 121440 to Comtaskforce 84, Comtaskforce 85, C.T.F. 86, C.T.F.87, Com.8th Fleet, N.O.I.C.Cagliari, N.O.I.C. Propriano Info: N.C.W.T.F., C. in C. Med., S.O.I.S., M.A.C.A.F.12, Tactical Air Command.)

Sail GAWAIN from Ajaccio in TM 1 instead of TF 1 her speed is 8 knots.

(Com. 8th Fleet 121516B to C.T.G.80.9)

Com. 8th Fleet pass to S.N.O. Alpha Area.

(1) Convoy T (corrupt group) sailing 0530/13th
(2) 12 knots. (3) Route No.2. (4) E.T.A. Alpha Area 1800/16th.
(5) C.E. (6) Typewriter (2 corrupt groups). (7) Zone minus two. (8) Hova Senior Officer (3 corrupt groups in FORTEE, SIMOUN, ALGERIEN, MAROCAIN.

(9) Convoy holds plan for anchoring in (corrupt group) Gulf if required also all ships have received (corrupt group) H appendices five and seven and S. Convoy T.M. one sailed without these.

(F.O.T.A.L.I.121549 to S.N.O.Alpha Area, Com. 8th Fleet.)

From Anor one operation Plan 4 to (2 corrupt groups) H appendix 4. (2) C.T.F. 88 in H.M.S. ROYALIST sailed with air support Force by Q.B.174, 146 and Basic Westbound Route to arrive off Cape Bon at 1200/13th and thereafter in accordance with previous orders.

(3) Codeword "Runabout one".

(V.A.(M), 121801 to Cdr. 8th Fleet, (R) N.O.I.C. Basra (Adv.) S.O.I.S., M.A.C.A.F., 12th Tactical Air Command, H.M.S. FARNDALE, C.T.F.88. N.O.I.C. Tunisia.)

Request you will sail WHEATLAND to R/V with me in position AH at 1200B/14.

C. in C. Med. 121026 refers.

(C.T.F.88, 122329 to N.O.I.C.Naples)

Human/...

War Diary

12.8.1944
Saturday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Human
Torpedoes
report.

Report received graded C.3 that sixty German human torpedoes passed Milan July 14th destined for Voltri.
(D.D.I.C. 121834B to C. in C. Med. (Adv.), Info: C. in C. Med.)

Minesweeping.

Your 072011B. para. 2.
(1) Western limit of Q.B.B.392 from latitude 043 degs. 20' 048 degs. to latitude 043 degs. 13' (?048 degs.) has been cleared to an additional half mile. It is intended to complete remainder and then carry out check sweep.
Total 12 mines swept including 5 in sweeps.
(5) ACUTE and ESPIEGLE anchored tonight Piombino.
(ACUTE, 121845B to F.O.W.It.)

M.A.A.F.
Air
Report.

Air Cositintrep No.399.
Coastal Air Force. Night 11/12th. Six Wellingtons attacked Riva Trigosa shipyards, Imperia Harbour and Sestri Levante, hits observed. 2 RP Beufighters attacked Sestri Levante Harbour, strikes observed.
(H.Q. M.A.A.F. No T.O.O. 12th Recd. 140150)

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

Area G. SS. CHUNGSHAN reported sighting torpedo tracks in 007° 32' N. 078° 24' E. at 0630Z/10th August. No U-Boats believed in this area. Scale of air escort remain W.

Indian Ocean aircraft report sighting periscope in 006° 01' N. 085° 15' E. at 0350Z/11th. Report now considered improbable. (C. in C.E.F. 120318Z.)

U-Boat at-
tacked by
A/C from SHAH.

U-Boat sighted on the surface in 003° 35' S. 052° 49' E. at 0302Z. (BEGUM 120344Z to Ceylon W/T.) My 100344 (?120344 intended). U-Boat was attacked and possibly damaged by aircraft from SHAH.

2. Escorts were at U-Boat during position 06.00 and hunted all day without result until promising attack was carried out by FINDHORN on contact at 1411. U. 198 sunk. (com: 6843)

3. Escorts are still searching.

4. My anticipated P.C. and S. at 130200 is 003° 33' S. 052° 20' E. 080° 15.

(S.O.Force 66 021800Z to N.O.I.C.E.Af.)
See S.O.Force 66 141010Z.

M.E.I.R.I.temp.Cancel temporary amendment No. 32. Bring into amendment No. force Durban approach route 5. 34. (C. in C.E.F. 120502Z.)

A/S training
submarines.

Your 181216 July. Present resources do not permit diversion of modern A/S Training submarines to E.F. but on completion of European war, or towards the end of 1944, whichever is earlier, it should be possible to allocate U-Class.

2. For the present, deficiencies can only be met by:-

A. using operational submarines on passage for training periods at Aden and Bombay.

B. Periodical use of operational submarines as suggested in A.M. 121953 April.

3. Further Italian submarine (PROCIDA) should be available shortly.

(A.C.N.S.F. 122201B to C. in C.E.F.)

War Diary.12.8.1944.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B search. My 112150Z. Search negative after 7 hours my P.C. and S. 0330Z/12th 044° 40' N. 048° 16' W. 264° 15 knots.
(S.O.E.G.16 120358Z to C. in C.C.N.A.)

N.S.H.Q. S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. C. H.C.M.S. sights torpedo track in 44.24 N. 48.21 W. at 2005/11th NYTEROUS (as recd.) doubtful asdic contacts.
Para. D. 1. H.M.C.S. attacks asdic contact in about 46.10 N. 59.50 W. at 1732/11th.
2. R.A.F. Canso sights U-Boat wake in 42.23 N. 59.00 W. at 1504/11th. All times Z.
(N.S.H.Q. 120557Z.)

WEST POINT. Diversion.
(D.O.D(H) 121110B to WEST POINT.)

U/B dis-positions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 121420Z, Cominch 121603.)

U/B incidents. No report 11th. Para. D. 120730Z transit A/C sighted U-Boat 61.42 N. 29.10 W. Speed 12 knots.
(Cominch 121930Z.)
As amended 122228Z.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No. 935, 11th August. 16. 10th Aug. U.S. destroyers bombarded coastline destroying bridge near But.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 120645.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine attack and sighting summary. *F/502 (p. 272)*
A. 1. A/C P.R.U. reported one U-Boat had left Le Havre at 1330Z/11th.
2. A/C ~~F/50~~ sighted two U-Boats at 0353Z/12th in 45° 35' N. 01° 28' W. *U. 981 sunk.*
3. EMPIRE DAY torpedoed and sunk at 1715Z/7th in 07° 06' S. 42° 00' E.
4. BEGUM sighted U-Boat on surface at 0302Z/12th in 03° 35' S. 52° 49' E.

War Diary.

12.8.1944.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack and
sighting
summary.
(Contd.)

5. H.M.Ship reported sighting torpedo track at 2005Z/11th in 44° 24' N. 48° 21' W.
- B. 1. ONSLAUGHT attacked U-Boat contact at 2115Z/11th in 49° 49' N. 01° 37' W.
2. LORING attacked submerged contact with Hedgehog at 2129Z/11th and later made depth charge attack on doubtful contact in 50° 20' N. 05° 30' W.
3. DIADEM reported submerged U-Boat at 2354Z/11th

in 46° 00' N. 01° 57' W.

4. A/C attacked unknown contact at 2130Z/11th in 47° 00' N. 04° 20' W.

5. A/C sighted U-Boat periscope at 0630Z/12th in 49° 59' N. 04° 33' W.

(D.D.I.C. 121222B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 121429B, 121430B.)

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune" (D + 68).

General

1(a). Dinard and the citadel at St. Malo still hold out, and the situation at Lorient remains unchanged. Heavy fighting continues West of the Orne, and Mortain was re-captured by our troops to-day.

(b). The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| British area : | 768,282 | 189,814 | 1,084,643 |
| U.S. area : | 1,048,922 | 198,248 | 1,297,332 |
| Total : | 1,817,204 | 388,062 | 2,381,975 tons |

Enemy
Action.

2(a). Under-water Explosion. The Boom Defence Vessel BARCOCK was damaged this afternoon in the British Assault Area by an underwater explosion while weighing an A/T Net, and will be towed to the U.K. for repair. There were four casualties, of which one was fatal.

(b). U-Boats. A U-Boat was attacked at 1545 today by a Sunderland A/C. 30 miles west of Ushant, the Admiralty estimate that there are probably about ten U-Boats inside the 100-fathom line between Brest and Bordeaux and about four between the Isle of Wight and Seine Bay.

General

North Biscay operations, U.270 sunk by aircraft.

*Sunderland
A/461 (RAAF)*

3(a). The watch on the North Biscay coast was maintained to-day by Force 28 (DIADEM, PIORUN, and ONSLOW), by Escort Groups 3, 11, and 14 and by A/C. Little or no Enemy surface shipping was seen; but at 0200 U.270 was sunk by a Sunderland A/C. about 60 miles West of La Rochelle; and at 2150 E.G.3 attacked a U-Boat contact about 60 miles S.W. of Belle Ile and saw much oil after the attack.

(b). A/C. of Coastal Command attacked three escorted U-Boats at 0640 off the Gironde, and at 0930 left two Sperrbrechers on fire at Royan in the estuary.

(c). A/C. of Bomber Command laid 73 mines last night in the Biscay Ports, and to-day severely bombed U-Boat pens at Brest and Bordeaux and oil-installations at Bordeaux.

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Enemy
Convoy
attacked.

(4). At 0623 an Enemy Convoy was attacked off Wangeroog (Frisian Islands) by 20 Beaufighter A/C. who left two M-class minesweepers, one Trawler, and two 1500-2000 ton. M/Vs. on fire.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

M/V. sunk
by A/C. off
Dalmatian
Coast.

(5). Beaufighter A/C. attacked shipping off the Dalmatian Coast and claim to have sunk a 2500 ton merchant vessel.

Karlovassi
Harbour
bombed.

(6). During the night of 12th/13th Wellington A/C. again bombed Karlovassi Harbour (Samos).

East Indies

Threat to
Mozambique
Channel.

(7). C. in C.E.F. does not consider that the U-Boat threat to the Mozambique Channel area is likely to develop for about 10 days and he has informed C. in C.S.A. that at present it is not possible to loan groups of the Kilindini Escort Force for duty between Durban and Kilindini but that certain Eastern Fleet ships now in the South Atlantic Command may for a time be operated in that Command.

Australia and New Zealand

(8). A U.S. S/M. this forenoon successfully
/ attacked...

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

attacked a convoy consisting of a freighter with 5 escorts, entering Davao Gulf from the eastward. No details are known.

S/M. off
Biak I.

(9). M.L.430 was accidentally sunk by M.L.819 off Biak Island to-day whilst endeavouring to intercept an I-class submarine.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Naval. A. General. 12th E.G. attacked and destroyed three trawlers and one merchant vessel off Penmarch Point. U.S.S. BORUM and 5 P.Ts. engaged convoy of eight ships off Jersey. One ship believed damaged by gunfire. Results of P.T. attack not known. Three M.T.Bs. near Cap de la Heve attacked 1 auxiliary escorted by 8 or more R-Boats. It is considered that auxiliary was hit by torpedoes.

→B. Assault area. RODNEY bombarded heavy battery on Alderney with 75 rounds of 16 inch. Results believed satisfactory but photographic R/C awaited.

(Ad. Ramsay 130111B to Admty.)

A. General. First "Pluto" Hais lay between Naqueville and Sandown Bay was completed 12th August. Ends were connected up today.

Ref. Cositintrep 130, further investigation shows that the 12th E.G. destroyed 2 trawlers and damaged one merchant vessel which probably escaped.

DIADEM, PIORUN and ONSLOW sank a merchant vessel probably Sperrbrecher about 6000 tons yesterday afternoon, this had previously been damaged by A/C off Ile de Re.

Last night a Sunderland of 19 Group sank submarine U.270 about 60 miles west of La Rochelle, 7 officers and 64 ratings picked up by 11th E.G.

B. Assault area. B.D.V. BARCOCK damaged by explosion whilst weighing anti-torpedo net. 4 casualties, 1 fatal.

→Photographic R/C of RODNEY's bombardment shows very good results with probable damage to 3 of the 4 guns.

C. Unloading figures to p.m. 12th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| British | 760,742 | 188,258 | 1,065,292 |
| U.S. | 1,039,543 | 196,176 | 1,265,026 |
| Total D+67 | 1,800,285 | 384,434 | 2,330,318 |

(Ad. Ramsay 132309B to Admty.)

Military. Communique No. 127 (extract.)
South of Caen contact has been made by allied forces converging between the Rivers Orne and Laize. A thrust reached Moulines, while another captured Bois Halbout.

Fighting continued all day in the St. Silvain area where a number of counter-attacks were beaten off and local advances were made.

West of the Orne fighting continued around Hill 229, which remains in our hands.

In Brittany, our forces are attacking the Citadel at St. Malo, where remnants of the enemy garrison are still resisting. Heavy fighting continues in Dinard. The situation at Lorient remains unchanged.

(S.H.A.E.F. 131100B to Agwar.)

In Brittany resistance continues at Dinard, citadel of St. Malo, Brest and Lorient. Angers has surrendered. Our armour has advanced to within four miles of Argentan from the south. Resistance has decreased in Mortain area with evidence of enemy withdrawal.

(S.H.A.E.F. 131715B to Agwar.)

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

Channel Islands area. "Backdoor" completed. Return patrol area just north of Roches (?D'Ouvres) (?squadron) will join tonight.
(C.T.F. 125 130908B to SAUMAREZ, ONSLAUGHT.)

Patrols from Plymouth. Intend to operate 6 M.T.Bs. of 23rd Flotilla in southern half of 2209 and 4 M.T.Bs. of 65th Flotilla in 2210 tonight. Squares 208, 203 and northern half of 209 are allocated to you.
(C. in C.Plymouth 130957B to Comusbas France.)

- A. Unit G.N.1 M.T.Bs. 98 (S.O.), 90, 91, 92, 227, 239.
 B. 1800B/13. C. AA 223 Les Hanois 17.5 to arrive 2130.
 D. From AA patrol Z.209 south of 49° 15' N. to cover St. Helier and Approaches. Unit is not to go outside these limits unless in emergency or in action.
 E. Destructions of enemy shipping.
 F. Return at daylight.
 G. AA to Dartmouth.
 2. A. Unit G.N.2 M.T.Bs. 735 (S.O.), 727, 746, 743.
 B. 1700B/13. C. BB. 49° N. 3° W. to arrive 2130.
 D. From BB patrol Z.210 to cover St. Malo and Approaches. Unit is not to go outside Z.210 unless in emergency or in action.
 E. Destruction of enemy shipping.
 F. Unit to remain in area until 1200B/14.
 G. Shortest route to Brixham.
 (C. in C.Plymouth 131154B, to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)
 A. Force G.V. 1st Division M.T.B. 676 (S.O.), 713, 620, 2nd Division M.T.B. 677 (S.O.), 719.
 B. 1600B/13. C. UU 270 Creach Pt. 15 to arrive 2200 VV 159 Creach Pt. 20.
 D. From VV separate at S.O's. discretion to cover approaches to Brest including the channel through Raz de Sein.
 E. Destruction of enemy shipping.
 F. Force to leave area after daylight at S.O's. discretion.
 G. UU to Plymouth.
 (C. in C.Plymouth 131304B to M.T.B.F.52.)
 My 131154B amend position AA to read 223° Les Hanois 17.5.
 2. Unit G.N.1 is to R/V with SAUMAREZ and ONSLAUGHT and U.S. destroyer and six P.Ts. at AA at 2130.
 (C. in C.Plymouth 131625B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N.Portsmouth 1, para. 38, cover night 13/14th.
 A. OFFA (G.H.1), VERSATILE (G.H.2), TALYBONT (G.H.3) zig-zag search in area bounded by Q.Z.S. 511, the meridian of Greenwich, Q.Z.S. 488, line 055° from E.4 Buoy. Zig-zag search (see C.B. 4097 paras. 353 and 354). 6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.), OUTREMONT, GROU, ANWAN, PENNYWORT), Gamma search from 49° 42' N. 00° 57' W. centre line 345° to 50° 20' N. Report night dispositions.

/BRISSENDEN...

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Covering Operations.

Patrols from BRISSENDEN (G.A.1) patrol on a line between 50° 13' N. 00° 04' W. and 50° 17' N. 00° 03' E. MELBREAK (G.A.2) patrol on a line between 50° 06' N. 00° 22' W. 50° 09' N. 00° 14' W.

(Contd.) B. THORNBOROUGH (G.C.1) in Z.8. Unit G.C.2, M.T.Bs. 470 (S.O.), 468, 456, Unit G.C.3, U.S.P.Ts. 520 (S.O.), 511, 514, Unit G.C.4, M.T.Bs. 452 (S.O.), 447, 482, Unit G.C.5, S.G.Bs. GREY WOLF (S.O.), GREY GOOSE, with THORNBOROUGH in Z.8. Force G.C. to be in position by 2315B.

(ii). Operation "Purblind" free bombing area bounded on the north by a line joining Boulogne to 50° 00' N. 00° 10' W. on the west by meridian 00° 10' W. and on the south and east by the French coast.

(iii). In the event of "Purblind" being cancelled Force G.C. will patrol in Z.13 and Z.17 waiting position for Force G.C. will be N.W. corner of Z.16. MELBREAK's patrol line will then be between 50° 24' N. 00° 16' E. and 50° 27' N. 00° 24' E.. BRISSENDEN's patrol remains unchanged.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 131239B.)

O.N. 1 para. 52B. Western night channel report 13/14th Aug. 6th E.G. on line 49° 2' N. 00° 57' W. to 50° 20' N. 01° 07' W. 1st E.G. sailing Plymouth 1800/13th to Z.224 S.W. to Ushant. 11th E.G. from Brest area to Plymouth. 12th E.G. Z.227, Z.222. 15th E.G. Z.236. Force 28 DIADEM and 2 destroyers from 48° N. 05° 49' W. at 2230/13th to Plymouth.

2. G.N.1 6 M.T.Bs. Z.209. G.N.2 4 M.T.Bs. Z.210.

3. Air patrols all areas west of 02° 00' W.

4. SAUMAREZ, ONSLAUGHT, U.S.S. BORUM, 5 P.Ts. Z.209. 2 P.Ts. Z.208

(C. in C.Portsmouth 131936B.)

O.N.1 para. 52B. Eastern night channel report 13/14th.

1. G.H.1 OFFA, G.H.2 VERSATILE, G.H.3 TALYBONT Z.102 and Z.9. G.A.1 BRISSENDEN on line 50° 13' N. 00° 04' W. to 50° 17' N. 00° 03' E.

G.A.2 MELBREAK on line 50° 06' N. 00° 22' W. to 50° 09' N. 00° 14' W.

G.C.1 THORNBOROUGH Z.8. F.U.3 ORWELL Z.3. F.U.5 SAVAGE Z.5.

F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7.

2. G.C.2 3 M.T.Bs. G.C.3 3 U.S.P.Ts. G.C.4 3 M.T.Bs. G.C.5 2 S.G.Bs. Z.8.

F.N.1 2 M.T.Bs. Z.2. F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs. Z.3. F.N.4 2 M.T.Bs. Z.4.

F.N.6 2 M.T.Bs. Z.6. F.T.1 2 M.T.Bs. patrolling E. of Vergoyer Bank. F.O.1 2 M.Ls. centre position 50° 34½' N. 01° 09' E.

F.O.2 2 M.Ls. centre position 50° 27' N. 01° 13½' E.

3. Wellington cross over patrol following positions:-

50° 10' N. 01° 08' E. 50° 18' N. 01° 01' E. 49° 57' N. 00° 35' E. 50° 05' N. 00° 29' E.

Operation "Purblind" free bombing area bounded on the north by a line joining Boulogne to 50° 00' N. 00° 10' W. on the west by meridian 00° 10' W. and on the south and east by the French coast.

4. G.L.1 RETALICK, G.K.3 COTTESMORE, G.K.1 MIDDLETON, LA COMBATTANTE, G.L.4 3 M.T.Bs. Tunny north. G.M.2 SEYMOUR, G.K.4 BLEASDALE, G.M.3 2 M.T.Bs. (till 0200, G.L.5 3 M.T.Bs. Tunny south. G.K.2 STEVENSTONE, PYTCHLEY, Pike.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 131957B and 132152B.)

/Patrols...

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Covering Operations.

Patrols from O.N.Dover 67. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 486, 462 in 050° Z.2 3
Dover. miles. F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 418, S.5 in 208° Z.2 5.8
miles. F.U.3 ORWELL in 050° Z.3 3 miles. F.N.4
M.T.Bs. 359-25 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E. F.U.5
SAVAGE in 050° Z.5 3 miles. F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 204, 236
in 230° Z.6 2 miles. F.U.7 OPPORTUNE Z.7. F.T.1 M.T.Bs. 607,
605 patrolling east of Vergoyer Bank passing East Bullock at
2230 and 0445.

(A.C.Dover 131325B.)

My 131325. Unit F.T.1 M.T.Bs. 607, 605 is to sail so as to
pass East Bullock at 2230, thence to assume patrol between 50°
32½' N. 01° 25' E. and 50° 32½' N. 01° 30' E. Object to inter-
cept and attack enemy units encountered. Unless in action and in
absence of other orders unit is to leave patrol at 0400 and re-
turn to harbour. Lat. 50° 26' N. is not to be crossed to south-
ward.

(A.C.Dover 131347B to M.T.B. 607.)

Mining.

British area. No reports of enemy minelaying during past 24
hours. Negative results from all operations. Sea
calm.

(Capt. M/S X 132230B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Operation
"Pasture".*(Minelaying by
Plover)*Carry out operation "Pasture" serial D as in my
132325.(C. in C.Portsmouth 132312B to M/S 15, DIANTHUS,
GENTIAN, PLOVER.)

My 132312. Serial D 0800B/14th August.

(C. in C.Portsmouth 132325B to M/S 15.)

Enemy Action.Special
Circling
Torpedoes.

A.M. 121335. It would appear next suitable occas-
ion for enemy to use the weapon would be the night
of 15th when westgoing streams start about 2300.
2. Additional to A/T nets A.M. 122139 possibility
of providing A.N.D. nets up and down tide to pro-
vide some measure of protection is being investi-
gated.

3. Supply of H.net is being hastened.

4. It is possible a specimen weapon might be recovered by search
of shallow water.

(A.C.N.S.W. 130048B to F.O.B.A.A.)

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

U-Boats.

Channel and
Biscay
Situation.

Continued activity indicates about ten U-Boats inside hundred fathom line between Brest and Bordeaux. One or two within 50 miles of 47° 30' N. 07° 00' W. One probably still on North Cornish convoy routes. About for in area Isle of Wight/Seine Bay. (D.D.I.C. 131505B to A.I.G.331.)

A/S Patrols.

My 131325. Following additional patrols are to be assumed by 2330. A. F.O.1 miles 286, 442, A/S patrol with centre position 50° 34½' N. 01° 09' E. in direction 050° and 230° for 2½ miles each side. B. F.O.2 miles 254, 276, A/S patrol with centre position 50° 27' N. 01° 13½' E. in direction 050° and 230° for 2½ miles each side. M.Ls. are to spread to visibility distance or a max. of two miles. C. F.T.1 M.T.Bs. 607, 605 from 50° 33½' N. 01° 16½' E. to 50° 30' N. 01° 23' E.
2. Cancel my 131340 and my 131347. (A.C.Dover 131815B.)

Daylight patrols 14th August. 6th E.G. Gamma patrol 50° 35' N. 01° 10' W. Centre line 160° to 50° N. thence 180° to 49° 42' N. Commence from Northern End at 0530B.
2. OFFA, MELBREAK, BRISSENDEN, VERSATILE, TALYBONT, Gamma patrol 50° 25' N. 00° 42' W. centre line 160° to 50° N. thence 180° to 49° 42' N. commence from southern end at 0530B.
3. PENNYWORT single patrol north and south from 49° 55' N. to 50° 15' N. close west of Q.Z.S. 512.
4. WENSLEYDALE pass Gate at 0900B relieve MELBREAK. MELBREAK return to harbour on relief.
5. TALYBONT leave patrol at 1000B for boiler cleaning comply with my 131626.
6. All patrols carry out anti-"Gnat" zig-zag. Max. speed 13 knots. (C. in C.Portsmouth 131819B.)

Shipping & Convoys.

E.P.P. 20. E.P.P. 20, 6 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 130010B.)

E.W.L.66B. E.W.L.66B, 1 ship and 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 130253B.)

E.W.L.66A. E.W.L.66A, 6 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 130255B.)

E.T.C.65 and E.T.C.66 W. E.T.C 65 and L.C.T.66 W. 21 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 130805.)

/E.B.C.69...

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Shipping & Convoys.

E.B.C. 69. E.B.C. 69, 26 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131015.)

E.T.C. 66. E.T.C. 66, 9 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131016 and 131257.)

F.T.M. 67. F.T.M. 67, 9 ships and 5 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131142.)

E.P.M. 34. E.P.M. 34, 12 ships and 11 L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131158.)

F.T.C. 66. F.T.C. 66, 19 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131216 and 131926.)

F.P.M. 35. F.P.M. 35, 6 ships and 14 L.S.Ts.
(C.T.G. 125.1.3 131247B.)

F.B.C. 53. F.B.C. 53, 8 ships and 1 L.S.T.
(C.T.U. 125.1.3 131255B.)

F.P.M. 34. Sailed F.P.M. 34. 3 ships and 1 L.S.T.
(C.T.G. 125.2 121721B.)

F.W.L. 56. F.W.L. 56. 5 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131946B.)

Organisation and Administration.

Responsibilities of C. in C.Nore. Your 121242. If I remember aright the matter was only touched on briefly and no definite decision was given, but in addition to the responsibilities you list it is my view that Home Commands must be responsible for the opening up of the necessary ports as this will be done by parties under these Commands and is inseparable from minesweeping necessary before convoys can enter the ports. Once ports have been opened they will be operated by A.N.C.X.F.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131100B to C. in C.Nore.)

Minesweeping organisation. Your 122055. Concur with proposal St. Vaast as base for Cdr. M/S beaches with new title Cdr. M/S St. Vaast. 2. Intend Capt. M/S X should assume command as Capt. M/S Seine when V.S.S. Chimo is relieved. Request I may be informed of this date.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131558 to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.General.Policy.Proposed
New Hunting
Groups.

The present situation off the French coast coupled with the possibility of a successful campaign against U-Boats returning to Norway calls for the formation of the maximum possible number of hunting forces.

2. The following proposals are put forward with a view to making the best use of the available Western Approaches and Royal Canadian Naval Forces:-

A. close escort of mid-ocean convoys on new cycle to be provided by three B groups and eight C groups. This amends my 151515 July.
B. B and C groups, including the four B groups employed on the Gibraltar convoys, to consist of a paper strength of eight ships apiece. In the case of B groups, the normal group composition would be two fast ships and six corvettes.
C. Fast ships thus saved to be organised in support or hunting groups for service where most needed.

3. To implement this scheme two additional C groups would be required in late September and mid-October respectively. It is anticipated that Royal Canadian Navy could provide these from present resources and new construction.

4. It is calculated in this way the following additional support or hunting groups could be formed during September and early part of October:-

A. two to three Western Approaches groups.

B. One Royal Canadian Group.

5. It is further submitted for consideration that the ships now allocated to the Eastern Fleet from my command should be retained in Home Waters for the present and organised for support or hunting duties.

(C. in C.W.A. 131917B to Admty.)

Operations.

North Biscay Operations. P.C. and S. of 2 minesweepers, 1 merchant vessel
46° 57' N. 02° 18' W. (7205) (715).
U.270 sunk. (A/C NOX 34 130102B to 19 Group.)

No. 2. Have obtained surface radar contact 310°
12.5 miles.

(DIADEM 130103 to ?)

Nr. 2. Have obtained surface radar contact 310° 10 miles.
(DIADEM 130105 to Force 28.)

My 0103 doubtful.

(DIADEM 130110 to Force 28.)

Surface vessel confirmed. U-Boat sunk. Survivors rescued.

Have fuel for 9½ hours left. Request instructions.

(A/C NBP 36 130200 to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of 5 unknown craft 47° 28' N. 03° 10' W. 140,
speed 20 knots.

(A/C TQD 79 130207 to 19 Group.)

Position of 1 unknown 46° 53' N. 02° 40' W.

(A/C KYN 11 to 19 Group No T.O.O. Recd. 130230.)

My 0207. Still in touch with enemy previously reported,
position 47° 22' N. 03° 11' W.

(A/C TQD 79 130250 to 19 Group.)

/D/F...

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

North Biscay Operations. U.270 sunk. (Contd.) D/F bearings at 0006Z indicate U-Boat within 15 miles of 46° 55' N. 02° 50' W. (D.D.I.C. 130253B to Force 28, E.G.3, and 11.) Surface radar contact 2 unknown craft 320° 4¼ miles (DIADEM 130414 to Force 28.) Enemy in sight bearing 260° K. (DIADEM No T.O.O. to Force 28 Recd. 130430.) Surface radar contact 268° 4.5 miles. (DIADEM 130430 to Force 28.)

Have resumed patrol. Survivor (corrupt group) left position 46° 24' N. 03° 02' W. Escort vessel in contact. No damage. (A/C NBP 36 130410 to 19 Group.)

1 submarine submerged 260° 4 miles, speed unknown. My position 46° 07' N. 02° 53' W. (DIADEM 130428B to Plymouth W/T.)

Nr. 1. P.C. and S. of 5 unknown enemy vessels 47° 41' N. 03° 32' W. 080° 10 knots. (A/C TOD 45 130445B to 19 Group.)

My 0428. U-Boat dived. No contact obtained. (DIADEM 130456 to Plymouth.)

Contact lost with vessel last seen 46° 55' N. 05° 46' W. at 0300. Have failed to regain contact. (A/C KYN 11 130530B to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. 1 merchant vessel 45° 36' N. 01° 02' W. P.C. and S. of 1 small vessel, 1 vessel class unknown 45° 34' N. 01° 04' W. stationary. (A/C TQD 33 130800 to 19 Group.)

U/B transmissions at 0449Z and 0500Z give fixes in Mouth of Gironde. (D.D.I.C. 130815B to Force, 28, E.Gs. 11, 3.)

My 130217. ST. LAURENT reports total prisoners 7 officers, 64 ratings including some in air force and army uniform also one Polish civilian who states U-Boat was U.270 and was in Lorient 2 nights ago. There were then about 30 U-Boats in harbour. (E.G.11 130845B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Position of two enemy merchant vessels 48° 23' N. 04° 28' W. stationary. 7000 tons, 5000 tons. Five escort vessels, ten unknown small craft 48° 23' N. 04° 30' W. stationary. (A/C TKX 14 130932B to 19 Group.)

P.C. and S. of two enemy medium vessels NBPU 45° 36' N. 01° 02' W. Result of attack, hits observed. (A/C PNA 27 130933B to 19 Group.)

Enemy previously in 048° 23' N. 004° 30' W. one tanker 7000, inner harbour, one merchant vessel 5000, also 15 small craft, all stationary. (A/C TKX 14 131010 to 19 Group.)

1. Nothing further to report as result of night patrol. Bay south east of Ile d'Yeu searched at dawn no activity Ile d'Yeu battery fired a few rounds all short at 0830.

2. Intend patrolling vicinity Ile d'Yeu until 1300 then proceeding coastwise to pass through position C 048° 00' N. 005° 40' W. at 2200 today. (S.O.Force 28 131024B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

/Slip..

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

North Biscay Slip at 1800 and proceed to 049° 00' N. 006° 30' W.
Operations. thence carry out asdic search through 048° 27' N.
U.270 sunk. 006° 00' W. to patrol in area between 048° 00' N.
{Contd.} and 048° 25' N. and between 005° 08' W. and 005°
30' W. Adjust speed to reach patrol area at 0800/
14th.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131121B to E.G.1.)

My 131121, leave patrol at 0800/14th on relief by E.G.1 and pro-
ceed Plymouth for layover at best speed.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131124B to E.G.14.)

My number 2. Tanker (corrupt group) merchant vessel now 48°
19' N. 04° 48' W.?

(A/C VTKX 14 131220 to 19 Group.)

My 122253. After R/V search through 046° 27' N. 004° 26' W.
patrol in square sides 15 miles 135° and 225° from 046° 23' N.
004° 05' W.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131221B to E.G.3.)

Situation on French coast.

1. My 121233B. After interrogation of C.O. QU'APPELLE the enemy casualties are now considered to be 2 trawlers driven ashore on fire and one M/V damaged and probably escaped.
2. Yesterday afternoon DIADEM, PIORUN and ONSLOW sank a merchant ship probably Sperrbrecher about 6000 tons who had previously been damaged by aircraft off Ile de Re.
3. Last night aircraft of 19 group sank submarine reported to be U.270. 7 officers and 64 ratings including some in air force and army uniforms picked up by 11th E.G.
4. Apart from above little or no movement of surface shipping observed.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131337B to Admty.)

Investigate U-Boats reported by aircraft SQS83 in 048° 29' N.
006° 02' W. A/C is homing.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131613B to E.G.14.)

10 group Mosquitoes will R/V with force 27 in vicinity of
position GG at 2100B/13 and escort until 2230.

2. 10 group Mosquitoes will R/V with force 27 at 0600B/14 and
escort until 0700B/14.

3. Liberator aircraft will R/V with force 27 at 1000B/14 and will
co-operate until 1800, carrying out coastal shipping R/C as
ordered by S.O. force 27.

4. R/V for morning sortie of Mosquitoes and Liberator are to be
signalled by 0330B/14.

(C. in C.Plymouth 131650B to Force 27.)

Have attacked firm stationary target in 046° 27' N. 004° 26' W.
raising considerable unidentified oil.

2. Am maintaining contact.

(E.G.3 132150B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

U-Boat made B signal at 2026B. Inconclusive bearings from
shore stations suggest B of Biscay, east of 3° W.

(D.D.I.C. 132305B to Force, 27, Force 28, E.G.3.)

A.M. 132305B. With ships bearing U-Boat at 2026Z estimated
within 15 miles of 46.10 N. 03° W.

(D.D.I.C. 132357B to Force 27, Force 28, E.G.3.)

/Operation...

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Operation "Victual". The following arrangements for recognition during passage of ARCHANGEL and J.W.59 to North Russia are proposed.
2. Anglo-Soviet recognition in accordance with A.G.M. 111A of 25th May to be brought into force in the area north of 59° N. and east of line 8° W. from 1200 G.M.T. 17th August.
3. From 0001 G.M.T. 20th August cancel para. two above and Anglo-Soviet recognition to be in force in the area north of 65° N. and east of line 8° W. until further orders.
4. If approved Admiralty is requested to promulgate to A.I.Gs.47
5. On arrival of ARCHANGEL at destination it is proposed that the normal areas should be resumed by order of Admiralty. (C. in C.H.F. 131046B to Admty.)

At least 3 and possibly 4 enemy submarines have been active in Karasea during last 3 days. One merchant ship and two escorts have been sunk. This has caused dispersion of Russian force and only 5 destroyers will now be available to escort White Sea portion of J.W.59. Request additional escort from (?J.W.) 59 may be detailed to augment escort for these 17 ships as far as Ponoï, thence to Kola for fuel and ammunition.

2. After consultation with Northern Fleet am unable to advise whether the Russian destroyers escorting ARCHANGEL are suitable for this duty.

3. Propose to sail R.A.59A probably 7 ships August 26th, if necessary without above White Sea escort.

4. Your 081706 para. 3F refers.

(S.B.N.O.Polyarno 131458B to C. in C.H.F., C.S.10.)

Sailing 10 Russian S.C. and STARWORT amended E.T.A. Loch Ewe Buoy 141700. My 121600 refers. Remaining 2 craft detained.

(Cdre. D.W.A. 132351B to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

Your 131458. Russian destroyers escorting ARCHANGEL should arrive Kola approx. 24 hours before J.W. 59. They should therefore be available as additional escort for the White Sea portion and are considered adequate for this purpose.

2. Ref. your para. 3, further signal will be made regarding the sailing of R.A.59A but it is improbable that it will be before the 26th August.

(C. in C.H.F. 132357B to S.B.N.O.N.Russia.)

Operation C.X. ABELIA reported and attacked a doubtful A/S contact in 048° Butt of Lewis 13 miles at 0400B, afterwards losing contact. Thorough search of area has been carried out by force 31 without result. Intend PETROLIA and ABELIA continue patrol on a 20 mile line 045° from Butt of Lewis. Remainder of force will comply with your 122207B. (BURGES 131215B to C. in C.W.A.)

Action off Berck Buoy. Night 12/13th. Shore radar detected 6 small vessels at 2305 three miles west of Boulogne proceeding south at 15 knots. Plot faded at 2339 eight miles southwest of Boulogne. M.T.Bs. 612, 605 patrolling east of Vergoyer Bank,

/intercepted...

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations

Action off
Berck Buoy.
(Contd.)

intercepted in 260° Berck Buoy one mile at 0043. In brief action, numerous hits were obtained on enemy before unit withdrew to clear gun stoppages.^{*} Superficial damage only to M.T.Bs. and no casualties.

My 131034 refers.
(A.C.Dover 132305B to Admty.)

^{*} *incorrect, see p. 209.*

Allied Air Activity.

Attack on
Ostend
requested.

Request bombing of E-Boats at Ostend may be noted as an urgent requirement.
2. These craft constitute a threat to east coast convoys, a potential reinforcement to the Channel and are particularly favourably placed for mine-laying. It is highly important to prevent mine-laying.
(A.C.N.S.H. 132250B to A.O.C. in C.C.C.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German
Main Units.

540 Squadron sortie dated 12 August, 1944 shows: Germany. Pillau 1555 hours. Heavy cruiser ADMIRAL HIPPER present. Königsberg 1600 hours. Incomplete cruiser SEYDLITZ remains at active position. Gdynia 1550 hours. Naval units present include heavy cruiser PRINZ EUGEN pocket battleship LUTZOW cruiser NURNBERG obsolete battle-ship SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN class damaged and inactive battle cruiser GNEISENAU. Lying off port light cruiser EMDEN.
(M.A.P.R.W. 130445B to Air Ministry.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat at
Spitzbergen.

U-Boat observed leaving Sassenfjord 12th August at 0445 hours G.M.T.
("Ploughshare" 132340Z to Admty.)

War Diary

13.8.1944
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic

ILLUSTRIOUS. Capetown departure ILLUSTRIOUS, ROEBUCK, QUALITY,
PALADIN for Durban. S. of A. $17\frac{1}{2}$ knots.
(2) Route reverse of N.O.I.C.Durban, 091441.
(3) E.T.A.1315B/15th Aug.
(C. in C. S.A. 131430B)

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Operation "Dragoon". Your 112210 not to B.N.L.O.Ajaccio received. Understand additional destroyer required by you. Intend to (2 corrupt groups) (gp. missing) tomorrow Monday to arrive Ajaccio at 1930. (C.T.F. 88 130855 to C. in C.Med. (R) Cdr. 8th Fleet, B.N.L.O.Ajaccio, C.T.G. (?88).6.)

Sail at 1600/13th by Q.B.B. 123. C. at once route 2, S.O.A. 21 knots to R/V with RAMILLIES in 040° 30' N. 007° 37' E. at 1800B D-1.

3. RAMILLIES 121144 not to all addressees refers. (V.A.M. 131231 to TERPSICHOPE, TERMAGENT, (R) C.T.F. 88, RAMILLIES, C.T.F. 84, F.O.C.S. 15, Com. 8th Fleet, C. in C.Med. (Adv.) N.O.I.C. Tunisia.)

Intend to sail LARNE, CLINTON, OCTAVIA, WELFARE, STORMCLOUD M.Ls. 559, 560, 562, 567, KINTYRE and HACKBERRY from Propriano at 141300B for Sitka Assault area.

2. 8. 3. 10. 4. 150615B. 5. UN. 6. "Uncouth" 304. 7. B. 8. None. 9. Commander 5th M/S Flotilla in LARNE (S.O.) (C.T.F. 86 131637B to C.T.G. 80.9.)

Sailed convoy S.S.1 at 131900 in accordance with Annex-H, N.C.W.T.F. Anor-One and (8) ships and craft including local joiners per Alpha attack plan 3-44 (2) 5 (3) Swept Channel to intersection with convoy route one en route position AL (4) E.T.A. position AM 141100 (6) special. Passenger 510 (7) B (9) C.T.U. 87.10.1 in UDLAI (L) (195) (corrupt group). My 131215 refers. (C.T.G. 80.9 132350B to C.T.F. 84.)

Anor One and (8) ships and craft. Including local joiners (corrupt group) Alpha attack plan 3-44 less EMPIRE IASS. Under repair and those listed in para. 9 (2) 5 (3) Swept Channel to intersection with convoy route one en route position AL (4) position AL 141100 (6) special. (Corrupt group) 842 (7) B (9) C.T.F. 84 in DUANA (S.O.). C.T.U. 84.14.1 U.S.L.C.I. (L) 233. My 131223 refers. ? 1169 L.C.T. L.C.T. 379, L.S.T. 32 and EVEA? 4 will sail later tonight for (corrupt group) R/V. Sailing despatch for stragglers follows. (C.T.G. 80.9 132355B to C.T.F. 84.)

Sailed convoy S.S. 1A at 131945 in accordance with Annex-H N.C.W.T.F. Anor (1) and (8) ships and craft including local joiners per Alpha attack plan 3-44. (2) (5) (3) Swept Channel to intersection with convoy route 1 en route position AL. (4) E.T.A. position AM 141100 (6) special (corrupt group) 169 (7) B (8) C.T.U. 85.20.1 in TATUM (S.O.I.S.) My 131218 refers. (C.T.G. 80.5 132357B to C.T.F. 84.)

P.77 (VIVID.) Cancel my 111154 (presumably 111155 intended). (Capt. S.1 130858B to 1st S/M F.)

R.A.F.M.E. Air report. Daily Opsum 473. Aug. 11/12th 5 Wellingtons and 1 Wellington armed with flares despatched to bomb shipping in Karlovassi Harbour, Samos. Bursts and flashes observed inside harbour area but no hits on shipping claimed. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 131014Z.)

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

162nd M.S.
Flotilla.

M.S.Flot. to remain Erdek (?Bay) till (further orders?)

2. A.B.N.A. Istanbul representative will visit you (?20th). He will inspect boom working vessel W/T and make arrangements for repairs. You are to inform him of any further requirements. Your 092004 not to all refers.

(B.N.A.Ankara 131203C to S.O. 162nd M.S.F. (R) A.B.N.A.Istanbul, S.O.I. Istanbul, F.O.L.E.M., C. in C.Med. Admty.)

War Diary.13.8.1944.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.U/B dis-
positions.

Area D U-Boat sighted on surface by aircraft from H.M.S. BEGUM at 0302Z on 12th in 003° 35' S. 052° 48' E. indicates U-Boat moving eastward out of area. Scale air escort W. Other areas no fresh information no change in scale of air escort.
(C. in C.E.F. 130355Z.)

Threat to
Mozambique
Channel.

In view of U-Boat sighting by force 66 on 10th consider that threat in Mozambique Channel area is unlikely to develop for about ten days. Your 10103 (not to Com. i/c Aden refers.)

2. Regretted that at present not possible to loan groups of Kilindini escort force for duty between

Durban and Kilindini.

3. The following Eastern Fleet ships are however now in your command and it is requested that you will operate them between the dates shown, PALADIN from 15th until required for escort of convoy K.R.12 leaving Kilindini about 5th Sept. QUALITY from 15th to 24th. DERG until 9th Sept. BANN, TULIP, LANDGUARD after completion of refit until date to be arranged later.

4. On present indications it is considered preferable that traffic between South Africa and India, Persian Gulf and Aden should continue to be routed outside Madagascar.

5. If the threat develops A.C.O. 222 Group will always be prepared to reinforce the S.A.C. Air Force.

(C. in C.E.F. 130525 FG to C. in C.S.A. (R) F.O.E.A. Admty. Com. i/c Aden.)

Report on
U/B attack
on EMPIRE DAY
sunk 7th Aug.

In accordance with E.F. Memorandum 716 H/71/27 para. 12. A. EMPIRE DAY. B. 007° 06' S. 042° E. 7th 1715Z. C. Very large submarine believed German. D. Ship sunk by torpedo. E. 3. F. 42 survivors (?landed). This represents full complement excluding chief officer. G. No. H. No.

I. Submarine departed in northerly direction after sinking ship and taking chief officer. (5).

J. Thrown overboard in weighted and ventilated box. K. Same J.

M. No compromise. N. Master.

(R.O.Zanzibar 130545Z to Admty.)

Sailings of
Troopships
from Australia

Programme of sailings of general class troopships. Your 100345 (not to Admty.) refers.

2. Since it is not possible to afford destroyer escort to these ships between 5° S. and Bombay at less than 20 day intervals. My 141256 April refers. It is requested that sailing dates may be revised

so as to permit of ships leaving Australian waters at not less than 20 day intervals sailing in pairs if necessary.

(C. in C.E.F. S.O.C.2 130634Z to B.A.D.)

Reply. B.A.D. 142141 to C. in C.E.F.

(See America & West Indies.)

/BJNJOE...

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

~~BUNJOE~~
BUNJOE.

Consider the compromise in your 101108 can be accepted provided ~~BUNJOE~~ is under full operational control of C. in C.E.F. Difficulty has arisen in the past as it has been necessary to obtain prior permission from owners before movements in forward areas could be undertaken. It is requested that this aspect afford be discussed with Netherlands Authorities particularly as question of compensation to Netherlands complement arises in the event of casualties by enemy action.
(C. in C.E.F. 131106Z to Admty.)

U-Boat.

Submarine last seen at 1210 G.M.T. still on surface heading 100°. (EMPIRE SCEPTRE 131310Z to Colombo W/T.)

U-Boat sighted.

16° 27' N. 82° 40' E. sighted track of torpedo. (HILDA MOLLER No T.O.O. 13th Recd. 132138.)

War Diary.

13.8.1944.

SundayFOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.

U/B reports. Have obtained bearing by H/F D/F of U-Boat transmitting an enigma message bearing 114° believed real P.C. and S. $046^{\circ} 15' 051^{\circ} 58' 114$, 13 groups proceeding to investigate.
(C.3 130258Z to F.O.N.F.)

Have obtained bearing by H/F D/F of U-Boat transmitting B bar message of 9 group at 0522Z near ground wave 2nd Class bearing 093° frequency 4890 k/cs. My position $044^{\circ} 46' N. 055^{\circ} 18' W.$
(SPRINGHILL 130525Z to C. in C.C.N.A. N.S.H.Q.)

N.S.H.Q. Para. D. U.S. Army C.47° sights possible periscope
S/M attack in $54.00 N. 42.55 W.$ at 122015.
& sighting (N.S.H.Q. 130926Z.)
summary.

Stragglers 10th AMASTRA (M.A.C.) H.X.F. 302, engine trouble.
arrived week (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 131327Z.)
ending 12th.

U/B dis- Estimates.
positions. (N.S.H.Q. 131435Z, Cominch 131520Z.)

E.G.16 search. Cease search forthwith and proceed to Halifax reporting P.C. and S.
(C. in C.C.N.A. 131514Z. to E.G.16.)

Survey of WHITE BEAR is due to leave U.K. about 10th Sept.
Torres with K.M.S.63 breaking off in vicinity of Azores
Strait. proceeding to Horta thence to join the next convenient G.U.S. convoy to Norfolk Va. for onward routing to Australia via Panama.
2. Authorities are requested to take action as follows (details).
3. A.M. 300222 June not to all refers.
(D.O.D(F) 131804B to B.A.D. C. in C.W.A. F.O.G.M.A.)

Wooden Raft American transport C.54 - 453. Cruising at 500
sighted. feet sighted wooden raft and considerable debris
no people on surface of water at 1243Z/13th in
 $43^{\circ} 00' N. 38^{\circ} 05' W.$
(F.O.N.F. 131947Z to C. in C.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

13.8.1944.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest No.
936, 12th
August.

Navy patrol Liberator sank one of three small to medium freighters attacked in Davao Gulf 50 miles S.W. Cape San Augustin.

6. U.S. submarine effectively attacked southbound convoy comprising two large tankers, two sizeable freighters, three escorts off western extremity

Mindoro Island heading toward Palawan Passage midmorning. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 130710Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack and
sighting
summary.

A. 1. A/C A/172 attacked eastbound surfaced U-Boat at 1235Z/12th in 47° 06' N. 04° 09' W.

2. A/C A/461 attacked U-Boat at 2215Z/12th in 46° 15' N. 02° 44' W.

3. H.M.ship sighted U-Boat at 0228Z/13th in 46° 06' N. 03° 00' W.

4. A/C E/58 sighted and attacked three surfaced U-Boats course 110° at 0455Z/13th in 45° 38' N. 01° 12' W.

B. 1. A/C sighted U-Boat at 1200Z/12th in 46° 13' N. 02° 07' W.

2. A/C sighted submerging westbound U-Boat at 1850Z/12th in 50° 10' N. 00° 38' E.

3. Chinese CHUNG SHAN sighted torpedo tracks at 0630Z/10th in 07° 32' N. 78° 28' E.

4. H.M.ship attacked contact at 1411Z/12th in approx. 03° 35' S. 52° 49' E.

C. 1. A/C sighted P/S at 0350Z/11th in 06° 01' N. 85° 15' E.

2. A/C reported disappearing contact at 0040Z/13th in 43° 21' N. 16° 58' W.

A.M. 121222B, para. A.2. This incident is now reported as an attack by A/C F/502. (page 20)
(D.D.I.C. 131151B.)

U.901
mark

U/B incidents. A. (3 corrupt groups). Report following 7 '(U-Boats (German))' incidents in Karasea.

1. 1000C/10th off Cape Polinya 073° 35' N. 081° 05' E. U-Boat wearing Russian? national ensign

approached coast, remained 1 hour and retired to north. Seen from shore.

2. 1125C/11th 073° 47' N. 079° 40' E. U.S.S.R. destroyer URITSKI attacked (in darkness) on the surface.

3. 1135C/12th 075° 20' N. 080° 50' E. Catalina attacked, U-Boat returned fire.

4. 1431C/12th 074° 45' N. 083° 45' E. U.S.S.R. destroyer URITSKI sighted U-Boat.

5. 1515C/12th 070° 40' N. 063° 15' E. U-Boat on the surface fired at Catalina.

6. 2030C/12th 072° 30' N. 066° 00' E. (position approx.) 1 or 2 U-Boats attacked convoy of M/S RASKOVA and 3 ex American mine-sweepers, sinking all but 1 minesweeper in a short space of time. All 3 escorts fitted with Asdic.

7. 1030C/13th 073° 33' N. 079° 20' E. patrol craft sighted and identified U.27. B. No claims are made by Russians.

(S.B.N.O.N.Russia 131527B.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 131459B, 131500B.)

14.8.1944
Monday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune" (D + 69)

General.

- 1.(a) On shore there is no change in Brittany, but indication of increase of a German withdrawal West of the River Orne.
 (b) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:-

| | Men. | Vehicles. | Stores |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| British Area: | 772,279 | 190,069 | 1,102,856 |
| U.S. Area: | 1,057,640 | 199,381 | 1,331,366 |
| Total: | 1,829,919 | 389,450 | 2,434,222 tons. |

Enemy
Action.

2. (a) Surface-Craft. From 0012 till 0155 to-day the Destroyers SAUMAREZ and ONSLAUGHT engaged a Convoy of three or perhaps four M-Class Mine-sweepers and one M/V 10 miles S.E. by S. of Port St. Peter, Guernsey. The Convoy was often hit but apparently reached Port St. Peter; and SAUMAREZ was damaged by fire from the Coastal Batteries and had five Officers wounded. There were seven casualties in ONSLAUGHT.
 (b) U-Boats. At 1700 in Convoy E.B.C.72 about 11 miles S.W. by W. of Hartland Point L.C.I.(L) 99 and the U.S. L.S.T.921 were torpedoed, presumably by a U-Boat. L.C.I.(L) 99 was sunk, and L.S.T.921 broke in half.

General

North
Biscay
Operations.

- 3(a). At 0001 to-day Force 28 (DIADEM, S.O.) was relieved in the Biscay Area by Force 27 (MAURITIUS, S.O., URSA and IROQUOIS).
 (b) At 0541 a U-Boat was attacked by Sunderland A/C about 90 miles West of La Rochelle and oil was seen after the attack.
 (c) At 2105 one Destroyer, one Sperrbrecher, one Depot Ship, eight Armed Trawlers, and two Tugs were damaged by our A/C in the Gironde; and 64 mines were laid by A/C last night off the Gironde and La Pallice.
 (d) At Brest two attacks were made to-day by Lancaster A/C who left the ex-French cruiser GUEYDON (hulk) on fire and sank one Tanker.

E-Boats
engaged.

4. At 0040 six E-Boats off Orford Ness were intercepted by WALPOLE and driven off the Convoy Route. They were later engaged by M.T.B's of Unit A.3 who set one E-Boat on fire and damaged another.

14.8.1944
Monday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Air
Operations.

5(a). Strategic Air Force last night dropped 112 tons on Genoa port and installations with good concentration.
(b). During to-day 538 B.17s. and B.24s. of the Strategic Air Force attacked some 50 coastal defence guns in the Toulon area and Savona/Genoa area with generally fair results; dropping a total of 1439 tons. Radar stations and coast watchers in South France and North-west Italy were also attacked with very good results.
241 B.25s. and B.26s. of Tactical Air Force attacked coast defence guns in southern France with good results.

China

6. 3 Liberators last night sank three 200 to 400 ft. ships during a sweep of Formosa Strait and the South China Sea. One A/C bombed Takao harbour but did not see the result.

War Diary.

14.8.1944.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operation "Neptune".

Situation Reports.

Military. No change in Brittany, but indications increase west of the Orne of a general enemy withdrawal from the pocket. Thus still decisive for enemy to hold firmly North Falaise, also in Argentan area. In any case enemy capabilities for protracted defence west of the Seine already weakened and may be further jeopardised by supply difficulties and inferiority in mobility and air. (S.H.A.E.F. 141915B to Agwar.)

Naval. A. General. Early yesterday morning two M.T.Bs briefly engaged 6 R-Boats in vicinity Berck, obtaining many hits. Last night 6 E-Boats approaching convoy off Orfordness were driven off by WALPOLE and coastal force craft. One E-Boat set on fire. Others hit.

B. Assault area. Nothing to report.
C. Unloading figures to p.m. 13th August.

| | Personnel | Vehicles | Stores |
|------------|-----------|----------|------------|
| British | 768,282 | 189,814 | 1,084,643. |
| U.S. | 1,048,922 | 198,248 | 1,297,332 |
| Total D+68 | 1,817,204 | 388,062 | 2,381,975 |

(Ad. Ramsay 142221B to Admty.)

Covering Operations.

Patrols from Dover. F.N.1 M.T.Bs. 353, 25 in 050° Z.2 3 miles.
F.N.2 M.T.Bs. 461, 466, 485 in 50° 52.5' N. 01° 21.5' E.
F.U.3 SAVAGE in 050° Z.3 3 miles.
F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 204, 231 in 50° 46' N. 01° 16.5' E.
F.U.5 ORWELL in 050° Z.5 3 miles.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 358, 362 in 230° Z.6 2 miles.
F.U.7 OBEDIENT Z.7.

(A.C.Dover 141240B and 141652B.)

My 141240B. On completion OBEDIENT to carry out A/S sweep in area Z.5, Z.6 and Z.7. SAVAGE and ORWELL in accordance with O.N.Dover 69 on anchoring off Newhaven.
2. SAVAGE, ORWELL and OBEDIENT required for patrol night 15/16th. (V.A.Dover 141253B.)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N.Portsmouth, one para. 38, cover night 14/15th.
A. OFFA (G.B.1), VERSATILE (G.B.2), PENNYWORT (G.B.3), A/S search in Z.102 and Z.9.
6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD (S.O.), OUTREMONT, ANNAN, GROU) Gamma patrol from position 2 miles north of S.E. corner of Z.110 to N.W. corner of Z.112.

Report night dispositions.

WENSLEYDALE (G.C.1) patrol on a line between 50° 12' N. 00° 15' E. and 50° 17' N. 00° 21' E.

/BRISSENDEN...

War Diary14.8.1944
MondayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering OperationsPatrols
from
Portsmouth.
(Contd.)BRISSENDEN (G.C.2) Patrol on a line between
50 degs. 04' N. Meridian of Greenwich and
50 degs. 09' N. 00 degs. 06' E.

(B) THORNBOROUGH (G.F.1) in Z.13.

(C) Unit F.G.2, M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O) 453, 481.

Unit G.F.3, U.S. P.Ts. 519 (S.O) 517, 516.

Unit G.F.4, M.T.Bs. 212 (S.O) 206, 209, 210.

Unit G.F.5, M.T.Bs. 773 (S.O) 741. With THORNBOROUGH in Z.13.
Force G.F. to be in position by 2315B. Waiting position for
Force G.F. N.W. Corner of Z.16.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141302B)

My 141302B. amend first part clause (A) as follows:

VERSATILE (G.B.1), ANNAN (G.B.2), PENNYWORT (G.B.3), A/S search
Z.9, Z.8 and Northwards to traffic route keeping 5 miles clear of
WENSLEYDALE.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141801B)

Daylight patrols 15th August.

WENSLEYDALE, VERSATILE, BRISSENDEN. A/S search. Meridian of
Greenwich and 50 degs. N. centre line 340 degs. to 50 degs. 25' N.
Start at Southern limit at 0530B.6th Escort Group. (2) A/S Search 00 degs. 26' W. centre line
025 degs. to 49 degs. 45' N. 50 degs. 07' N. start at southern
limit at 0530B.(3) ANNAN, PENNYWORT take patrols B. and C. till arrival of
FORESTER.

(4) FORESTER, DRUMHELLER pass gate at 0900B.

(5) FORESTER, DRUMHELLER, ANNAN, PENNYWORT A/S search 49 degs. 55'
N. 00 degs. 53' W. direction 340 degs. to 50 degs. 15' N.
FORESTER arrange R/V.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141853B)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 14th/15th
August. (1) 6th E.G. From S.E. corner of Z.110 to N.W. corner
Z.112. 1st E.G. Z.238 S.E. Z.245, Z.249 N.E. Z.244 S.W.11th E.G. Z.235. 15th E.G. Z.236. Force 29 ROCHESTER, KINGSTON
ANDALUSITE, 1 M.L. - Ushant Area.

Force 30 BLYSKAWICA, ALBRIGHTON - Brest Area.

(2) G.Q.1 6 M.T.Bs. Z.210. 2 P.Ts. Z.203.

(3) Air patrols all areas West of 02 degs. 00' W.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 142109B)

Patrols
from
Plymouth.P.C.W.O.120. (A) Unit G.Q.1, M.T.Bs 94 (S.O), 90,
92, 98, 227, 239. (B) 1700B/14.

(C) (AA) 49 degs. N. 3 degs. W. to arrive 2130.

(D) From (AA) patrol in Z.210 to cover approaches
to St. Malo. Unit is not to go outside the limits
of the square unless in emergency or in action,

(E) Destruction of enemy shipping.

(F) Unit to remain after daylight at S.O's discretion.

(G) (AA) to Dartmouth.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 141411B to N.O.I.C. Dartmouth)

P.C.W.O./...

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MondayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth. (Contd.)

P.C.W.O.120. (A) Force G.W. 1st Division M.T.B.738 (S.O) 739, 742. 2nd Division M.T.B.724 (S.O), 787, 728.

(B) 0745B/15. (C) (TT) 270 degs. Creach Pt.25 to arrive 1500 to R/V with Force 29 to refuel.

(2) On completion of fuelling force G.W. proceed through following position (UU) 235 Penmarch Pt. (flashing every 5 secs.) 15 (VV) 247 Pen Men Lt.10 to arrive 2330. At (VV) force to separate at S.O's discretion to investigate area between Ile De Grix and the Mainland and approaches to Lorient.

(3) Force is to return by reverse route at daylight or earlier at S.O's discretion.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 141736B to M.T.B.F.64)

Mining

Cherbourg. B.Y.M.S.2034 damaged. Object recovered.

Routine sweeps of approach channels, outer anchorage and both harbours carried out to-day, negative. Search of Bassin Napoleon III and Bassin Charles X completed. Results as in previous reports. Subject to unforeseen arming delays, Basins considered cleared. Expect to complete Avant Port tomorrow. Sweep in Dars Trans-Atlantique progressed. Negative. Two suspected mines reported in this Basin by surveyors are being investigated.

Add to yesterday's report. B.Y.M.S.2034 damaged by underwater explosion in position 185 degs. Querqueville Pier Light 4 cables. Depth of water 30 feet, ship drawing 8 feet. C.O. reports no visible disturbance of water but explosion resulted in excessive vibration developing in the starboard shaft. Ship is being sailed U.K. for repairs. Further sweeping with Oropesa fouled an object which proved to be semi-buoyant and was grounded in shallow water. VERNON Mine Recovery declared it not a mine. Explosion unaccounted for.

(Cdr. M/S Cherbourg, 142244B to Cousnab, Cherbourg)

Enemy Action

Enemy Convoy attacked. SAUMAREZ damaged.

5 or 6 ships attacked by destroyers at 2359 in 325 La Corbiere 13. Convoy split. SAUMAREZ pursued 2 enemy to entrance St. Peter Port. ONSLAUGHT pursued 3 enemy round Sark. Full results not yet known. SAUMAREZ has disengaged. ONSLAUGHT now disengaging southward through Great Russel under fire from shore batteries.

(BORUM,140155B to Comusbasfrance)

140155. Remains of convoy entered St. Peter Port. Both destroyers all right. SAUMAREZ 5 Officers wounded, 4 serious, 1 slight. Capt. D. All right. ONSLAUGHT 5 ratings wounded all slight. Full damage to convoy still unknown.

(BORUM,140253B to Comusbasfrance)

At /...

14.8.1944
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Enemy Action

Enemy Convoy attacked. SAUMAREZ damaged. (Contd.)

At 2343/13th 2 U.S. P.Ts. intercepted convoy of 3 M-Class M/S, one M/V and one unknown probably M-class M/S proceeding from Jersey to Guernsey. Attack unsuccessful. SAUMAREZ and ONSLAUGHT intercepted at 0012/14th in 049 degs. 19' (?30") N. 002 degs. 23' 30" W. and opened fire at 4000 yards range. The convoy scattered and action was continued (?safely) until 0155 and was broken off when no further target could be found and heavy fire was experienced from shore batteries at range 4000 yards. Many hits were seen on enemy, but all ships apparently reached harbour. (2) SAUMAREZ sustained 5 officers casualties ONSLAUGHT 7 ratings (none serious.) SAUMAREZ suffered damage to No.2 boiler room steam fan and 2 in no (?) engine room supply fans destroyed. ONSLAUGHT superficial damage only. (Capt. D.23, 140502B to C.T.F.125)

BARCOCK damaged on 13th Aug.

Your 181843B July para. (4) and my 052114. (1) BARCOCK damaged by underwater explosion while attempting to weigh damaged A/T net p.m. 13th. She will be towed to U.K. by first available tug. (F.O.B.A.A. 141338 to A.N.C.X.F.)

U-Boats

Channel and Biscay situation.

Attack at 1840Z/13th August indicates one approx. 30 miles south of Plymouth. In remainder of English Channel probably up to six E. of Line Portland - La Hague. One possibly off N. Cornish Coast and one or two in area 90 miles S.W. of Lands End. Up to 9 on passage along coasts of Bay of Biscay from numerous sightings and attacks. (D.D.I.C.141449B to A.I.G.331)

L.C.I.(L)99 sunk. U.S. L.S.T.921 torpedoed.

L.C.I.(L)99 in E.B.C. 72 was sunk in 240 degs. Hartland Point 11 miles at 1700 to-day. Attack was presumably by U-Boat. (2) U.S. L.S.T.921 also torpedoed and fore end is still afloat. (C. in C. Plymouth, 142339B to Admty)

Casualties and Defects.

ASSINIBOINE damaged.

ASSINIBOINE reports following damage due premature depth charge explosion while attacking contact 145 Eddystone 11 at 2040. Details. (2) Intend ASSINIBOINE should return Plymouth for repair. E.T.A.0700/14. (RESTIGOUCHE, 140115B to C. in C. Plymouth)

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MondayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

E.X.P.41. E.X.P.41. 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 140018 and 140800B)

E.P.P.21. E.P.P.21. 4 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 140020)

E.W.L.67B. E.W.L.67B. 4 ships and 7 L.S.T's.
(A.N.C.X.F. 140147)

E.T.C.67. 20 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F. 140800B)

E.B.C.70. E.B.C.70. 11 ships and one L.C.I.(L).
(A.N.C.X.F. 140912B)

E.T.M.60. E.T.M.60. 13 ships and one L.S.T.
(A.N.C.X.F. 141006B)

E.P.M.35. E.P.M.35. 4 ships and 13 L.S.T's.
(A.N.C.X.F. 141007B)

F.P.M.36. F.P.M.36. 3 ships and 14 L.S.T's.
(C.T.U.125.1.3, 141058)

F.T.M.68. F.T.M.68. 11 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A. 141244 and 142034)

F.W.P.35. F.W.P.35. 4 ships.
(C.T.G.125.1.3, 141255B)

F.T.C.67. F.T.C.67. 18 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A. 141316)

F.B.C.54. F.B.C.54. 16 ships.
(C.T.G.125.1.3, 141414B)

F.W.L.57. F.W.L.57. 2 L.S.T's.
(F.O.B.A.A. 141908B)

F.B.C.54. Sailed F.B.C.54. 3 ships.
(C.T.G.125.2, 141935B)

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Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

General.

Defence of United Kingdom.

Defence against Flying Bombs. Patrol "Watch". In view of negative results to date and the interference caused to our air patrols it is suggested that this patrol now be withdrawn.
(C. in C.Nore 141153 and 141236B to Air Ministry.)
Carry out operation "Bonnet II" nights 16/17th and 17/18th August.
Should a destroyer be on patrol between South Falls and 53C Buoy POTENTILLA is to keep on north side of 53C Buoy.
(C. in C.Nore 141910B to POTENTILLA.)

Movements.

ACHILLES. Intend sailing ACHILLES passing Clyde Boom 1400B/16th to comply with A.M. 111016B routed in accordance with A.M. 121620B. E.T.A. Gibraltar 0600Z/20.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 141528B to Admty.)

A.F.D.17. A.C.I.C. is requested to sail A.F.D. 17 in tow of EMINENT and LARIAT direct to Gibraltar when ready about 27th August.
2. C. in C.W.A. is requested to arrange escort to Gibraltar relieving escorts as necessary to fuel when W. of Ireland
3. Cs. in C.Med. and C. in C.E.F. are requested to arrange onward passage and escort of A.F.D. 17 and tugs to Kilindini.
5. A.M. 032051 and A.M. 081918 refer.
(D.O.D.H. 141940B to A.C.I.C.)

Operations.

North Biscay Operations. My 131121. Assume new patrol area in rectangular side 150° 30 miles and Levant E.F. 10 miles from a position 049° 09' N. 006° 29' W. on arrival at position 049° 00' N. 006° 30' W.
(C. in C.Plymouth, 140002B to E.G.1.)
If no contact by 0800/14th return to Plymouth in accordance with my 131124.
(C. in C.Plymouth 140004B to E.G.14.)
My 132150. Add 2 disappearing radar contact believed periscopes 5 miles apart on a line of bearing 120° at twilight in 046° 32' N. 004° 22' W. Subsequent attacks inconclusive. Contact lost. Am assuming datum course 225°.
(E.G.3 140045B to C. in C.Plymouth.)
If not in contact shift patrol to rectangle side 125° 30 miles and 215° 18 miles. Position 045° 55' N. 003° 18' W.
(C. in C.Plymouth 140415B to E.G.3.)
Have left to establish Gamma patrol centre 046° 28' N. 003° 00' W. direction 020° commencing 0930B. Aircraft marker reached at 0800 in 046° 34' N. 003° 34' W. Lost asdic contact at midnight.
(E.G.3 141001B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

/Your...

14.8.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

North Biscay Operations. (Contd.) Your 141001. Shift Gamma patrol to centre position 046° 47' N. 003° 38' W. Length of patrol 20 miles on course of 245° 025° distance apart of ships 1½ miles. Cancel my 131221.

(C. in C.Plymouth 141258B to E.G.3.)

10 group Mosquitoes will escort force 27 from

2130B/14 to 2200B/14 and from 0600B/15 to 0645/15.

2. R/V for fighters are to be signalled by 1800/14 and 0300/15.

3. Unless in contact with the enemy force 27 to be north of 46° N. from 0400B/15 to allow 19 group anti U-Boat patrols to operate off Gironde.

4. Halifax will carry out armed anti-shipping patrol from 2230B/14 to 0400B/15 in area Penmarch Point - Belle Isle - Pointe de Congeul.

(C. in C.Plymouth 141458B to Force 27.)

My 141258. Enemy is considered to be northbound.

(C. in C.Plymouth 141552B to E.G.3.)

My 140002. Shift patrol 24 miles in direction 330°.

(C. in C.Plymouth 141947B to E.G.1.)

Your 141258. Commenced as ordered at 1900 after sweeping eastward to vicinity of Roche Bonne.

A number of submarine rubber dinghies and escape apparatus are now within 5 miles radius of former aircraft marker.

These were not seen earlier.

Your 141552. H/F D/F interception at 0545 suggested U-Boat was homeward bound.

(E.G.3 141955B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Amend para. 4 of my 141458B to read Halifax aircraft will carry out armed anti-shipping patrol from 2230B/14 to 0800B/15 in area Penmarch Point - Belle Isle - Pointe de l'Herbaudiers.

2. Liberator will R/V with force 27 at 1000B/15 to patrol as in my 131650B para. 3. R/V is to be signalled by 0300B/15.

(C. in C.Plymouth 142011B to Force 27.)

One merchant vessel 45.05 N. 00.39 W. 2 merchant vessels 45.09 N. 00.41 W.

(A/C NTX 59 141907 to 19 Group.)

Operation "Victual". J.W.59. 10 knots convoy "Boquet".

A. 2000B/15th. B. Escorted. C. 34. E.T.A. 280°

Convoy J.W.59. (?18) miles from Cape Wrath 0100B/16th.

S.C.1489 (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 141150B.)

damaged. Intend to sail Russian S.C.1492 from Lough Foyle at 1800B today to Loch Ewe. E.T.A. 0800/15th.

2. S.C.1489 has suffered damage to both propeller and asdic gear through grounding and will be unable

to sail with this convoy. S.C.1492 has slight damage to port propeller whilst assisting S.C.1489.

(Cdr. D.W.A. 141510B to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

Intend following ships to form 20th E.G. for Operation "Victual" CYGNET, KITE, MERMAID, PEACOCK, KEPPEL, WHITEHALL, LOCH DUNNEGAN, OXLIP, HONEYSUCKLE, CHARLOCK, BLUEBELL, CAMELLIA. E.G.20 Cmdr.

Thorold in CYGNET.

(C.S.10 141602B to H.F.)

14.8.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

Engagement
with E-Boats.
One E-Boat
damaged.

Preliminary report of E-Boat activity night 13/14.
1. In abnormal conditions shore radar at 2335 detected 6 E-Boats 30 miles N.W. of Ostend steering 320° at 35 knots. At about 0002 they headed towards Z.49 passing at 0023 about 2 miles south of unit A.3 whose radar was still confused by "Window" dropped by friendly aircraft for an

exercise carried out without knowledge of Naval Authorities.

2. Working on plots signalled from the Nore WALPOLE on patrol moved out to intercept and about 0040 sighted and engaged 6 E-Boats 2 miles S.E. of 54B Buoy driving them N.E. and then E. E-Boats then engaged by unit A.3 who set one E-Boat on fire and scored hits on another.

3. During action WALPOLE closed to about 1300 yards firing all guns including 6 pdr. for several minutes. Hits were scored but damage could not be assessed. WALPOLE's good interception prevented E-Boats getting within 1½ to 2 miles of convoy route. No evidence of minelaying.

4. Unit A.6 at South Falls Buoy was ordered to Kwinte Bank Buoy to intercept E-Boats returning to Ostend but owing to Navigational error remained at Oost Dyck Buoy thus missing an excellent chance of interception since when shore radar lost them E-Boats were within a few miles of Kwinte Bank Buoy and heading for it.

5. Shore Radar. Anaprop conditions A. At 2335 K.162 got 6 responses 119° 87,000 yards. 2311 ST. MARGARETS plotted them at 100,000 yards. 0003 K.163 got them at 68,000 yards. At 0022 K.162 plotted them 1½ miles south of Z.49 but at 0034 unaccountably lost them at 32,000 yards when 076° 4 miles from 54A Buoy. At 0043 track re-appeared 065 54A Buoy 5. It is possible E-Boats were in blind spot which has recently troubled K.162. At same time it is strange that WALPOLE who had been holding C/F units at 7 miles did not obtain radar contact until range was under 3,000 yards. K.164 was off the air.

6. K.5 and ST. MARGARETS both plotted returning E-Boats 90,000 yards from North Foreland and held them until about 15 miles 315° from Ostend.

7. No damage or casualties among our forces.
(C. in C.Nore 141800B and 142300B to Admty.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Jan Mayen.

Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft heard south of defence area 0630Z.
(A.C.I.C. 141036B to Admty.)

Northern
waters.

Areas covered and details of enemy meteorological activity 13th July - 12th August inclusive.
Details.
(Admty. 141628B to A.I.G.47.)

Mining.

Thames
Estuary.

Ground mine detonated 264° 53B Buoy 2.4 miles.
(Capt. M/S Sheerness 141422B and 151124.)

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Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

U-Boats.

U-Boats
reported.

U-Boats on passage estimated in vicinity of both
convoys today 14th August.
(D.D.I.C. 140936B.)
1 submarine submerged bearing 170° distant 1
mile, course unknown, 242° Hartland Point 11 miles.
(LONDONDERRY 141855B to Admty.)

Contact
attacked.

Escort made several depth charge attacks on con-
tact 45.02 N. 24.40 W. No positive evidence of
kill. However some debris. Will remain this
vicinity conducting search.
(C.T.G. 22.10 142130 to Cinclant.)

Casualties & Defects.

Unknown ship.

Vessel in distress in 50° 55' N. 04° 45' W. Request
instructions.
(A/C MLP 42 141730B to 19 Group.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Cape Wrath
area.

My 091318, para. 1. Delete the words "Fish
carriers and".
(D.T.D. 141927B to C. in C.W.A.)

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Dragoon".

- Convoy S.Y.1. Sail convoy S.Y.1 in accordance with Annex G to Anor 1 of N.C.W.T.F.
(C.T.U. 8.9 140845B to C.T.F. 86.)
- BARFLEUR. French ammunition ship BARFLEUR sails to Propriano at 1200/14th.
2 - 9. Arrangements.
(C.T.G. 80.9 141400B.)
- OMAHA. Sailing in accordance with C.T.F. 86, 131616 not to all addressees at 2000B/14th E.T.A. Ajaccio 1100B/15th.
(F.O.W.It. 141437B to U.S.Cruiser OMAHA.)
- Marseilles. Counter Scorch party Marseilles report
A. they now have some 500 personnel at their disposal including important Port Officials.
B. Preparations being made to sabotage following ships now lying in President Wilson Basin CHENONCEAUX, GRANFIKIER, MARIETTE PACHA and SAN PEDRO.
2. Information on counter sabotage (?or) demolitions to Port Installations being passed by A.F.H.Q. to 7th Army.
(C. in C.Med. 141738 to N.C.W.T.F.)
- S.M.3. N.O.I.C. Naples is requested to sail convoy at 171830 appendix 5, annex H anor 1.
2 - 8. Arrangements.
(F.O.W.It. 141751B.)
- Convoy S.F.2A. At 141700 S.F.2A sailed in accordance with N.C.W.T.F.'s Anor 1 and G.T.G. 85.8's convoy and sortie plan 1-44. (1) and (8) convoy composed as provided above (2) 10 (3) swept channel to intersection with convoy route one en route AL (4) E.T.A. a.m. 142300 (6) special Zodiac 115 (7) B (9) C.T.G. 85.8 in CUVRIER (S.O.) C.T.U. 85.20.3 in L.C.I.(L) 94.
(C.T.G. 80.9 141953B to C.T.F. 85.)
- KIMBERLEY. KIMBERLEY will leave Ajaccio 0800/15th for Assault area arriving 1330 leaving not later than one hour before sunset route NH and CB.
(C. in C.Med. 142001B to All F.Os. in operation "Dragoon".)

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

General.

R.A.F.M.E. Daily Opsum 474 Aug. 12/13. 8 Wellingtons des-
Air report. patched to bomb Karlovassi Harbour (Samos) two
returned early remainder bombed scoring hits on
quay with near misses on merchant vessel alongside
which was left smoking fire stated on quay in
vicinity.
(H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 140931Z.)

M.A.A.F. Summary of operations for period ending 1800 hrs.
Air report. 13th Aug. 1 F.S. destroyed.
13th. Direct hits were scored with R.P. and can-
non on observations post on Uljan Island and on
2300 ton M/V claimed probably sunk.. Two Beau-
fighters missing.
(M.A.A.F. 141155B.)

Black Sea. (Extract.) From Intelligence report Aug. 10th to
Aug. 13th.
1. Naval. Enemy submarine sighted off South Cauca-
sus Coast Aug. 11th and Aug. 12th. 4 enemy mines
type U.M.A. swept off Skadovsk and one contact mine off Odessa.
Reported German (corrupt group) indicates 10th Defence Division
operating in Black Sea consists of First, Third and Eighth (?mine-
layer) Lighter Flotillas, 3rd and 30th Minesweeper M.L. Flotillas,
30th and 31st convoy flotillas and 1st, 3rd and 29th submarine
chaser flotillas. 2. Air. Aug. 10th, one minesweeper M.L. sunk
and one damaged off Dneister Mouth by Naval aircraft whilst es-
corting 6 Me.109 avoided action.
(N.L.O. Black Sea 141640.)

M.E. Balkan 4. Sea Ops. L.O. reports 9th August Zervas caique
Sitrep 272. captured 2 German caiques north of Paxos R.30.
(C. in C.M.E. 142000C.)

SCARAB, APHIS. General Alexander is anxious that SCARAB and
APHIS should be available to bombard on east coast
Italy on 25th or as soon after as they can be
spared.

2. Propose N.C.W.T.F. should release these vessels as soon as he
knows they can be spared.

3. General Rooks has all information on Alexander's projected
operations.

(C. in C.Med. 142008B to C. in C.Med. (Adv.))

ZZ craft
(special M/S
craft).

Special M/S craft now building at Alexandria vide
my 112251 July are to be known as ZZ craft.
2. Need for high degree of security is emphasized.
3. Request Admty. pass my 112251 July to VERNON M/S.
(F.O.L.E.M. 142114 to A.S. Alex., N.O.I.C. Alex.,
Admty., C. in C.Med., VERNON M/S.)

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Cargoes of enticed Greek caiques. Your 221032/June para 2 (A) - cargoes should be put in prize and not, transferred to Italians.
 (2) Your para.2(B) - cargoes of vessels captured or enticed since should be put in prize. If any item of cargo is immediately perishable it should be sold forthwith and the proceeds put in prize.
 (3) Your para. 3:- (a) All captured vessels should be put in prize.
 (b) Vessels which are voluntarily brought in by their owners should not, be put in prize if the Greek Government can make satisfactory arrangements with the owner. Greeks have claimed that all shipping escaping from the Dodecanese should be regarded as Greek. You should see Foreign Office reply No.379 to the Ambassador-in-Cairo on this point.
 (c) In cases where Caiques have been brought in by persons other than the owners and in cases where the owners are unwilling to come to arrangement with the Greek Government, vessels should be put in prize.
 (4) These principles for your general guidance cannot cover all circumstances and you should raise with the Admiralty any cases where you consider they are inapplicable or would operate inequitably.
 (Hd. of M.I.142304B to F.O.L.E.M. Info. C. in C. Med.)

Situation rep- My 112332 para. 2 photographic R/C shows SS. ORION ort No.409. and both barges in harbour apparently undamaged.
 (2) Night 7th/8th M.G.B's sank one 'F' Lighter by torpedo and one by gunfire off Vir Island 044 degs. 20' N. 015 degs. 05' E. 14 German prisoners taken. One M.G.B. damaged. Casualties one killed and 9 wounded.
 (3) M.T.Bs landed party on Lussino Island night 9th/10th Aug. A bridge was destroyed and 4 Germans captured. A R/C party was also landed by M.T.Bs. (group missing) Mulet Island night of 10th/11th August. Party was recovered night of 11th/12th.
 (4) Coastal forces carried out patrols returning to Gulf of Genoa night of 11th/12th and 12th and 13th August but made no sightings.
 (5) Discharge figure at Ancona for week-ending 12th 17217 tons.
 (6) All Assault (?convoys) and support forces for operation "Dragoon" have sailed and are proceeding according to plan weather prospects good.
 (C. in C. Med. 142352z)

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MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U-Boat dispositions. Area F. SS. HILDA MOLLER reported sighting torpedo track in 016 degs. 27' N. 082 degs. 40' (?East) (?at) 1910Z/13th. Pending further information, scale of air escort remains W. (2) (?Other) areas. No fresh information and no change in scale of air escort. (C. in C. E.F. 140315Z)

Suspicious, object fired on. Fired on suspicious object lat. 037 degs. 10' S. long. 121 degs. 15' E. (CHARLES, S. JONES, 140900Z to Admty)

U-Boat attacked and ~~con-~~ sidered sunk 12th Aug. U. 198. (Cm): 6843.) Air photographs of area covered by emerging diesel oil and containing suspicious fragments sighted by escorts convince me that U-Boat was finally (?destroyed) at 121411 in 003 degs. 45' S. 052 degs. 58' E. by FINDHORN's accurate attack on contact obtained by GODAVARI. (2) Am detaching PARRETT and GENISTA to Seychelles for lubricating oil and oil fuel. (3) (?Intend) remaining in the vicinity until daylight tomorrow 15th and then proceed with HARDY to (?Kilindini). (4) Cancel para. 4 and 5. My 130830Z not to all addressees. (S.O. Force 66, 141010Z to N.O.I.C. East Africa.)

BEGUM Force 66. Concur with your 141117 not to all addressees. Request you will sail PARRETT for Kilindini on completion of fuelling at Seychelles. (2) It is probable that force 65 will be ready to leave Ceylon about 20th and since this force could be moved to East African waters to operate in your area consider it preferable that BEGUM and all Escort Group 60 should boiler clean immediately on arrival at Kilindini. (3) Future operations of Force 66 are dependent upon decision regarding refitting programme of FINDHORN and PARRETT and arrangements for their relief. Further signals will be made. (4) S.O. Force 66's 141010 also refers. (C. in C. E.F. 141631Z to N.O.I.C. E.Af.)

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Wooden raft sighted. Wooden raft and considerable debris no bodies reported by U.S. Transport A/C C.54 cruising at 500 feet at 1243Z/13th in 043 degs. 00' N. 038 degs 05' W.
 (C. in C. C.N.A. 140015Z to G.B.7A)
 My 140015/ U.S.C.G. PALISADE ordered to investigate by C.T.F.24.
 (C. in C. C.N.A.140033Z to G.M.7A)
 / Wooden raft and debris reported by U.S. Transport A/C.

C.U.34. Off Oversay at 2200Z/12. All arrived.
 (D.T.D.141217B)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 141401Z)

"Q" Boundary Change. Amendment 6 to HD.224 effective 0001Z/15th frontispiece. Change boundary between Med. (QB) and East Indies (QC) to latitude 17 degs. N.
 (C.N.O.141520)

WOODSTOCK refit. WOODSTOCK will take at least 10 weeks to refit.
 (2) In view of above allocation of another Corvette in her place is proposed.
 (3) Ship available is not fitted with extra A/A Armament but can be sailed very soon if fitting not necessary. Request immediate reply as to necessity.
 (N.S.H.Q.142132Z to Admty)

Sailing of Troopships from Australia. Navy Department will comply with request in your 130634 para.2. GENERAL WILLIAM GENERAL G.M.
 (2) It is intended that MITCHELL and RANDALL (E.T. D.30th) will be paired in Australian waters. You will be kept advised of adjustments to remainder of programme.
 (B.A.D.142141 to C. in C. E.F.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest No.937. Aug. 13th. Considerable shipping movement observed Central Philippines recently including Laden and escorted convoys proceeding onto Cebu. 29 ships including three large, 19 small freighter, three small

tankers /...

War Diary

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Monday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
No.937.
(Contd.)

tankers, three destroyers and one probable three-stack light cruiser seen Cebu Harbour forenoon 13th.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 141725²) as amended 050540.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. A. (1) A/C T/461 attacked U-Boat, course 350 degs. at 0341Z/14th August in 46 degs. 27' N. 03 degs. 25' W.
(2) A/C Y/210 sighted U-Boat at 0020Z/14th Aug. in 65 degs. 43' N. 05 degs. 08' E.
Para.B. (1) A/C M/228 attacked P/S, course 220 degs. at 1345Z/13th August in 48 degs. 29' N. 06 degs. 02' W.
(2) H.M. Ships attacked contact at 1950Z/13th August in 46 degs. 27' N. 04 degs. 26' W.
(3) H.M.Ship attacked contact at 1840Z/13th August in 50 degs. 02' N. 04 degs. 07' W.
Para. C. (1) H.M.ship attacked doubtful contact at 0200Z/13th August in 58 degs. 38' N. 05 degs. 57' W.
(2) O.T.U. A/C sighted possible U-Boat at 1058Z/13th August in 57 degs. 30' N. 10 degs. 00' W.
Para. D. Br. HILDA MOLLER sighted torpedo track p.m. 13th August in 16 degs. 27' N. 82 degs. 40' E.
(Admty, 140921Z to Cominch, N.S.H.Q.Ottawa.)

U-Boat
dispositions. Estimates.
(D.D.I.C.141447B, 141448B)

15.8.1944
 Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "Neptune" (D + 70)

General.

1(a) In Brittany St. Malo except the citadel surrendered to-day and Dinard was taken by our Troops. In Normandy the Enemy were retreating in all sectors.
 (b) The cumulative landings up to this afternoon are:

| | Men | Vehicles | Stores |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| British Area: | 777,840 | 191,383 | 1,116,428 |
| U.S. Area: | <u>1,062,935</u> | <u>201,253</u> | <u>1,359,775</u> |
| Total: | <u>1,840,775</u> | <u>392,636</u> | <u>2,476,203</u> |

tons

Enemy
 Action.

2(a) Underwater Explosion. At 0055 to-day M.G.Bs. 323 and 319 were damaged by an underwater explosion 10 miles N.E. by E. of the Juno Light Vessel.
 (b) U-Boats. At 1625 L.S.T.404 in Convoy F.T.M. 69 was damaged by an underwater explosion about 41 miles S.E. of St. Catherine's Point; and at 1655 in the same position the Corvette ORCHIS escorting Convoy F.T.C.68 attacked and sank the U-Boat ~~PALMGREN~~ and rescued one of the two survivors seen.

U.741

General

North
 Biscay
 Operations.

3(a) In three attacks made to-day off Sables d'Olonne at 0245, 0510 and 0630 respectively, Force 27 (MAURITIUS (S.O), URSA and IROQUOIS) hit one Enemy Destroyer and set on fire and drove ashore two M-class Minesweepers, four M/Vs, and one small Tanker.
 (b) At 0005 a Liberator A/C attacked a U-Boat about 55 miles W.S.W. of Lorient; and at 0906 E.G.3 attacked a S/M Contact in the same area and saw much oil after the attack.
 (c) 35 Mines were laid by A/C last night off Le Verdon (Gironde) and 28 off La Rochelle.

Operation
 "Victual".

4. Convoy J.W.59, consisting of 34 M/Vs and 11 Russian S/M-Chasers left Loch Ewe at 2000 to-day for North Russia.

U-Boat
 sighted.

5. At 0819 a U-Boat was sighted by a Catalina A/C about 200 miles N.W. of Trondheim.

War Diary

15.8.1944
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

6. Operation "Dragoon". D. Day is August 15th.
H. Hour 0800.

(a) Object

The object of Operation "Dragoon" is the capture of St. Raphael, St. Maxime, St. Tropez, Toulon and Marseilles from which, by exploitation of the Rhone Valley, to assist Operation "Overlord".

(b) The Plan

(i) To drop an Airborne Division in daylight on the evening of 14th August in areas to the south and north of Le Muy to obstruct communications and prevent reinforcements reaching the Coastal Area.

(ii) During darkness 14th/15th August to capture the Islands of Levant and Port Cros and to destroy enemy defences and coastal highways in the vicinity of Cap Negre.

(iii) To assault on a 3 Divisional front in adjacent areas to the West, East and inside the Gulfs of St. Tropez and Frejus at 8 a.m. on 15th August.

(c) Command

Naval. Vice Admiral H.K. Hewitt, U.S.N. with his flag in CATOCTIN (H.Q.Ship).

Army. Major General A.M. Patch, U.S. Army.

Air. Brigadier General G.P. Saville, U.S.A.A.C. (Tactical)
Major General Twining, U.S.A.A.C. (Strategical).

(d) Forces employed

The assault is being carried out by U.S. Troops with large French reinforcing formations, supported by Naval Forces of the United States, Great Britain, France, Greece and Poland and the Mediterranean Allied Air Force.

(e) The Assault

The Assault Convoys which were mounted from Naples sailed between 9th August and 13th August, the earlier convoys staging at Ajaccio.

The Gunfire Support Groups sailed from Malta and Taranto, 11th, Palermo 12th and Naples 13th, so as to concentrate with the Assault Convoys a.m. 14th August off the West and South West Coasts of Corsica.

The Air Support Force which operates to the South West of the Assault Area sailed from Malta 12th August.

The /...

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Tuesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

The Assault Forces and landings, reading from west to east are -

Sitka Force

During darkness 14th/15th August.

- (a) First Special Service Force to capture Islands of Levant and Port Cros.
- (b) French Groupe de Commandos (Romeo Force) to land in vicinity of Cap Negre to destroy enemy defences, and protect the left flank of main assault forces.

Alpha Force

At 8 a.m. on 15th August

3rd U.S. Infantry Division (Reinforced) in the Cavalaire - Pampelonne area.

Delta Force

At 8 a.m. on 15th August

46th U.S. Infantry Division (Reinforced) in St. Tropez - Bougnon area.

Camel Force

At 8 a.m. on 15th August

36th U.S. Infantry Division (Reinforced) and one Combat Command of 1st French Armoured Division in the St. Raphael - Antheor area.

Air-Borne Force

During daylight on the evening of 14th August

7th U.S. Airborne Division in the vicinity of Le Muy.

2 Diversionary Operations are being carried out to the East and West of the Assault Area. Details have not been received.

Follow-up Forces

Follow-up Convoys are being sailed from Taranto, Oran and Naples to give a final Army build-up by D + 60, 11th October -

U.S. 3 Infantry Divisions
 1 Airborne Division
 1 Special Service Force (Plough Force Trained
 in Alaska)

French 5 Infantry Divisions
 2 Armoured Divisions
 1 Groupe de Commandos

(f) /...

War Diary

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Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

(f) Fighter Protection

Fighter protection over the Assault Area will be given from the Escort Carrier Force under R.A. Troubridge R.N. until the R.A.F. are able to operate from captured bases ashore.

(g) Summary of Main Forces Taking Part

| | | U.S. | Br. | Fr. |
|--|------|------|-----|------|
| Battleships | 5 | (3 | 1 | 1) |
| Escort Carriers | 9 | (2 | 7 | |
| Cruisers | 22 | (8 | 9 | 5) |
| A/A ships | 3 | | | |
| Gunboats (2) Monitor (1) | 3 | | | |
| Destroyers and Escorts | 109* | (57 | 27 | 20) |
| Coastal Craft | 60 | | | |
| Minesweepers | 84 | | | |
| Assault Ships and major assault craft | 380 | | | |
| Personnel and M/T ships | 131 | | | |

* W.D. is not responsible for this arithmetic. [? Greek + other allies included]
No Allied Submarines will be at sea in the area of Operations.

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(h) The Principal Task Forces are:

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|
| T.F.80 | Force Flag Ship | CATOCTIN (N.C.W.T.F. V.A.Hewitt, U.S.N.) 1 Destroyer |
| T.F.80.4 | Special Operations Group | 1 Destroyer (Captain Johnson U.S.N.) 2 F.D. ships 2 Gunboats |
| T.F.80.6 | A/S and Convoy Control Group | (Capt. Clay, U.S.N.) 62 Destroyers and Escorts |
| T.F.84 | Alpha Support Force | DUANE (R.A.Lowry, U.S.N.) 1 F.D. ship RAMILLIES ORION (C.S.15) QUINCY AURORA AJAX BLACK PRINCE GLOIRE 6 Destroyers |
| T.F.85 | Delta Support Force | BISCAYNE (R.A.Rodgers, U.S.N.) TEXAS (R.A.Bryant, U.S.N.) NEVADA PHILADELPHIA GEORGE S LEYGUES MONTCALM 11 Destroyers |

T.F.86 /...

War Diary

15.8.1944
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

T.F.86 General Support Force
 including Sitka Force

AUGUSTA (R.A.Davidson, U.S.N.)
LORRAINE
DIDO
3 Destroyers

Reserves

plus Gunfire Support units released from
other Forces.

CINCINNATI
MARBLEHEAD
JEANNE D'ARC
SIRIUS

T.F.87 Camel Support Force

BAYFIELD (?Cdre. Edgar, U.S.N.
vice R.A. Moon, U.S.N.
deceased)
ARKANSAS
TUSCALOOSA (R.A.Deyo, U.S.N.)
BROOKLYN
OMAHA
ARGONAUT
DUGUAY TROUIN
EMILE BERTIN (C.A.Auboyneau)
11 Destroyers

T.F.88 Escort Carrier Force

ROYALIST (R.A.Troubridge R.N.)
KHEDIVE
EMPEROR
SEARCHER
PURSUER
ATTACKER
STALKER
HUNTER
TULAGI (R.A.Durgin, U.S.N.)
KASAAN BAY
COLOMBO
DELHI
CALEDON
14 Destroyers

C. in C. Mediterranean has established an Advanced Head-
quarters in IARGS at Ajaccio.

C. in C. Mediterranean himself will be afloat in
H.M.S. KIMBERLEY.

War Diary15.8.1944
TuesdaySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanThe Operation

- 7(a) This morning, 7th Army troops invaded Southern France near the towns of St. Tropez, St. Maxime and Frejus, between Toulon and Cannes. Airborne troops were dropped 10 miles inland, and successfully prevented the enemy from reinforcing. Special units made up of Americans and Canadians invaded the islands of Levant and Port Cros, which lie just off the invasion beaches. At the close of to-day French Commandos, who had landed at Cap Negre joined forces with the main invasion force.
- Landings. (b) Civilians and prisoners of war report that tactical surprise was achieved. Commandos and S.S. Force as well as Airborne Force all landed successfully. Levant and Port Cros Islands were reported captured by 0600 without opposition, though it was later learnt that some resistance continued on Port Cros on 16th August in contradiction of earlier reports, and the island was not finally reported cleared until 17th. The French Commandos who landed near Cape Negre met some opposition from a battery inland, and L.C.Ms. with supplies were unable to land on account of gunfire.
- (c) The main assault landings were made on schedule and were successfully accomplished with good timing against light opposition and slight hindrance due to mines and obstacles. AUGUSTA, DIDO and SOMERS assisted by bombardment.
- (d) The pre-H hour bombing and gunfire is reported to have been very effective.
- (e) About 950 landing ships and craft and merchant ships took part in the operation.
- Diversions. 8. Two diversion groups performed successful missions one off the Nice area and the other off Le Ciotat. No enemy surface forces were encountered.
- Air Operations. 9. A large number of A/C of the Strategic Air Force bombed Marseilles last night and 7 beaches between Frejus and Cape Camaret to-day. Tactical Air Force bombed airfields in South France, dropped paratroops and flew special missions last night; and landed gliders and attacked gun positions in the beach areas to-day.
- Weather. 10. There was a light shifting wind and negligible sea. Visibility 4 miles at noon, hazy, improving.
- Enemy Opposition. 11. Three E-Boats were sunk by minesweepers during the assault approach sweep off Beach 261.

The /...

15.8.1944
TuesdayWar DiarySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanThe OperationEnemy
Opposition.
(Contd.)

The U.S. destroyer SOMERS sank the two enemy corvettes ESCAHURT and CAMOSRIO about 0400 to-day south-west of Port Cros Island and rescued some German survivors. The U.S. destroyer EDISON made a depth charge attack on a S/M reported in the San Raphael area.

12. Air opposition was light.

Naval
Casualties.

13. Three landing craft were damaged by mines and six by enemy fire: damage was not extensive and all are still afloat. The fleet minesweeper BRAVE was damaged above the waterline in collision with L.C.T.591, and several L.C.V.P. were damaged by mines and obstacles. L.S.T.282 was hit by a glider bomb, caught fire and was beached but became a total loss.

General

Leghorn.

14. 24 mines have been swept off Leghorn during further clearance operations.

ChinaAir
Operations.

15. Kittyhawks to-day attacked 8 200 ft. cargo vessels in the Pengtsch-Hukow area (150 miles E.S.E. of Hankow), destroying one, setting 3 on fire and damaging another. On the north-east coast of Indo-China a dredger and a small steamer were left sinking, a river steamer was set on fire and two others were damaged.

War Diary

15.8.1944
Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

New Guinea.

16. Two U.S. destroyers shelled a bivouac area between But and Dagua at daylight to-day, at the request of the land forces.
P.T. boat patrols off the Wewak Yakumul coast last night and tonight were negative.

War Diary

15.8.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Situation Reports

Military. Communique No.219 (Extract). Advances were made yesterday on both sides of the Falaise-Argentan Gap. Fighting is still in progress at St. Malo, and at Dinard. At Brest and Lorient there is nothing new to report.
(S.H.A.F.F.151100B to AGWAR)

Naval. **A. General.** At 1752 an L.S.T. was reported mined South of Isle of Wight. At 1800 a U-Boat was sunk 1 mile from this position.

B. Assault Area. Nothing to report.

C. Unloading figures to p.m. 14th August.

| | Troops | Vehicles | Stores |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| British. | 772,279 | 190,069 | 1,102,856 |
| U.S. | <u>1,057,640</u> | <u>199,381</u> | <u>1,331,366</u> |
| Total D + 69 | 1,829,919 | 389,450 | 2,434,222 |

(Ad. Ramsay, 152335B to Admty.)

Covering Operations

Patrols from Dover. O.N. Dover 67.
F.N.1 M.Ls.104, 128 in 050 degs. Z.2 3 miles.
F.N.2 M.T.Bs 603, 607 in 208 degs. Z.2 5.8 miles.
F.U.3 OBEDIENT in 050 degs. Z.3 3 miles.
F.U.5 ORWELL in 050 degs. Z.5 3 miles.
F.U.7 SAVAGE in Z.7.
(2) OBEDIENT has freedom of action in Z.4, ORWELL in Z.6.
(A.C. Dover, 151236B)
My 151236. Add - F.N.4 M.T.Bs. 359, 353, 25 in 50 degs. 46' N. 01 degs. 16.5' E.
F.N.6 M.T.Bs. 433, 418, 432 in 230 degs. Z.6 2 miles.
(A.C.Dover, 152009B)

Patrols from Portsmouth. O.N. Portsmouth one Para. 38., Cover night 15th/16th.
(A) FORESTER (G.A.1) VERSATILE (G.A.2), PENNYWORT (G.A.3), DRUMHELLER (G.A.4) A/S search in area bounded by Q.Z.S.511 50 degs. 30' N. Meridian of Greenwich and a line 245 degs. to E 5 buoy.
6th Escort Group (NEW WATERFORD (S.O), ANNAN, OUTREMENT) Gamma Patrol from 2 miles North of the S.E. corner of Z.110 to N.W. corner of Z.112. Report night dispositions. WENSLEYDALE (G.D.1) Patrol on a line 00 degs. 23' E. between 50 degs. 20' N. and 50 degs. 26' N.
BRISSENDEN (G.D.2) Patrol on a line 00 degs. 15' E. between 50 degs. 04' N. and 50 degs. 10' N.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151254B)

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Portsmouth (Contd.) My 151254B. Cancel paras. B.C. and F. Amend para. A. for WENSLEYDALE (G.D.1) read RIOU (G.H.2). WENSLEYDALE (G.D.1) will now patrol on the meridian of Greenwich between 50 degs. 00' and 49 degs. 52' N. Force G.A. 6th Escort Group and BRISSENDEN patrol remain unchanged.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151613B)

O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Eastern Night Channel Report 15th/16th Aug.
(1) (A) F.U.3 OBEDIENT Z.3, Z.4. F.U.5 ORWELL X.5, Z.6.
F.U.7 SAVAGE, Z.7. G.D.1 WENSLEYDALE Z.12 W. G.D.2 BRISSENDEN, Z.14 W. G.H.1 RIOU, Z.8. G.A.1 FORESTER, G.A.2 VERSATILE, G.A.3 PENNYWORT, G.A. 4 DRUMHELLER - In area bounded by Q.Z.S. 5X.1 50 degs. 30' N. meridian of Greenwich and a line 245 degs. to E.5 buoy.
(B) G.K.1 COTTESMORE, BLEASDALE - Tunny North.
G.K.2 LA COMBATTANTE, MIDDLETON - area Pike.
G.L. 1 RETALICK, STEVENSTONE - Tunney North.
(2) F.N.1 2 M.Ls. F.N.2 2 M.T.Bs. - Z.
(3) Wellington cross-over patrol between St. Valery en Caux and St. Valery sur Somme between 7 and 19 miles off French Coast.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151805B) / ? Z. intended.
O.N.1 para. 52 (B). Western Night Channel Report 15th/16th August. (1) 6th E.G. (NEW WATERFORD), ANNAN, OUTREMONT from 2 miles North of the South East corner of Z.110 to the North West corner of Z.112.
1st E.G. Z.248, Z.242 North east Z.244 South West.
15th E.G. Z.236. Unit G.O.1, 4 M.T.Bs. Z.210.
(B) U.S.S. BORUM, U.S. OFFA, ORIBI, 4 U.S. P.Ts. Z.208, Z.209, 2 U.S. P.Ts. Z.203.
(2) Air patrols all areas West of 01 degs. 37' W.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 152024B)

Patrols from Plymouth. (A) Unit G.O.1, M.T.B.748 (S.O), 745, 743, 746.
(B) 1700B/15. (C) (AA) 49 degs. N. 3 degs. W. to arrive 2130.
(D) From (AA) patrol in Z.210 to cover approaches to St. Malo Unit is not to go outside the limits of the square unless in emergency or in action.
(E) Destruction of enemy shipping. (F) Unit to remain after daylight at S.O's discretion. (G) (AA) to Dartmouth.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151541B)

Mining

Western Area. Two acoustic mines (?detonated) 151 degs. Marcouf (corrupt group) 34 cables by 205th M/S on passage.
(2) (?Seventh) ship in line near missed no major damage. (?Discontinued) sweep. Rough sea, moderate swell.
(M/S Beaches, 150926B to C.T.F.125)

Beach /...

War Diary15.8.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"MiningWestern
Area.
(Contd.)

Beach Area Situation Report 15th August.
 (1) 2 acoustic mines detonated. My 150926B refers.
 (2) Routine sweep magnetic and acoustic carried out all channels, approach and anchorage all negative result.
 (3) No reports of enemy minelaying received.
 (M/S Beaches, 151921B to C.T.F.125)

St.Malo
clearance.

Your 062257. Do you require Commander M/S detailed for Malvern clearance to be sent to Cherbourg to confer with you and Commander M/S West.

(A.N.C.X.F.151103B to C.T.F.125)

My 052359. C.T.F.125, 031115 refers. Request information:-

- (A) Which B.Y.M.S.Flottilla will be used.
- (B) Whether Naval Party 1573 will be required and if so whether direct by sea or by road from Cherbourg.
- (C) Whether M.F.Vs. will be required and if so whether you wish them sailed to Cherbourg first observing their maximum speed is 6 knots.

(A.N.C.X.F.151800B to C.T.F.125)

Deep
minelaying.

OP: Pasture

Carry out Portsmouth No. O/0221/206 of 13th August Serial D part 2 0800B/16th August.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 151636B to M/S 15, GENTIAN, DIANTHUS, PLOVER)

L.S.T.404
mined.

L.S.T.404 mined 1 mile South of E.5 buoy. U.S. tug 80 R 4 standing by. Am proceeding.
 (REDMILL,151652B to C. in C. Portsmouth)

British
Area.
M.G.B.323
and M.G.B.319
damaged.

Reports during last 24 hours indicate that six mines may have been laid by enemy A/C. Intensive sweeping carried out over a large area in E.G.M.S. from first light this morning in a considerable swell and with all traffic stopped until 1000 yielded 3 magnetic and 2 acoustic mines.

All on line between outer night defence line and Love channel Eastern end. One magnetic swept

080 degs. 1.5 miles from Juno L/V. Sea calmer tonight. While on patrol at 0055 in position 056 degs. 10 miles from Juno L.V. a violent underwater explosion slightly damaged M.G.Bs. 323 and 319.

(Capt. M/S.X. 152230B to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary

15.8.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

U-Boats

Channel and Biscay situation. About half a dozen in Central English Channel and two or three between longitudes of Start Point and Scillies. Eight or nine in Inner Bay of Biscay probably all inside 100 fathom line. One within 45 miles of coast between Hartland Point and Trevoze Head from attack 1700Z/14th August. (D.D.I.C.151409B to A.I.G.331)

U-Boat (U.741) sunk by ORCHIS. (escorting Convoy F.T.C.68). Attacking A/S contact 140 degs. E.5 buoy 2 miles. Consider U-Boat. (ORCHIS, 151715 and 151740B to C. in C. Portsmouth) S/M sunk. Two survivors. (ORCHIS, 151800B to C. in C. Portsmouth) My 151715. Large oil patch appeared. (ORCHIS, 151748B to C. in C. Portsmouth) My 151800. At 1655 A/S contact was gained 20 minutes after L.S.T. ahead was mined or torpedoed. 2 pattern depth charges were fired and 2 pattern of Hedgehog. At 1725 oil began (to?) rise, second H/H pattern fired at 1744 and at 1750 heavy oil began to rise. At 1800, 2 survivors were seen in water of which only 1 could be picked up. Intend danning position and rejoining convoy. (ORCHIS, 151844 to C. in C. Portsmouth) My 151844. Following information obtained (?from) preliminary interrogation of (?survivor). (2) Name of U-Boat PALMGREN. 500 tons. Based Brest. At sea 10 days in (?Channel)(?). Torpedoed ship at 1655 to-day. (3) U-Boat was badly holed and 2 men escaped (?through) escape hatch (?). All other men killed. (ORCHIS, 151935 to C. in C. Portsmouth)

A/S Patrols. Daylight patrols 16th August: WENSLEYDALE, FORESTER, VERSATILE, BRISSENDEN, Gamma Patrol close Eastwards of Q.Z.S. 511 and 554 between 49 degs. 54' N. and 50 degs. 20' N. (2) 6th Escort Group. Gamma search Z.114, 113, 112 and Z.108. (3) PENNYWORT, DRUMHELLER take patrols B and C respectively. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 151846B)

Port Facilities.

Winterisation of Arromanches. Bearing in mind that the autumn gales may be expected at any time after say 10th September, the progress of winterisation of the harbour at Arromanches to-day is disappointing. (2) The total work so far in this direction is the placing of some sand in two Phoenix. No start has been made with (a) Troughing, the plating not having arrived. (b) Placing of rubble at the feet of Phoenix. (c) Fitting and strengthening Phoenix with tie bars, as these have not arrived.

(3) /...

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War Diary15.8.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Port Facilities

- Winterisation of Arromanches (Contd.)
- (3) In the four weeks fine weather that remain it is urged that every effort should be made to speed up progress.
- (4) At a meeting held at the War Office on 24th July at which neither S.H.A.E.F. nor A.N.C.X.F. were represented, it was decided that double banking should be by AX units only. This is not concurred in, for the reason that it is unlikely that any AX units will be placed many days before 1st October, by which time in a normal year the equinoctial gales have been experienced.
- (5) I am of the opinion that every effort should be made to strengthen the western end of the detached breakwater by double banking and placing nets and rubble against the Phoenix units as soon as possible. A.1 Phoenix will be available to do this.
- (6) Naval opinion on the spot concurs in the above and A.N.C.X.F. has always intended that this should be carried out.
- (7) S.H.A.E.F. is requested to give a decision on the above. (A.N.C.X.F.151817B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Casualties and Defects

- CAP TOURANE. My 092138. After survey of CAP TOURANE Ministry Surveyor reports no period of further service in her present condition can be guaranteed.
- (2) F.O.B.A.A. states she cannot be withdrawn without relief. (P.S.T.O. X.F. 152122 to D.S.T.)

Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.P.22. (B) LAPWING (S.O) RUPERT, NARBROUGH.
(E) For Utah, LEOPOLDVILLE, LLANGIBBY CASTLE For Omaha, ANTENOR.
(A.N.C.X.F.150114)
- E.W.L.68A. (B) None. (E) For Utah, 5 U.S. L.S.Ts.
(A.N.C.X.F.150119)
- E.W.L.68. My 142104 sailed. Add U.S. L.S.T.543 in place of 682.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 150130B)
- E.B.C.71. My 142114B sailed less 6 ships.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 150334B, 150429B)
(A) E.B.C.71. (B) DAHLIA, H.D.M.L.1405.
(E) For coaster anchorage, SNA 10 (Commodore),
7 ships plus two towing barges to Cherbourg. For Cherbourg.
CEDAR and ANDREW TURNBULL latter towing barge.
(A.N.C.X.F.150825)

E.P.P.22 W/...

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys

- E.P.P.22W. My 142149 sailed.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 150440)
- E.T.C.68. (B) STATICE (S.O) SKOMER, M.L.118.
(E) For Arrow. 12 ships plus one with pontoon.
For Feb. 2 ships. For Juno 3 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F.150828)
- E.B.C.73. Ref. A.N.C.X.F.111631B/E.B.C.73 sailed
TORFIN JARL for Utah Prairie. WILNO for Utah
Prairie. R.L.VANN for Utah Prairie.
JOFFRE ROSE for Cherbourg.
E.T.A. H.10 Buoy 1030/17.
(F.O.I.C.Cardiff, 150922B to C.T.F.125)
* Procedure to be adopted by Authorities sailing
convoy direct to U.S. Sector.
- E.P.M.36. B. L'AVENTURE, M.L.153. E. For Omaha 8 U.S.
L.S.T's, 4 ships. For Utah, 8 U.S. L.S.Ts, 3
ships. For Cherbourg, DAFFODIL, 8 U.S. L.S.Ts.
For W.A.A. 5 U.S. C.G.Cutters.
(A.N.C.X.F.151125B)
- F.B.C.55. (B) LOUISBURG K.401, S.C.1301.
(E) 10 ships.
(C.T.U.125.1.3, 151230)
- F.T.M.69. (B) For Nore - REDMILL.
(E) 5 ships, 2 L.S.Ts, 1 tug.
(F.O.B.A.A.151309)
You are to weigh from St. Helens Road at 1730/
15th to R/V F.T.M.69 at E.A.3 buoy at 2000/15th.
(2) Proceed to arrive E.A.2 Buoy at 1930 in case Convoy is early.
(3) S.O. escort is REDMILL.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151440B to ONYX, CALDY, M.L.590, Info:
REDMILL, To S.A. concerned in the U.K.
- F.T.C.68. (B) For Nore ORCHIS for Wight LA NANTAISE.
(E) 12 ships.
(F.O.B.A.A.151319)
Intend to sail at time requisite to R/V at E.A.3
Buoy 3 joiners to F.T.C.68.
(2) Escort SKOMER, M.L.582.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151452B to C. in C. Nore)
- 20 L.S.T's to load
10th Armd.
Group. Your 150038 not to Admiralty or F.O.I.C.Portland
In anticipation of Admiralty agreeing to H.Q.
E.T.O.U.S.A.'s request and providing necessary
escorts request you will nominate the 20 L.S.T.
required and assemble them at Portland reporting
when they will be ready to sail.

(A) /...

War Diary15.8.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping and Convoys.20 L.S.T's
to load
10th Armd.
Group.
(Contd.)(A) In two convoys of 10 L.S.T. each,
or (B) All twenty L.S.T. in one convoy.
(A.N.C.X.F. 151614B to C.T.F.123)
E.T.O.U.S.A. request that 20 L.S.T. be despatched
to Swansea to load 10th Armoured Group, first
ten to arrive at loading point a.m. 17th and
second ten noon 18th August, 1944.C.T.F.123 is being asked to nominate L.S.T. and
to state when they will be ready to leave Portland. Request
you will:-(a) Inform me whether ships will be sailed from Swansea to France
in an E.B.C. convoy, or in one or in two special convoys.(b) Confirm that in view of the great importance attached to
the 10th Armoured Group augmented escorts will be available.
(A.N.C.X.F.151745B to C. in C. Plymouth)Starlight
70.Starlight 70 will not sail owing to weather.
(F.O.I.C.Portland, 151702B)DUKE OF
LANCASTER.Sailed DUKE OF LANCASTER 1400 to-day for
Southampton.
Casualties Stretcher 233, walking 71.
(N.O.I.C.Juno, 151710, 151830B)

F.B.C.55.

Sailed F.B.C.55 - 1 ship, 2 U.S. L.S.Ts,
1 H.M.L.S.T.
(C.T.F.125.2, 151727B)Designation
of "Neptune"
Convoys.Concur in proposed designation of "Neptune"
convoys. Your 070929 refers.
(D.T.D.151737B to A.N.C.X.F.)

F.W.L.58Y.

(B) LORD ESSENDON, M.L.490, U.S.C.G. C.32.
(E) 6 L.S.T's. (F) 2 L.S.Ts.
(F.O.B.A.A.151846)

E.X.P.42.

(B) HART, WHITAKER.
(E) For Arrow, 2 ships.
(A.N.C.X.F.152347B)

E.P.P.23.

(B) WHIMBREL, VIMY, HOTHAM, TYLER.
(E) For Omaha, 2 ships. For Utah, 2 ships.
For Cherbourg, one ship.
(A.N.C.X.F. 152349B)

War Diary15.8.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Organisation and Administration

M/S Admiralty 122055 and your 131558. Request
 Organisation. action may be taken for provision of M/S.
 base accommodation ashore at St. Vaast for Com.
 M/S. Requirements.
 (Capt. M/S.X.150903B to F.O.B.A.A.)

When the necessity for opening Brittany Ports arises, para. 1
 of X.F. No X/0500/48 of 1st August will be amended as follows:-
 (A) F.O.B.A.A. add 104th and 132nd M.S.F. and 131st, 159th and
 181st Trawler Groups.

(B) C.T.F.125 Add 159th M.S.F. Delete 15th, 104th and 132nd
 M.S.F. and 131st and 181st Trawler Groups.

(C) Detached to C. in C. Portsmouth, for 16th substitute 15th.

(D) Detached to C. in C. Plymouth, add 16th M.S.F. delete 159th
 Trawler Group.

(2) One M.M.S.Flottilla allocated to C.T.F. 125 will be withdrawn
 for the use of C. in C. Plymouth for a special operation when
 occasion arises.

(3) F.O.B.A.A. will assume responsibility for minesweeping in
 the Assault Area to the longitude of 1 deg. 20' W. and also
 in Q.Z.S.506.

(4) Further signal will be made defining F.O.B.A.A.'s responsibil-
 ities in this area.

(5) Para. 4 and 5 of my 122055 are cancelled.

(A.N.C.X.F.151241B to C. in C. Nore)

M.T.Bs. for Following has been received from F.O.B.A.A. begins
 B.A.A. The need for small fast craft is becoming more

and more necessary to enable enemy craft to be
 attacked at the entrance to Le Havre. Request
 information whether if time be possible to

commission two 60 feet Thornycroft M.T.Bs in the immediate
 future for employment in the B.A.A. repetition B.A.A. 121642B Ends.

(2) M.T.B.344 is most suitable craft for this operation but has
 been paid off in accordance with A.M.091135 July and certain
 fittings have been removed. Estimated time required to bring
 this boat forward for service is 17 days observing torpedo
 discharge trial will be necessary if equipped with 18 inch Mark
 XII torpedoes since torpedo outfit for M.T.B.344 has been brought
 to Cape Passero.

(3) Alternative craft are those of 12th M.T.B.Flottilla at one
 month's notice 2 of which would be made ready in 10 days but
 method of trough discharge would necessitate C.O. undergoing
 short work up. Further it is understood that 18 inch Mark
 VIII 2 star torpedoes are also being brought to Cape Passero,
 and only a limited number are available. A.N.C.X.F. has
 concurred with F.O.B.A.A. requirement and in view of general
 warfare situation in this theatre and the facts above request
 decision on this matter.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 151720B to Admtty)

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSGeneralDefence of United Kingdom.Defence
against
Flying
Bombs.Admiralty 091953. *(no trace in W.D.)*

It has now been decided that Phoenix units are not to be diverted from their original function. The two A.1 units in the Thames will not therefore be available for mounting 3.7" guns. The survey of the sites should however continue in view of the possibility of other types of gun

platforms being erected.

(D.L.D., 151840B to C. in C. Nore).

OperationsOperation
"Nestegg"

"Nestegg". In view of considerable increase in personnel now required by the army and the fact that initial entry must be over beaches necessitating the use of much larger numbers of landing craft than were originally visualised, it is considered essential that the Naval staff should be strengthened. It is therefore requested that every consideration may be given to the provision of the following officers in addition to those allowed for in my 281946 June.

(2) An officer of the rank of Commander R.N. to be appointed as Chief Staff Officer.

(3) Two officers of the rank of Lieut. Commander to be loaned to the Naval Force. These officers to have practical experience of the planning and carrying out of beach landings. They would be returned immediately the initial landings have been completed.

(4) It is requested that all three officers be appointed forthwith as they are urgently required for preliminary planning. (C. in C. Plymouth, 150041B to Admty.).

North
Biscay
operations.

Proceed with despatch to investigate U-Boat sighted by aircraft LVZ.10 in 047 degs. 22' N. 004 degs. 38' W. at 0005B. Aircraft is homing on 385 kc/s.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 150040B to E.G.3).

One large vessel, 2 small vessels bearing 092 degs. distant 6 miles course 160 degs. My position 46 degs. 28' N. 01 degs. 53' W.

(S.O. Force 27, 150250B to Whitehall W/T).

My 0250. Enemy course and speed 130 degs. 15 knots.

(Force 27, 150307B to Whitehall W/T).

My 0250. Engaged 2 or 3 ships and one believed to be a destroyer off entrance to La Pallice Roads. One heavily on fire and stationary and another damaged. Force 27 engaged by shore defences and coastal batteries throughout with some accuracy.

(Force 27, 150445B to C. in C. Plymouth).

My 0506. One Tanker. Enemy course and speed 350 degs. 5 knots.

(Force 27, 150508B to Whitehall W/T).

My 0508. Target driven ashore badly damaged.

(Force 27, 150538 to Whitehall W/T).

3 unknown vessels bearing 051 degs. distance 7 miles course unknown position 46 degs. 41' N. 01 degs. 06' W.

(Force 27, 150630B to Whitehall W/T).

/ My...

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperations

North My 0630. 3 Flak ships.
Biscay (Force 27, 150654 to Whitehall W/T).
operations My 0654. Am finishing off 3 Flak ships and one
(Contd.) Merchant ship. Request fighter protection. My
position 046 degs. 35' N. 002 degs. 05' W.
(Force 27, 150750B to Admty.).

Nr.1. 2 M/V 5000 tons, 1 M/V 1000 tons, 1 destroyer or
escort vessel, stationary 45 degs. 32' N. 01 degs. 03' W.
(A/C. NDR 86, 150845 to 19 Group).
My 150750B. Result of last engagement. All ships were
driven ashore, left on fire, and abandoned north of Les Sables
D'Olonne. They comprised one merchant ship (probably converted
Flak ship), one medium merchant ship, 2 'M'-class M/S.
(Force 27, 150903B to C. in C. Plymouth).
My 150117. Amend centre (of) Gamma patrol to 046 degs. 10'
N. 003 degs. 28' W. and direction of sweep to 050 degs. and 230
degs. Distance apart of ships 2 miles.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151034B to E.G.11).
Your 150555. Patrol in rectangle side 18 miles 145 degs.
and 25 miles 235 degs. from 047 degs. 24' N. 004 degs. 27' W.
This is a good probability area and should only be left to
investigate aircraft sighting report if within 2 hours steaming
unless otherwise ordered.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151050B to E.G.3).
Intend to patrol about 30 miles to seaward between Ile D'Yeu
and Ile De Glenan. Liberator patrolling close inshore. My
anticipated position at 2100 will be 270 degs. 20 miles from Belle
Isle.
(Force 27, 151114B to C. in C. Plymouth).
Brief summary of to-day's engagements. First started 0245
against one destroyer, one medium merchant ship, one small
merchant ship, and/or 1 M/S on southerly course. Started south
of Les Sables D'Olonne and ended inside Northern entrance to
La Pallice. Result one merchant ship heavily on fire ashore,
destroyer hit, and other merchant ship possibly hit, and on fire.
Fairly accurate and continuous fire by coastal battery when
outside and inside Pertuis Brevaly.
2nd engagement at 0510 just north of Les Sables D'Olonne against
one small tanker on northern course driven ashore and badly
damaged but not on fire.
3rd engagement as in my 150903 against ship on southern course.
Active opposition from fixed defences and apparently mobile
batteries. No casualties or damage to H.M. ships.
(Force 27, 151205B to C. in C. Plymouth).
Have attacked bottomed target classified submarine by
echo sounding trace and dense quantity diesel oil in 047 degs.
20' N. 003 degs. 34' W. Nationality unknown wreckage nil.
Consider destruction certain.
(E.G.3, 151545B to C. in C. Plymouth).
10 Group Mosquitoes will escort Force 27 from 2115B/15
to 2215B/15 and from 0600B/16 to 0700B/16.
(2) Unless in contact with the enemy Force 27 is to keep north
of 45 degs. 40' N. from 2300B/15 to 0800B/16. 19 Group aircraft
will operate south of this line.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151607B to Force 27).
My 151034.
Amend centre Gamma patrol to 046 degs. 18' N. 003 degs. 05' W.
and adjust direction sweeping to 015 degs. and 195 degs.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151623B to E.G.11).

/(1)...

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations.

North
Biscay
operations
(Contd.).

(1) MAURITIUS reports that at 0245/15 Force 27 (MAURITIUS, URSA, IROQUOIS) engaged one destroyer, one medium size merchant ship, and a small merchant ship and/or a minesweeper. Enemy were on a southerly course south of Les Sables D'Olonne. One merchant ship was driven ashore heavily on fire. The destroyer and rest of the force, though hit, escaped into La Pallice. Force 27 were under fairly accurate and continuous fire by coastal battery when outside and inside Pertuis Breton.

(2) At 0510 Force 27 engaged and drove ashore heavily damaged one ship described as small tanker on northerly course just north of Les Sables D'Olonne.

(3) About 0630 Force 27 engaged and drove ashore one M/V. (probably Sperrbrecher) one medium merchant ship and 2 M-class M/S. By 0750 action was over, all enemy on fire, ashore and abandoned north of Les Sables D'Olonne.

(4) No casualties or damage to any of H.M. ships.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 151710 to Admty.).

Carry out operation "Assault".

(A) Force 26, BELLONA (S.O.), TARTAR, ASHANTI.

(B) 0800B/16th August. (C) Through (cc) 48 degs. 38' N. 05 degs. 32' W. (dd) 48 degs. 26' N. 05 degs. 34' W. (jj) 47 degs. 28' N. 05 degs. 24' W. to reach (kk) 46 degs. 40' N. 02 degs. 27' W. by 2330B/16.

(D) Sweep between Ile D'Yeu and Gironde on night 16/17 August. Force 26 is to be north of 46 degs. N. from 0400 to 0800B/17. After this time Force 26 sweep at S.O's. discretion between Belle Isle and Gironde.

(F) PIMMS.

(G) Force 27, MAURITIUS, URSA, IROQUOIS leaves patrol for Plymouth 1800B/16 routed through (LL) 46 degs. 29' N. 30 degs. 29' W.

(H) One Narvik at Royan, one Elbing at St. Nazaire, from aircraft reports p.m. 14th August.

(J) Liberator will R/V with Force 26 at 1000/17.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 151807B to BELLONA, TARTAR, ASHANTI).

Intend searching area Penmarch to Ile D'Yeu during the night. My position at 0600B tomorrow 047 degs. 12' N. 003 degs. 08' W.

(Force 27, 151812B to C. in C. Plymouth).

If not in contact with the enemy Force 27 leave patrol at 1800B/16th August proceed through position (LL) 46 degs. 39' N. 3 degs. 29' W. (JJ) 47 degs. 28' N. 05 degs. 24' W. and thence to Plymouth.

(2) Force 26 BELLONA, TARTAR, ASHANTI pass through (JJ) about 1745B/16 and thence to (KK) 46 degs. 40' N. 02 degs. 27' W.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 151821B to Force 27).

Operation
"Victual"

Air Ministry 141700.

Proposal in my 131046 was made so that one form of recognition should be in force in a given area as an accepted principle. There is a risk of compromise of British United States recognition and Russian warships would undoubtedly open fire on approaching aircraft which fired a recognition signal not recognised by them as friendly.

(C. in C.H.F., 150956B to Admty.).

/ Your...

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.War DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperationsOperation
"Victual"
(Contd.)

Your 150956. Admiralty are promulgating new areas for British-Soviet recognition as requested in your 131046, adding instructions to H.M. ships in accordance with Air Ministry 141700.

(2) Air Ministry are informing all concerned that in the new area it is essential all aircraft other than aircraft specially briefed by Coastal Command must avoid flying within A/A range of any warship in this area. (D.S.D., 151855B to C. in C.H.F.).

From 1200 G.M.T. 17th August Anglo-Soviet recognition procedure (AGM 111A of 25th May refers) is to be brought into force in the area North of 59 degs. N. and E. of 8 degs. W.

(2) From 0001 G.M.T. 20th August cancel para. 1 above and until further orders the Anglo-Soviet recognition procedure is to be in force in the area north of 65 degs. N. and east of line 8 degs. W.

(3) H.M. Ships are however to be prepared to accept current British U.S. recognition signals from aircraft in addition to Anglo-Soviet recognition signals.

(D.S.D., 151910B to A.I.G.47).

J.W.59.

(A) 2000/15th. (B) CYGNET, MERMAID, PEACOCK, KITE, KEPPEL, WHITEHALL, BLUEBELL, OXLIP, LOCH DUNVEGAN, CHARLOCK, CAMELLIA. HONEYSUCKLE sailing late.

(C) 45. (D) Cdre. in SS. SAMTREDY. (E) Vice Cdre. Master of SAMGARA. (F) Rear Cdre. Master of SAMCALIA.

(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 151926 to C. in C. W.A.).

J.W.59 - SAMTREDY, FORT GLENORA, LUCULUS, SAM LOYAL, SAMCALIA, SAM CONSTANT, SAM GARA, NACELLA, BRITISH PROMISE, EMPIRE BUTTRESS, SAMLYTH, SAMANNAN, SAMSUVA, SAMIDWAY, RATHLIN.

Norwegian ship HERBRAND.

American ships DAVID B. JOHNSON, JOHN LA FARGE, THOMAS DONALDSON, OAKLEY WOOD, ELIJAH, KELLOGG, LEO J. DUSTER, JOSE MARTI, WARREN DE LANO, CLARK HOWELL, THOMAS H. SUNER, CHARLES A. MCALLISTER, EDWARD H. CROCKETT, FRANK GILBRETH, CHARLES DAURAY, JOSEPHINE SHAW, LOWELL, SILAS WIER MITCHELL, EDWARD L. GRANT, F.T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

U.S.S.R. S/C S.1476, 1490, 1507, 1481, 1475, 1498, 1484, 1496, 1488, 1480 and 1492.

M.F./D.F. guards NACELLA, LUCULIS, SAMSUVA, EMPIRE BUTTRESS.

(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, 151928B to C. in C.W.A.).

Engagement
off Berck
Buoy on
13th August.

My 132100 and my 132305.

Further investigation reveals that unit withdrew on approach of and illumination by a strong enemy unit from northward. No gun stoppages occurred. Error is regretted.

(A.G. Dover, 151120B to Admty.).

Operation
"C.X."

Operation "C.X." is cancelled. My 081540 refers. (C. in C.W.A., 151420B to Admty.).

Norwegian
Coast S/M.
patrols.
SATYR.

To assist in attack on shipping in Norwegian waters and on TIRPITZ should she make to the southward,

/ it...

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Norwegian
Coast S/M.
patrols.
SATYR
(Contd.)

it is desired to operate one submarine off the south coast of Norway in the vicinity of Lister, and one off Bodo. The latter submarine can be diverted to attack enemy shipping if Admiralty appreciate likelihood of TIRPITZ sailing south is small.

(2) Subject to the concurrence of C. in C.H.F., F.O.S., is requested to arrange these operations after consultation with H.Q.C.C., the first submarines for patrol to be sailed as soon as practicable.

(3) It is realised that these submarine operations will entail some restriction on anti-U-Boat operations by H.Q.C.C., but the situation will be watched and operations modified if necessary. (V.C.N.S., 151631B to C. in C.H.F.).

Request you will sail SATYR at 1400B/16th August routed through:

S.A. 090 degs. Muckle Flugga 20 S.B. 061 degs. 01' N. 000 degs. 50' E. S.C. 061 degs. 01' N. 002 degs. 53' E. S.D. 059 degs. 05' N. 004 degs. 03' E. to patrol in area between 059 degs. 15' N. 004 degs. 00' E. 057 degs. 50' N. and Norwegian coast.

(2) Passage to be made on the surface at discretion north 060 degs. N., thence diving as much as practicable.

(3) SATYR will be recalled to arrive Lerwick about 30th August.

(4) Until further directions SATYR is to keep one salvo for enemy heavy unit. (Cancelled by F.O.S.191637B).

(F.O.S., 151753B to S.O. S/M. Lerwick).

Operation
"Goodwood"

Request you will arrange destroyer movements as follows. All times B.

(1) CASSANDRA and 8 Russian destroyers leave Scapa passing Gate at 1800/16th and proceed to arrive Skaalefiord 0600/17th and fuel.

(2) SERAPIS, SCORPION, CAMBRIAN escorting ARCHANGEL leave Scapa passing Gate 2200/17th and proceed to arrive position C. 062 degs. 20' N. 005 degs. 30' W. at 1300/18th.

(3) CASSANDRA and 8 Russian destroyers to proceed Skaalefiord a.m. 18th August so as to R/V with ARCHANGEL in position C.

(4) SERAPIS, SCORPION, CAMBRIAN then to Skaalefiord to fuel.

(5) CASSANDRA then to proceed to join C. in C.H.F. who expects to be in 090 degs. Sule Skerry 12 miles, course 347 degs. speed 15½ knots at 1500/18th August with Force 1. Force 2, and following destroyers in company MYNGS, SIOUX, VIGILANT, STORD, KEMPENFELT, ZAMBESI.

(6) On arrival position C at 0400/19th C. in C. H.F. will be joined by remainder of destroyers taking part operation "Goodwood" who will arrive from Skaalefiord. CASSANDRA, KEMPENFELT, ZAMBESI will then be detached to return Scapa. (C. in C.H.F., 151745B to R.A.D.H.F.).

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy
destroyer

One Seetier-class destroyer with minesweeper escort passed southward through sound at 1800 hours yesterday. (N.A. Stockholm 151029 to Admty.).

/ My...

15.8.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy
destroyer
(Contd.)

My 151029.
Destroyer was probably Roeder-class with one gun forward and three aft. Graded A.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 151219 to Admty.).

German
Warships.

(A) ADMIRAL SCHEER at Konigsberg August 6th.
(B) EMDEN at Swinemunde August 8th. Both C 3.
(C) LEIPZIG left Copenhagen August 12th/13th and later August 13th passed northern Born Holm steering north east. A.2.
(D) One or more heavy warship are believed operating from Moon sound against Russian armour in Gulf Riga. B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 151752 to Admty.).

U-Boats

U-Boats
reported.

D/F bearings at 0128Z indicate U-Boat in your vicinity which may have reported you.
(D.D.I.C., 150417B to S.L.166/M.K.S.57).
5 U-Boats proceeded by 2 minesweepers passed Northern through Great Belt p.m. August 6th. Graded B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 151253 to Admty.).
O.I.C. Comment. This report is corroborated by other observed movements.

Technical

German
radio-con-
trolled
Explosive
Motor Boat.

Description and particulars.
(D.N.I., 151614B: A.G.M. 491A).
See Lion Copy.

SECRET OUT

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

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

151614B/August

TO: A.G.M. Home and Abroad 491A Date 15.8.44
 INFO: All U.S. ships and authorities
 concerned in operation OVERLORD
 C. in C. Coastal Command.

NAVAL CODE J

FROM: Admiralty

BASEGRAM.

German radio-controlled explosive motor boat.
 The following information graded generally B.2 cancels paras. 3 and 4 of A.G.M. 435A of 30th July.

2. Craft normally operate in independent groups of three boats composed of one control boat called Kommando boat and two explosive boats.
3. Control and explosive boats are built of plywood and look alike. Length 15-18 feet. Beam about 6 feet. Low freeboard permitting operation only in calm weather.
4. Control boat has crew of three comprising one coxswain in command and two radio controllers.
5. Each explosive boat has a crew of one and carries an explosive charge of 660 lbs., possibly heavier, placed underneath the operator's seat aft. On impact with target the trigger rail round fore part of the boat fires a small charge which sinks the boat and also starts a time fuze which detonates the main charge in either 2 or 4 seconds causing underwater damage to target. Delay of 2 seconds is set for fast targets and 4 seconds for slow or stationary targets. Delay settings are preset ashore. One explosive boat of the group has 2 seconds settings, the other 4 seconds.
6. Maximum speed of control boat 27-30 knots. Maximum speed of explosive boat 25-27 knots. Normal cruising speed of both is 6-10 knots to avoid betraying presence by wake. Range of both possibly up to 60 miles.
7. Group of three normally approaches operation area in line ahead with control boat leading. On approaching target explosive boats are ordered by control boat to draw ahead. At convenient distance from target crews of explosive boats set charges to ready by a safety switch on starboard side and jump overboard. Control boat controls each explosive boat separately and directs each on to target by VHF W/T and then picks up crews in the water.

8. /

TUO

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

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

-2-

8. W/T control is assisted by two guiding lights set fore and aft in explosive boats. Forward light possibly stepped higher is red after light green. This strengthens conclusion that the craft is designed for night operation.

9. If target is missed boats are blown up by a chemical self destructor set to explode between half an hour and an hour and a half. No attempt should be made to render captured explosive boats safe, except by an expert after suitable delay has elapsed.

10. Craft are normally brought to the coast by road or rail on trailers and are launched into water from beaches either by hand or on trailers.

11. Craft are easy to build rapidly and a considerable number probably exists in western Europe ready for operation.

12. Radio-controlled motor boats operating with one-man torpedoes described in AGH 435A para. 2 have laid decoy perspex domes with head and shoulders of operator painted on them to imitate one-man torpedoes.

151614B

N.I.D. 1 for D.N.I. (839)

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(2)
D.F.S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Contr.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(UT) (2)
A.C.N.S.(W)
Asst. Contr. (R & D)
U.W.R.
O.D.(5)
Ops.(2)
O.I.C.(3)
D.N.I.(5)
D.A.U.D.
D.A./S.W.
D.A./S.M.
D.T.M.(2)
D. of P.(3)
D. of P.(Q) (2)
D. of L.D.(3)
D.T.D.(4)
D.T.S.D.(2)
A.M.W.

D.S.R.
Adl. Blake (5)
D.M.W.D.
Adl. Usborne.
D.P.D.
D.N.O.R.
D.B.D.
N.A. 1st S.L.(2)
D.S.D.(9) (2)
I.P.(2)
W.D.
N.I.D. 10 (3)
M.(6)
U.S.N.(4)
M.Books (2)
D.D.O.D.(I) (2)
D.S.O.(2)
W/T Room (3)
C.C.O.(2)
W.R. Book Office (2)
C.N.M.O.(2)
S.D.O. 81 Ashley Gardens.
F.O.C.R.F.
B.N.L.O. (FN)
Hd. of S.W.R. (2)

15.8.1944.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

^{ESA}
BARON~~SEA~~
overdue.

^{ESA}
Overdue shipping BARON~~SEA~~ due Freetown 12th from
Montevideo not arrived.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 151059Z to Admty.)

War Diary.15.8.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.MediterraneanOperation "Dragoon" (D Day)Progress reports.

First waves landed exactly on time. Operations proceeding as scheduled.

(N.C.W.T.F. 150840 to C. in C.Med. S.A.C.Med. Info. Cominch.)

Commandos established ashore Cape Negre meeting opposition from battery inland. Coast defence battery Levant Island captured.

(N.C.W.T.F. 150847.)

Sitrep No. 2. My 0630 (N.T. in W.D.) was Sitrep No. one, initial landings made by 3rd and 45 (246 intended) Divisions with only light resistance. Romeo established ashore. Isle de Levant occupied without resistance. Weather at H hour 9/10th low cloud. Visibility improving.

(General Baehr 150939.)

Situation report No. 410.

1. French Commandos were successfully landed in vicinity of Cape Negre but met some opposition from battery inland.

2. Special service troops landed on Levant Island which is now reported occupied without resistance.

3. First waves of main assaults landed on time. Landings of Third Division in Cavalaire and Pampelonne Bays and of 45th Division in Bougnon Bay encountered only light resistance.

(C. in C.Med. 151402B.)

Landings proceeding on schedule. Opposition light. No enemy air attacks. Very little gunfire support called for after H hour. Intention C.T.F. 87 Assault 264 - A at 1400. Pre H hour bombing and gunfire apparently very effective.

(N:C.W.T.F. 151148.)

Cr No. 1750. Special Navsitintrep. Operation "Dragoon" based on preliminary reports as of 1200.

Weather. Broken low stratum dissipating visibility 4 miles hazy improving. Gentle shifting wind. Negligible sea.

All ships and craft reached their final assault destination as per plan.

Pre H hour bombing completed presumably using pathfinder technique. Airborne landings were on schedule and successful. Command post established at Le Mantin 0715. Many friendly aircraft over assault area recognition and A/A fire discipline excellent, no losses of own aircraft reported; at 0500 landings reported successful at Levant Port Cros and Cape Negre.

At 0920 Levant and Cros Islands reported captured without opposition. SOMERS sunk two enemy corvettes southwest of Cros. Some German survivors rescued. Ps. o.W. reported submarine operating San Raphael area. EDISON made depth charge attack that area. Gunfire support and bombardment reported excellent. 5 red alerts. Attacks not pressed home. P.38s shot down 1 E/A. R.C.M. equipment apparently effectively call enemy signals observed jammed. Landings on all beaches successful with good timing. Resistance light with slight hindrance due to mines and obstacles. Majority of landing waves have touched down with exception of 1 R.U.T. to be landed in assault on beach 264A at 1400. Vessels damaged 3 L.C.Is., 2 mined and 1 damaged by mortar fire. All still afloat (Com. 8th Fleet 151222.)

/Reports...

War Diary.15.8.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Operation "Dragoon".Progress
reports.
(Contd.)

Reports received up until noon today indicate that Commandos and SS force as well as Airborne Force all landed successfully. Also Naval Task Force Commanders report all assault landings on schedule and successfully accomplished against light opposition. Air opposition light and no sea opposition reported up till 1230 hours.
(A.F.H.Q. 151315Z.)

Cositintrep No. 403 part 2.

Landing of French Commandos in vicinity of Cape Negre was successful though some opposition was encountered from battery inland.

2. Levant Island reported occupied without resistance following landing of special service troops.

3. First wave of main assaults landed on time. Only slight opposition against 3rd Div. landings in Cavalaire and Pampelonne Bays and 45th Div. landing in Bougnon Bay.

Part 2, final my 151328 in my 151104.

(C. in C.Med. 151328.)

Situation report No. 411. Operation "Dragoon". Landing of 36th Division on beach either side of Agay also encountered only slight opposition and it was intended to assault beach west of St. Raphael at 1400. Isle Port Cros captured. 2 small enemy ships sunk during initial assault no air attack to 1200 pre H hour bombing and gunfire reported very effective.

(C. in C.Med. 152200B.)

Note. Paras. 2, 3, 4 see Mediterranean.

G.2 summary No. 5 (extract.)

2. Operations: enemy resistance reported relatively light in most assault areas negligible in others. Limited beach and under-water obstacles. All enemy resistance Levant and Port Cros Island terminated. Only slight opposition reported area Le Muy.

(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/15.)

French ports P.R.U. Toulon 0840/14th all boats still present intelligence. in harbour of which two appear operational.

(C. in C.Med. 150922 to S. & A. Operation "Dragoon")

Following from P.R.U. at 1710/14. North of line 25 (?now) covered. Shipping change Toulon since 1125 hours today. 2 E.Vs. 210 feet anchored off shore east of port seen returning and entering southern entrance of harbour. T.B. POMONE departed from Z.P.41 since 1010 hours.

(C. in C.Med. 151112B to Com. 8th Fleet.)

Following from P.R.U. 1210/14. Marseilles shipping change since 13. Internal movement of H.A.V. 300 feet M.1155 from anchorage off N.W. entrance to port to W.21. M/V 230 feet from Z.E. 52 to Z.14/15 Toulon part cover shipping change since 1010 hours today. H.A.V. 340 feet is now seen berthed at K.21 departed two E.Vs. 210 feet from X.P.24 and X.O.28. Both E.Vs. 210 seen with an F-Boat anchored off shore east of port at Z.94/95 (corrupt group) 4249 France 1/100000 sheet 15 R. Port de Bone shipping change since 13 Aug. arrived one auxiliary 120 feet. Three F-Boats and 5 S/Barges 12 feet are present. Three empty minelaying F-Lighters present at main quay to canal maritime where hostile mines are seen.

(C. in C.Med. 151636B to Com. 8th Fleet.)

/Air...

15.8.1944.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Operation "Dragoon".

Air Operations. Summary of operations for period ending 1800/14th August. Summary of effective sorties. Total sorties 1908. Strategic Bombers 595, Fighters 144. Tactical: 42 wing (incomplete) 97. 57 wing (incomplete) 144. 12 Tac. (incomplete) 430 D.A.F. 370. Coastal 59. Balkan 57. Photo wing (incomplete) 12. Claims: In combat 1-0-0. Missing: 1 Wellington, 4 B.24s, 1 P.38, 2 P.51s, 1 Kittyhawk, 1 Mustang and 1 Beaufighter. Strategic attacked coastal defence positions along the French/Italian coast and strafed radar installation. Tactical attacked guns, bridges and radar installation in Southern France and Tactical targets in the Italian battle area. Coastal attacked harbours and shipping along French/Italian coast. Strategic details. During day 14th Aug. 138/139 B.17s and 400/455 B.24s attacked approx. 50 coastal defence guns in the Toulon area and Savona/Genoa area with generally fair results. A total of 1439 tons were dropped. 4 B.24s are missing. 31 P.38s and 113/114 P.51's strafed radar stations and coast watchers South France and N.W. Italy. Results were very good with many stations and installations damaged. 7 gun positions were also silenced. 4 aggressive enemy fighters were encountered near Toulon and claims are 1-0-0. 1 P.38 and 2 P.51s are missing. Tactical Details. Night 13/14th Aug. 12 A.20s on armed R/C of Po Valley scattered lights causing several explosions. 6 Bostons and 7 Baltimores carried out armed R/C of Northern Italy and shipping R/C along east coast. Lights were bombed inland causing fires and barges bombed near Po Estuary but results not observed. 7 Beaufighters patrolled without incident. 25 C.47s evacuated casualties and dropped supplies. During day 16th August: 144 B.25s and 97 B.26s attacked coastal defence guns in Southern France with good results. 87 P.47s, 16 P.38s and 49 Spitfires on armed R/C bombed bridges and guns and strafed radar station in Southern France with good results. Coastal Details. Venturas and Wellingtons attacked Cannes, Sestri Levante and Imperia, bursts were seen in target area. (H.Q.M.A.A.F. 151017B.)

C.T.G. 86.3.3. C.T.G. 86.3.3 disembarking Ajaccio 15th August. (C. in C.Med. Advanced 151126 to C.T.F. 86, (R) S.O. Force P, C.T.G. 86.3.3.)

Convoy A.M.2. R.D.O. Naples pass to last two addressees. Sailing despatch. A.M. 1. Sailed at 2000/15 S.N. 2 consisting of PAINE WINGATE, FRANCIS MARION, ROALD AMUNDSEN, ORPHEUS, ESNEH, U.S.Y.F. 447. 2. 7½. 3. Route No. 14. 4. E.T.A. position CA 200800. 5. B.X. 6. "Landowner" 421 high. 7. B. 8. U.S.S. IMPLICIT (S.O.) U.S.S. MAINSTAY, U.S.S. INCREDIBLE, U.S.Y.M.S. 373, 359, 250. (Comnob Oran 152113B.)

/S.A.C....

15.8.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Operation "Dragoon"

S.A.C. and
C. in C. Med.

S.A.C. and C. in C. Med. will sail from Ajaccio at 0800/16th August in (KIMBERLEY?) for assault area returning to same have route AL, repeat KR, CB, repeat C.M.* S.of A. 27 knots codeword (? "Vamp") (corrupt group?) 86.
2. Communications.
(C. in C. Med. (Adv.) 152221.)* As received.

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TuesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanGeneral

Joint Naval, Army, R.A.F. Intell. Appreciation. Extract. Three. Photographic R/C 14th August, revealed Piraeus clearly further K.T. convoy imminent. (C. in C. M.E. 151300C.)

Aegean. Capt. S.1st's 150938* for PortoLago read Syra. 2. K.T. ship still present Syra a.m. 15th by P.R. (F.O.L.E.M. 151707C to 1st S/M F. Capt. S.1st.) * N.T. in W.D.

Flying restrictions. 1. M.S.G.O.53 part 3, para. 21 - following shows flying restrictions over ports in Med. Station. A. B. Details of restrictions on Naples, Leghorn, Ancona, Piombino, Oran, Algiers, Maddalena, Ajaccio, Calvi, Bastia, Porto Vecchio, San Stefano, Torre Annunziato, Palermo, Taranto, Brindisi, Bari, Malta harbour, Alex., Port Said, Suez, Haifa, Beirut, Tripoli (incomprehensible without reference to M.S.G.O.) D. Remaining ports in allied hands, except those specially designated in assault areas where special rules apply are unrestricted flying areas where only aircraft seen to be hostile by appearance or actions are to be engaged in accordance with S.P.O. 2312. (4) 26th. 2. Details of boundaries of restricted flying areas are published locally. (C. in C. Med. 151710B.)

Situation report No. 411. 2. M.T.B. patrolling off Genoa night 13/14th August, sighted nothing. 3. Centre gap in block ship at Leghorn now 160 feet by 26 feet. 24 (?mines) swept off Leghorn during further clearance operation. 4. (P.67) CURIE reports attacking 3000 tons escorted merchant ship with torpedoes at 2216/3rd in position 043° 07' N. 005° 34' E. 1 possible hit. (C. in C. Med. 152200B.) Note: For para. 1 see Operation "Dragoon".

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TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U-Boat considered destroyed 12th Aug. It is most necessary that as much evidence as possible of damage to U-Boats be collected by escorts your 141010 refers.
(2) Request immediate report of details of any fragments picked up.
(C. in C. E.F. 150327Z to S.O. Force 66)
The few objects seen near oil by escorts which may have been entrails have been below surface and in spite of repeated efforts by boat and swimmers in Lopy trail nothing has been recovered.
(2) After encouragement by both charges and Hedgehog last night I do not think anything else is likely to appear on surface from a Hedgehog hit in 2000 fathoms but search is being maintained until darkness.
(3) Oil is now more diffused and it still smells strongly and arrives on surface at same spot. Samples of oil which Engineer officers confirm is diesel are in TAFF.
(S.O. Force 66, 151045Z to C. in C. E.F.)

U-Boat dispositions. Areas A.D.1, BB. 1, BB.2, BB.3, V.P.1, V.P.2, C.B.1, C.B.2, C.B.3, D.B.4, K.D.3 and K.D.4, degs. of U-Boat threat W scale of air escort 5.
Area A.D.2 and A.D.3 degs. of U-Boat threat W scale of air escort 4 area K.D.1 and K.D.2.
U-Boat (German) possibly sunk by FINDHORN in position 064 degs. 003 degs. 45' S. 052 degs. (7058') W. on 12th August. Scale of U-Boat threat (?X) scale of air escort 4.
(C. in C. E.F. 150330Z)
My 150330. Amend area V.P.1 and 2 to read scale of U-Boat threat 7 scale air escort 3.
(C. in C. E.F. 150514Z). / U-Boat report.

Transfer of white oils at Chittagong. Further to my 071039. The opinion expressed in para. 3 was based on the following factors.
(A) The berthing of T2 tankers in the open roadstead of Chittagong even during the fine weather from November to April cannot be considered a desirable operation.
(B) The depth of water in the approaches appears from the latest check survey to be such that during the "fine" season there will be occasions when there may be less than six feet of water under the bottom of T.2 tankers. 6 feet of water under the bottom is considered to be the minimum practicable requirement since entire absence of swell cannot be assured at all times.
(2) The actual depths cannot be confirmed until a further survey is carried out in fine weather.
(3) If, however, S.A.C.S.E.A. decides that this scheme should be proceeded with despite the limitations and objections referred to in para. 1(a) and (b) all possible steps will be taken to implement this scheme.
(4) It must, nevertheless, be borne in mind that the Palk Straits scheme will also be required and that therefore the allocation of available equipment should be adjusted accordingly.
My 081353 not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. E.F. 150936Z to Admt)

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Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

L.A.A.
defences,
Ceylon.

Cossea 133. 15th Aug.
Following from Chiefs of Staff.
Ref. Seacos 210.
We concur in temporary reduction of L.A.A. defences
in Ceylon, as proposed in your para. 1.
(A.M.S.S.O. 152243Z to S.A.C.S.E.A.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U/B dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q., 151247Z, Cominch, 151603Z.)

Convoy T.C.U.35 Diversion.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. and R. 151411Z to C.T.G.21.9).

U/B incidents. First report since my 121930 para. B. Prior to 142130 Card escort attacked U-boat contact 45.02 N., 24.40 W. debris observed. All times Z. Para. C. Prior to 150407 BOGUE A/C had several Radar indications vicinity 45.09 N., 47.40 W. 150732 Core A/C had Radar contact 35.23 N. 55.35 W. followed by Sonobuoy indication 151045 and 2 escorts made attack prior to 151735. (Cominch, 152052Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest August 14th.
938. 8. Active patrolling continues Yakumul area reporting nil major contacts: re-grouping our forces proceeds. P.T. boats had negative barge patrol off shore night 12th/13th and strafed camp areas Daudriwad River mouth.
9. 2 Australian Fairmiles caught large Japanese S/M surfaced Warsa Bay near Northern extremity Biak Island night 13th and attacked but S/M escaped.
11. United States S/M successfully attacked convoy comprising one freighter, 5 escorts, entering Davao Gulf from East mid-morning 13th.
(G.H.Q., S.W.P.A., 150540Z.)

U/BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. A. (1) A/C G/53 attacked surfaced U-boat course 160°, with D/Cs at 2205Z/14th in 47° 22' N. 04° 38' W.
(2) Two ships attacked at 1700Z/14th in 50° 55' N. 04° 45' W.
(3) Catalina A/C attacked U-boat at 0835Z/12th in 75° 20' N., 80° 50' E.

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Tuesday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

- Submarine attack and sighting summary. (contd).
- (4) U.S.S.R. Dr. URITSKI sighted U-boat at 1131Z 12th in 74° 45' N. 83° 45' E.
 (5) Catalina A/C sighted surfaced U-boat at 1215Z 12th in 70° 40' N., 63° 15' E.
 (6) M/S RASKOVA and 2 U.S.S.R Minesweepers sunk by U-boat at 1730Z/12th in approx. 72° 30' N. 66° 00' E.
- (7) U.S.S.R. Patrol craft sighted U-boat at 0730Z/13th in 73° 33' N. 79° 20' E.
 (8) U-boat sighted by shore watchers at 0700Z/10th in 73° 35' N. 81° 05' E.
 (9) U.S.S.R. Dr. attacked by surfaced U-boat at 0825Z/11th in 73° 47' N., 79° 40' E.
 (10) A/C. sighted U-boat at 0619Z/15th in 64° 20' N., 05° 00' E. Para. C. A/C and H.M. Ship attacked U-boat with bombs and D/Cs respectively at 1705Z/14th in 50° 55' N., 04° 48' W. (D.D.I.C., 151221B).

U/B dispositions. Estimates. (D.D.I.C., 151402B, 151406B).

- U/Bs attacked. My 221059 July, 1942.
- At 1430B/9 Liberator C/53 attacked submerged U-boat with depth charges in 46° 50' N., 3° 08' W. Bubbles and oil were seen after attack. E.G.2 arrived at position of attack soon afterwards but failed to get asdic contact. Echo sounder trace was obtained by WREN and LOCH KILLIN and attack made at 2158/9. At 0310/10 radar contact was obtained and on investigation whole crew of U.608 was recovered from dinghies.
 - At 1158/10 U.S. Liberator L/110 attacked U-boat in 47° 15' N., 4° 35' W. E.G.11 homed to position and obtained explosions from three Hedgehog attacks. Echo sounder trace indicated possible U-boat on bottom.
 - At 2057/10 E.G.2 engaged surfaced U-boat with gunfire at range of 11,000 yards. U-boat dived. At 0235/11 same U-boat was attacked on surface in 46° 09' N., 3° 10' W. by Sunderland P/461, and straddle with depth charges claimed. E.G.2 closed position and U.385 surfaced 3,000 yards ahead of Group at 0636/11 abandoned ship and sank.
 - At 0014/13 Sunderland A/461 straddled and sank U.270 with depth charges in 46° 19' N. 2° 58' W. Survivors were picked up by E.G.11.
 - At 0615/12 Halifax F/502 attacked one of two U-boats sighted on surface in 45° 42' N., 1° 25' W. Straddle claimed with five 600 lb. A/S bombs. (D.A.U.D., 152022B).