

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

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

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

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

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

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Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

1. The continued unavailability of Antwerp for M.T. ships to discharge has necessitated the retention of a number of L.S.Ts., L.C.Ts., L.C.Is., in "Overlord" instead of releasing them for the Japanese Theatre.

North Sea.

2(a) The 11th M.T.B. Flotilla, Lt. F.W.P. Bourne, D.S.C., R.N.V.R., last night fought a very gallant action off Ymuiden with the escorts of a coastal convoy. M.T.Bs. 347 and 360 were sunk with 18 killed, wounded or missing, and on the other side two medium sized merchant ships were torpedoed, and two trawlers badly, and one slightly, damaged by gunfire.

(b) The 30th M.T.B. Flotilla was also in touch with other enemy vessels.

(c) A/C of No.16 group dive-bombed two enemy convoys but claim no hits.

(d) Another 200 ft. of the Oil Quay at Ostend have been closed, but owing to the weather again no work could be carried out on the blockships.

Channel.

3. Calais fell to the Canadians at 0845 to-day.

Northern Waters.

4. The request of A.C.O.S. for defences for Lerwick has been rejected.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Adriatic

5. L.C.G's bombarded Ploca harbour in the Neretva Channel (Yugoslavia) p.m. to-day; they were accurately engaged by shore batteries as they withdrew, but sustained no damage.

Landing at Poros.
(Operation "Edgehill").

6(a) Commando troops, Greek troops and stores were successfully landed this forenoon at Poros, in the Saronic Gulf, on the East coast of Greece, by a force under S.O. 5th Minesweeping Flotilla, consisting of the 5th M/S.F. and 5 landing craft, escorted by 2 M.L. Flotillas and 2 H.D.M.Ls. covered by 5 coastal craft and supported by two destroyers.

/ (b) ...

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SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Landing at
Poros.
(Operation
"Edgehill").
(Contd.)

6(b) Troops and stores landed without incident. By 1410 Poros W/T station was in action and an S.N.O. was installed later.
(c) No blocking or demolitions have been carried out and the bay and harbour appear to be clear of mines. A searched channel has been established.
(d) The advanced coastal force base has been moved from Kithera and was established at Poros to-day without incident.

Levant.

7(a) KHEDIVE, SEARCHER and PURSUER of Force 120 sailed from Alexandria to-day for the U.K.
(b) BLACK PRINCE bombarded Maleme Airport, Crete last night. Fire from a shore battery caused superficial splinter damage.
(c) AURORA reports fires and demolitions in progress on Calata Airfield and large fires in the Laccania area.
(d) Middle East A/C have shot down several enemy transport A/C engaged in evacuation of the islands during the past few days.

RHODES

Australia and New Zealand

8. Last night several A/C made two ineffective attacks on shipping off south-west Morotai. One or two of the enemy were shot down.

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Nomenclature of convoys. Your 291030 concur that uniform Naval/Military code letter for ports are desirable but do not consider that it is practicable to marry present War Office system with existing Naval system as former required designation of every U.K. port and in certain cases of specific groups of docks whilst latter to economise in letters merely designates areas in U.K.

(2) New Naval system is in conformity with world wide Admiralty system, and it is claimed has following advantages:

(A) It will be self evident letters being readily associated with areas or ports.

(B) It retains the majority of letters used to date for "Overlord" convoys with which naval service is now familiar.

(C) Only three letters are used for each convoy.

(3) Considerable thought has been given to this matter and my new proposals which should cover all likely requirements during the remainder of the campaign are believed to represent the simplest and best answer to this question.

(A.N.C.X.F., 011147B to S.H.A.E.F.).

Americans to take over minesweeping from Brest to d'Antifer. A.N.C.X.F. 132145B, 181247A, 271247 September and 122055B August. Admiralty 191904 August. Recommend C.T.F.125 be responsible for mine-sweeping maintenance and clearance of coastal and approach channels between Brest and Cap d'Antifer inclusive, employing French trawlers, U.S. Y.M.S. and such British Forces as may be assigned and required. Comdr. M/S. West relieve Captain M/S Seine and exercise over-all control this area. Consider this proposal will simplify responsibility and control and will also economise on forces and personnel available. C.T.F.125 is prepared to assume these responsibilities with Comdr. M/S West at any time preferably but not necessarily on completion initial clearance Seine to Rouen.

(C.T.F. 125, 011901A to A.N.C.X.F.).

British organisation on Far Shore. F.O.B.A.As. 291129. Request following may be made as a General A.Z. Basegram begins:-
(1) Consequent upon A.M. 433 A.Z. of 20th Sept. abolishing the sea limits of the Assault Area as a separate command the following orders affecting

the British Assault Area are cancelled and are to be destroyed.

B.A.A.S.O's. O.N.B.A's. O.N.C.O.B.A's.

(2) Commanders in Chief Home Commands and Admiral Commanding Dover now have operational control as far as the continental coast, except as stated in para.5.

(3) Lateral boundaries between Naval Officers in charge of sub-commands are as follows:-

Arromanches, from 49 degs. 21.4' N. 00 degs. 48' W. to east bank of River Orne known as East Calvados Area.

Dieppe, from Cap d'Antifer to Mers (1 deg. 23' 30" E.).

Boulogne, from Mers to Belgian border.

Note:- The U.S.S. rea of Havre lies between Arromanches and Dieppe sub-commands.

(4) Pending the issue of further orders the following information is promulgated:-

/(a)...

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- British organisation on Far Shore. (Contd.)
- (a) F.O.B.A.A. (Flag Officer British Assault Area) has headquarters at Clinique, Tombereaux, Mont St. Aignan outside Rouen. In addition to the normal administrative functions of a Flag Officer in Charge, Flag Officer British Assault Area directs the opening of liberated ports, local minesweeping and local defence in the British Section of the north coast of France.
- (b) Naval Officers in charge and Resident Naval Officers are established as follows:-
Arromanches (Arrow.), Port En Bassin (Peb.), Caen and Ouistreham (Canoe.), Dieppe (Sub-command Naval Party 1686), Boulogne or other Pas de Calais port (Sub-command N.O.1503).
- (c) The principal port of entry for the British Area and terminal for cross-channel convoys to Bay of Seine ports is the artificial unloading port at Arrow.
- (d) Port War Signal Stations are established at Arrow (49 degs. 20.5' N. 0 degs. 37' W.) and at Dieppe (49 degs. 55' 40" N. 01 degs. 04' 40" E.) and Boulogne (50 degs. 44' 57" N. 01 degs. 35' 52" E.).
- (e) Naval Officers in Charge are the sailing authorities for their areas and are responsible for making air protection signals. Attention is drawn to A.M. 151251 (415 A.Z.).
- (f) Captain M/S Seine is responsible for mine clearance in the approach channels, coastal channels and harbours between 1 deg. 20" W. and the France/Belgium border including Havre. A.M. 446 A.Z. of 24th September 1944. Headquarters AMBITIOUS in Arromanches moving to Havre about 8th October, 1944. Signals reporting mines in the area are to be repeated to Captain M/S Seine.
- (g) Fishing is permitted in the Bay of Seine except within 12 miles of Havre.
- (h) ADVENTURE is moored in Arrow. and has repair party (N.B. 1526) capable of dealing with minor repairs of an urgent nature.
- (i) Visitors accommodation is available at G.2 Camp Meuvaines (49 degs. 20' N. 0 degs. 34' W.) for officers and ratings.
- (j) Despatch boat (M.L.) service runs between Whale Island and Arromanches.
- (k) General messages issued by Flag Officer British Assault Area are designated 'Y' series.
- (l) F.O.B.A.A. communications flight (781 Y flight) is established at Le Madrillet, 4 miles, S.W. of Rouen. (A.N.C.X.F., 011923A to Admty.).

Administrative dependence of French and Belgian ports. Subject to the concurrence of the Commanders in Chief concerned it is proposed that administrative requirements of those continental ports which lie opposite the Dover Command shall be represented as follows:-

- (a) French ports through C. in C. Portsmouth.
(b) Belgian ports through C. in C. Nore.

(2) This will have the advantage that F.O.B.A.A. and C.O.M. Belgium will each have only one Administrative Authority to deal with.

Para.6. of Admiralty Message 022132 August refers.

(A.N.C.X.F., 012035A to V.A. Dover, C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth).

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HOME COMMANDS

Defence of United Kingdom.

Lerwick defences to be withdrawn. Your 291207 paragraph 2 confirmed. (A.C.N.S.(H), 011356A to A.C.O.S.).

Movements

DIADEM. Intend to transfer my Flag to H.M.S. DIADEM on her arrival. (F.O.10th C.S., 010920A to DIADEM).

REVENGE. Request you will reply to A.M. 301947. It is considered that 1 fleet tug and the tug DIRECTOR will be acceptable for Fleet practices during October. (C. in C.H.F., 011108 to A.C.O.S.).

IMPLACABLE. A requirement exists for the training of Mosquito aircraft in D.L.T. during the period from 9th to 23rd October inclusive. (2) Arrangements for this training had previously been made with F.O.C.T. but the Scapa area is acceptable. (3) Request IMPLACABLE may be made available. This training should take priority other than over operational requirements. (A.C.N.S.(H), 011325A to C. in C.H.F.).

MALAYA. Sea conditions in Q.Z.L.43 are unsuitable for the trials being carried out by MALAYA. Proposals in C. in C. Rosyth's 301630, to Admiralty and MALAYA only, are not acceptable. (2) Air Ministry have decided that Loch Striven provides the best facilities. (3) C. in C. Rosyth is requested to sail MALAYA for Loch Striven as early as practicable. (4) C. in C.H.F. and C. in C.W.A. are requested to provide escort as arranged between them, C. in C.H.F. informing C. in C. Rosyth when this will be available. (5) C. in C. Rosyth pass to MALAYA. (A.C.N.S.(H), 011338A to C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C.H.F., F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Admiralty 011338 not to all.

Com. (D) H.F. is requested to sail two destroyers A.M. Monday 2nd, October to R/V with MALAYA off May Island at 2000A/2nd October and escort her towards Clyde. (2) C. in C.W.A. is requested to provide escort to relieve Home Fleet destroyers in latitude 58 degs. N. in Minches. (3) On relief destroyers are to return to Scapa. (C. in C.H.F., 012335A to Cs. in C. Rosyth, W.A., Com (D) H.F.).

KING GEORGE V. On completion of practice about 1900A Thursday 5th October KING GEORGE V is to sail from Scapa area and proceed by Minches and standard route to Plymouth.

/ Speed...

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KING GEORGE V. (Contd.) Speed made good approximately 20 knots passing Smalls at 2230A/6th October and arriving Plymouth Gate at 1000A/7th October.
 (3) Draught on arrival not to be more than 32 feet 6 inches.
 (4) Com.(D) Home Fleet is requested to provide two destroyers to escort KING GEORGE V as far as 55 degs. North then to proceed to Greenock to escort IMPLACABLE to Scapa.
 (5) C. in C.W.A. and C. in C. Plymouth are requested to arrange escort for KING GEORGE V as necessary south of 55 degs. N.
 (6) Fighter protection not provided.
 (7) KING GEORGE V may give leave at Plymouth until completion of docking subject to concurrence of C. in C. Plymouth.
 (8) Admiralty 220416 and 252111 neither to all refer.
 (C. in C.H.F., 011603A to KING GEORGE V, C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, Com. (D) H.F.).

205th and 206th M.S.Fs. (1) 205th and 206th M.S.Fs. can be released as from 10th October.
 (2) If both these Flotillas are released it will not be possible to allocate an M.M.S. Flotilla from my forces to C. in C. Plymouth for "Nestegg".
 (3) X.F. Number 1804/X/0500/43 of 27th September Table B column four future allocation of M/S Forces not to all addressees also refers.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 011940A to Admty.).

Non-release of L.S.Ts. Signed Eisenhower cite SHGDS 011430. Fwd. 16520. Signal from me Fwd. 15029 dated 16th September refers.

Release of craft from "Overlord" duties reviewed yesterday and following decisions made.

(a) Releases of British and U.S./L.S.T. which you were informed would take place 1st October cannot be implemented and no releases can be made on 15th October.

(b) 12 U.S. L.C.I.(L) will be released 1st October and further 12 15th October.

(c) 18 U.S. L.C.T. (5) and (6) will be released on 1st October for overhaul in U.K. prior to shipment across the Atlantic in L.S.T. as and when the latter are released from "Overlord".

During this period of overhaul these L.C.T. will remain on call from S.H.A.E.F. to meet any emergency demand.

(d) L.C.V.(P) have been released as required. Reasons for retention of L.S.T. are:-

(A) British build up movement will continue at the rate of five sailings per day during October requiring a total of 22 L.S.T. (British) in service.

(B) C.U. convoys 40 and 41 with two U.S. Divisions are being diverted from continent to U.K. for discharge owing to full occupation of port facilities in France. Onward movement to France will require U.S. L.S.T. in addition to requirement for continued U.S. build-up and emergency priority shipment of

/ freight...

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements.

Non-release of L.S.Ts. (Contd.) freight and ammunition, which owing to shortage of port facilities requires over-the-beach discharge. 74 L.S.T must be kept in service. (C) Delay in capture of Antwerp with consequent limitation of number M.T. ship berths available thereby making continuance of over-the-beach discharge essential. Further review of situation regarding releases of landing ships and craft will be made at meeting to be held about 20th October when it is hoped it may be possible to release some (?rail) fitted L.S.T. owing to forecast diminution in rolling stock shipment about 1st November, A.N.C.X.F. has agreed above. (S.H.A.E.F., 012000A to Admty., A.N.C.X.F., Comnaveu).

Operations

Situation Reports.

Canadians capture Calais. Following received and is passed to you for information. Addressed A.N.C.X.F. from N.L.O. Northern Group of Armies. Calais - all fighting ceased 0845/1st. T.O.O. 011025 ends. (A.N.C.X.F., 011126A to V.A. Dover, Capt. M/S. East, F.O.B.A.A.).

Naval. Amend my 302250 para.C to read as follows:-
28th September.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Troops.</u>	<u>Vehicles.</u>	<u>Stores.</u>	<u>Pol.</u>
Calvados	1523	286	7669	2677
Dieppe	1158	-	5610	-
Ostend	-	-	228	-
British total	2681	286	13,507	2677
29th September				
Calvados	1481	976	6533	5665
Dieppe	1170	-	4907	-
Ostend	-	-	1388	-
British total	2651	976	12,818	5665
Cherbourg	-	94	11,403	909
Beaches	6420	2017	20,933	596
Brittany	-	17	3823	320
Small Ports	-	-	4098	-
U.S. Total	6420	2128	40,257	1825
Combined Totals	9071	3104	53,085	7490

(Adm. Ramsay, 011457A to Admty.).

Operations

North Sea.

Patrols. (a) Unit F.T.1, M.T.Bs. 361, 358 is to sail to assume patrol in vicinity of Dunkirk A.W. buoy at 1945 today Sunday. (2) Object interception of enemy small craft encountered.

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Patrols (3) Unless in contact with the enemy unit is to
(Contd.) leave patrol at 0545/2 and return to harbour.
(V.A. Dover, 011158A to S.O. M.T.Bs., S.O. 5 M.T.B.
Flot.).

After reaching position 090 degs. Sumburgh Head 5 miles at
2359A/4th, H.M. S/M P.254 (SELENE) is to proceed on the surface
at C.Os. discretion through (T.A.) 060 degs. 01' N. 000 degs. 30'
E. thence patrol line length 30 miles direction 180 degs. 000
degs. mid point 058 degs. 45' N. 001 degs. 15' E.

(Capt. S.9, 011435A to SELENE).

My 011158A. Unit F.T.1 is to remain in harbour at one
hour's notice.

(V.A. Dover, 011819A to S.O. 5th M.T.B.F.).

Dover minesweeping. Dover Forces. Minesweeping report. Sunday
October 1st. Pluto channel completed for L.L. and
S.A. between two miles east of southern extremity
of the ridge to the ten fathom line on the Bassure
de Baas. Nothing found. Expect to complete tomorrow, Monday,
and then continue sweeping daily until Pluto is laid.
(V.A. Dover, 012052A to A.N.C.X.F.).

11th M.T.B. Flotilla's action. Operation by 11th M.T.B. Flotilla (S.O. Lt.
F.W.P. Bourne D.S.C., R.N.V.R.) on night of 30th
September/1st October.

(1) 1st Division M.T.B. 351 (S.O.), 360, 349.
2nd Division M.T.B. 347, 350.

Unit ordered to sweep south on convoy route from Ijmuiden to
Hook, to arrive initial position 2200.

(2) Weather - wind west 1-2, sea and swell 12, visibility
2-3 miles. Drizzling rain.

(3) At 2333 a probable Heinkel passed over the Unit. At 2345
in position 220 degs. Ijmuiden 7 and a half miles unit sighted a
convoy to southward which was subsequently estimated to contain
3 or 4 M/Vs., 1 two funnelled destroyer, 4 or more T.L.Cs. a
number of Trawlers and at least one E/R boat.

(4) Unit shadowed convoy and at 0035 First Division was ordered
to fire a zone on the leading M/V. Enemy's course and speed
035 degs. 9 knots. Range by Radar 1800 yds. Depth of water
8 fathoms. One large explosion seen between two streams of
tracer coming from the target and 0038 a big mushroom of black
smoke was seen in the target area.

(5) While disengaging, M.T.B.360 was hit, and stopped, while
351 attacked a trawler with gunfire and caused fires to break
out on bridge and stern.

(6) Meanwhile Second Division had closed in to attack a 2500 ton
motor ship of high freeboard, but M.T.B.347 was hit and both
torpedo tubes put out of action, and her steering jammed, and
350 pressed on alone through the enemy screen and fired her
torpedoes at 0041, range 500 yards. Two large explosions one
amidships and another on the quarter of the target were seen by
347, followed by a column of smoke.

/ (7)...

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- 11th M.T.B. Flotilla's action. (Contd.)
- (7) M.T.B. 350 disengaged to starboard and found herself moving down the centre of the convoy. She passed a destroyer to starboard which did not open fire, and several T.L.Cs. to port which did, and she finally poured two pans of Oerlikon into a small trawler at 25 yards range, causing two large fires.
- (8) Finally M.T.B.347, having described a circle with steering jammed, and having attacked a third trawler and unintentionally rammed a small coaster, was abandoned and shortly afterwards sank. All Confidential Books had been thrown overboard. Survivors were rescued by M.T.B.351.
- (9) M.T.B.360 caught fire after many hits from 4 inch shells, her Confidential Books must have been destroyed in her blazing wheelhouse, and it regretted that she too, sank. Survivors were rescued by M.T.B.349.
- (10) In this spirited action it is considered that a medium sized M/V was hit by 1 torpedo, and a second hit by two torpedoes, that two trawlers were badly damaged and one trawler slightly damaged by gunfire.
- (11) Casualties (A) Killed - 1 Petty Officer, (B) missing believed killed - 1 officer, 5 ratings, (C) missing - 2 ratings, (D) Wounded 2 officers and 7 ratings.
- (12) Damage: M.T.B.347 and 360 sunk, remainder operational within 24 hours.
 (C. in C. Nore, 012243A to Admty.).
- 30th M.T.B. Flotilla.
- (1) Operation by 30th Flotilla (S.O. Lieut. P. Magnum R.N.V.R.) night 30/1st October.
- (2) 1st Division M.T.B.473, 472, 475. 2nd Division M.T.B. 480, 471, 476.
- (3) Unit arrived in initial position at 2200 and commenced sweep south to Molen Gat thence south round Noorder Maaks. At 0039 sighted one trawler and 3 T.L.C. III's inshore. These were ignored in view of convoy reported approaching from southward. At 0210 obtained Radar plot of 6 vessels. Course was set to intercept, but enemy increased speed to 15 knots and entered Texel. These were probably M class minesweepers. On losing contact unit continued to sweep south and at 0439 gained Radar contact in position 240 Texel 8. Before plot could be obtained a large trawler passed within 200 yards of unit without sighting. Unit altered to starboard and 1st Division prepared to carry out Zone torpedo attack 2nd Division ordered to stop to await developments. At 0414 gun coaster sighted to starboard and 1st Division fired a Zone at 1000 yards range. Torpedoes observed to be running correctly and unit withdrew under heavy but inaccurate fire from gun coaster. An explosion followed but it is not considered that this was a hit on the coaster in view of large time lag. Owing to approaching daylight unit disengaged to westward and set course for Base. Whilst manœuvring at 0409 M.T.B. 471 came into collision with M.T.B.480 due to not hearing a signal on loud hailer. Weather. Wind force 4 heavy swell. Visibility variable.
 (C. in C. Nore, 012334A to Admty.).

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Patrol

Pins cover - night 1st/2nd October.
 G.D.1, VIDETTE Z.9 south, G.D.2, HARGOOD Z.109.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 01112A to Admiralty, C. in
 C. Nore, V.A. Dover, C. in C. Portsmouth,
 A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.i/c. Portland,
 F.O.i/c Milford Haven, F.O.i/c Falmouth, F.O.
 i/c Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on
 Broadcasts "HD" and "CN", in area "C", HORNET, Capt.
 (S) 5, H.M.S. VERNON, Portsmouth, H.M.S. AGGRESSIVE,
 H.M.S. ATTACK, F.O.i/c Portland, N.O.i/c Newhaven,
 VIDETTE, HARGOOD.).

OperationsWest Coast France

Patrol

Joined IROQUOIS 0347/1 nothing sighted during
 night. Force 26 patrolling between HH and 047
 degs. 07' N. until 2000 then in accordance with
 your 301919. Fuel remaining at 0800 BLYSKAWICA
 57%, IROQUOIS 41%.
 Weather report 2662, 3070.
 (BLYSKAWICA, 010823A to C. in C. Plymouth).

Force 27.

Maintain speed of advance 22 knots until further
 orders.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 011227A to Force 27).
 Cancel my 011227A.
 Proceed at reduced speed as requisite.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 011800A to Force 27).

Opas 17.

(B) 045 degs. 50' N. 001 degs. 50' W. (C) 046 degs. 25' N. 002
 degs. 10' W.
 Intend to call at Sables D'Olonne and Ile D'Yeu A.M./2nd. Thence
 proceeding north westward.
 (Force 27, 011926A to C. in C. Plymouth).

OperationsWestern Approaches.Suspected
U-Boat.

D/F bearings on 4020 kc/s at 2332Z September 30th,
 indicate U-Boat in area within 100 miles of 50 N.
 21.30 W.
 (D.D.I.C., 011012A to Escorts of H.X.F. 310 and
 O.N.F. 256).

Patrols

After detaching from O.N.S.33 on crossing 53 degs.
 30' N. Force 33 is to proceed to search in the
 following areas:-

E.G.19 area given in my 291334, paragraph 2, E.G.15, area E.1,
 E.G.2 area E.2, E.G.31 area E.3.

(2) All aircraft sightings and A.S.V. contacts inside the areas
 are to be investigated.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Western Approaches

Patrols (Contd.) (3) Should a reliable sighting or contact be reported within two hours steaming from the outside of the areas the nearest group is to proceed forthwith to investigate.
(4) On all occasions of proceeding to investigate C. in C.W.A., is to be informed, giving position, course and speed of the group by immediate signal.
(C. in C.W.A., 011310 to Force 33).

Escort for AQUITANIA. My 291445A paragraph 2 not to all addressees. Proceed as requisite to R/V A.T.154 S.S. AQUITANIA at 1200A/3rd in 050 degs. 15' N. 013 degs. 30' W. routed from (Q) 048 degs. 55' N. 018 degs. 50' W. to (R) 180 degs. Fastnet Rock 10 miles, thence via Q.Z.S.565 to Clyde speed 20½ knots.
(2) A.T.154 to amend R/V as necessary.
(3) From Tuskar Rock destroyers to Milford Haven.
(C. in C.W.A., 011522A to PIORUN, IMPULSIVE).

Operations

Norway

Operation "S.C." Ramose Opportune my 280814A HITRA returned 0120A today Sunday.
(2) Operation successful.
(A.C.O.S. 010144A to Admty.).

Patrol. SATYR (P.214) is to leave patrol so as to pass through position 066 degs. 31' N. 010 degs. 01' E. at 0001A/3rd October thence by reverse of outward route to Lerwick diving by day at speed of advance 120 miles per day north of 062 degs. 00' N. thereafter on surface at discretion.
(Capt. S.9, 011245A to SATYR).

Allied Air Activity

Patrols off Ymuiden. Have attacked enemy 4 Merchant Vessels 5 M.Ms. 5 E-Boats with bombs dive P.C.S. enemy 52 degs. 47' N. 4 degs. 32' E. 200 degs. 7 knots.
(A/C, RUCF, 012055 to 16 Groups).
Position course and speed of 4 enemy M.Ms. 52 degs. 44' N. 4 degs. 31' E. position based on Gee Fix obtained within half-an-hour of 2100 200 degs. 7 knots.
(A/C. NUCP, 012129 to 16 Group).
My 2129. Have lost touch with enemy. Enemy's last observed position was 52 degs. 44' N. 4 degs. 31' E. Position based on Gee Fix obtained within half-an-hour of 2100.
(A/C, NUCP, 012140 to 16 Group).

/ Position...

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Sunday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Allied Air Activity

Patrols off
Ymuiden
(Contd.)

Position course and speed of 4 merchant vessel
4 M.F., 4 M.N. 52 degs. 40' N. 4 degs. 31' E.
210 degs. 12 knots.
(A/C., RUCP, 012203 to 16 Group).

Position course and speed of 7 merchant vessels,
5 M/Ss. 52 degs. 37' N. 4 degs. 30' E. 210 degs.
10 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive,
nil hits.

(A/C, RUCP, 012214 to 16 Group).

My 2140. Positions, course and speed of 4 merchant vessels,
8 E.S., 3 E-Boats, 8 E.S. 52 degs. 40' N. 4 degs. 25' E. 200
degs. 8 knots.

(A/C, NUCP, 012214A to 16 Group).

Position of 8 unknown enemy vessels 52 degs. 58' N. 4 degs.
45' E., 10 unknown vessels 52 degs. 58' N. 4 degs. 49' E., 2
auxiliary vessels 52 degs. 45' N. 4 degs. 42' E.

(A/C, RUCP, 012247 to 16 Group).

My Plot 2 position course and speed of enemy convoy 52 degs.
27' N. 4 degs. 26' E. based on a pin-point fix obtained within
half an hour of 2200 210 degs. 14 knots.

(A/C RUCP, 012258 to 16 Group).

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Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSMining

CYRUS for Admty. 281310 and my 291039 not to all addressees. le Havre. CYRUS should be employed at earliest opportunity. Weather permitting she should be sailed from Portsmouth so as to arrive Le Havre at daylight carrying out sweeping required and be sailed back to Portsmouth at dusk. If necessary buoys referred to in N.O.I.C. Arromanches 271749 can be used but it is not considered that they will be of any use in gale conditions, your 301730 not to all addressees (to be) reconsidered in light of experience with CYRUS. You should inform C. in C. Portsmouth and C. in C. Nore (?which) day CYRUS should arrive Havre giving consideration to suitable weather. (F.O.B.A.A., 011246A to Capt. M/S. Seine.)

Brest sweeping. Motor M/S 115 damaged near miss and is being sailed with M/S. Flotilla 14th to Cherbourg. My 011122 not to all addressees refers. Request any ship of 159th B.Y.M.S. Flotilla and 102nd M.M/S. Flotilla available from refit may sail to augment this force. (Capt. M/S. Brest, 011935A to C.T.F. 125.)

"Pluto" channel swept. Dover forces. Minesweeping report Sunday October 1st. "Pluto" channel completed except for LL and S.A. between 2 miles east of southern extremity of the ridge to the 10 fathom line on the Cassure de Bass. Nothing found. Expect to complete tomorrow Monday, and then continue sweeping daily until "Pluto" is laid. (V.A. Dover, 012052A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Post "Neptune" Port Facilities

Mooring vessels for Le Havre. Admiralty's 251912A and my 301150. KIRRIEMOOR, BARBERRY, DRAGONET, CHERWELL will be ready p.m./2nd October. Request they be sailed for Le Havre. (B.D.O. Gosport, 011110 to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Le Havre. A.N.C.X.F.'s 010220A not to Capt. M/S. These ships are being held at Arrow pending confirmation that entrance to Le Havre may be used. (N.O.I.C. Arrow, 011114A to A.N.C.X.F., Capt. M/S.) Understand that convoy particularly L.S.Ts. urgently required Le Havre request reply to my 011114. (N.O.I.C. Arrow, 012306 to Capt. M/S. Seine.)

Clearance of ports. In order to expedite the opening of captured ports request that (towage?) of salvage lifting craft and camels be given the highest possible priority. (P.S.V.O., 011130A to A.N.C.X.F., Tug Control.)

/Arromanches ...

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Post "Neptune" Port Facilities - Contd.

Arromanches. My 091954. Unit B.2 (? very) badly damaged by heavy sea before repair to original damage and refloating could be completed. Now beyond local resources to repair and must be regarded as a total loss.

(N.O.I.C. Arrow, 011140B to Admty., A.N.C.X.F.)

This afternoon I received without warning a deputation of two Senior United States Army Officers who arrived to discuss the taking over of part of the port facilities on the Army side by the United States on 8th October.

(2) I was non committal with my remarks as I have had no directive about this.

(3) Request instructions.

(N.O.I.C. Arrow, 011716A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Ostend.

Sitrep.

(1) 2 ships entered harbour 1100 loaded ammunition. Explosion occurred on board SS. CEDARWOOD at 17 and ship sank alongside quay no casualties my 012025 refers.

(2) Carried out LL sweep of harbour negative result.

(3) (? Citizens) party cleared 200 feet oil quay.

(4) No work on block ship owing to weather.

(5) Sinking of CEDARWOOD eliminated one coaster berth.

(6) VALBORG, SEVEN SISTERS (T) and EMPIRE AUDREY (T) and CHANT 24 arrived in anchorage too late for p.m. tide. 5 L.C.Ts. and EMPIRE BETSY towing 4 D.B.Rs. arrived in anchorage pierhead at daylight.

(7) 4 A.R.Bs. entered harbour.

(N.O.I.C. Ostend, 012030A to Com. Belgium.)

Casualties and Defects

STELLA

CANOPUS.

Whilst escorting E.N.41 in convoy route in position 327° Cape Wrath 9 miles believe to have hit mine at 233° September 30th unknown whether floating or moored. Stern damaged below water line. Repairs not needed till return to base. (STELLA CANOPUS, 010731 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

SS. CEDAR-
WOOD.

Small explosion occurred at 1617 today Sunday 1st October on board SS. CEDARWOOD while discharging ammunition at Ostend cause of explosion not yet ascertained. Ship sank alongside quay. Diver will examine wreck tomorrow Monday and further report will be made. No casualties, crew might return by N.D.B. tomorrow Monday. C.Bs., guns and boats salvaged. (N.O.I.C. Ostend, 012025A to Com. Belgium.)

Shipping and Convoys

DESTINY.

A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) 291626, para. (2).

(1) One rescue tug can be released from B.A.A.

(2) Tug DESTINY is being sailed to report to C. in C. Portsmouth.

(F.O.B.A.A., 011053A to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Transfer ...

1.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Transfer
of L.C.Ts.
up-Channel.

To effect change over L.C.T. M.M. 4 and 3 and British craft transfer I.o.W. to Dover it is necessary to suspend I.o.W. L.C.T. loading for 3 days.

(2) British L.C.T. loadings will be suspended 6th and 7th October request your agreement suspend

U.S..L.C.T. loadings 5th October.

(A.N.C.X.F., 011145 to O.C.O.T.)

C. in C. Portsmouth 292001A.

30 L.C.T.(3) can be accommodated at buoys in River Orwell based on Woolverstone.

(2) Squadron and Flotilla staffs to Woolverstone. This operational requirement may necessitate reduction in number of Royal Marine Landing Craft crews held at Woolverstone.

(C. in C. Nore, 011154A to Admty., A.N.C.X.F.)

Escorts
of U.C.
convoys.

Request that signal made by S.O. of Escort of U.C. convoys giving names and destinations of escort destroyers may be repeated to C. in C. Portsmouth.

(2) In cases where layover of ocean escorts is made at Portsmouth it is suggested that allocation of escorts for return (westbound) convoys should be signalled to C. in C. Portsmouth.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011218A to C. in C. W.A.)

Personnel
ships from
Far Shore.

It is still considered desirable that personnel ships should be escorted on return from U.S. Assault Area.

(2) Present routine initiated by my 271808, not to all is working satisfactorily.

(3) Intend to continue this arrangement pending further experience. C.T.F. 125 281141 and A.N.C.X.F. 301135 refer.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 011804A to C.T.F. 125, A.N.C.X.F.)

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SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticReturn of
escort
carriers
to U.K.A.M. 300145.
C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange escort
from 43° N. to U.K.
(2) F.O.G.M.A. is requested to arrange R/V. in
43° N.
(D.O.D.(H) 011845A to F.O.G.M.A.)

T.G. 41.5

Your 011140.
Ocean route for Task Group 41.5.
(E) 35° N. 15° W. (F) 35° 30 N. 28° 30 W.
(G) 36° N. 40° W. (H) 35° N. 52° W.
(J) 34° N. 64° W. (K) 38° N. 70° W.
(D.O.D.(F) 012104A to F.O.G.M.A.)South AtlanticU-Boat
attacked by
MISSION
BAY's
A/C.Made six special attacks separate report
follows. At 0159/30 September MISSION BAY A/C
had disappearing Radar contact 11. 58 N. 34. 38 W.
have held continuous Sonobuoy contact with Sonar
contact twice. Hedgehog attack had two
explosions. Oil slick noted 010500 second slick
011000 all Z.
Believe this same S/M attacked by Tripoli A/C
28th September.
W.X. 5470 1424.
(C.T.G. 22.1 011601A)Dakar-
Brest
Cable.Following for your information and remarks.
C. in C. Med. has raised question of repair of
Dakar-Brest cable. Admiralty provisionally
approve use of ALSACE if she can be spared.
Estimate ALSACE now effecting engine repairs in
Freetown will complete present commitments about
end of October.
(F.O.C.W.A.F. 011958Z to Comar Dakar)

1.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Aegean Special Service Schooners.
 S/M (2) ARMADILLO leaving Heraklia 1st for Siphnos.
 Operations. (3) SAAD arriving Tinos 2nd.
 (Capt (S) 1. 010021 to 1st S/M F. NEREUS.)
 From a position 038° 07' 025 degs. 37' at 1702A
 1st proceed through

- (A) 037° (753') 025° 43'
- (B) 036° 57' 026° 14'
- (C) 036° 52' 026° 18'
- (D) 036° 33' 026° 05'
- (E) 035° 21' 026° 46' to arrive in
- (F) 034° 28' 026° 40' at 2202A 3rd.

(2) Proceed on surface to arrive Kinaros channel at dawn 2nd
 and pass through diving at 200 feet thence proceed by day.
 (Capt (S) 1 011020A to VISIGOTH, Info 1st S/M F. Force "A",
 F.O.L.E.M.)

Following is a repetition of my 011331. Addressed Force "A"

(R) Capt. (S) 1st. VIGOROUS. From F.O.L.E.M.
 Estimate VIGOROUS passing through Kaso Strait approx. 1600C
 thence through 034° 28' N. 026° 40' E. at 2200C 1st.
 (F.O.L.E.M. 011335C to VIGOROUS)

BLACK PRINCE, Radar beacon buoy laid and (?left) for you in
 AURORA, 35° 37.5' N. 23° 54.7' E. Fluctuating ranges of
 Operations. buoy obtainable up to 4 miles.
 (2) 2 Guns 6 inch battery on Cape Spada shoot
 accurately up to 22,000 yards. Have 17 splinter
 holes in ship's side from near misses.

- (3) No other batteries have fired.
 - (4) In present moon conditions Theodoro Island should be visible
 up to about 7 miles.
- (BLACK PRINCE 010515C to H.M.S. AURORA, (R) F.O.L.E.M., F.O.E.C.,
 Force "A")

Landing "Edgehill" landing in progress no opposition.
 at Poros. Request all signal traffic be passed on broadcast
 L.V. until further orders. Request F.O.L.E.M.
see Operation MANNA pass to all addressees not holding C.C.M.
 (M.S.5 010630A to F.O.L.E.M.)

"Edgehill" S.N.O.P.O. installed, hearty welcome. No
 opposition. Poros W/T Station working.
 5th M/S F. returns Kithera tonight. F.O.T.A.L.I. pass to B.A.F.
 (2) Operation probably not detected until 1100 when M/S's North
 of Poros Island challenged by South West Point Aegina flashing
 letter A (R) A slowly bright white light. Very lights fired.
 Rain squalls and much low cloud. Sighted one passage aircraft
 during night none seen during day.
 (3) Military personnel and stores landed without incident. Naval
 communications - Party and Poros W/T Station in action by 1410.
 (4) Channel South of town carries 12 or 14 feet no blocking or
 demolition.

Poros Bay and Harbour appears to be clear of mines.
 (5) Searched Channel established from Poros Bay North of Island
 to Harbour entrance.
 (S.O. M/S F.5 011758A)

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Landing at Poros (Contd.) (1) Channel two cables wide has been searched centre line joining following positions.
 (A) 125° Akherdo 4.1 miles.
 (B) 007° Akherdo 9 cables.
 (C) 320° Akherdo 8.5 cables direct to Poros Harbour. No mines swept.

(2) New minefield reported by fishermen joining approximate positions
 (D) 37° 40' N. 23° 30' E.
 (E) 37° 38.5' N. 23° 27' W.
 (F) 37° 36.7' N. 23° 26' E.
 (3) Same source reports Q.B. 101B in poor condition.
 (M.S.5 011914A to F.O.L.E.M., (R) C. in C. Med. C.S.15, Capt. M.S.)

Danube My 301220. Intelligence report for Sept. 30th. gives following vessels operate between Vienna and Bratislava: ALBERICH and ALEXANDRA, two M/S M.L. and River M/S Depot Ship KRAHILD.
 (N.L.O. Black Sea 011015)

Future disposal of 1st S/M F. It is probable that next few months will see end useful employment for British S/Ms in this theatre.
 (2) Request very early information may be given as to intended disposal of 1st S/M F. Unless there is specific employment for these S/Ms in other theatres it is requested that at least 5 may be retained in Mediterranean for A/S training.
 (C. in C. Med. 011044A to Adty.)
 Add following para. 3 to my 011044.
 (3) The number of Italian A/S training S/Ms capable of operating outside Central Med. i.e. at Gibraltar and in Levant will shortly be reduced to nil. My 301730 Aug. and A.M. 272311 Sept. neither to all refer.
 (C. in C. Med. 011920A)

S.S.GUINQE Concur in view expressed in F.O.L.E.M. 291525/
 (C. in C. Med. 011102A to Adty.)
 / Visit of GUINQE with Jewish refugees to Alex. undesirable.

Mining of Salonika. Consider it very desirable to mine Salonika earliest opportunity this interference with Swedish relief is considered acceptable but consider necessity for this should be explained and Swedes asked not to relax but rather intensify their relief measures at this critical time accepting unavoidable interference due to military necessity. Your 301207.
 (F.O.L.E.M. 011239C to C. in C. Med.)

Spanish A.S.R. Service. In reply to your A.X. 59 September 27th have discussed question of Spanish Air/Sea Rescue Service with C. in C. Med. who has no objection

/to this ...

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SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Spanish A.S.R. Service. (Contd.) to this service as reporting of convoy movements would not be of great importance. It is felt however that the Spaniards should be warned that they should not approach convoys from North Africa to South of France as there is no recognition system in operation and the escorts may regard them as hostile. It is suggested that they should not operate more than 30 miles East of Minorca. (2) The Spaniards have been operating their service for some time and have been called on twice for assistance through Gibraltar. It is recommended that they should be requested to continue operating their service as it does provide cover for the A/C flying from Marseilles to Algiers. The International code should be used wherever applicable. (H.Q. M.A.A.F. 011659A)

S/M route Aegean/Malta. Following is standard route for S/Ms proceeding between the Aegean and Malta.
(a) 035° 48' 015° 18'.
(b) 035° 48' 016° 27'.
(c) 034° 18' 024° 01'.
(d) 034° 28' 026° 40'.

(2) Signal giving S/Ms passage instructions in future will contain S/Ms speed and T.O.A. at position (a) and (d) only. (Capt. (S) 1 011834A)

S/M routes in South Aegean. Same standard routes for S/Ms on passage in South Aegean.
(D) 034° 28' 026° 40'.
(E) 035° 21' 026° 45'.
(F) 036° 33' 026° 05'.
(G) 036° 52' 026° 18'.
(H) 037° 28' 025° 54'.

(2) Whenever possible S/Ms northbound are to keep 5 miles east and S/M southbound 5 miles west of the above lines. (Capt. (S) 1 011851)

C. in C. Yugoslav Navy. Your 302051/September. Capt. Ivan Kern R.Y.N., has been appointed C. in C. Yugoslav Navy and arrangements are being made for him to leave by air this week. Details of passage follow in further signal. Captain Kern will report to you on arrival and later to Marshal Tito. (2) Yugoslav Minister for Navy Army and Air Force therefore requests that Commander Saksida (Senior Yugoslav Naval Officer, Malta) be instructed not to contact Marshal Tito at Vis for the present. (Your 231524 refers) (A.C.N.S.(F) 012022A to C. in C. Med.)

Rhodes AURORA report fires and demolition in progress on Calata airfield in addition big fires in Laccania area.
(2) Weather report 8472 1073.
(R.A.E.C. 012117C to F.O.L.E.M.)

/Aegean ...

1.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Aegean
evacuations.

(Extract)
(2) G.A.F. activity, 30 Sept. Air transport activity continues by night between Athens and the islands and from Athens northwards. One or more Ju. 290 now working between Athens and Crete. Intruders claim further transport A/C destroyed. (C. in C. M.E. T.O.O. Nil/1 Recd.1945)

Corfu,
evacuation.

Special operations Sitrep No. 35. (Extract)
(2) Valona. South the following information has been received from the German doctor in charge of Q.E.V. Sarande Grn. Hospital who deserted to the Partizans on September 30. A the Sarande Grn. is only remaining to cover the evacuation of Corfu which is at present in progress. The evacuation is being carried out by means of small boats by night and the Grns. at Sarande and Delvino will pull out when the evacuation is completed.
(5) Albania 2 successful operations 70 tons infiltrated.
(Balkan Air Force T.O.O. Nil/1)

Garrison

Garrison

1.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat All areas. No fresh information. Scales
Dispositions. remain unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F. 010326Z)

1.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

T.G. 22.4 Group now patrolling within 15 miles lat. 42. 50 N., long. 53. 00 W. with air search within 75 miles same point commencing 0600Z/1st. Weather report 5771 1434. (C.T.G. 22.4 010102Z to C. in C. Lant.) Note: Passed Adty. for information.

Stragglers' report. Stragglers arrived week ending 30th September. 27th EDOUARD JERAMAC (U.S.) H.X.F. 310 unable to maintain convoy speed. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 011157Z)

S/M Attack and sighting summary. Para. D.A/C. sights possible U-Boat obtains temporary Sonobuoy reaction 1244Z 30th in 50° 00' N. 61° 40' W. (N.S.H.Q. 011430)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 011445Z, Cominch 011650)

U-Boat incidents. Para. C. 301545Z U.S.C.G. (R) U.S.C.G. CONIFER reports large oil slick area 43. 02 N. 36. 37 W. and additional oil occasionally surfacing. (Cominch 012000Z)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 984 30th September. (2) Navy Catalina scored direct hits with two quarter ton and two Centuries on medium merchantman in Tiworo Strait off South-eastern Celebes early hours causing huge column black smoke and flame: ack ack hit one engine and prevented observation, but ship last seen burning furiously, believed destroyed: Catalina returned base. (3) Same time another Catalina bombed strafed large tanker off Zamboanga with unobserved results, but ship seen half hour later with stern well down. Small coastal craft nearby also strafed and damaged. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 011053Z)

Digest 985 (Extract) October 1st. (15) Same night several A/C twice ineffectually bombed shipping off southwest Morotai, ack ack shot down one confirmed, one probable. This amends date of raid and Catalina activity reported Digest 984. para. 4 to-night 30th. (G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 021630Z)

1.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. B. (1) A/C had disappearing Radar contact at 0855Z 30th September, in 55° 40' N. 08° 32' W.
(2) A/C had disappearing Radar contact at 0950Z/30 in 55° 35' N. 13° 10' W.
Para. C. (1) A/C had disappearing Radar contact at 1350Z/30 in 54° 43' N. 13° 21' W.
Para. D. (1) PETER SILVESTER sighted 2 torpedo wakes at 1430Z/30 in 05° 46' S. 76° 07' E.
Para. E. (1) A/C sighted U-Boat at 1810Z/30 in 44° 40' N. 23° 50' W.
(.D.D.I.C. 011126Z)

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 011314A, 011315A)

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

- North Sea 1(a). 65th M.T.B. Flotilla, whilst on patrol off Terschelling, sighted 20 enemy vessels, but came under very accurate fire at 7,000 to 8,000 yards' range and withdrew, with M.T.B.746 disabled.
(b). Two attacks were also carried out by aircraft of 16 Group but no results were observed.
(c). Ostend handled 7 ships and 4 L.C.Ts., but weather still precludes work on blockships.
- Channel. 2(a). At Calais 2 moored mines^s and 5 small wrecks were visible at low water.
(b). Two magnetic mines were exploded in Boulogne.
(c). Dieppe can now take 5 17ft., 2 15ft. and 6 12ft. coasters and one train ferry, with 5 L.C.Ts. at le Treport.
- West Coast France. (3). St. Nazaire is reported to contain 4 submarines, one submarine store ship, 2 escort ships, 2 tankers, 3 tugs, 2 M.Ls., a pile driver and a hospital ship, "all armed".
- Northern Waters. EDWARD H.
(4). ^ CROCKETT and SAMSUVA were torpedoed and sunk out of Convoy R.A.60 off North Cape on September 29th. The presence of the convoy was apparently detected by enemy air reconnaissance.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean.

- (5). SS. JOHNSHOPKINS reported being torpedoed by a submarine and sinking fast, in the early hours of today 20 miles S.S.W. of Marseilles. C. in C. Med. reports that the damage was caused by a mine. The ship was towed to Marseilles.
- South of France. (6). The weather has prevented destroyer bombardments in support of the 8th Army for the last 4 days.
- U-Boat east of Malta. (7). A transit aircraft last night sighted a U-Boat 150 miles east of Malta. (cf. 27th September para.6). Search was made, but was unsuccessful.

/ Levant...

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Levant.

8(a). In 6 consecutive nights Middle East Beaufighters have shot down a total of 16 enemy aircraft engaged in evacuation of the Aegean islands.

(b). Allied troops entered Patras today, but the enemy did not completely evacuate the town until the night 3/4 October.

(c). The S/M. CURIE reports that this evening north of Skiathos she fired 4 torpedoes at a convoy of 3 merchant ships, 3 lighters and 2 escorts and hit two merchant ships and probably a third. (p. 40)

America and West Indies

U-Boat
attack.

9. At 0233Z today an unidentified ship reported a U-Boat attack and ship breaking up in 23.17 N. 60.40 W. No known ship is in this area.

2.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Responsibilities of F.O. Holland and Com. Belgium. Reference X.F. number 1792/X/0940/2/37 of 21st September. Intend that responsibility of Flag Officer Holland and Com. Belgium for minesweeping shall be:

(A) Maintaining and where necessary widening coastal and approach channels established by C. in C. Nore from South Falls to N.F.8 Buoy.

(B) Establishing and maintaining any further coastal and approach channels required.

(C) Opening if required by army subsidiary ports and waterways navigable by ocean going shipping.

(D) Diverting and stopping traffic when necessary in channels, ports and waterways for which they are responsible.

(E) Application through appropriate commanders in chief and home commands for promulgation by Q.Z. message of information in respect of channels for which they are responsible and as required by C.B. 01618 L (43) article 74.

(A.N.C.X.F. 021225 to C. in C. Nore, A.C. Dover, A.N.C.X.F. P.H. for Flag Officer Holland, Com. Belgium.)

Passenger liners wanted. Fwd. 16671 S.G.90. It is desired that every effort be made to preserve from destruction by Allied Force passenger liners observed in enemy ports and not known to be employed in furthering German Military Operations.

(S.H.A.E.F., 021945A to Exfor Main, 12th Army Group Main, 6th Army Group, F.A.A.A., A.E.A.F. Main, A.N.C.X.F. Main, S.F.H.Q.)

Defence of United Kingdom

Examination Service, Milford Haven. The examination service at Milford Haven and Fishguard will close down from 2359 October 7th thereafter one of H.M. Trawlers exhibiting the pilot flag by day or light by night will act as Guardship at Milford Haven and will control traffic, provide pilots and allocate berths as heretofore. All vessels closing either port are to continue to identify themselves to the port war signal station as at present and close the Guardship.

(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 021851A to Adty)

Movements

MALAYA. Weather permitting request you will act as target for S/M attacks by TRUSTY for one hour tomorrow Tuesday while in the Scapa practice area, C. in C. Rosyth 012036 refers.

(2) TRUSTY will be in position GG (280° Rora Head 9 miles) from 0800A and will submerge when HEATHER sighted.

(3) 2 runs should be carried out through GG passing 5 miles beyond after run 1 before turning for run 2. Mean line of advance North and South.

(4) Me you signal (C.B. 4000 para. 76) are to be exchanged with TRUSTY.

(C. in C. H.F., 021118A to MALAYA.)

/Leave ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

MALAYA. Leave Lough Foyle at 1830 today Monday and
(Contd.) proceed to R/V FOWEY in position 270° Oversay 6
miles at 2100 then take FOWEY under your orders
and proceed up Minches to 058° N. to R/V with
MALAYA at approx. 1500 October 3rd exact position
R/V and further orders will be passed by C. in C.
W.A.
(Com. (D) W.A., 021220 to LAPWING.)

KING SERAPIS (S.O.), SCOURGE are to be sailed to
GEORGE V. R/V with KING GEORGE V due to pass the Smalls
at 2230 October 6th at 20 knots and escort to
Plymouth. KING GEORGE V to amend time of R/V
if necessary.
(2) On conclusion of escort C. in C. Plymouth is requested
fuel SERAPIS, SCOURGE and then sail them for Greenock.
(3) C. in C. H.F. 011603 not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. W.A., 021302A to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval. Cositintrep No. 180, Part 2, Naval.
(A) Minesweeping Channels across Dover Straits
including "Pluto" "Rooke" have been completed as
far as the immediate approaches to Boulogne.

Final approaches are now being swept and are expected to be
completed p.m./2nd October.

(B) Captured Ports. Rouen. Completed survey of port area
shows 54 barges, 19 tugs and 67 unidentified wrecks sunk alongside
and snags in basins. 40% of quay space is intact but 129
cranes etc. demolished. Dieppe Graving Dock expected to be
in service by 4th October.

(C) Unloading figures 30th September.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Pol</u>
Calvados	474	797	5131	6598
Dieppe	1196	None	4903	None
Ostend	None	None	None	79?
British Total	1670	797	10034	6677?
Cherbourg	49	18	12227	11215
Beaches	2911	1076	18575	723
Brittany	None	137	3066	None
Small Ports	None	None	5034	None
United States Total	2960	1231	38902	11938
Combined Totals	4630	2028	48936	18615?

(Adm. Ramsay, 020030A to Admty.)

(A) Captured Ports. Three L.S.T. were due to arrive
Ostend at noon today.

(B) Unloading figures October 1st.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Pol East</u>
Calvados	1599	559	4444	3994
Dieppe	1116	-	6078	-
Ostend	-	-	516	-
British Total	2715	559	11038	3994
Cherbourg	61	90	9914	-
Beaches	4399	1366	8296	304
Brittany	-	36	4386	-
Small Ports	-	-	5213	-
U.S. Total	4460	1492	27809	304
Combined Totals	7175	2051	38847	4298

(Adm. Ramsay, 022305A to Admty.)

2.10.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperationsNorth Sea

- 65th M.T.B. Flotilla off Terschelling. Operation by 65th M.T.B. Flotilla on night of 30th Sept./1st October.
- (1) 1st Division M.T.B. 748 (S.O.), 727, 746. 2nd Division M.T.B. 745, 726. Unit ordered to sweep south-west on convoy route from position 53° 39' N. 05° 45' E.
- (2) Weather. Wind W.N.W. 2, sea and swell (1-2) visibility 5-6 miles.
- (3) Unit arrived initial position at 2200 and commenced sweep. At 0001 visual contact was obtained with about 20 ships in vicinity of position 53° 30' N., 05° 06' E. These were considered to be two convoys crossing and consisted of trawlers, gun coasters, L.C.T. and possibly M-class minesweepers. While shadowing eastbound group M.T.B. 726 developed engine trouble, and M.T.B. 745 was detached to stand by.
- (4) The S.O. now decided that the westbound group, which included a Sperrbrecher, would offer the best opportunity of attack, and commenced shadowing with M.T.B. 745 and 726 working from astern.
- (5) Three attempts were made to close the range and to get inshore of the group, smoke being laid ahead of the enemy previous to the third attempt.
- (6) Very accurate fire was experienced from ranges of 7,000 to 8,000 yards. Whilst manoeuvring for a fourth attempt M.T.B. 746 was hit in engine room.
- (7) In view of the alertness of the enemy and having reached the limit of sweep ordered the unit commenced to sweep north to locate any other southbound shipping.
- (8) At 0400 M.T.B. 746 was detached with M.T.B. 745 as escort. Nothing further was seen and at 0530 unit rejoined two boats previously detached.
- (9) At 0600 M.T.B. 746 was taken in tow by M.T.B. 745 and unit proceeded to return to harbour at 5 knots.
- (C. in C. Nore, 021604A to Admty.)

OperationsChannel

- Patrol. Pins cover 2nd/3rd October.
G.H.1 VANOC Z.9 south. G.H.2 SPRAGGE Z.109.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 021831A to Admty., V.A. Dover.)

OperationsWest Coast France

- Patrols. Force 27 is to leave Gironde area at 1800A/3 and sweep north and west during night 3rd/4th.
- (2) After speaking Ushant signal station Force 27 is to return to Plymouth.
- (3) Force 28 BLYSKAWICA, ASHANTI sails Plymouth 0600A/3 to reach (AA) 47° N., 4° W. by 2000/3 and then to patrol in Belle Ile Gironde area.
- (C. in C. Plymouth, 021318A to Force 27.)

/Carry ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

West Coast France

Patrols. Carry out Operation "Assault".
 (Contd.) (A) Force 28 BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), ASHANTI.
 (B) 0600A/3rd October.
 (C) By most direct route to reach (AA) 47° N.,
 4° W. by 2000A/3.
 (D) Patrols between Belle Ile and Gironde.
 (G) Force 27 TARTAR, KELVIN as in my 021318A.
 (C. in C. Plymouth, 021319A to BLYSWAKICA, ASHANTI.)
 Opas 17.
 (A) 46° 55' N., 03° 20' W. (B) 45° 15' N., 01° 45' W.
 Intend closing Belle Ile after dark and thence probably
 south-eastward to Arcachon during the night 2nd/3rd October.
 Intelligence report follows. Weather report 9180 3082.
 (Force 27, 021602A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Sweeping Admiralty message 301643.
 of Garonne. There is at present no military requirement for
 opening the Gironde and Garonne. Priority is
 therefore low and clearance cannot be allowed to
 prejudice operations in support of Army. In

addition minesweepers cannot enter river while Germans hold
 fortresses at mouth.
 (2) Consider that if clearance is undertaken it should be carried
 out as far as possible by French Navy.
 (3) Consider it would be practicable to transport portable
 pulsing sets and Mark Five Star of American size Five Oropesa
 gear by land for fitting to local craft. Minesweeping officers
 and technical ratings would be required.
 (4) When minesweepers can enter the river a B.Y.M.S. Flotilla or
 M.M.S. Flotilla fitted Mark Five Star could complete the clear-
 ance in slow time.
 (5) Suggest that subject to provisions of para. (1) above (A)
 Material and personnel referred to in para. (3) above should be
 provided latter being drawn as far as possible from French crews
 already trained in U.K.
 (B) That a French manned M.M.S. Flotilla should be allocated to
 implement para. (4) above.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 021525A to Admty.)

Operations

Western Approaches

Escort from At 2359A T.A.151 P.C.S. 045° 31' 011° 46', 188°,
 AQUITANIA. 20½. Destroyers then parted company course 340°
 speed 14. Weather report 0715 9169.
 (PIORUN, 020008 to C. in C. W.A.)

Suspected U-Boat. U-Boat fixed by WW transmissions on series one in
 position 50° 41' N., 22° 33' W. at 0027A/2nd, am
 searching with 3 ships.
 (S.O. E.G. B.2, 020052A to C. in C.,W.A.)

/Your ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSOperationsWestern ApproachesSuspected
U-Boat.
(Contd.)

Your 020052A. No transmission heard at 0027A/2nd by shore stations. Bearings of WW message obtained on 4020 k/cs at 2321Z/1st. No definite fix obtained but bearings not inconsistent with position given in your signal.
(D.D.I.C., 020305A to S.O. E.G. B.2.)
My 020052. No contact obtained, am rejoining convoy.
(S.O. E.G. B.2, 020345A to C. in C. W.A.)

OperationsNorth Western ApproachesSuspected
U-Boat.

By D/F on 4020 k/cs at 0011Z and 0024Z U-Boat estimated within 50 miles of 57° 30' N., 16° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C., 020401A to Force 33.)

A.M. 020401A. Further bearings shew that longitude should be 18° 30' W. latitude and radius remain unaltered.
(D.D.I.C., 020615A to Force 33.)

Patrol.

At 0600 tomorrow 3rd October 2nd E.G. and 31st E.G. are to commence searching following areas respectively: (A) 55° to 56° and 12° to 14°. (B) 54° to 55° and 12° to 14°. (2) Remainder as at present.
(C. in C. W.A., 022259A to Force 33.)

OperationsNorway

Patrols.

Request you sail S/Ms. as follows:-

- (A) P.66 (ULA) at 0800A/3rd October routed through (SA), (SB) 061° 01' N., 000° 50' E. (SC) 061° 01' N., 002° 53' E. (SD) 059° 05' N. 004° 03' E. thence direct patrol area in accordance with F.O.(S) 011158A.
(B) P.69 (VIKING) at 1000A/3rd through 062° 00' N., 001° 01' E. by route Orange to 065° 01' N., thence direct patrol area bounded by 066° 30' N., 067° 18' N., 011° 01' E. and Norwegian coast.
(2) Passage to be made diving by day when N. of 062° N. estimated advance 100 miles per 24 hours.
(3) In patrol area leads are only to be entered by following passages:- (A) Between Briksvaer and Fleinvaer Islands. (B) Fleinvaerjorden. (C) Tennholm Fiord.
(Capt. (S) 9, 021105A to S.O.(S) Lerwick.)

2.10.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.OperationsNorthern Waters

Operation S.J. Operation S.J. Following from TRUMPETER begins:
Can remain on patrol until p.m./4th October.
Am patrolling to westward by day and to eastward
by night. Request longitude limit may be
extended to 0° and 5° W. Ends. Weather 5481
1173 6301.

(EURYALUS, 020930A to C. in C. Rosyth.)
Your 022004.

My position course and speed 063° 37' N., 003° 59' W., 330°,
12 knots. E.G.6 proceeding Gamma patrol on 005° independently.
Weather report 5481 0082.

(TRUMPETER, 022158A to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Trawler off My plane sighted trawler at Little Koldewey
Pendulum Is. 1500Z. Vessel stood eastward upon sighting
plan. EASTWIND proceeding attempt to intercept
from 40 miles east of Pendulum Island (74° 37'
N., 18° 29' W.) N.O.B.I. to A.C.I.C.
(Unknown U.S. Warship, 021615 to Com. Greenland
Patrol.)

Allied Air Activity

Patrols off My 0057. P.C.S. of 5 unknown enemy vessels
Holland. 52° 08' N., 4° 15' E. Position based on Gee fix
obtained within half an hour of 0200, course
120°, speed 10 knots.

(A/C NUCQ, 020135 to 16 Group.)

P.C.S. of 8 enemy merchant vessels 52° 04' N., 4° 04' E. course
180°, speed 10 knots.

(A/C RUCC, 020205 to 16 Group.)

Have attacked enemy with bombs dive. P.C.S. of 17 unknown
enemy vessels 52° 00' N., 4° 00' E., 210°, 6 knots.

(A/C RVOQ, 020215 to 16 Group.)

P.C.S. of enemy 8 minesweepers 51° 55' N., 4° 01' E., 120°,
5 knots, have attacked with bombs dive, result of attack
unobserved.

(A/C RUCA, 020300 to 16 Group.)

P.C.S. of 4 enemy merchant vessels, 2 minesweepers, 3
E-Boats 52° 59' N., 4° 45' E., fixed by pin-point taken within
½ hour of 1900, course 350°, speed 5 knots.

(A/C LGZM, 021938B to 16 Group.)

Nos.2. P.C.S. 1 merchant ship, 6 unknown craft 51° 58' N.,
4° 07' E. fixed by pin-point within ½ hour of 2000 310°, 5 knots.

(A/C LGZM, 022012B to 16 Group.)

Nr.3. P.C.S. of 7 auxiliary vessels 52° 53' N., 4° 42' E.
fixed by pin-point taken within ½ hour of 2000, course 205°,
speed 5 knots.

(A/C LGZM, 022040 to 16 Group.)

Patrols off Position of one enemy medium vessel 61° 00' N.,
Norway. 5° 00' E., 2 medium vessels one enemy small
vessel 61° 17' N., 5° 06' E.
(A/C MFUN, 020625A to 18 Group.)

/Position ...

2.10.1944.

Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSAllied Air Activity

Patrols off
Norway.
(Contd.)

Position 5 enemy merchant vessels, 3 small
vessels, and 2 Es., Egersund at anchor.
(A/C MFUF, 020757 to 18 Group.)

Position of enemy 5 merchant vessels, 3 small
vessels, 3 Es., Krist and at anchor.
(A/C MFUF, 020812 to 18 Group.)

Mining

Ostend
minesweeping.

It is intended to withdraw Capt. M/S. F.B. and
his force from Ostend, as soon as M/Ss. can be
accommodated in the harbour. Propose to
allocate temporarily to Ostend 8 in number 105
feet motor M/S and 2 Oropesa motor launches
from Harwich to be based at Ostend under N.O.I.C. Ostend for
sweeping Q.Z.S. 584 and harbour approaches and subsidiary
channels in this area. 4 available Belgian manned motor M/S
will be included in this total. Capt. M/S. F.B. is to land
any available spare gear from LOCUST and N.O.I.C. Ostend is
to inform C. in C. Nore when the 8 Motor M/S can be received.
(2) On their arrival Capt. M/S. F.B. is to return to Harwich
with Force B leaving 2 Oropesa M.L. at Ostend.
(3) Request you will arrange for necessary maintenance staff.
(4) This additional commitment will deplete the Harwich M/S
Force earmarked for opening up the Hook and Rotterdam.
Admiralty are requested to replace Harwich forces allocated
to Ostend.
(C. in C. Nore, 021211A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Havre
sweeping.

Your 011941 and Captain Minesweepers Seine 301730
September not to all.

(1) Request reasons for considering depth-
charging by 66th M.T.B. ineffective.

(2) EASTBOURNE is required for another service
very shortly. It is therefore important that CYRUS operation
takes place within next four days if at all possible.

(3) VERNON mine clearance drifter flotilla with special trawl
is available at Portsmouth if you require it.
(A.N.C.X.F., 021603 to F.O.B.A.A.)

Boulogne
sweeping.

M/S. report. Approach channel completed LL/SA,
E.G. M/S of explosive sweep. 2 magnetic mines
exploded approx. 9 cables 260° from sixth red
light on Digue Carnot. Dredged channel
completed LL/SA and 10 actuations give to "Pluto"
area by dredged channel with negative result.
(S.O. 167 M.S.F., 021700A to Capt. M/S. Seine.)

Enemy Intelligence

U-Boats and
craft in
Biscay area.

Intelligence report 2/10/44. Sables d'Olonne.
Situation unchanged except harbour being cleared
and now suitable for L.C.Ts. and possibly L.S.Ts.
at high tide. Good landing ramp.

/La Pallice ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

U-Boats and
craft in
Biscay area.
(Contd.)

La Pallice. New witness Naval Q.M. from La Pallice confirms 3 800 ton U-Boats there, but have now been on use for some time in normal coastal supply run to Saine Nazaire.

F.F.I. report 1 damaged destroyer and 3 small coasters in La Pallice on 31/8.

Ile de Re and Ile d'Oleron partially evacuated only and batteries still manned. Most of area included in Q.Z.X. 995 confirmed as mined by Germans.

Captain Burt of Scots contacted at Sables and is checking U-Boat information.

Saint Nazaire. F.F.I. report dated 16th September, states harbour contains 2 S/M refitting, 2 S/M doing diving trials, 1 Hospital ship, 2 escort vessels, 1 pile driver, 3 tugs, 2 tankers, 1 S/M store ship, 2 fast M/Ls., all above armed, and 7 disarmed escort vessels.

(Force 27, 021745A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Mining in
Baltic.

German minelaying operations Baltic approaches.

(A) Kattegat. Reference (? my) 271814 Sept.

(1) Four destroyers are now engaged minelaying in Kattegat and training and arriving

practically every day at Frederikshavn with anti-invasion and ordinary mines.

(2) On September 18th following movements were observed -

(a) Two minelayers and 2 invasion barges entered Frederikshavn after laying mines between Frederikshavn and Saby.

(b) Two destroyers left Frederikshavn each loaded with 60 mines.

(c) SS. KAISER and minesweeper left Frederikshavn with 400 mines.

(B) Great Belt. Loaded minelayer probably KAISER and auxiliary passed northbound through Great Belt on September 24th.

All C.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 021831 to Admty.)

O.I.C. Comment: Minelayer KAISER and 4 MAAS class destroyers are known to be in Oslo/Frederikshavn area and to have carried out minelaying in the Skagerrak. Saby is 6 miles south of Frederikshavn.

Navigational

Q.Z.S. 589.

Request you carry out a searching sweep, breadth four miles, to establish convoy route from Eastern end of Q.Z.S. 589 to C.3 buoy thence to C.2 buoy. Your 251217 September refers.

(D.T.D., 021137A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Post "Neptune" Port Facilities

Arromanches.

Admty's 291329 and 292239. Request you will report proposed positions and depth of water to Admty. and C. in C. Portsmouth direct.

(F.O.B.A.A., 021459A to N.O.I.C. Arrow.)

Dieppe.

Can take following a.m./4th:- 5 large (17 ft.), 2 medium (15 ft.), 6 small (12 ft.), 1 train ferry, 5 L.C.Ts. (Le Treport). Agreed P.E.C.

(N.O.I.C. Dieppe, 022002A to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Calais ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSPost "Neptune" Port Facilities - Contd.

Calais. Sitrep O22000.
Two moored mines, visible at low water just inside outer end of breakwater. Five small wrecks visible opposite root of east breakwater with possible clear channel in centre. Intend carry out grenade sweep in main channel and basins tomorrow Tuesday.
(2) New outbreaks of fire in town this evening under control by Naval fire service. No Army fire service present. Intend to retain pumps for the present.
(N.O.I.C. Calais, O22040A to N.O.I.C. Boulogne.)

Ostend. Situation report.
(1) 4 L.C.Ts., 1 store ship, 3 tankers and 3 L.S.Ts. entered harbour. 3 of the L.C.Ts. sailed. 1 L.C.T. remained owing to damaged propeller shaft.
(2) 1 L.C.T. 7084 went ashore during gale at 0515. My O22145 refers.
(3) 1 D.B.R. 462 foundered in position 290° east pierhead lighthouse 7 cables during north-west gale.
(4) Bad weather prevented further work on blockships.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend, O22136A to Com. Belgium.)

Technical

Enemy coastal craft available for inspection. Ex enemy R-Boat at Caen. My 101946 September not to all refers. Further examination by D.N.C's representatives is convenient now. He should report to my headquarters on arrival.
(2) Examination of two ex enemy coastal forces boats can be made at Boulogne also. Intend to defer action on my 291828* September para. 2 until after visit.
(3) Six ex enemy coastal forces craft (95 ft. and 65 ft. length) in various stages of construction are also available for examination at Meulan on Diene about 40 miles from Rouen. Understand drawings sent direct to N.I.D. Adty. (F.O.B.A.A., O21258A to Admty.)
* There is one defective R-Boat and one defective craft of similar size at Boulogne (in Movements, 29.9.1944.)

Casualties and Defects

STELLA CANOPUS. STELLA CANOPUS escorting E.N.41 reports heavy explosion very close to ship in position 270° Cape Wrath 9 miles at 2330/30. It is considered that this was probably a Gnat but possibility of mine cannot be excluded.
(2) W.N.41 is being sailed by route N. A.C.I. 401 refers.
(C. in C. W.A., O20138A to Force 32.)
My O20138A. Further evidence suggests that explosion was caused by an explosive sweep float.
(C. in C. W.A., O20202A to Force 32.)

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

MIANTANOMAH. Amplifying my 261511. MIANTANOMAH struck mine at 1412/25 starboard side 30 feet aft of bridge and sank 1430 in 2 fathoms water on starboard side bearing 302 true distant about 1600 yards from south light Digue Nord.
Casualties: Officers, enlisted Dead - nil, 12. Missing - 4, 42. Injured - 4, 86. Total on board: 14 officers, 210 enlisted. Commanding Officer saved, slightly injured, suffering shock. NO? other? names reported to date.
Some secret and confidential matter all saved, compromise of remainder unlikely, as this is in patrolled waters and under constant observation from shore. Will attempt recovery secret materials and equipment when weather permits.
Asst. Port Director and French Pilot were on board. Had latest instructions as to speeds and cleared channels. Survivors will be returned to U.K. as transportation becomes available. No report made Cominch pending C.O. report.
C.T.G. 125.15 is sending dispatch on dead and injured. D.28111. (A.N.C.X.F., 021527A to Admty.)

L.C.T. 7084. L.C.T. 7084 went ashore 0515/2nd October, 1½ miles east of entrance, during strong gale. Unable to get tow wire on board owing to surf. Ship struck beach mine which caused serious damage. Cargo Weasels was recovered and salvage of C.Bs., ship's gear and stores proceeding. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Ostend, 022145 to Com. Belgium.)

D.B.R. 462. D.B.R.462 foundered in 22 feet of water during N.W. gale in position 290° east pier lighthouse 7 cables. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Ostend, 022150 to Com. Belgium, C. in C. Nore.)

Shipping and Convoys

U.S. personnel ships not to be escorted. Para. 2 Portsmouth 011804A not concurred in. Turn around delay off beaches under expected adverse weather conditions is not acceptable, and ships will be sailed independently via Channel 14. Your 301135A refers. (C.T.F. 125, 021133A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Sailings from Far Shore. (1) Ships from Rouen and Le Havre may be sailed independently to Wight area or Cherbourg. Ships for ports West of Portland are to be sailed to St. Helens Roads for F.B.C. convoy or other available escort, full route instructions to destination being placed on board and P.C.O. Cowes included in addressees of sailing signal. Ships for ports east of Newhaven to be sailed to St. Helens Roads for Thames convoys, full routes to destination being placed on board.
(2) Landing craft to be sailed in groups.
(3) Ships other than accredited Hospital Ships if carrying casualties and unescorted should be accompanied by craft to act as rescue vessel.

/(4) ...

2.10.1944.

Monday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys

Sailings
from Far
Shore.
(Contd.)

(4) Prompt advice of all sailings is to be made in accordance with my 311845 August (not to all) C. in C. Nore being additional addressee for sailings to destinations east of Newhaven. (C.T.G. 125, 021157A to C. in C. Portsmouth.) N.O.I.C. Arrow's 301047A September not to C. in C. Plymouth.

Para. (1) The escort vessel provided by C. in C. Nore takes the E.T.C. ships across Channel from E.A.3 Buoy and it would appear as well to employ it in escorting returning ships in a formed F.T.C. convoy. The suggested alternative of independent sailing would presumably involve the Nore escort laying over in the Wight area whilst the ships in the E.T.C. convoys bound for Arrow proceed independently from E.A.3, since this Command has no escorts to spare for such additional commitment. As there are advantages in having an escort with these ships on their cross-Channel passage it is considered that the time is not yet ripe for this change.

Para. (2) The large volume of mixed and crossing traffic now in the Channel carries with it risks which need no emphasis and I consider that the time has come when all ships within the limits of the Portsmouth Command should burn dimmed navigation lights in ordinary visibility and lights at full brilliancy in thick weather. 'Darken ship' conditions would be immediately re-imposed should Admiralty appreciation indicate a renewal of the risk of U-Boat attack in this area.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 021352A to Admty., F.O.B.A.A., N.O.I.C. Arrow.)

My 171925A September amend part one, para. (E) to read: "Personnel ships ex E.P.P. and E.W.P. convoys when discharged will be sailed independently to Nab for Solent from Cherbourg via H Channel, from Beaches via 14 Channel, and from Le Havre via 58 Channel. My 021133A (not to all) refers.

(C.T.F. 125, 021605A to C.T.Gs. 125.11, 125.12.)

Convoy
R.A. 60.

Following received from C.S.1 begins:
Addressed C. in C. H.F. (R) Admty., from C.S.1.

(1) 2 E.E.H. CROCKETT and SAMSUVA torpedoed simultaneously at 1532A/29 in position 72° 59' N., 24° 26' E. and afterwards sunk. Crew recovered,

4 casualties. S/M not detected by air patrol, destroyer screen or subsequent hunt. Apparently 3 U-Boats in company on 30th again of which 2 attacked by destroyers and 3 by A/C. 1 U-Boat hit with R.P.

At 1930A/30th September in position 72° 06' N., 10° 22' E. altering course to 200° for the night to evade U-Boats apparently gathering for attack.

(2) My P.C.S. at 1900A/1 68° 32' N., 04° 28' E., 220°, 10 knots to reach route Brown. Remainder of convoy in company. Request C. in C. Rosyth and F.O.(S) may be informed. 011901A. Ends.
(DIADEM, 021328B to C. in C. H.F.)

C. in C. Rosyth's 021209 P.C.S. of R.A.60 065° 10' N., 002° 02' W., 200°, 11 knots. Weather report 9582 0526.
(C.S.1, 021701A to TRUMPETER.)

/Transfer ...

2.10.1944.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys - Contd.

Transfer
of L.C.Ts.
up Channel.

My 011145 not to addressees.
44 L.C.Ts. are to be sailed from Southampton,
1st group to arrive Dover by 7th October remainder
as they become available.
(2) Any available in excess of 44 are to be
sailed to the Nore.
(3) First loading at Dover will be on 8th Oct.
(A.N.C.X.F., 021537A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

2.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

WHITE BEAR.

S.B.N.O. Azores is requested to sail WHITE BEAR to R/V U.G.S. 55 for onward routing by C. in C. Med. to Eastern Fleet.
(D.O.D.(F), 021302A)

Russian
S.Cs.

F.O.N.F's 301507 September.
Presume these ships will be routed by Admiralty.
(S.B.N.O. Azores 152308Z February and A.M.190618A February also refer.)
(F.O.G.M.A.021757A to Admty)
Russian Attaches have stated fifth and sixth groups Russian S.Cs. will be proceeding U.K. via Bermuda and Azores.

2.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Danarm. For your information, Foreign Office have instructed H.M. Ambassador Moscow:-
(a) To protest to the Soviet Govt. against the summary ejection of Danarm from Bulgaria and to request facilities be granted for their return.
(b) To inform Soviet Govt. of activities of Lieut. Cdr. Glenn and to request that the necessary instructions be given to Soviet Military Authorities to accord him facilities and use him for liaison purposes.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 020123A to C. in C. Med.) W.D. Note: Mge. was repeated 030123A.

SS. JOHNS Intercept 0108 G.M.T. 500 K/cs bearing 143 degs.
HOPKINS Gonio A Class 3. Begins SSSS from JOHNS HOPKINS
torpedoed. (KKMY) (unread) ship sinking fast (unread) from
miles (unread) degrees (unread). Ends.
(Niton Radio, 020208)
Intercept 0127 500 K/cs type A.2, bearing 161.5
degs. Class 2 Gonio A begins: "GIN/ from JOHNS HOPKINS (KKMY) -
Hit 20 miles or less 250 degs. Marseilles (doubtful reception)."
Ends. Acknowledged by Niton Radio.
(North Foreland Radio, 020227A).
/ W/T callsign GIN undecypherable (?Niton Radio (GNI) intended).
SSSS 20 miles or less 250 degs. Marseilles.
(JOHNS HOPKINS (KKMY) via Burnham Radio No T.O.O.)

British Amendment to 231600 (Technical).
mines in (Danarm, 021110C)
Danube.

STUART In view of her slow speed and poor accommodation
PRINCE. no operational employment can be found for STUART
PRINCE on this station. It is suggested that her
most useful function would be as training ship
attached to the Fighter Direction School in U.K.
(C. in C. Med. 021150 to Admty)

Joint Naval, WX.86595 (Extract). 24 hours to 0900/2.
Army, R.A.F. All times G.M.T.
Intelligence (3) Aegean Shipping Summary.
Appreciation. Piraeus. Not covered. CX reports permanent dry
docks and free zone quay due for demolition 1 or
2 October.
North Aegean. Salonika. Ph. R/C confirmed
arrival of ZEUS, BOURGAS, LOLA, Minelayer PIRAEUS, barges ENGERAU
and LAUDEN (or LAWDON) 1 destroyer 2 corvettes all from Piraeus.
Other 2 destroyers not located CX reports all 3 left 30 September
on minelaying tasks. 1 later returned and sailed a.m. 1 Oct.
with ZEUS also loaded.
General. Indications preparations for blocking inner harbour
Piraeus under way.
(C. in C. M.E. 021320C)

/Command ...

War Diary2.10.1944
MondayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Command of mixed forces. 733B~~/~~ is cancelled. Greek C.O's will now take command in accordance with M.S.G.O.2. (C. in C. Med. 021812A).
~~/~~ When a Greek ship is in company with Allied Ships her Captain will not perform duty of S.O. of Navy group.

Aegean S/M operations. From position 036 degs. 52' 026 degs. 17' about 0701/3rd proceed through Kinaros Channel diving at 200 feet thence proceed on surface through (A) 037 degs. 28' 025 degs. 54'. (B) 038 degs. 34' 025 degs. 45'. (C) 038 degs. 54' 025 degs. 37' to arrive in (D) 039 degs. 33' 024 degs. 17' about 1207/4th thence to patrol in area YY. (Capt. (S) 1, 021821A to UNTIRING (R) 1st S/M.F. S.O.(I) Izmir, Force A, F.O.L.E.M, S.O. 51 Force, NEREUS.)
 At 0957A in 039 degs. 52' N. 023 degs. 26' E. Attacked ZEUS and 2 motor ships course and speed 090 degs. 12. 3 effective torpedo's remain.
 Weather report 5872 1000.
 (UNSWERVING 021830A to Capt. (S) 1st S/M.F. (R) F.O.L.E.M., 1st S/M.F. NEREUS.)
 BERTE, ASSAB, 1 destroyer 2 E.M.S. sighted in 038 degs. 44' 023 degs. 14' Course North West about 1430A to-day. ((?) Capt (S) 1, 022003A to 1st S/M.F. NEREUS.)
 At 2110A to-day in 039 degs. 25' 023 degs. 15 mins. fired 4 torpedoes at convoy of 3 merchant ships 3 lighters and 2 escorts course 340 degs. speed 8 knots. 2 Merchant ships each seen hit once. One third probable hit heard. 4 torpedoes remain. (CURIE, 022306A to Capt. (S) 1st S/M.F. (R) 1st S/M.F. NEREUS, F.O.L.E.M.)

Italian warships in Balearic Is. S.N.O. Italian Warships in Balearic Is. Capt. (?Marini) visited me to-day and urged need for immediate release of his ships. He stresses fact that continued inactivity and apparent inaction toward their release is causing serious loss of morale among crews who are otherwise loyal to new Italy and only anxious to aid in reconstruction of their Country by maintaining prestige of Navy and taking active participation in tasks allotted to Italian Navy by Allies. Italian Embassy are presenting a note to M.F.A. asking immediate release of ships in view of changed war situation and in return offers to waive all claims against Spanish Govt. for damages and compensation. Ministry of Marine would be delighted to see ships depart but difficulty is the inclusion of arbitration in May agreement. Please see Caserta's letter to Foreign Office of 14th September. (B.N.A. Madrid, 021930A to Admty)

Refit of RICHELIEU. Admiralty is requested to forward all equipment specification and drawings to Casablanca A.M. 281302 ~~/~~ refers. F.O.W.M. is requested to discuss whole matter with Navale France and report their re-actions in absence of Adml. Lemonnie understood to be in Paris A.M. 281902 not to all refers. (C. in C. Med. 021948A to Admty, C.M.S.F.)

/M.E....

2.10.1944
MondayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

M.E. Balkan (Extract). B. Greece. Attica CX reports 30th
Sitrep Sept. speed up in withdrawal of units and material
No.322. north. Crete. Last thousand Germans in

Heraklion expected leave 1st Oct. Stampalia Agios
Eustratios now evacuated. All Germans have left
Samos leaving Italian grn. approx. 700. Kathens.

CX reports second major convoy consisting 2 cargo vessels and the
one remaining destroyer left Piraeus for Salonika late 30th Sept.
Comment. If correct this means considerable reduction merchant

shipping in harbour. Further CX states 2 large cargo vessels
reliably reported loading scrap and rock for use as blockship.
A third large cargo vessel probably also intended this purpose as
also SS. CAROLA whose guns reported being removed. Permanent
dry docks and free Zone Quay reported due for demolition during
next few days. Comment. Ph. R/C confirmation being sought.

(3) Political. Aegean. B.L.O. with Greek Civil Commissioner
reports. Arrived Khios 29th Sept. Big welcome to Governor who
appears supported by all parties whose large majority is Eam.
No unrest in Island. Supply situation in hand, but shortage of
medical stores.

(5) Sea Ops. N.T.R.
(C. in C. M.E. 022015C)

Danube
mining.

Your 181244 Sept. not to F.O.T.A.L.I. Maps how-
ing position types and assembly numbers of British
mines laid in Danube from (corrupt group) to
September 6th inclusive are being produced and
will be forwarded B.N.L.O. Ankara fastest available
means.

(F.O.L.E.M.022024C to C. in C. Med.)

Situation
Report
No.449.

(1) Night 30th September /1st October BLACK PRINCE
(?bombed) Maleme Air Port (Crete) superficial
splinter damage from battery on Cape (?Torn)ada.
(2) Advanced (coastal) force base moved from
Kithera and was established at Poros on 1st Oct.
without incident.

(3) Weather has prevented destroyers bombardments in support of
8th Army for the (last) 4 days.

(4) U.S. JOHN HOPKINS was mined in 043 degs. 04' N. 005 degs. 05'
E. at about 020330. Latest report indicates ship is sinking.
(C. in C. Med, 022315A)

2.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat All areas no fresh information. Scales remain
dispositions. unchanged.
 (C. in C. E.F.020342Z)

Bombay. (Extract). Third. Ports. My 14/Cos. 17 Aug.
 Restoration Victoria Dock, Bombay now expected
 complete by Nov. 1st 1944 except for two berths.
 Military imports showed decline all ports over
previous period but civil imports increased at Bombay and Calcutta.
(C. in C. India, 021030Z)

2.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Friendly S/MS crossing the Atlantic. Your 061827Z September. Concur. Intend to introduce these arrangements 0001/17th October 1944. (A.C.N.S.(H) 021342A to Cominch.)

C.U.40. All arrived 1st October. (D.T.D. 021347A.)

U-boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 021401Z, Cominch, 021625Z.)

M.A.C. ships for H.X.314. Request one M.A.C. ship ex. O.N.F.255 may be sailed with H.X.314 instead of H.X.312. (D.T.D. 021502A to C. in C. C.N.A.)

Russian S.Cs. Your 301507. Cominch informed Russian Naval Attache yesterday that Bermuda-Azores route would not be used and that future groups of Russian S.Cs. would proceed to U.K. via St. John. (2) I understand that diplomatic considerations override desirability of using southern route during winter months. (B.A.D. Washington, 021701Z to F.O.N.F.)

U/B incidents. Para. (A) 300159Z MISSION BAY A/C had Radar contact 11.58 N. 34.38 W. followed by Sonar and Sonobuoy contacts which were repeatedly attacked. Two oil slicks later sighted in area. Para. (D) 020233Z Unidentified ship reported U-boat attack and ship breaking up 23.17 N. 60.40 W. No known ships in area. (Cominch, 022051Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Force X. Com. Seventh Fleet 250253 August and his Oral instructions of this date. Radio Washington passes 300809. Rear Admiral A.G. Talbot R.N. in H.M.S. LOTHIAN together with H.M. Ships GLENEARN, LAMONT, EMPIRE BATTLEAXE, EMPIRE ARQUEBUS, EMPIRE MACE, EMPIRE SPEARHEAD reports for duty in Seventh Amphibious Force. (C.T.G.70.7, 020530Z.)

44

2.10.1944
MondayWar DiaryU-BOAT CAMPAIGNSubmarine
attack
and
sighting
summary.

A. (1) Marauder A/C attacked U-boat with gunfire between 1200Z and 1645Z 1st October in approx. 55° 00' N. 10° 49' E.
 (2) A/S trawler STELLA CANOPUS reported large explosion (possibly Gnat) close to ship at 2217Z 30th September in approx. 58° 33' N. 05° 14' W.
 (3) JOHN HOPKINS reported SSSS hit and sinking about 0146Z 2nd October in approx. 43° 17' N.

04° 54' E. (possibly mined).

B. (1) A/C Q/331 attacked contact with depth charges at 1347Z/1 in 60° 52' N. 04° 00' E.

(2) A/C sighted periscope course 270° at 0245Z/2 in 60° 35' N. 02° 45' E.

(3) A/C G/461 obtained disappearing radar contact at 1830Z/1 in 59° 56' N. 03° 47' E.

(D.D.I.C. 021122A.)

U-boat Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 021328A, 021330A.)

3.10.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

(1) Extensive southabout sailings are now being inaugurated; practically all shipping between Tyne and Clyde will now pass this way instead of northabout, and in addition any other ships whose masters are not prepared to navigate the Sounds of Mull and Islay.

North Sea.

2(a) A truce has been declared at Dunkirk, to expire at 0600 October 6th.
(b) American aircraft have sunk an East Coast navigational aid by machine gun fire.

Channel.

(3) Ten ground mines were detonated off Sangatte.

Northern Waters.

(4) A mysterious trawler ^(name page III) has appeared off Pendulum Island, East Greenland. The case is being investigated by U.S.S. EASTWIND and aircraft; so far without result.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Levant.

5(a) AURORA bombarded Maleme airport, Crete last night.
(b) In the early hours of today UNSWERVING obtained one hit on the German SS. BERTHA 40 miles north of Skiathos.
(c) 16 seafires of the Escort Carrier Force gunned the W/T Station on Levitha Island (Dodecanese) and 16 Hellcats attacked Portolago, Leroc, today. At Portolago ships in harbour were hit and a large barge was set on fire. One aircraft is missing.
(d) 14 Beaufighters today attacked off Attica in the Western Aegean an enemy convoy of 5 small vessels southbound and did considerable damage.

3.10.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

(6) The tanker NEDERLAND reported a submarine on the surface early this morning in 14.03 N. 56.17 E. (near Socotra). The submarine did not attack.

Australia and New Zealand

7(a) A small escort vessel was torpedoed by a U-Boat off the east coast of Morotai this morning. Attack by small formations of enemy aircraft over southern Morotai last night did no damage.
(b) 21 Liberators from Darwin bombed the water front and main quays at Macassar last night.
(c) 55 Lightnings bombed Heoning Seaplane Base, Ambon today with 1000 lb. bombs, burning hangars and installations.

3.10.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

S.H.A.E.F.
 Public
 Relations
 Division:
 move from
 London to
 Paris.

From Allen signed Scaed cite S.H.P.R.D. Rear.
 Public Relations Division Main, subject to weather
 conditions, will close at Ministry of Information,
 London 1300/6th October and open Paris same date
 and hour. The designation Main and Forward will
 be discontinued at this time.

Address for all Official Mail Public Relations
 Division C.O. S.H.A.E.F. Army Post Office 757,
 United States (Army), or F.P.O. care of B.L.A.

Cable and Radio address S.H.A.E.F. F.O.S. S.H.P.R.D.

A small Rear Echelon will be maintained at Ministry of Information
 London, Mail address Public Relations Division, S.H.A.E.F. Rear,
 Army Post Office 757, United States Army or Ministry of Informa-
 tion C.A. London, Cable and Radio address S.H.A.E.F. Rear for
 S.H.P.R.D. Rear.

All addresses are for official postal and Signal Corps Channels.
 Instructions on Press channels will be issued separately.

These instructions pertain to Public Relations Division only.

See S.H.A.E.F. Signal F.W.D. 16323 September 30th.

Briefing of Correspondents will close in London with 1130 hours
 Conference and open in Paris 1700 hours Conference.

For all Public Relations Officers S.M.C.F.W.D. please distribute
 to all Staff Divisions.

(S.H.A.E.F. Main, 031130A to Exfor Main, 12 Army Group, Main six
 Army Group, Main Com. Zone, First Allied Airborne Army, Allied
 Expeditionary Air Force Main, Allied Naval Commander Expeditionary
 Force Main.)

Com. Belgium
 to be
 responsible
 for Q.Z.S.
 584 and
 Ostend.

When M.M/S Flotilla referred to in C. in C. Nore
 021211 can be accepted Cdre. Belgium should assume
 responsibility for A.M. Q.Z.S. 584 and Ostend Har-
 bour and Approaches in accordance with my 021225.
 (2) It is requested Flotilla Maintenance Party on
 scale allowed for 6 ships may be supplied by C. in C
 Nore. Ref. A.M. 022132 August para. 6 (A) My 1717E
 Sept. not to Admty. and ? my 012035 Oct. refers.
 (A.N.C.X.F. 031155A to C. in C. Nore, Com. Belgium)

C.T.F.125
 to be
 responsible
 between Brest
 and d'Antifer.

Concur in principle in your 011901.
 (2) My views are (A) A proportion of forces now
 under F.O.B.A.A. should be transferred to your
 command under Acting Commander Venables.
 (B) F.O.B.A.A. should retain remainder of his
 present forces under Capt. Teynham.
 (3) Do you intend Commander Temple to continue to
 serve as a Staff Officer or to assume operational

authority.

(4) Request that after consultation with F.O.B.A.A. you will
 propose date for transfer and detailed arrangements.

(A.N.C.X.F. 031157A to C.T.F.125)

/ Proposed ...

War Diary

3.10.1944

TuesdayHOME COMMANDSPolicy

Proposed S/M sanctuary of all Irish Sea.

My 012232. As a result of this meeting the following extensions to S/M sanctuaries will be necessary:-

(A) Rockabill. An extension to the southward bounded by 53 degs. 25' N. and 53 degs. 09' N. and 05 degs. 16' W. and 05 degs. 42' W. An area 5 miles on each side of a line drawn 270 degs. from S. Stack to junction with extension proposed above.

(B) ELSWICK. An extension to the northward and westward bounded by a line drawn through the following positions. (1) 54 degs. 06' N. 03 degs. 37' W. (II) 54 degs. 06' N. 04 degs. 06' W. (III) 54 degs. 30' N. 04 degs. 06' W. (IV) 54 degs. 30' N. 03 degs. 47' W.

(2) In view of the above extensions and the fact that movements of S/Ms in the Irish Sea will be frequent with consequent escort difficulties, it is proposed and strongly recommended that the whole Irish Sea bounded to the north by latitude 55 degs. N. and to the south by the line from Tuskar Rock to S. Davids Head should be instituted as a S/M sanctuary. There would appear to be no operational objection to this measure and considerable simplicity and saving of time would result. F.O.S. representative fully concurred.

(3) As it is desired to start exercises with S/Ms in the areas referred to in para. 1 on October 9th request early consideration and promulgation if approved.

(C. in C. W.A. 031737A to Admty)

Movements

C.S.10. Flag of C.S.10 is to be transferred to DIADEM at 0900 tomorrow Wednesday. Signals to be sent to DIADEM from 1300 to-day Tuesday.
(C. in C. H.F. 030820A to H.F. at Scapa.)

BLYSKAWICA. A.M.302210. Add BLYSKAWICA to 10th D.F. (V.C.N.S.031115A to Cs. in C., H.F., Plymouth, Med., E.F.)

C.S.1. Flag of C.S.1 will be transferred from CAMPANIA to KENT at 0900A tomorrow Wednesday.
(C. in C. H.F. 032211A to H.F. at Scapa.)

SPEAKER. Your 111146 September approved.
(D.N.A.032319A to F.O.C.T.)

OperationsSituation Reports

Naval. Number 182 Part 2, Naval.
(A) General. U-Moored mines have been swept in Seine River at four points from Tancarville to just below Rouen.

(B) Captured Ports. Le Treport has been re-opened to L.C.T.

(C) Unloading figures:

/ Place ...

3.10.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval. (Contd.)	Place.	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol.
	East Calvados	896	493	3,259	3,503
	Dieppe and Le Treport	1,148	43	7,373	Nil
	British Total	2,044	536	10,632	3,503
	Cherbourg	31	55	9,664	10,923
	Beaches	4,288	1,014	4,865	106
	Britanny Ports	Nil	47	5,022	1,300
	Small Ports	Nil	Nil	5,237	Nil
	U.S. Total	4,319	1,116	24,788	12,329
	Combined Total	6,363	1,652	35,420	15,832

Adverse weather curtailed unloading on U.S. Beaches.
(Adm. Ramsay, 032350A to Admty)

Operations

North Sea

Truce at
Dunkirk.

A truce has been declared at Dunkirk from 1800
Oct. 3rd until 0600 Oct. 6th in area Gravelines
Map Reference H 06 80 Wormhoudt H 29 66 Furnes
H 44 86.

(A.N.C.X.F. 031725A to Admty, C. in C. Nore,
F.O.C. Dover, F.O.B.A.A., Cdre. Belgium)

Attempted
demolition
of Nijmegen
bridges.

Nijmegen road and rail bridges damaged by swimming
saboteurs using apparently new type of charge.
One charge recovered intact and is being rendered
safe and investigated by bomb disposal officer
borrowed from N.O.I.C. Antwerp.
Have also borrowed Lieut. Cdr. Sclater R.N. to ad-
vise 30 Corps on boom and net protection of bridges.
(N.L.O.N.G.A. 301840A to A.N.C.X.F.)
Note: Above signal was passed to Admty by A.N.C.X.F.

Operations

Channel

Patrol.

Pins cover Night 3rd/4th October.
G.H.1 VANOC X 9 south.
G.H. 2 SPRAGGE Z.109.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 031152A to Admiralty, C. in C.
Nore, V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth,
F.Os.I.C. Portland, Milford Haven, Falmouth,
Cardiff. Ships maintaining W/T watch on Broadcasts
HD. and CN. in Area C. Ships and Authorities in
Area GC of Med. Stn. N. of 40 degs. 32'.)

/Telephone...

War Diary

3.10.1944
Tuesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Channel - Contd.

Telephone Cable to France. My 081222 and F.O.C. Dover, 121159 Sept. not to all S.H.A.E.F. request first cable may be laid to TERMINAL at Le Portel 650 520. Understand Army Group signals will be ready naval end 8th Oct. still request:
(A) F.O.C. Dover will start laying as soon as practicable inform Boulogne and Army Group.
(B) N.O.I.C. Boulogne will arrange contact with army signal local.
(C) Northern Army Group will communicate proposals for further lays to authorities in address of this signal as soon as practicable. Route St. Margarets-Sangette has been swept to within 3 miles of French Shore.
(3) N.L.O. Northern Group of Armies. Pass P/L version to Northern Army Groups.
(A.N.C.X.F.031953A to V.A. Dover, N.O.I.C. Boulogne.)

Operations

West Coast France.

Patrols. Carry out operation "Assault".
(A) Force 26 TANATSIDE (S.O) ALBRIGHTON.
(B) 0600A/5th October. (C) My most direct route to reach (AA) 47 degs. N. 4 degs. W. by 2000A/5.
(D) Patrol between Belle Ile and Gironde.
(G) Force 28 BLYSKAWICA, ASHANTI patrol between Belle Ile and Gironde until p.m. 5th October.
Subsequent movements of Force 28 will be signalled.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 031827A to TANATSIDE, ALBRIGHTON.)
Opas 17 (b) Audierne Bay. Am sweeping north of (routes?) in accordance with your 021318(A?).
Intelligence (Report). Arcachon visited. No new information since liberation of Bordeaux. 7 Steam Trawlers and a number of M.F.V. now using port. Sables d'Olonne. Navigational information collected. No intelligence since yesterday. Colonel F.F.I. reports a number of qualified French Merchant captains in Sables who volunteer for Allied Service. Weather report 6782 2872.
(Force 27, 031933A to C. in C. Plymouth)
18 Spanish fishing ships fishing in position 046 degs. 50' N. 003 degs. 25' W.
Request instructions.
(BLYSKAWICA 032205A to C. in C. Plymouth)
Your 032205A examine a few of the fishing ships to ascertain if they are genuine fishermen. If genuine frighten them away towards Spanish Coast using no more force than is necessary; do not attack any of them without further orders, report results.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 032322A to BLYSKAWICA)

War Diary

3.10.1944
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Western Approaches

Suspected U-Boat. Poor D/F bearings at 2122Z on 4069 K/cs. Series 1 indicate U-Boat in your general area. (D.D.I.C. 030034A to Escorts of O.N.F.256) O.N. 256. Your 030034A. Signal heard fear sky wave bearings unreliable. My position, course and speed 049 degs. 29' N. 025 degs. 43' W. 263 degs. 9½ knots. Weather report 6480 3542. (S.O. E.G. B.3, 030203A to Admty)

Patrol. My 031054A patrol between 050 degs. 45' N. 005 degs. 20' W. and 050 degs. 10' N. 006 degs. 15' W. (C. in C. Plymouth, 031633A to BENTLEY, CAPEL)

Operation "CD". My 031555 not to PLOVER. H.M.S. SWEETBRIAR is detailed to act as escort in operation "CD". Request you will issue her with copy of operation orders and sail PLOVER and SWEETBRIAR at 1830/5th October to carry out operation "CD" (C. in C. W.A. 031742A to N.O.I.C. Milford Haven)

*Deep unmanifested
St. Georges Channel*

Operations

North Western Approaches

Patrol. At 0600/4th October 2nd E.G. if not in contact is to be detached to operate against passage U-Boats in area 58 degs. to 60 degs N. and 18 degs. to 20 degs. W. weather damage is not to be incurred. (2) On 2nd E.G. detaching, 31st E.G. is to operate in area 55 degs. to 56 degs. N. and 12 degs. to 14 degs. W. (C. in C. W.A. 032301A to Force 33.)

Operations

Norway

Patrol. Routed through 090 degs. Muckle Flugga 20 miles 061 degs. 01' 000 degs. 50' E. and 061 degs. 01' 002 degs. 53' E. thence south eastward to patrol P.66 (ULA) left Lerwick 0903A/3rd Oct, diving by day east of 000 degs. 50' E. (S.O. (S) Lerwick 030916A to SATYR)

Operation "SC". (1) A.M. 5th October or 1st suitable day thereafter
(2) 2 days.
(3) 067 degs. Sumburgh Head (intend to sail S/M Chaser operation from Scalloway)
(4) Air escort not specially required on return journey.
(5) My 031152 gives codeword and area. (A.C.O.S. 031151A to Admty)

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TuesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperationsNorthern Waters.

Patrol. Continue Anti-U-Boat operations in area between 63 degs. N. and 64 degs. 10' N. and 04 degs. W. and 02 degs. W. until P.L.E. of destroyer escort. My 021209A para. 3, patrol orders for E.G.6 when carrier force leave will be signalled later. (C. in C. Rosyth, 030958A to S.O. E.G.6, TRUMPETER)
My 030958A shift area for A/U operation by daylight tomorrow October 4th to 063 degs. 00' N. and 064 degs. 10' N. and 000 degs. 30' W. and 002 degs. 00' W. 18 Group will be operating between 063 degs. 10' N. and 064 degs. 10' W. and 002 degs. 00' W. and 006 degs. 00' W. Submerged bombing restriction is in force to East Greenwich Meridian. (C. in C. Rosyth, 032332A to S.O. E.G. 6, TRUMPETER.)

Trawler off Pendulum Island. Subsequent flights October 2nd and 3rd and EASTWIND search from flank covered enemy speeds up to 12 knots including Coastal waters to pack at 1730. Results negative. EASTWIND enroute Little Koldewey to conduct landing operations. 021615. Air search continues. Sledge patrol has Ice condition North 74.30 scattered with (?compact) patches and navigable new ice. N.O.B.I. pass to A.C.I.C. (Unknown U.S. Ship 032002Z to Com. Greenland Patrol)

Allied Air Activity

Destruction of Navigational Aids by American A/C. F.O.I.C. Harwich's 031315. Following also received from F.O.I.C. Yarmouth begins:- From F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, 031525A. To C. in C. Nore, Info N.O.I.C. Lowestoft. Restricted. N.O.I.C. Lowestoft report: Fishermen from Lowestoft fishing boat DRACOENA report that at 1915 on Sunday 1st October whilst in the vicinity of South Barnard Buoy they observed four American planes which dived and machine gunned the buoy which on Monday was reported missing from station. 031525A, ends. (C. in C. Nore, 031844A to Admty, Air Ministry)

Mining

Commodore-Belgium to assume responsibility for mine-sweeping. When M.M/S Flotilla referred to in C. in C. Nore 021211 can be accepted Cdre. Belgium should assume responsibility for Coastal approach channels and Ostend Harbour and approaches in accordance with my 021225. (2) It is requested that Flotilla maintenance party on scale allowed for 6 ships may be supplied by C. in C. Nore. Ref. A.M. 022132 August para.6 (A) my 171758 Sept. not to Admiralty (?and) my 012035 Oct. refers. (A.N.C.X.F. 031155A to C. in C. Nore, Com. Belgium)

/Negative ...

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSMining - Contd.Negative
result at
Le Havre.Report of sweeping carried out up to 1700 to-day
October 3rd 1944. LL/SA search of approach
Channel, inner and outer anchorages carried out
negative results.
(C.T.F.125.5.2, 031713A to C.T.F.125.)Dover
mine-sweeping
report.Dover Forces minesweeping report Tuesday Oct. 3rd.
(A) Pluto Channel re-swept LL and SA to Harbour
entrance. (B) Channel 2 partly swept Oropesa
and completed LL and SA. 10 ground mines detonated
inside 6 fathom line off Sangatte.
(C) Channel joining junction of channel 3 and 4
in a direction 048 degs. to channel 5 swept LL and SA.
(V.A.Dover, 032015A to A.N.C.X.F.)Enemy IntelligenceNorthern
air
activity.German Air Force activity Sept. 16th - 30th as
reported by Russians.
(A) Zenit and sea R/C flights. Barents Sea 26th
2 A/C only. Greenland Sea 17th and 29th.
(B) Other R/C and fighter activity. R/C of Kola
Inlet was made by small groups of fighters once
p.m. 26th and 3 times A.M. 27th presumably detecting the presence
of J.W.60. This was repeated a.m. 30th. Fighter barrage
and interception activity in Varanger Fiord - Motovski Gulf area
by up to 30 fighters type M.E.109 and F.W.190 have been reported
on 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 24th and 28th.
(C) No repetition no bombing reported.
(S.B.N.O. N. Russia, 030811A to C. in C. H.F.)German
Military
Transport to
Norway.My 211137.
(1) Large passenger ship believed to be MONTE ROSA
passed northbound through Great Belt at 1630
Sept. 21st. She was escorted by 3,000 ton
auxiliary cruiser. Inference: Return of both MAR
DEL PLATA and MONTE ROSA to Oslo route and conse-
quent increase in troop activities possibly bears
out inference suggested in para. (c) my R.S. 2634 Sept. 8th.
(2) It is confirmed that DONAU, ISAR and WARTHELAND were still
employed mid September transporting Estonian refugees Estmia to
Gydnia.
(3) (a) Fast steamer service between Fredrikstad and Fredrikshavn
continued regularly up to September 24th. Route was operated
by 2 transports MARS and JUPITER until Sept. 20th when third
transport BRABANT returned to route after repairing.
(b) Average of about 400 troops was usually carried in both
directions but during latter half of month number of troops carried
southwards appeared to exceed those northwards.
(c) On one occasion BRABANT was stated to have arrived in
Fredrikshavn from Fredrikstad September 20th with about 200 British
and American prisoners. B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 301252 to Admty)N.I.D. Comment: The shipping movements now reported appear
correct. The early resumption of troop withdrawals from Norway
is expected. MONTE ROSA and MAR DEL PLATA may be intended for
this movement.

/EMDEN...

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Intelligence - Contd.

EMDEN.

German main units. EMDEN reported recently to be carrying out cruises in Skaggerak.

D.3.

(N.A. Stockholm, 031806 to Admty.)

O.I.C. Comment. Formation attacked by Beaufighters at 0023/2nd Oct. S.W. of Kristiansand South is believed to have consisted of EMDEN and destroyers. Four destroyers have been reported with mines on board in Oslo Fiord, formation was therefore probably engaged in minelaying.

Port Facilities

Boulogne.

M/S position at Boulogne sweep Rade Carnot and dredged Channel between Digue Carnot and inner breakwater together Pluto Channel inside harbour should have received 15 actuations LL/SA by

Wednesday 4th October. All areas (?have been) swept for moored mines but delay in sinking release are possible. Consider shipping can be brought forward on test 5th October with reasonable safety subject to Salvage Officer's report. Regret B.Y.M.S. 2154 received damage to-day from near miss by acoustic mine ship beached in Rade Carnot and salvage redirected.
(Capt. M/S Seine, 031746 to F.O.B.A.A.)

Ostend.

(1) 2 Coasters, 3 L.S.T's sailed 2 L.S.Ts. arrived West Beach.

(2) Exploded charges in Block Ship. Result not yet ascertained.

(3) Attempted to unload L.C.T.7084 without success. Further attempt tomorrow.

(4) P Party 1572 returned U.K. by L.S.T. from refitting.

(5) Petrol storage developed serious leak when filled. Petrol reloaded into Tankers and leak repairs. Discharge of Tankers commenced.

(N.O.I.C.Ostend, 032116A to Com. Belgium)

Casualties and Defects.B.Y.M.S.
2154.

B.Y.M.S. 2154 damaged by mine and beached in Boulogne Harbour damage will be inspected and reported after low water further signal giving casualties follows.

(N.O.I.C. Boulogne, 031805A to Admty, Capt. M/S. Seine, V.A. Dover.)

Shipping and ConvoysSailings
from Far
Shore.

C. in C. Portsmouth 021352A.

(1) Ships sailing from Arrow for Nore are to be sailed in convoy as heretofore.

(2) Pending definite instructions for all ships dimmed navigation lights are to be burnt at night in ordinary visibility and at full brilliancy in

thick weather by all ships while in the Portsmouth Command.

(F.O.B.A.A. 030931 to N.O.I.C.s, Arrow and Dieppe)

/Responsibility ...

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys

- Sailings from Far Shore. (Contd.) Responsibility for ships sailing from Omaha or Utah to U.K. rests with C. in C. Portsmouth. His requirements should therefore be met except in case of emergency such as bad weather necessitating clearance of anchorage (Your 021133). (A.N.C.X.F. (Main) 031720A to C.T.F.125) C.T.F.125 021133. As risks off beaches are considered greater than war risks in Channel, I am prepared to agree to personnel ships sailing independently and unescorted. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 032231 to A.N.C.X.F. Main.)
- Convoy R.A.60. Your 301702 arrived. Admiralty pass to M.W.T. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 030945A to S.B.N.O. N. Russia) Intend to leave R.A.60 before dark in order to arrive Hoxa Gate at 0700A/4th October, CAMPANIA (C.S.1) RODNEY, STRIKER, SIOUX, SAUMAREZ, VENUS, VOLAGE, VIRAGO, SCORPION in company.
(2) Intend to transfer to KENT on arrival.
(3) Request CAMPANIA may berth at A buoy and tug may be in attendance as she has only one anchor.
(4) Request group IX 0001 - 0030 group IV 0300 - 0615 group III 0500 - 0700.
(5) Request gates A.C.O.S. acknowledge. (C.S.1, 030949A to A.C.O.S.)
R.A.60 W.A. Escorts are to remain with convoy to Clyde detaching ships for Belfast, Mersey and Bristol Channel to proceed independently from Mull of Kintyre.
(2) Commodore is requested to signal to F.O.I.C. Greenock any urgent requirements of Clyde ships bound for U.S.A.
(3) N.O.I.C. Aulbea is requested to signal to escorts R/V for and names of coastal ships which may be joining from Loch Ewe. (C. in C. W.A. 031130A to Escorts R.A.60)
R.A.60. My 022045, delete SAMSUVA. (D.T.D. 031354A to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe)
R.A.60 My 031130A Para. one. For escorts read W.A. escorts. (2) Ships bound Loch Ewe are to be detached on passing. (C. in C. W.A. 031430A to Escorts R.A.60, (R) Shore Authorities concerned in the U.K., C. in C. H.F. MENTOR.)
- Forming and disposing of ships in convoy. Whenever one or more C.V.Es. or M.A.C. ships are operating in a trade convoy the three rear positions in the Commodore's Column and the two columns adjacent to the Commodore's Column are to be left vacant for flying operations. The area thus formed in the centre rear of the convoy will be known as the "Box".
(2) Whenever conditions are unsuitable for flying there is no objection to filling in the vacant positions in the "Box" to facilitate station keeping.
(3) These instructions are not applicable to fast convoys.
(4) 997 N. D.T.G.101855 June is cancelled. A.C.I. Art. 145 para. 9, will be amended accordingly. (C. in C. W.A. 031149A to WA.G.M. 070 N.)

/ Nomenclature...

War Diary3.10.1944
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys - Contd.

Nomenclature "Overlord" Convoys. The original three letter system for designation of convoys between U.K. and "Neptune" area is to be discontinued. (2) All Convoys concerned with the "Overlord" build-up will continue to be designated by three self-evident letters, the first letter to represent the port or area of departure, the second letter to represent the destination port or area, and the third letter the nature of the Convoy.

(3) Port or area letters are as follows:-
 A - Antwerp (including Ostend and Zeebrugge).
 B - Bristol Channel. C - Cornwall (and Devon).
 D - Dieppe (including Treport and Fecamp).
 E - Cherbourg. F - French U.S. Beaches (Omaha and Utah).
 G - Boulogne. H - Spare. I - Harwich. J - Ijmuiden (and Amsterdam). K - Hook of Holland (including Rotterdam).
 L - Hull (and Humber ports). M - Arromanches (including Port en Bessin and Ouistreham-Caen). N - Spare. O - St. Malo (and North Brittany Ports). P - Portland. Q - Spare. R - Brest.
 S - Calais (and Dunkirk). T - Thames. U - Hamburg.
 V - Havre and Rouen. W - Isle of Wight. X - Newhaven (Sussex).
 Y - Spare. Z - Spare.

(4) Examples of new convoys would be:-
 XDC.2 2nd Coaster convoy from Newhaven to Dieppe.
 E.V.L.1 1st L.S.T. convoy from Cherbourg to Havre.
 (D.T.D. C31341A to A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A., A.C. Dover, Com. Belgium.
 F.O.B.A.A. C.T.F.125. Com. Z.C.O.T., C.T.F.123. A.N.C.X.F. (Buco), S.H.A.E.F. (Fwd.) W.O. C.O.T., Etousa. Comnavu, 21 A.G. (Rear), F.O.I.C. Netherlands, A.N.C.X.F. (Ph).)

F.B.C. Convoys. Timetable for F.B.C. convoys.
 C.T.F's. 171925A Sept. Para. (D) refers.
 My 191242A Sept. and 021504A Oct. and C. in C. Plymouth's 212330 Sept. should be regarded as cancelled.

(2) Timetable as follows should be brought into force starting with F.B.C. 103 on October 5th.

(3) F.B.C. Convoys will leave Cherbourg at 0800A daily passing H.10 at 0830A, N.1 at 1600A, A1 at 1815A Portland Bill at 2015A. Eddystone at 0630A. D1 at 1130A and Lundy at 0530A. Request Joiners may be sailed accordingly.

(4) Agreed with C. in C. Plymouth. This is in reply to C.T.F. 125, 261635A Sept., not to all.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 031535A to C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C.'s Cardiff, Milford Haven, Falmouth, Portland, N.C.S.O. Southampton, N.C.S.O. Sidmouth?)

U.K. coastal shipping. Pass to F.O.I.Cs., N.O.I.Cs., and N.C.S.Os.
 Coastal shipping should be routed as follows:

- (A) All shipping to be sailed Southabout.
- (1) Between ports S. of Tees and S. of Clyde.
- (2) Between Tyne and Liverpool and ports S. thereof.

(3) Between Clyde and Humber and ports S. thereof.
 (B) All other shipping is to be sailed Northabout in appropriate convoys, providing Masters are prepared to use Sounds of Islay and Mull, otherwise ships are to sail Southabout.

(D.T.D. 031735A to C. in Cs. Rosyth, Nore, W.A., Plymouth, Portsmouth, A.C.O.S., V.A. Dover)

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TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSSouth AtlanticO.S./S.L.
Convoy
Commodores.

Owing to lack of ships with suitable accommodation and to the small size of O.S./S.L. Convoys between Gibraltar and Freetown Naval Commodores are being withdrawn from this run for the present.
(D.T.D. 031405A)

Enemy S/M
Estimate
1200Z/4.

(a) One S/M believed to be moving S.E. position established by attack and sighting plot in general area 007° 30' N. 031° 00' W.
(c) One estimated to be moving South plot in general area 006° 00' N. 027° 00' W.
(Com 4th Fleet 031828Z to H.M.S. RANEE)

Hastings

Reference para C(E) of enclosure to A.L.M. 012741/43 of 30th August 44. The resident minister has requested me to inform you that he now agrees that the permanent facilities which exist at Hastings and its close proximity to the Naval dockyard are conclusive in favour of its retention. My 291338/ August refers.
(F.O.C.W.Af. 031933Z to Adty.)
/ Development of Hastings as future Naval Air Station and repair yard.

War Diary3.10.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Danarm

Repetition of A.M. 020123A.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 030123A to C. in C. Med.)S/M
Aegean
operations.

At 0114 in 039° 49' N. 023° 26' E. secured on hit on BERTE*. Course and speed North 9.
(2) Have withdrawn S.E. Weather report 6582 1732.
(UNSWERVING 030330A to Capt. (S) 1st, (R) F.O.L.E.M. 1st S/M Flot.) * Presumably SS. BERTHA Ex. BERTER intended 1810 tons.

From position 038° 34' 025° 45' proceed to Samos Strait. Thence diving by day through Turkish territorial waters close South of Capes Krio and Forcmito to 036° 18' 028° 34' and position (D) of standard route.

(2) When clear of Turkish territorial waters proceed on surface at 9 knots report your E.T.A. at (D)

(Capt. (S) 1 031740 to UNSWERVING.)

Patrol in new area. My 031112A refers.*

(2) Well done your 022306.

(Capt. (S) 1 031115 to CURIE (R) 1st S/M F. NEREUS, F.O.L.E.M.)

* Amend Southern limit of area ZZ and SS.

From position 035° 03' 027° 30' at 0645/4th proceed on surface at 9½ knots through position (D) at 1215/4th thence at 8½ knots by standard route to R/V with escort in position (A) at 0654 7th.

(2) You may encounter MATROZOS about 1158/5th and VIVID about 1457 5th.

(3) Time A.

(Capt. (S) 1, 031554 to VOX.)

Your 021821A ordering UNTIRING to patrol area YY and your 031115A ordering CURIE to patrol new area. Appreciate new area means amended YY. Intend patrolling area SS.

(UNTIRING 031807A to Capt. (S) One. Info. F.O.L.E.M., 1st S/M F., NEREUS.)

S/M VIVID sailed from Malta by standard route at 2001A 3rd and arrives position (d) at 1542A 6th.

(Capt. (S) 1, 032058 to 1st S/M F S/M App. Force 'A', F.O.L.E.M., MATROZOS, NEREUS.)

ZEUS and 2 destroyers arrived Piraeus.

(Capt. (S) 1 032106 to 1st S/M F. NEREUS, MATROZOS.)

Fast
Motor
boats.

Cominch has approved transfer of 16 P.T. boats to British under lend lease and plans referred to in para. two of my 181542 are being implemented.
(C. in C. Med. 031047A to Admt.)

Aegean
S/M
patrol
Areas.

Amend. Southern Limit of area ZZ and SS to lat. 039° 37'.

(2) Cancel area XX and TT.

(3) Amend limit of area YY to lat. 039° 37' and 039° 21' lat. 023° 59' and line joining 039° 21' 023° 20' and 039° 37' 023° 08'.

(4) My 231619 Sept. not to Force "A".

(Capt. (S) 1, 031112A to 1st S/M F. NEREUS, F.O.L.E.M., S.O. Force 51, S.O.(I) Med., S.O. Force A.)

/Cositintrep...

3.10.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Cositintrep No. 451, Part 4. Cositintreps numbers 448 - 450 Part 4 not issued. Poros. No. 9 Commando which landed on Kithera last month has now moved to the island of Poros together with a squadron of the Greek Sacred Regiment. Northwest Peleponnese. Over 700 troops of a Greek security battalion surrendered to our troops in the Patras area on night 1/2 October. Southern Albania. Our Commando forces continue to harass the enemy in the Sarande - Delvino area. (A.F.H.Q. T.O.O. nil/3.)

Jibuti M.Ls. required. French state that British authorities understood by Naval France to be those at Aden have requested that harbour police at Jibuti may be reinforced in view of future Naval activities. (2) French are sending necessary personnel but state that they will require two motor launches or similar craft to meet additional commitments. They request that these may be provided from British sources. (3) *C.C.S.358 paras. 6, 7 and 10 may possibly be considered applicable although strictly this does not appear to be a naval matter. (4) F.O.W.M. is requested to ensure that Naval France takes action in accordance with C.C.S.358 para. 6. (C. in C. Med., 031529A to Admty., F.O.W.M.) *Not identified in W.R.)

H.S. GRADISCA boarded. (2) Doctor considers sick and wounded genuine. No military stores found on board. (2) Weather report 9080 1474. (F.O.E.C. 031711C to F.O.L.E.M.)

Black Sea - Intelligence. Following from Russian Naval Attache:- (1) Merchant ship EMBA (7886 tons), SOVIESKAYA NEFT (8228), VOROSHILOV (3908) were mined and sunk at Tuapse and are a total loss. (2) Following sunk but salvage may be possible:- PITAL(?IN) (4156 tons at Tuapse), KRASNY PROFATIBLE (4648 at Odessa), VOSTOK (2787 at Odessa) (3) Port of Odessa can now receive and discharge three vessels of ten thousand tons. (4) At Sevastopol vessels can discharge on beach but rail road tunnel still obstructed. Estimated two months for clearing. (S.O.(I) Istanbul 031748C)

Orders for German Navy upon surrender. It is noted that no provision is made in para. 5 of A.M. 300213* for transmission of information to C. in C. Med. direct from German Naval Authorities. Presume it is intended that all pertinent information should be passed to C. in C. Med. by Allied Naval Authorities in North Sea.

3.10.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Orders for
German Navy
upon
surrender.
(Contd.)

(2) Consider that this will lead to unnecessary delay. Request that provision should be made for information about German Naval activities in Mediterranean to be brought direct to C. in C. Med. by responsible German Officers.

(3) Admiralty pass to Admiral Archer (C. in C. Med., O31946A, to Admty., (R) Adml. Archer, C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. Nore, C. in C. H.F.)
* See Home Commands.

M.E. Balkan
Sitrep No.
323.

(Extract).

Two Int. (a) Crete. 29th September number of Germans now estimated 11,000. About 8 of troop carrying planes leaving nightly land at Gida B 4646 (or O 4646). Leros RF reports 26th September Grn. 930 Germans.

(b) Greece. Athens. CX reports 28 and 29 September Germans blowing up stores.
Three. Political. Aegean. Greek Civil Commissioner arrived Mytilene 2nd October and given good reception by population.
Five. Sea Ops. NTR.
(C. in C. M.E. O32015C.)

Escort
Carrier
operations.

W/T Station on Levitha cannon strafed by 16 Seafires, hits observed no sign of life. Consider target not worth bombardment.
(2) Porto Lango attacked by 16 Hellcats. One large barge set on fire. 2 coasters, 12 Caiques and several small craft bombed and gunned. Result not observed.
(3) One Hellcat did not return.
(F.O.E.C. O32017C.)

Mining of
Danube.

Agree C.O.S.(A)'s O21249. One of the bargaining counters used by Danarm to exchange for Russian information was details of British mining in Danube. Admiralty message 301820 September suggests this information may be being given too freely. My O22024 refers. My impression after talking to Wolfson is that he has come up against that difficult type of Russian who is afraid both of himself and his own Government.
(F.O.L.E.M. O32307C to C. in C. Med.)

War Diary3.10.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U-Boat
dispositions. No fresh information. Scales in all areas
remain at ? W. 5.
(C. in C. E.F. 030339Z)

GAMBIA and
U.S.S. GEN.
MITCHELL,
GEN. RANDALL. Anticipated that U.S.S. GENERAL MITCHELL and
GENERAL RANDALL will be ready to sail Bombay on
13th October for Melbourne.
(2) F.O. Bombay is requested to sail these ships
accordingly escorted by RACEHORSE and REDOUBT.
(3) Route from Bombay through position
(c) 018° 01' N. 072° 18' E.

(d) 016° 01' N. 072° 36' E.
(e) 081° 01' N. 074° 22' E.
(f) 008° 01' N. 076° 02' E.
(g) 004° 30' S. 084° 45' E.
(h) 025° 35' S. 099° 52' E. thence as ordered by Com.SouWest Pac.
(4) V.A. (2) E.F. is requested to sail GAMBIA to R/V with the
above ships in position (g) (above) at 0500Z/17.
(5) When GAMBIA has joined RACEHORSE and REDOUBT are to part
company and proceed to Trincomalee.
(6) GAMBIA and RACEHORSE are to set watch on 4740 kc/s for 12
hours before time for R/V for (corrupt group) inter communication
purposes if considered necessary.
(7) Comsouwestpac Seafron is requested to detach GAMBIA as
requisite to proceed to Fremantle.
(8) F.O. Bombay and V.A. (2) E.F. are requested to confirm and
repeat back date time and position of R/V in para. 4.
(C. in C. E.F. 030403Z)

Attack
restrictions
on friendly
S/M's. A.M. / 031819.
(1) It is not desired to put escorted friendly
S/Ms under total attack restrictions as this will
hamper anti-S/M air patrols when carrying out
sweeps in an area through which an escorted S/M
is proceeding.
(2) Restriction signals other than sanctuaries
are at present only passed to A/C carriers and shore based A/C.
The existing situation reports read by Major War Vessels
amplified as occasion demands by meet signals have provided
adequate safeguards to S/Ms on this station up to date. The
distribution of restriction signals to Major War Vessels will be
considered on receipt of C.B. 03082/43.
(3) Restriction signals will in future be numbered serially.
A/C Carriers having read the situation report will decypher the
restrictions if concerned, the serial number of the restriction
signal will be included after the name of the S/M in the
situation report to facilitate this.
(4) Request A.I.G. be allocated to the following Colombo and
Trinco General Fleet and Escort Carriers E.F. R.N. Air Stations
India and Ceylon repeat R.A.N.A.S.I.O., R.A.A.E.F., 222 Group
Captains S.E.F. from C. in C. E.F. Short title Ceylon S/M
Sanctuary Signal.
(C. in C. E.F. 030408 to Adty)
/ ? Sept. N.T. in W.D. or (apparently) in W.R.

/The ...

War Diary3.10.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies - Contd.Attack
restrictions
on friendly
S/M's.
(Contd.)

The following (instructions?) are to be issued verbatim to Masters of all merchant ships on East Indies Station. (2) 1. Allied S/M's exercising regularly off Colombo and Trincomalee. (2) Masters are hereby warned that all S/Ms sighted within areas given below are to be considered friendly and following instructions are to be observed.

- (A) Fire is not to be (?opened) on (?such) S/Ms or any other action taken against them unless the S/M first opens fire or a torpedo track is seen.
 (B) No SSSS is to be (made) unless the merchant ship is attacked.
 (C) Friendly S/Ms are unable to reply to a merchant ship's identification signal.
 (3) Areas within which the above instructions applies:-
 Colombo. Between the latitudes of 006° 15' N. and 007° 30' N. within 40 miles of West Coast of Ceylon.
 Trincomalee. Between the latitudes of 008° 00' N. and 009° 20' N and west of 082° 00' E.
 (C. in C. E.F. 031241)

GENERAL
ANDERSON,
BUTNER,
MANN,
PATRICK.

It is not intended to provide cruiser escort for GENERAL ANDERSON passing south west Australia about 19th October for Bombay C.N.O. 071855 refers.
 (2) It is intended to provide cruiser escort for GENERAL BUTNER, GENERAL MANN, and GENERAL PATRICK should all three or any two of these ships be sailed in company from Australia to India P.S.T.O.I. 190613~~4~~ refers.

- (3) It is also intended to afford destroyer escort for all ships from about 5° south to Bombay.
 (4) Request therefore firm dates of sailing of all above ships from Australia as soon as known.
 (5) Attention is invited to para. 2 of my 130634~~4~~ August signals quoted not to all addressees.
 (C. in C. E.F. 030417 to B.A.D. Washington.)
~~4~~ Troop movement U.S.A. to India.
~~4~~ Sailings of GENERAL class troopships.

U-Boat
reported
near Socotra.

SSSS 14. 03 N. 56. 17 E. S/M sighted on surface no action.
 (B.R.M.T.) NEDERLAND 030435) M.V., tanker.
 Note By W.R. Passed to Colombo W/T under T.O.O. 030436 by ship with war call sign A158B which is undecypherable in W.R.

VALIANT

Passage of VALIANT to U.K. Admiralty's 161055 August Com. i/c Aden's 111715 September my 121238 September and 301217 September none to all addressees refer.

Expect ship to arrive about 14th October at Aden and 20th October at Suez.
 (2) Estimated speed on passage is 9.5 knots. Endurance 4500 miles at 10 knots.

War Diary3.10.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies - Contd.

- VALIANT
(Contd)
- (3) Ship has bias to starboard and will not steer at low speeds. Astern power is very limited. Tugs are essential approaching or leaving harbour.
- (4) Port anchor only is available. Confirmed that only port rudder and outer propellers are in operation.
- (5) Ship will leave Trincomalee with ammunition embarked aft but only small quantity of cordite forward. Draught estimated as follows:
- (a) All fuel on board 35 feet 8 inches forward 35 feet 4 inches aft.
- (b) 30 per cent fuel remaining 33 feet three inches forward 33 feet 2 inches aft.
- (6) After arrival of VALIANT at Aden and refuelling as necessary for convenient arrival at Suez Com. i/c Aden is requested to sail ship for Suez with two escorts as far as Perim.
- (7) Tugs RIMWELL and BOLD are available to accompany VALIANT from Aden to Suez but at discretion of Com. i/c Aden after consultation with VALIANT may be detached as convenient to proceed to Massawa. If not so detached F.O.L.E.M. is requested to arrange for sailing of RIMWELL and BOLD to Massawa after they have completed duty with VALIANT at Suez. My 301041 September not to all addressees refers.
- (8) Damaged plating round the forefoot has been cut away and adjacent compartments shored and cemented as necessary. Request neighbourhood of damage forward may be surveyed in the Canal area to ensure that docking in the Mediterranean is not necessary before Atlantic passage.
- (C. in C. E.F. 030914Z to Com.i/c Aden, F.O.L.E.M.)

- Lighters
for
Trincomalee.
- Following Lighters are urgently required at Trincomalee.
- (A) 20 tons - 4. (B) 40 tons - 29.
(C) 45-60 tons - 10.
- (2) Lighters must either have steel hulls or be metal sheathed to loaded water line. Steel hulls preferable. Vessels should be floored, docked, fitted with hatch-covers and dunnage battens with tarpaulins and efficient means of securing tarpaulins. Towing bollards to be fitted fore and aft.
- (3) In addition 4, 250 steel coal Lighters are required as early as possible.
- (C. in C. E.F. 031031Z to Adty.)

- UNICORN,
818 Squadron.
- As H.M.S. UNICORN spends little time at sea the retention of 818 Squadron is considered unjustified.
- (2) Intend therefore to disband this squadron UNICORN remaining available for flying operations.
- The following advantages will result:-
- (a) Additional space will be available in UNICORN for repairs and storage of A/C.

/(b)

3.10.1944
Tuesday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

UNICORN,
818 Squadron.
(Contd.)

(b) Personnel previously required to maintain squadron A/C will be available for repair work.
(c) 4 T.B.R. air crews will be released for conversion to Avengers.
(3) R.A.A.is requested to report date of disbanding.
(C. in C. E.F. 031144 to Adty.)

Convoy
Karachi to
Jedda.

(2) 1338Z/3.
(3) 0900Z 10th 012° 30' 044° 30' 0900Z 12th
Kamaran 14th Kedda.
(4) 9½
(5) (Y) 475 022° 30' 065° 00'
(Z) 016° 14' 059° 09' thence G.A.C.

(6) H.M.S. SNOWFLAKE, H.M.S. VIOLENT. H.M.S. GAWLER escorts detach from convoy at position 012° 30' 044° 30' 679, 614, 27, 395, 267, 164, 117, 135, 22.

(10) (11) (12)

10 AKBAR 900 Pilgrims. Kamaran for Jedda thence Port Sudan and Socotra with service cargo.

9½ KHOSROU 904 Pilgrims. Kamaran for Jedda then Aden with service cargo.

11 RI~~Z~~WANI 136 Pilgrims⁹ Kamaran for Jedda then Suez with service cargo and mail.

(13) (A) KHOSROU
(13) (B) RI~~Z~~WANI.
(15) V.A.

(N.C.S.O. Karachi 031443Z)

War Diary3.10.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

U-Boat report. First bearings on B.T. message on 5050 kc/s at 0006Z indicate U-Boat within 100 miles 45.00 N. 55 215 W.
(Cominch, 030037Z to C.T.G. 22.2, C.T.G.22.4, C. in C. Lant, C.T.F.24, C.T.G. 21.4, C. in C.C. N.A., EDMUNDSTON).
By D/F group BB at 0005/3rd on 5050 kc/s within 75 miles of 045 degs. 15' N. 055 degs. 00' W.
(Technical details).
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 030107Z to EDMUNDSTON, RESTIGOUCHE, OTTAWA, C.3, H.X.311, WALLACEBURG, FOREST HILL).

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q., 031524Z, 040716Z, Cominch 031525Z).

M.V. BOOLONGENA. Sweden intimate safe conduct vessel BOOLONGENA will sail from River Plate to Piraeus on October 7th at 1400 hours local time by Blue Route. Particulars of vessel are contained in A.M.151500 September.
(2) Request you will inform all air and other authorities concerned.
(Hd. of M. 031855A).

Trinidad S.B.N.O. Trinidad reports that Cominch has now sent amended instructions to N.O.B. Trinidad. My 181604 September refers. Main points are -
(1) Minefields will be swept. (2) Nets and boom defences removed. (3) Underwater detection at entrance to harbours not required. (4) Striking force and convoy escorts will come from U.S. Atlantic Fleet when required.
(S.B.N.O. W. At., 031940Z).

U-Boat incidents. Para.A. Following radar contact 08.40 N. 32.23 W. at 0115Z/3 Tripoli A/C sighted surfaced U-Boat and made three attacks.
Para.D. Fishing craft reported sighting U-Boat area 11.58 N. 66.45 W. 1st October.
(Cominch, 032103Z).

GEN.W.A. MANN. GENERAL W.A. MANN (19 knots) is scheduled to sail from Hampton Roads late October with about 5000 troops for Bombay. Request you will advise if escort can be provided from Gibraltar onwards to Bombay and return to permit sailing GENERAL MANN via Mediterranean and Suez Canal.
(Cominch, 032210Z to Admty.).

3.10.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand.

WHITE
BEAR.

Concur in reallocation of WHITE BEAR. Your 272355 Sept. refers.
It is anticipated that my 181030 August, para.5 will not be affected.
(A.C.N.B., 030421Z to Admty.).

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarine
attack and
sighting
summary.

Para. B.(1) Aircraft obtained A.S.V. contact at 1103Z/2 in 55 degs. 37' N. 07 degs. 58' W.
(2) Aircraft obtained A.S.V. contact at 1845Z/2 in 48 degs. 50' N. 14 degs. 45' W.
(D.D.I.C., 031059A).

U-Boats
attacked.

My 221059 July, 1942.
(1) At 1744/26 in 43 degs. 18' N. 36 degs. 29' W. Fortress P/220 attacked U-Boat conning tower awash. Depth charges straddled. Large oil patch and cylindrical cannisters seen after attack.
(2) C. in C.E.F. on 29th September reported that TRENCHANT sank a U-Kreuser off Penang and had survivors on board.
(3) Advance report from C.S.1 on convoy R.A.60 states that on 30th September aircraft of the covering force hit one U-Boat with rocket projectile.
(4) Mediterranean Allied Air Force reports that a U-Boat was sunk on the 24th September during an air attack by the 15th Air Force on Salamis Dockyard.
(D.A./U.D., 032040A).

U-Boat
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 031424A, 031428A).

SECRET

IN

WARNING: This is 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.)

66A.

*Recd. 17 October, after typing
of Diary.*

Force X: messing & morale.

032003/Oct.

FROM: S.O. Force X

DATE: 16.10.44.

RECD: 1239

NAVAL CYPHER C BY CABLE

TO: Admiralty.

That ships of Force X have American personnel on board most invidious comparisons are being drawn between standard of messing in British and American ships of the same Fleet. This is having unfortunate effects on morale and discipline.

(2) Fully investigated the matter, I have ordered ships of Force X to raise standard of messing as a temporary measure while serving with the American Fleet.

(3) Covering approval to vary general mess allowances as necessary up to a maximum of 3s. 3d. which is present American rate. British and American issue prices are approximately the same.

(4) Propose also victualling allowance be raised by 6d. per diem. I have taken no action on this yet.

032003

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (2)
D.F.S.L.
2nd S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
Sec.
Dep. Sec.
Under Sec (L)
P.A.S. (S)
P.A.S. (NP)
D. of F.
D. of P. (3)
P. of P. (Q) (3)
N. for action
A.C.N.P. (4)
D. of M.

C.W. (2)
D. of V. (3)
M. (2)
P.D.G.
D.N.I. (5)
N.L.
O.D. (5)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Ad. Blake
Ad. Daniels (2)
Under Sec)
D.N.A.) Bath (8)
S.W.R. (6))

4.10.1944

Wednesday

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

- North Sea. 1(a) An aircraft of 16 Group sighted 4 enemy merchantmen with 6 escort vessels off the Ems, attacked, and claims hits
(b) Walcheren Sea-dyke was breached yesterday by bombers, and enemy positions are to-day extensively flooded.
- Channel. 2. At Calais all locks are damaged and the Inner Port is tidal. The Gare Maritime is destroyed. The entrance is mined and obstructed by nets and wrecks, but the ordinary cross-Channel berths in the Avant Port are in fair order.
- West Coast France. 3(a) A scuttled U-Boat has been found in one of the Brest dry docks.
(b) A number of Spanish fishing boats have been warned out of the Bay of Biscay.
- Western Approaches. 4. The ^{Canadian} frigate CHEBOQUE was torpedoed while escorting Convoy O.N.S.33 in approximately 49 degs. 20' N. 24 degs. 20' W. 10 hours after sighting the U-Boat.
- Northern Waters. 5(a) JAMAICA has successfully revictualled and supplied the Norwegian garrison on Spitzbergen, and sailed for home.
(b) Wellington aircraft P/407 attacked a surfaced U-Boat 45 miles west of Bergen this evening, in hazy weather. Spray from depth charges covered the target and possible dinghies were seen after the attack.
(c) Bomber Command attacked Bergen to-day. Photographs show that, amongst other damage, two 500 ton U-Boats have been sunk and a third has a slight list, two floating docks are seriously damaged, and one merchant ship has been sunk and a second, the SCHWABEN beached.

Foreign Stations

South Atlantic

- U-Boat attacked. 6. The U.S. escort carrier MISSION BAY this morning attacked a deeply submerged U-Boat in 11.30 N. 34.49 W. A considerable quantity of oil was subsequently seen.

4.10.1944

WednesdayWar DiarySITUATION REPORTMediterranean

South of
France and
Gulf of
Genoa.

7(a) The U.S. destroyers NIBLACK and PLUNKETT shelled shipping in San Remo harbour and gun positions to-day.

(b) The small tanker SS. COTTON VALLEY was mined 6 miles S. by W. of Port de Bouc this evening and was abandoned in a sinking condition.

(c) Three small and 2 larger merchant ships were attacked by Coastal Air Force in the Gulf of Genoa to-day. No particular results are reported.

Adriatic.

8(a) During recent sweeping operations in the southern Dalmatian Islands 99 mines have been cut.

~~(b) WILTON bombarded a battery on Corfu p.m. to-day; there was no return fire. (see page 128)~~ 6R

(c) Coastal Air Force were active in the northern Adriatic to-day, but found only small merchant vessels and other small craft to attack.

Levant.

9(a) The destroyers CALPE and CLEVELAND operating off Piskopi (off north-west coast of Rhodes) destroyed 6 large assault craft last night.

(b) COLOMBO bombarded Heraklion (Crete) last night.

(c) ROYALIST bombarded Milos to-day and hit a battery and a beached coaster.

(d) The 5th M/S Flotilla are sweeping Kinaros Channel covered by Force A under AURORA.

(e) Off Skiathos this afternoon UNTIRING fired 4 torpedoes at a northbound SOLFERINO class destroyer. One torpedo was heard to explode at the correct running range, but the destroyer proceeded towards Salonika apparently undamaged.

(f) The French S/M CURIE reports attacking a convoy 20 miles North of Skiathos this evening and destroying one merchant ship. 3/10/44? page 80

(g) A.F.H.Q. reported to-day that the Germans completely evacuated Patras last night Allied troops are in the town. The harbour is largely intact owing to the failure of demolition charges.

(h) Air photographic reconnaissance to-day shows the Corinth Canal obstructed and both bridges destroyed.

(i) Landing craft continue to land supplies over the beaches at Katakolo Bay in support of the force which was landed on 26th September (q.v)

4.10.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Australia and New Zealand

- 10(a) Aircraft last night sank a minelayer in Toco Toli Bay, north-western Celebes.
(b) A Naval Catalina had further success in the Sulu Archipelago in the early hours, destroying a 3000 ton merchantman and setting on fire a sea truck and an oil barge, all off Zolo.
(c) 3 Mitchells attacked shipping in Ambon harbour early to-day and damaged 4 merchant vessels, one of which caught fire with resultant explosions.

4.10.1944
Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Irish Sea
as S/M
Sanctuary.

Fully concur in C. in C. W.A's 031837.
(F.O.S. 041129A to Adty.)

Operations

Situation Reports

Walcheren
dyke
breached.

The sea dyke near west Kapelle off the Dutch island of Walcheren was breached yesterday in a two-hour attack by waves of heavy bombers escorted by fighters. A gap 120 yards wide was made in the dyke and extensive flooding of enemy position resulted. None of the A/C is missing from this operation.
(S.H.A.E.F. 041100A/Sitrep)

Naval

Cositintrep No. 183. Part 2. Naval.

(A) General. Night 30th/1st Oct. 5 M.T.B's in a series of engagements between Ijmuiden and The Hook probably hit 2 medium sized merchant ships with torpedoes seriously damaged 2 trawlers and slightly damaged another. 2 M.T.B's were lost.

(B) Intelligence. Brest. A scuttled U-Boat has been found in dry dock in Brest. She sank in dock 3 weeks ago.

(C) Recaptured Ports. Calais preliminary reports indicate that the inner port may be used only as a tidal basin but that the ordinary cross Channel berths in the Avant Port are in fair order. All locks damaged except Ports Henri Henon also all cranes in Avant Port. Gare Maritime destroyed and majority of rails. Entrance mined and obstructed by nets and several small wrecks. Controlled minefield located but not yet blown as circuits are cut by bombing.

(D) Minesweeping. Calais cross-Channel route swept. Sweeping of port and approaches in progress and underwater search of quay walls. Antwerp estimated that there were some 20 ground mines in basins of which 5 have been swept and 40 in river off town of which one has caused a casualty. Boulogne. Cross-Channel route swept initial clearance of approach and part of port completed. Delayed action mines probably remain. One minesweeper damaged and beached. Havre. Open at high water to coasters L.S.T. and smaller ships. Speed restrictions in force. Brest. Clearance in progress in Rade Abri, Rade and Goulet. Moored and ground mines present. 2 Minesweepers damaged.

(E) Unloading Figures.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Troops.</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores.</u>	<u>Pol.</u>
<u>British</u>				
East Calvados.	578	402	2676	2678
Dieppe	1444	42	6907	Nil
Ostend	144	188	859	290
<u>United States</u>				
Cherbourg	1	3	13472	Nil
<u>Beaches</u>	7655	1601	16482	139

/Brittany ...

War Diary

4.10.1944
Wednesday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Situation Reports - Contd.

Naval (Contd.)	Place	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol.
	Brittany	Nil	32	4781	Nil
	Ports.				
	Small Ports	Nil	Nil	6075	Nil
	Combined				
	Total:	9822	2268	51252	3107
	(Adm. Ramsay 042335A to Adty.)				

Operations

North Sea

Patrols Patrol in areas A.N. and A.S. until further orders. Expect Leigh Light Wellington Stanford Peter Nine from 1940/4 until 0540/5.
(C. in C. Rosyth 041552A to S.O.E.G. 17)
Proceed forthwith and take up following patrols 5 WENSLEYDALE 6 FERNIE 7 WIVERN 8 A PUFFIN 17 A KRAKOWIAK.
(C. in C. Nore 042137A to PUFFIN, WENSLEYDALE, FERNIE, WIVERN, KRAKOWIAK)

Operations

Channel

Telephone cable to Sangatte. My 031953 request laying to Sangatte one cable only. Action as in 2 (A) and (B) of former signal. Northern Army Group to signal co-ordination of terminal.
(A.N.C.X.F. 041145A to V.A. Dover, N.O.I.C. Boulogne, N.L.O. N.Grp. Armies.)
A.N.C.X.F.'s 031953 (passed to S.N.O. "Pluto"). Request ALERT, MONARCH, ST. MARGARETS, EMPIRE FLAMINIAN and Cable Barges may now be sailed to Dover.
(2) Request early decisions as follows:-
(A) Whether existing Seabrook-Le Portel cable can be utilised.
(B) If not (1) intended terminal in U.K.
(11) whether Paragutta or Polythem cable is required.
(111) length of appropriate cable available.
(3) In view of "Pluto" operations it appears important that cable should be kept either wholly South and West of "Pluto" or wholly North and East.
(4) Since cable is likely to be damaged by ships anchoring off Dungeness former appears undesirable and latter entails landing elsewhere than Le Portel.
(5) Intend to convene meeting to discuss details as soon as date of arrival of Cable Ships is known.
(6) N.L.O. Northern Group of Armies pass to Northern Group of Armies.
(V.A. Dover 041720A to Adty.)
Ref. A.N.C.X.F. Main message 031953 to F.O.I.C. Dover, N.O.I.C. Boulogne, N.L.O. Northern Group Armies. Info. Adty, S.H.A.E.F., F.O.B.A.A.
One. F.O.I.C. Dover has raised point that if cable laid to Le Portel it will be crossed by "Pluto" cable which most serious.

/Appears ...

4.10.1944
WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperationsChannel - Contd.Telephone
cable to
Sangatte.
(Contd.)

Appears that A.N.C.X.F. do not know "Pluto" route and suggest you influence liaison between A.N.C.X.F. and S.N.O. "Pluto." We have raised matter with P.W.D. who will tell S.N.O. "Pluto" of situation. No wish to interfere in Naval problem but think you should know situation. Two. Presume you will instruct C.S.O. W.O. signals on requirements at Le Portel if this landing point confirmed.

(Hermes 8 041810A to C.S.O. S.H.A.E.F.)

Patrol

Pins cover night 4th/5th October.

G.A. 1 RETALICK Z. 9 South.

G.A. 2 HOTHAM Z. 109.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 041237A to Adty, C. in C.

Nore, V.A. Dover, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O's i/c Portland, Milford Haven, Falmouth, Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on Broadcast H.D. and C.N. in Area 'C'. HORNET, Capt. (S) 5, VERNON, AGGRESSIVE, ATTACK, N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

Operation
"Nestegg"

Signal from M.E. Fwd. 16714 refers.

Regret operation "Nestegg" representative S.H.A.E.F. cannot arrive Southern Command until Tuesday 10th October. Will Southern Command please confirm 1300 hours 10th. October suitable for Conference.

(S.H.A.E.F. 042030A to Southern Command, C. in C. Plymouth)

OperationsWest Coast FranceSpanish
fishing
ships in
Bay of
Biscay.

Your 032322. Fishing ships genuine have turned them away towards Spanish Coast. Am continuing patrol.

(Force 28. 040411A to C. in C. Plymouth)

Your 040411A and my 032222A neither to Force 26. Proceed as convenient today 4th to locate these Spanish Fishing Craft and confirm that they are withdrawing to Spanish Coast.

(2) Warn Skippers that Spanish Fishing Vessels are liable to be sunk at sight in declared area in Bay of Biscay.

(3) Report situation in due course.

(C. in C. Plymouth 041153A to Force 28.)

Your 041153 not met have apparently retired south.

Contacted another 30 in 046° 04' N. 003° 09' W. These (? have been) warned as well and forced to retire south.

(2) Patrolling south east until 045° 30' N. then to north westward.

(3) Fuel remaining at 0800 today - BLYSKAWICA 70%, ASHANTI 77%.

(4) Opas 17B vicinity Ile d'Yeu.

(5) Weather report 4468 2773.

(Force 28 042027A to C. in C. Plymouth)

War Diary4.10.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSOperationsWestern ApproachesSituation
in Western
Approaches

Situation 1859Z/4th.
 C.U. 41 Task Group 21.4 WINSLOW, all positions N.
 and W. 43.13 38.23 064° 13.5 knots.
 T.G. 22.2 C.V.E. CARD and escorts operating near
 42.50 36.05.
 U.C. 39B Task Unit 21.8.1.
 JACOB JONES 44.39 28.11 263° 14.2.
 MARIPOSA 45.18 21.27 to 45° 25° thence 251° 19.5 knots.
 (C. in C. W.A. 041420Z to MARIPOSA, C.U.41, T.G. 22.2, U.C. 39B)

OperationsNorwayOperation
"S.C."

Sailing of Ramose Nourish is to be postponed 24
 hours, as I am not yet satisfied that a
 repetition of the incident that has caused serious
 damage to HESSA will not occur.
 (A.C.O.S. 041301A to N.O.I.C. Lerwick for Major

Rogers.)

Your 041301A, if the E.T.D., course, speed, point of
 landfall and return course can be given, 18 Group A/C will be
 briefed to expect "S.C." and that suspicious contacts or
 sightings on this track are under no circumstances to be attacked
 without being illuminated. Track referred to will be up to
 ten miles either side of reported course.

(2) It is also essential owing to unfortunate similarity that
 "S.C." should be capable of flashing the challenge. There
 should be no doubt that this will be seen and the A/C will reply
 by switching off light and turning away to continue patrol.

(C. in C. Rosyth 041700A to A.C.O.S.)

OperationsNorthern Waters

Patrols

My 03(09)58A.

When carrier force departs establish "Gamma"
 patrol between 063° 10' N. and 064° 00' N. on
 meridian 000° 30' W., weather permitting.

W.A.G.M. 872 N para. 12(B) 090°.

(C. in C. Rosyth 041143A to S.O. E.G.6.)

My 032332A/. Due to weather air patrols will be withdrawn
 by 1700A today 4th.

(C. in C. Rosyth 041607A to TRUMPETER, S.O. E.G.6.)

/ Anti U-Boat operations to be continued.

Force 9 returning to Scapa patrol uneventful. P.C.S.
 063° 19' N. 002° 27' W. 191°, 14. Weather report 2856 1657.

(TRUMPETER 041801A to C. in C. Rosyth)

Revictualling
of Spitz-
bergen.

Operation "Abigail". Force one sailed from
 "Ploughshare" at 1710Z on 4th October. T.O.O.
 042000A Ends.
 (JAMAICA 041800A to Adty.)

/Suspected ...

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Wednesday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Northern Waters - Contd.

Suspected
U-Boat.

By D/F on 3800 k/c's at 1910Z U-Boat estimated
within 75 miles of 63° 30' N. 02° 30' E.
(D.D.I.C. 041958A to S/M's N. of 51° N.)

Allied Air Activity

Patrol in
Bay of
Biscay.

N.R. 1.
M/V 300 tons 45.33 N. 01.01 W. Stationary.
Shore flak.
(A/C UNS.68 040900A to 19 Grp.)
N.R. 2.
Two M/V's 1500 tons 44.40 N. 01.08 W. Stationary.
(A/C UNS.68 040940A to 19 Grp.)

Patrol off
Ems

P.C.S. of 4 enemy merchant vessels, 6 escort
vessels, 5338 0619. Position based on Gee Fix
obtained within half-an-hour of 2300 070° 8 knots.
(A/C TDYE 042307 to 16 Grp.)
My 2307. Have attacked enemy with bombs level
result of attack hits observed.
(A/C TDYE 042318 to 16 Grp.)

Mining

Seine.
Seien
Minesweeping
Summary.

Sitrep. 42nd M.S/F continuing clearance of
Havre-Dieppe channel swept one magnetic searching
049° 33' 45" N. 000° 04' 06" W. one magnetic
swept by B.Y.M.S. 248° Cap de la Heve 5.6 miles.
Diving operation in "Hoover" hindered through
adverse weather conditions.

M/S Flotilla commences operations in Seine River. Reports not
yet to hand. B.Y.M.S. completed Oropesa sweeping to Rouen.
Negative result. Report of one magnetic swept in Boulogne
yesterday. B.Y.M.S. 2154 (reported?) damaged (by?) mine.
Belated report of 2 magnetic swept on second Oct.
Report of 5 moored mines cut by M.L's in Boulogne (dredged)
channel yesterday.
Summary A(1) - 5 (2) - 5 (4) - 1.
(Capt. M/S Seine 040830A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Boulogne
sweeping.

Minesweeping clearance. 163 M/S F. comprising
B.Y.M.S. 2079 2036 2080 2166 M.L. 473 (?475) 914
arrived and working off Dunrose. 4 red magnetic
mines detonated S.O. 163 M/S F. 041413, 041423,
041435 and 041543 refers. 1 moored mine sunk
and 1 exploded off small field inside breakwater remainder will
be dealt with at low water tomorrow Thursday. Net referred to
in Capt. M/S Seine's 041030 not yet cleared but 70 foot channel
exists this will be marked. (Corrupt group) sweep carried out
from end of outer breakwater and North end of Quai de Maree
Negative (?) results.
(? 042011A to S.O. M.S.F.163)

/Brest ...

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSMining - Contd.

Brest Sweeping curtailed by weather today Wednesday. One mine detonated in sweep and one type (G.Z.) cut in Rade Abri.
(Comdr. M/S Brest 042031A to C.T.F. 125)

Enemy Intelligence

Minor German Warships. German minor warship movements. Copenhagen (A) One large destroyer arrived fuelled and left 1400 G.M.T./2.
(B) Depot ship SAAR and second destroyer alongside October 2nd. B three.
(N.A. Stockholm 041559 to Adty.)
O.I.C. Comment: Report probably correct.

U-boat movements.
4 U-boats passed northbound through Great Belt Sept. 29th 0400 G.M.T. B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 041626)
O.I.C. Comment. High grading of this report is considered justified.

Norwegian sabotage. 1300 tons Norwegian destroyer which has been under construction at Horten for 4 years sank in inner harbour Horten September 27th after explosion on board. She (?was to have been) towed from Horten to Germany on 27th. B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm 041602 to Adty.)
N.I.D. Comment. P.R. of 28th September showed an incomplete Norwegian Destroyer capsized near dockyard and the other aground near seaplane base.

Post "Neptune" Port Facilities

Dutch Port Parties. To facilitate formation and accommodation of Dutch National Port parties which it is understood will take place in my command (A.N.C.X.F. (PH) 231755/Sept. not to all addressees refers). Request arrangements may be made to move 24 Dutch ratings now at Dover to Helder as convenient to V.A. Dover and F.O.I.C. Harwich.
(C. in C. Nore 042242A to P.N.L.O.)

Dieppe Can take following vessels p.m. Tide 6th.
1 large max. draught 17 feet.
1 medium max. draught 15 feet.
5 small max. draught 12 feet.

No hospital carrier.
1 train ferry
10 L.C.T. for Le Treport.
Agreed P. E. C.
(N.O.I.C. Dieppe 042359A to A.N.C.X.F.)

War Diary4.10.1944
WednesdayHOME COMMANDSTechnicalU-Boats
Flieger-
fitted.

Experience obtained by H.M.S. CAMPANIA with Swordfish fitted A.S.V. Mark II while escorting R.A. 60 indicated Flieger type G.S.R. may by now be widely fitted. C.B. 04050/44 (6) and W.A.G.M. 22 N.A. refers.

(2) On 3 occasions at night each with a different U-Boat A/C obtained definite contacts at range of 10 to 12 miles which faded at range of 4 to 5 miles.

(3) Following procedure was thereafter instituted:-

(a) On obtaining contact locked Scanner on approximately reciprocal bearing.

(b) Unlocked Scanner periodically a few seconds during run in to confirm contact.

(4) Only subsequent contact in which above procedure was carried out was obtained by day from above cloud level at distance of 15 miles and sighting and attack followed.

(5) If practicable it appears desirable that A.S.V. Mark II should be fitted with Attenuator as is A.S.V. "S" and Mark (Y). (C.S.1 040538A to C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and DefectsB.Y.M.S.
2154

B.Y.M.S. 2154. Intend to refloat at high water tomorrow 5th and tow to Dover using a B.Y.M.S.

(2) L.C.P.L's being retained to assist. No other suitable craft available.

(3) F.O.C. Dover is requested to send skeleton crew from survivors of 2154 to man their ship.

(4) Ship will require docking. D.G.

(N.O.I.C. Boulogne 041210A to Adty, V.A. Dover)

L.S.T. 319.

L.S.T. 319 temporarily obstructing Harbour entrance. Damaged (?both Hawsers) by colliding with Pier after beaching. Am arranging Tug EUSTON CROSS and EMPIRE JESTER to tow Southend p.m. today, Wednesday.

(N.O.I.C. Ostend 041239A to C. in C. Nore.)

Shipping and ConvoysReduction
of shipping
on Far Shore.

Re-encypherment of my 031445. Referring to my 041545B Sept. to A.N.C.X.F. study of cargo loaded ships present beach areas during month September disregarding days where unloading was completely stopped due weather indicates number ships off Omaha either unassigned or not worked is excessive. This continued risk of shipping to deteriorating weather is considered unjustified. Accordingly propose effect reduction at Omaha to 33 ships. Understand there are number of ships in beach areas which there seems little likelihood of unloading due nature cargo. If so, shipping position would be improved by recalling these to south coast U.K. where they may be called forward on short notice. Number ships Cherbourg should be increased to 35 due opening now alongside berths.

/Expect ...

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WednesdayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys - Contd.

Reduction of shipping on Far Shore (Contd.) Expect to be at your Headquarters late afternoon 5th October to discuss above. Your comment by Dis is requested prior that date if practicable. Admiralty pass to Comnaveu for info. (C.T.F. 125 040055A to Comnaveu)

Convoy O.N.S.33. 1 S/M on surface bearing 170° 8 miles position 49° 42' N. 22° 49' W. based on a fix obtained within ½ hour of 0600. (CHEBOQUE 041235Z to Whitehall W/T.) Very indefinite D/F of B-barred transmissions on 9350 kc/s new series one, at 1146Z and 1124Z indicate possibility that convoy O.N.S. 33 may possibly have been reported. D.D.I.C. 041415A to Escorts of O.N.S. 33.) Your 041437 diminished to 3 duration 12 hours. My position 049° 34' N. 022° 55' W. (2) My 041214 bearing obtained at 1148Z. Weather report 9080 4221. (S.O.E.G. C.1 041530Z to C. in C. W.A.) A.M. 041415 not to E.G.B.3. or T.G.22.2. Further bearings including bearings taken by B.3 and C.1. give position of U-Boat at 1224Z within 45 miles of 49° 40' N. 22° 40' W. (D.D.I.C. 041546Z to Escorts of O.N.S.33. E.G.B.3.) CHEBOQUE torpedoed in 049° 20' N. 24° 20' W. at 2204Z. (ARNPRIOR 042237Z to C. in C. W.A.) CHEBOQUE torpedoed position 049° 29' 024° 05'. One known U-boat in vicinity. (CHAMBLY 042240Z to C. in C. W.A.)

L.C.T. Shuttle service. My 021537 and 021540 not to all addressees. (1) Until experience has been gained in operating the L.C.T. shuttle service between Dover and Boulogne it is intended that loading should be restricted to 8 L.C.T.'s on both 8th and 9th October and to 10 on 10th and subsequent days. F.O.C. Dover is requested to inform A.N.C.X.F. (Buco) in due course if this figure can be maintained or bettered. (2) 35 L.C.T. loaned for loading to be loaded and sailed to Isle of Wight area on British account. It is hoped to complete these by 6th or 7th October after which L.C.T. sailings on British account from Isle of Wight area will be limited to 2 L.C.T. (4) daily for shipment of QUEEN MARY's and return of damaged A/C. For the time being these will continue to sail to and from Arromanches. (3) It is hoped to load 2 L.S.T.'s at Tilbury for Ostend on both 5th and 6th October 3 on 7th October and thereafter to maintain a shuttle service between these ports of from 4 to 5 sailings daily. In addition 2 L.S.T.'s are to load at Portsmouth for Ostend today and it is intended to load one more at Portsmouth on 6th October. After discharging they will return to Tilbury. (4) One L.S.T. is loading at Portsmouth for Arromanches today and it is intended to load 2 more tomorrow. They will be last L.S.T.'s to sail to Arromanches. (A.N.C.X.F. (Buco) 041245A to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Convoy ...

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WednesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping and Convoys - Contd.

Convoy O.N. 256. O.N. 256 at 1225Z/4th heard B (Bar) Signal on 9400 kc/s bearing 090 distance over 30 miles on ground wave. My P.C.S. 4843 N. 3402 W. 253 9½ knots.
Weather 5470 3245.
(S.O. E.G. B.3. 041353Z to C. in C. W.A.)

Convoy R.A.60. R.A. 60 arrived: SAMTREDY, SAMGARA, SAMCALIA, SAMLOYAL, SAMCONSTANT, SAMIDWAY, SAMANNAN, FORT GLENORA.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 041436A to C. in C. W.A., Adty, A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., C. in C. H.F., Flag Officers and Cpts. (D) Home Fleet, S.B.N.O. Archangel, S.B.N.O. North Russia, C. in C. Rosyth.)

Rescue Tugs on Far Shore. Your 011053A Oct. DESTINY was withdrawn from rescue duties in B.A.A. and was relieved by EMPHATIC by my 161511B August.
(2) EMPHATIC which was sailed by your 011239A and 021036A and arrived defective in allocated to C. in C. Portsmouth as second rescue tug my 161135B September and my 291626A September refer.
When EMPHATIC is operational the rescue tug position will be in B.A.A.: - ATTENTIF, DEXTEROUS, FLAUNT, EMPIRE SOPHY, at Portsmouth: - DESTINY and EMPHATIC.
(3) In view of the repair situation and the need to supply a second tug for PHOENIX towing no additional rescue tugs are available at present for either allocation or replacement.
(A.N.C.X.F. 041513A to F.O.B.A.A.)

Traffic from Far Shore. Concur that dimmed navigation lights should be burnt as proposed in para 2 of your 021352.
(D.T.D. 041833A to C. in C. Portsmouth)

Nomenclature of Convoys. Request Admiralty Message 031341 May be amended to conform with my 211558 in respect of letters E. and F. It is desired that E. should represent Cherbourg and F. should represent French U.S. Beaches. (Omaha and Utah) it is particularly necessary to have these two areas separated as homeward routes from Cherbourg and Beaches are different.
(A.N.C.X.F. 042130A to Adty)

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Wednesday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

SS. GUINE. Your 261218 September. No objection to Portuguese GUINE proceeding to Haifa via Cadiz and Tangier.

(2) Permission cannot be given to load cargo at Alexandria on return voyage. There is, however, no objection to cargo being loaded at Port Said. Vessel will require to call at Gibraltar on return voyage for examination.
(3) Request you will inform C. in C. Med. and F.O.L.E.M. of proposed date of sailing, and also inform them whether Portuguese wish to load cargo at Port Said on return voyage, after which C. in C. Med. and F.O.L.E.M. should lay down route for outward and return voyages.

(Hd. of M., 040214A to N.A. Lisbon.)

R.A.F.
personnel
for
Azores.

A transport with 500 relief R.A.F. personnel is being sailed from Milford Haven for the Azores about 14th October. Speed 12 knots.

(2) After embarkation of relieved personnel ship will proceed to Gibraltar to disembark them to await passage in M.K.F. convoy.

(3) Subject to the concurrence of C. in C. Med. intend to use F.S. FORTUNE and SIMOUN as escorts to Gibraltar.

(D.O.D.(H), 041901A to C. in C. Med., F.O.G.M.A.)

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Aegean submarine operations. At 2251A/3rd in 039 degs. 27' 023 degs. 18' attacked northbound convoy of one merchant ship of 300 tons one K.T. ship and one lighter speed 7 knots. Merchant ship seen to disintegrate.. (2) One defective torpedo remaining. Withdrawing to north east of area TT. (CURIE, 040007A to Capt. S.1, (R) 1st S/M. F., NEREUS, F.O.L.E.M.).

Your 031717A received. Cancel my 031807A. (UNTIRING, 040034A to Capt. (S) 1, (R) 1st S/M.F., NEREUS, F.O.L.E.M., CURIE).

Intend to patrol area SS.

From a position 038 degs. 34' 025 degs. 45' about 2201A/4th proceed to Samos Straits thence diving by day through Turkish territorial waters passing close to Cape Krio and 3 miles south of Symi to 036 degs. 18' 028 degs. 34' and position (D) of standard route.

(2) Proceed on surface at 9 knots when clear of Turkish territorial waters.

(3) Report when convenient your E.T.A. Cape Krio and position (D). (S) 1, 041135A to CURIE (R) (S) (One), Force "A", F.O.L.E.M., NEREUS, MATROZOS, S.O.(I) Bastia?, S.O. Force 51).

At 1447 in 039 degs. 49' 023 degs. 23' fired 4 torpedoes at northbound SOLFERINO Class Destroyer.

(2) One torpedo heard to explode at correct running range. No counter attack. Target proceeded toward Salonika apparently undamaged.

(UNTIRING, 041903A).

Force A. Sweeping of Kinaros Channel.

AURORA is S.O. Force A covering sweeping of Kinaros channel by M.F.5th. F.O.L.E.M. pass to interested authorities and all addressees. (2) W/R. 8948 9422.

(F.O.E.C., 040739C to LUCIA, Capt. (S) 1, (R) F.O.L.E.M., S.O.M.F.5, C.O.M.A.R.O.(1), Corrupt Group, S.N.O.P.O., AURORA).

Assessments of attacks on U-Boats.

Summary of attacks on U-Boats. Assessed by Med. Joint Assessment Board. My 011510/September. Serial 113 Assessment H. Serial 114 Assessment F. Serial 115 Assessment H. Serial 116 Assessment H.

(2) Following not previously reported have been assessed H Serial 117 241650 August H.H.M.S. CRETE, H.M.S. BELVOIR 40 degs. 38' N. 13 degs. 21' E. Serial 118 101000 Sept. U.S.S. BARBER, JE CAMPBELL 37 degs. 15' N. 5 degs. 44' E. Following known sunk Serial 119 190521 Sept. GARLAND, TROUBRIDGE, TERPSICHORE 36 degs. 27' N. 24 degs. 33' E. (C. in C. Med., 040940).

RICHELIEU

French Admiralty propose that F.S. RICHELIEU escorted by F.S. TERRIBLE, FANTASQUE should leave Toulon 7th October to arrive Casablanca 9th to commence refit. A.M. 281302 September and C.

in C. Med. 021948 not to all refers.

/(2)...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

RICHELIEU (2) Request she may be sailed to comply.
 (Contd.) (F.O.W.M., 041250A to C. in C. Med.). As amended
 051502.

Aegean - (Extract).
 enemy Joint Naval, Army, R.A.F. Intelligence appreciation.
 intelligence. (3) Aegean shipping summary. Ph R 3 Oct.
 revealed following.
 Corinth Canal. SS. VESTA now listing probably
 aground blocking entrance.

Salonika. Not covered but C.X. reports torpedo boat SOLFERINO
 arrived a.m./3 with 240 survivors from 2 merchant vessels sunk
 Gulf of Salonika. Comment. Presumably BERTHA and TSAR
 FERDINAND from Piraeus.
 (C. in C.M.E., 041300C).

Extract. 2. G.A.F. activity. 3/10 Sea rescue aircraft active
 east of Volos, searching for survivors of sunken shipping. Air
 transport between Athens and the Islands and from Athens north-
 wards continues by night. Intruders shot down one Ju.52 North
 of Crete night 3/4 Oct.
 (C. in C.M.E., 041300C).

HIGHWAY. Am (?prepared) to sail with craft aboard provided
 I can be assured of berth at destination. H.M.
 ship under my command is at the moment in very
 bad state and major repairs are urgently required.
 If these are not effected I cannot accept responsibility and
 ship may become total loss.
 (HIGHWAY, 041315A to C. in C. Med.).

A.M./S.M. In order to alleviate the shipping situation off
 convoys. the south coast of France the sailing of A.M. and
 S.M. convoys after A.M.12 and S.M.12 are
 suspended until further orders.
 (C. in C. Med., 041435A).

CANADA. D. of S.T. 0322/26 not to Admiralty refers.
 Request you will obtain particulars in para. 2 and
 3 from Naval France.
 (2) As ship is a warship intend she should be
 operated by C. in C. Med. and not P.S.T.O. unless otherwise
 directed by Admiralty. My / 021228 refers.
 (C. in C. Med., 041810A).
 / Re SS. CANADA use of as transport in Med.

Situation Landing craft continue to land supplies over
 report beaches at Katakolo Bay in support of landing
 No.450. force Sitrep No.446 para. 1 refers.
 (2) L.C.Gs. bombarded Ploca harbour 043 degs.
 04' N. 017 degs. 26' E. p.m./1st landing craft
 were accurately engaged by shore batteries as they withdrew but
 sustained no damage.
 (3) UNSWERVING reports torpedo hits on 2000 ton motor vessel
 0315/3 in position 039 degs. 50' N. 023 degs. 22' E.
 (4) CURIE claims torpedo hit on 2 motor vessels out of convoy
 / of...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Situation report No.450. (Contd.). of 3 (?20) miles north of Skiathos October 2nd. (5) During recent sweeping operations in southern Dalmatian Islands 99 mines have been out. (C. in C. Med., 041914A).

Salvage craft. Your 192133 September. SALVESTOR manned by a South African crew could be available for Eastern Fleet mid October or SALVAGE DUKE end October both after a short docking request preference may be communicated. (2) It is desired to emphasise that experience in the south of France has shown that the early arrival of ample salvage craft and appliances is vital to the early opening of ports. (3) The withdrawal from Med. Station of either of these vessels will therefore seriously affect the future commitments on this station which it is known will be very heavy. (C. in C. Med., 042016 to Admt.).

Reporting and routing of merchant shipping after the war. It will be necessary to continue the reporting and routing of merchant shipping for a long period after the end of the war with Germany. During the last year a number of Norwegian, Dutch and Belgian officers have been trained in the U.K. in N.C.S. duties in order that they may take over a part of these duties in their ports as soon as their countries are liberated. (2) It is requested that any suitable French and Greek Naval Officers that can be made available be similarly trained in Mediterranean N.C.S. parts with a view to the eventual relief of British N.C.S. Officers in their respective countries. (A.C.N.S.(U.T.), 042050A to C. in C. Med.).

Force A. Ship reported by Levitha in your 041858A was Attack on AURORA only restrained from bombarding by F.O.E.Cs. Levitha Is. 040646 to AURORA only. Matter will be rectified a.m. 5th. (2) NAVARINOS (?NAVARINON intended) found CALPE had dealt available targets remaining Pi(corrupt group) opi but my air R/C indicates some may have escaped. Weather report 9080 2262. (S.O. Force A, 042337C to F.O.L.E.M.,(R) F.O.E.C., HUNTER).

Destroyer postings. A.M. 302210/September not to all. KELVIN, MUSKETEER, MARNE and METEOR are required to leave U.K. for the Mediterranean on October 31st. Cs. in C. are requested to sail ships as convenient to their home ports to boiler clean and give 14 days leave during which period complements will be adjusted. MARNE and METEOR will require refit in the Mediterranean in due course.

/ (2) ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Destroyer
postings.
(Contd.)

(2) JAVELIN is to be sailed early November on completion of refit and work up and MILNE (Captain D), MATCHLESS and JERVIS similarly early in December.
(3) Before joining the Eastern Fleet, the 24th D.F. will require to refit and modernise radar

in U.K.

(4) C. in C. Med. is requested:

(A) to sail TEAZER, TENACIOUS, TERMAGANT, TUMULT and TROUBRIDGE or TYRIAN to arrive U.K. by 12th November.

(B) to sail TERPSICHORE, TUSCAN and TYRIAN or TROUBRIDGE to arrive U.K. by 15th December.

Ships have been selected by name to suit refitting vacancies in home ports and with regard to time required for radar modernisation.

(5) Polish Naval Authorities have requested and Admiralty has agreed that GARLAND should return to U.K. C. in C. Med. is requested to sail her for U.K. as soon as convenient after arrival of last ship in para. (2)
(V.C.N.S., 042350A.)

G.2 Summary
No.43.

(Extract)

(2) Greece. Patras now evacuated by sea by Germans and Allied Troops in town. Harbour largely intact owing failure demolition charges. Rhion and Antirhion still believed held by enemy.

Considerable increase noted shipping movement Piraeus-Salonika; P.R. reveals some 17 vessels left former port for north.
(A.F.H.Q., No T.O.O./4.)

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Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies

U/B No fresh information. Scales in all areas
dispositions. remain unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F., 040345Z.)

DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE,
KENYA.

Arrangements for troopship DUNNOTTAR CASTLE to leave Fremantle for Aden escorted by KENYA.
(2) Route.
(3) R.A.(2) E.F. is requested to sail PATHFINDER and PALADIN to arrive Addu Atoll p.m./18th after refuelling N.O.I.C. Addu Atoll is requested to sail these ships as requisite to R/V the above convoy in a position (L) 006° 48' S., (054°) 12' E. at 0800Z/20th October.
(4) After destroyers have joined KENYA is to part company and proceed to Bombay refuelling as necessary at Addu Atoll.
(5) When escorts have refuelled N.O.I.C. Seychelles is requested to sail the convoy for Aden.
(6) KENYA and PATHFINDER are to set watch on 4740 k/cs for 12 hours before time for R/V for intercommunication purposes if considered necessary.
(7) V.A. 2 E.F. and N.O.I.C. Fremantle are requested to confirm and repeat arranged date time and position of R/V in para. (3).
(C. in C. E.F., 041142Z.)

TRENCHANT,
THOROUGH
patrol
reports.

H.M. S/M TRENCHANT second Far East patrol.
(2) 16th September attacked 5 coasters by gunfire in Aruba but was forced to abandon attack due to shoal water.
(3) 19th September off Aroa Island sank 2 20 ton junks.
(4) 20th September off Bernam River attempted attack on 20 ton junk was frustrated by air patrol.
(5) 1055/23 sighted U-KREUZER 1105 fired stern salvo scoring one hit amidships. Ship sank on even keel in 005° 46' N., 100° 04' E., 11 out of 17 survivors were picked up remainder being abandoned due to sighting S/M chaser. Survivors stated U-Boat was named SAMBARA.
(6) 12 mines laid successfully.
(7) Special operations to destroy a bridge at Peudada in Northern Sumatra was successful, periscope R/C showed centre girder structure had collapsed into river.
(8) THOROUGH second Far East patrol.
(9) 1010/23 position 006° 22.2' N., 099° 19.8' E. sighted large U-Boat bearing (250°?) range 3,500 yards course about 160°. 1019 U-Boat bore 145° 7000 yards estimate course 120° speed in excess of 16 knots. Attack advanced. This would appear to be a different U/B to that sunk by TRENCHANT ref. para. (5) above.
(10) 27th September 1555 shipping in Ulee Lhoe Roads attacked with gunfire, 11 hits out of 17 rounds fired being scored on 350 tons coaster. Attack broken off due to return fire from shore. Target last seen on fire and listing heavily. 1615 M.L. counter-attacked accurately with 5 depth charges close but no damage sustained.
(11) 2 special operations carried out successfully.
(12) All times FG.
(C. in C. E.F., 041207Z.)

/VAN GALEN ...

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Wednesday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

VAN GALEN,
TJERK
HIDDES,
W. VAN DER
ZAAN.

It is considered most important in view of the probable early liberation of Holland, that the Netherland destroyers VAN GALEN and TJERK HIDDES and Sloop WILLEM VAN DER ZAAN should sail for U.K. as early as possible for a short visit to European waters.

(2) The complements of the two destroyers are chiefly composed of officers and ratings whose families live in Holland and from whom they have been separated since the outbreak of hostilities. This also applies in many instances in the ?sloop.

(3) These ships can be spared without prejudice to impending operations.

(4) Matter has been discussed with B.S.O. who is in full agreement on personnel grounds.

(5) Very early concurrence is requested.

(C. in C. E.F., 041232Z to Admty.)

4.10.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

DUNNOTTAR
 .CASTLE.
 (Contd.)

(5) Ships staff however continued certain repairs on the port engine which were on trial during embarkation of tops proved unsatisfactory Dusuyo spare gear fitted not being in accordance with specification on inspection similar defects existed in other units on both engines and this together with a further major defect on the port engine necessitated a delay in completion of 72 hours. Satisfactory trials were completed forenoon 30th September and ship cleared wharf at 1400/30th.

(6) By original sailing date vessel had embarked 2634 personnel and was scheduled to complete to capacity at Fremantle. During first period of delay certain elements expressed dissatisfaction with their accommodation large numbers went ashore and demanded to see Prime Minister who subsequently visited ship 2300/28 to 0100/29 when he spoke to men and inspected ship. Further conferences held forenoon 29th resulted in orders from Prime Minister to disembark total 503 personnel including all naval party. Understand also Prime Minister is officially requesting that no embarkation shall take place in Fremantle. All times local.

(7) It may be anticipated that in future New Zealand Govt. will not permit embarkation of N.Z. Troops to capacity laid down.

(8) To sum up consider whole difficulty due to thoroughly unsatisfactory fitting of engines which are understood to have given consistent and serious trouble since leaving U.K. and which due to spare gear not complying with specification prevented ship sailing on completion of embarkation as scheduled.

(9) Request this aspect be investigated on ship's arrival in U.K.

(N.Z.N.B., 040515Z.)

Digest 987. (Extract) October 3rd.

(5) 33 Schouten based Liberators dropped 81 tons of quarter tonners Laha airfield midday hitting runways, revetments and personnel areas probably destroying one parked plane.

(6) Same time (midday - no indication of date) 55 Lightnings bombed Heoning seaplane base opposite Ambon town with thousand pounders burning hangars and installations besides destroying one flying boat and damaging one small freighter, 3 coastal craft.

(17) Enemy submarine torpedoed small escort vessel off east coast Morotai morning 3rd. Small formations enemy aircraft over Southern Morotai previous night but bombs dropped did nil damage.

(19) Night 1st October P.T. Boats destroyed small schooner anchored off Gajela.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 041140Z.)

4.10.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. (B) (1) A/C had disappearing contact at
0435Z/2 60° 10' N., 03° 50' E.
Para. (D) (1) Transit A/C sighted U-Boat 1st/2nd
October 150 miles East of Malta.
(D.D.I.C., 041049A.)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 041327A, 041341A.)

5.10.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

1. Calais is assigned to U.S. Force for development and operations.

2. It is proposed to sail ships of 12 knots and upwards independently between London and the Bristol Channel, and permanently to exhibit the principal coastal lights in the Plymouth Command.

North Sea.

3(a) Aircraft of 16 Group carried out 6 attacks on enemy shipping off Holland, and claim hits on one occasion.

(b) German prisoners picked up on 6th October state that they took part in an explosive motor boat operation from Flushing. They state that 20 control boats and 40 explosive motor boats left Flushing harbour at intervals from 1900 to 2300 today. No damage is reported to any Allied ships. The attack apparently failed to materialise. [See p. 224]

Channel.

4(a) Sailings for the American beaches had to be cancelled owing to weather. A hostile aircraft dropped an anti-tank weapon and ammunition by parachute into Boulogne. The aircraft was undetected owing to the presence of friendly bombers. A mine may also have been dropped, however, for B.Y.M.S. 2255 sank at anchor after an explosion 50 minutes before low water.

(b) The Havre-Dieppe channel could not be swept on account of weather, but 9 mines were detonated off Quilleboeuf and Sangatte and in Boulogne.

Western Approaches.

5. The corvette PRIMROSE has been sent to the assistance of CHEBOQUE. GIFFARD and CHAMBLY are already standing by. The rescue tug SALVONIA has sailed from Horta and expects to arrive on Sunday.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

S. France and Gulf of Genoa.

6. The U.S. destroyer NIBLACK bombarded the railway yard in the San Remo area today.

/Ionian ...

5.10.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Ionian.

7. L.C.G. bombarded the enemy positions at Delvino (39.57 N., 20.06 E.) today.

Air
Operations.

8(a) Bad weather severely restricted all operations of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces today.

(b) Beaufighters of Coastal Air Force blew up off Cape Promontore, Venice a 2,000/3,000 ton tanker and left an F-Boat sinking.

(c) 17 Wellingtons and 4 Liberators of the Strategic Air Force mined areas of the Danube last night.

Levant.
Surrender
of Levitha.

9(a) AURORA and CATTERICK landed a party on Levitha Islands (Dodecanese) after bombardment today. The party captured half the island, and the Commander of the garrison surrendered this evening after further bombardment. About 80 prisoners were taken.

(b) A small party of 9 Commando which was landed on the mainland of Greece before the move from Kithera to Poros (see 1st October) has accepted the surrender of the Security Battalion garrison at Tripolis.

(c) CALPE bombarded a battery at the south-west end of Rhodes today.

(d) Two Liberators mined Euripos Channel, near Khalkis, Euboea, last night.

(e) The Commanders in Chief consider that further reductions can be made in the coast defences in the Levant, with a view to saving man power.

China

Fall of
Foochow.

10. It is reported that Foochow was captured today by Japanese who landed near Lieukong on 27th September.

5.10.1944
Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

F.O.B.A.A. Port of Calais has been assigned by S.H.A.E.F. to
to bring U.S. Force for development and operations.
Calais (2) F.O.B.A.A. is to continue to give canal
into use assistance in bringing port into use until C.T.F.
for U.S. 125 is ready to assume responsibility which he is
force. requested to report in due course.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051425A to C.T.F.125, C. in C. Nore,
Admiralty, F.O.B.A.A., Comnav, S.H.A.E.F.,
C. in C. Portsmouth, Com(nav)for France, N.A.G.
Central, A.C. 1st Canadian Army, R.A. Dover, Com.
Belgian, N.O.I.C. Boulogne.)

Situation Reports

Naval Cositintrep No. 184. Part 2 Naval.
(A) Captured Ports Boulogne survey and wreck
dispersal ships are expected to have arrived
today.

(B) Unloading:-

	<u>British Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Pol.</u>
East Calvados	441	266	3482	2331
Dieppe	1149	17	6838	Nil.
Ostend	-	-	-	-
Ostend figures not received.				
United States.				
Cherbourg	Nil.	65	10482	Nil.
Beaches	2302	516	2568	18
Brittany Ports	Nil.	Nil.	3368	Nil.
Small Ports	<u>Nil.</u>	<u>Nil.</u>	<u>6113</u>	<u>Nil.</u>
	<u>3892</u>	<u>864</u>	<u>32851</u>	<u>2349</u>

(Adm. Ramsay, 052350 to Admty.)

Operations

North Sea

Balloon Request arrangements may, ^{be made} so that balloon barrage
Barrage can be provided in Scheldt as soon as both banks
for are captured. It is considered vital that all
Scheldt. steps be taken to prevent enemy laying mines in
the river and approach channel.
(A.N.C.X.F. 051759A to A.E.A.F.)

Operations

Channel

Patrol Pins cover night 5th/6th October.
G.A.1 RETALICK Z.9 South.
G.A.2 HOTHAM Z.109.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 051011A to Portsmouth
Night Patrol, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover,
F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Falmouth,
F.O.I.C. Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on
B'casts "HD" and "CN" in Area "C". Admty.,
A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C. Portland.)

/My...

5.10.1944
Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Channel

Patrol
(Contd.)

My 051011
Delete all reference to RETALICK.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 051923A to Portsmouth Night Patrol, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Falmouth, F.O.I.C. Cardiff. Ships maintaining W/T watch on B'casts "HD" and "CN" in Area "C", Admiralty, A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C. Portland.)

Operations

West Coast France

Patrols.

A/C searches for today 5th October.
(2) One Sunderland will pass Ushant at first light search along French Coast as far as the Spanish Border and then examine eastern area of Bay as far as 4° W.
(3) Second Sunderland will search area from 47° 52' N. to Spanish Coast between 4° 38' W. and 6° 48' W. from first light.
(4) Object. To locate and report shipping and fishing craft.
(5) At your discretion close any Spanish Fishing Craft reported by A/C and order them to return to Spanish waters as in my 041153A.
(6) Call signs: 1st A/C WJF 74 AUGUSTINE E.
2nd A/C WJF 32 AUGUSTINE L.
Intercommunication on 2410 kcs.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 050102 to Force 28.)
Force 28 is to sweep north and west from Gironde area on night 5/6.
(2) After speaking Penmarch and Ushant signal Stations Force 28 is to return to Plymouth.
(3) Force 26 TANATSIDE, ALBRIGHTON sailed Plymouth 0600A/5 to reach (AA) 47° N. 4° W. by 2000A/5. Thence to patrol in Belle Ile Gironde area.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 051043A to Force 28.)
Obtained intelligence from Sables d'Olonne and Ile d'Yeu together with secret German aerial photograph. Nothing of immediate importance. Written report follows:-
My P.C.S. at 1930/5th 046° 20' N. 002° 41' W. 353° 13.5 knots and at 2200 5th 046° 48' N. 000° 48' W. 315° 13.5 knots.
(Force 28, 051759A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

U-boat
at Brest.

Damaged submarine located in drydock number 4. Part of conning tower only visible at low tide. No identification by number of type.
(C.T.F.125, 051009A to Admty.)

Operations

Western Approaches

Patrol

Amend Disposition of forces as follows forthwith.
(A) 19th E.G. Sweep through A 1 then operate in

/A 2...

5.10.1944
Thursday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Western Approaches

Patrol (Contd.) A 2 and A 4 until further orders.
(B) 31st E.G. Sweep through B 1 and B 2 then operate D 1.
(C) 30th E.G. When ready operate in D 2.
(D) 15th E.G. Detached.
(2) S.O. 31st E.G. is S.O. Force 33.
(C. in C.W.A. 051615A to Force 33.)

Operations

North Western Approaches

Suspected U-boats. By D/F on 53.33 N. kc/s at 0150Z U-boat making WW signal estimated within 45 miles of 57° 30' N. 21° 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 050320A to E.G.2.)
From D/Fs. 1148Z/4 and 1428Z/4 and 0150Z/5 and A.S.V. contact 2135Z/4 it appears that 3 U-boats are now between latitudes 58° 00' N. and 60° 00' N. and between longitudes 21° 00' W. and 18° 00' W. All probably en route Norway.
(D.D.I.C. 051049A to E.G.2, H.Q.C.C., C. in C.W.A., A.C.I.C., A.C.O.S.)

Operations

Norway

Patrol. Shift Southern limit of your area 25 miles N.
(F.O.S. 051136A to ULA.)

Operation "S.C.". My 041301A. Ramose Nourish may now be sailed.
(A.C.O.S. 051201A to N.O.I.C. Lerwick and Major Rogers.)
Cancel my 031152. Intend to sail S/C operation from Scalloway at 0600A tomorrow Friday on A course 067° Sumburg Head to position given in my 051204 and returning by reciprocal route, speed 14 knots.
(2) Time away 2 days.
(3) Air escort not especially required on return journey.
(4) My 051204 gives codeword and position.
(A.C.O.S. 051203A to Admty.)
Intend sailing S/M Chaser operation from Scalloway at 0500A 7th October, or first suitable day thereafter, on course of 086° Sumburgh Head to position given in my 051313A, and returning by reciprocal route, speed 14 knots.
(2) Time away 2 days.
(3) Air escort not specially required on return journey.
(4) My 051313 gives code word and position.
(A.C.O.S. 051311A to Admty.)
My 051311A.
(1) Position 60° 05' N., 05° 06' E.
(2) Ramose Ovation.
(A.C.O.S. 051313A to Admty.)

/Operation...

5.10.1944.

Thursday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Norway - Contd.

Operation "V.P. 74". My 051455A. A. A.M. 6th October or first suitable day thereafter. B. 61° 42' N. 04° 46' E. (F.O.I.C. Lerwick 051459A to A.C.O.S.)

Operations

Northern Waters.

Patrol. Carry out A zigzag sweep from 001° 00' W. to 008° 00' W. between parallel 063° 30' N. and 064° 20' N. CB 4097 article 550 refers. Report E.T.A. on meridian 008° 00' W. and reverse direction of sweep on arrival. (C. in C. Rosyth 051103A to S.O.E.G. 6.)

Convoy J.W. 61. If the U-Boat situation permits, it is intended to transfer one or two support groups to C. in C. H.F. for operation with J.W. 61. (A.C.N.S.(H) 052329A to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F.)

Allied Air Activity.

Patrols off Ymuiden. P.C.S. of enemy convoy 52° 27' N. 04° 28' E. posn. based on pinpoint fix 030° 7 knots. (A/C PKYA 050055 to 16 Group.)

My 0055. P.C.S. of enemy 2 merchant vessels, 6 small craft, 52° 32' N. 04° 29' E. 010° 7 knots.

Position based on a pinpoint fix obtained within ½ hour of 0100. (A/C PKYA 050146 to 16 Group.)

Have attacked 6 unknown enemy with bombs dive in 52.29 N. 04.27 E.

(A/C PKYM 050452 to 16 Group.)

Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 52° 40' N., 04° 23' E.

(A/C PKYG 050453 to 16 Group.)

Nr. 1. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 52° 33' N. 03° 50' E. fixed by pinpoint within ½ hour of 2000.

(A/C MACG 052000A to 16 Group.)

Nr. 4. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 52° 29' N. 04° 27' E.

(A/C MWCE 052215 to 16 Group.)

Nr. 5. P.C.S. of enemy merchant vessels and 3 enemy escort vessels is 52° 16' N. 04° 19' E. (based on a fix by Gee between 2230 - 2330) 020° 8 knots.

(A/C MACE 052312 to 16 Group.)

Nr. 6. My 2312. Have attacked enemy by level bombing, but result of attack unobserved.

(A/C MACE 052317 to 16 Group.)

P.C.S. of 1 small vessel 4 small craft 52° 20' N. 04° 23' E. 020° 5 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive. Result of attack unobserved.

(A/C NVNZ 052349 to 16 Group.)

/Patrols...

War Diary5.10.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDSAllied Air Activity - Contd.

Patrols off S. Norway. P.C.S. of 4 unknown vessels 58 degs. 12' N. 06 degs. 26' E.
Position based on gee fix obtained within half-an-hour of 0200; course 310 degs. speed 10 knots.
(A/C RBNQ, 050224A to 18 Group).
P.C.S. of enemy. One Merchant Vessel, one Escort Vessel 58 degs. 32' N. 10 degs. 57' E. 350 degs. 15 knots.
Position based on an A.S.V. fix obtained within half-an-hour of 0200.
(A/C UURC, 050245A to 18 Group).
P.C.S. of 4 medium enemy vessels and 5 small vessels 59 degs. 05' N. 05 degs. 50' E. 180 degs. 5 knots.
(A/C RJTN, 050920 to 18 Grp.).

Patrols off Hook of Holland. Nr.1. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 52 degs. 09' N. 04 degs. 10' E. Pinpoint within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of 1800.
(A/C NVNF, 051943 to 16 Grp.).
Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 51 degs. 55' N. 03 degs. 56' E.
(A/C NVNP, 052035 to 16 Grp.).
P.C.S. 1 minesweeper 52 degs. 11' N. 04 degs. 13' E. fixed by pinpoint within half-an-hour of 1800 010 degs. 8 knots. Have attacked enemy bombs level. Result of attack hits observed.
(A/C NUNF, 052056 to 16 Grp.).
Nr.3. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 52 degs. 13' N. 04 degs. 14' E.
(A/C MACE, 052142 to 16 Grp.).
Nr.1. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive in 52 degs. 10' N. 04 degs. 00' E.
(A/C NVNC, 052338 to 16 Grp.).

Patrol off Texel. Nr.2. Have obtained A.S.V. contact in 53 degs. 03' N. 04 degs. 38' E.
(A/C NVNP, 052126A to 16 Group).
Nr.4. Positions 10 merchant vessels 52 degs. 58' N. 04 degs. 38' E.
(A/C NVNP, 052140 to 16 Grp.).
My Nr.4 convoy forming up.
(A/C NVNP, 052141 to 16 Grp.).
Nr.3. Have attacked enemy bombs dive.
(A/C NVNP, 052150 to 16 Grp.).

5.10.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity.

German airborne stores dropped at Boulogne. Hostile aircraft dropped parachute containers at approx. 2045 today Thursday in vicinity P.W.S.S. One container revealed German anti-tank weapon and ammunition believed to be intended for Dunkirk. At least 2 other containers known to have been dropped. Number of friendly bombers passed over Boulogne at the same time. No air raid warning or fire. Presence un-detected due to friendly bombers. Army outside Dunkirk being informed by message to avoid a repetition. 1 A.Z. area must be respected. (N.O.I.C. Boulogne, 052358A to 21 A.G., A.N.C.X.F., F.O.B.A.A.).

Mining

Sweeping of Seine. Sitrep sweeping of Havre - Dieppe Channel, cancelled owing to weather. River Seine swept twice for ground mines negative results. B.Y.M.S. continued Oropesa sweeps and cut two N.T.I. sweeping floats off Quilleboeuf. CALEY 163rd M.S.F. reports sweeping 4 magnetic swept in 49 degs. 32' 45" N. 00 degs. 11' 12" W. (Capt. M/S Seine, 050830 to A.N.C.X.F.).

Sweeping of Boulogne. Four moored mines and one magnetic mines swept inside the Digue Carnot at Boulogne. B.Y.M.S. 2154 damaged, probably by rough acoustic mine in Rade Carnot. Two magnetic mines swept to southward of approach channel close to Digue Carnot. All mines swept by 167th M.S.F. Four controlled minefields have been detonated or rendered safe. (Capt. M/S. Seine, 051030 to F.O.B.A.A.).

British M/S personnel at Cherbourg. C.T.F. 125 301037 Sept. which being passed to you is concurred in and the British Minesweeping personnel to be retained at Cherbourg will under these arrangements be limited to those essential personnel who cannot at present be replaced from United States or French sources.

- (2) The release of Commander A.E. Doran has been proposed separately.
 - (3) It is suggested that Commanding Officer H.M.S. ROYAL WILLIAM should forward now to C. in C. Portsmouth.
 - (a) Names of officers and numbers in each category of ratings of the minesweeping personnel to be released as result of C.T.F. 125 message quoted above.
 - (b) Similar details of any other personnel who can also be released in consequence.
- (A.N.C.X.F., 051121A to C. in C. Portsmouth).

/Mine...

5.10.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Mining

Mine recovery in Rosyth Command 3rd Quarter 1944. From July 1st, 1944 to September 30th, 1944, the following stranded and drifting mines have been dealt with in this command.

Area	Stranded mines Secured	Self-exploded	Drifting mines.	German Ex-Floats Ashore	Sunk	Total
Invergordon	-	-	1	-	-	1
Aberdeen	2	-	3	-	-	5
Dundee	3	-	4	-	-	7
Methil	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leith	5	2	3	-	-	10
Tyne	1	-	6	-	-	7
Tees and Hartlepool	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	12	2	17	-	-	31

Stranded Mines.

Area	Brit. Mk.XIX	Brit. Mk.XVII	Brit. Mk.III	Brit. Mk.XX.L.	Brit. Mk.1	Total
Invergordon	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aberdeen	2	-	-	-	-	2
Dundee	1	1	-	-	1	3
Methil	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leith	-	4	-	1	-	5
Tyne	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tees and Hartlepool	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	3	5	1	2	1	12

(C. in C. Rosyth, 051215 to Admty.).

Deep minefield in St. Georges Channel. Carry out operation C.D.A.1 1715A/5th October. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 051251A to C. in C.W.A., and PLOVER).

Sweeping off Sangatte. The following mines were detonated on 3rd October whilst sweeping off Sangatte.

No.1. 50 degs. 57' 26" N. 1 degs. 44' 16" E. Blue.
 No.2. 50 degs. 57' 24" N. 1 deg. 44' 20" E. Red.
 No.3. 50 degs. 57' 21" N. 1 deg. 44' 43" E. Red.
 No.4. 50 degs. 57' 19" N. 1 deg. 44' 48" E. Blue.
 No.5. 50 degs. 57' 19" N. 1 deg. 44' 30" E. Red.
 No.6. 50 degs. 57' 39" N. 1 deg. 44' 33" E. Red.
 No.7. 50 degs. 57' 29" N. 1 deg. 44' 51" E. Red.
 No.8. 50 degs. 57' 18" N. 1 deg. 44' 38" E. Blue.
 No.9. 50 degs. 57' 23" N. 1 deg. 45' 08" E. Red.
 No.10. 50 degs. 57' 00" N. 1 deg. 43' 10" E. Red.
 (V.A. Dover, 051607A to Admty.).

Dover minesweepers. Dover forces M/S report Thursday October 5th. (a) Pluto Channel reswept LL and SS to harbour entrance.

/ (b)...

War Diary5.10.1944.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDSMining

Dover (Contd.) (b) Channel Two completed except for Oropesa sweep minesweepers. between ZXF 10 fathom line and Sangatte. Three ground mines detonated on western limits approximate six cables west north west of Sangatte Church.

(c) Channel Three partly completed Oropesa from 10 miles S.E. of Abbotscliffe to 3 miles N.W. of Gris Nez. (V.A. Dover, 052053A to A.N.C.X.F.).

1st and 18th M.S.F. to Rosyth. As from 15th October, 1st M.S.F. and 18th M.S.F. will be administered by C. in C. Rosyth M/S 1 030947 and Com. (D) H.F. 031243 neither to all refer. (D.M.S., 052346A to A.C.O.S., Com. D.H.F., C. in C. Rosyth).

Port Facilities.

Navigable depths in Seine. Your 271641/September. Request confirmation whether drafts of 12ft. at neaps and 18ft. at springs are at high or low water. (D. of S.T., 050237A to A.N.C.X.F.). D. of S.T. 050237. High water. (F.O.B.A.A., 051243A to D. of S.T.).

Boulogne. Regret to report B.Y.M.S.2255 sunk in approx. position 142 Light Northern end Digue Carnot 3 cables inward. (2) No casualties. (3) Loss presumably due to mine at 2045 today Thursday whilst at anchor. 50 minutes before low water. (4) Enemy aircraft in vicinity at same time my 052358 refers. (5) Consider harbour unsafe for shipping and do not intend call forward any ship until further sweeping has been carried out. (6) All ships now anchored in swept water outside. (7) Enquiry will be made (if) officers are available. (N.O.I.C. Boulogne, 052359A to Admty., V.A. Dover, F.O.B.A.A. Capt. M/S Seine).

Casualties and Defects.

CHEBOQUE Possibility of salvaging CHEBOQUE intend GIFFARD and ORANGEVILLE stand by. Request PRIMROSE relieve ORANGEVILLE S.O.C.1 borne (corrupt group). My position 049 degs. 20' N. 024 degs. 15' W. (S.O.C.1, 050115Z to C. in C.W.A.). My 050115Z. For ORANGEVILLE read CHAMBLY. (S.O.C.1, 050313Z to C. in C.W.A.). One escort is to remain with CHEBOQUE provided not less than three are left with the convoy. (2) If this cannot be effected CHEBOQUE is to be abandoned and sunk. (3) PRIMROSE and tug are being sent. (4) Report intentions and dispositions. (C. in C.W.A., 050711A to S.O.E.G.1).

/Close...

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Thursday.HOME COMMANDSCasualties and Defects - Contd.

- CHEBOQUE (Contd.) Close position 49 degs. 20' 24 degs. 20" and stand by CHEBOQUE damaged by torpedo. (C. in C.W.A., 050713A to PRIMROSE). CHEBOQUE consider her salvageable, all aft of frame No.100 gone. Engine room bulkhead and 2 pounder magazine shored and holding. 144 survivors, 2 known dead and 1 missing. 81 survivors aboard ARNPRIOR, 1 badly injured aboard GIFFARD, 61 remaining in CHERBOQUE. Request tug and escort be sent to enable GIFFARD and CHAMBLY to rejoin convoy. My position 049 degs. 22' 025 degs. 54'. (CHAMBLY, 050715Z to C. in C.W.A.).
My 050713.
Continue making weather reports while in this duty. (C. in C.W.A., 050716A to PRIMROSE).
(Following is a paraphrased version of my 0115Z/5). S.O.C.1 borne in ARNPRIOR.
Possibility of salvaging CHEBOQUE.
Request PRIMROSE relieve ORANGEVILLE. My position 49 degs. 20' N. 24 degs. 15' W.
Intend GIFFARD and ORANGEVILLE standing by. (S.O.C.1, 050922Z to C. in C.W.A.).
Proceed forthwith at best speed to position 049 degs. 22' N. 025 degs. 52'.
(C. in C.W.A., 051030A to S.O.E.G.15).
My 051030 to 15th E.G. only.
CHEBOQUE damaged by torpedo in 49 degs. 20' 24 degs. 20'.
CHAMBLY and GIFFARD standing by until arrival of PRIMROSE about 2300A today 5th October when CHAMBLY is to rejoin O.N.S.33.
Tug SALVONIA from Horta E.T.A. 8th October.
(2) Escort and commence tow of CHEBOQUE towards Milford Haven. You will be relieved about 9th October.
(3) CHAMBLY report situation and confirm position. (C. in C.W.A., 051330A to S.O.E.G.15).
My 051030. Amend position to read 049 degs. 20' 024 degs. 20'.
(C. in C.W.A., 051340A to S.O.E.G.15).
- L.C.T.7070. H.M.L.C.T.7039 has put into Cherbourg due to weather.
H.M.L.C.T.7070 has been reported in distress 49 degs. 51' 10" N. and 01 degs. 23' W. as of 050400A. Tug has been sent to search area. U.S.S.C.1329 will also assist in search. No further information has been received. A.L.O. Portsmouth has been advised.
(C.T.G. 125.2, 051745 to F.O.I.C. Southampton, F.O.I.C. Portland, W.N.F.O., Admiralty, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F. (Buco), Cot, Etousa, C.T.F.125).
- L.C.T.7084 (1) 3 tankers and 2 L.S.Ts. enter harbour, 1 tanker, 4 L.S.Ts. and L.C.T. left harbour.
(2) Carried out LL and Pol in harbour, negative result.
(3) Efforts to refloat L.C.T.7084 were unsuccessful. Ship must now remain on beach until next spring tide. Tranship may become total loss.
(4) (P) part examine 200 feet quay in Voorhaven. (N.O.I.C. Ostend, 052210A to Com. Belgium).

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Thursday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Convoy O.N.S.33. Escorts detached at 1530Z/4 rejoin convoy forthwith unless in very firm contact.
(C. in C.W.A., 050033A to Escorts of O.N.S.33).

Independent sailings London to Bristol Channel. Request your remarks on ocean going vessels of say 12 knots and above sailing independently on the coastal routes between London and Bristol Channel.
(D.T.O., 050302A to Cs. in C. Nore, Portsmouth, Plymouth, V.A. Dover).
A.M. 050302. No objection, provided adequate notice is given of requirements for pilots and subject to passage of Downs being made in daylight.
(V.A. Dover, 051243A to Admty.).

Your 050302A. Concur, other than for ships carrying personnel.

- (2) The following procedure for the movement of fast ocean shipping through the Plymouth Command is proposed:-
(A) Independent ships bound for English and Bristol Channels, and any ships detached by Admiralty to proceed ahead of incoming convoys, to proceed independently through the Plymouth Command.
(B) No ship to be allowed to proceed independently unless capable of 12 knots or over and maintaining constant W/T watch.
(C) Incoming independents to be routed through 180 degs. Bishop Rock 12 miles or 180 degs. Lizard Head 5, and to report expected time of arrival at whichever of the above positions is applicable, to:- C. in C. Plymouth (R) C. in C.W.A., C. in C. Nore, Admiralty, 12 hours in advance.
(D) Outward bound independents to take departure from 180 degs. Lizard Head 3 miles if routed to the southward, or from 180 degs. Bishop Rock 8 miles.
(E) In the event of more than 1 ship being sent on ahead of an incoming convoy all such ships to be allocated a collective call sign by the Admiralty.
(3) This procedure to be subject to immediate revision if the U-Boat situation should necessitate it.
(4) The question of the permanent exhibition of the principal coastal lights in the Plymouth Command is under consideration.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 051920A to Admty.).

Cross-channel sailings. Request cancellation M.T. sailings to Utah and Omaha for 24 hours.
(C.T.F.125, 050857A to A.N.C.X.P., C. in C. Portsmouth).

Convoy nomenclature. A.M. 031341. All coaster convoys from the Bristol Channel to Cherbourg will be designated by the lettering B.E.C. commencing from October 10th with B.E.C.1.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 051020A to A.N.C.X.P.).

Your 031351A October request new convoy designations may be brought into force at 100001A.
(A.N.C.X.F., 051825 to Admty.).

Le Havre obstructions. This Command is sailing authority for ships entering le Havre. No ships will be sailed to

/ le Havre...

5.10.1944.
Thursday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Le Havre
(Contd.)

le Havre unless specifically released by this Command. Date deep draft ships can indefinite and ships should be held in Solent until released for le Havre. Sailing ships to Arronanches to await onward routing considered an unnecessary hazard and is not authorised except for three L.S.Ts. loaded with Q.M. class 2 supplies. Com. Zone forward only authority for designating ships required by the U.S. Army at this port. (C.T.F. 125, 051359A to H.Q.U.K. Base, H.Q. Com. Zone (Fwd.), C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, A.N.C.X.F. (B.C.Q.O.), Admiralty, O.C.O.T., Etousa, (Watson), N.O.i/c Arronanches).

Convoy
O.N.259.

As Macship GADILIA will not be available for O.N. request that EMPIRE MACRAE may be sailed to overtake O.N.259 if not ready to proceed with Clyde portion.
(D.T.D., 051741A to C. in C.W.A., F.O.C.T.).

Convoy
O.N.256.

O.N.256. 76 ships including WASAGA and CARAQUET. My P.C.S. 048 degs. 10' N. 039 degs. 43' W. (U) 275 degs. 8 knots.
Weather report 1945 2785.
(S.O.E.G.B.3, 051933A to C. in C.W.A.).

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

CHEBOQUE
(torpedoed
in Home
Commands)

H.M.C.S. CHAMBLY's 042240Z request you will sail SALVONIA to assist H.M.C.S. CHEBOQUE in 49° 29' N. 24° 05' W. as soon as possible.
(C. of W. 050719A to S.B.N.O. Azores)

ATROPO

(1) Italian S/M ATROPO escorted by F.C. DAVIS intend to sail at 0900/7 for Bermuda through following positions at times stated.
(V) 35 49.3 06 06.5 at 1410 7th.

(W) 32 00 14 00 at 2320 9th.

(X) 31 00 24 01 at 1650 12th.

(Y) 31 01 40 01 at 0110/17.

(Z) 31 00 57 00 at 1600/21 thence to Bermuda E.T.A. 1830/23.

All position North and West all times Z. S. of A. 8 knots.

(2) Total attack restrictions imposed from 60 miles ahead to 60 miles astern of position and 40 miles either side of route.

(3-6) Communications.

(F.O.G.M.A. 051740)

Note: Part one already circulated under T.O.O. 051726.

South Atlantic

EMPRESS OF
SCOTLAND.

On her return voyage from Cape to U.K. S.S. EMPRESS OF SCOTLAND will be required to call at Casablanca to disembark one thousand troops.
D. of S.T. 022129 not to all refers.
(2) Request you will route her accordingly.
(D.O.D.(F) 052204A to F.O.C.W.Af.)

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5.10.1944
ThursdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterraneanCoast
defences
in Levant.

Quote:- Following for C.O.S's from C. in C's Reference Middle East CCL/3 of 28th April. We have again examined coast defences in the Levant with a view to further conservation of manpower. We consider that at this stage of the war, further reductions can be made without undue risk.

(2) We therefore recommend the following.

(a) Haifa. 1 x 6 inch (45 degs) guns. three Casl. To be relegated to care and maintenance.

(b) Beirut. Whilst it is not considered operationally necessary to retain coastal defences at this port, we feel that should all defences be withdrawn, the French would insist upon manning some coastal defences themselves. We are of the opinion that it would be unwise to allow further opportunity for French infiltration port area at this stage since it would lead to political repercussions with Lebanese. We therefore recommend reduction only of 2 BL 4 inch naval guns 4 x .5 inch Hmg. and 3 Xcasl.

(c) Tripoli. Coastal defences are required for defence of oil anchorage but present scale can be reduced by 1 x 75 mm gun, 2 x .5 inch Hmg and 2 706+ Casl. Removal one 75 mm gun will necessitate resiting of movable remaining 2 guns to give adequate protection to anchorage.

(d) Famagusta. No change.

(3) Reduction in scale equipment as proposed in para 2 above would bring about following approx. saving in British manpower - 13 officers and 264 British other ranks. This includes abolition of one R. Headquarters leaving one R.H.Q. to command all CA in Levant.

(4) Request permission to implement suggested reduction.
(M.E. 051020Z) + As received.M.V.
TAMARA.

Greek Relief Vessels.

Swedish Authorities would be grateful for any news of TAMARA which was last heard of on October 1st 2200 G.M.T. in 34 degs. 30' N. 24 degs. 17' E.
(N.A. Stockholm, 051537 to Admty)

Aegean S/M
Operations.

At 1059 in 039 degs. 50' 023 degs. 34' attacked merchant ship escorted by 1 patrol caique. Missed. Target very definite proved to be UJ boat. All torpedoes expended.

(2) 190 H.E. D.A. remain.

(UNTIRING, 051601A)

Sail from Khios at 0801A/6th. to Samos thence diving by day through Turkish territorial waters close to Cape Krio rectangle 3 miles South of Seskli thence on surface at your discretion passing 036 degs. 18' 028 degs. 34' to position (D) of standard route.

(2) Report as convenient E.T.A. Cape Krio and position (D)
(Capt.(S) 1, 051611A to UPSTART, (R) NEREUS, MATROZOS, 1st S/M.F. S.O. Force S.1, F.O.L.E.M.)

/ My...

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Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Aegean S/M Operations. (Contd.) My E.T.A. Cape Krio is 0203A/6th and at position D of 65 route 1159/7th.
(2) Your 041135 refers.
(CURIE, 051646A to Capt. (S) 1.)
Proceed forthwith with dispatch through (1) 039° 33' 024° 17'.
(2) 038° 55' 025° 38' to Khios embarking 4 torpedoes as quickly as possible and return to patrol. Report E.T.A. Khios.
(3) NEREUS patrol area ZZ and YY forthwith on the Kassandra - Skiathos line until noon 6th and then proceed in accordance with my 051625.
(Capt. (S) 1, 051808A to UNTIRING, (R) 1st S/M.F., NEREUS?, F.O.L.E.M., S.O.(I) Izmir, G.S. MATROZOS, S.O. Force S.1.)

Flying restrictions over ports. Med. Station 014B is cancelled. M.S.G.O.53 part 3 para. 21 - following show flying restrictions over ports in Med. Station.
(A) I.A.Z. by night. G.D.A. by day: Leghorn, Ancona, Marseilles, Toulon, Port de Bouc.
(B) G.D.A. by night. G.D.A. by day: Porto Vecchio, San Stefano, Taranto, Brindisi, Bari, Malta Harbour, Alex., Port Said, Haifa, Beirut, Tripoli, Naples.
(C) Remaining ports in Allied hands are unrestricted flying areas where only aircraft seen to be hostile in appearance or action are to be engaged in accordance with S.P. 02312(4) para. 26.
(2) Details of boundaries of restricted flying areas are published locally.
(C. in C. Med., 051805.)

TUEBINGEN. Intercept from DHYT Hospital Ship TUEBINGEN. Arrive Venice at 1745 G.M.T. and (unread) Master. (Lands End Radio, 051900A.)

Crete - relief. The Swedes announce that Nikolaos (? Port Nikolo intended) can no longer be used for loading or as distribution centre in Crete and have requested permission to use Heraklion and/or Suda. They have been informed that it is impossible to give safe conduct to either of these two ports.
(2) Food situation in Crete is rapidly deteriorating. Request you will report immediately you consider operational situation will permit sending of relief goods to Cretan ports.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 051909A to C. in C. Med.)

M.E. Balkan Sitrep No. 325. (Extract).
(2) Int. Greece Peloponnese. Force 133 report 4 October last German Tps. left Patras by sea. CX reports 2 October Corinth Canal now completely blocked.
(5) Sea Ops. N.T.R.
(C. in C. M.E., 051945C.)

/Sweeping ...

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Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Sweeping of Kinaros Channel. Surrender of Levitha. 1900 flash. Kinaros Channel not yet cleared. M.S.5 requests B.Y.M.S. to detonate moored magnetics. Full M/S report follows from M.S.5. (2) Levitha liquidation not yet completed. Garrison Cdr. now signalling his surrender. Intend to take off garrison of about 80 after moonrise. Further signal follows. (S.O. Force A, 051955C to F.O.L.E.M., Info. Capt. 1st S/M.F., BLACK PRINCE, S.O. M/S.F.5.)
Have cleared and checked to 15 fathoms channel 5 cables wide centre line from 036° 52.6' N., 026° 16.1' E. to 037° 00.3' N., 026° 11.1' E. Chart 1866. Have cleared to 15 fathoms 4 cables to South-west of this.
(2) 12 (? parachute) mines so far. 1 cut, 1 detonated in sweep remainder towed out of area. Chain mooring encountered at 35 fathoms depth. Are any cutters available? Suggest use of B.Y.M.S. for initial LL sweeping.
(3) H.M.S. CLINTON E.T.A. Alexandria a.m./7th urgent defects main circulator.
(S.O. M/S.F.5, 052110C to F.O.L.E.M., Info. C. in C. Med., BLACK PRINCE, AURORA, Capt. (S) 1.)

Situation Report No. 451. (1) My 022315 para. (?4) U.S. JOHNS HOPKINS has arrived Marseilles in tow. No casualties.
(2) AURORA bombarded Maleme airport night 2nd/3rd.
(3) On 3rd October carrier (?based) aircraft strafed Levitha and attacked Portolago (Leros) where ships in harbour were hit and 1 large barge set on fire. 1 aircraft missing.
(4) Night 3rd/4th CALPE and CLEVELAND destroyed 6 large assault craft north-east of Piskopi.
(5) On 5th October AURORA and CATTERICK bombarded Levitha and then landed party.
(6) F.S. CURIE reports attacking convoy north of Skiathos on 4th October. 1 merchant ship disintegrated.
(C. in C. Med., 052250.)

Bombardment off south French coast. NIBLACK was fired on by unlocated gun when 2770 yards bearing 212° from Cape Martin. Railroad gun possibly exists in tunnel on Cape Mortola 8 18 8 6 8. In event you are taken under fire by medium calibre gun that area have planes investigate. HORBIN (not identified by W.D.) approach from East and concentrate fire on prime mover. A probable four gun camouflaged light battery is also located at 8 12 8 7 4? by photo R/C.
(? Via Algiers W/T, 052335A.)

Cositintrep No. 453 Part 4. Para.1. North-west Peloponnesæ. After surrender of Greek Security Battalion our troops entered Patras 2nd October. 270 Germans retreated toward Rhion leaving about 500 in the harbour and castle area. It is now reported that on the night 3rd/4th October the enemy completely evacuated Patras.

/Para.2 ...

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Cositintrep
No. 453
Part 4.
(Contd.)

Para. 2. Central Peloponnese. A small party of
Nine Commando which was landed on the mainland
before the move from Kithera to Poros has
accepted the surrender of the Security Battlaion
Garrison at Tripolis.
(A.F.H.Q., No T.O.O./5.)

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat No fresh information. Scales in all areas remain
dispositions. unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F. 050334Z)

Leigh Light A/C and manpower situation do not permit at
A/C for present addition of two extra Leigh Light
Indian Liberator squadrons to Indian Ocean.
Ocean. (2) Following alternative plan has been agreed:
To re-equip four Wellington XIII non Leigh Light
Squadrons now operating in Arabian Sea Area.
The first will be re-equipped in October and
the remaining three in phase with development of airfields
capable of operating V.L.R. A/C.
(3) All four squadrons should be operational on Liberator
Leigh Light Mark V A.S.V. A/C by Feb/March 1945.
(4) Your 121205/April para. 8 and 280847 May to Admiralty only
refer.
(A.C.N.S.(U.T.) 051405A to C. in C. E.F.)

X.E.craft Your 011127Z June. Admiralty have requested
Folbots. immediate review this Headquarters on requirement
for X.E. craft in Far East. F.O.S. expressed
view that unless distances to be covered were
short which he considered improbable one operational
S/M would be required to tow each X.E. craft to vicinity of
reconnaissance. This would restrict activities of operational
S/Ms of which only limited number available. He suggests
R/C requirement equally well met by Folbot from S/M. Also
considers X.E. craft unsuitable clandestine operations due
limited capacity.
(2) In view above request your immediate remarks whether or
not firm requirement X.E. craft for R/C beach marking or other
purposes. Operational reports stress loss of security which
may occur if Folbot used for above purposes.
(C.C.O. 051855 to S.A.C.S.E.A.)

Djibuti C. in C. Med. 031529 /.
M.L's No request has been made by me for reinforcement
required. of harbour police at Djibuti but Governor and
Commandant De Karine have both represented their
urgent need of motor launches for coastal patrol
work.
(Com. Aden. 051912Z to Adty, F.O.W.M.)
/ French state that British authorities have
requested reinforcement of harbour police at
Djibuti.

Mosquito Your D.A.C.325 / October 3. As forecast in para.
Squadron. 4. of my A.X. 408/ October 2, now almost certain
that escort carriers will be used for transporting
squadron instead of INDEFATIGABLE. Request
confirmation that in these circumstances
Trincomalee will be suitable as port of unloading, and that local
Naval authorities agree. Admiralty say that whereas Trincomalee

/would ...

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War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

Mosquito
Squadron.
(Contd.)

would be suitable for unloading Mosquitos from deck of Fleet carrier, suitable hoisting facilities for unloading from decks of escort carriers may not be available there. Some other port may consequently have to be chosen. Request reply as a matter of urgency.
(A.C.S.E.A. 051940Z to Air Min.)
/ 041113 (N.T. in W.D.) / 020741 (N.T. in W.D.)

War Diary

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Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-Boat Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 051320Z, Cominch 051554Z)

U.S.S. WEST AVT154A WEST POINT to avoid U-Boats amend route
POINT. (details).
(Com. 10th Flt. C. and R. 051629Z to U.S.S. WEST
POINT)

Stragglers 1 Arrived Halifax from H.X. 311. EMPIRE GARRICK
Report No.71. October 1st. Engine defects.
1 arrived St. Johns Nfld. from H.X. 311. FORT
MACPHERSON October 4th. Unable to maintain
convoy speed.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 052110Z)

U-Boat Para. (A) U-Boat which had been tracked
incidents. intermittently with Sonobuoys since 030115Z was
again attacked by ERIPOSI A/C at 031220Z in 08°
38' N. 32° 18' W.
(Cominch 052137Z)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 988. October 4th.
(7) Navy Catalina had usual success while
searching Sulu Archipelago early hours. 6
Centuries hit and destroyed 3,000 ton merchantman
while strafing set ablaze one sea truck one oil barge all off
Zolo. Another similar merchantman and 2 sea trucks observed
vicinity Zolo. In addition Zettelfield drome on Zolo raided
and 3 parked planes strafed.
(13) 6 destroyers arrived northeastern Linsadvn Gulf evening
1st October and still there next morning together with 2 large
transports 5 big tankers 32 cargo vessels whereof 7 large 2
medium went 23 small, 3 motor boats: larger freighters
transshipping cargo into smaller docks.
(14) 2 enemy planes ineffectually raided southern Morotai dawn
3rd.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 051140Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack Para. A. (1) A/C sighted surfacing U-Boat at
and sighting 0840Z/4 in latitude 60° 08' N. longitude 04° 16' E.
summary. (2) A/C P/407 attacked surfaced U-Boat Co. 130°
10 knots at 2020Z/4 in latitude 60° 21' N.
UL4 longitude 03° 22' E.

/(3) ...

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Thursday

War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary.
(Contd.)

(3) H.M.C.S. CHEBOQUE sighted surfaced U-Boat at 1235Z/4 in latitude 49° 42' N. longitude 22° 49' W.

(4) CHEBOQUE reported torpedoed at 2204Z/4 in latitude 49° 29' N. longitude 24° 05' W.

Para. B. (1) A/C obtained Radar contact at 1618Z/4 in latitude 56° 30' N. longitude 12° 40' W.

(2) A/C obtained Radar contact at 2315Z/4 in latitude 59° 05' N. longitude 18° 11' W.

Para D. (1) A/C G/110 obtained Radar contact at 1610Z/4 in latitude 50° 26' N. longitude 14° 29' W.

(2) A/C obtained Radar contact at 1855Z/4 in latitude 50° 59' N. longitude 15° 01' W.

(D.D.I.C. 051130A)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 051345A, 051346A)

6.10.1944
Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

1. TAKLIWA is bringing 994 members of the French Government from Algiers to Cherbourg; BATORY will follow with the remaining 1800.

North Sea.

2(a) The N.E. gale necessitated the closing of Ostend Harbour. L.S.T. 304 got into difficulties with the blockship, was damaged and dragged her anchor, with flooded engine room, onto a lee shore. In response to urgent signals C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, and Admiralty informed N.O.I.C. that no tugs were available.

(b) Two attacks were carried out by aircraft of 16 Group on enemy shipping off Holland, but the results were unobserved or unreported.

Channel.

3(a) Bad weather has necessitated the cancelling of sailings for the Far Shore, and 3 Phoenixes are disintegrating at Arromanches.

(b) Navigation lights are in future to be shown in the Channel between Hastings and 30W. dimmed in ordinary weather, and at full brilliance in thick.

West Coast
France.

4. A mutiny is reported in the German garrison of the Ile de Re, and morale in the neighbourhood is said to be low, with a number of German soldiers in plain clothes, but armed.

Western
Approaches.

5. CHEBOQUE, in tow of PRIMROSE, is making good 5 knots homeward.

Northern
Waters.

6(a) EASTWIND has located and captured a German meteorological station of the East Coast of Greenland, and the mysterious trawler referred to in Situation Report of 3.10.44 is now known to be the German EXTERNSTEINE, en route for Tromso.

(b) The wreck of the tanker EL GRILLO (sunk on 11th February, 1944) is polluting Seidisfjord in Iceland, but salvage of her is unlikely before next summer.

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Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Foreign Stations
Mediterranean

7. Bad weather again affected the operations of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces last night and to-day.

8. SS. ELINOR WYLIE on passage from Marseilles to Toulon was mined to-day and was towed into Toulon.

Levant.

9(a) M.L.1227 was lost, probably sunk by enemy torpedo boat, last night in the approaches to Piraeus, whilst en route to recover a reconnaissance party.

(b) FARNDALE was engaged by shore batteries whilst examining Livadia Bay, Piskopi this morning. The ship received one hit but continued on patrol.

East Indies

S/M patrol reports.

10(a) On return from patrol TRADEWIND reports sinking a 3/4 loaded northbound 5000 ton escorted merchant ship off the southwest coast of Sumatra. She also carried out two special operations, only one of which was successful, and she sank various small sailing vessels.

(b) STRATAGEM bombarded Ford Bay, Great Coco Island (north of the Andamans), destroying an air observation post. The remainder of her patrol was blank.

America and West Indies

U-Boats reported.

11. Several U-Boats were reported in American and Canadian waters to-day. INGONISH had a suspicious radar contact at 0010Z in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; an unknown ship made a S/M distress report at 0733 G.M.T., apparently in Florida Strait; SS. RUSSELL H. CHITTENDEN made a S/M distress report from a position 300 miles East of Cape Hatteras at 1500Z; and this evening LETHBRIDGE escorting Convoy S.C.158 attacked a U-Boat 150

/miles ...

6.10.1944
Friday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

America and West Indies

U-Boats
reported.
(Contd.)

miles S. by W. of Cape Race, assisted by PICTOU and
GALT and aircraft from M.A.C. ship ADULA.

Australia and New Zealand

12. Before dawn to-day 21 Liberators from
Darwin bombed the docks at Makassar, starting fires
amongst waterside installations, followed by
violent explosion.

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6.10.1944.
Friday.War DiaryHOME COMMANDSPolicy - see p. 116OperationsNorth Sea.

Patrol ^{from p. 116} (Contd.) (1) H.M.S. SHEARWATER patrol east Tongue to Elbow Buoy H.M.S. PYTCHLEY 57 F to 56A buoy. H.M.S. TALYBONT N.F.7 to N.F.3 buoy. STAYNER N.F.4 to N.F.7 buoy. R.104 N.F.7 to 673 10 buoy.

(2) C/F unit F.B.2 015 degs. Ostend 3, F.G.2, F.G.3 with STAYNER F.H.2, F.H.3 with RIOU, F.B.8, 031 degs. 35' N. 003 degs. 12' E. 031 degs. 30' N. 003 degs. 00' E., F.C.3 NIEUPORT BANK buoy, F.C.4 in approximate position 031 degs. 09' N. 002 degs. 37' 15 E.

(V.A. Dover, 061631A to Ships maintaining W/T watch on broadcasts H.D. and C.N. in Area "C", Admiralty, C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F.).

OperationsChannel.

Telephone cable to Far Shore. My 041720 Para.5. Request representatives of Admiralty S.H.A.E.F. northern group of armies and N.O.I.C. Boulogne may attend meeting at Dover. C.H.Q. 1130 Sunday 8th. (V.A. Dover, 061231A to Admty., N.O.I.C. Boulogne, N.L.O., N.G.A., S.H.A.E.F.).

Your 041720 answers to para.2 are as follows.

- (A) No, this will be brought into service at some later date.
 (B) (1) Abbotscliffe. (2) To be decided at briefing meeting.
 (3) Necessary lengths of both kinds available.
 (2) Requirements for cable laying stands at present as follows -
 (a) St. Margarets - Sangatte. (b) Abbotscliffe - Boulogne area. St. Margarets - La Panne is also an urgent requirement, but must depend on events in Dunkirk area.
 (3) Your paras. 3 and 4 and my para. 2(b) above this cable will be landed at point north of Boulogne to keep it clear of Pluto area.
 (D. of S.D. 061615A to V.A. Dover).

Patrol. Pins cover night 6th/7th October. G.A.1, STOCKHAM Z.9 south. G.A.2, VANQUISHER Z.109. (C. in C. Portsmouth 061232A to Admiralty, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C. Portland, F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Falmouth, F.O.I.C. Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on Broadcasts "H.D." and "C.N." in Area "C", H.M.S. HORNET, Capt. (S) 5, H.M.S. VERNON, Portsmouth., H.M.S. AGGRESSIVE, H.M.S. ATTACK, F.O.I.C. Portland, N.O.I.C. Newhaven).

OperationsWest Coast France.

Patrols. O.P.A.S.17. (a) Ile D'Yeu. (b) Belle Ile. (c) Ile D'Yeu. Night intention patrol Ile D'Yeu to Sables until /0001/7th...

(continued, p. 117)

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HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Proposed S/M. Your 041711. Proposals contained in paras.1A
Sanctuary of and B generally concurred in.
all Irish (2) It is emphasized that the ordinary A/S
Sea. training at Campbeltown must not be dislocated, and
an absolute minimum of 4 training submarines for
Nimrod's requirements alone is essential.
(3) Proposals re extension of submarine sanctuaries
raised in your 031737 are being considered, and decision regarding
these extensions will be promulgated by A.G.M. Home Series.
(D.A./S.W. 061102A to C. in C.W.A.).

Limited A/A A.E.A.F. have requested that in view of
gunfire West favourable air situation all waters west of line
of North North Foreland to Cap Gris Nez should be regarded
Foreland - as limited waters for purposes of A/A gunfire
Gris Nez. vide appendix F of S.H.A.E.F. operation
Memorandum No.7.
(2) Above proposal is concurred in. Request
your concurrence.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061131A to Admty.).

Revised 473 A.Z.
Command (1) Consequent upon A.M.433 A.Z. of 20th
Areas. September abolishing the sea limits of the Assault
Area as a separate command the following orders
affecting the British Assault Area are cancelled
and are to be destroyed.
B.A.A.S.Os., O.N.B.As., O.N.C.O.B.As.
(2) Commander in Chief Home Commands and Admiral Commanding
Dover now have operational control as far as the continental
coast, except as stated in para.5.
(3) Lateral boundaries between Naval officers in charge of sub-
commands are as follows:-
Arromanches - From 49 degs. 21.4 N. 00 degs. 48' W. to east bank
of River Orne known as East Calvados Area.
Dieppe - From Cap d'Antifer to Mers (1 deg. 23' 30" E.).
Boulogne - From Mers to Belgian border.
Note:- The U.S. area of Havre lies between Arromanches and
Dieppe sub-commands.
(4) Pending the issue of further orders the following information
is promulgated.
(a) F.O.B.A.A. (Flag Officer British Assault Area) has H.Q. at
Clinique, Tombereaux, Mont St. Aignan outside Rouen. In
addition to the normal administrative functions of a Flag Officer
in Charge, Flag Officer British Assault Area directs the
opening of liberated ports, local minesweeping and local defence
in the British Section of the North coast of France.
(b) Naval Officers in Charge and Resident Naval Officers are
established as follows:-
Arromanches (Arrow.) Port En Bessin (Peb.) Caen and
Ouistreham (Canoe) Dieppe (sub-command Naval Part 1686)
Boulogne or other Pas de Calais port (sub-command N.P.1503).
(c) The principal port of entry for the British Area and terminal
for cross-channel convoys to Bay of Seine ports is the artificial
unloading port at Arrow.

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Command
Areas
(Contd.)

(d) Port War Signal Stations are established at Arrow. (49 degs. 20.5' N. 0 degs. 37' W.) and at Dieppe (49 degs. 55' 40" N. 01 degs. 04' 40" E.) and Boulogne (50 degs. 44' 57" N. 01 degs. 35' 52" E.).

(e) Naval officers in charge are the sailing authorities for their areas and are responsible for making air protection signals. Attention is drawn to A.M. 151251 (415 A.Z.).

(f) Captain M/S Seine is responsible for mine clearance in the approach channels, coastal channels and harbours between 1 deg. 20" W. and the France/Belgium bordering including Havre. A.M. 446 A.Z. of 24th September, 1944. Headquarters AMBITIOUS in Arromanches moving to Havre about 8th October, 1944. Signals reporting mines in the area are to be repeated to Captain M/S Seine.

(g) Fishing is permitted in the Bay of Seine except within 12 miles of Havre.

(h) ADVENTURE is moored in Arrow and has repair party (N.P.1526) capable of dealing with minor repairs of an urgent nature.

(i) Visitors accommodation is available at G.2 camp Meuvaines (49 degs. 20' N. 0 degs. 34' W.) for officers and ratings.

(j) Despatch boat (M.L.) service runs between Whale Island and Arromanches.

(k) General messages issued by Flag Officer British Assault Area are designated "Y" series.

(l) F.O.B.A.A. communications flight (781 "Y" flight) is established at Le Madrillet, 4 miles S.W. of Rouen.

(Admty., 061621A A message) (See A.N.C.X.F., 011923A to Admty.).

Transportation TAKLIWA is carrying 994 French Government of French personnel and 180 tons measurement of baggage. Govt. Algiers Full details are given in NAMOV2/54/534 of 3rd to Cherbourg. October addressed to S.H.A.E.F. and Port Commander Cherbourg.

(2) There are a further 1800 French Government personnel scheduled to sail from Algiers in BATTERY in K.M.F.35 due Cherbourg 22nd October.

(3) All above arrangements made by S.H.A.E.F.

(4) D. of S.T. will signal disposal instructions for TAKLIWA after disembarkation.

(5) A.N.C.X.F. 031753 and C.T.F. 125's 050911 not to S.H.A.E.F. refer.

(D.O.D.(H), 061659A to A.N.C.X.F., C.T.F.125).

C. in C.H.F.
to RODNEY.

The Flag of the C. in C. Home Fleet, will be transferred from FURIOUS to RODNEY at 0930/11.

(2) Signals and correspondence for the Commander in Chief are to be sent to RODNEY from 1600A Tuesday 10th.

(C. in C.H.F., 061833 to Home Fleet).

OperationsNorth Sea.

Patrol.

Dover and Nore night patrol 6/7.

← (Continued on p. 114) / (1) H.M.S....

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations.

West Coast France

Patrols
(Contd.)
(join p. 114)
0001/7th then close Belle Ile. At first light intend sweeping South to Gironde. Fuel stock remaining at 0800/6th. TANATSIDE 80% ALBRIGHTON 75%. Intelligence report follows. Weather cloud 9/10 visibility 12 miles, wind

E.N.E. force 2, sea 11, barometer 1008.
(Force 26, 061355A to C. in C. Plymouth).

Carry out Operation "Assault".

- (A) Force 27 PIORUN (S.O.), IROQUOIS.
 - (B) 0600A/7. (C) By most direct route to reach position (AA) 47 degs. N. 4 degs. W. by 2000A/7.
 - (D) Patrol between Belle Ile and Gironde.
 - (G) Force 26 TANATSIDE, ALBRIGHTON as in my 061442A.
 - (K) Enquiries are to be made from F.F.I. at Sable d'Olonnes in accordance with D.A.U.D. letter A.U.D. 1460/44 of 4th October 1944. Copy to PIORUN.
- (C. in C. Plymouth, 061448A to PIORUN, IROQUOIS).

Re and Oleron My 061355.
enemy (file) (1) Penmarch passed Lorient agent's report that morale. cargo steamer ALDEBARAN painted black, no guns, large derrick forward, and escorted by M/L reference his number 39 of 27th September, not held.

(2) Sables d'Olonne visited. Colonel F.F.I. gave latest copy military and naval report of enemy position and defences St. Nazaire and La Rochelle area. Naval unchanged. Garrison of Ile de Re and Oleron occupied by Italians and Germans after evacuation. Mutiny reported and 3(?) imprisoned on Ile de Re. Morale bad and many Germans in civilian clothes but armed in La Rochelle area. West coast lights stated all destroyed (?by) enemy and early repairs improbable. Local F.F.I. lack cold and wet weather clothing, also even light artillery all of which (affect?) fighting capacity.
(3) Fishing vessel forbidden to fish after dark (?in) Sables area.

(Force 26, 061830A to C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations

Western Approaches

Force 33. PHILANTE 061827 not to all. On HESPERUS rejoining 19th E.G. a.m. 7th October S.O. 19th E.G. becomes S.O. Force 33. My 051615 para.2 is amended accordingly. (C. in C.W.A., 062329A to Force 33).

Operations

North Western Approaches

Patrols Shift patrol forthwith to area between following / positions...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

North Western Approaches.

Patrols. positions A. 60° N. 21° W. B. 61° N. 19° W. C. 60° N. 17° W. D. 59° N. 19° W. Most probable course of U-Boats is N.E.
(Contd.) (C. in C. W.A. 061127A to S.O.E.G. 2.)
Admty. 061406A. Request series on which U-Boat transmissions were made. Nothing heard on local, 1 or 8 new frequencies. Fuel report LOCH.FADA 72% remainder 65%. Weather report 0952 2155.
(S.O.E.G.2 061740A to C. in C. W.A.)
Request you will take action on S.O. 2nd E.G. 061740A which is being passed to you.
(C. in C. W.A. 062013A to Admty.)

Operations.

Norway.

Patrol report. Following received from S.O. S/M Lerwick begins:-
Addressed F.O.S. Info. C. in C. H.F. A.C.O.S., S.3, S.9, SATYR reports in accordance with I.S.O.H.30.
(1) 30th Sept. 1448 P.C.S. of 1600 ton unescorted passenger ship similar to Talbot Booth 1207 67° 12' N. 13° 07.5' E. 214° 10 knots fired 4 torpedoes. Missed. Two torpedoes seen to explode on shore.
(2) Sighted numerous fishing craft and small ferries.
(3) Bad weather and defects hampered patrol. My 061335 (not to all addressees) refers.
(4) (a) SATYR was challenged from Vokssholmen 67° 13' 13° 57' at 0108/1st October. (b) At 1731/27th September and 1735/30th Sept. on both occasions in 67° 12.8' N. 13° 50.5' E. a scraping noise was heard on ship's side. 061331A, ends.
(F.O.S. 062057A to Admty.)

Operations.

Northern Waters.

Trawler off Pendulum Is. Greenland. Today's search for possible hiding place of expeditionary vessel results negative. Vessel is German W.B.S. EXTERNSTEINE apparently en route to Trømsø. EASTWIND completes loading seized materials 0800Z/6th and resumes station patrol.
(C.T.U. 24.8.5, 060031 to Com. Greenland Patrol.)

Suspected Inconclusive D/F bearings on 541 O.N.k/cs at 0150Z indicate U-Boat possibly in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 060459A to LABUAN.)

Convoy R.A. 61. In view of the anticipated strong U-Boat threat to R.A. 61, consider max. sea room desirable. Can you arrange with the Russian authorities for Russian submarines to keep to the south of the line joining the following positions MU. 071° 30' N. 030° 00' E. to 071° 30' N. 020° 00' E. from

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Northern Waters.

Convoy R.A.61 (Contd.) 30th October to 4th November inclusive. Dates subject to slight alteration if R.A.61 is delayed.
(C. in C.H.F. 061232A to S.B.N.O. North Russia).
My 271721 September and your 052329.
(1) Only one of the two escort carriers at present allocated is capable of night flying. In view of large proportion of darkness it is expected that one carrier will feel the strain.
(2) If available request a third carrier equipped with Swordfish Mark III for night flying may be allocated.
(C. in C.H.F., 061505 to Admty.).

Patrols. Establish Gamma patrol on Greenwich Meridian between 064 degs. 00' N. and 064 degs. 40' N. W.A.G.M. 872 N para. 12 (b) 270 degs.).
(C. in C. Rosyth, 061554A to S.O.E.G.18).
At 1st light tomorrow 7th establish Gamma patrol on 001 degs. 30' W. between 063 degs. 30' N. and 064 degs. 20' N. W.A.G.M. 872 N para 12 (b) 090 degs.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 061555A to S.O.E.G.6.).

Operation "V.P.72". (1) 2 days. (2) No (intend to carry out "V.P.72").
(3) No. (4) 055 degs. Moss Head Bressay. (5) No. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 061615A to A.C.O.S.).
My 061615A. (A) A.M.7th October or first suitable day thereafter.
(B) 062 degs. 13' N. 005 degs. 09' E.
(N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 061619A to A.C.O.S.).

Revictualling of Spitzbergen. Operation "Abigail" completed. My P.C.S. at 2000A/6 063 degs. 20' N. 006 degs. 01' W. 169 degs. 20 knots.
E.T.A. 1020A/7 Gate 1100A/7.
(3) Request H.A. and L.A. targets for ORWELL in practice area.
(4) A.C.O.S. acknowledge.
(JAMAICA, 062001A to A.C.O.S.).

Allied Air Activity

Patrols off Holland. P.C.S. 6 E.B. 52 degs. 12' N. 04 degs. 02' E. 060 degs. 12 knots.
(A/C, NVNC, 060037 to 16 Grp.).
1 convoy 53 degs. 14' N. 04 degs. 51' E.
(A/C NVNA, 060150A to 16 Grp.).
Nr. 2.4 E-boats 52 degs. 24' N. 05 degs. 05' E. course south.
(A/C NVNA, 060227 to 16 Grp.).
My 0150. Enemy previously reported are type unknown. Have attacked E-boat with bombs 52 degs. 16' N. 04 degs. 48' E. course south 0210.
(A/C NVNA, 060300 to 16 Grp.).
Nr.1. P.C.S. of 2 E-boats 52 degs. 50' N. 04 degs. 32' E.
/ fixed...

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Patrols off Holland. (Contd.) fixed by pin point within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of 0100 course 180° 30 knots: have attacked enemy with bombs dive. Result of attack unobserved. (A/C MINW 060314 to 16 Group.)
Have attacked enemy with torpedoes. P.C.S. 1 merchant vessel 5 escort vessels 53° 26' N. 05° 08' E. fixed by pinpoint within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of 0400 025° 6 knots. (A/C RKOZ 060415 to 16 Group.)

Biscay patrol. One merchant vessel 1000 tons 45° 33' N. 01° 03' W. course 140°. (A/C PLW 47 061532 to 16 Group.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Anti-Swedish activities. Gulf of Bothnia. German patrol craft are searching Swedish shipping vessels outside Altenburg, Sudra, Kvarken and Sundsvall. B.5. (N.A. Stockholm 061103 to D.N.I.)

Baltic Situation. Eastern Baltic. Dago was occupied with little resistance and Osel is expected to fall during next few days. Little effort appears to be made to evacuate forces from these Islands.
Naval activity. A. No major German units have been sighted in Northern Baltic during past week but two auxiliaries believed minelayers were sighted in region Oland-Lithuania coast (corrupt gp.) area.
B. Light Soviet forces consisting of minesweepers and U-Boats have proceeded along Southern Finnish coast to (corrupt gp.) Skerries. It is believed by Swedish Staff that some Soviet U-Boats are at present operating off Windau and off Baltic States ports. All B.2.
(N.A. Stockholm 061713 to D.N.I.)
M.I.D. Comment. The report that Soviet ^{Sigs}U-Boats are operating off German occupied Baltic State ports is probably correct.

Baltic Approaches. Minefields. Skaggerak ref. my 021831. Swedish Staff believe Germans are carrying on considerable mining operations in Oslo (?Fjord) and its approaches. Two large merchant men carrying mines were observed on northerly course off (corrupt group) early this week. It is believed that cruiser EMDEN is employed on mining operations in Skaggerak operating from Frederikstad. B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm 061733 to Adanty.)
O.I.C. Comment. It is more likely that mining is being carried out in the Western Skaggerak rather than Oslo Fjord EMDEN reports believed true.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Port Facilities.

- Dieppe. Can take following p.m. 8th. A. 2 large 17 ft. 1 medium 15 ft. 6 small 12 ft. 1 train ferry. B. No coaster for Le Treport. Up to 10 L.C.Ts. if weather permits. Agreed P.E.C. (N.O.I.C. Dieppe 061732A to A.N.C.X.F.)
- Arromanches. Ramp Mp. 5. Disintegration of Phoenix unit A 156 nearly complete. Unit A.41 previously damaged is now exposed to full effect of N.W. gales. Disintegration of Unit A.43 proceeding rapidly causing gap in detached Mole between west end of A.X. 192 and east end of A.47. Planting order of next A.X. units to arrive may have to take account of necessity for sealing above breaches which seriously affect working of Liberty Trots. (N.O.I.C. Arromanches 061732 to Admty. A.N.C.X.F. (C.O. Tug), C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, Tug Control (Lee) C.T.F. 128, S.N.O. Peel Bank, Cdre. Southend, F.O.B.A.A. F.O. West, N.O.I.C. Omaha.)
- Ostend. Situation report. (1) Strong N.E. gale necessitated closing of harbour. L.S.T. 504 collided with blockship leaving harbour. Both engines flooded and is in dangerous position on Lee shore. My 061750 to C.C.R.T. Admiralty refers. (2) One coaster and 3 L.S.T. entered harbour 2 tankers, 1 coaster and 2 L.S.T. left. (3) L.C.T. 7078 unable to enter harbour owing to gale. TEKADA standing by. (N.O.I.C. Ostend 061836 to Com. Belgium.)
- Submarine attempts on Ostend shipping. Three German Naval ratings landed at Ostend. One states he was in submarine lost by depth charges at 0900/5th October another that he was crew of human torpedo. Third not yet interrogated. Consider attempt was made on ships in Ostend anchorage by human torpedoes which failed owing to weather conditions. (N.O.I.C. Ostend 062055A to Com. Belgium.) Following received begins - To Admty. Info. A.C. Dover, A.N.C.X.F. F.O.B.A.A. from C. in C. Nore. Your 062005. Regret no tugs immediately available. 062025. Ends. (D.S.O. 062108A to N.O.I.C. Ostend.)

Navigational.

- Navigation lights in Channel. All ships are to burn dimmed navigation lights in ordinary visibility and lights at full brilliancy in thick weather, within an area in the English Channel bounded on the E. by a line drawn from Hastings to 50° 38' N. 0° 45' E. thence to 50° 30' N. 0° 55' E. and thence to Treport, and on the W. by 3° W. N.C.S.Os. are to inform Masters of Merchant Ships (D.T.D. 062227A, A message Home.)

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HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

CHEBOQUE. D/F bearings on 4075 k/cs at 0227Z indicate U-Boat within 75 miles of 50° N. 23° W.
(D.D.I.C. 060526A to PRIMROSE, E.G. 15, CHAMBLY.)
CHEBOQUE in tow of escort until you arrive. P.C.
S. 1100Z/6th 049° 10' N. 024° 01' W. 080° 5 knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 061429A to SALVONIA.)

L.S.T. 304. L.S.T. damaged and dragging anchor. Request 2 rescue tugs be despatched immediately.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend 061750 to Admty.)
Your 062005A. Regret no tugs immediately available
(C. in C. Nore 062025A to Admty.)

Following has been received begins:-

From N.O.I.C. Ostend, to C.C.R.T. Admiralty.

L.S.T. damaged and dragging anchor. Request 2 rescue tugs be despatched immediately. Ends. Request necessary action may be taken.

(Duty Capt. 062005A to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 062108.* Position of L.S.T. 304 serious. Anchored close to Lee shore, engine room flooded. Rescue Tugs needed urgently.

(N.O.I.C. Ostend 062327A to Admty.)

* No tugs immediately available.

EL GRILLO. Icelandic Govt. requested through British Minister removal of wreck of SS. EL GRILLO from Seydisfjord as pollution of harbour waters is interfering with economic life of that community.

(2) Minister has been informed that paras. one and three of Admiralty letter S/SV 120/44 dated 3rd April still apply and that it is very unlikely salvage vessel will be available or work commenced before next summer at earliest.

(A.C.I.C. 062210A to Admty.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Independent A.M. 050302A no objection to independent sailings providing vessels adhere to timetable, carry pilots London to and burn navigation lights.
Bristol Channel (C. in C. Nore 061016A to Admty.)

Nomenclature, A.M. 051341 "Overlord" convoys. Relevant portion of Far Shore of message as despatched read "E - Cherbourg, F - French U.S. Beaches (Omaha and Utah)." Your 042130 Convoys. refers.

(D.T.D. 061320A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Pass to F.Os. i/c and N.C.S.Os. "Overlord"

convoys. New designations are to be brought into force at 100001A. A.M. 031341 refers.

(D.T.D. 061321A to A.N.C.X.F., Cs. in C. Portsmouth, Nore, Plymouth, W.A., A.C. Dover, Com. Belgium, F.O.B.A.A., C.T.F. 125, Com. Z. C.O.T. S.H.A.E.F. (Fwd.) W.O. C.O.T., Etousa, 21 A.G. (Rear), F.O.I.C. Netherlands, Comnavu, A.N.C.X.F. (Ph.) A.N.C.X.F. (Buco), C.T.F. 123.)

/Swedish...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Swedish
sea routes.

Following routes for Swedish ships (other than those in the Greek Relief Service) trading between American Coast and Sweden, Lisbon and Sweden, Lisbon or Gibraltar and Portuguese East Africa and South America have been agreed:-

(2) (a) From Sweden.

Skopenfjord (Faroes) to 62° 00' N. 13° 00' W.
59° 10' N. 23° 40' W. 54° 00' N. 30° 50' W.
45° 00' N. 35° 00' W. 36° 40' N. 35° 00' W.
33° 00' N. 34° 50' W. thence

(b) to Lisbon - direct from 33° 00' N. 34° 50' W.

(c) To South America through 10° 00' N. 34° 00' W.

8° 00' S. 32° 00' W. 21° 00' S. 34° 00' W. 34° 00' S. 52° 00' W.

(d) To Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean ports from 33° 00' N. 34° 50' W.

Enter Caribbean via passage north of Guadeloupe thence through

M. 16° 30' N. 71° 00' W. N. 16° 30' N. 79° 00' W.

O. 19° 00' N. 82° 00' W. P. 21° 00' N. 86° 00' W.

Q. 22° 30' N. 86° 00' W. R. 25° 00' N. 87° 10' W.

Join and leave route in Gulf of Mexico at R.

(e) For Curacao and Aruba (i) westbound, proceed direct after entering Caribbean and rejoin route at M.

(ii) eastbound, leave route at M and rejoin north of Guadeloupe.

(3) From Lisbon to - (f) Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean ports through 33° 00' N. 34° 50' W. thence as in 2 (d).

(g) Portuguese East Africa. Lisbon to 37° 00' N. 10° 00' W.

33° 00' N. 13° 00' W. 25° 00' N. 25° 00' W.

20° 00' N. 26° 00' W. 15° 00' N. 27° 00' W.

5° 00' S. 10° 00' W. 34° 00' S. 17° 45' E.

36° 00' S. 20° 00' E. 34° 00' S. 30° 00' E.

30° 00' S. 33° 00' E.

for vessels to Lourenco Marques 25° 00' S. 37° 00' E.

20° 00' S. 37° 00' E.

for vessels to Quilimane and Beira.

(h) From Gibraltar to Portuguese East Africa through 33° 00' N.

13° 00' W. and as in (g) above.

(j) If returning to Gothenburg leave route (g) in 15° 00' N. 27° 00' W. and join route from South America in 25° 00' N. 34° 30' W.

(4) (k) Lisbon to South America. As in (g) to 15° 00' N. 27° 00' W. thence to 8° 00' S. 32° 00' W. and as in 2 (c).

(5) A.M's 161820 July 1942, 131735 July, 1943 and 121649 March, 1944, not to all are cancelled.

(D.T.D. 061703A to A.I.G. 23, F.O.(S), H.Q.B.C., H.Q.C.C.)

(D.T.D. 061703A to A.I.G. 23, F.O.(S), H.Q.B.C., H.Q.C.C.)

Convoy
R.A. 60.

R.A. 60 add to my 041436A remainder proceeding direct to destination.
(N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 061800A to C. in C. W.A. Admty. A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C., C. in C. H.F., C. in C. Rosyth, F.Os. and Cpts. (D) H.F., S.B.N.O. Archangel, S.B.N.O. N. Russia.)

Sailings to
Far Shore.

Due to adverse weather conditions request all sailings to beaches be cancelled until further notice.

(C.T.F. 125 061817A to A.N.C.X.F.)

My 061636A cancelled owing to weather.

(Com. Southend 062207A to N.O.I.C. Ostend.)

/Towage...

6.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

Towage of
L.C. to Far
East.

Appian. Following eight merchant ships sailing in K.M.S. 66 are each available to tow two major landing craft to Mediterranean ports for onward passage through Suez Canal:-

Merchant Vessel	Port at which M.L.C. will be taken in tow.	Destination of Merchant ship in Mediterranean
(a) FORT FINLAY	Clyde	Italy
(b) CITY OF LYONS	Clyde	Port Said
(c) SAMFOYLE	Clyde	Port Said
(d) OCEAN VANITY	Mersey	Italy
(e) NAIRN BANK	Mersey	Port Said
(f) ST. ROSARIO	Mersey	Gibraltar
(g) RODSLEY	Milford Haven	Italy
(h) FORT RUPERT	Milford Haven	Italy

(2) When main convoy forms up ships with M.L.C. in tow should be allotted position at rear of columns.

(3) Commanding Officers of Landing Craft are to attend convoy conferences at ports where they will be taken in tow.

(4) R.A.L.S.C.U. is requested to detail the landing craft for towage by each merchant ship and to sail them as necessary to the ports where they will be taken in tow. Official numbers of craft selected to be reported.

(5) Separate signals will be made regarding procedure on voyage, and if tows have to be slipped.

D.O.D. 061944A to C. in C. W.A., R.A.L.S.C.U.)

Pass to N.C.S.Os. and authorities concerned. The following arrangements should be made for passage of major landing craft to the East.

(2) Procedure if in convoy:

(a) C.Os. of Landing Craft to attend convoy conference.

(b) If craft are slipped or detached S.Os. of escorts to report position where Landing Craft parted company and port to which they are proceeding for shelter.

(c) Commodore of convoy to be informed that convoy need not be delayed and that tows should be slipped if unable to maintain convoy speed.

(3) Procedure when towed by vessel proceeding independently:

(a) C.O. of H.M. ship or Master of merchant ship to take action as in 2 (b) above.

(4) Sailing orders issued to Major Landing Craft whether in tow or proceeding under own power should in every case, include a list of anchorages in which these craft can shelter in emergency.

(5) Authorities sailing craft from the U.K. should consult C. in C. Plymouth as to shelter available on the west coast of France.

(D.O.D. 061950A to Cs. in C. W.A. Med., E. Fleet, Plymouth.)

Burning of
navigation
lights in
English
Channel.

All ships are to burn navigation lights (dimmed) in ordinary visibility and light at full brilliancy in thick weather, within an area in the English Channel bounded on the east by a line drawn from Hastings to 50° 30' N. 0° 45' E. thence to 50° 30' N. 0° 55' E. and thence to Treport, and on the west by 3° W. N.C.S.Os. are to inform Masters of merchant ships.

(D.T.D. 062227A, A Message.)

6.10.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

H.S.
CHARLES
A. STAFFORD.

A.G. Opsum 343/5 Oct. ZA.
(A) EV K.317.
(H) E.T. 220 B.114 USN ZC US Hospital Ship
CHARLES A. STAFFORD at 0907 49.58 N. 27.28 W.
260/15 U 220 3 EV 1 being towed at 1240 49.42 N.
26.42 W. 120/3 4 Kts. J.59 ZD.
(247 Group, 060018N.)

SEARCHER,
PURSUER,
KHEDIVE.

Intend to sail SEARCHER (S.O.) PURSUER and
KHEDIVE escorted by D.27 in KEMPENFELT, WHIRLWIND-
WRANGLER at 1300A/8th. (A.M. 300145 September
and 011845 October not to all refers)
2 - 8 Arrangements.
(F.O.G.M.A. 061653A.)

South Atlantic

SS. EMPRESS
OF SCOTLAND

Diversion Order.
(F.O.C.W.Af., 061039Z to SS. EMPRESS OF SCOTLAND)

6.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

- TAKLIWA. So far as we know approx. 1,000 French Govt. personnel embarked on TAKLIWA for Cherbourg. (D. of S.T. 060219A to A.N.C.X.F. (Main))
- Force A. Track of 2 unidentified aircraft first detected at Aegean operations. 0232 and 0320/6th October suggest possible new air transport route out of Crete. (2) Both tracks first detected over Sophrana thence due north over Stampalia, Levitha and Patmos fading over Samos. Height estimated 5,000 to 6,000 feet. Weather report 6370 2474. (S.O. Force A 060505C to F.O.L.E.M. (R) A.H.Q.M.E., ULSTER QUEEN, BLACK PRINCE, HUNTER.)
- In view of increasing wind and swell am returning. ATHERSTONE is patrolling between Castello and south end Symi until 0430C/7th and then rejoining. No seaworthy craft in Nisero or Piscopi. Alimnia unseen. Considerable illumination in south west Rhodes. (Capt. (D) 18 062140C to F.O.L.E.M. (R) F.O.E.C. ?Capt. F. Levant.)
- Mine clearance of Danube. A.M. 301820 September*. Non receipt of this information is ?proving embarassing and may undo months of pressure put on Soviet Naval Staff for prompt replies to our requests. Admiralty pass to F.O.L.E.M., C. in C. Med. and B.N.A. Ankara. (Admiral Archer 060835A to F.O.L.E.M.) *Request reply 291520 (Top Secret.)
- R.A.F. personnel for Azores. No objection to para. 3 your 041901*. (C. in C. Med. 061056A to Admty.) * Intend to use F.S. FORTUNE and SIMOUN as escorts to Gibraltar.
- FORTUNE, SIMOUN. French Admiralty latest figures do not tally with those in C.B. 1815 April 1944. (2) Your 041901A* refers. (3) They state endurance of F.S. SIMOUN 1800 miles at 14 and 700 at 25.. F.S. BASQUE+slightly better. (F.O.W.M. 061212A to Admty.) * Intended to use F.S. FORTUNE and SIMOUN as escorts of transport being sailed to Azores about 14th October. + Presumably wrong group used. F.S. FORTUNE similar number.
- Air Cosi-tintrep 453. (Extract.) Strategic Air Force. Night 4/5. ~~5 Wellingtons~~, 17 Wellingtons, 4 Liberators mined areas Danube. 2 Liberators mined Euripos Channel near Khalkis. (M.A.A.F. 061334C.)

6.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

- Danarm. Have not been in touch with Lt. Cdr. Glenn since September 27th. Your 030123 refers. (C. in C. Med. 061423A to Admty. (R) F.O.L.E.M.) Ejection of Danarm from Bulgaria.
- Smoke defence of Malta harbour. Your 051645 not to Admiralty. Approved to abolish smoke defence over Malta harbour. (C. in C. Med. 061503A to Admty.)
- Fast motor boats for Yugoslavs. Your 031047 (not to B.A.D.) and 181542. Are 8 P.T. boats being transferred to Yugoslav Navy? If so it may be necessary for assignment of this number of craft to the British to be cancelled and for them to be re-assigned to Yugoslavs. If this is so request you will report so that B.A.D. may take matter up in Washington if necessary. (Hd. of M. 061516A to C. in C. Med.)
- Aegean S/M operations. Leave patrol forthwith and proceed to northward and eastward of line joining Cape Kalamash (Strati) and Cape Drepano remaining there until further orders. (F.O.L.E.M. 061742C to NEREUS, (R) Capt. (S) 1, Force A.)
- Remain at Khios awaiting further orders from Capt. (S) 1. Your 061537* refers. Surface Force operating. (F.O.L.E.M. 061958C to UNTIRING, (R) Capt. (S) 1.)
* N.T. in W.R.
- M.V. TAMARA. Swedish Authorities request information regarding safe conduct vessel TAMARA last heard of at 2200/1 in 34° 30' N. 24° 17' E. (Hd. of M. 061814A to F.O.L.E.M.)
- General Blaizot. Your 251236*, received in Admiralty 5th October. H.M.G. have only agreed to temporary visit by General Blaizot with small staff on a purely personal basis. It has been made clear to French that permanent attachment of French Mission to S.E.A.C. cannot be agreed without U.S. concurrence which has not yet been obtained.
(2) Request immediate report of size and constitution of staff accompanying General Blaizot.
(Sec. to 1st S.L. 062120A to F.O.W.M.)
* (Received by W.D. too late for insertion. The message states that General Blaizot (who is Commander of French Expeditionary Force in the Far East) wants to proceed with some staff officers from Suez to Colombo in DUMONT D'URVILLE. For reasons of prestige French want first move of French forces to Far East to be under French flag.)

6.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Situation
report No.
452.

(1) SS. COTTON VALLEY was mined in 190° Port de Bouc 6 miles at 041830. Ship was abandoned in sinking condition. (Tug) was despatched to effect salvage.

(2) U.S. destroyers NIBLACK and PLUNKETT fired at shipping in San Remo Harbour and at gun positions on 4th October. Areas well covered.

(3) WILTON bombarded battery on Corfu p.m. 4th October. No return fire.

(4) M.L. 1227 was lost by enemy action night 5/6th in position 037° 35' N. 024° 07' E. Further details awaited.

(5) FARNDALE was engaged by shore batteries while examining Livadia Bay (?Piskopi) a.m./6. Ship received one hit but continued patrol.

(C. in C. Med. 062240A.)

** 6th October intended, vide
Med. War Diary, 6.10.44
TSD. 4026/44*

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6.10.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat dispositions. No evidence of any U-Boats at sea in the Indian Ocean. Scale in all areas remains W.5. (C. in C. E.F. 060324Z)

Naval A/C. Para. 3 or A.M. 261707 September. A few Barracudas could be absorbed into the F.R.U's to meet requirement for silent (?amplification) exercises. No other useful function for these aircraft can be suggested once the change over to Avengers has taken place. (C. in C. E.F. 060731Z to Admty)

TRADEWIND, STRATAGEM, patrol reports. TRADEWIND 3rd far east patrol.
 (2) 15th September 40 miles south west of Padang sank Sampan and rescued 5 Sumatrans and Monkey.
 (3) 16th September off Indrapura point sank 2 20 ton schooners by demolition charges. Cargoes comprised of 700 bags of cement and general cargo. 1 prisoner taken.
 (4) 18th September 1553 FG in 002 degs. 50' S. 101 degs. 12' E. fired 4 torpedoes at 3/4 loaded northbound 5000 ton merchant ship escorted by 2 motor launches. 2 hits ship sank.
 (5) 24th September Sunda Strait boarded junk whose occupants were very unintelligent so party in para. 2 of like mental calibre were put on board and allowed to proceed.
 (6) 2 special operations were carried out one being successful.
 (7) STRATAGEM 3rd far East patrol.
 (8) 30th September carried out bombardment of Ford Bay, Great Coco Island during which large bungalow and decrepit pier were hit and air observation post destroyed.
 (9) Remainder of patrol was blank.
 (C. in C. E.F. 060915Z)

X.E. craft. C.C.O. 051855 to S.A.C.S.E.A. Consider S.A.C.S.E.A. should be informed that no XE craft could be made available for Copp operation in his command before June 1945 at the earliest. (F.O.S. 061307A to Admty)

VAN GALEN, TJERK HIDDDES, W. VAN DER ZAAAN. Your 041232/ Concur. (A.C.N.S.(F) 061315A) / Visit of Dutch ships to European Waters.

Fall of Foochow. (Extract). (3) Fukien. About three thousand Japs. landed near Lienkong on September 27th and captured Foochow October 5th. (M.A. Chungking, 061330G)

BRITISH SUCCESS. (BRITISH SUCCESS due 3rd October not arrived. Abadan's Vesca No.5, T.O.O.240458/ refers. (N.C.S.O. Aden, 061507)(See D.T.D.071552A) / Referred to BRITISH SUCCESS departure.)
) BRITISH JUDGE - see 7-10-44 Page 147

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6.10.1944
Friday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Convoy
O.N.S. 254

5th October. 37 ships arrived New York.
(P.D. New York, 060030Z.)

Radar
contact
in Gulf
of St.
Laurence.

Suspicious Radar contact position 049° 16' N. 062° 28' W. at 2410Z illuminated result negative Asdic result negative dropped one depth charge on plot (?visibility good) Asdic conditions very poor have discontinued an observant resuming screening position on convoy.
(INGONISH 060045Z) cf. N.S.H.Q. 061352Z, gives different lat.

S/M
distress
? in
Florida
Strait.

Intercept WSL Amagansettradio begins. SS SS DE WTZQT posn. (?2 818)* N. 80.12 W. submarine sighted T.O.R. 0733 G.M.T. Ends.
(Valencia Radio, 060736Z.) * Undecypherable.

N.S.H.Q.
submarine
attack
and
sighting
summary.

No report since my 041721. Para. C. INGONISH Radar contact and attack at 0010Z/th in 48.42 N. 62.28 W.
(N.S.H.Q. 061352Z.)

QUEEN MARY
WEST POINT.

Situation at 061400Z T.A. 150 QUEEN MARY 33 01 49 29 270 28. A.T.154A U.S.S. WEST POINT 38 10 54 54 090 20. Steer nothing to starboard of your routes.
(Com. 10th Fleet, C. and R. 061419Z to QUEEN MARY, U.S.S. WESTPOINT.)

Diversion order.

(Cominch C. and R. 062012Z to QUEEN MARY.)

U-boat
dispostions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 061453Z, Cominch, 061616Z.)

U-boat
sighted
300 miles
E. of C.
Hatteras

Intercept on 500 Kc/s at 1503 G.M.T. from (KWKR) RUSSELL H. CHITTENDEN KS 2 ZE SSSS 33.05 N. 70.01 W. sighted submarine opened fire, 1500Z.
(C. in C. C.N.A. 061656Z to Ships in Area D.)

S.C.158:
U-boat
attacked
150 miles
S. by W. of
C. Race.

H.M.C.S. LETHBRIDGE in contact with submarine. Attacking with depth charges 350ZZ5. My position 44.08 N. 53.37 W. Detached H.M.C.S. PICTOU to assist.
(H.M.C.S. COBALT, 061820Z.)

/Further...

6.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

S.C. 158: Further my 061820Z.* PICTOU in contact
U-Boat attacking with depth charges. LETHBRIDGE
attacked directing. Position of attack 44.12 N., 54.15
150 miles W. A/S conditions 1800 yards depth of water 1600
S. by W. of fathoms. 3 aircraft from Mac ship assisting.
C. Race. Retaining GALT with convoy in view of submarine
(Contd.) report ahead from N.S.H.Q. 061453/. Weather
9180 4222. Sea calm.
(COBALT, 061859Z.)

* H.M.C.S. LETHBRIDGE in contact with S/M (not
yet circulated owing to bad reception - correction awaited).
/ U-Boat situation report.

LETHBRIDGE, PICTOU made five depth charge attacks and three
hedgehog attacks, believe submarine in limited area. GALT
joining in operation "Salmon" commenced 2012Z until further
orders. PICTOU to detach and join convoy will be detached
with LORD KELVIN in lieu of LETHBRIDGE. CANNO from Newfound-
land present.
(COBALT, 062106Z.)

SS. NIEUW Diversion order.
AMSTERDAM. (Cdr. 10th Fleet, 062010Z to SS. NIEUW
AMSTERDAM.)

U/B Para. (A) At 0740Z/6 MISSION BAY reports
incidents. positive contact 11.30 N., 35.16 W. on U/B
previously attacked on 5th October.
(Cominch, 062050Z.)

Russian To elaborate para. (2) of my 021701. It is
vessels understood semi-officially from Navy Dept. that
visiting after the Russian A.M. and S.C. visited Horta last
Azores. January (A.M. 312115 December refers) the
Portuguese Minister in Washington was instructed
to inform the U.S. State Dept. that as the
Portuguese Govt. had not recognised the U.S.S.R.,
any Russian Naval vessels entering the Azores in future will be
confiscated and the crews interned or deported. A.M. 042355
refers.

(2) 5th Group is now almost ready to leave U.S. and Cominch has
been asked to delay sailing until completion of Dardanelles
Negotiations.

(3) We presume it is acceptable to sail Group non-stop from St.
Johns N.F. to Gibraltar with escort equipped to fuel boats at sea.
(B.A.D., 062053Z to Admt.)

T.G. 21.6, Task Group 21.6 hereby constituted MAYO, EISNER,
T.U. Cortdiv 55, Comcortdiv 35 in CATES, GANDY, EARL,
21.6.7. KHOLSEN escort convoy C.U.43 departure New York
14th October for U.K. and Continent. C.T.U. 21.6
in MAYO, Cortdiv 55 less ROCHE return escorting
U.C.43A section. CATES with GANDY, EARL, KHOLSEN,
ROCHE hereby designated Task Unit 21.6.7 return escorting U.C.43B
section when directed by Admt.
(Cinclant, 062246Z.)

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6.10.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Monthly
report
of attacks
on U-Boats.

Your 091916 July, 1942.

(A) No.18. (B) 1926K/3rd July 1944. (C) H.M.A.S
GEELANG. (D) 006° 39' S., 148° 31' E. (E) I.
(A) No.19. (B) 1934K/6th July 1944. (C) H.M.S.
GLENELG. (D) 003° 27' S., 144° 51' E. (E) I.
(A) No.20. (B) 2255K/6th July 1944. (C) H.M.A.S.
VENDETTA. (D) 002° 55' S., 143° 40' E. (E) I.
(A.C.N.B., 061153Z to Admty., Info. B.A.D.)

Digest 989.

October 5th.

(17) Night 3rd October (Abotgfesnavj*) boat
located two cruiser type minelayers with two
escort vessels Toco Toli Bay (north-western
Celebes): four quarter tonners four Centuries all hit one
minelayer which burst into flames and sank within 20 minutes.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 061200.)

* As received.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. (A) (1) A/C E/220 sighted U-Boat, course
235° at 1939Z/5th October in 48° 49' N., 25° 21'
W.
(D.D.I.C., 061051A.)

U/B
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 061405A, 061406A.)

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

- North Sea. 1(a) Tug SEAMAN was eventually provided by Dover and towed L.S.T.304 away from Ostend. (See Situation Report 6th October, para. 2(a)).
(b) Nieuport entrance is badly blocked and its quays are demolished.
(c) It is intended to open the Folkestone-Ostend route for personnel as from Oct. 15th.
- Channel. 2(a) There is a 70 ft. clear passage between blockships in Calais entrance.
(b) At Arromanches a week's northerly weather, culminating in a gale of force 7 to 8 this morning has brought damage or worse to 11 Phoenix units, 4 piers, and 2 ships, and has dragged both Liberty Trots out of position up to as much as 700 ft. As had always been feared, the excessive tidal streams making through the entrances have scoured the sand off the smooth rock bottom in the deeper part of the harbour leaving bad holding ground for anchors and moorings. But Arromanches Port Committee remains high-hearted.
- Western Approaches. 3(a) CHEBOQUE's speed in tow of PRIMROSE has now improved to 9 knots, "a prudent maximum".
(b) The whole of the Irish Sea is to be made into a Submarine Sanctuary for practices and experiments.
- Norway. 4. 22 U-Boats are reported in the Great Belt, northward-bound.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

- Riviera. 5. The U.S. destroyer EBERLE and French cruiser EMILE BERTIN bombarding shipping in Porto Maurizio to-day hit a medium sized merchant vessel and some small craft. Enemy return fire caused no damage.
- Ionian. 6. WHADDON had a short engagement with L.C.I.290 off Corfu in the early hours. No damage is reported.

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean - Contd.

Levant.

7(a) TERMAGANT operating in the Aegean with TUSCAN reported in the early hours of to-day that she had sunk, in position about 35 miles north of Skiathos, an enemy destroyer, an armed trawler and a large caique. The destroyer was reported to be escorting a small convoy from Salonika.

(b) Two Liberators of Strategic Air Force mined Khalkis Straits last night. Carrier borne aircraft to-day sank a large caique and damaged a second in Euripo Channel, and a medium sized motor vessel west of Lemnos. BLACK PRINCE and TERPSICHORE sank a 1000 ton passenger ship, a large caique and an L.C.T. 12 miles north of Skiathos to-day.

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Irish Sea
and S/M
Sactuary.

A S/M sanctuary has been established including all the Irish Sea in the area bounded in the North by Lat. 55° N: . and in the South by a line from Tuskar Rock to Saint Davids Head.

(2) This sanctuary is in force from 1200/8th Oct. (A.C.N.S.(H), 071057A to A.G.M. Home.)

Defence of United Kingdom.

Examination
Service
Belfast.

A.M.232129A September. At Belfast an H.M. Patrol Craft will be stationed in the vicinity of the North Gap buoy and will display the following distinguishing signals;

By day: International code signal V.I.

By night: Signal for port open or port closed.

(2) All incoming merchant ships are to hoist their signal letters by day on passing Mew Island, and are to signal them by night to P.W.S.S. Orlock Hill. Ships are to slow down when approaching the patrol craft in order to receive instructions and to give information.

(F.O.I.C. N.I. 071305A to Admty, C. in C. W.A.)

Movements

KING
GEORGE V.

Arrived KING GEORGE V escorted by SERAPIS and SCOURGE.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 071029A to C. in C. H.F.)

GADILLA,
EMPIRE
MACMAHON,
EMPIRE
MACKALPINE.

Request you will sail M.A.C. ships as follows subject to working up.

A. O.N.S. 34 GADILA. B. O.N.260 EMPIRE MACMAHON,
C. O.N. 261 EMPIRE MACALPINE returning with H.X. 319.

(D.T.D. 071748A to C. in C. W.A.)

U.S. destroyers
in England.

In order that American destroyers normally five in number escorting Atlantic Personnel Convoys can all be berthed in sheltered anchorage during winter months while laying over, it is suggested that three should lay over at Portsmouth and two

at Plymouth.

(2) C. in C. Plymouth concurs.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 071810A to COMNAVEU)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval.

Cositintrep No.185. Part 2 Naval.

A. Captured Ports. Calais. There is a 70 foot clear gap between Blockships in centre of channel. Ostend. Five L.S.T. per day can be accepted for next seven days.

/Le Treport ...

War Diary

7.10.1944
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval.
(Contd.)

Le Treport is to be used as overflow port for Dieppe for L.C.T. and at spring tides for small coasters.

B. Unloading figures - 4th October.

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Petrol
Ostend	6,001	168	1,561	1,271
- 5th October.				
Calvados	671	354	4,057	206
Dieppe	1,106	14	6,647	-
Ostend	-	-	874	840
	<u>1777</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>11,578</u>	<u>1,046</u>

U.S. Figures for 5th October not received.
(Adm. Ramsay, O70015A to Admty)

Cositintrep No.186 part two. Naval (A) Captured ports, Nieuport reported entrance badly blocked and quays much demolished. If blockships removed estimated port capacity 400 tons per day.

B. Unloading figures 5th October.

Place	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol
U.S. Cherbourg	Nil	Nil	10,935	3,922
Beaches	3,635	163	1,842	66
Brittany ports	Nil	Nil	1,430	Nil
Small ports	Nil	Nil	3,754	Nil
Totals:	<u>3,635</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>17,961</u>	<u>3,988</u>

Operations hampered by heavy seas and surf on exposed beaches.

6th October. British.

Place	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol
E. Calvados	399	35	4,407	250
Dieppe	1,091	Nil	6,088	Nil
Ostend	305	82	67	229
British Totals	<u>1,795</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>10,562</u>	<u>2,541</u>

United States.

Cherbourg	102	Nil	7,860	6,638
Beaches	1,021	307	883	Nil
Brittany ports	Nil	Nil	543	Nil
Small ports	Nil	Nil	2,900	Nil
U.S. Totals:	<u>1,123</u>	<u>307</u>	<u>12,186</u>	<u>6,638</u>

Combined Totals:

2,918	424	22,748	9,179
-------	-----	--------	-------

(Adm. Ramsay, O72304A to Admty.)

Operations

North Sea

Patrols.

Weather permitting carry out A/S Sweep as close inshore as practicable between Kinnaird Head Tarbat Ness and Duncansby Head.

(C. in C. Rosyth, O70839A to S.O.E.G.17)

/Negative ...

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

North Sea

Patrols (Contd.) Negative Z patrols tonight.
(2) One Unit at each base at 2nd degree readiness from normal time of sailing.
(C. in C. Nore, 071020A to MIDGE, MANTIS, BEEHIVE.)
Emergency C/F units are to proceed as under forthwith - MIDGE, Unit F.C.1 to Z.13.
MANTIS, Unit F.C. 2 to Z.10. BEEHIVE - Unit F.B.1 to 53 Buoy.
(C. in C. Nore, 071930A to MIDGE, MANTIS, BEEHIVE.)

Operations

Channel

Patrol. Pins cover night 7th/8th October.
G.A.1 STOCKHAM Z.9 South.
G.A.2 VANQUISHER Z.109.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 071209 to usual addressees)

Operations

West Coast France

Scuttled U-Boat in Brest dock. C.R. No.1350. Your 061701Z. Report from Brittany Base Section is correct.
Comnaveu and Admiralty have previously been informed. Capt. Terrell, R.N.V.R. has examined and will report this H.Q. 7th October.
Only ascertained damage to dry dock No.4 Dock Gate is 6 ft. diameter demolition hole half exposed at low tide.
Draining dry dock requires underwater cutting and welding equipment and 6 eight inch pumps with qualified personnel.
(C.T.F.125 070947A to Comnavforfrance.)

Patrol. Opas. 17. A. 045 degs. 43' N. 002 degs. 30' W. course and speed 330 degs. 11½ knots.
B. Vicinity Iles de Glenan.
C. Ushant. Fuel remaining TANATSIDE 65%,
ALBRIGHTON 60%.
Ile d'Yeu nothing to report.
(Force 26, 071215A to C. in C. Plymouth)

Operations

Western Approaches.

Suspected U-Boat. Unless you are convinced that contact is S/M re-join convoy forthwith at best speed N.S.H.Q. 070300 refers.
(C. in C. C.N.A. 070333Z to LETHBRIDGE.)

/10th E.G. ...

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Western Approaches - Contd.

10th E.G. On completion of group training PHILANTE is requested to sail 10th E.G. to fuel at Moville.
 (2) On completion of fuelling Com. (D) W.A. is requested to sail 10th E.G. to join force 33 and operate in areas B.2 and B.4.
 (3) On joining S.O. 10th E.G. becomes S.O. Force 33.
 (C. in C. W.A. 071450A to PHILANTE, Com. (D) W.A.)

20th E.G. 20th E.G. comprising TORTOLA (S.O) BAHAMAS, SOMALILAND, SARAWAK will be required to escort convoy K.M.F.35A to Gibraltar leaving U.K.20th Oct.
 (2) Ref. A.M.061732 not to Cdre. (D) W.A. or S.O. 20th E.G. refer.
 (C. in C. W.A. 071533A to Com. (D) W.A.)

Operations

North Western Approaches

Suspected U-Boat By D/F on 13317 N K/cs at 1230Z U-Boat making WW message estimated within 75 miles of 58 degs. 00' N. 21 degs. 30' W.
 (D.D.I.C. 071436A to E.G.2)

Operations

Norway

Evacuation from Norway: Operation "Quality". A.M. 052138. Norwegian lifeboats are being ordered to sail on the night of the 10th/11th October. Actual intended date of sailing will be confirmed.
 (2) Estimated numbers available to leave are
 Stavanger to Aalesund 5
 Aalesund to Narvik 3
 North of Narvik 15
 (3) Boats should be some 80 miles off shore by daylight and are being instructed to open to 150 miles from the coast proceeding thence to Lerwick.
 (4) H.Q.C.C. are requested to provide such air cover as may be practicable to these craft.
 (5) Photographs of boats will be sent to C. in C. Rosyth for 18 Group. Speed about 9 knots under motor and boats should have sufficient fuel to reach Shetlands.
 (6) Codeword follows in my 071647.
 (D.O.D.(H), 071637A to H.Q.C.C.)
 Codeword for Operation in my 071637 is "Quality".
 (D.O.D.(H), 071647A to H.Q.C.C.)

Operations

Northern Waters

Patrols. (2) No. (3) No. Intend to carry out V.P.73.
 (4) Up to 4 days. (4) 061 degs. Moss Head Bressay. (5) 858.
 (N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 071745A to A.C.O.S.)

/ At ...

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Northern Waters.

Patrols. (Contd.) At 1300A tomorrow Sunday 8th October move Gamma Patrol to Greenwich Meridian between parallel 63.25 N. and 64.05 N.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 072334A to S.O. E.G.6)

Mining

Ground mines off Ostend. 3 ground mines detonated in position 284 degs. 17 cables 280 degs. 19 cables 279 degs. 19 cables from Middelkerke water tower.
(M.M.S.188, 071735A to N.O.I.C.Ostend)

Minesweeping off Ostend. Minesweeping Report. A (1) 1733, 7th October, 1944. (2) Q Formation M.M.S. 193, 188, 77.
(3) Yes. (4) 1½ cables.
(5) M.M.S.188 51 degs. 11' 54" N. 2 degs. 46' 44" E. 229 degs.
(6) Red 150 degs. 2 cables. (7) On pulse Blue to Port.
(8) 2 seconds after commencement of Pulse.
(9) Not known. (10) No damage. (11) Sea 1. (12) Swell 13.
(13) Medium Plume 50' clean. (14) No.
B. (1) 1735, 7th October, 1944.
(2) Q Formation M.M.S.193, 188, 77. (3) Yes.
(4) 1½ cables. (5) M.M.S.188, 51 degs. 11' 48" N. 2 degs. 46' 30" E. 229 degs.
(6) Green 178 degs 2 cables. (7) On pulse Blue to Starboard.
(8) 4 seconds after commencement of Pulse. (9) Not known.
(10) Long leg electrode blown off the tail. (11) Sea 1.
(12) Swell 13. (13) Medium Plume 30 feet grey. (14) No.
C. (1) 1735, 7th October, 1944. (2) Q formation M.M.S. 193, 188, 77. (3) Yes. (4) 1½ cables. (5) M.M.S.188, 51 degs. 11' 48" N. 2 degs. 46' 30" E. 229 degs.
(6) Red 165 degs. 1¾ cables. (7) On Pulse Blue to Starboard.
(8) 4 seconds after commencement of Pulse.
(9) Not known. (10) No. (11) Sea 1. (12) Swell 13.
(13) Medium, Plume 50 feet clean. (14) No.
(M.M.S.188, 072036A to N.O.I.C.Ostend.)

Enemy Intelligence

German U-Boats. 4 740 ton U-Boats passed through Great Belt Northbound night 28th/29th Sept. having left Kiel earlier on 28th.
(2) 18 U-Boats are reported to have left Kiel bound for Great Belt escorted by depot ship, 3 mine-sweepers, and in company with large tanker Sept. 27th/28th.
(3) C.3.
(N.A.Stockholm, 071532 to Admty.)

Port Facilities

Ostend. My 281121 Cotug 301046 and Admiralty 062005 not to all addressees. Tugs allocated for Phoenix tows are fully employed and cannot be relief upon in

/ emergency ...

War Diary7.10.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSPort Facilities

- Ostend. emergency. It is essential for one tug to be based at Ostend.
(Contd.) (C. in C. Nore, 071240A to A.N.C.X.F.)
- Arromanches. (1) The following is a situation report after one weeks working of this Port in northerly weather culminating with a gale force 7-8 in the early hours of Saturday 7th October resulting from which the state of the harbour is now as follows.
(2) Western Shore Arm: One unit damaged by collision. Detached Mole: Two units collapsed, mole breached. Gooseberry Extension West: Three units moved considerably. Eastern Shore Arm: 3 units moved considerably, others to a less degree. Boat Camber: One unit on north wall collapsed, one unit on north wall turned through 60 degs. no longer effective. Blockships: Three ships moved a short distance also being jostled by covering Phoenix unit. Spud Phoenix: minor damage to the barge Pier. Western Spud and Stores Pier unserviceable, one pontoon unserviceable, one way traffic only for 24 hours depending on weather. L.S.T.Pier: out of action for two or three days, hinges of buffer pontoon damaged moorings. Both Liberty Trots dragged out of positions, one buoy as much as 700 feet, require relaying. Ships in harbour: during the week the harbour was gradually cleared of all ships unloading with the exception of three coasters alongside Spud Pier, two of which sustained minor damage during gale, no other casualties.
(3) General. (A) The bottom of the deeper part of the harbour is now believed to be formed of smooth rock the layer of sand having been scoured away. Increasing difficulty is being experienced in getting moorings and ships anchors to hold, measures are in hand to improve.
(B) Excessive tidal streams through the harbour impede the work of berthing, exaggerate the difficulty of handling ships and cause delay.
(C) Considerable wear and tear of ships' gear has results, and ships arriving at Arromanches during the winter months should have a generous equipment of spare running gear and hawsers.
(4) It will therefore be appreciated that the working of the Port during the coming months will depend more on the weather than on any other factor, including winterisation which in fine weather will proceed simultaneously with unloading and must be completed if the harbour is to survive.
(5) Detailed reports on moorings, Phoenixes, etc., will form the subject of separate communications to authorities concerned.
(6) A local meteorological organisation is considered essential and has been requested.
(7) Meanwhile every effort will be made to continue the work of discharging risk of damage to shipping, barges, etc., being accepted.
(Port Executive Committee Arromanches, 071722 to Admty, W.O. S.H.A.E.F. A.N.C.X.F., F.O.B.A.A., D. of S.T., M.W.T.)

War Diary7.10.1944
SaturdayHOME COMMANDSCasualties and Defects

L.S.T.304. Following received by telephone from Ostend
Begins: Two rescue tugs required immediately.
L.S.T. badly holed anchored close inshore.
Situation serious. Admiralty informed and replied
No tugs available at Dover or Chatham. Ends.
Request tugs may be sent if available.
(F.O.B.A.A. 070146 to C. in C. Nore.)

C. in C. Nore's 062005 and my 070146* not to all addressees.
Rescue tug is to be sailed forthwith to Portsmouth for onward
routeing via Dover to Ostend to render assistance to L.S.T. badly
holed anchored close inshore tug SEAMAN has been sent from Dover.
(F.O.B.A.A. 071234 to N.O.I.C. Arrow.)

Situation report: (1) L.S.T.304 left anchorage towed by
SEAMAN L.C.T.(4) 70078 left anchorage towed by BERN One coaster
3 L.S.Ts left harbour one tanker 2 coasters and 3 L.S.Ts entered
harbour.

(2) Salvage work on Desand Sluice proceeding. No work on
demolition of block ships owing to ships entering and leaving
harbour. Stripping L.C.T.(4) 70084 proceeds.

(N.O.I.C.Ostend, 072024 to Core. Belgium Info: A.N.C.X.F.
(Buco) C. in C. Nore, D. of S.T.)* 2 rescue tugs required
immediately.

EMPIRE MACKENDRICK. From EMPIRE MACKENDRICK. Grounded forward half
a mile N. Garroch Head request tug.
(EMPIRE MACKENDRICK, 070515A to SNO.Clyde)
Correct my position half a mile north Rumaneun
Point Light.
(EMPIRE MACKENDRICK, 070600Z to F.O.I.C.Greenock)

Your 070515 tugs are being sent.

(F.O.I.C.Greenock, 070633 to EMPIRE MACKENDRICK)

(A) EMPIRE MACKENDRICK Square No.63. (B) Returned from
O.N.C. 258. (C) For examination after grounding. Now in
Rothsay Bay.

(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 071615 to C. in C. W.A.)

CHEBOQUE. Speed of tow now increased to 9 knots which is
considered prudent maximum. My P.C.S. at 1100A
049 degs. 40' N. 020 degs. 30' W. 078 degs. 9
knots. Weather report 5772 2612.
(S.O.E.G.15, 071101A to C. in C. W.A.)

NORMAN. Cable Barge NORMAN broke adrift from QUERCIA at
2005/6 off Dover. Tug LADY DUNCANNON took
Cable Barge in tow but it subsequently sank in
51 degs. 5' N. 01 degs. 15' 14" E. at 0105 in approx
8 fathoms. No casualties.
(V.A. Dover, 071129A to Admty.)

VIDONIA. Naval Fuel. Fuelling trawler VIDONIA broke in
two and sank during night of 6th October. Crew
casualties not yet determined. C.T.U.125.2.4 is
hereby directed instruct Landing Barge Flotilla
Commander at St. Vaast to investigate and report circumstances
of loss.
(C.T.F.125, 071143A to Admty)

/ SIR WALTER
RALEIGH...

War Diary

7.10.1944
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

SIR WALTER
RALEIGH. Reference K.R. and A.I. Art. 1167. Have been in collision with SS. DALMUIR of Glasgow. Owners not known. Collision occurred in thick fog resulting in structural damage to port bow above water line. Other vessel considered to be at fault. DALMUIR inward bound to Clyde. Estimated 10 days to repair.
(VERNON (M) Only). Am able to carry on present trial at ~~LADY ISLE~~ Lady Isle
(SIR WALTER RALEIGH, 071435A to Admty)

L.C.P.(L) 43. L.C.P.(L) 43 listed as lost in my 051709 September to Admiralty only now reported at U.S.N.A.A.B. Portland. Craft is available for return to Royal Navy. Request appropriate arrangements be made.
(Com. 12th Fleet, 071504 to Admty)

Shipping and Convoys

Folkestone-Ostend sailings. For your information and guidance the present intention is to open the Folkestone/Ostend route for personnel as from 15 October approximately. (2) Scale would be one ship per day to commence with probably increasing to two.
(D. of S.T. 071159A to P.S.T.O. S.E. Coast)

Coastal Shipping. Coastal Shipping Instructions contained in A.M. 031735 were for general guidance. Ships should normally be routed by the quickest route.
(Admty, 071959A to C's in C. Nore, Rosyth, W.A. Plymouth, Portsmouth, A.C.O.S., V.A. Dover)

7.10.1944
Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

U-Boat
Reports.

A.G/Opsum/344/6 October (Extract)

(G) N/A 0111 0525 0715 0945 N/A ZBE 220 Fortress
Mark II Captain F/Lt. Towell sighted visually in
twilight dark object which submerged as A/C
turned towards it leaving a distinct swirl and
wake. Crew convinced that object was a U-Boat but no attack
possible as A/C over swirl two minutes after submersion time
1839 position 48.38 N. 25.17 W. course of suspected U-Boat
235/8 knots.

(H.Q. 247 Group 070017)

A/C made Radar contact 070240Z 30 15 N. 34.52 W. probably
U-Boat. Blip disappeared just prior to turning on searchlight.
Plane was 40 miles from Task Group 22.2. In view above am
taking no action on your 062237.

Weather 6181 1624.

(T.G. 22.2, 070543 to C. in C. Lant.)

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7.10.1944.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Aegean, Have sunk one enemy destroyer position 039° 49' N.
operations. 023° 17' E.
(TERMAGANT 070155C to F.O.L.E.M. (R) S.O. Force A,
S.N.O. P.O.)
Request investigation of Point Cassandra at dawn
by fighters as it is thought a ship was driven ashore there,
possibly second destroyer.
(TERMAGANT 070320C to BLACK PRINCE, (R) F.O.L.E.M.)
Have sunk 1 armed trawler and 1 large caique position 039°
42' N. 23° 06' E.
(TERMAGANT 071115C to F.O.L.E.M., (R) S.O. Force A, S.N.O.P.O.)
Estimate convoy composed of one 1,000 tons passenger ship,
one large 2 masted caique and (incomplete group) L.C.T. (corrupt
group) by 32nd D.F. and TERPSICHORE in 039° 22' N. 023° 21' E.
Weather report 9381 1800.
(32 D.F. 072245C to F.O.L.E.M. (R) C.S. 12, Force A.)

L.C.I. 290 Have had short engagement with L.C.I. 290 in
attacked position 040° 10' N. 019° 24' E. L.C.I. proceeding
in error. Brindisi WHADDON continuing patrol.
(WHADDON 070220A to F.O.T.A.L.I. (R) N.O.I.C.
Brindisi.)

Aegean Proceed to following waiting position north of
S/M line Cape Drepano - Cape Kalamaki A. UNTIRING
operations. west of area LL. B. NEREUS area of LL.
(Capt. (S) 1 070729 to UNTIRING, NEREUS, (R)
F.O.L.E.M. Force A.)
NEREUS leaves patrol at 2102A/7th and proceed
through 039° 19' 025° 34' to arrive Khios about 0801A/8th.
(2) Sail from Khios at 1903A/8th and proceed Cape Gorodetski
west of Nikaria to arrive Kinaros channel about dawn 9th thence
through Kinaros Channel at 200 feet and then on the surface at 9
knots by standard route to arrive in position D at 0301A/10th.
(3) Approval of S.O. Force A is requested NEREUS to pass through
Force A central area.
(Capt. (S) 1 071205 to NEREUS, S.O. Force A, Info. Force A, 1st
S/M F. S.O.(I) Izmir, G.S. MATROZOS, F.O.L.E.M. 51 Force.)
From position H of standard route about 2002A/7th MATROZOS
proceed to pass through Khios Strait about dawn 8th thence
through 039° 19' 025° 34' to patrol in area LL west of long. 024°
59'.
(2) VIVID proceed by above route time 6 hours later to patrol in
area LL east of long. 025° 01'.
(Capt. (S) 1 071301 to MATROZOS, VIVID, (R) 1st S/M F.
NEREUS, Force A, F.O.L.E.M. S.O.(I) Izmir.)
At 071605A fired one torpedo at F-Lighter stopped picking up
survivors from merchant ship sunk by aircraft in position 039°
53' 024° 37'.
(2) Missed. F-Lighter damaged by gunfire. 3 torpedoes 120 H.E.
D.A. remaining.
(UNTIRING 071839A to Capt. (S) 1.)

Non-contact VIGOROUS obtained one non-contact hit, torpedo
torpedo hit. depth setting 8 feet under F-Lighter estimated
draught 3½ feet.
(S. 1 071130A to Admty.)

/Aegean...

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.)

144^A

*Black Sea
intelligence.*

071015/October

From Naval L.O. Black Sea

Date 18.10.44

Recd 1720

I.D.C. O.T.P. by W/T

Addressed Admiralty, Admiral Archer, N.S.O. (I) Istanbul.

My 301220 /, Intelligence report for Sept. 30th gives following vessels Black Sea between Vienna and Bratislava:

Gunboat ALBERICH and ALEXANDRA, 2 M/S M.L's and River M/S Depot ship KRANHILD.

071015

Secret

/ Intelligence reports.

Advance copy, D.N.I. O.I.C.

1st Lord	O.I.C. (3)
1st S.L. (2)	D.N.I. (5)
V.C.N.S.	M. (2)
A.C.N.S. (F)	D. of P. (3)
U.W.R.	D. of P. (Q) (3)
Capt. Pim	I.P. (2)
O.D. (5)	W.D.
Ops. (2)	

B.O'C
(52)

Received by WD 13 Nov 1944

TOP SECRET

IN 144^B.

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

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

Axis shipping losses.

071559C/October.

From: S.O.(I) Eastern Med.

Date 7.10.44.

Recd: 2115

Naval Cypher D by W/T.

Addressed: D.N.I.

Repeated : C. in C Med., F.O.L.E.M., V.A. Malta.,
F.O.G.M.A.,

September losses of Axis merchant shipping in
Levant and Eastern Mediterranean. My 071535 Sept.
refers.

Sunk: 10 ships of 11450 tons, 24 auxiliary sailing
ships and Caiques of 2015 tons.

Captured: One tanker 120 tons.

071559C.

Advance Copy D.D.I.C.

D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C. (2)
D.S.D.9. (2)

7.10.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Aegean shipping summary. (Extract.) Joint Naval Army R.A.F. Intelligence appreciation 24 hours to 0900 hours 7th Oct. 1944. All times G.M.T.
 (3) Aegean shipping summary. Photographic R/C 6th October revealed following. Khalkis. Considerable concentration small shipping now present.
 Salonika. Two destroyers still present but one of these reported sunk escorting small convoy from Salonika night 6/7 October. (C. in C. M.E. 071300C.)

SS. MARIGOT. (1) MARIGOT has been in collision, sustaining damage requiring five days for temporary repairs. She will then be able resume Brindisi Ancona Ferry for about one month to six weeks before permanent repairs taking about three weeks will be necessary.
 (2) Request advice whether CHAMPOLLION is capable less than 24 feet max. draft when embarked, bunkered and watered, as it is essential Ancona Ferry should be maintained during period MARIGOT executes permanent repairs. (3) Agreed.
 (P.S.T.O. Med. 071720A to D.O.S.T.)

Situation report No. 453. (1) COLOMBO bombarded Heraklion night of 3rd/4th.
 (2) ROYALIST bombarded Milos on 4th October and hit battery and beached coaster.
 (3) On 5th October CALPE bombarded battery on southwest end of Rodi. (?Rhodes intended. Rodi (41.56 N. 15.53 E.) is in Allied hands.)
 * Levitha (4) Landing Party, my 052250 para. 5 refers, capture of eastern half of island and after further bombarding by AURORA and CATERICK garrison Commander surrendered. About 80 prisoners taken.
 (5) U.S.S. NIBLACK bombarded the railway yard in the San Remo area on the 5th October.
 (6) M.L. 1227 (my 062240 para. 4 refers) was en route to recover R/C party and was probably sunk by enemy torpedo boat.
 (7) On the 5th October landing craft G bombarded the enemy positions at Delvino (C39° 57' N. 020° 06' E.)
 (C. in C. Med. 071736A.)

General Blaizot. Para. 2 of your 062120. General Blaizot who is now in Algiers will be accompanied by five officers and four other ranks.
 (2) Officers (names).
 (3) Party arrives Suez by air 10th October.
 (F.O.W.M. 071738A to Admty.)

Mining of Salonika. Your 061507 and 070853. Following is a repetition of my 031758 begins: Addressed F.O.T.A.L.I. (R) M.A.A.F. 205 Group, C.G. M.A.C.A.F. M.L.O. B.A.F., F.O.L.E.M. Request early preparation be made for mining of Narrows off Mikra Point, Salonika Harbour from the air. M.A.A.F.'s M.X. 35009 not to all addresses. Due to depth of water sensitive relays to be used, mines to be set

/to...

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7.10.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Mining of
Salonika.
(Contd.)

to ripen within 10 days. Operation is not to be carried out without further orders from C. in C. Med. which are dependent on date of sailing relief ship VASAHELM. Full details lay to be forwarded, to C. in C. Med., and F.O.L.E.M. as soon as possible after operation. Ends.

(Caserta C.C.O. 071740A to Admty.)

Note by War Registry. 061507 - made by W.R. calling for 031758 referred to in C. in C. Med's. 052231. 070853 - hastener to 061307. 052231 - repetition of C. in C. Med's. 041812.

Riviera
operations.

BERTIN and EMERLE have fired at ship in port of Aurizzio. One certain hit, 5 probables. Ask BROOKLYN for air R/C weather permitting and inform me of results.

(Comcrudiv 3 (French) 071810A to GEORGES LEYGUES.)

Sitrep No. 12. (1) Fires and explosions observed during night 6/7th in direction of Caterina.

(2) WILTON fired ranging shots at 1330 from vicinity of Sugar at Map reference 343 785 today.

(3) Enemy guns in direction of Delvino attempted to shell Sugar at 1900. Rounds fell to seaward and on Hill close by causing no damage. L.C.G. 12 returned fire from Sugar and silenced enemy. Delvino batteries previously shelled Sugar about 8 days ago.

(4) Weather hot and fine all day.

(5) Request L.C.I.(L) arriving Sugar a.m. D day and subsequent arrivals may be bunk fitted if possible and have suitable medical necessities embarked. My 071205 para. 6 refers.

(N.C. Force Mercerised 072218 to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

M.E. Balkan
Sitrep 327.

(Extract) 479635 G.C. 49027 cipher 7th October. Force 142 report Mikonos evacuated.

(5) Sea Ops, N.T.R.

(C. in C. M.E. 071945C.)

Rhion
occupied.

F.X/35651 cipher 7th October. Cositintrep No. 454 part 4 not issued. M.W. Peloponnese. Rhion was completely evacuated by the Germans by 050900A and our troops have entered the town.

(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/7th.)

GEN. W.A.
MANN.

Request your remarks on Cominch's 032210.

(D.O.D.(F) 072311A to C. in C. Med. C. in C. E.F.)

7.10.1944

Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions.

No fresh information, scale unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F. 070326Z)

Hospital
Ships for
Pacific.

A.M. 281444/9 refers/ H.C. TJITJALENGKA will be detailed as suggested. Request information as to probable date of sailing of AMARAPOORA from U.K.
(C. in C. E.F. 071202 to Admty).
/ Hospital ships suggested to sail with task force from Indian Ocean OXFORDSHIRE, TJITJALENGKA and AMARAPOORA.

BRITISH
SUCCESS,
BRITISH
JUDGE.

Abadan's Vesca No. 5 T.O.O. 240458Z should read BRITISH JUDGE. Your 061507 refers.
(D.T.D. 071552A to N.C.S.O. Aden)
BRITISH SUCCESS due 3rd October not arrived.

7.10.1944

Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-Boat attacked 150 miles S x W of Cape Race. H.M.C.S. COBALT 062106 acknowledged. Report whether S/M was sighted on surface or A/S contact only obtained. H.M.C.S. COBALT 061820 refers. (C. in C. C.N.A. 070033Z to LETHBRIDGE) F.O.N.F.'s 070902Z. C. in C. C.N.A.'s 070333Z. LETHBRIDGE and GALT rejoining convoy. Results negative. N.S.H.Q.'s 070300Z re D/F bearings. Negative. Listening out tonight. Weather 7481 2216. (COBALT, 071307Z to A.I.G. 302, C. in C. C.N.A.) Have given Liberator EJA 7 orders to screen operation "Observant" in progress by LETHBRIDGE and GALT. Then to return to convoy. GALT regained contact at 0149Z/7 dropped D.C.'s lost contact 0151Z/7. LETHBRIDGE picked up R.D.F. contact 240 degs. 5 miles at 0215Z. Ordered to carry out Salmon on last bearing 240 degs. (COBALT, 070230Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)

N.S.H.Q.S/M attack and sighting summary. Para C. H.M.C. Ships LETHBRIDGE, GALT, PICTOU, several asdic contacts and attacks between 1820/6th and 0149/7th in 44.12 N. 54.18 W. LETHBRIDGE radar contact same are 0215/7th all times Z. (N.S.H.Q.071337Z)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q.Ottawa, 071350Z, Cominch, 071602Z)

H.X.F.308. Average speed 8.9 knots. In position 50.27 N. 10. 55 W. at 0700Z/26 September. All arrived. (D.T.D.071855A)

U-Boat incidents. Para. B. CARD A/S Radar contact 070240Z 30.15 N. 34.52 W. Para. D. Army transport plane reports sighting submerging U-Boat course 250 at 071243Z 48.35 N. 53.35 W. (Cominch, 072025Z)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest No.990. (Extract). October 6th. (8) Anti-S/M vessel reported possible S/M contact off South Coast Morotai evening. (13) R/C Liberator unsuccessfully attacked probable Cruiser type minelayer with four other

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Saturday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest
No.990.
(Contd.)

smaller warships anchored in Bay southwest of the
Toli Teli (Northwest Celebes) midday 5th., refer
Digest 989 para. 17.
(G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. 070545Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. C. (1) Unknown ship sighted S/M at 0733Z/6
in ? (query) 28 degs. 18' N. 80 degs. 12' W.
(D.D.I.C.071058A)

U-Boat
dispositions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C.071335A, 071421A)

War Diary

8.10.1944
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

1. A sanctuary for midget submarines has been established in Lynn of Morven and Loch Innhe.

North Sea.

2(a) Rocket firing fighters sank a medium sized vessel near the Hook of Holland.

(b) The clearance of Ostend for acceptance of deeper-draught ships is to be expedited.

Chanel.

3(a) The weather moderated sufficiently to allow Channel sailings to be resumed.

(b) Rouen hopes to be able to accept 6 ships of 14 ft draught and 180 ft. length by October 12th. but much of the clearance equipment has not yet been delivered. When it arrives further berths will rapidly become available.

(c) B.Y.M.S. 2030 was sunk by a near miss whilst minesweeping in the mouth of the Seine.

Western Approaches.

4(a) An enemy aircraft was observed on reconnaissance 20 miles West of Skye.

(b) RIBBLE has now taken CHEBOQUE in tow, and is making good 7 knots.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

5. Bad weather cut all operations of Mediterranean Allied Air Forces last night and to-day to a minimum.

Riviera.

6(a) The U.S. destroyer JOUETT on patrol south of Capo Delle Mele last night encountered U-Boats apparently laying floating mines but was unable to engage owing to the enemy's superior speed. More than 8 mines were subsequently sunk in this area. (cf. 11th October.)

(b) A U.S. destroyer successfully engaged enemy communications and batteries in the Ventimiglia area to-day.

Adriatic.

7. Coastal forces operating in the Northern Adriatic last night sank two schooners and damaged two others. The enemy escort engaged and caused superficial damage and one casualty to one M.G.B.

8.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean - Contd.

Aegean.

8(a) Coastal forces operating in the Aegean to-day sank a merchant ship west of Khios.
(b) Carrier borne aircraft continued to-day their attacks on enemy transport and communications. A siebel ferry was hit off Drepano and a 1000 ton merchant ship was left sinking in Petali Gulf. Railway engines and trucks were destroyed near Katerina in the Gulf of Thessalonika.

East Indies

U-Boat near
Socotra.

9. SS. NATHAN HALE reported that a torpedo crossed her track in 12.59 N. 49.17 E. (near Socotra) this evening. (cf. 3rd October para.6).

Australia and New Zealand

Moluccas.

10. Four pairs of P.T. boats last night patrolling the waters between southern Morotai and northern Halmahera destroyed two barges beached on the southwest coast of Morotai, left a heavily armed barge burning and dead in the water off Galela, sank two barges and probably damaged another two, all southbound along the eastern shores of Kauban, and also shelled 40 trucks on the coastal road in the northernmost extremity of Halmahera.

8.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Limited A.A. gunfire west of North Foreland-Gris Nez. Your 061131A. Agree in principle with A.E.A.F. but request western limit of area to be treated as limited waters may be specified. Admiralty General Message will then be made in order to define the rules for A.A. fire in limited waters, laid down in S.H.A.E.F. Operation Memorandum No. 7. (Admty. 080012A to A.N.C.X.F.)
Admiralty 080012. Propose that western limit should be long. 6 W. In spite of restrictions to A.A. fire request assurance that aircraft will as far as possible adhere to the rules for flying over shipping contained in S.H.A.E.F. Op. Memo. appendix para. 6 A. This is desirable for their own safety. (A.N.C.X.F. 080919A to A.E.A.F.)

Midget S/M Sanctuary. 482 A.Z. A sanctuary for Midget submarines is established in Lynn of Morven and Loch Linnhe, the outer limit being a line from Barony Point to the southern end of Lismore Island.
(2) Sanctuary is in force from 0001/9th Oct.
(D.A.S.W. 081315A: Home G.M.)

10th D.F. A.M. 302210 Sept. While the administration of the 10th Dest. Flotilla can be carried out by Cdre. (D) it is not a very efficient arrangement and if after the temporary allocation to Plymouth it is not intended to transfer them back to the H.F. it is strongly recommended that their administration be (?assumed) by C. in C. Plymouth now.
(F.O. (D) H.F. 081316A to Admty.)

BACHAQUERO. Anticipate BACHAQUERO will have completed unloading M.F.U. 2 by p.m. Monday 9th October.
(2) Request instructions as to her disposal. It is pointed out that a ship will eventually be required to transfer C.F.M.U. No. 2 to Norway in accordance with A.L.M./OD. 5127/44 of 14th Sept. 1944.
(A.C.O.S. 081403A to Admty.)

Disbandment of Clyde River Patrols It is intended to proceed with the disbandment of Clyde River Patrol and disposal of patrol vessels at an early date.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow 081735 to Admty.)

Operations.

Situation Reports.

Air. Rocket-firing fighters sank a medium-sized vessel near the Hook of Holland.
(S.H.A.E.F. 081100A, Communique No. 183.)
Two enemy aircraft operated on R/C, one over the North Sea, and the second 20 miles west of the Island of Skye in Scotland.
(Air Marshal Leigh Mallory to S.H.A.E.F., No T.O.O.)

/Naval...

8.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Situation Reports - Contd.

Naval.

Cositintrep No. 187 part two Naval.

(A) Captured ports. Rouen estimated date for accepting shipping is 12th October, 6 berths for vessels 14 feet draught, length up to 180 feet.

Salvage craft began work on blockship OLE WEGGER p.m. 7th Oct.

(B) Artificial ports Arromanches. After a week of northerly weather culminating in a force 7 to 8 gale the artificial harbour has sustained much damage. Four Phoenix units have collapsed, one unit damaged, seven units moved considerably, one of which has become ineffective. Three blockships moved slightly. Some piers and roadways have sustained various damage. Both Liberty ship Trots have dragged out of position.

Unloading figures, 7th October.

	Brit. Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol.
East Calvados	Blank	Blank	3,426	Blank
Dieppe	Blank	Blank	6,189	Blank
Ostend	195	32	130	289
British Total	<u>195</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>9,745 *</u>	<u>289</u>
United States.	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol
Cherbourg	Blank	Blank	5,646	6,678
Beaches	1,213	464	30	Blank
Brittany Ports	Blank	Blank	1,744	200
Small Ports	Blank	Blank	2,847	Blank
Le Havre	Blank	Blank	753	Blank
U.S. Total	<u>1,213</u>	<u>464</u>	<u>11,020</u>	<u>6,878</u>
Combined Totals:	1,408 *	496	20,765 *	7,167 *

(Adm. Ramsay 082241Z to Admty.) *Totals by W.D.

Operations.

North Sea.

Patrol.

Operation "S.J." is in force until further orders.

Para. 6 one escort group only. Para. 10 area

I as in my 080905A. 6th E.G. are to withdraw and establish at dusk A Gamma Patrol between 062°

55' N. 000° 30' E. and 062° 25' N. 000° 01' E.

(C. in C. Rosyth 081231A to S.O.E.G.6.)

Operations.

Channel.

Patrol.

Pins cover, night 8/9th. G.B.1 L'AVENTURE Z.109.

G.B.2 LA DECOUVERTE Z.9 S.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 081312A to Portsmouth Night

Patrol, Admty. C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, C. in

C. Plymouth, A.N.C.X.F. F.Os. 1/c Portland,

Milford Haven, Falmouth, Cardiff, Ships maintaining

W/T watch on broadcasts H.D. and C.N. in area C.)

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Channel - Contd.

Cross Channel Telephone Cable. My 041720. Weather permitting intend to lay cables as follows:-
 (a) St. Margarets to Sangatte (803777) on 10th Oct. by ARIEL.
 (b) Abbotscliffe to Andresselles (Grid ref. of terminal not yet known) about 12th Oct. by MONARCH depending on completion of sweeping.
 (2) Cables will be buoyed off far shore.
 (3) N.L.O. Northern Group of Armies is requested to arrange that N.O.I.C. Boulogne is informed of (1) co-ordinates of terminal of cable (b) (ii) date when beaches are cleared and beach parties will be available to accept ends of both cables.
 (4) N.O.I.C. Boulogne is requested to call forward cable barges to land far ends accordingly.
 (5) Further signal will be made regarding La Panne Cable. (V.A. Dover 081915A to Admty.)

Operations.

North Western Approaches.

Patrol. 10th E.G. arrived. Fuelled and sailed toward C.W. areas. Request you arrange R/V.
 (Com. (D) W.A. 081350A to E.G. 19.)

Operations.

Norway.

Patrols, (M.T.B.'s) V.P. Sines. My 061615A and 061619A. M.T.Bs. 715 (S.O.) and 709 sailed.
 (2) Air escort on return journey not especially desired.
 (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 080814A to A.C.O.S.)
 My 060830A. M.T.Bs. 712 and 722 returned. 350 ton coaster destroyed by gunfire. Five of crew brought to Lerwick. Remaining four placed in Norwegian fishing vessel.
 (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 081543A to A.C.O.S.)

Patrols (S/m's)

Capt. (S) 3 is requested to sail SELENE, VITALITY, SCEPTRE from Holy Loch 12th October, 1st 2 submarines to working up patrol in area occupied by TRUMP and THRASHER my 201442 Sept. refers, SCEPTRE to Lerwick.
 (2) Capt. (S) 9 is requested to order following movements (A) SCEPTRE to leave Lerwick 15th October to patrol area bounded by 058° 55' N. 058° 15' N. 004° 00' E. Norwegian coast.
 (B) F.S. RUBIS to leave Lerwick 16th Oct. for F.D. 50 my 081846 not to all addressees refers.
 (C) Recall VIKING to arrive Lerwick 19th Oct.
 (D) Recall ULA to arrive Lerwick 17th Oct.
 (3) Passages to be made diving by day north of 062° N. and when east 001° E. Estimated advance 100 miles U-class and F.S. RUBIS 120 miles S-class per 24 hours.
 (F.O.S. 081844A to Capts. (S) 3, 9.)

/Operation...

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Norway - Contd.

Operation "Quality". Approx. 23 Norwegian lifeboats may leave Norway on the night of 10/11th Oct. as follows:
5 from Stavanger - Aalesund area 3 from Aalesund-Narvik area 15 from north of Narvik.
(2) The date of their departure will be confirmed later.
(3) Boats should be some 80 miles off coast by daylight and have been instructed to open to 150 miles from the coast before proceeding to Lerwick.
(4) Coastal Command may be providing air protection.
(5) The boats are all motor, capable of an estimated speed of about 9 knots and it is considered they should have enough fuel to enable them to reach Shetlands.
(6) Inform Major Rogers as necessary but do not tell M.T.Bs. out on operation until the date has been confirmed.
(7) Codeword follows in my 081239.
(A.C.O.S. 081237A to N.O.I.C. Lerwick.)
My 081237 codeword "Quality".
(A.C.O.S. 081239A to N.O.I.C. Lerwick.)
Admiralty 071637 and 071647 passed for information. Photographs of boats will be supplied to you if possible. If encountered during operation "Lycidas" assistance should be given to any of these craft in distress.
(C. in C. H.F. 081339A to EURYALUS, TRUMPETER, FENCER, VOLAGE.)
A/631 8 Oct. Admty. 071637A. Request you brief all concerned accordingly. No specific air cover will be possible but in course of ordinary patrols crews sighting these craft are to be instructed to circle thereby reassuring the Norwegians and to receive any visual signals that may be transmitted. Full details of sightings required in form Orange but not by W/T. This H.Q. to be kept informed.
(H.Q.C.C. 081705A to 18 Group.)

Operations.

Northern Waters.

Patrols. Patrol area and No. 18 Group C.C. aircraft today 8th is between 064° 30' N. 002° 50' W. 063° 30' N. 002° 50' W. and 064° 05' N. 001° 45' E. 063° 05' N. 001° 45' E.
(C. in C. Rosyth 080905A to S.O.E.Gs. 18, 6.)
Proceed at first light tomorrow 9th and sweep through position 063° 00' N. 003° 00' E. thence 064° 30' N. 004° 00' W.
(C. in C. Rosyth 081952A to S.O.E.G.6.)

Convoy J.W. 61. In recent North Russian convoys, difficulty has been experienced in fuelling Russian submarine chasers on passage and convoy has been delayed on this account.
(2) As it is understood that some Russian submarine chasers will be included in J.W. 61 request they and escort oilers detailed for this convoy may arrive Loch Ewe by 17th Oct. to practice fuelling at sea.
(C. in C. H.F. 081039 to Admty.)

/C. in C. ...

War Diary.

8.10.1944.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Northern Waters.

Convoy C. in C. H.F.'s 061505 not to all. Request you
J.W. 61. will detail a carrier.
(Contd.) (V.C.N.S. 081851A to C. in C. W.A.)

Suspected Have obtained A bearing on an enemy submarine
U-Boat. transmitting a B signal. Bearing was 099° 2nd
class considered rear, frequency 4950 at 1132Z.
My position 63° 16' N. 000° 00' W.
(NEW WATERFORD 081244A to Admty.)

Allied Air Activity.

Air cover I regard air cover for Channels and shipping off
for Belgium Belgian coast against torpedo attack and mine-
Coast. laying as an urgent requirement.
(2) A.O.C. 16 Group cannot operate Swordfish and
Albacore Squadrons efficiently from U.K. but
adequate cover could be given from a base near
Ostend.
(3) Request facilities may be provided as soon as possible.
(C. in C. Nore 081201A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Information (1) Bomber Command urgently requires information
required of on present position and condition of TIRPITZ after
TIRPITZ. September 15th attack.
(2) Request report (a) whether Russians have
carried out P.R. (b) if so, whether photographs or
interpretations are available.
(3) If nothing available under para. 3, request P.R. as soon as
possible. Interpretations should be signalled to Air Ministry
and photographs sent me.
(4) Parallel action being taken with Soviet Naval Staff.
(5) Admiralty pass to Air Ministry.
(Adm. Archer 081236A to S.B.N.O. N. Russia.)

3 enemy Nr. 1. P.C.S. 3 tankers 59° 33' N. 05° 12' E.
tankers off 045° 6 knots.
Norway. (A/C NKJR 081313A to 18 Group.)

Mining.

Abolition of A.M. 021146 September. As reason for which reten-
minefield. tion of field was asked for no longer persists.
Propose terms of A.L.T.O. 9030/44 of 21st August
and VERNON C/M CM/4264/C3 922 August neither to
C. in C. H.F. be now implemented and field abolished
(C. in C. Rosyth 081000A to Admty.)

/Ground...

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Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining - Contd.

Ground mines off Ostend. 2 ground mines detonated in position:-
283° 16 cables and 286° 18 cables from Middlekerke
water tower.
(M.M.S. 188 081554A to N.O.I.C. Ostend.)

Clearance of Western Approaches sea lane. 2 Z X 293. Northern part. Result of check sweep of line Z.M.E. IX.
Single mines were cut in following positions, all positions are N. and W. :-
(116) 51° 44' 15" 06° 21' 09". (117) 51° 42' 42" 06° 21' 09". (118) 051° 42' 39" N. 006° 21' 09" W.
(119) 051° 40' 30" N. 006° 21' 06" W.

5 mines were cut on lines joining following positions:-
(120) 051° 41' 15" N. 006° 21' 06" W. (124) 051° 41' 03" N. 006° 21' 06" W.

12 mines were cut on lines joining the following positions:-
(125) 051° 39' 24" N. 006° 21' 06" W. (136) 051° 48' 42" N. 006° 21' 06" W.
(S.O. M/S F. 16 081741A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Port Facilities.

Rouen. Following received begins: to A.N.C.X.F., from F.O.B.A.A. Your 271641. Rouen estimated date for accepting shipping 12th October, 6 berths for vessels of 14 feet draught, length up to 180 ft.
(3) M/S 14 actuations will have been completed by 12th October.
(4) Salvage Sitrep. (A) FOREMOST 17 arrived p.m. 5th, commenced operating 6th. (B) SALVICTOR arrived p.m. 6th commences clearing blockship OLE WEGGER, p.m. today 7th. (C) Two lifting craft were delayed at Havre. Not due till p.m. today 7th.
(D) SOCCMUR called forward from Arrow. (E) No news of two 60 tons cranes promised by S.H.A.E.F. Their arrival would greatly expedite clearance of berths. (F) No Army Salvage Equipment or recovery cranes asked for repeatedly, not arrived. (G) When all Naval and Army Salvage Equipment arrives, further berths will become available rapidly. 071209A ends.
(A.N.C.X.F. 081531 to S.H.A.E.F. G.4, D. of S.T.)

Ostend. Decided at S.H.A.E.F. meeting in London yesterday to press on with clearance of Ostend harbour for acceptance of deeper-draft ships.
(2) This is of utmost importance to us. Request you keep in touch and report developments.
(D. of S.T. 081735A to S.S.T.O. Ostend.)

Antwerp. Your 301700. Priority bid for two portable pulsers with tractors and one store lorry placed with Exfor Buco to land Le Treport 12th October. Shipment to Ostend by L.S.T. impracticable owing to height of pulsers.
(A.N.C.X.F. (Buco) 081927A to A.N.C.X.F.)

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties.

CHEBOQUE. CHEBOQUE in tow 0115A. My P.C.S. 0200A 049° 37' N. 018° 17' W. 075° 7 knots will increase to 9 if conditions allow.

(RIBBLE 080220A to C. in C. W.A.)

Proceed to take over tow of CHEBOQUE from RIBBLE whose position at 1159A/8 will be 50° 23' N. 14° 33' W. 075° 8 knots.

(C. in C. W.A. 081007A to EARNER.)

Amend position to read 50° 06' N. 16° 34' W. 075° 5 knots. My 081007A refers.

(C. in C. W.A. 081420A to EARNER.)

L.S.T. 304. Sailed tug DEXTEROUS to Portsmouth for onward routeing via Dover to Ostend. F.O.B.A.A's 071234A refers. E.T.A. Portsmouth 1700.

(N.O.I.C. Arrow 080800A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

B.Y.M.S. 2030. B.Y.M.S. 2030 near miss from mine while sweeping LL/SA and sunk in position 049° 28' N. 000° (02') 12" W. at 1532/8/10.

(2) Marked by Dan Buoy with Green Flag. Casualties 3 stretcher cases landed at Havre.

(S.O. M/S F. 150 081645A to Admty.)

Regret B.Y.M.S. 2030 sunk by near miss. 3 wounded landed to hospital. No fatal casualties. Suggest sending survivors to Portsmouth tomorrow Monday.

(TARANSAY 081735 to F.O.B.A.A.)

SS. VIDONIA. Naval fuel. H.M.S. VIDONIA* sank early morning 7th October. 15 total known survivors. 7 are in 161 U.S. Army Hospital. Remaining 8 including Captain were picked up by L.C.I. 509. 8 reported missing. VIDONIA reported rammed by SS. ARTIGAS S.P. 14. Requested relief fuelling trawler sailed earliest possible. Destination Utah.

(C.T.F. 125 081053A to Admty.)

* Not in Pink or Red List. A small SS. VIDONIA is listed by Lloyds Shipping Index.

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Major
Troopship
Movements
to 6.11.44

Following is summary 59 of major troopship move-
ments in and out of Clyde and Liverpool during
period to 6 November.

Serial No. (A) in -	Convoy	Ship	Port	Due
1.	C.U. 41	As already notified		9 Oct.
2.	A.T. 154A	U.S. WESTPOINT	Liverpool	11 Oct.
3.	A.T. 156	ILE DE FRANCE	Clyde	11 Oct.
4.	H.X.F. 311	MATAROA	Clyde	12 Oct.
5.	A.T. 155	NIEUW AMSTERDAM	Clyde	13 Oct.
6.	A.T. 157A	U.S. MOUNT VERNON	Liverpool	14 Oct.
7.	C.U. 42	RANGITIKI	Liverpool	17 Oct.
8.	A.T. 157	QUEEN MARY	Clyde	18 Oct.
9.	A.T. 157B	U.S. WAKEFIELD	Liverpool	18 Oct.
10.	A.T. 158	MAURETANIA	Liverpool	20 Oct.
11.	S.D. 58	HIGHLAND	Clyde	20 Oct.
12.		CHIEFTAIN		
		STRATHMORE		
		EASTERN PRINCE		
	M.K.F. 35	MALOJA	Clyde	
		DURBAN CASTLE		
		ORDUNA		
		STRATHNAVER		
		FELIX ROUSSEL		
		STRATHEDEN		
		OTRANTO		
		JOHAN VAN		
		OLDEN		
		BARNEVELT	Liverpool	
		CAPETOWN		
		CASTLE		
		MONARCH OF		
		BERMUDA		
		STAFFORDSHIRE		
		VOLENDAM		
12A.	ex M.K.F. 35	BATORY	Clyde	About 21 Oct.
13.	A.T. 159	QUEEN ELIZABETH	Clyde	23 Oct.
14.	C.U. 43	Ships not yet allocated to ports		25 Oct.
15.	A.T. 160A	U.S. MARIPOSA	Liverpool	27 Oct.
16.	A.T. 161	AQUITANIA	Clyde	28 Oct.
17.	A.T. 163	ILE DE FRANCE	Clyde	6 Nov.
(B) Out				
18.	U.C. 41	RANGITATA plus U.S. ships ex C.U. 41	Liverpool	13/14 Oct.
19.	T.A. 154A	U.S. WESTPOINT	Liverpool	14 Oct.
20.	D.S. 58	HIGHLAND	Clyde	14 Oct.
		CHIEFTAIN.		
21.	T.A. 156	ILE DE FRANCE	Clyde	15 Oct.

8.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Major
Troopship
movements
to 6.11.44.
(Contd.)

Serial No. (B) out	Convoy	Ship	Port	Due
22.	----	ANDES	Liverpool	As soon as ready about 16 Oct.
23.	T.A. 155	NIEUW AMSTERDAM	Clyde	17 Oct.
24.	T.A. 157A	U.S. MOUNT VERNON	Liverpool	17 Oct.
25.	K.M.F. 35A	Composition as already notified		20 Oct.
26.	T.A. 157B	U.S. WAKEFIELD	Liverpool	21 Oct.
27.	T.A. 157	QUEEN MARY	Clyde	22 Oct.
28.	----	MAURETANIA	Liverpool	About 25 Oct.
29.	U.C. 41B	Probably HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN	Clyde	About 23 Oct.
30.	T.A. 159	QUEEN ELIZABETH	Clyde	27 Oct.
31.	T.A. 160A	U.S. MARIPOSA	Liverpool	30 Oct.
32.	T.A. 160	PASTEUR	Liverpool	1 Nov.
33.	T.A. 161	AQUITANIA	Clyde	1 Nov.

(2) The above is for your information and guidance and is liable to alteration during period to 14th October when further signal will be made.

(D. of S.T. 080049A to P.S.T.Os. Clyde, Scottish, N.W. Ports.)

Channel sailings. Request all sailing be resumed.
(C.T.F. 125 081027A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Isle of Wight convoys. A.M. 031341A and 061321A. As from 100001A main convoys from Isle of Wight will be designated as follows and renumbered commencing number one
L.S.T. convoys for Arrow (if any) W.M.L.
L.S.T. convoys for Cherbourg W.E.L.
M/T convoys for French U.S. Beaches W.F.M.

Persomel convoys for Arrow W.M.P.
Persomel convoys for French U.S. Beaches W.F.P.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 081137A to Admty., A.N.C.X.F.)

8.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic

Repatriation of Scorps. (Extract). ELIZABETHVILLE will sail from the U.K. on October 14th in K.M.S.66 for Gibraltar with about 180 Gibraltarians.
(D. of S.T. 080004A)

R.A.F. reliefs for Azores. (Extract). THYSVILLE will sail on October 14th with special escort for the Azores with about 450 personnel mainly R.A.F. and about 800 tons of mails and Cargo. Disembarkation port to be Angra or as ordered by S.B.N.O. Azores.
(2) These personnel will relieve an approximately equal number now in the Azores for carriage in THYSVILLE to Gibraltar where they will await on carriage to the U.K. probably in M.K.F.36.
(D. of S.T. 080050A)

T.G.22.2. In event continued round the clock search remains negative until noon 9th will proceed in accordance your 062237Z which will evaluate contact reported my 070543 not enemy 081200Z position 28.39 N.

34.12 W. Weather 6281 2035.
(C.T.G. 22.2, 081233Z to C. in C. Lant.

South Atlantic.

H.D.M.L's. In view of A.M. 161430 September and 292045 September, regret the Harbour Defence Motor Launches cannot be manned and will therefore remain where they are.
Your 310231/ August.
(C. in C. S.A. 080944B to C. in C. E.F.)
H.D.M.Ls. should be retained on a care and maintenance basis until crews can be provided from U.K.

War Diary

8.10.1944
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

G.2 Summary (Extract). (3) Greece and Aegean. Rhion
No.44. clear of enemy and unconfirmed report states
Corinth also evacuated. This considered probable
in view Pr.4 October which shows Corinth Canal
obstructed and both bridges destroyed.

Moreover reports of demolitions in Piraeus suggest preparations
to evacuate whole of Attica now underway. Completion unlikely
before mid October. Evacuation Corfu continues. Recent
report from Crete reveals enemy's intention establish "Fortress
area Crete" on West end island.
(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O.)

Fast A.M. 061516, intentions are that boats should
motor boats for the time being remain British property but
for that in view of manpower shortage they should be
Yugoslavs. manned by R.Y.N. under Yugoslav Flag.
(2) It is not desired to effect transfer before it
is clear that the amalgamated R.Y.N. is settling
down and that the crews can operate boats
satisfactorily.

(3) Further signal will be made when situation has clarified.
(C. in C. Med. 081903A to Admty)

Air Cosintin- (Extract). Strategic A.F. Night 6/7 Two
trep No.455. Liberators mined Khalkis Straits with six tons.
(H.Q. M.A.A.F. No T.O.O.)

8.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions.

No fresh information, scale remain W 5 in all
areas.
(C. in C. E.F. 080241Z)

U-Boat
attack on
SS. NATHAN
HALE.

Torpedo crossed by position 12.59 N. 49.17 E.
((KEVI)NATHAN HALE No T.O.O. Recd. 12043)

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War Diary8.10.1944
SundayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

U-Boat report. By D/F on 4075 K/cs at 2343Z/7th U-Boat estimated probably within 75 miles of 47 degs. 00' N. 24 degs. 00' W. (D.D.I.C.080135Z to T.G.61.9)

U-Boat attacked off C. Farewell. Am attacking submerged U-Boat in 050 degs. 58' N. 042 degs. 45' W. at 0515Z. (PITCAIRN, 080515Z to C. in C. C.N.A.) My 080515 attacked with Hedgehogs and depth charges. Lost contact. Resuming course. (PITCAIRN, 080711Z)

Stragglers' report. All of H.X.311. Stragglers arrived week unable maintain convoy speed. BRITISH CHEMIST, minor engine defects. (N.C.S.O. St. Johns, N.F. 081237Z)

U-Boat dispositions. Estimates. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 081412Z, Cominch, 081527Z)

N.S.H.Q. S/M attack and sighting summary. (D) H.M.C.S. PITCAIRN attacks submerged U-Boat at 0515Z/8th in 50.58 N. 42.45 W. (N.S.H.Q. 081426Z)

H.X.S. 309. Average speed 8.3 knots. Off Fastnet at 2200Z/30th September. All arrived. (D.T.D. 081654A)

U-Boat incidents. As N.S.H.Q., 081426Z q.v. (Cominch, 082016Z)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary. For 24 hours to 0900Z/8th. Nil. (D.D.I.C. 081039A)

U-Boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C.081501A, 081504A)

9.10.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

- North Sea. 1.(a). The 4th M.T.B. Flotilla, Lt. E.J. White, R. N.V.R., on patrol off Hook of Holland, fell in with an enemy patrol of 2 trawlers and 2 L.C.Ts. The enemy were engaged on three separate occasions, and one trawler was torpedoed and destroyed. M.T. B. 467 sustained slight damage and one casualty. (b). At the same time the 21st M.T.B. Flotilla, Lt. G.J. MacDonald, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.Z.V.R., fell in with 3 enemy minesweepers off the Texel and scored 2 torpedo hits; one minesweeper disappeared. M.T.B. 83 suffered slight damage just before the action from a near miss from a mine.
- Channel. 2.(a). Rouen can now accept ships of draughts up to 18 ft. (b). The minesweeper MULGRAVE was severely damaged by a ground mine on the Seine Bank, but was towed into Le Havre.
- West coast France. 3. The island of Noirmoutier is now reported free, but the Biscayan F.F.I. are becoming discouraged at the lack of support or encouragement given to them.
- Western Approaches. 4. CHEBOQUE's speed in tow of RIBBLE is now 9 knots.
- Norway. 5. Two aircraft of 18 Group attacked a convoy of some four merchantmen and six escort vessels off Akersund, and obtained hits with bombs and torpedoes.
- Northern Waters. 6. VINDEX has been allocated to convoy J.W. 61 for North Russia. C.S. 10 will fly his flag in her.

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

- Air Operations. 7.(a). Continued poor weather conditions frustrated all operations by Strategic Air Force and medium bombers during the 24 hours to 1800 today. (b). 21/29 aircraft of the Balkan Air Force bombed Zara Harbour, causing fires, smoke and a large explosion. Quaysides, a 500 ton ship, and small vessels and barges were hit.

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9.10.1944.

Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Riviera.

8. U.S. destroyers bombarded bridges, ammunition dumps and other targets in the Ventimiglia area yesterday and today.

Ionian.

9.(a). BELVOIR, WILTON and L.C.Gs. provided harassing fire in the Delvino area (Albania) today.
(b). It is reported that Nationalist bands occupied Corfu Island today though 100 Germans remain in Corfu town.

Levant operations.

10.(a). Coastal forces last night set a 750 ton tanker well on fire in the approaches to the Saronic Gulf.

(b). In the course of continuous air reconnaissance over the northern half of the Aegean today aircraft from HUNTER hit a torpedo boat, heavily damaged a concrete barge at Lemnos, sank one Siebel ferry north of Cassandra and set a second on fire, and blew up two railway trains south of Salonika.

(c). Aircraft from the Escort Carrier force also attacked 10 caiques in harbour at Kos this afternoon and sank 5 of them.

China.

11. Three Liberators laid mines today in the river west of Hankow.

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MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSPolicy

Forces T and J. Subject is future of Force T and Force J.
 (2) C. in C. Portsmouth has reported that he intends transferring administration of L.S.I. and embarked Flotillas from Captain Force J to Vectis. When this is completed he considers Captain Jeffreys should be released. I concur.
 (3) On completion of "Infatuate" it is desired to retain Force T. in being to undertake any further Amphibious operations that may prove necessary. Force T will thus supersede Force J, and it is suggested that the latter should be disbanded.
 (4) As I do not intend to establish Flag Officer Holland as an operational authority it will be necessary to establish an in-shore Squadron Command to operate light forces off the Dutch and possibly German Coasts when no longer practicable from the Nore. C. in C. Nore concurs. It is accordingly proposed that on completion of "Infatuate" Captain Pugsley whilst retaining the appointment of Senior Officer Force T should be appointed "and as Senior Officer Inshore Squadron" under the command of C. in C. Nore but working on the Continent. Staff of S.O.I.S. would be lent from Force T.
 (5) It is considered likely that any further Amphibious operations subsequent to "Infatuate" will like it have to be largely planned and launched from the Continent. This would be undertaken by the section of Force T staff working with S.O.I.S. Formation and training of the Force is again likely to have to be undertaken in the United Kingdom. This would be supervised by Force T Rear H.Q. as at present.
 (6) Disposal of Nucleus staff still remaining to Force J who have not been appointed to Force T would be decided when final disposition of staff Force T is clear.
 (A.N.C.X.F.091105A to Admty)

V.A. Dover to administer Pas de Calais Ports. Your 012035 and A/C Dover's 051047. In view of proximity of Dover to Pas De Calais Ports and short cross-Channel supply lines and shuttle service consider administration of these Ports should be responsibility of A/C Dover accepting disadvantage of F.O.B.A.A. having to deal with two administrative authorities.
 (C. in C. Portsmouth, 091307A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Laying up of old ships. It is not intended to carry out any further alterations and additions in:
 Pre BLACK SWAN class sloops. Pre D to I class destroyers. Duck class corvettes.
 (2) Ships of these classes on foreign service which cannot be kept running on their present service without refit in the U.K. will, on return, be placed in reserve.
 (3) Ships of these classes in Home Commands will normally be refitted as they become due but no further As. and As. are to be undertaken.
 (D.O.D. 091550 to A.I.G., F.O.C.R.F.)

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Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

Admiralty Steer to position 43 degs. N. 10 degs. W. thence
Floating unless other orders are received from F.O.G.M.A.
Dock R/V A.F.D.17 in 38.58 N. 10.12 W. at 0800A/12.
No.17. (2) GUARDSMAN amend R/V as necessary.
(3) A.F.D.17 will be on course 163 degs. at 3½
knots.
(C. in C. W.A. 091601A to LARIAT)

SEARCHER. E.T.A. position D 0500A/10 M.L.A. 000 16 knots.
Meet me as early as possible. Set watch on
2333 K/cs at 2359A/9.
(SEARCHER, 091710A to S.O. E.G. 11)
Your 091710A my E.T.A. position D 0510A/10.
(S.O. E.G. 11, 092011A to SEARCHER)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval. Cosintintrep No.187 part 2. Naval.
Amend para. A captured ports Rouen as follows.
For "14 feet draught" read "18 feet draught".
(Adm. Ramsay, 091035A to Admty)

Cosintintrep No.188 Part 2 Naval.

A Captured Ports. "P" Parties have done most valuable work at
Dieppe, Havre, Rouen, Boulogne, Calais and Ostend in course of
which 21 mines have been recovered and rendered safe by Naval
Party No.1571.

B Intelligence. A German sabotage charge used in the attempted
demolition of the Nijmegen Bridges has been recovered almost
intact. Explosive compartment is approx. 8 ft. long and 22"
in diameter. It is fitted with clock-work firing mechanism and
a floodable buoyancy chamber is fitted at each end.

C Unloading Figures. In Cosintintrep No.187 amend total of
British stores to read 9745 instead of 10745. Figures for 8th
October are as follows:

British	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol.
East Calvados	438	324	1207	-
Dieppe	899	13	3393	-
Ostend	281	458	1575	5201
British Totals:	<u>1618</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>6175</u>	<u>5201</u>

U.S.

Cherbourg	-	-	12967	-
Beaches	2967	114	336	-
Brittany Ports	-	14	991	300
Small Ports	-	-	729	-
Le Havre	-	-	844	-
U.S. Total:	<u>2967</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>15867</u>	<u>300</u>
Combined:	4585	923	22042	5501.

(Adm. Ramsay, 092345A to Admty.)

9.10.1944
Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

North Sea

Patrols. My 191824 September (not to N.O.I.C. Ostend).
 Patrols 15 and 16 cancel and substitute Patrol 15
 N.F.4 to N.F. 7 Buoys: Patrol 16 N.F. 7 to N.F.10
 buoys.

(2) Additional Patrols established. Patrol 18 N.F.1 to N.F.3
 buoys; Patrol 19 51 degs. 35' N. 3 degs. 12' E. to 51 degs. 30'
 N. 3 degs. 00' E.

(C. in C. Nore, 091439A to D.16, D.21, S.O. Corvettes, Com.
 Sheerness, C.C.F. Admty, FERVENT, MIDGE, MANTIS, BEEHIVE, A.C.
 Dover, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, F.O.I.C. Harwich, F.O.I.C. Humber,
 C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C. Portsmouth, N.O.I.C. Ostend.)

Action by
 4th M.T.B.F.
 off Hook of
 Holland.

Operation by 4th M.T.B. Flotilla (S.O. Lt. E.J.
 White R.N.V.R.) on night 8/9 October.

(1) 1st Division M.T.B. 458, 468.
 2nd Division M.T.B. 457, 467.

Unit ordered to sweep south on convoy route from
 52 degs. 23' N. 04 degs. 25' E.

(2) Weather wind N.E. 2 to 3 sea 2 to 3

Visibility variable.

(3) At 2342 when in position 52 degs. 08' N. 04 degs. 08' E.
 obtained radar contact 5000 yards ahead. Unit was illuminated
 and heavily engaged and withdrew to westward. Course was
 altered to close at 0047 and enemy was sighted at 5000 yards in
 patch of moonlight and identified as patrol of 2 trawlers and
 2 L.C.Ts. At 3000 yards enemy again opened fire causing slight
 damage to M.T.B. 467 and one fatal casualty. M.T.B. 467 ordered
 to return base and unit withdrew to re-organise. At 0210 unit
 continued to sweep south and at 0230 when in position 52 degs.
 05' N. 04 degs. 01' E. sighted enemy ahead at 6000 yards
 apparently proceeding Hook. Unit closed to 1000 yards undetected
 and as enemy opened fire at 0257 unit carried out torpedo attack
 before being illuminated by starshell. Unit withdrew whilst
 returning gunfire. One trawler was observed to blow up and
 disintegrate.

(C. in C. Nore, 091648A to Admty.)

Action by
 21st M.T.B.F.
 off Texel.

Operation by 21st M.T.B. Flotilla (S.O. G.J. Mac-
 Donald? D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.Z.V.R.) night 8/9 Oct.

(2) 1st Division M.T.B.s. 234, 232, 244.
 2nd Division M.T.Bs. 88 and 83.

(3) Weather N.N.E. 1 to 2, visibility 3 miles.

(4) Unit proceeded from initial position 53 degs.

18' N. 04 degs. 46' E. on a southwesterly course down convoy
 route. At 0126 in position 305 degs. Texel 8 sighted 3 ships
 2½ miles astern overtaking unit. Unit altered course to seaward
 but while still on convoy route a mine exploded 20 yards ahead of
 M.T.B. 88 putting both her and M.T.B.234 Radar out of action and
 preventing further plotting.

2nd Division ordered to attack from inshore while 1st Division

/would ...

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MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperationsNorth Sea

Action by 21st M.T.B.F. off Texel. (Contd.) would attack from seaward. At 0150 1st Division attacked with torpedoes target identified as modern "M" class minesweeper but missed astern. Unit came under enemy fire and replied. At 0156 2nd Division attacked at 700 yards range and scored two torpedo hits. Minesweeper disappeared. Divisions rendezvoused at 0208 and returned to base.
(5) No casualties, slight damage to M.T.B. 83 caused by mine explosion.
(C. in C. Nore, 092258A to Admt.)

OperationsChannel

Patrol. Pins cover night 9th/10th October.
G.B.1 L'AVENTURE Z.109.
G.B.2 LA DECOUVERTE Z.9 South.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 091129A to usual addressees)

OperationsWest Coast France

Patrol. Carry out operation "Assault".
(A) Force 26, TARTAR (S.O) ASHANTI.
(B) 0600A/10th October. (C) By most direct route to reach position (AA) 47 degs. N. 4 degs.
W. by 2000A/10.
(D) Patrol between Belle Ile and Gironde.
(G) Force 27 PIORUN, IROQUOIS as in my 091535A.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091538A to TARTAR, ASHANTI)
My P.C.S. at 2000A/9th October 046 degs. 40' N. 02 degs. 05'
W. 250 degs. 20 knots, altering course at 2359A to 155 degs. and at 0400A to 110 degs.
Noirmoutier free and waiting for S.A. Weather report 7371 0572.
(Force 27, 091933A to C. in C. Plymouth)

Scuttled U-Boat at Brest. Cr. No.1384. Not considered desirable undertake any work in order make inspection of scuttled S/M in damaged drydock at Brest.
(Comnavforfrance, 091644A to Comnaveu)

Bay of Biscay amenities. A.M. 061950A and F.O.I.C.Greenock, 071134A not to all addressees.
Following places in Bay of Biscay may be used for shelter by landing and other small craft.
(A) Douarnenez Bay less Anse de Morgat and avoiding Q.Z.X.356. (B) Benodet. (C) Port Joinville in Ile d'Yeu. This port is very small and is rather exposed.
(D) Les Sables d'Olonne.

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

West Coast France.

Bay of Biscay (2) The following coastal areas are so far as is amenities. known still in enemy hands:-
(Contd.) (1) From Lorient to Quiberon Bay including Quiberon Peninsula. (2) A circle of 10 miles radius round St. Nazaire. (3) An area between approximate latitudes 45 degs. 20' N. and 46 degs 20' N. including Ile de Re and Ile d'Oleron.
(4) Ile de Groix, Belle Ile, Ile de Noirmoutier.
There are numerous coastal batteries including guns up to 15" in these areas.

(3) Brest is not yet opened.

The progress of mine clearance at Archaon and St. Jean de Luz is not known.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091607A to F.Os.I.C. Greenock, Liverpool, Milford, N.I. Falmouth, and RA.L.S.C.U.)

Reports from Biscay Patrol destroyers contain constant references to shortage of winter clothing, uniforms and supply of arms, ammunition etc. in the F.F.I.

(2) Visits by H.M. Ships are obviously appreciated but there are indications that due to the somewhat confused positions the F.F.I. may become discouraged unless some acknowledgement of their pleas is made.

(3) It is for consideration whether some official message could be conveyed to them by our vessels or better still if some officer acquainted with the situation could occasionally accompany H.M. Ships on these visits.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091826A to Admty)

Spanish fishing vessels in Bay of Biscay.

A/C reports 6 Spanish Fishing Trawlers in position 50 degs. 12' N. 10 degs. 56' W. at 1611A/9

(2) After parting company with O.N.A. 258 and if time permits before making R/V in accordance with C. in C. W.As. 091501A intercept and examine Trawlers and order them back to Spanish Ports, Masters are to be warned that they are liable to be sunk at night in the declared danger zone.

(3) Report progress in due course.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 091703A to WENSLEYDALE, PETUNIA, LOOSESTRIFE.)

Operations

Western Approaches

Suspected U-Boats.

By D/F on 4075 K/cs at 0012Z U/B estimated within 40 miles of 54 degs. N. 26 degs. W.

(D.D.I.C. 090248A to WHITBY)

My 071242. It is appreciated that U-Boat which torpedoed CHEBOQUE was D/F'd in 046 degs. 20'

024 degs. 20' at 2347A/7th and that it is proceeding io the southward. Probably fitted Schnorkel.

(2) 9th E.G. is to search an area bounded by following position -

(A) 040 degs. 30' 051 degs. 10'. (B) 042 degs. 30' 023 degs. 05'

(C) 043 degs. 00' 021 degs. 308. (D) 041 degs. 00' 020 degs. 30'

(3) Area will probably be shifted daily.

(4) Request 247 Group provide A/C to co-operate.

(C. in C. W.A. 091314A to S.O.E.G.9, S.B.N.O. Azores.)

/ By ...

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Suspected U-Boats. (contd.)
By D/F at 1208Z on 13301 N K/cs. at 1225Z on 9350 K/cs at 1238Z on 13565 K/cs and at 1257Z on 8460 K/cs. U-Boat estimated within 40 miles of 54 degs. 30' N. 26 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C.091435A to WHITBY)
Have obtained H/F D/F bearing believed to be of German S/M transmitting a Naval enigma signal. 1st Class bearing 014 degs. distance uncertain on local serious no. of groups 83. My position is 046 degs. 14' N. 011 degs. 03' W. Weather report 4782 1863.
(S.O.E.G.11, 091652Z to Admty).

Clearing of St. George's Channel minefield.
Your 061725, 072012 and 081731. Westernmost positions do not reach Western Edge of area given in my 051557 September. Request your intentions for sweeping holidays.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 091301 to ALBURY)

OperationsNorthern Waters.

Convoy J.W.61.
A.M. 081851 not to all addressees. H.M.S. VINDEX is allocated. C. in C. H.F.'s 061505 and my 011845 not to all addressees refer.
(C. in C. W.A. 091105A to Admty, C. in C. H.F.)
(1) Request third escort carrier may arrive

Scapa about 15th October.
(2) If support groups are available request one group may arrive Scapa as soon after 15th October as possible and remaining support and escort groups sail from Loch Ewe with convoy J.W.61.
(C. in C. H.F. 091129A to C. in C. W.A.)

C. in C. Home Fleet 081039. Concur, intend to sail Russian S.C.S. from Fort William accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A. 091230A to Admty)

My 271255 September not to all addressees. In view of your 052329 and large numbers of Russian S/M chasers to be included in convoy J.W.61 request 2nd tanker equipped for oiling escorts at sea may be included in this convoy.

(C. in C. H.F. 091425 to Admty)
J.W.61. Request you will sail convoy from Clyde p.m.17th for Loch Ewe.

(2) N.C.S.O. Clyde is requested to signal R/V for Liverpool section.

(3) Escorts will be detailed later.

(C. in C. W.A. 091705A to F.O.I.C. Greenock)
C. in C. W.A. 091105A. Intend to fly my flag in VINDEX throughout the operation.
(C.S.10, 092126A to VINDEX.)

Ditched Dakota.
Dakota A/C ditched at 1120A in position 061 degs. 30' 013 degs. 50'. Proceed to search.
(C. in C. W.A. 091222A to S.O. E.G.2)
My 091222 not to all and A.C.I.C. 091213.

/Search ...

9.10.1944

MondayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSOperationsNorthern Waters

Ditched Search between 61 degs. 15' 13 degs. 50' and 61
Dakota. degs. 00' 13 degs. 01'.
(Contd.) (C. in C. W.A. 091517A to S.O. E.G.2)

Allied Air Activity

Patrol off P.C.S. of 2 medium merchant vessels and 7 escort
Ekersund. Vessels 58 degs. 27' N. 05 degs. 50' E. course
360 degs. speed 7 knots.
(A/C JYZB 090705A to 18 Group)

Nr. 1. P.C.S. of 4 merchant vessels 6 Escort
Vessels 58 degs. 28' N. 5 degs. 45' E. 310 degs. 7 knots.
Result of attack hits observed.
(A/C WARV 090710 to 18 Group)

Nr. 1. P.C.S. of enemy 4 Merchant Vessels 6 Escort Vessels
58 degs. 28' N. 5 degs. 40' E. based on fix by pin point within
 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of 0700 180 degs. 10 knots. Have attacked enemy with
torpedoes. Result of attack. Hits observed.

(A/C WHRM 090715 to 18 Group)

4 Merchant ships escorted by 6 Escorts attacked by own A/C
position 058 degs. 28' N. 005 degs. 45' E. at 0710A/9 course
310 degs. 7 knots.

(F.O.S.090908A to ULA.)

Patrol off P.C.S. of enemy, one Merchant Vessel, 3,500 tons
Sognefiord. one small vessel 2 armed coasters 61 degs.
04' N. 4 degs. 25' E. 180 degs. 10 knots.
(A/C JDGH, 090915 to 18 Group)

Mining

Minesweeping Situation report. Clearance of Havre-Dieppe
off Far Shore. Channel continued by 40 M/S Flot. Operation
"Pilgrim" commenced by 31 M/S Flot. negative
result.

River Seine sweeping continued. Negative result.

One magnetic mine swept in position 050 degs. 58 01' N. 001 degs.
46.05' E. also one in position 309 degs. Arromanches Church 3 miles
B.Y.M.S. 2030 damaged by near miss mine and sank in position
049 degs. 28' N. 000 degs. 02' 12" W.

MULGRAVE severely damaged by ground mine in position 049 degs.
29.05' N. 000 degs. 11.03' W. Ship towed into Havre.

(Capt. M/S East 090830A to A.N.C.X.F.)

One Lap completed last 10 miles (corrupt group) to 5 cables
on centre line.

Cut and sunk 4 old Magnetic in position 050 degs. 04.7 N. 000
degs. 51.4 E. 050 degs. 03.8 000 degs. (?52) 050 degs. 02.4
(000 degs?) 48 050 degs. 03 000 degs. 50.6.

State of Flotilla (A) 605 (D) 1 - 14 (F) Operational Anchor
205 Q.Z.H.365.

(M/S F. 31 092045A)

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Monday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

TIRPITZ. Para. 2 of your 081236. R/C of ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ carried out on 21st September and again to-day. Photographs were obtained on both occasions and copies for us are being prepared.
(2) Both show ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ in same position as before. To-day verbal report also includes depot ship, M/V of 5,000 tons and 2 destroyers.
(3) Report of 21st September included Flak Ship of HARALD HAARFAGRE Class.
(4) Admiralty pass to Air Ministry.
(S.B.N.O.N. Russia, 091544A to Adm. Archer)

German Request MEIU No.3 investigate reported German
E and R gunnery course at Le Havre. Also E/R Boats
boats at bases at Le Havre and Boulogne for specimens of E
Le Havre. or R boats. Worth sending specialist to examine
from United Kingdom. Report also any radio or
radar equipment worth investigating.
(Com. 12th Fleet, 092107 to Comusbasfrance)

Navigational

Missing L.V. Admiralty 142205B July and A.C. Dover's 151845
July. Light Vessel H for How missing from
Station presumed sunk in recent gale.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 091500A to V.A. Dover, C. in C.
Portsmouth)

Port Facilities

Rouen. My 081531 correct draught to read 18 ft.
(A.N.C.X.F. 090956A to S.H.A.E.F.)

Arromanches. In connection with winterization programme a new
air survey of Harbour is urgently required after
recent gale, numerous movements of Phoenix units
having taken place. Request this may be
arranged.
(N.O.I.C. Arrow, 090958A to Admty)

Your 091255A (not to all) is not approved. Request EMPIRE AID
be sailed forthwith to Tilbury. Towages of that description can
be arranged with C.T.G. 125.15 by using tugs returning light from
Le Havre. It must be understood that no delay to Phoenix tugs
can be accepted. My 241015A September Para. 2 not to all refers.
(A.N.C.X.F. 091758A to N.O.I.C. Arrow.)

Ostend. It is understood that in normal circumstances
Ostend can berth 6 coasters 4 small tankers and 5
landing ship tanks and proportion of these ships
can be discharged and sailed in 24 hours.
(2) During past 8 days a total of 11 coasters (11) tankers and
23 L.S.T. have sailed from U.K. (to) Ostend.
(3) It does not appear that full use is being made of capacity of
Ostend.
(C. in C. Nore, 091826A to A.N.C.X.F.)

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Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

Frigate
CHEBOQUE.

My P.C.S. 1000A 050° 42' N. 012° 20' W. 075° 9
knots. Weather report 3682 1600.
(RIBBLE 090930A to C. in C. W.A., EARNER.)

Corvette
CARISBROOKE
CASTLE.

Suspected case sabotage aboard CARISBROOKE CASTLE.
Request authorities may investigate immediately on
arrival.
(E.G. 31 091227A to Capt. (D) Greenock.)

M.A.C. ship
EMPIRE
MACKENDRICK.

Report Patrick Radio 070515 Oct. to Navy charge
Greenock, Liverpool and Glasgow, Salvage Associa-
tion report that divers survey reveals no
appreciable damage to EMPIRE MACKENDRICK.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 091753 to Admty.)

Destroyer
OFFA.

A case of suspected sabotage has occurred in
OFFA both turbo generators out of action owing to
sand in lubricating system. Investigations are
being made.
(R.A.(D) H.F. 092317A to C. in C. H.F.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Routes for
Swedish
shipping.

Your 061703 Swedish authorities would be grateful
to know when new routing instructions come into
force. Please repeat para. (G) position 6.
(N.A. Stockholm 091249 to Admty.)

Independent
sailings in
English
Channel.

Your 050302A no objection but request names of
such ships and their speed, destination and E.T.A.
Lizard may be signalled by S.O. of Ocean Escort
and E.T.A. Lizard or Dungeness by routing
authority of ships proceeding independently.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 091336A to Admty.)

Convoy
T.M.C.1.

A. T.M.C.1 sailing Thames Gate 0840A/10, S.O.A.
7 knots.
B. GODETIA (S.O.), M.L. 596.
C. E.T.A. Z. area 0500A/11. E.T.A. final desti-
nation 1600A/11.

D. Codeword "Fitting."
E.1.
WILLIAM WINDOM (U.S.)

Radio distinguishing signal 6.N.
2. 3. 4.
Solent for Mumbles F.O. 12

METHIL HILL

Cherbourg
Solent for N.K. 19

ISAAC

Cherbourg
Newhaven for Thames 30

CORDALE

Dieppe
Newhaven for Thames 31
Dieppe

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Convoy
T.M.C.1.
(Contd.)

E.1.	2.	3.	4.
REDCAR	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	32
WALDO HILL	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	33
LESTO	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	34
ERICA (Nor.)	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	35
NEWLANDS	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	36
CRANE	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	37
SANDHILL	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	38
CARNLEA	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	39
GOLDFINCH	Newhaven for Dieppe	Thames	40

F. Deepest draught not yet known.

G. Routed C.H. 12 to E.A. 3 Buoy thence K.T. 58.

H. RODSLEY (no P.T.) commercial to Solent for Milford Haven. For O.S/K.M.S. (Commodore Cdr. C.H. Williams, R.N.R.). FORT RUPERT (P.T. 10) commercial to Solent for Milford Haven for O.S/K.M.S. LAGARTO (P.T. 11) commercial to Solent for Milford Haven. KINGSLAND (P.T. 13) commercial to Southampton. TARONGA PARK (P.T. 14) commercial to Portsmouth for Portland. CORMINSTER (P.T. 15) commercial to Portsmouth. LIBRA (P.T. 16) commercial to Southampton. AUTHORITY (P.T. 17) commercial to Portsmouth for Falmouth. THE MARCHIONESS (P.T. 18) commercial to Portsmouth. ANNAGHMORE (P.T. 20) commercial to Littlehampton. EMPIRE FARNHAM (P.T. 21) commercial to Southampton. THE EARL (P.T. 51) commercial to Dover.
(Commodore Southend 091931A to A.N.C.X.F. (Buco.))

Sailings for
Ostend.

(1) An urgent requirement has arisen to ship formations of 52 Division to Ostend.

(2) Tidal, draught and other restrictions at Ostend impose severe limitations on the ships which can be used for this purpose and the number

which can be sailed daily.

(3) Similar considerations render it necessary for embarkation to take place at Southampton.

(4) The following programme is therefore proposed.

A. Date of sailing.	B. Convoy	C. Ships.
12th October	W.A.P. 1	PRINCESS MAUD
13th October	W.A.P. 2	ISLE OF GUERNSEY PRINCESS ASTRID
14th October	W.A.P. 3	BEN-MY-CHREE PRINCESS JOSEPHINE CHARLOTTE
15th October	W.A.P. 4	LADY OF MANN PRINCESS MAUD

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Sailings
for Ostend.
(Contd.)

A. Date of Sailing	B. Convoy	C. Ships
16th October	W.A.P. 5	ISLE OF GUERNSEY PRINCESS ASTRID
17th October	W.A.P. 6	BEN-MY-CHREE PRINCESS JOSEPHINE CHARLOTTE
18th October	W.A.P. 7	LADY OF MANN PRINCESS MAUD
19th October	W.A.P. 8	ISLE OF GUERNSEY PRINCESS ASTRID
20th October	W.A.P. 8	BEN-MY-CHREE PRINCESS JOSEPHINE CHARLOTTE

Sailing to be adjusted so that convoys arrive Ostend 3 hours before daylight high water on 13th October and succeeding days.

(5) Every effort should be made to effect the turnround of ships at Ostend in 1 T.I.D.S.

(6) Request arrangements may be made to implement the foregoing. (A.N.C.X.F. 092000A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

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Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

T.G. 22.2 091200Z departing 27.50 N. 32.32 W. course 011 speed advance 13 my 081233Z. Weather 2582 2023. (C.T.G. 22.2 091100 to Cinclant.)

FORMIDABLE M.S.C.I. 5. Intend to sail FORMIDABLE at 2000/11 (U.K. to Far East.) to Alexandria for onward routeing (A.M. 021504 Sept. not to all refers.)
(2) - (7A) Arrangements.
(8) D.27 in KEMPENFELT with WHIRLWIND and WRANGLER.
(9) (A) F.O.C.M. and F.O.L.E.M. are requested to onward route close to shore aerodromes as in para. 3 my 241035. Sept. not to all.
(B) FORMIDABLE will proceed direct by night carrying out flying by day between position 109 and 120 12th October and between 36 and 79 13th October.
(C) FORMIDABLE intends exercising with aircraft southwest of Malta daylight 14th October and again off Cyrenaican dump daylight 15th October.
(F.O.G.M.A. 091232A.)

Spanish ships Your G/78/44 to F.O.G.M.A. and Admiralty for D.N.I. visiting Moroccan ports. No objection to Spanish unarmed ships proceeding direct Safi or Casablanca from Spanish ports providing arrangements are made by Consuls issuing navicert to inform S.O.(I) Gib. prior to sailings by immediate signal in order that Naval authorities at Casablanca or Safi may have notice of intended movements.

(2) Ships proceeding direct to Safi should be ordered to approach 032° 23' N. 009° 26' W. from N.W. where they will be met by patrol boats.

(3) Ships for Casablanca are to be routed to 034° 00' N. 008° 00' W. where they will be met and escorted to harbour. Ships are to keep not less than 20 miles from French Moroccan coast on route to R/V position.

(4) It is assumed H.M.Ambassador has no objection. Your 121830 June* 1943 refers.

(5) Request you will instruct reporting officers accordingly. (F.O.G.M.A. 091345A to B.N.A. Madrid.)

* Subject: Loading Phosphates F.O.S.I., French Morocco, for Spain.

M.V. AKKA. Your 071214. Swedes intimate that AKKA can now be unloaded at Piraeus as originally scheduled. She will, therefore, proceed from Gibraltar to Piraeus at 0800 hours local time October 12th, by "Black" route.

(2) Request you will inform all air and other authorities concerned.

(Hd. of M. 091814A to F.O.G.M.A.)

RICHELIEU. Onward route to Casablanca. (F.O.G.M.A. 092150A to RICHELIEU.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Danube and Black Sea - intelligence. From Intelligence Report up to October 6th. Disposition of enemy vessels on Danube October 6th: (?near or north) Budapest gunboats ALEXANDRA ALBERICH BECHALAREN (TCHERNATSHY here October 4th) between Vienna and Budapest one M/S M.L. and 5 special purpose (auxiliary vessels?): at Iron Gates M/S Depot Ship KRIADUILD and (3?) special purpose auxiliary vessels. M/S SIEGRIED reported below Budapest (?Oct.5th). Mines. October 5th one magnetic mine found? in Danube near 740 k.m. post. October 1st one magnetic acoustic mine recovered from Odessa harbour. October 4th one mine (?swept) off Odessa and seven type shipping M (?A) in Feodosia Bay. (N.L.O. Black Sea, 091205).

ARETHUSA. It is anticipated ARETHUSA will rejoin your command about mid December. (A.C.N.S.(F), 091215A to C. in C. Med.).

Aegean Naval and Naval Air operations. 3 Siebel Ferries steering north in 040 degs. 13' N. 027 degs. 15' E. am fit to strike. One 1,600 ton M/V in Salonika Harbour. (HUNTER, 091540C to BLACK PRINCE). F.O.L.E.Ms. 091451. TUSCAN and TERMAGANT are proceeding now towards Strati. Give them a R/V forthwith. (BLACK PRINCE, 091741C to STALKER, (R) HUNTER, F.O.E.C., F.O.L.E.M., TUSCAN, TERMAGANT).

Your 091938C. Continuous air R/C. maintained between (?Piraeus) Salonika, Lemnos and Khios. Attacked: (1) T.B. referred to in my 091903C one hit.

- (2) Concrete barge Lemnos heavily damaged.
 - (3) 2 Siebel ferries north Cassandra one sunk one left on fire.
 - (4) Danube barge mentioned in my 091903C 2 near misses.
 - (5) 2 Railway trains blown up south Salonika.
- (HUNTER, 092355C).

M.E. Balkan Sitrep No. 329. (Extract). Two. Int. Greece. Athens. P.W. reports most of base personnel Phaleron being evacuated. Beaches and approaches Phaleron Bay not mined 7th Oct. Aegean. Abinnia (?Alimnia intended) R.N. report German garrison possibly 50. Leros. Lt. A.A.

Portolago increased. Lemnos. Hy. A/A Mudros greatly reduced or removed.

Five. Sea Ops. N.T.R. (C. in C.M.E., 091950C).

Aegean S/M. operations. (1) UPSTART R/V in position (A) at 0701/10th. (2) CURIE adjust speed to R/V at the same time. (3) UPSTART's 091615. (S.1, 092003A to UPSTART, CURIE (R) F.O.L.E.M., V.A.M., N.O.I.C. Alexandria, S.N.O. Cyrenaica, A.H.Q., E.M., M.A.C.A.F., A.H.Q. Malta). Request 061046 be delayed one hour. UPSTART to R/V with escort in position A at 0602/10.

/ Danube...

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Monday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean - Contd.

Danube
mining.

Maps and notes despatched to Admiral Archer who is requested to inform Admiralty on receipt. Admiralty 062012 October and 301820 September refer.
(C. in C. Levant, 092025C).

Situation (1) On 6th October SS. ELINOR WYLIE hit mine in Report No.454. 042 degs. 50' N. 005 degs. 35' E. and has been towed into Toulon.

(2) Night 6th/7th October TERMAGANT reported sinking one destroyer and damaging a second in 039 degs. 49' N. 087 degs. 17' E. Further details awaited. ~~✓~~

(3) U.S. Destroyer EBERLE and French cruiser EMILE BERTIN bombarded shipping in Port Maurizio on 7th October and hit a medium Merchant ship and some small craft. Enemy returned fire but caused no damage.

(4) Coastal Forces in Aegean report:

(A) Destroying 2 A.R.B. in 037 degs. 38' N. 023 degs. 50' E. night 7th/8th.

(B) Sinking Merchant ship and hitting 400 ton lighter in 038 degs. 29' N. 025 degs. 28' E. on 8th.

(C) Attacking 750 ton tanker night 8th/9th in same position as (A) and leaving ship well on fire.

(5) Coastal force operating off Maestra Point (044 degs. 58' N. 012 degs. 29' E.) night 7th/8th October sank 2 schooners and damaged 2 others. Enemy escort engaged and caused superficial damage one M.G.B. and one casualty.

(C. in C. Med., 092310A) ~~✓~~ See amendment 102301A, p. 196.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

No fresh information scale unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F. 090201Z.)

A.S.I.S.

As further A.S.I.S. become available intend to redistribute as follows. (Details).
(C. in C. E.F. 090301.)

General
class
troopships.

Sailing of U.S.S. GENERAL MANN via Aden to Bombay and return is acceptable to C. in C. E.F. C. in C. U.S. Fleet 032210 refers.
(2) In order however to economise escort commitment request General Class Troopships sailing between U.S.A. and India should in future be routed either all via Aden or all via Australia.
(C. in C. E.F. 090954Z to Admty.)

Proposed
Kilindini/
Aden inter-
mediate troop
convoys.

G.O.C. in C. East Africa has represented to War Office the inadequacy of present C.M/M.C. convoy cycle to meet his trooping commitments for U.K. and Mid. East., especially in view of delays that have already occurred.

(2) Request your remarks on the possibility of introducing intermediate convoys Kilindi-Aden and Aden-Kilindini on say 29 day cycle, increased

turnround of M.C. ships at Durban being accepted.

(3) Some such programme as the following is envisaged:-

	Sail		Arrive	
M.C. (up to 6 ships)	Aden	D	Kilindini	D+6
	Kilindini	D+7	Durban	D+14
Intermediate (up to 2 ships)	Kilindini	D+9	Aden	D+15
	Aden	D+29	Kilindini	D+35
C.M. (up to 4 ships)	Durban	D+30	Kilindini	D+37
	Kilindini	D+38	Aden	D+44
M.C.	Aden	D+58		

(4) W.O. agreed signal 81965/QM2C of 4th Oct. refers.
(D.O.D.(F) 091244A to C. in C. E.F.)

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Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

NABOB - Examination of NABOB now reveals that the time
repairs. required for temporary repairs, after damaged
compartments have been cleared of explosives,
oil fuel, etc. is approx. as follows:-
weeks. (a) To steam to another port in U.K. - 5 or 6
(b) To steam to U.S.A. - 8 or 9 weeks. (c) To steam,
or to be towed, to a shipbreaking yard - 2 weeks.
In view of the necessity of an immediate decision as to which
of these alternatives is to be adopted, can a reply to A.M.
261858 now be given. A.M. 172010 refers.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 090022A to B.A.D.)

U/B Inconclusive D/F bearing on transmission 451
report. 0145 on 6175 k/cs indicate U-Boats (Italian)
possibly your area. Request bearing obtained.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 090229Z to S.E. S.C. Convoy
158, PICTOU.)

Further bearing at 0218Z on same frequency places U-Boats
(German) with 45 miles either side of a line joining 043° 40' N.
045° 00' W. and (? 44°) 15' N. 049° 00' W. My 090229 refers.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 090300Z to S.E. S.C. Convoy 158, PICTOU.)
Your 090229Z.

(1) First class bearing of U-Boat sending a naval enigma 182°
(? near) (considered ground wave) (178 ?) groups at 0206Z/9.
(2) First class bearing of a U-Boat transmitting a naval enigma
209° considered ground wave. 77 groups at 0306/9. Ship's
position (i) 046° 22' N., 043° 11' W. (ii) 046° 27' N., 043°
21' W. Weather report 7872 2203.

(S.O. E.G. C.1, 090554Z to N.S.H.Q.)
Your 090229Z. Bearing 199° at 0218Z estimated near. My
position at 0218Z 045° 10' N., 044° 49' W. (S).
(S.O. E.G. B.1, 090559Z to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)
Final bearing my 090300 gives position within 45 miles of
043° 45' N., 045° 30' W.
(N.S.H.Q., 091000Z to as former.)

U/B report. Second class H/F D/F ground wave bearing of naval
enigma message obtained at 0310Z transmission
heard on 6175 kilocycles bearing 089 from me.
My position 43.56 N., 62.55 W. Investigating
on bearing.
(S.O. E.G.25, 090423Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)
Your 090423 refers.

Transmission indicates U-Boat east of 050° 00' W.
(N.S.H.Q., 090600Z to S.O. E.G.25.)

SS. IRIS Norwegian IRIS grounded uncharted rock position
lost. 54.45 N., 58.20 W. at 1715Z/4th. Ship a total
loss. All crew removed without injury by U.S.
C.G. LAUREL and landed St. Johns. All C.Bs.
burned.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F., 091321Z.)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q., 091340Z, Cominch, 091548Z.)

/SS. IRIS ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies - Contd.

SS. IRIS*.

SS. IRIS (Nor.) reported total loss. No particulars known.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 091601Z.)

* Went aground on Labrador 4th October.

Navigation lights.

Effective immediately and until further notice all merchant ships shall be instructed to burn dimmed navigation lights while proceeding independently in area west of 073° W. and north of 035° 30' N. Distribution A.C. (Cdr. 10th Fleet, 092100Z as amended by Radio Washington, 110245Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 992.

For 8th October. (Extract).

(18) P.T. Boats patrolled north coast New Ireland and south-eastern Bougainville as usual night 6th. Results negative.

(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 090800Z.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack and sighting summary.

For 24 hours to 0900Z/9th. Nil. (D.D.I.C., 091020A.)

U/B dispositions.

Estimates. (D.D.I.C., 091347A, 091355A.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

1. It is intended to open Zeebrugge as soon as conditions permit, arrangements are being made for minesweeping the approaches.

2. Falmouth is to be brought into use as a Minor Convoy Assembly Port for O.N. and U.C. convoys.

North Sea.

3. Two aircraft of 16 Group bombed enemy shipping off Terschelling, but the results were unobserved or unreported.

Channel.

4. Four more mines were swept in the Havre-Dieppe Channel, and one in Boulogne harbour.

West coast
France.

5. Spanish fishing craft continue to clutter the course of our Biscayan operations, but appear to go home peacefully - to Vigo or San Sebastian - when sent (under threat of being sunk.)

Foreign Stations.

Mediterranean.

Riviera.

6. (a). The U.S. destroyer JOUETT successfully engaged enemy coastal communications today in the Ventimiglia area.
(b) Drifting mines were again encountered in this area.

Adriatic.

7. In the early hours of today M.G.B. 663 returning from patrol was mined and sunk off Punta della Maestra, mouth of the Po.

Ionian.

8. BELVOIR today captured a German M.L. north of Corfu and took 20 prisoners. A second M.L. later surrendered.

Levant.

9. (a). Aircraft from HUNTER found no shipping to attack at Syros and Leros, but attacked the harbours of Syros and Portolago.
(b). A.F.H.Q. reports that 250 troops of a Greek Security Battalion surrendered in Corinth on 8th October and a small party of S.B.S. (Special Boat Service) is now established in the town.

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SITUATION REPORT.

America & West Indies.

U-Boat off
Galveston.

10. An unidentified ship reported sighting a U-Boat and being torpedoed at 0030 today in 29.27 N. 93.18 W. (off Galveston.)

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Tuesday.

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Respective responsibilities of C. in C. H.F. and Commodore Denmark.

Your 171237A. Admiralty intend that C. in C. Home Fleet should be responsible for controlling exits from Baltic and North Sea, and that control of Belts and Sound should be exercised by local patrols under Commodore Denmark responsible to you.

(V.C.N.S., 100134A to A.N.C.X.F.).

Consideration is being given under "Talisman" plan to preventing the escape to neutral territory of members of Nazi party and affiliated organizations, German intelligence personnel and other wanted persons.

(2) Control of Belts, Sound and Kattegat will be exercised by local patrols under Commodore Denmark and control of exits from Baltic and North Sea including Skaggerak and Norwegian Coast is to be undertaken by C. in C. Home Fleet.

(V.C.N.S., 100142A to C. in C.H.F., A.N.C.X.F.).

Sink at sight policy north of 49 degs. N.

Ref. message from C. in C. Plymouth T.O.O.091703 not to H.Q.C.C. In view of probable forthcoming operations in south west approaches the presence of Spanish fishing ships in portion of Bay of Biscay area north of 049 degs. north is most undesirable.

(2) The existing orders vide C.B. 03093 Section II para.5 and A.M. 020041 June permit C. in C. Plymouth to bring into force attack at night instructions in Bay of Biscay area north of 049 degs. N. at his discretion. As this area now lies within the Western Approaches command it is considered that the authority for bringing these instructions into force should be vested in C. in C.W.A.

(3) It is considered that the only way to prevent Spanish fishing vessels from working in the productive prohibited area is to impose full sinking at sight instructions.

(4) It is therefore proposed that para.6 of my letter W.A.2982/0543/1 of 7th October should be brought into force forthwith with full sinking at sight instructions in this area similar to those in force in the area at present laid down in C.B. 03093 section one para.4.

(C. in C.W.A., 101838A to Admt.).

Movements

Landing craft in neutral ports.

Two flights of major landing craft will sail from U.K. to Gibraltar, on or about 14th and 24th October. Succeeding flights will sail at irregular intervals every 10 to 14 days.

(2) Should craft be driven into neutral ports by stress of weather, N.As. are requested to report arrival urgently and to take any necessary steps

to secure their departure within the limits permitted by international law. Commanding officers of Landing Craft are being informed accordingly.

(3) A.N.C.X.F. is requested to pass to interested authorities within his command.

(A.C.N.S.(F), 101816A to A.N.C.X.F., N.As. Lisbon, and Madrid).

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements

Landing craft in neutral ports (Contd.) A.M. 061950 (not to all). Commanding Officers of Landing Craft should be informed that in event of entering neutral port following rules of international law will apply:-
(a) stay will be limited to 24 hours except where damage has been suffered or through stress of weather, when length of stay may be extended.
(b) Not more than three, craft may enter the same harbour or roadstead simultaneously.
(2) Commanding Officers should contact local British consular representative or appropriate Naval Attache as soon as possible after entering port. N.A. Lisbon and N.A. Madrid have been warned.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 102104A to C. in C.W.A.).

Operations

Situation Reports.

Naval (A) Minesweeping.
A moored minefield has been located N.N.E. of Dieppe by Fleet Minesweepers establishing the Havre - Dieppe Coastal Channel.

(B) Unloading figures:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Petrol</u>
British				
East Calvados	845	590	2960	2860
Dieppe	1655	43	6545	Nil
Ostend	377	122	2667	2990
United States				
Cherbourg	450	8	16021	9235
Beaches	3609	854	1409	131
Brittany Ports	Nil	67	3616	469
Small Ports	Nil	Nil	445	Nil
Le Havre	Nil	Nil	932	Nil
Combined Total	<u>6936</u>	<u>1684</u>	<u>34595</u>	<u>15685</u>

(Adm. Ramsay, 102325A to Admty.).

Operations

North Sea.

Opening of Zeebrugge. (1) It is intended to open Zeebrugge as soon as conditions permit.
(2) C. in C. Nore is requested to signal intended route eastward of N.F. 10, and Com. Belgium to propose details of approach channel.
(3) Request C. in C. Nore will conduct sweeping to and in Zeebrugge until Com. Belgium is ready to take over. Ostend sweepers should assist.
(A.N.C.X.F., 101135A to C. in C. Nore, Com. Belgium).

Patrols. Coastal Force Dispositions night 10/11 October.
Z.16 M.T.Bs. 727, 769 Z.6. M.T.Bs. 457, 467.
13, M.T.Bs. 751, 756. 3, M.T.Bs. 348, 350.

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

North Sea.

Patrols 10, M.T.Bs. 458, 469, 53 buoy M.L.106, 110.
(Contd.) S.V.S.B. 1757 M.T.Bs. 738, 739. S.V.S.B. 1036
M.T.Bs. 464, 485. S.V.S.B. 0937 M.T.Bs. 612,
610. S.V.X.Y. 3512-3000. 1 frigate and M.T.Bs.
438, 439, 748, 736. S.V.S.B. 2343 - S.V.X.Y.2200
1 frigate and M.T.Bs. 441, 445, 726, 735. A.G.E.P.3532 -
0000 M.T.B. 475, 473, 476, 480, 472.
At Sea. M.L.586, 593, 597, 598, 901.
(C. in C. Nore, 101651 to Admty.).

S/Ms. will establish patrol line as follows:-

Length 30 miles direction 000 degs. to 180 degs. with following
mid points VITALITY 058 degs. 45' N. 001 degs. 15' E. SELENE
057 degs. 35' N. 001 degs. 15' E.

(2) After reaching position 090 degs. Sumburgh Head 5 miles
SELENE and VITALITY are to proceed in company on the surface at
the C.Os. discretion through position T.A. 061 degs. 01' N. 000
degs. 30' E. and T.B. 059 degs. 20' N. 001 degs. 15' E. thence
to VITALITY's patrol position. On reaching this position
VITALITY is to be detached to carry out patrol and SELENE is to
proceed on surface at discretion of C.O. to patrol position in
para.1.

(Capt. S.9, 102027A to SELENE, VITALITY).

Telephone My 081915 (not to all). Following route intended
cable to / for St. Margaret's Bay. La Panne cable to be laid
Far Shore. as soon as practicable. Total length 47
nautical miles. Centre line of swept channel,
width 5 cables to pass through positions (1) 51
degs. 05' 18" 01 degs. 50' 54".
(II) 51 degs. 03' 30" 01 degs. 55 00" thence 3 cables wide to
Dunkirk number one "W" buoy and then along the north side of
Passe D'Ouest and Rade de Dunkirk (outside the Channel buoys if
practicable) to La Panne.
(2) A.C. Dover will complete sweeping of channel to position (II)
Captain M/S Seine, in conjunction with Com. Belgium is
requested to sweep remainder of route and inform all concerned of
anticipated date of completion.
(3) N.L.O. N.G.A. is requested to arrange that F.O.B.A.A. Com.
Belgium and Captain M/S Seine are informed of co-ordinates of
La Panne terminal and that Com. Belgium is informed when beach
is cleared and shore party available to land end.
(4) Com. Belgium is requested to inform A.C. Dover when cable
should be laid. If necessary cable could be buoyed off La Panne
until beach party is ready and cable barge sent later to land end.
(V.A. Dover, 101854A to Admty.).

Operations

Channel.

Patrol. Pins cover night 10th/11th October.
G.B.1, HOTHAM Z.109. G.B.2, ANTHONY Z.9 south.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 101120A to Admty., C. in C.
Nore, V.A. Dover, C. in C. Portsmouth, A.N.C.X.F.,
C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.1/c Portland, etc.).

/ Nr....

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

West Coast France.

Patrols. Nr.1. 2 Spanish trawlers stationary 46 degs. 02' N. 03 degs. 45' W. G.0700.
(A/C TMC 78, 100745A to 19 Grp.).
During night in the area 20 miles radius from position 045 degs. 35' N. 003 degs. 12' W. 24 Spanish trawlers were intercepted all fishing with nets out. All directed to home ports Vigo and San Sebastian.
Intend patrolling Gironde Approaches leaving positions 045 degs. 45' N. 002 degs. 25' W. at 2000A and proceeding at 20 knots course 325 degs.
Fuel remaining PIORUN 50%, IROQUOIS 46%. Weather 7280, 0762.
(Force 27, 100816A to C. in C. Plymouth).
Intend to close Belle Ile from position 'A' at 2900A/10. Thence sweep to south east, course 126 degs. speed 17 knots until midnight. Subsequently from Ile D'Yeu to Gironde Approaches. returning Sables D'Olonne a.m. 11th. Weather report 7682 1852.
(Force 26, 101816 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Operations

Western Approaches

Suspected U-Boat. By D/F on 4075 kc/s at 0242Z U-Boat within 60 miles of 54.30 N. 26 W.
(D.D.I.C., 100432A to EDMUNSTON).

EMPIRE MACALPINE's aircraft. Following has been received from EMPIRE MACALPINE begins:
C. in C.W.A. repeated F.O.C.T. from EMPIRE MACALPINE. Anticipate being 053 degs. 20' 005 degs. 00' at 0100A Thursday 12th October 1944.
Request instructions for flying off and returning aircraft to base. Ends.
(S.O.E.G.C.3, 101040A to C. in C.W.A.).
Detach M.A.C. EMPIRE MACALPINE to proceed independently to destination when north of 52 degs. N. repeat 52 degs. N.
(2) Aircraft are to be flown off to N.A.S. Belfast not later than 1500/11th October for onward routing to Maydown as convenient on 12th October. Your 101040A (to C. in C.W.A. and F.O.C.T. only) refers.
(3) Attention is drawn to A.G.M.480 A.Z. of the 7th October, S.O. escort pass to Cdre. and M/V EMPIRE MACALPINE.
(C. in C.W.A., 101835A to S.O.E.G., C.3.).

Clearing of St. George's Channel minefield. Your 091301A and my 061725A, 072012A, 081731A and 091614A.
Amend western most positions to read:-
51 degs. 29' 00" N. 7 degs. 47' 24" W.
51 degs. 27' 48" N. 7 degs. 46' 36" W.
51 degs. 26' 54" N. 7 degs. 46' 06" W.
51 degs. 26' 12" N. 7 degs. 45' 36" W.
(ALBURY, 101600A to C. in C. Plymouth).

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Norway

Operation
"Quality"

Operation "Quality" postponed 24 hours. A further signal will be made when date is confirmed. (D.O.D.(H), 100026A to H.Q.C.C.).

Operations

Northern Waters.

Convoy
R.A.61

Soviet S/M. will comply with your 061232. (S.B.N.O. N. Russia, 100837A to C. in C.H.F.). Your 080602 arrived. (S.B.N.O. Archangel, 100845A to S.B.N.O. N.Russia).

Normal notice for steam for ships at Skaalefiord is to be 4 hours. One ship is to be detailed as emergency duty ship at half an hour's notice. Unless situation demands you will probably not be required until A.M. 14th October. Acknowledge. (C. in C. Rosyth, 101552A to S.O.E.G.6.).

Convoy
J.W.61.

A.M. 091928A NOREG has been allocated as 2nd black oiler for J.W.61 as requested by C. in C.H.F. 091425.

(2) NOREG should be sailed to Loch Ewe to arrive not later than 17th October. C. in C.H.F. 081039 refers. (D.T.D. 101714A to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Request you will transfer two Support Groups temporarily to C. in C. H.F. for operations during passage of J.W.61 and R.A. 61. C. in C. Home Fleet's 091129 refers. (V.C.N.S. 102220A to C. in C.W.A.).

Ditched
Dakota.

After 2 days of heavy breaking sea very much regret no further hope for dinghy or wreck of aircraft. Am hove to in position 061 degs. 00' N. 013 degs. 03' W. until sea moderates. Fuel WILD GOOSE, WREN 42% LOCH FADA 52%.
Weather Report 3471 8657.
(S.O.E.G.2, 101901A to C. in C.W.A.).

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Biscay Patrol. Nr.1. 4 small craft, 1 trawler 44° 22' N., 02° 33' W., 030°, 5 knots.
(A/C KOJ.22, 101100A to 19 Group.)
Nr.2. 2 trawlers hove to 45° 45' N., 03° 00' W.
(?G) 12. Based on fix by Gee within ½ hour of 1200.
(A/C KOJ.22, 101350A to 19 Group.)

Patrols off Terschelling. Have attacked enemy with bombs level result of attack unobserved position 53° 25' N., 4° 51' E. based on a Gee fix obtained within half an hour of 2200.
(A/C NCGJ, 102228 to 16 Group.)

Position of enemy 12 unknown vessels 53° 36' N., 5° 40' E.
(A/C NCGE, 102319 to 16 Group.)
My 2319 have attacked enemy with bombs level.
(A/C NCGE, 102325 to 16 Group.)

Mining

Havre - Dieppe channel clearance. Sitrep. Minesweeper Flotilla 40 continues SA/LL clearance of Havre-Dieppe Channel. Negative results.
Minesweeper Flotilla 31 continues Oropesa (clearance) and swept 4 G.Y. mines in positions 050° 4.07' N., 000° 51.04' E. 050° 3.08' N., 000° 52' E. 050° 2.04' N., 000° 48' E. 050° 03' N., 000° 50.06' E. Summary A (?198) - 4.
(Capt. M/S East, 100830A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Boulogne clearance. (1) Approach channel swept SA and LL.
(2) Rade Carnot swept Oropesa SA and LL
(3) Static pulsing carried out in Bassin Loret and Port de Maree.
(4) My 092240, para. (6) for sunk read exploded.
(5) Not reported yesterday 124 G.X. mine swept in Rade Carnot.
(6) Intend sweeping Rade Carnot Oropesa SA and LL tomorrow and further static sweep in Port de Maree.
(N.O.I.C. Boulogne, 102315A to Capt. M/S East.)

Enemy Intelligence

TIRPITZ. Your 091544. Request photographs be flown to Moscow as soon as possible as I anticipate a special opportunity for despatch from Moscow to U.K.
(2) Chief of Soviet Naval Staff has also been asked that this may be done.
(Adm. Archer, 101414A to S.B.N.O. N. Russia.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Navigational

Buoyed Channel to Flushing. Your 101135, para. (2).
 (1) Intended Channel to Flushing 5 cables wide centre line joining (A) 051° 21'42" N., 003° 00'00" E. N.F.10 buoy. (B) 051° 22'15" N., 003° 10'57" E. charted position of Wielingen Buoy. (C) 051° 24'24" N., 003° 20'00" E. (D) 051° 24'45" N., 003° 24'51" E. (E) 051° 24'36" N., 003° 27'54" E. (F) 051° 25'15" N., 003° 30'30" E. (G) 051° 25'30" N., 003° 35'24" E.
 (2) Position (B) will serve as convenient point for start of approach channel to Zeebrugge.
 (3) N.O.I.C. Force T pass to 1st Canadian Army. (C. in C. Nore, 101845A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Post "Neptune" Port Facilities

Arromanches. Ramp M.P.5. Phoenix A.X.191 planted 10th October. Co-ordinates will follow later. (N.O.I.C. Arrow, 101402 to Admty., A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug), C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, Tug Control Lee, C.T.F.128, S.N.O. Peel Bank, Cdre. Southend, F.O.B.A.A., F.O. West, N.O.I.C. Omaha, N.O.I.C. Arromanches.)

Ostend. Present condition at Ostend precludes the entry of ships drawing more than one foot over height of tide on day arrival. At a near neap tide this precludes the entry of ships of more than 12 feet draught.

(2) Maximum draughts acceptable on arrival Ostend for October are as follows:-

October 12th - 12.2 feet.	October 13th - 13.3 feet.
October 14th - 14.4 feet.	October 15th - 15.4 feet.
October 16th - 15.9 feet.	October 17th - 16.0 feet.
October 18th - 15.9 feet.	October 19th - 15.7 feet.
October 20th - 15.5 feet.	October 21st - 15.4 feet.
October 22nd - 15.1 feet.	October 23rd - 14.6 feet.
October 24th - 14.0 feet.	October 25th - 13.4 feet.
October 26th - 12.6 feet.	October 27th - 13.0 feet.
October 28th - 14.3 feet.	October 29th - 15.9 feet.
October 30th - 17.2 feet.	October 31st - 18.1 feet.

(3) It is essential that these draughts should not be exceeded. The following ships have already been delayed owing to excess draught:- EMPIRE HEARTH, ALGOL, JOSEWYN, FLATHOUSE, SAXET, HASTINGS, FAGERBRO and EMPIRE RIDDER. (C. in C. Nore, 101827A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Casualties and Defects

Fire in ULYSSES. Serious fire has occurred in bridge structure of E.R.9878 involving extensive damage to electrical equipment and wiring provisional estimate for repairs two to three months, cause of outbreak at present unknown, further report will be made. (F.O.I.C. London, 101340 to Admty.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

Falmouth
as Minor
Convoy
Assembly
Port.

Now that English Channel sections of Ocean Convoys are in operation, it is proposed to use Falmouth as a minor convoy assembly port for:
(a) Vessels from south coast ports forming O.N. and U.C. convoys.
(b) Vessels from Northern France, except personnel ships, not requiring ballast before proceeding overseas in O.N. and U.C. convoys.
(c) Returns from English Channel sections of outward convoys. (M.A.R.I. Section 1, para. (5) sub-para. 4 (E) refers).
(2) It is estimated that (a) and (b) together should not exceed 6 ships per convoy.
(3) Subject to your concurrence, request you will inform authorities concerned when Falmouth can accept ships for these convoys.
(D.T.D., 100233A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Routeing
of Swedish
ships.

A.M. 061703. Routeing instructions are in force.
(2) Position 6 of para. (G) reads: 5° S., 10° W. Your 091249 refers.
(D.T.D., 101358A to N.A. Stockholm.)

Ostend
Convoys
(T.A.C.)

N.O.I.C. Ostend has requested that ships should now be sailed to arrive Ostend for a.m. tide as it is now too dark to dock p.m. tide.
(2) Intend to sail 7 know convoys daily from Southend. Time of sailing to be adjusted so as to arrive Ostend 3 hours before time of daylight high water. Trawler escort Southend to Ostend will be provided.
(3) Com. Southend is requested to promulgate time table 48 hours in advance and other authorities addressed are requested to sail ships to join at Dumpton Buoy accordingly.
(4) First convoy will be T.A.C.II sailing from Southend at 1700A/11th, passing Dumpton at 2245A/11th to arrive Ostend 0700A/12th.
(5) When Chants are included in convoys speed of convoy is to be reduced to 6 knots and time table amended.
(6) L.S.T. will not normally be included in these convoys.
(C. in C. Nore, 101610A to C. in C. Portsmouth, V.A. Dover, N.O.I.C. Newhaven, Com. Southend.)

My 101610A request ships from Thames for inclusion in T.A.C. convoys may be sailed to arrive Southend in daylight hours.
(2) When it is required to sail Chants to Ostend request at least 48 hours notice of sailing may be given to Com. Southend.
(C. in C. Nore, 101615A to D. of S.T., M. of W.T., A.N.C.X.F.)

*BT Type 2
specialist ship
(tanker)*

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ATROPO.

"Chop" is now 1830Z/11. My 051740A and F.C. DAVIS 091208 reporting S.O.A. 10 knots not to all refer.

(2) Admiralty pass to H.Q.C.C.
(F.O.G.M.A. 101145A to Com. 10th Fleet C. & R, Cinclant.)

E.G.9,
T.G. 22.2

From Signals received here it would appear that E.G.9 and C.T.G. 22.2 are not fully aware of each others orders or intentions.

(2) Have requested CARD to fly off an aircraft to Lagens tomorrow Wednesday to exchange information and concert future operations.
(S.B.N.O. Azores 102246Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

South Atlantic.

ILLUSTRIOUS.

Sailed ILLUSTRIOUS, ROTHERHAM, RAPID to Capetown (route and arrangements).
(N.O.I.C. Durban 101432Z.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Aegean operations.

In view of C. in C. Med's 091412* intend returning to Alexandria independently after passing Kinaros Channel when I can be of no further use to HUNTER and to enable me to complete ammunition provision and stores before embarking military.

(BLACK PRINCE 100303C to F.O.L.E.M. (R) HUNTER.)

*Not received by W.R.

Your 091849. Carried out R/C of Syros and Leros. No shipping targets. Attacked harbour of Syros and Portolago. (HUNTER 101705C to F.O.L.E.M.)

Take M.M.S. 100 and 106 under your orders and proceed to Poros Bay.

(2) Route A. 036° 28' N. 025° 42' E. B. 036° 05' N. 025° 24' E. C. 036° 29' N. 023° 42' E. D. 037° 21' N. 023° 42' E.

(3) Adjust S.O.A. to make E.T.A. 0800C/11th.

(4) Keep constant watch on broadcast LB.

Codeword "Telegram" wireless callsign 490.

(S.O. M/S F. 5 100821C to M.M.S. 99.)

GENERAL MANN. Your 072311A. As far as can be foreseen GENERAL MANN should join K.M.F. 36 failing this it will probably be necessary to request Com. 8th Fleet to provide escort as far as Eastern end of Tunisian War Channel.

(C. in C. Med. 100844A to Admty.)

Requesting remarks on Cominch's 032210.

Operation "Manna".

Following shipping allocated:

Name of ship	Cargo	Port of Loading	Ready to Load
FORT PEMBINA	M/T stores	Taranto	D minus 73
FORT KULLYSPELL	M/T stores	Taranto	D minus 3
INGERTRE POL *		Brindisi	D Day
FORT FROBISHER	M/T stores	Taranto	D plus 2
SAMBAK	M/T stores	Taranto	D plus 2

(2) Agreed.

(P.S.T.O. Med. 101458A to D.S.T.O. East Italy.)

See amendment 111304A.

*Not understood by W.D.

Special slow convoy Oran to U.S.A. T.G. 62.7.

Intend to sail about 19th October from Oran to U.S.A. a slow convoy composed of ships whose speed is below that acceptable for normal G.U.S. convoy. Request information when T.G. 62.7 is required to arrive U.S.A. speed for inclusion and date of sailing will be decided on receipt this information.

(C. in C. Med. 101735Z to Cominch, C. in C. Lant.)

HUNTER.

Total Seafire aircraft remaining are only sufficient for 2 carriers. Reserves are neither available or advised.

(2) Proposed that on arrival at Alexandria HUNTER should be directed to transfer her remaining aircraft to STALKER retaining 4 for her own protection.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

HUNTER.
(Contd.) (3) HUNTER could then be sailed to U.K. my 231141*
Sept. para. 5 and 7 refer without reducing the
naval air effort in the Mediterranean. C. in C.
Med's 251122* refers.
At T.O.D. weather report 4462 2171 position 37°
26°.
(C.O.M.E.C. 101901C to F.O.L.E.M.)
* Top Secret Hush Distribution.

M.E. Balkan (Extract.) (2). Aegean. Force 133 report Nisiro
Sitrep No. evacuated 7 Oct. C.X. reports Kithnos evacuated
330. 28 Sept. Force 142 report Paros grn. evacuated
to Siros 9 Oct. Grn. Lemnos 550 on 6 Oct.
(5). Sea Ops. N.T.R.
(C. in C. M.E. 102000C.)

Cositintrep (Extract.) Part four.
No. 458. Para. one. Northern Peloponnese 250 troops of a
Greek security Battalion surrendered in Corinth
on 8th October and a small party of S.B.S. (Special
Boat Service) is now established in the town. A
Commando detachment carried out a R/C of anti Rhion on the north
shore of the Gulf of Corinth and found that approx. 500 Germans
left for Itea on 5th October.
(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/10.)

Aegean S/M COLOMBO reports sighting submarine in 035° 50'
operations. 024° 59' at 1750A/10th.
(2) Report if this was you.
(Capt. (S) 1 102030A to VIRTUE, (R) 1st S.F.,
NEREUS, MATROZOS, PIPINOS, F.O.L.E.M. COLOMBO.)

M.V. AKKA. Your 091648. As stated in A.M. 091814, not to all
addressees, AKKA will leave Gibraltar for Piraeus
on October 12th.
(Hd. of M. 102034A to C. in C. Med.)

SURF. Add para. 9 as follows to my 092029*.
(9). Submarine SURF to Malta for U.K.
(F.O.L.E.M. 102222C.)
* G.U.S. 55 (?) (A) sails p.m. 12th.

Situation My 092310 para. 2. TUSCAN was in company with
report No. TERMAGANT. This force sank armed trawler and
455. a large caique before sinking destroyer. Delete
reference to second destroyer.
Carrier borne aircraft on 7th Oct. sank a large
caique and damaged a second in Euripo Channel,
one medium motor vessel west of Lemnos.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation report No. 455. (Contd.) (3) BLACK PRINCE and TERPSICHORE sank 1000 tons passenger ship 1 large caique and an L.C.T. 12 miles north of Skiathos also on 7th Oct.
(4) UNTIRING report anti fouling (sic) damage F-Lighter by gunfire west of Lemnos on 7th Oct.
(5) U.S. destroyer JOUETT on patrol south of Capo Delle Melle night 7/8th encountered E-Boats apparently laying floating mines but was unable to engage owing to enemies superior speed. More than 8 mines were subsequently sunk in this area. (C. in C. Med. 102301A.) N.T. of former asked for 12th Oct. 1944.

French S/Ms for Eastern Fleet. S.A.C.S.E.A. has suggested that two large French submarines might be made available to the Eastern Fleet for clandestine operations. Submarines would be based on Western Australia.
(2) Before taking up question of their operation from and through S.W. Pacific area it is desired to ascertain whether (a) they could in fact be made available: (b) their conditions and availability of spares would render their operation practicable.
(3) Request you will report.
(V.C.N.S. 102325A to C. in C. Med.)

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10.10.1944.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U/B
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 101341Z, Cominch, 101539Z.)

C.V.Es. Admiral King's reply to my letter based on A.M. 131356, 172010 and 221441, all September, notes that we might be able to transfer 5 C.V.E. in 1945 but he realises that such an offer must be tentative and subject to subsequent decisions.

(2) He is greatly appreciative of the offer of NABOB and BITER but states that in view of the present and prospective work-load imposed on U.S. repair facilities and the extensive damage to both ships, it will not be practical to accept them for permanent repair and retention.

(3) Admiral King points out that U.S. Navy has averaged one C.V.E. trip monthly for U.S. Army aircraft from the East Coast to U.K. or North Africa and has asked me to take up with Admty. the possibility of augmenting this service by the occasional use of a British C.V.E. upon specific request. Since it appears that he is departmentally uninformed of our contribution, I have informed him that during the past four months British C.V.E. have ferried U.S. army aircraft to those destinations eight times and that 100 per cent of carrying capacity was allocated to U.S.A.A.F. aircraft on six of these occasions.

(4) I have further pointed out that we should continue to afford this assistance when space and opportunity over and above that required for Naval aircraft is available.
(B.A.D., 101527Z.)

C.U. 41. Arrived at following times: Off Fastnet at 1900Z/8. Barry Roads 1700Z/9. Mersey 2200Z/9. Clyde 0200Z/10. Cherbourg ships anchored Weymouth Bay and arrived Cherbourg 1000Z/10. All arrived.
(D.T.D., 101743A.)

U/B
incidents. Para. (D) About 101825 ALBERT E. WATTS reported sighting periscope wake 22.10 N., 73.35 W. All times. Unidentified ship reported sighting U-Boat at 100013 and being torpedoed at 100030 position 29.27 N., 93.18 W.
(Cominch, 102127Z.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 993. October 9th.
(14) P.T. Boats mortared village east coast Morotai daylight 7th October. Following night four pairs patrolling waters between southern

/Morotai ...

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Tuesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 993. Morotai and northern Halmahera destroyed two
(Contd.) barges beached south-west coast Morotai, left
barge heavily armed, barge burning and dead
in water off Galela, sank two barges, probably
damaged another two, all southbound along
eastern shores of Kau Bay, and also strafed 40 trucks on coastal
road northernmost extremity Halmahera.
(15) Two Jap medium bombers raided southern Morotai before dawn
eighth, inflicting some casualties; one bomber shot down by
A/A.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 101045.)

WHITE BEAR. Your 030421Z (not to CHALLENGER). Arrangements
have been made to sail WHITE BEAR direct to
Eastern Fleet.
(Hd. of M., 101125A to A.C.N.B.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

F/813

U.921
sunk

S/M attack and sighting summary. Para. (A) (1) Swordfish A/C from CAMPANIA
attacked U-Boat at 1636Z/30th September in 72°
32' N., 12° 55' E.
(2) Swordfish A/C from CAMPANIA attacked U-Boat
at 1727Z/30th September in 72° 33' N., 13° 00' E.
(D.D.I.C., 101034A.)

Attacks on U/Bs. My 221059 July, 1942.
At 2020/4 Wellington aircraft P/407 attacked
surfaced U-Boat about 45 miles west of Bergen.
Spray from depth charges covered target. Possible
dinghies sighted after attack in hazy weather.
(D.A/U.D., 101918A.)

U/B dispositions. Estimates.
(D.D.I.C., 101343A, 101345A.)

War Diary

11.10.1944
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

1. Rear Adm. B.C.S. Martin, C.B.E., D.S.O., is appointed Naval Commander Force W.

North Sea.

2(a) 30th M.T.B. Flotilla, on patrol off the Hook of Holland, fell in with 4 enemy trawlers and at 0329 torpedoed one which was seen to blow up. Whilst disengaging another was damaged by our gunfire. The rockets of M.T.B.476 were hit and "attracted much attention" but she suffered superficial damage only.

(b) Aircraft of 16 group carried out 4 dive-bombing attacks on enemy shipping off Terschelling; the results were unobserved or unreported.

Western Approaches.

3. As soon as she is ready, APOLLO is to lay deep minefields (anti-U-Boat) in the Western Approaches.

Foreign Stations

Mediterranean

Riviera.

4(a) GLEAVES engaged a mobile battery in the Imperia area to-day.

(b) Sweepers and the U.S. destroyer GLEAVES destroyed a total of 27 and 5 drifting mines respectively to-day near San Remo. Several mines are known to be still adrift near Porto Maurizio where accurate enemy fire prevented search.
(cf. 8th October, para. 6)

Adriatic and Ionian.

5(a) B.Y.M.S. 2011 was damaged by a ground mine to-day south of Venice, in the same area where M.G.B.663 was mined and sunk yesterday.

(b) Three M.T.Bs. patrolling off Parenzo (Istrian Peninsula) this evening were engaged by two destroyers and suffered slight damage but resumed their patrol.

(c) White flags were seen flying over Corfu to-day.

/ 6(a) ...

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Wednesday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Levant.

6(a) Since 7th October our surface forces have been operating in the northern Aegean. The penetration of naval forces into this area threatens the whole system of enemy communications in the Aegean, and will make the evacuation of island garrisons, particularly of the Dodecanese, extremely difficult. A.F.H.Q. reports that it is probable that complete evacuation is now impossible.

(b) With a view to giving a concentration of fleeing enemy in the Euripo-Volo-Salonika area no respite until the R.A.F. are established in strength, operations by aircraft of the Escort Carrier Force continued to-day. Widespread damage was caused to sea and rail communications. Three E-Boats were sunk and at least 12 small craft of various types were damaged; and numbers of the enemy were killed. One K.T. ship was set on fire south-east of Khalkis (about 35 miles north of Piraeus).

(c) F.O.E.C. urges on F.O.L.E.M. the earliest resumption by Force A of these most fruitful operations.

China

7. During the past week U.S. aircraft operating in China have damaged or destroyed some 9 steamers and 250 barges and rivercraft of various types and sizes, in addition to freighters already reported.

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Limited A.A. gunfire W. of North Foreland-Gris Nez. A.295 11th October 1944. Concur proposal your 080919A that western limit be long. 6 W. Will renotify all flying units of rules for flying over shipping with view to securing complete compliance.
(H.Q.A.E.A.F. 111800A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Movements.

ADVENTURE. When ADVENTURE returns to United Kingdom (my 101927 not to C. in C. Nore refers) request that:
(a) ship be held at 7 days notice for future use in a Continental port.
(b) N.P. 1526 consumable stores be made up to full establishment on board.
(c) Essential defects be made good.
(2) ADVENTURE to land all landing craft spare gear remaining.
(A.N.C.X.F. 111541A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

MALAYA. On completion of present trials MALAYA will be required to proceed to Scapa to arrive on or as soon after 15th October as possible, provided essential repairs can be completed in reasonable time.
(2) Request you will report probable date of sailing.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 111921A to F.Os. 1/c Greenock, Glasgow.)

Operations.

North Sea.

Abolition of minefield. Your 081000 October approved.
(D. of L.D. 110445A to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Patrol. Ny 102027A para. 2 amend position TA. to read 60° 01' N.
(2) I.S.O.H. 308 Red Head W/T Beacon will transmit from 0030A to 0048A daily from 0030A/14th until further notice.
(Capt. S.9 111047A to SELENE, VITALITY.)

Telephone cable to Ostend. F.O.C. Dover 101854 October, not to all addressees. On completion of establishment of main Dunkirk approaches channel, the following swept route for the cable laying is to be established. Channel 5 miles wide where possible centre line to run as follows.

- (?2) 051° 03' 30" N. 001° 55' 00" E.
- (3) Charted position of number 1 W. Buoy.
- (4) Along north side of Passe de Ouest wall and Rade de Dunkirk to the north of the Channel Buoys where possible.

/ (5) ...

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

North Sea.

Telephone
cable to
Ostend.
(Contd.)

(5) 051° 06' 18" N. 002° 30' 44" E.
(6) Direction 095° to the shore as far as safe navigation permits. Sweeping from position (2) to the eastward only (?and) taking place around high water.
(A) Cmdre. Belgium is requested to signal anticipated time of completion to all concerned as soon as ascertained. F.O.C. Dover pass to M.S. 167 and M.S. 163. A.N.C.X.F. (Main) pass to N.C.O. N.Ga. (Capt. M/S East 111646 to S.Os. M/F 167, 163, Com. Belgium.) F.O.C. Dover 101854 para. three. Co-ordinates of La Paane Terminal H 394 903. Beach is cleared and shore party available.
(N.L.O. Northern Group of Armies 112104A to F.O.B.A.A., Com. Belgium, Capt. M/S Seine.)

Action of
30th M.T.B.F.
off the Hook.

Operation by 30th M.T.B. Flotilla (S.O. Lt. P. Magnus R.N.V.R.) on night 10/11th October.
(2) 1st Division M.T.B. 475, 473, 476. 2nd Division M.T.B. 480, 472.
(3) Weather. Wind W.S.W. 3/4. Sea 33. Visibility extreme. 3/10 cloud. Much phosphorescence.
(4) Unit arrived in initial position 52° 35' N. 04° 30' E. at 2210 and swept south along enemy convoy route. At 0214A, starshell burst overhead and at 0218A in 330° Hook 6.4 miles unit stopped, having obtained three small radar echoes 5200 yards. At 0226A unit proceeded at 8 knots, and obtained confused plot of enemy. At 0307A unit closed enemy and sighted four trawlers course S.W. range 2400 yards. 2nd Div. was detached and ordered to attack from southward. 1st Div. closed range to 800 yards and made individual attacks from seaward. Enemy firing starshell and fairly accurate short range gunfire. At 0329A in position 340° Hook 5.3 miles 1st Div. fired torpedoes one trawler seen to blow up, and while disengaging enemy fire was returned obtaining 6 pdr. hits on a further trawler. The rockets of M.T.B. 476 were hit and caught fire attracting much attention. Smoke was made and fire quelled, unit disengaged, heavy gunfire followed them out to 6000 yards. At 0334A 2nd Div. attacked with torpedoes range 1000 yards. No results. Enemy opened fairly accurate fire, division withdrew. Unit reformed and returned to base.
(5) Claim - 1 trawler sunk, 1 trawler damaged by gunfire.
(6) Damage - M.T.B. 476 - superficial. Casualties, nil.
(C. in C. Nore 111845A to Admty.)

Operations.

Channel.

Patrol.

"Pins" cover night 11/12th October.
G.B.1 HOTHAM Z.109. G.B.2 ANTHONY Z.9 south.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 111120A to usual addressees.)

War Diary.

11.10.1944.

Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

West Coast France.

Patrol. Nothing to report from Sables d'Olonne or Ile d'Yeu
My position at 1500/11th 245° Belle Ile 15. Intend
sweeping southeastward p.m. 11th and patrolling off
Gironde during night 11/12th. BLYSKAWICA is to
R/V with Force 26 in 270° Ile d'Yeu 4 at 0830/12th. Weather
report 2270 1356.
(Force 26 111545A to C. in C. Plymouth, D.22, BLYSKAWICA.)
My 111545A. In view of weather amend R/V to read 270° Belle
Ile main lighthouse 20 miles at 0730A/12th.
(Force 26 111725A to BLYSKAWICA.)

Operations.

Western Approaches.

Suspected U-Boats. Your 102345A, not to all D/F bearings of enigma
message at 2230Z on 4075 k/cs indicate U-Boat
within 30 miles of 60° 30' N. 10° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 110059A to S.O.E.G. 2.)
At 0227Z PORCHESTER CASTLE obtained H/F D/F
bearing of German U-Boat transmitting B bar signal in local
series bearing 030°. Considered ground wave. My position 160
AA 9.5 proceeding to investigate to depth 30 miles. Can this
signal be confirmed please.
(S.O.E.G. 30 110415A to C. in C. W.A.)

Patrol. Between 0001A/12th and 001A/13th search area
bounded by A 40° 20' 22° 00'. B. 41° 00' 20° 30'
C. 39° 40' 19° 25'. D. 39° 00' 21° 00'.
S.B.N.O. Azores pass to 247 Group.
(C. in C. W.A. 111214A to S.O.E.G.9.)

Deep mine- On completion of working up APOLLO is to come
fields in under the orders of C. in C. W.A. for laying fur-
Western ther deep A/S minefields in the South Western
Approaches. approaches, of which details will be signalled
separately.
(2) Request APOLLO may be sailed for Milford Haven
accordingly.
(V.C.N.S. 111615A to Cs. in C. H.F., W.A.)

Force W. Rear Admiral B.C.S. Martin C.B.E., D.S.O., has
been appointed Naval Commander Force W. Request you
will arrange for his flag to be hoisted in LARGS
on 16th October.
(V.C.N.S. 111643A to C. in C. W.A.)

A/U-Boat Operation orders for the conduct of A/U operations
operation in coastal waters in Western Approaches command
orders. will shortly be distributed to all addressees.
They will supersede existing orders for such opera-
tions when so ordered by signal.
(C. in C. W.A. 112246A to F.O.C.T., Com. (D) W.A.,
Capts. (D) Belfast, Liverpool, Greenock, Irwell,
Admty., F.Os. i/c Greenock, Liverpool, N.I., etc.)

War Diary.

11.10.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Norway.

Operation
"S.C."

Ramose "Ovation" (my 051311A and 051313A) sailed
MIGRA at 0340 today Wednesday 11th Oct.
(2) Air escort on return journey is not especially
desired.
(A.C.O.S. 110354 to Admty.)

Operation
"Quality".

A.M. 100026. Operation "Quality" further post-
poned.
(D.O.D.(H) 112010A to H.Q.C.C.)

Operations.

Northern Waters.

Convoy
J.W.61.

C. in C. Home Fleet's 091129. Admiralty 102220/
10th to all addressees.
(1) VINDEX S.O. NAIRANA, TRACKER are to R/V with
21st E.G. comprising CONN S.O., BYRON, FITZROY,
DEANE, REDMILL, RUPERT as arranged by N.O.I.C.
Greenock and are to proceed to Scapa to arrive October 15th.
(2) Third E.G. comprising DULWICH S.O., DOMETT, ESSINGTON, COOKE,
BERRY, ROWLEY are to relieve 5th E.G. in Cape Wrath area a.m.
October 13th. S.O. E.G. 5th to give R/V.
(3) On relief 5th E.G. are to proceed to Scapa for short lay over
thence return to Cape Wrath area to arrive a.m. October 16th.
(4) When relieved by 5th E.G. 3rd E.G. are to proceed to Scapa.
(5) Escort carriers and 3rd and 21st E.Gs. on arrival at Scapa
are to come under orders of C. in C. H.F. for convoys J.W/R.A.61.
(6) Request ships may be sailed accordingly.
(C. in C. W.A. 110024A to C. in C. H.F., F.Os. i/c Greenock, N.I.
S.O.E.G.5.)

Convoy
J.W.62.

EMPIRE STALWART has been allocated for Sea Trans-
port Service and on completion of discharge should
be ordered to Middlesbrough where she will load
for J.W. 62.
(2) D.S.T.O. Tyne is informed that loading should
commence on 30th October and complete not later than 16th
November.

(D. of S.T. 111027A to D.S.T.O. Tilbury.)

A.M. 110157. Para. 10. Operation "Oxtail".

(D.N.A.O. 111944A to F.O.C.T., F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C.
Glasgow, C. in C. W.A. C. in C. H.F. Air Ministry, D. of M.,
D.D.O.2, F.O.N.A.S. O.C. No. 8 R.A.F. Embarkation Unit,
Glasgow, Com. N.A.S. (N))

N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail LAURELWOOD and
(corrupt group) NOREG for Loch Ewe to R/V escort in 000° Altacarry
8 miles at 1400A/15th A.M. 091835 and 101714 not to all addressees
refers.

(2) Cdre. (D) W.A. is requested to sail 2 ships of 11th E.G. to
R/V as in para. 1 and provide escort to 057° N. escorts to base
on completion.

(C. in C. W.A. 112314A to Com. D., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

11.10.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity.

32 Mosquitoes to go abroad in STRIKER and FENCER.

STRIKER and FENCER are required to embark 32 Mosquitoes and associated personnel and equipment for transport abroad.

(2) C. in C. H.F. is requested to transfer the ships to F.O.C.T. by 23rd October. F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to berth these ships at K.G.V. Dock, Glasgow, as required by F.O.C.T. about 25th October.

(3) Aircraft will be flown to Renfrew for preparation and transfer by road to K.G.V. Dock for embarkation.

(4) At K.G.V. Dock the following are to be loaded into each ship: 46 tons D/W explosive stores, 15 tons D/W inflammable stores. 100 tons D/W, 583 tons measurement of General Stores, 30 bomb trollies, 1500 gallons lubricating oil in 44 gallon barrels, 16 Mosquitoes (aircraft are expected to be ready for loading on 28th October.)

(5) Approx. 40 officers, 53 N.C.Os. and 220 other ranks will require accommodation in the two ships.

(6) Slings, tow bars and securing gear are being provided.

(7) F.O.C.T. is requested to arrange details with the O.C. No. 8 R.A.F. Embarkation Unit, Glasgow, who holds a detailed list of the stores to be loaded.

(8) Since it is unlikely that STRIKER and FENCER will be employed on operational service for several months their ship's companies should be reduced to the minimum required to steam ship and man armament.

(9) Target date for sailing ships from U.K. is 1st November.

(10) The code name for this operation follows by separate signal.

(V.C.N.S. 110157A to F.O.C.T., F.Os. i/c Glasgow, Greenock, Cs. in C. H.F., W.A.)

War Diary.

11.10.1944.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity.

Patrol off Terschelling. Have obtained A.S.V. contact probably surface vessel in position 53° 20' N. 4° 50' E. (A/C WHJP 110110 to 16 Group.)
P.C.S. of enemy convoy of 11 ships position 53° 27' N. 5° 13' E. position based on pinpoint fix obtained within half an hour of 0159 course 240° speed 8 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive. Result of attack unobserved. (A/C WHJC 110159 to 16 Group.)
P.C.S. of enemy 6 escort vessels 4 unknown 53° 21' N. 4° 58' E. 230° 8 knots. Have attacked enemy with bombs dive. (A/C WHJB 110225 to 16 Group.)
Have attacked one enemy vessel with bombs dive in position 53° 28' N. 5° 07' E. (A/C WHJF 110232 to 16 Group.)
P.C.S. of enemy 15 unknown vessels 53° 24' N. 5° 08' E. 100° 10 knots. (A/C WHJP 110245 to 16 Group.)
Have attacked enemy with bombs dive. (A/C WHJP 110254 to 16 Group.)

Air cover for Belgium Coast. Your 081201. A.E.A.F. fully appreciate this requirement and are now taking early action to provide facilities. (A.N.C.X.F. 111250A to C. in C. More.)

Mining.

Channel minesweeping. Sitrep. M/S Flotilla 40 continued (coast?) clearance of Havre-Dieppe Channel. Negative result.
M/S Flotilla 31 continues operation "Pilgrim" and swept one G.Y. mine in 050° 3.01' N. (?000°) 50.05' E.
M.M.S. establishing a new channel between L.10 buoy and H.V.3 Buoy swept one magnetic in 216° H.V. 3 Buoy 4.1 miles. Negative result reported from second operation in Calais Approaches (?for) anchorage.
Summary. A (1) - 1 (one) A (2) - 1 (one). (Capt. M/S East 110830A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Four Dutch M.M.S. for Schelde operations. Request you will sail four in number 105 foot motor minesweepers of the Royal Netherlands Navy to Sheerness to prepare for operations in the Schelde under Captain M/S A. (C. in C. Nore 111205A to F.O.I.C. Harwich.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Cruiser in Great Belt. Report graded B.2. German cruiser similar to EMDEN passed through Great Belt 1200A/10th north-bound.
Comment: EMDEN and 4 destroyers are known to be based on Oslo Fjord from where they carry out mine-laying sorties in Skaggerak. Vessel referred to above may well be KOLN which is also capable of being used as a minelayer. (D.D.I.C. 111052A.)

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Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Port Facilities.

Ostend. Your 101810. Ostend Harbour entrance blocked by wreckage of 14 ships. Passage is hazardous operation even in daylight. Consider entrance at night only possible after lights requested in my

062117 - 102102 - and 111020 to Admiralty, are established and then only under favourable conditions.

(N.O.I.C. Ostend 111047A to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 091826 was passed to A.N.C.X.F. (Buco) for their remarks. These were as follows, begins:-

(1) Ostend opened for L.S.T. on 2nd October, Com. Belgium's 281824 refers.

(2) No further information from N.O.I.C. that number could exceed 3 L.S.T. daily was ever received but this was assumed on receipt of Exfor Rear Movement's 041400.

(3) During period 2nd to 9th October, inclusive therefore assumed capacity of port was 32. During same period 18 L.S.T. arrived there. One day no sailings due to weather.

(4) Loading at Tilbury has been disappointing. No more than 2 L.S.T. have ever sailed in one day since new Shuttle Service started. Understand this due to loading delays and to large number small defects in craft.

(5) Regarding coasters small number sailed appears due entirely to shortage of suitable shallow draught vessels. Draught must not exceed 1 foot more than the height of tide at high water on day in question. Shortage has been represented repeatedly to representatives of D. of S.T. and DD (Mov.) (freight) on Buco staff. Ends.

This seems to answer your contention.

(A.N.C.X.F. 111713A to C. in C. Nore.)

My 101810 not to Admiralty, and N.O.I.C. Ostend 111047.

May I suggest more effort is concentrated on clearing entrance.

It is no use having quays if ship cannot enter harbour.

(C. in C. Nore 112145A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Havre. A.M. 101320. Your object should be (a) to admit Liberty ships as soon as reasonable security can be attained. (b) To avoid unnecessary damage to CYRUS.

(2) You should concentrate on whichever channel offers better prospect of early success.

(3) CYRUS should be used as soon as probable mine contacts have been depth charged.

(4) Diving should not be allowed to delay operation.

(5) Intentions and progress should be reported.

(6) (To 125.15. Pass to TARANSAY and N.O.I.C. Arrow to AMBITIOUS for Captain M/S Seine.)

(A.N.C.X.F. 111216A to F.O.B.A.A., Capt. M/S Seine.)

Your 101320A and A.N.C.X.F. 111216.

Following plan has been carried out for clearance of "Oyster" mines from the alternative channel to Havre Q.X.S. 595 which was as follows. Search by Asdic followed by Staybright sweep then Echo sounding sweep latter indicated negative result. Propose that CYRUS should proceed over alternative Channel on arrival and when 4 laps have been completed without detonations it is considered that Channel may be opened for Liberty ships with reasonable safety.

Main channel in the Pas du Nord Quest 7 will be depth charged as

/ordered...

11.10.1944.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Port Facilities.

Havre. (Contd.) ordered but it should be observed there are 20 suspected mines and only a portion of them may be destroyed and others may be only damaged by depth charges and made dangerous for diving if it becomes necessary, and possibly more dangerous for sweepers. When alternative channel is open it is suggested that the main channel should be dealt with systematically by such means as is indicated by experience with depth charges if necessary. The date CYRUS can be accepted at Havre owing to tide is 0800 on 14th October. F.O.B.A.A. 091156A refers. (Capt. M/S East 111750 to Admty.)

Technical.

German magnetic minesweeper. Request German magnetic minesweeping boat now at Rouen be despatched to VERNON Portsmouth forthwith. (2) Boat is urgently required for ranging. (3) Admiralty, and VERNON M/S to be informed of date of despatch and expected time of arrival. (A.N.C.X.F. 111150A to F.O.B.A.A.)

Casualties & Defects.

CHEBOQUE. Position Swansea Bay standing by vessel. (Tug BARNER 112215A to Burnham on Sea.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Final destination for U.K. shipping. Pass to N.C.S.Os. Para. 2 of this message is a re-issue of A.M. 1857/17th July 1940 which had a limited distribution. (2) Ships sailing for U.K. even if calling at an intermediate port for bunkers should invariably be given a named port of destination in U.K. If a firm destination is unobtainable the ship should be routed to Clyde. (3) N.C.S.I. 1.A. refers. (D.T.D. 111230A to A.I.G. 19, S.B.N.Os. N.Russia, Archangel.)

Convoy O.N.S. 34. Owing to further engine trouble M.A.C. ship GADILA is not available for O.N.S. 34. Request M.A.C. ship EMPIRE MACRAE be held and sailed in O.N.S.34. Amend A.M. 251917 and A.M. 071748 as requisite. (D.T.D. 111516A to C. in C. W.A.)

Falmouth as Assembly Port. Ref. A.M. 100233A October, concur, subject to para. 2 below. Falmouth can accept ships from Oct. 14th. (2) Since ships assembling at Falmouth have to anchor in unprotected water in Falmouth Bay it may be necessary in the event of a recrudescence of U-Boat activity to discontinue the use of Falmouth as an Assembly Port. (C. in C. Plymouth 111750A to Cs. in C. W.A., Portsmouth, Nore, V.A. Dover, Com. Southend, C.T.F. 125.)

War Diary11.10.1944
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth Atlantic

FORMIDABLE (U.K. to Far East). (?Cancel) my 091232 FORMIDABLE developed engine defects.
 (2) Further details follow.
 (?F.O.G.M.A.111818A)
 During flying operations to-day FORMIDABLE stripped centre gearing. Damage occurred at 158 revs and was due to 7 in number teeth fracturing at the after end of the after helix of HP pinion. Cracks appear to be of old origin. Port gearing is being examined and hammer tested centre gearing is damaged beyond repair and requires renewal. It is for consideration whether ship can be accepted operationally on 2 shafts with approx. speed of 26 knots. Details of damage follow.
 (F.O.G.M.A.112038A to Admty)

Following received from FORMIDABLE begins:
 Two units give a comfortable speed of 26 knots. All Corsair pilots agree they can land on at 24 knots wind over deck. Thus with two engines FORMIDABLE can do 90 per cent of all that is required for operations. As the ship is now fully trained and has only just completed six months in dock, consider that she should undoubtedly continue her passage to the Eastern Fleet.
 Ends.

(F.O.G.M.A.112154A to Admty)

Routing control over neutral shipping in Atlantic East of Azores.

Reference M.E.W. Afar number 624 of June 11th (corrupt group) Ingram. Ministry of Marine hope to reply this week. They state they do not see any objection to 2 focal points but they will present counter proposals putting forward certain amendments.
 (B.N.A. Madrid, 111827A to Admty) A.M.121834/May refers.

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FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Aegean S/M operations. MATROZOS G.S. sails from Khios as requisite passing through 039° 19' 025° 34' and close North of Strati to arrive position 039° 40' 024° 36' at 0502A 12th thence proceeding to patrol in area YY.
 (2) Cancel para. 3 of my 091701.
 (Capt. (S) 1, 110924A to MATROZOS, (R) F.O.L.E.M. 1st S/M F. PIPINOS, Force A.)
 UNTIRING leaves patrol to pass position 039° 50' 024° 38' at 0502A/12th thence passes through 039° 19' 025° 34' east of Psara and close west of Nikarismok (?Nikaria I. intended) to arrive Kinaros Channel dawn 13th.
 (2) From a position 039° 59' 024° 38' VIVID proceeds to pass 039° 54' 024° 02' at 0503A/12th thence to patrol in area ZZ.
 (3) Cancel paras. 1 and 2 my 091701.
 (Capt. (S) 1, 110952 to VIVID, UNTIRING, MATROZOS, PIPINOS, 1st S/M F. F.O.L.E.M., Force A.)

Mining of Salonika. Cancel mining of Salonika my 031758 refers. Bari pass to 205 Group.
 (C. in C. Med., 111130A to F.O.L.E.M., (R) Admty., M.A.A.F., Group 205, F.O.T.A.L.I., N.L.O., B.A.F.C.G., M.A.C.A.F.)

SALAMIS In view of re-entry into Greece it is proposed to transfer G.S. SALAMIS from 13th D.F. to Eastern Med. Have you any objection?
 (C. in C. Med., 111234A to Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

Operation "Manna". My 101458 not to S.S.T.O. Brindisi. FORT FROBISHER under column D read D - 3.
 (2) Delete INGERTRE insert LEWANT.
 (3) Agreed.
 (P.S.T.O. Med., 111304A.)

Operation "Manna".		Following S.T. ships allocated.		
(A) Name of ship	(B) Cargo	(C) Loading port	(D) Discharging port	(E) Arrival time at discharging port.
FORT NASHWAAK	M/T. Stores	Alex.	Poros	D Day
ORION	Water	Alex.	Piraeus	D Day.
PETRONELLA	Water	Alex.	Piraeus	D Day
AH KWANG	Water	Alex.	Piraeus	D Day
KORYTZA	Supplies	Alex.	Poros	D Day
OCEAN MESSENGER	M/T only	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 2
SOMERSET COAST	Pol	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 2
COULGROM	Civil relief	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 2
LADY MAY	Nil	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 2
THISTLEDALE	M/T Stores	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 7
OCEAN TRAVELLER		Alex.	Piraeus	D + 7
EMPIRE TIDE	Civil Relief	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 7
HERON	Civil Relief.	Alex.	Piraeus	D + 7

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* War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Operation "Manna" (Contd.)	(A) Name of ship	(B) Cargo	(C) Loading Port	(D) Discharging Port	(E) Arrival Time at Dis- charging Port. Sails M.K.S.63
	SAMOLAND	M/T Civil Relief	Alex.	Kalamata	
	ELPIS	Civil Relief	Alex.	Previsa Hackle for orders.	
	AGIOS NICOLAS	Civil Relief	Alex.	Previsa Hackle for orders.	
	FORT MARIN	M/T Civil Relief	Port Said	Patras	

(2) Later sailings will be signalled when firm.
 (3) D.S.T.O.X. pass to S.S.T.O. Balkans. p. 263
 (P.S.T.O.M.E. 111859C to P.S.T.O. Med.)

Special
slow
convoy.

Your 101735 acceptable provided Task Group 62.7
 arrives U.S. not later than 12th November.
 (Adcomr. C. in C. Lant, 111442Z to C. in C. Med.)

Escort
Carrier
Force
operations.

Sitrep.

Following is Sitrep para. 1. 10 Caiques attacked
 in harbour at Cos 5 sunk 1600C/9.
 Para. 2. Unproductive patrol Skiathos Channel
 night 10/11th. 10 air ferries passed.
 Para. 3. Nothing seen Siros, Fo. 38, Volos, T.80,
 11th October.
 Para. 4. One K.T. Ship South-East Khalkis E.39
 set on fire.
 Para. 5. Khalkis one Corvette 2 landing craft 10 Caiques,
 1 F-boat. Para. 6. One Caique one auxiliary Y.74.
 Para. 7. One aircraft lost flak.
 Para. (Missing Groups)
 (Comec. 111459C.)

Today's strikes were a piece of cake, causing wide-spread
 damage to sea and rail communications and killing numerous enemy,
 with view to giving concentration of fleeing enemy in Euripo -
 Volo - Salonika Area no respite until R.A.F. (?are) established
 in strength.

(A) Request you consider earliest resumption Force A these most
 fruitful operations.

(B) (Group missed) Guard Vital Kinaros Channel accordingly.
 (F.O.E.C. 112301C to F.O.L.E.M.)

German
small
submersible
craft.

Interrogation of survivors from midget craft sunk
 south of Toulon recently indicates the two new
 types referred to in A.G.M. (?237-276*-355*-557+)
 A may now be operating in Mediterranean manned by
 one and two men respectively.

(2) Details two-man type probably as follows:
 length approx. 40 feet, single torpedo in hollow
 keel, diving depth may be 300 feet, single screw electric
 propulsion, diesel propulsion not yet established, endurance

*282144 June, 202016 June
 * 141757 July.
 + 021838 September.

/three...

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WednesdayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

German small submersible craft. (Contd.) three days, short wave radio receives range 7 miles.
(3) Insufficient details one-man type.
(4) Both types are transportable by rail and may therefore be encountered in western basin or Adriatic.
(C. in C. Med., 111510 to Med. Stn.)

Special operation Sitrep No. 41. Extract.
The following information is reported to have been received from a reliable source regarding the enemy withdrawal (omitted). The source also adds:
1. Saseno has been evacuated by the Germans and only one gun remains.
(3) It is expected that Albania will be evacuated by 15th Oct. 1944.
(4) Preparations to evacuate the whole coast within three to eight days have been made and little CD artillery remains.
(5) German order of day states Allied landings are to be expected along the whole length of Albanian coast but based in south.
(6) The Germans believe that after they have evacuated Valona the Allies will land there.
(H.Q. Balkan A.F. 111600A.)

Mines off San Remo. BROOKLYN planes assisting Sweepers San Remo area today sighted 17 Drifting Mines. This does not include Imperia Area. Will repeat search tomorrow as some mines were found in Waters that had just been searched.
(BROOKLYN, 111601A to Comcrudiv III (French))
JOUETT reports Sweeper destroyed total 27 drifting mines today vicinity San Remo. Several mines known still to be adrift near Porto Marrisio (?Maurizio) where accurate enemy fire prevented search. Have directed search be repeated tomorrow 12th October.
(BROOKLYN, 111936A to EMILE BERTIN, for Comcrudiv III (French).)

Operation "Manna" My 101458B amended by my 111304. Add (A) SAMFAITHFUL (B) M.T.Store ?C) Taranto (D) D + 2
(2) Agreed.
(P.S.T.O. Med. 111824 to D.S.T.O. East Italy)

Non contact pistols. (Extract)
Ref. Captain S.l. 281540 Sept. and S.T.E.D.'s signal 022010 Oct.
(2) It is considered that this defect can only exceptionally escape tests.
(4) Pending further evidence and experience which will be considerably delayed if operational use of these non-contact pistols is curtailed, it is for your consideration that the possible risk of defects is justified by the advantages that accrue from using non-contact pistols which permit deeper running and facilities attack on shallow draught targets.
(D.T.M. 111847A to C. in C. Med.)

/Operation...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Ledas".		Following ships allocated.		D. Arrival at destination
A. Name of ship	B. Cargo	C. Port of Loading		
AMMLA	M/T stores	Haifa		D day
MANELA	Personnel	Haifa		D day
EMPIRE PATROL	Personnel	Haifa		D day
MANOULA	Civil relief	Waiting at Beirut (loaded)		D + 1
PALOPO	Civil relief	Waiting at Beirut (loaded)		D + 2
ANTIKLEA	Civil relief	Waiting at Famagusta (loaded)		To follow up to be called forward.
ALISA	Civil relief	Port Said (loaded)		

(2) Later sailings will be signalled when firm. D.S.T.O.X. pass to S.S.T.O. Balkans.
(P.S.T.O. M.E. 111917C to P.S.T.O. Med.)

Report on Preveza. Following from Lt. Fyge. (Extract.)
Para. 1. C. in C. Med. Fleet 041717 October (N.T. in W.D.)
A. Approach Channel for exercise (sic) cleared.
B. Least depth 18 feet on centre line but water shoals rapidly to 15 feet on either side.
C. Channel marked as follows.
D. Quays in good condition. Further details in para. 2.
(2). Harbour installations. 816 feet of good quays with least (?depth) 12 feet alongside from Preveza fixed red light for 400 feet south. Thence least depth 21 feet for 416 feet remaining water front southward is blown*. Light narrow gauge railway with few serviceable trucks about 2 ton capacity run entire length. Railway engine smashed. 6 small power caiques in running order and about 50 pulling boats. 3 dumb lighters in very poor conditions on beach also one medium caique hauled up for repair to (?hull). One water boat Italian manned about 120 tons capacity in good condition but no water ashore.
(3) Harbour is clear except for following obstructions, (details).
(4) Directions.
(5) No mines swept in approach channel or harbour.
My work is finished.
(M/S 13 112055A.) * As received ?"up" omitted.
From: Lieut. Hogbin, Port Commandant Preveza.
First R/C report (tabulated details, indecipherable by W.D. without key.)
(S.O. M/S F. 13 112235A.)

Situation report No. 456. U.S. BURNS on 8th and U.S. GLEAVES and U.S. JOUETT on 9th bombarded bridges ammunition dumps and other targets in Ventimiglia area.
(2) WILTON and L.C.G. bombarded targets on Albanian coast on 8th October.
(3) During 9th October BELVOIR, WILTON and L.C.Gs. provided harassing fire in Delvino area
(4) On 10th BELVOIR captured a German M.L. North Corfu and took 20 prisoners. A second M.L. later surrendered.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation
report No.
456. (Contd.)

(5) Night 9/10th M.G.B. 663 returning from patrol was mined and sunk in 140° Maestra Point 10 miles, 3 missing. B.Y.M.S. 2011 was damaged by ground mine on 11th in 044° 13' N. 012° 44' E.
(C. in C. Med. 112348A.)

G.2 summary
No. 45.

(Extract.)

(2) Greece and Aegean.

Rhion, Anti Rhion, Corinth and Megara evacuated by enemy but Allied patrols report contact six miles east latter town. Enemy apparently still intends cover important withdrawal route Elousis-Thebes by holding favourable ground this area. Athens and Piraeus rapidly emptying but appreciable number enemy troops still remain Attica. Penetration Allied naval forces into northern area threatens whole enemy sea communication in Aegean and will make evacuation island garrisons, particularly Dodecanese, extremely difficult. Probable complete evacuation now impossible.
(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/11.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat No fresh information. Scales unchanged.
dispositions. (C. in C. E.F. 110526Z)

K.M.F. (Extract). Owing to commencement of 20 days
Convoys. cycle for K.M.F. convoys it is regretted that
no fast escorts for ship referred to in para.4
of your 081029/ can be made available to leave
Aden for Persian Gulf after 14th November.

(2) Escorts for 11 knot ship on this run can however be made
available when required.

(C. in C. E.F. 110614Z to P.S.T.O.M.E.) /REINA DEL PACIFICO.

Enemy At 0630 F.G. P.C.S. of one enemy merchant ship
Merchant 2 escorts 002 degs. 52' 100 degs. 58' 325 degs.
Ship in 10.
Malacca (STRONGBOW, 111926 FG to Capt. (S) 4, (R) C. in C.
Straits. E.F. S/Ms. E.F.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies.

S.B.N.O.W.At. V.A. I.G. Glennie, C.B. assumed duty of S.B.N.O. Western Atlantic on 11th October 1944 in succession to V.A. Curteis.
(S.B.N.O.W.At., 111320Z.)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 111350Z, Cominch, 111547Z.)

Escort of B.A.D's 062053 passed to F.O.N.F. as 101411
Russian neither to all. It is intended to allocate
S.Cs. PERIM and PAPUA as escorts for 5th Russian Group
of S.Cs. which arrives St. Johns 13th. Escorts
are being equipped to refuel.
(F.O.N.F., 111505Z to Adnty.)

SS. IRIS. Censorship reports IRIS (Nor.) on reef 54.45 N.,
58.20 W. abandoned 9th October. Request
confirmation.
(Com. 10th Fleet (C. & R.), 111525Z to C. in C.
W.A.)

GENERAL Your 032210. If GENERAL MANN could be sailed to
MANN. arrive Gibraltar on 10th November she could join
K.M.F.36 for passage through the Med. If this is
not convenient it will probably be necessary to
request Com. 8th Fleet to provide escort as far
as Eastern end of Tunisian War Channel.
(2) Escort from Aden to Bombay will be provided by C. in C. E.F.
whose 090954 refers.
(3) Request confirmation that GENERAL MANN is required to return
via Med. in view of B.A.S. Washington Q.M./583 of 9th October to
War Office only which indicates her return via Melbourne.
(D.O.D.(F), 111850A to C. in C. U.S. Fleet.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack Para. (D) (1) E.G.17 attacked asdic contact
and sighting thought to be wreck at 1025Z/10 in 57° 47' N., 01°
summary. 54' W. (2) COLOMBO sighted submarine, possibly
H.M. S/M VIRTUE at 1650Z/10 in 35° 50' N., 24°
59' E.
(D.D.I.C., 111050A.)

U/B Estimates.
dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 111311A, 111315A.)

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Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

North Sea.

1.(a). One of our aircraft of 16 Group dive-bombed 4 enemy minesweepers off the Texel. The result was not reported.

(b). Ostend now has a daily rate of discharge of 3000 tons, and can accept 6 coasters, 2 personnel ships and 5 tankers daily of draught up to 18 feet.

West coast
France.

2. Spanish fishing craft continue to irrupt into our prohibited area in the Bay of Biscay and drastic treatment of them is under consideration by C. in C. Plymouth.

Western
Approaches.

3.(a). Russian submarine chaser No. 1486 has become detached from the flotilla escorted by PITCAIRN, and is being searched for by aircraft and 15th Escort Group.

(b). CHEBOQUE has broken away from her tug and grounded 4 miles eastward of Mumbles Light. All hands were taken off by Mumbles Lifeboat.

Norway.

4.(a). A change has been made in submarine orders on the Norwegian Coast, where open boats and decked fishing boats are now absolutely immune from attack.

(b). A number of Norwegian lifeboats is expected to leave Norwegian ports for the Faroes or Shetlands as soon as the weather is favourable.

Foreign Stations.

South Atlantic.

M.V.
BRAGANZA
sunk.

5. The Norwegian M.V. BRAGANZA was abandoned this afternoon in consequence of a fire on board. She was last seen burning fiercely and is presumed lost. The crew got away safely in 3 boats; on 17th one boat reached shore 40 miles south of Rio Grande, Brazil and a second boat was picked up by SS. RIO SALADO, and the third boat subsequently reached shore 60 miles south of Rio Grande.

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Thursday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

M.M.S. 170
sunk.

6. M.M.S. 170 was sunk by a mine E.N.E. of Gorgona Island, off Leghorn, this evening.

Adriatic.

7.(a). Last night, M.G.B. 662 and M.T.Bs. 637, 634 and 638 intercepted one or more enemy convoys in the Northern Adriatic off Vis Island, and in an action lasting 5 hours 3 F-Boats, one E-Boat and 2 P.I.L. Boats (small military landing craft) were sunk, an F-Boat and a P.I.L. boat were possibly sunk, 2 F-Boats were beached and torpedoed one F-Boat was beached and destroyed by gunfire, and one E-Boat was damaged. Two of our vessels sustained minor damage and there were 4 casualties.

(b). LOYAL and LOOKOUT carried out an effective bombardment of enemy positions, a battery and billets in the Cesenatico area (east coast of Italy) today. Enemy fire caused no damage.

(c). LOYAL was mined off Rimini this afternoon whilst returning from bombardment and was taken in tow by LOOKOUT. There were no casualties.

(d). Beaufighters today bombed 41 boats loaded with troops in the Arsa Channel (near Pola). One was left sinking, a second was set on fire, and two others were damaged.

Greece &
Aegean.

8.(a). COLOMBO bombarded a battery at Perdika Point, Aegina Island (south of Piraeus) at 0200A today, firing 205 rounds.

(b) ARGONAUT bombarded Phleva (Gulf of Athens) today. She reports that the enemy has fully evacuated the Aegean and that the only signs of enemy activity were continual heavy demolitions at Piraeus and Athens, and two Ju.88s were seen.

(c). Piraeus is reported clear and the Greek flag is reported to be flying from the Acropolis.

(d). VIRTUE sank a 200 ton motor vessel and 4 caiques today.

(e) One company of the 4th Para. Battalion with one troop of the 2nd Para. Squadron (R.E.) were successfully dropped on Megara Airfield, near Athens, at 1415 today. The force suffered 25% casualties owing to a high wind.

Australia & New Zealand.

9. This morning a convoy of 11 ships comprising 3 destroyers, 3 tankers, 1 transport and 4 freighter transports was seen approaching Balabac Strait (between North Borneo and Palawan Island). A United States submarine subsequently got amongst the tankers with effect, though details are not known.

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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Transfer of accounts of 63rd R.M.L. Flotilla and H.D.M.Ls. 1025, 1033, 1053 to Plymouth on 16th October. Your 101605A. No objection. (Admty, 120546A to F.O.I.C. Falmouth, C. in C. Plymouth)

Allocation of 5th, 8th, 29th and 50th M.T.B. Flotillas and 50th, 51st and 52nd M.L. Flotillas. Para. 3 of my 051311B September and C. in C. Nore's 111930A October. Two patrols off Dunkerque are at present provided by A.C. Dover and operated by C. in C. Nore for the prevention of supply or the evacuation of that Port. (2) It is therefore considered that the 8th and 29th M.T.B. Flotillas can now be released for transfer to the Nore Command and the 5th M.T.B. Flotilla released for duty elsewhere as required. (3) The retention of the 50th and 52nd M.L. Flotillas, the 50th M.T.B. Flotilla and four boats of the 51st Flotilla maintained by Newhaven is considered to be necessary to ensure satisfactory operation of the Naval despatch boat service to the continent and to meet other command commitments. (4) These measures will alleviate the congested accommodation situation at Dover. (V.A. Dover, 121318A to Admty, C. in C. Nore.)

Restricted fishing areas in Western Approaches. Referring to C. in C. W.A. No. W.A. 2982/0543/1 dated 7th October 1944 and 101838A October the proposals to curtail the restricted area now in force is not concurred in the following reasons:- (A) In the event of resumed offensive by U-Boats some part of their effort might be made on the route now in use from Finisterre to Scillies and counter measures would be prejudiced by the presence of unauthorised craft. (B) Public notification that an area was no longer declared dangerous would afford U-Boats opportunity of withdrawal in the knowledge that counter measures in that area would be less effective. (C) It is undesirable that Spanish vessels should move at will near the French Biscay coast while any part of this coast remains in enemy hands. (2) It is concurred that C. in C. W.A. should have authority to bring into force attack at sight instructions within the limits of his command, but it is desired that his discretion should remain with the C. in C. Plymouth for the area within the Plymouth Command. (3) The policy of attacking fishing vessels in the Bay of Biscay declared area has not been implemented since the summer of 1943 the sinking of several Spanish fishing craft at that time having had the desired effect. The recent appearance of numbers of Spanish fishing craft in the declared area is assumed to be consequent on the changed military situation. (C. in C. Plymouth, 121918A to Admty.)

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Thursday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy - Contd.

Cover and
Deception
Plans.

In conformity with policy approved by Chiefs of Staff following is promulgated for your guidance:-
(1) As there have recently been unauthorised references in the Press and on the Radio to the existence of cover and deception plans, attention is drawn to the need for maintaining a high level of secrecy on all details connected with planning and implementation of strategical deception. The fact that the war against Germany is drawing to a close does not mean that there can be any slackening in security as methods successfully used against Germany may be needed to help defeat Japan. At the same time it is considered advisable to give low security to the planning and implementation of tactical deception, so that this subject may be included in training manuals and courses. You are requested to issue appropriate instructions within your Commands.

(2) It is emphasised that reference to either strategic or tactical deception by the Press is barred.

(3) Undernoted are the security gradings which should be imposed:-

(4) Tactical Deception Plans originated by Army Commanders or Lower Formations implemented by purely tactical methods - Confidential.

(5) Methods of implementation which the enemy can observe by air or ground R/C, aural methods, or by means of his Y service, e.g. Camouflage, W/T, Radar, Sonic Warfare, R/C or Bombardment of cover objectives, etc. - Gradings at present in force will remain un-altered but will be reviewed by Service Ministries from time to time.

(6) All other references to deception planning, methods of implementation and personnel and staffs employed - Top Secret.

(A.C.N.S.(W), 122122A to Cs. in C. H.F. Portsmouth, Plymouth, Nore, Rosyth, W.A., V.A. Dover, A.C.O.S., A.C.I.C.)

Defence of United Kingdom.

K.B.Trawler
Moorings.

It is intended to raise Kite Balloon Trawler Moorings as convenient and utilise part of material for maintenance of other moorings. A.M. 271810 September refers.

(A.C.O.S. 121628 to Admty.)

Movements

M.Ls. for
Mediterranean.

A.M. 212109 September para. 4. Sailing delayed due to non-arrival of escorts, unreadiness of Coast Force craft and unfavourable weather. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 120941A to Admty)

LOCUST.

Your 111839A LOCUST is eminently suitable for employment as a H.Q. ship for Coastal and Mine-sweeping operations on the Army's flank for which so far as I am aware no other suitable ship is available. She is provisionally earmarked as Minesweeping H.Q. ship for Hook, Rotterdam and subsequent clearing operations. Request this may receive consideration when according the priority of release of LOCUST for service in the Mediterranean. It is impracticable at this juncture to estimate a date when this requirement will cease. (C. in C. Nore, 121451A to Admty)

/ PURSUER ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements - Contd.

PURSUER. H.M.S. PURSUER is temporarily to relieve FENCER in the Home Fleet when the latter is released. A.M. 110157 not to all refers.
(2) C. in C. W.A. is requested to sail PURSUER as desired by C. in C. H.F. after PURSUER's air crews have had ten days leave.
(3) It is intended to take PURSUER in hand for refit about the end of November.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 121516A to C's. in C. H.F. and W.A., F.O.C.T.F.)

S.C.1486. (1) A/C failed to locate S.C.1486.
(2) Have you been in R/T communication with her to-day 12th.
(3) Request you suggest area to be searched by A/C tomorrow 13th.
(C. in C. W.A. 121913A to PITCAIRN.)
Your 121913A.
(1) A/C gave position of S/M Chaser 1486 by D/F bearing at 1720Z as 048 degs. 35' N. 016 degs. 33' W. ST. HELENA now searching.
(2) Yes. Good reception throughout. Have instructed S/M Chaser to close on course and speed 063 degs. 12 knots.
(3) Further signal will be made by 0600Z/13th if A/C search necessary.
(4) My P.C.S. at 1720Z 049 degs. 19' N. 017 degs. 58' W. 080 degs. 13 knots. Weather report 4866 0565.
(PITCAIRN, 122152Z to C. in C. W.A.)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval Gositintrep No.190 part 2 Naval.
(a) Captured Ports Boulogne S.N.O.P. reports the successful lay of Hais One. Shore ends will be completed as soon as weather moderates.
(b) Minesweeping Calais sweeping operations completed in channel between breakwater and Avant Port. Wreck dispersal vessel called forward.
(c) Unloading figures British.
British.

	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Pol</u>
East Calvados	705	391	4472	4250
Dieppe Le Treport	1183	nil	4929	nil
Ostend	203	127	2737	1483
<u>United States.</u>				
Cherbourg	473	31	17793	11256
Beaches	15143	1253	5779	nil
Brittany Ports	nil	64	3959	75
Small Ports	nil	nil	2237	nil
Le Havre	nil	23	760	nil
Combined Totals:	17707	1889	42666	17064

(Adm. Ramsay 120105A to Admty)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

North Sea.

Walcheren
Patrol.

Following is a repetition of BEEHIVE's 111529
begins:-

Coastal Force Control Officer reports:

(1) On the night of 10/11th October at 2353 EKINS on patrol 19 in position 280 degs. Westkapelle Light 11 obtained two Radar contacts at four and five miles astride the Steenbank in positions 310 degs. W KAP 9 and 296 W KAP 8. Southermost group was proceeding towards F.H.1 an 20 knots and turned away to the South and East without increasing speed when F.H. 2 vectored to intercept and had closed the range to 2.5 miles. At 0013 Radar contact of this enemy group, which consisted of three echoes, was lost at 6 miles. The Northern Radar contact proceeding in a North Westerly direction had faded. (2) F.H.1 whilst returning to the South Western limit of patrol regained contact at 0200 with Northern enemy group in position 275 degs. Westkapelle 18.5 course 140 degs. and speed 20 knots. The enemy turned away to the North as soon as F.H.3 had been vectored and had closed the range to 2.5 miles. This enemy group also consisted of three echoes but F.H.3 could not obtain Radar contact herself before enemy faded from Frigate's Radar scan. F.H.3 and F.H. 2 were recalled to patrol positions to guard against further enemy activity. The patrol line was shortened to four miles to give necessary Radar cover at both ends.

(3) Enemy consisted of two group each of three boats and echoes suggest size of E or R boats. Enemy speed never exceeded 25 knots by plot and tracks never approached nearer than 3.5 miles to patrol-searched channel.

(4) The position of F.H. patrols including the Frigate seemed to be known to the enemy with reasonable accuracy. No headache reports were picked up by any F patrols. It was considered of primary importance to cover patrol positions rather than engage M.T.Bs in brawling outside Frigate's Radar range. 111529 ends.

(C. in C. Nore, 121042A to Admty)

Explosive
Motor Boat
operation
from Flushing
(on Oct. 5th)
(see N.O.I.C.
Ostend's
062055)

Three German prisoners recently arrived U.K. state that they took part on 5th October in an explosive motor boat operation from Flushing. (2) They state that 20 control boats and 40 explosive boats left Flushing harbour at intervals from 1900 to 2300/5th, first group escorting three ships to Dunkirk the remainder ordered to attack targets of opportunity off Belgian coast. Prisoners boat swamped and they were picked up next day.

(3) Request by signal any information you have bearing on this report.

(N.I.D. 121625A to Com. Belgium)

P. 249

/Patrol ...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Channel.

Patrol. Pin cover night 12/13th Oct. G.C.1 WATCHMAN, Z. 109 G.C.2 L'ESCARMOUCHE Z.9 S.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 121212A to Admty. C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F., C. in C. Plymouth, F.Os. i/c Portland, Milford Haven, Falmouth, Cardiff, Ships maintaing W/T watch on broadcasts HD and CN in area C, Portsmouth night patrols.)

Operations.

West Coast France.

Patrol. Useable oil fuel remaining 0800/12th Oct. TARTAR 56% BLYSKAWICA 70% ASHANTI parted company at 0645A for Plymouth. Penmarch reports that one S/M was south of Pouldu at 1700/10 bound Lorient.

(2) Intend to sweep southeastward during daylight 12th to Sables d'Olonne and patrol Gironde Approaches during night 12/13th. Weather report 4882 1263.

(Force 26 120915A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

During night 13/14th Oct. Force 26 is to sweep N. and W. from Gironde area.

(2) Force 26 is to return to Plymouth on 14th Oct., speaking Penmarch and Ushant signal stations a.m/14th if weather permits. S.O. Force 26 is to report if fuel shortage will necessitate earlier return.

(3) Force 27 TANATSIDE (S.O.) and ALBRIGHTON leave Plymouth 0500A/13 to reach AA 47° 01' N. 3° 59" W. by 2000A/13 and thence to patrol in area Belle Ile - Gironde.

(C. in C. Plymouth 121318A to Force 26.)

Fishing vessels in Declared areas.

Recent sightings by surface forces and A/C indicate a renewal of activity by fishing vessels, particularly Spaniards, in the Bay of Biscay. Despite wide promulgation of the declared Dangerous Area given in P.C.W.O. 100 and notwithstanding the sinking of a number of Spanish fishing vessels within that area by H.M. ships during 1943.

(2) For the present, the general presence of fishing vessels off the French Biscay Coast, cannot be tolerated. French fishing craft working from ports in French hands may, however be permitted to fish within 10 miles of the coast by day only. At night they must be in harbour.

(3) Ships on patrol in the Bay of Biscay are to warn all fishing craft that they are liable to be sunk if they are found within the declared Dangerous Area, other than as permitted above for French ships. For the present the 100 Fathom Line may be taken as the boundary beyond which, to the westward, H.M. ships need not press their investigations. Care is to be taken that this discretion does not become known. Fishing craft found in unauthorised areas are to be firmly directed to proceed to their ports.

(4) At present vessels found in the Declared Area are not

/to...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

West Coast France

Fishing
Vessels
in
Declared
Areas.
(Contd.)

to be dealt with drastically without reference to the C. in C. Plymouth, except in the case of resistance by the crew or other special circumstances in which case capture and bringing into port is preferable to sinking, if conditions permit.

(5) My 241751B May, 1943 and 302149B May 1943, not to all addressees, are cancelled.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 121803A to 10th X.F. TANATSIDE, BRISSENDEN, ALBRIGHTON)

Operations

Norway.

Patrols.

Request you will sail S/Ms as follows (A) SCEPTRE at 1000A/15th routed through SA 090 degs. Muckle Flugga 20 miles.
SO 061 degs. 13' N. 002 degs. 59' E.

SN 060 degs. 27' N. 004 degs. 03' E. SD 059 degs. 05' N. 004 degs. 03' E. thence direct patrol area in accordance with F.O.C.(S) 081844 October.

(B) RUBIS at 1000A/16th through SA to SO thence 120 degs. to patrol.

(Capt.(S) 9 121229A to S.O.(S) Lerwick)

S/Ms are to leave patrol as follows. (A) ULA to pass SD 059 degs. 05' N. 004 degs. 03' E. at 0600/15th thence by reverse of outward route to Lerwick diving by day until passing 001 degs. E. ULA is to remain East of 001 degs. E. until 0400/17.

(B) VIKING to pass through position 066 degs. 29' N. 010 degs. 01' E. at 0001A/16th thence by reverse of outward route Lerwick diving by day at speed of advance 100 miles per day North of 062 degs. 01' N. thereafter on the surface at C.O.'s discretion.

(Capt. (S) 9, 121717A to S/Ms operation N. of 51 degs. N.)

My 081844 RUBIS patrol area is to be bound by the following limits.

Northern 060 degs. 50' N. Southern 060 degs. 30' N.
Western 004 degs. 01' E. Eastern The Norwegian Islands. She is not to enter the Leads.

(F.O.S.121804A to Capt. (S) 9.)

S/M
attack
orders.

Cancel my 291122 August not to all addressees. The following restrictions on attacking shipping in Norwegian waters are to be applied.

(A) Neither open boats nor decked fishing boats are ever to be attacked.

(B) Ships under 500 tons sailing within fiords or among Islands when wearing Norwegian flag are not to be attacked.

(C) Subject to above south of Stavanger all shipping may be attacked. North of Stavanger all shipping over 1500 tons may be attacked also all shipping under 1500 tons definitely recognised as hostile or sailing in convoy or in company.

(F.O.S. 121317A to S/Ms operating N. of 51 degs. N. Capt. (S) 3, Capt. (S) 9, S.O. (S) Lerwick)

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ThursdayHOME COMMANDSOperationsNorway. - Contd.

Operation "S.C" Ramose, Tenacity postponed. E.T.D. now 0100A/14 (N.O.I.C. Lerwick, 121510A to A.C.O.S.)
 Ramose Ovation my 110354 Vigra returned at 1655A to-day Thursday 12th October.
 (2) Operation successful.
 (A.C.O.S.121702A to Admty)

OperationsNorthern Waters.

Convoy J.W.61. Intend sailing LAURELWOOD and NOREG at 0430A/15th to Loch Ewe to R/V escort in 000 degs. Altacarry 8 miles at 1400A/15th speed 10 knots. E.T.A. Loch Ewe 1030A/16th.
 (2) Radio distinguishing groups O.N.
 (3) C. in C. W.A. 112314/10th refers.
 (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 121225A to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe, C.S.10, C. in C. H.F.)

My 110024 cancel paras. 2, 3 and 4. (2) 3rd E.G. are to arrive Loch Ewe by noon October 19th and will come under orders of C. in C. Home Fleet on arrival there. Para. 5 of my 110024 is amended accordingly.

(3) 5th E.G. will not proceed to Scapa. Orders for this group are given in my 121145 not to all addressees.
 (C. in C. W.A.121242A to C. in C. H.F. F.O.I.C. Greenock & N.I. S.O. E.G.5)

J.W.61. Close escort from W.A. will be 8th E.G. comprising LARK (S.O) WALKER, LAPWING, CAMELLIA, OXLIP, RHODODENDRON.

(2) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to sail group to R/V with convoy A.M. 17th October and escort to Loch Ewe.

(3) On arrival at Loch Ewe 8th E.G. come under orders of C. in C. Home Fleet for convoys JW/RA 61.

(4) On conclusion of duty destination of group is Greenock.
 (C. in C. W.A. 121633A to F.O.I.C. Greenock, C. in C. H.F.)

(1) It is anticipated that J.W. 61 will include at least one British coal-burning vessel. M.A.S.T. 470 paragraph two refers. If such is the case, it is essential vessel discharge Murmansk so that coal stocks can be increased and maintained. M.A.S.T. 470 paragraph 3, and M.A.S.T. 491 paragraph 2 refers.

(2) Request you make necessary arrangements with Russians. Your 241055 Sept. para. 3 not to all addressees refers.

(3) Admiralty pass to M.W.T. for Clinch and Hawkins signal 142 from Macgregor and Nelson.

(S.B.N.O. Murmansk, 121650A to S.B.N.O. Archangel.)

Allied Air ActivityPatrols off
Holland.

Nr. 1. Have A.S.V. contact in position 52 degs 00' N. 3 degs. 50' E. probably surface vessel.
 (A/C PSDM, 122045 to 16 Group)

Nr. 3. Have attacked 4 enemy minesweepers with bombs dive position 52 degs. 41' N. 4 degs. 33' E.

(A/C PSDM, 122115 to 16 Group)

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Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSMining

Operation C.D.A.3. Carry out Operation C.D.A.3 1710/12th October. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 121133A to C. in C. W.A., PLOVER.)

Sweeping of Q.Z.S.565. Q.Z.S.565 progress. Southern limit extended to line joining the following positions - (A) 51° 22' 27" N., 07° 43' 18" W. (B) 51° 26' 54" N., 07° 21' 42" W. (C) 51° 33' 24" N., 06° 51' 18" W. (D) 51° 36' 36" N., 06° 39' 30" W. (E) 51° 39' 33" N., 06° 27' 18" W. (F) 51° 43' 51" N., 06° 06' 30" W. Result negative. Anchoring Ballycotton Bay. Intend continuing dawn and on my carrying out check sweep ZME 9 ordered by your 101200A. (TADOUSAC, 121740A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Enemy Intelligence.

TIRPITZ. My 091544. Photograph taken on 21st September in transit to you by air today Thursday. (2) Photograph taken 9th October unsuccessful. R/C yesterday Wednesday nothing observed owing to poor visibility. (S.B.N.O. N.Russia, 120810A to Adm. Archer.)

Information desired on Axis blockade runners between Europe and the Far East. Following has been received from War Department via G-2 S.H.A.E.F. "Make every effort to obtain all available information concerning Axis surface ships and submarines engaged in blockade running between Europe and the Far East and vice versa from late 1941 to date and all available information about their cargoes. Suggest that German records including port and cargo manifests at Brest be immediately examined and at Bordeaux and Lorient as soon as those ports taken". Request you investigate and advise. (A.N.C.X.F., 121155A to C.T.F. 125.)

U-Boats

U-Boat observed in Bay. Penmarch reports S/M observed South Pouldu 1700 G.M.T./10 bound Lorient. (ASHANTI, 120920A to D.10.)

9th E.G. searching for U-Boat. 9th E.G. (S.O. in SWANSEA) is searching for U-Boat which was D/Fd. at 2347A/7 in 46° 20' N., 24° 20' W. and is believed to be southbound. 247 Group R.A.F. Azores is co-operating. (2) Following areas have been searched by 9th E.G. (3) From about 0400A/11th to 2359/11th 40° 30' 22° 10', 42° 30' 23° 05', 43° 00' 21° 30', 41° 00' 20° 30'. (4) From 0001/12th to 2359/12th 40.20 22.00, 41.00 20.30, 39.40 19.25, 39.00 21.00. (C. in C. W.A., 121131A to Cinclant.)

/Between ...

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Thursday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDSU-Boats9th E.G.
searching
for U-Boat.
(Contd.)

Between 0001A/13th and 0001A/14th search area bounded by (A) 39° 30' 21° 10'. (B) 40° 10' 19° 30'. (C) 38° 50' 18° 35'. (D) 38° 10' 20° 10'. S.B.N.O. Azores pass to 247 Group. (C. in C. W.A., 121228A to S.O. E.G.9.)

Port Facilities

Administrative requirements of Straits of Dover Continental ports.

The proposal in my 012035 was made chiefly because it is known that A.C. Dover does not dispose of facilities either in craft or personnel to fulfil the administrative requirements of Continental ports to the same extent as C. in C. Portsmouth. Para. (2) of the signal gave an additional advantage.

(2) The proposal was that requirements of French ports should be presented through C. in C. Portsmouth and not necessarily supplied from Portsmouth.

(3) Fully agree that maximum use should be made of the short cross Channel supply service from Dover and in view of the opinion expressed by C. in C. Portsmouth and A.C. Dover I am prepared to accept the provision of Portsmouth.

(A.N.C.X.F., 121151A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Necessity for early information of draught and length of ship potentialities of newly-liberated ports.

Delay and lack of co-ordination in the passing of information affecting the size of ship which can be sent to newly-liberated ports are continuing to add most seriously to problems with which we are faced in maintenance of Allied Forces.

(2) Rouen affords most recent example. Your 271641 September and F.O.B.A.A. 051243 gave 12 ft. high water neaps and 18 ft. high water springs as maximum depth available. Comzone signal of 8th October no T.O.O. gave 18 ft. on high water neaps maximum length of vessel 200 ft. and finally 081531 gave 14 ft. draught maximum length of vessel 180 ft. Consequence of late notification of length restriction has been that coasters

which have been allocated for on-carriage ex U.S. commodity loaders cannot in fact reach Rouen.

(3) It is of paramount importance that early and accurate port information is received. It is requested (a) that Recce reports should be agreed by N.O.I.C. and Military Port Commandant and in the case of ports in British sphere by S.T.O. (b) that signals containing such information should state clearly that they have been agreed by all these authorities and (c) that D. of S.T. and P.S.T.O. N.W. Europe should be included in the addresses of such signals which should be classified as "Immediate".

(4) It is also of fundamental importance that the greatest care should be taken to ascertain and report the maximum depth of water available at high water neaps and springs as well as the maximum length of ships which can be accepted and that this information should be amended promptly as obstructions to channel port entrances, and quays are removed and development progresses. The acute shortage of shallow draught vessels makes it imperative

/that ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Port Facilities.

Necessity for early information of draught and length of ship potentialities of newly liberated ports. (Contd.)

that D. of S.T. and other authorities concerned should be in a position to decide as quickly and as reliably as possible the largest type of ship which can be used to serve particular ports. Every foot of extra draught counts. Brussels pass to P.S.T.O. N.W. Europe. (D. of S.T. 121219A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Le Havre.

In view of para. 2 of Capt. M/S Seine 111750, if C.T.F. 125 considers early acceptance of Liberty ships in Havre justifies the risk of using alternative channel before arrival of CYRUS, I have no objection.

(C.T.F. 125 pass to TARANSAY.

(A.N.C.X.F. 121249A to C.T.F. 125, F.O.B.A.A.)

Ships addressed are to get under way at 0700A/13th. CYRUS in tow of JAUNTY and DEXTEROUS under orders of S.O. in ELFRIDA and proceed to Havre by Q.Z.S. 373, 492, 494, 510, 554, 588.

(2) Estimated time of passing Spithead Gate 0900A/13th estimated S.O.A. 4 knots. Tow is required to arrive Havre 0800A/14th and speed should be adjusted accordingly.

(3) Capt. M/S Seine is requested to issue necessary instructions on arrival and to sail DEXTEROUS to Portsmouth as soon as she has been relieved by GRIPER.

(4) Communications constant W/T watch on 2450 k/cs. Loxo only, carried by JAUNTY and DEXTEROUS. ELFRIDA acknowledge.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 121743A to ELFRIDA, JAUNTY, DEXTEROUS, CYRUS.)

Your 111750 approved.

(D.M.S. 121809A to Capt. M/S East.)

Ostend.

We can accept six coasters for discharge at any time. Present daily rate of discharge is 3,000 tons. Desirable to have five coasters of the EASTWOOD type and length and one coaster not exceeding 200 feet with engine aft. Draft now two feet in excess height high water as shown in Admty. tide table but on no account must this draft be exceeded. Agree N.O.I.C. Port Commandant. (S.S.T.O. Ostend 121252A to A.N.C.X.F. (Buco))

(1) Situation at Ostend. Can now accept 6 coasters, 2 personnel ships and 5 (?oil) tankers daily, plus one L.S.T. weather permitting.

(2) Maximum draught now increased to 2 feet more than height approved high water shown in Admty. tide table (para. 31). Draught (?varies) from 14.3 feet for 13th October to 17.(?) ? feet for 18th October.

(3) Large (?number) mines exploded ? spontaneously in harbour entrance at 2245/?9th ? Several static LL PG in this position failed to detonate mines.

(N.O.I.C. Ostend, 122112A to Com. Belgium.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Port Facilities

Ostend. My 101827 para. 2 add one foot to all draughts.
(Contd.) (2) N.O.I.X. Ostend 121059, not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. Nore, 121452A to A.N.C.X.F.(Buco))
2 Magentic Ground Mines p.m. to-day Thursday in position 051 degs. 11' (708) N. 002 degs. (706") East. Areas South Shoal have now had a minimum of 15 Actuations LL/SA as well as Oropesa Clearance Sweep to swept depth of 4 fathoms. (?Intention) for tomorrow Friday (A) Carry out 4 Actuation LL/SA using MMS ship one hour each side of area over Shoal in Exercise Area. (B) Complete to 15 Actuations LL/SA over Northern Section of area. Propose to carry out a bottom sweep over shoal and static sweep on beach Head as quickly as possible should time permit.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend, 122324A to C. in C. Nore.)

Zeebrugge. Re A.N.C.X.F. 101035 para. 2 and Nore's 101845 local report Graded B.3 gives German Channel as follows.
(A) Buoy in 51 degs. 22' 54" N. 03 degs. 11' 41" E.
(B) Black Buoy. 51 degs. 21' 24" N. 03 degs. 12' 18" E. (C) Red Buoy 51 degs. 21' 06" N. 03 degs. 12' 47" E. thence to head of Mole. If this can be confirmed suggest it be adopted. If not propose Wielingen Buoy in 51 degs. 22' 15" N. 03 degs. 10' 57" E. direct to Zeebrugge although leading lights believed destroyed.
(Com. Belgium, 121541A to C. in C. Nore.)

Casualties and Defects

U.S. L.C.T. U.S. L.C.T. 293 capsized and sank in 50 degs. 06' 293 N. 00 degs. 45' W. when in tow of U.S. L.S.T. 30 sunk. from Omaha to Portland, all Officers and ships company saved.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 120943A as amended, 121657A)

CHEBOQUE. CHEBOQUE broke away from Tug EARNER when tow parted while trying to ride out heavy gale to the Southward of Mumbles. Owing to weather conditions it was not possible to dock vessel at Port Talbot, and Swansea Harbour tugs were unable to get out to take over tow.
(2) CHEBOQUE grounded in 067 degs. 4.25 miles from Mumbles Light.
(3) Crew remaining on board, to the number of 43, being 5 Officers and 38 Ratings, were taken off by the Mumbles life-boat.
(4) Unless weather deteriorates further it should be possible to Float CHEBOQUE during p.m. H.W. to-day and dock her at Port Talbot.
(5) Report from Tug Master will follow.
(F.O.I.C.Cardiff, 121052A to Admty)

M.T.Bs. 766 (1) Regret to report M.T.Bs. 766 and 795 in collision during large scale exercises night 10th/ and 795. and 795. collision during large scale exercises night 10th/ 11th October.
(2) M.T.B. 766 was rammed from astern and considerable damage done to Transom, Steering gear

/ and ...

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ThursdayHOME COMMANDSCasualties and Defects

- M.T.Bs.766 and 795. (Contd.) and after Bulkhead. Can be taken in hand by Dickies, Bangor on Saturday 14th, Estimated time to make good, 6 weeks.
(3) M.T.B. 795 can continue working up. Estimate 10 days for repairs finally.
(4) M.T.B. 766 has completed working up. If it is decided to pay off M.T.B. 766 recommend Officers and crew transfer complete to M.T.B. 777 now awaiting crew to run trials at Bangor.
(BEE, 121211A to Admty)
- SS. SEANYMPH. ^{chart} Menship SEANYMPH broke steam line and stopped at 0800Z/12th in 47.24 N. 16.32 W. Escort U.S.S. CAMP standing by while stopped. When SEANYMPH repaired which expect about 1500Z will direct her proceed by stragglers route and CAMP to rejoin convoy. Position at 1200Z 47.00 17.25. Course 239 speed 13.5. Weather follows: 3578 1665.
(C.T.U.21.9, 121350Z to C. in C. W.A.)
Times Z positions N. and W. SEANYMPH made repairs and proceeded at 1500 from 47.24 16.32 via stragglers route. CAMP left same position same time to rejoin convoy. My position at 1600 46.32 18.20. Course 239 speed 13.5. Weather follows: 6581 1776.
(C.T.U. 21.9 7 121710Z to C. in C. W.A.)
- L.B.O.99. Regret to report minor explosion due to ignition to petrol fumes on board L.B.O. 99 34th S and R.L.B. Flotilla. No fatal casualties two ratings dangerously ill (names).
(ROYAL WILLIAM 121525A to C. in C. Portsmouth)
- HARPAGUS. Have cut off parts of overhanging obstruction and now ready to proceed to Sheerness for beaching. Intend porceeding into Sheerness Harbour at 0700 Friday and beaching on West shore as suggested in my previous signal. Request that another tug be detailed to assist vessel, into berth also pilot for Sheerness is required. Draught of vessel 13 feet 6 inches forward and 18 feet aft.
(S.O. Brooks, HARPAGUS, 121850 to Com. Southend, Admty, Salv.)

Shipping and Convoys

- E.B.C.1. E.B.C.1 sailed 0800A/12 plus MARINA for Mumbles and ROYAL for Barry Roads.
My 111753 and 112041 refer.
(F.O.I.C.Falmouth, 120827A to C. in C. Plymouth)

/Independent ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

Independent
sailings
southabout
between
Southend &
Milford Haven

Pass to F.Os. i/c and N.C.S.Os.

Ships of 12 knots and over may be sailed independently southabout between Milford Haven, Southend and intermediate ports subject to the following conditions:-

- (a) ships are normally to pass the Downs in daylight.
- (b) Ships are to burn dimmed navigation lights in ordinary visibility and lights at full brilliancy in thick weather when E. of 3° W.
- (c) Ships are to maintain constant W/T watch.
- (d) Eastbound ships are to embark pilot off Dungeness.
- (2) Sailing authorities are to include in the sailing telegram E.T.A. Dungeness and Lizard for eastbound ships and vice versa for westbound ships.
- (3) Ships from overseas bound for east and south coast ports will be directed to Falmouth for onward routeing.
(D.T.D. 121536A to Cs. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Nore, W.A., V.A. Dover.)

Ships which declare 15 knots and over bound for overseas destinations from the east coast may be sailed direct from Southend; those from south coast ports should be sailed to Falmouth for ocean routeing. A.M. 121536 refers.

(D.T.D. 121750A to Cs. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Nore, V.A. Dover.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

- SALAMIS. Your 111234, no objection.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121115A to C. in C. Med.)
- FORMIDABLE. Pinion teeth of port main gearing have been
hammer tested and no defects found. My 112038
also refers.
(F.O.G.M.A., 121131A to Admty.)
Your 112154* is under consideration.
(2) Pending further instructions FORMIDABLE should be held at
Gibraltar.
(V.C.N.S., 122335A to F.O.G.M.A.)
* FORMIDABLE should continue her passage to Eastern Fleet.
- FRIÏSIA. Ministry of Marine has informed me that German
FRIÏSIA now also interned.
My 251745B* September refers.
(B.N.A. Madrid, 121752A to Admty.)
* 6 German refugee vessels at Pasajes interned.
- CARD's Unable conduct flight operations due lack of
Group. wind and heavy sea.
(C.T.G. 22.2, 121900Z to S.B.N.O. Azores.)

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Thursday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Aegean Operations.

Escort carriers. Situation report 11th October. Result air operation.
 (1) 1140. 2 L.C. 1 E-Boat damaged 1 E-Boat destroyed at 0048.
 (2) 1200 and 1600 large concentration small craft. Khalkis heavily bombed.
 (3) 1120 Volos Bay 2 L.C. 1 Siebel, 1 caique damaged. Heavy loss to troops in L.C.
 (4) 1240 at Y.75 1 caique, 1 flak escort damaged.
 (5) 1620. 2 E-Boats destroyed 1 barge, 1 trawler, 1 L.C. damaged south of Khalkis.
 (6) 16 T.G. 1 loco. destroyed T.52 85. Train damaged T.5293. 1 52 L.O. and ammunition train destroyed. Railway cut T.5771.
 (7) Weather 9080 1352.
 (F.O.E.C. 120047C.)

Surface vessels. After discussion with F Force I bombarded battery at Perdika Point Aegina at 0200A/12. 205 rounds fired.
 (COLOMBO 120355A to F.O.L.E.M. (R) S.O. 15th, C.S. C.O.M.E.C., AURORA, S.N.O.P.O.)

At request of F.O.X.I.C. ARGONAUT carried out ?successful bombardment of Phleva this (?afternoon) 12th Oct. Enemy has fully evacuated Aegean and only signs of enemy activity were continual heavy (?demolition) at Piraeus and Athens and 2 Ju.88 were seen. (ARGONAUT 121723A.)

S/Ms. (1) VIRTUE as in my 100858.
 (2) VIVID patrolling south of Pallene Peninsula.
 (3) MATROZOS patrolling north of Northern Sporades.
 (4) First submarine Flotilla summary 2002A/12.
 (5) UNTIRING west of Khios proceeding to Kinaros Channel.
 (6) NEREUS 35° 43' 16" 46' to Malta.
 (7) PIPINOS northbound through Scarpanto Straits.
 (8) VORACIOUS 35° 13' 19" 18' to Scarpanto Straits.
 (S.1 120921.)

New patrol areas ZZ, SS and YY are established forthwith bounded by line joining the following positions
 ZZ 039° 42' 023° 21' 039° 42' 022° 53' 039° 24' 023° 12' 039° 33' 023° 31'.
 YY 039° 24' 023° 12' 039° 41' 023° 47' 039° 19' 023° 47' 039° 14' 023° 19'.
 SS 039° 41' 023° 47' Cape Paliuri Kassandra Point 039° 45' 023° 18' 039° 33' 023° 31'.
 (3) VIVID, P.40 (MATROZOS) and VIRTUE proceed to new patrol area ZZ, YY and SS respectively.
 (4) My 111125 still stands.
 (Capt. (S) 1 121245A to 1st S/M F. PIPINOS, MATROZOS, (R) F.O.L.E.M., S.O. 51 Force, S.O.(I) Ind.)
 As amended 122204.

By a.m. today one destroyer arrived Volos. ENGERAU and 2 corvettes departed.
 (Capt. (S) 1 121719A to 1st S/M F. PIPINOS, MATROZOS.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Aegean Operations.

S/Ms.
(Contd.)

200 ton merchant ship and 4 caiques sunk. 20 rounds 3 inch shell and all torpedoes remaining. (VIRTUE 121745A to Capt. (S) 1, (R) F.O.L.E.M.) ENGERAU arrived Salonika.
(2) Convoys from Piraeus and Khalkis expected at Volos.
(Capt. (S) 1 122116 to 1st S/M F. (MATROZOS G.S.) (PIPINOS G.S.))

G.A.F.
activity.

(Extract.)
(2) 10 October. Air Transport activity continues almost entirely northwards from Athens and Salonika. Further 10/15 He. 111s believed operating Salonika-Belgrade-Vienna.
(C. in C. M.E. 121315C.)

General.

Signal
traffic.

Minimise signal traffic to Alexandria.
(Hd. of M. 120056A to A.I.G. 12.)

SALAMIS.

Your 111234. No Admiralty objection.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 120450A to C. in C. Med.)

M.V. AKKA.

Request you will intercept Swedish ship AKKA without warning and bring her in to Malta.
(2) Ship was due to sail at 0800B/12 from Gibraltar on "Black" route to Piraeus.
(3) ATHERSTONE is at your disposal for this purpose.
(4) Further signal will be made when AKKA can be released.
(C. in C. Med. 121140A to V.A. Malta.)

Leghorn.

Sitrep No. 86 12th October.
A. W.S.W. light. O. Heavy showers. H. OLE BULL
9 THOMAS WIG 279 ALEX LILLINGTON 426 EUGENE HALE
300. ROBERT ROGERS 150. SAMUEL MILLER 387.
JOHN EATON 339. STEPHEN LONG 380. CALVIN COOLIDGE 457
(corrupt group) 215. WM. BYRON 417. CHAS. NORDHOFF 102. Total
3452.
I 94 V 2575 X 45 G 14 Z. Road conditions still bad. Tour made of port and L.C.I. disembarkation area by several V.I.Ps. special ten day M.S. programme inside Leghorn completed, with negative results. All restrictions on overside discharge lifted.
(N.O.I.C. Leghorn 121237.)

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Mediterranean - Contd.

SAN GUILIO. Your 041850* May SAN GUILIO has been released to Custodian of Enemy Property Port Said Charter Line ceasing afternoon 3rd October. (F.O.L.E.M. 121249 to Admty.)
* Confirmation to release GUILIO to Custodian of Enemy Property at Port Said.

Allied aircraft fired on from Canary Is. Following is a repetition of Commorseafon's 100750 begins: Addressed Alusna Madrid (R) C.N.O., Com. 8th Fleet. C.F.A.W., 15 Agadir. My 030850 refers. 1515A October nine aircraft four miles off Santo Furuz(?) encountered four anti-aircraft bursts, closest 20 feet above and 100 feet forward. Canary shooting increasingly accurate and is now too close for comfort. Request strong representations? to Spanish Govt. point out possibility of unfortunate incident unless prompt action is taken, ends.
(2) Following is a repetition of Commorseafon's 101155 begins Addressed Com. 8th Fleet (R) Alusna Madrid C.F.A.W. 15. My 100750 Spanish in Canaries appear deliberately attempting to destroy our aircraft. Reasons may be subordinate Military under influence German agents or attempting cause discontinuance our R/C to conceal landing German war criminals. Consider firings at our planes by Canary Batteries unwarranted hostile acts. Recommend our Govt. take physical or other measures to stop these firings ends.
(3) Above signals were passed to C. in C. Med. by Com. 8th Fleet under time of origin 111214 and 111212 respectively, and were addressed Cominch C.N.O. (R) C. in C. Med. Sacmed.
(4) My 071834* June also refers. (C. in C. Med. 121600A.)
* F.O.G.M.A. 041217 Commorseafon 051603 and Commorseafon 211955 May all in U.S. system being passed with ref. to your 021410 June. (C. in C. Med. 071834B to Admty.)

SS. CHAM-POLLION. Your 071720A* CHAMPOLLION. Managers advise cannot make 24 feet on account of stability. (D. of S.T. 121603A to P.S.T.O. Med.)
* MARIGOT has been in collision, sustaining damage.

Danube minesweeping. It is still in doubt whether ZZ craft will actually be required in Danube. Your 061837 refers. Discussions are proceeding in Moscow concerning Danube administration and need for early decision on minesweeping is appreciated. The Russian representative at preliminary conference on international mine clearance requested that Danube should be made part of Black Sea zone under Russian control, but was merely informed of negotiations in Moscow.
(2) The whole problem of non-operational transportation of minor landing craft has been under consideration for some time with M.W.T. and it is hoped that solution will soon be reached. It must be realised that L.S.D., L.S.C., and L.S.G. are operational ships and cannot be regarded as normally available for this requirement, which is one of freight shipment.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Danube
minesweeping.
(Contd.)

(3) Request you will consider including a bid for this in your shipping requirements to A.F.H.Q. some uneconomical use of merchant shipping being accepted if the circumstances so demand. Retention of PRINCE HENRY and PRINCE DAVID (A.M. 092042 not to all addressees) should be of some assistance.
(V.C.N.S. 121921A to C. in C. Med.)

M.E. Balkan
Sitrep No.
332.

(Extract.) One. Air Ops. N.T.R.
Two. Greece. Athens. C.X. reports 11th October Gen. Felmy declared Athens open city withdrawal of troops proceeding. Coastal def. of Saronic Gulf from Vouliagmeni to Piraeus promontory incl. almost nil. Piraeus. Only 200 Germans remain.

Megara evac. Aegina. Grn. now 200 guns at Pergika (or Perdika) jettisoned Fleves. B.A.F. reports 8 October grn. 250. Corfu. Force 133 report 9 Oct. island occupied by Natbands but 100 Germans remain in Corfu (?town). Aegean Syros. Force 142 reports 10 September grn. 100 Germans 77 Italians.
Five. Sea Ops. N.T.R.
(C. in C. M.E. 122005C.)

VINDICTIVE.

Your 021406 not to all.
VINDICTIVE is now urgently required as relief for TYNE whose departure for Eastern Fleet has had to be advanced to 6th November.

(2) Before relieving TYNE, VINDICTIVE is required to recommission at Chatham.

(3) Request you will sail VINDICTIVE as soon as practicable. Unavoidable short notice is regretted.

(V.C.N.S. on P.D.(Q) 03017/44 122324A to C. in C. Med.)

Operation
"Dragoon"-
reports.

Following for all British ships and authorities in W/T F from Com. 8th Fleet begins. All Commands which have not yet submitted action reports for the Invasion of Southern France are to expedite their submission 111704 ends.
(C. in C. Med. 122340A.)

Roumania -
intelligence.

Following received begins: Addressed C. in C. Med. F.O.L.E.M. Admty. From Captain Elliott Allied (Soviet) Control Commission Roumania B.M.M. My R.A.C. 13 Second meeting with Captain Pishkin 10th October. Information given.

(1) All Roumanian Merchant Shipping and Warships stated to be at Constanza. Detailed lists will be supplied later.

(2) Russian Govt. intends to negotiate for use fast ships BESSARABIA and TRANSYLVANIA.

(3) No report on type and position any German Fortresses on Danube available yet.

Para. (2). October 11th. Called on Rear Admiral Bogdenko Assistant Chairman of A.C. Interview was extremely cordial and free all formality. He stated he felt like a fish out of water

/among...

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Roumania - among so many soldiers that he was glad to see a
intelligence. fellow Naval Officer in Bucharest and that we were
(Contd.) to work in close co-operation with Captain Tishkin.
He wished to profit by difficulties and experiences
of A.C.C. in Italy and asked for details as to how
the machinery of control worked, he asked for
location any German Controlled shipping formerly operating from
Black Sea Ports or details sinking. Request above information be
supplied as soon as possible. T.O.O. 121145. Ends.
(Caserta C.C.O. 122350A to F.O.L.E.M.)

Situation (1) Carrier borne aircraft on 8th October destroyed
report No. 2 railway engines and 20 trucks near Katerina
456. (040° 14' N. 051° 37' E.) hit a Siebel Ferry off
Drepano and left one thousand ton merchant ship
stopped and sinking in Petali Gulf.
(2) U.S. JOUETT successfully engaged enemy coastal
communications on 10th October in Ventimiglia Area scored hits on
battery and a bridge. Some returned fire. Drifting mines again
encountered return to this vicinity.
(3) Whilst returning from bombardment LOYAL was mined at 1607/
12th in 043° 57' 30" N. 012° 56' 30" E. Ship has been taken in
tow by LOOKOUT no casualties.
(C. in C. Med. 122352A.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U/B No fresh information, scales unchanged.
dispositions. (C. in C. E.F., 120342Z.)

GAMBIA. Sail at 0030Z/16th routed 30 miles off coast of Ceylon thence to R/V with GENERAL MITCHELL and RANDALL and two destroyers in position (G) 004° 30' S., 084° 45' E. at 0500Z/18th.
(2) Comply with C. in C. E.F. 030403, 110406 and Cdre. S.W. Pacific Sea Frontier 050648 which refer.
(3) - (6) Arrangements.
(V.A.(2) E.F., 120351Z to GAMBIA.)

M.Ls. and M.Ls. 366, 367 and 833 allocated 59th Burma
H.D.M.Ls. Flotilla. 891 to 37th S.A.N.F. Flotilla.
H.D.M.Ls. 1100 and 1101 scuttled in Naaf River
Autumn 1942. Due to unreliability 1102, 1103
and 1104 were demilitarised 1943 and now used in
Bombay and Calcutta as despatch boats.
Your 022353* October.
(C.C.F.E.T., 120430Z to Admty.)
* Requesting report to which Flotillas M.Ls. are allocated.

B.D/Vs. Requirements for B.D/V in the Eastern Theatre are growing continuously especially for the laying of moorings and certain salvage operations.
(2) 6 additional bar ships are required and it is requested that of these 2 may be sailed to Ceylon at an early date and the remaining 4 as soon as conditions in Europe permit.
(C. in C. E.F., 120627Z to Admty.)

Montevideo It is anticipated that centre section of the
dock. Montevideo dock will be ready to leave Massawa for Vizagapatam about 22nd October in tow of tugs AIMWELL and BOLD.
(2) N.O.I.C. Aden is requested to route this dock via the north of Socotra to the Eight Degree Channel joining the coastal route south of Ceylon in position (B) 158° 46' N., 079° 55' E. thence by normal coastal route to Vizagapatam.
(3) It is intended that SHOREHAM and SMILAX should escort the tow from the vicinity of Aden to the Eight Degree Channel where they will be relieved by escort from Ceylon.
(4) If necessary, it is intended to refuel tugs at Colombo.
(C. in C. E.F., 121054Z to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

FORMIDABLE. F.O.G.M.A's 112154. Concur with FORMIDABLE.
(C. in C. E.F., 121146Z to Admty.)

Organisation Amend my 040429 August as follows:-
of escort (A) Exchange divisions of BATTLER and ATHELING.
carriers. (B) Delete para. (2).
(C) in C. E.F., 121557FG.)

/K.M.F. ...

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FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies - Contd.

K.M.F.
Convoys.

K.M.F.36 will leave U.K. on 6th November.
(2) As far as can be foreseen K.M.F. convoys will remain on 37 day cycle until the end of 1944.
A.M. 201943 September and C. in C. E.F. 110614 neither to all refer.
(3) Agreed War Office and D. of S.T.
(D.O.D.(F), 122244A to C. in C. E.F.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

U-boat dispositions Estimates.
 (N.S.H.Q. 121336Z, as amended 122026Z, Cominch,
 121535Z.)

CARD's Group. C.T.G.22.2 currently estimated operating
 vicinity 40° N. 21° W. in accordance with his
 081233Z* and related despatches C. in C.W.A.
 111254A+ refers.
 (Cominch, 121442Z to Admty.)
 * Search by C.T.G. 22.2
 + Situation at 1956/11

B.U.S.C. A.M. 111231B May para. 2. World wide
 distribution of B.U.S.C. is completed.
 (2) Suggest effective date 1st November.
 (A.C.N.S. (U.T. 121730Z to Cominch.)

SS. IRIS Your 111525 addressed C. in C. W.A. confirmed.
 The following is a repetition of a signal received
 N.C.S.O. St. John's N.F.:—
 "Norwegian IRIS grounded uncharted rock position
54.45 N. 58.20 W. at 1715Z 4th. Ship a total loss. All crew
removed without injury by U.S.C.G. LAUREL and landed St. Johns.
All C.Bs. burned".
(D.T.D. 121735Z to Com. 10th Fleet, (C. and R.)

U-boat incidents No reports 9th and 11th. Para. (D). At
 1841Z/11th. Army Transport plane reports
 sighting from 8000 feet a partially surfaced
 object which submerged leaving a considerable
 wake 43.25 N. 40.42 W.
 (Cominch, 121855Z.)

N.S.H.Q. submarine attack and sighting summary. No report since my 081426. Para. (D) U.S.C. -
 54 A/C sights conning tower and wake 43.25 N.
 40.42 W. 1841Z 11th.
 (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 122051Z.)

Stragglers report No. 72. Two arrived St. Johns N.F. from H.X.311 MINERVA
 Oct. 5th unable to maintain convoy speed.
 BRITISH CHEMIST Oct. 5th minor engine defects.
 One returned Halifax from S.C.158. K.L. LUCKENBACH
 (U.S.) Oct. 6th engine defects. One arrived
 Halifax from O.N.S.255 FISHER AMES (U.S.) Oct.
7th Stragglings. One arrived Halifax from H.X.312. EMPIRE
MORTIMER Oct. 8th unable to maintain convoy speed. One
arrived Boston from C.U.42 BANTAM (Du.) Oct. 10th Engine
repairs.
(N.S.H.Q. 122101Z.)

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War Diary

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarine
attack
and sighting
summary.

(B) A/C obtained A.S.V. contact at 1130Z/11 in
55° 30' north 08° 35' W.
(D.D.I.C. 120950Z.)

U-boat
dispositions

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 121321A, 121332A)

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War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

- Channel
1a. The initial mine clearance of the Seine up to Rouen is complete. Ships up to 18 feet draught can be accepted.
b. Boulogne entrance has now been widened to 300 ft., with 20 ft. depth at H.W. neaps.
- West Coast France.
2a. At Brest the initial mine clearance of the approach channel, anchorage, and Rade Abri is complete.
b. The F.F.I. at Noirmoutiers ask for 600 rifles and ammunition. They are 800 strong.
c. No German movement has been observed in or out of St. Nazaire.
- Western Approaches
3. MIGNONETTE and KITCHENER have been sent to the assistance of PITCAIRN and her 5 Russian submarine chasers running before the gale some 200 miles west of Land's End. Meanwhile ST. HELENA has found the missing (sixth) chaser No. 1486 about 30 miles to the S.E.
- Baltic
4. The Kiel Canal has been blocked for 5 days by a mined merchant ship sunk near Brunsbüttel.

North Atlantic

5. CARD's group and E.G.9 are hunting a U-boat in the Azores area.
6. The passage of FORMIDABLE from the U.K. to join the Eastern Fleet is being interrupted at Gibraltar for renewal of defective turbine reduction gearing.

Mediterranean

- Riviera
7. Owing to the floating mines situation fire support destroyers have been directed to keep clear of the Imperia - San Remo - Ventimiglia area during darkness until further notice. Night firing tonight was postponed. The French

/destroyer...

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War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Riviera
(Contd.)

destroyer LE FORTUNE engaged troops and installations near Bordighera today.

Adriatic

8. 15 Baltimores of the Balkan Air Force bombed Split harbour installations and shipping with very good results today. Hits were made on 22 vessels, and explosions were seen in the Dock area.

Greece and
Aegean

9a. Capt.(S)1 informed the submarines on patrol this evening that Athens was evacuated: a small number of Germans are still present at the Piraeus.
b. Eleven Venturas of Balkan Air Force bombed shipping at Volos, causing large fires and explosions. Subsequent reconnaissance showed the corvette BRIGITTE, barge LAUDON and at least two other vessels to have been sunk and SS. ADRIANA set on fire.

East Indies

Submarine
patrol
reports.

10a. PORPOISE on her second Far East Patrol from Fremantle carried out a special operation satisfactorily.
b. TALLY HO blew up a submarine chaser on 6th, 150 miles west-south-west of Sabang.

M.L.1057
lost

11. TANA (Base ship at Kilindini) reported that M.L.1057 was lost at sea today following an explosion. The position was subsequently given as 04.36 S. 39.35 E. (off Kilindini). A board of enquiry found that the explosion was almost certainly due to the detonation of the demolition charges.

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HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Abolishing limits of Assault Area. A.G.M. 473AZ of 6th October para. 2 delete "except as stated in para. 5".
(Admty., 130346A "A" Message Home)

23rd. M.T.B. Flotilla. French authorities inform me that Asdic and Radar have been removed from 23rd M.T.B. Flotilla and have requested me to obtain permission for these to be replaced. Can this be arranged. My 121017 refers.
(A.N.C.X.F. 131100A to Admty.)

Organisation of Rescue Tugs. Reference F.O.B.A.A. (PSVO) 121544 not to U.S. Naval authorities or A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) Proposed allocation and method of operation of rescue tugs has been discussed with A.N.C.X.F. and generally agreed to.

Since responsibility for the assignment of rescue tugs for the whole "Overlord" area now rests with A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) intend to allocate as follows.

- Plymouth - one tug.
- Portsmouth - two tugs
- Dover - Three tugs (includes LADY BRASSEY and LADY DUNCANNON)
- Nore - one tug
- Arrow - one tug
- Ostend - one tug.
- Antwerp - two tugs.

(2) The above allocation does not take into account the U.S. Sectors and subject to C.T.F.125's approval, it is proposed that a rescue tug be established at each of the following ports: Brest, Cherbourg and Le Havre. If concurred in, propose that these three tugs should be U.S. Navy tugs and should be placed under the operational control of the senior naval officer of the Ports concerned. C.T.F.125 is requested to remark.

(3) The principal function of Rescue Tugs will be the rescue or salvage of ships and craft outside the port limits and they should not normally be employed in coastwise or cross channel towage.

(4) It is realised that this allocation will not at all times prove adequate to deal with all eventualities and it should be understood that any command can call upon any other for assistance and from either side of the Channel.

(5) A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) will endeavour to maintain allocations up to strength. Authorities concerned are requested to address all demands for replacements to A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) and to make A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug.) information addressee on all movement signals of Rescue tugs.

(A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug) 131517A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Movements

TYNE Owing to the delay in completion of MONTCLARE and to the now urgent need for an additional Destroyer Depot Ship in the Eastern Fleet, it is desired to sail TYNE in K.M.F.36 on 6th November.
(2) VINDICTIVE is returning from the Mediterranean forthwith

/to...

13.10.1944
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War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

TYNE to recommission and will relieve TYNE.
(Contd.) GREENWICH will remain at Scapa in addition.
(3) Request you will propose a programme for TYNE.
(4) Com. (D) H.F. 251541 September and A.M. 052225 July para. 4.
(V.C.N.S., 130052A to C. in C.H.F.)

Admiralty's 130052A to C. in C.H.F. not to F.O.I.C. Glasgow. Following programme proposed for TYNE:-

- (a) TYNE readjusts stores until 24th October.
- (b) TYNE sails for Clyde p.m. 24th October arriving 26th October.
- (c) No stores should be despatched to Scapa for ship after 15th October and it is requested that all stores personnel and boats be collected at Glasgow.
- (d) It would be appreciated if ship could be berthed up river to facilitate heavy storing programme and loading.
(Com. (D) H.F. 132010A to Admt.)

PITCAIRN My position 1000Z 050 degs. 05' N. 013 degs. 37' and Russian W. course 070 degs. as near windward as possible S.Cs. speed 9 knots.
Russian S.O. requests we may proceed nearest harbour or bay to rest exhausted crew. Request permission to anchor within 3 mile limit of Eire coast tomorrow Saturday for 24 hours. If impossible to keep to windward would be forced as last emergency to run for Falmouth. No chart held for south coast.
Weather report 5662 9568.

(PITCAIRN, 131042Z to C. in C.W.A.)

Following received from A/C begins:-
"Submarine Chaser found 49.12 N. 12.09 W. P10 bearing 109 degs. 63 miles from Convoy. T.O.O.1235A". Ends.

(C. in C.W.A. 131416A to ST. HELENA, PITCAIRN)

Your 131042 not to all addressees, approved. Proceed to Bantry Bay. After your departure and when clear of Territorial Waters report your P.C.S. and proceed by Q.Z.S.565 and standard routes in Irish Sea and Minches to Loch Ewe.

(C. in C.W.A. 131635A to PITCAIRN.)

Proceed forthwith to assist PITCAIRN and 5 Russian S/M Chasers. P.C.S. at 1500Z/13th was 049 degs. 50' N. 012 degs. 22' W. course 090 degs. speed 8 knots running before gale. When wind veers expect to be forced to southward. Acknowledge.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 132057A to MIGNONETTE.)

Cancel my 131635 steer towards Lands End. MIGNONETTE and BRISSENDEN are being sailed from Plymouth to your assistance

(C. in C.W.A. 132109A to PITCAIRN.)

O.N.259. Estimated P.C.S. of PITCAIRN and 5 Russian S.C. at 2000A. 13th. all positions N. and W. 049 degs. 50' 011 degs. 32' 090 degs 8 knots and ST. HELENA and one Russian S.O. 049 degs. 27' 010 degs. 22' 090 degs. 6 knots.

(C. in C.W.A. 132112A to BLEASDALE.)

My 132109A for BRISSENDEN read KITCHENER.
(C.in C.W.A.132151A to PITCAIRN.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements

M.Ls. for Admiralty's 212109. September, para. 4 and my Mediterranean. 120941. Sailing intended 15th October. Any necessary postponements for weather will be signalled 15th and subsequent days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 131103 to Admty.)

MALAYA A.M. 111921A not to N.O.I.C. Belfast intend to sail MALAYA for Scapa passing Clyde Boom 0930A Monday 16th Oct. E.T.A. Hoxa Gate 1500A 17th Oct. speed of advance 14 knots.

(2) Request escort may be arranged.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 131118A to Admty., C. in C.W.A., A.C.O.S., C. in C.H.F.)

Following are arrangements for relief of groups working under orders of C. in C. Rosyth.

(1)a. 14th E.G. less FAULKNER, IMPULSIVE to remain at Campbeltown on completion of exercises and subsequently escort MALAYA sailing A.M. 16th from Clyde to Scapa. N.O.I.C. Greenock's 131118 not to all addressees refers.

(b) On completion of escort A.C.O.S. is requested to fuel and sail 14th E.G. to relieve 6th E.G. as ordered by C. in C. Rosyth.

(c) 6th E.G. to Londonderry on relief.

2(a) 18th E.G. to sail from Clyde October 24th to relieve 17th E.G. as ordered by C. in C. Rosyth.

(b) 17th E.G. to Greenock on relief.

(C. in C.W.A., 132304A to F.O.I.C. Greenock, A.C.O.S., C. in C. Rosyth.)

SPORTSMAN Intend to sail SPORTSMAN escorted by COLDSTREAMER from Cumbrae 0200Z/15th October to St. Johns N.F. E.T.A. 0330Z/23rd speed 10 knots. Routed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 091824.

Chop in 051 degs. 15' N. 047 degs. 00' W. at 1800Z/21st.

Communication SPORTSMAN A.F.O. "S" 2/44 table 2 (3) shifting at Chop to A.F.O. "S" one/44 section W.A. table 2 (3)(A)

COLDSTREAMER A.F.O. "S" one section W.A. para. 7. S/M and escort carry S.P. in accordance with A 2 C para. 44(A) and (C) S/M colour grey. QJA 281 held.

(Capt. (S) 3 131615A to Admty.)

Ex-Balloon A.C.O.S. 291458A September (to Admiralty, Kirkwall, Trawlers. S.O.B.T. and A.S. Orkney only). A.C.O.S. is requested to sail ex-Balloon trawlers as follows:-

(1) 3 in number - ANNABELLE, ECCLESHILL, THE TOWER to Aberdeen.

(2) 5 in number - CHRISTIANA T. PURDY, EDITH M. PURDY, WILLIAM PURDY, MARY PURDY, SARAH A. PURDY to North Shields.

(3) 4 in number - CEDRIC, BERENGA, CHRYSSEA, LORD NORTHCLIFFE to Grimsby.

(4) One in number - OSTA to Fleetwood.

(5) Further signal will be made disposing of BLOEMENDAL.

F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, F.O. Humber, N.O.I.C. North Shields and N.O.I.C. Fleetwood, as appropriate, are requested to remove Admiralty stores and fittings and pay vessels off, returning crews to Lowestoft, but retaining care and maintenance parties,

/if...

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Movements

Ex-Balloon
Trawlers.
(Contd.)

if necessary, until vessels are off-surveyed and returned to owners by Director of Sea Transport. Sailings, arrivals and payings off to be reported to Admiralty.
(D.S.V.P. 132044A to A.C.O.S., F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, F.O. Humber, F.O.I.C. North Shields, N.O.I.C. Fleetwood.)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval

Cositintrep No. 191. Part 2 Naval.

(a) Captured Ports.

Brest. Initial mine clearance of approach channel, anchorage and Rade Abri completed.

Rouen. Initial mine clearance of Seine River to Rouen completed. Ships of length up to 40 feet and draught up to 18 feet can be accepted.

Boulogne. Channel through entrance block now 300 feet wide and 20 feet deep at high water neaps.

(b) Unloading Figures 11th October.

<u>British</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Petrol</u>
Calvados	423	728	2563	3085
Dieppe	1197	Nil	7080	Nil.
Boulogne	-	55	-	-
Ostend	-	80	1023	460
British Total	1620	863	10666	3545

U.S. not received.

(Admiral Ramsay, 130221A to Admty.)

Operations

North Sea

Reported explosive motor-boat operation from Flushing.

Ref. A.M. 121625* passed to C. in C. Nore, for information only request all Intelligence affecting Belgian Coast be passed to me since seaward defence of this coast is my responsibility.

(2) Any further details obtained from Prisoners concerning operation mentioned in A.M. 121625 would be of value.

(3) Weather that night was very bad with strong E.N.E. wind. Frigates and Destroyers patrolling off Ostend concerning Schelde Approach did not detect any enemy forces.

(C. in C. Nore, 131205A to D.N.I.)

Patrols

Intend LA COMBATTANTE carry out Sifox Serial M.

(a) 0445 14th October.

(b) Between 3C and 3B buoys.

(c) 7 miles East of Swept Channel between 3C buoy

and 3B buoy.

(d) Blank.

(e) Coastal Force from MANTIS.

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Patrols (Contd.) (f) 0545
(g) As in S.P. 02570.
(Capt. D. 16, 131412A to C. in C. Nore.)
Dover and Nore Patrol 13th/14th.
KITTIWAKE East Tongue Buoy to Elbow Buoy.
WALPOLE and DUFF 051 degs. 35' N. 003 degs. 12' E. 051 degs.
30' N. 003 degs. 00' E.
FERNIE 57 F Buoy to 56A buoy.
STAYNER N.F.7 to N.F.10 buoy.
(V.A. Dover, 131612A to usual addressees.)

OperationsChannel

Patrol Pins cover night 13th/14th October.
GC 1 WATCHMAN Z 109.
GC 2 L'ESCARMOUCHE Z.9 South.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 131109A to usual addressees.)

OperationsWest Coast France

Patrol O.P.A.S. 17 (B) Ile d'Yeu vicinity (C) Les Sables d'Olonne. Intend tonight sweeping towards Belle Ile at 12 knots thence Ile d'Yeu to Les Sables d'Olonne for visit a.m. (p.m.) 14th sweeping (day-light position) Gironde for patrol in the vicinity during the night 14th/15th Ushant nothing to report.
Weather 10/10th cloud occasional drizzle visibility 5 to 8 miles sea 45 wind W.S.W. 7 barometric 996.
(Force 27 131415 to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Your 131415A and my 131500A. During tonight 13th/14th from AA keeping a minimum of 15 miles to westward of my course.
(Force 26, 131803A to Force 27.)
My course and speed from AA at 2000 is 090 degs. 12 knots.
(Force 27 131925A to Force 26.)

Situation in Bay of Biscay. BLYSKAWICA's fuel situation necessitates leaving Penmarch at 0200A/14th. Intend to commence to sweep from position 270 degs. Ile d'Yeu 3 course 304 degs. speed 17 knots, at 1900A/13.
Intelligence report: Closed Port Breton a.m. 13th contacted Lieut. Florrisson of Local F.F.I.

he stated:-

- (a) Noirmoutier F.F.I. is 800 strong and have 200 rifles and require 600 more and much ammunition. Can be disembarked into boats of Port Breton.
- (b) Americans are bombarding St. Nazaire district nightly from the East.
- (c) Ile d'Yeu requires supply of diesel oil for power station

/and...

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FridayHOME COMMANDSOperationsWest Coast FranceSituation
in Bay
of Biscay.
(Contd.)and fishing (vessels?).
(d) There is no movement of German shipping or
boats in or out of St. Nazaire. Nothing
unprecedented reported from les Sables d'Olonne.
Weather Report:- Pressure 1016 millibars Wind
S.W. 15 M.P.H. Cloud 9/10th at 100 ft.
Visibility 12 miles. Weather cloudy.
(Force 26, 131500A to C. in C. Plymouth, Force 27)OperationsWestern ApproachesU-boat
hunt East
of Azores.Ninth Escort Group is placed under the orders of
F.O.G.M.A. until completion of current operation.
C. in C.W.A.'s 111214 and 121228 neither to all
refers.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 130104A to C. in C.W.A. F.O.G.M.A.)OperationsNorth Western ApproachesPatrols -
Force 31.Request you will sail 11th E.G. a.m. tomorrow
14th and 5th E.G. a.m. 15th to position 61 degs.
30' 16 degs. 00'. S. of A. of 11th E.G. 12 knots
to conserve fuel.
(2) Object is to locate and destroy U-boats on
passage to and from Norway.
(3) Areas of search will be signalled subsequently.
(4) 5th E.G. and 11th E.G. will form Force 31.
(C. in C.W.A. 13231A to Com. (D) W.A.)OperationsNorwayEvacuation
of
Norwegians
in life
boats.From information now received it appears that
48 hours notice may be expected before sailing of
"Quality".
(A.C.N.S.(H) 130048A to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrol

Proceed with E.G.6 at 0800A tomorrow Saturday
14th and establish Gamma patrol between position
062 degs. 50' N. 006 degs. 30' W. and 063 degs.
30' N. 007 degs. 30' W.
(C. in C. Rosyth 132213A to S.O.E.G. 6.)

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FridayHOME COMMANDSOperationsNorthern Waters

Convoy My 110024 October for next escort duty there will
J.W.61. be diesel oil in oiler in convoy but no (corrupt group)(corrupt group) lubricating oil is being sent as there is stock of 5000 gallons at Murmansk.

(2) Diesel frigates are to fill up with lubricating oil to capacity before sailing and are to be instructed to embark at Murmansk the necessary quantity of lubricating oil to match their diesel fuel as regards endurance.

(C. in C. W.A. 131141A to Capt. D. Belfast.)

J.W.61. My 121242 not to N.O.I.C. Aultbea. 3rd E.G. are to arrive Loch Ewe by 0800A/19.

(C. in C. W.A. 131411A to N.O.I.C. Belfast.)

Allied Air Activity

Night-flying prohibited areas on East Coast.

A809 12/10/44. The following instructions supersede those contained in my A273 September 26th (not to all addressees).

To meet attacks by flying bombs launched from aircraft over the North Sea, A.A. guns have been deployed in areas known as the Diver Gun Box and Diver Gun Strip. Details of the area of the Gun Box were promulgated in my A 24 July 20, entitled Essex/Kent. I.A.Z.

(2) The Diver Gun Strip extends northwards along the East Coast from edge of Diver Gun Box at Clacton-on-Sea (WM.6132) up to and including A.A.A.Z. Yarmouth/Lowestoft, namely a point on the East Coast due west of the Cockle Lightship. (WH.0035) and extends in depth between lines running parallel to the coast 10,000 yards out to sea, and 5,000 yards inland.

(3) The Diver Gun Box and Diver Gun Strip are prohibited areas for flying by night (i.e. half hour after sunset, until half hour before sunrise) below 6,000 feet.

(4) This prohibition may be suspended over the Diver Gun Strip, (excluding the Harwich A.A.A.Z.) at the request of Bomber Command under conditions detailed in A.D.G.B. Operational Instruction number 17/1944, which has been sent to all addressees.

(5) If for exceptional operational or distress reasons aircraft are forced to fly from seawards by night into the Diver Gun Box or Gun Strip below 6,000 feet, they should, as far as possible:-

(I) Approach on a course that is at no time directed towards London, and as much North of 300 degs. as possible.

(II) Fly at lowest practical air speed, and not exceeding 250 miles per hour.

(III) Switch on I.F.F. distress code.

(6) These regulations will be effective as from night of 14th October.

(7) Appropriate amendments to SD158, SD533 and SD300 will be promulgated.

(Air Ministry, 131137A to Bomber, Coastal, Transport and Flying Training Commands, Eighth Air Force, A.D.G.B., A.E.A.F. (Rear), A.E.A.F. (Main), 1st Allied Airborne Army, Admty.)

/Restriction...

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HOME COMMANDS

Allied Air Activity

Restriction of flying over Dunkirk. S.62016. Serial 45. In order to prevent enemy resupply by air Dunkerque Garrison with effect from 1800A/14. Area bounded by grid lines. Easting H-10 to H-50, Northing H-70 to H-9 (?9 or 5) will be temporary IAZ by night only up to height 2,000 feet and unrestricted area by day as well as above 2,000 feet by night. Local arrangements being made to ensure safety of friendly aircraft above 2,000 feet when enemy below. Acknowledge. (S.H.A.E.F. 131550A to Admty., Air Ministry, Ops. (AD) A.E.A.F. Rear, U.S.S.T.A.F., European Division Air Transport Command, R.A.F. Coastal Command R.A.F., Transport Command R.A.F., Eighth Air Force (PMT), Ninth Air Force A.E.V., A.D.G.B., 2 T.A.F. Main, 2 Group R.A.F., Ninth Troop Carrier Command, 106 Group Bomber, First Allied Airborne Army, 38 Group R.A.F., Ninth Bomber Command, Exfor Main, A.N.C.X.F.)

Warning signals re non-corridor flights to Far Shore. On occasions when it is essential to route A/C in or out over the Continental coast (other than by corridors in force at the time) C. in C. Portsmouth at present originates a warning signal to Naval authorities concerned on Continental coast. Information is supplied by Naval Liaison Officers to A.D.G.B. and H.Q.B.C. (2) C. in C. Nore is now requested to originate such signals for the area lying to the east of a line Dungeness-Cap Gris Nez and to inform C. in C. Portsmouth when ready to commence the procedure. (3) C. in C. Portsmouth is then requested to originate signals only for the area to the west of the line when considered necessary. (4) A.D.G.B. and H.Q.B.C. are requested to instruct their N.L.Os. to pass the necessary information to C. in C. Nore and C. in C. Portsmouth. (5) My 302306 August not to all refers. (A.N.C.X.F. 131850A to H.Q.B.C., A.D.G.B., Cs. in C. Nore and Portsmouth.)

Enemy Air Activity

Rules for engagement of aircraft between North Foreland - Gris Nez to Spain, and 6° W. Following rules for engagement of A/C come into force as from 0001 16th Oct. in the waters bounded on the E. and S. by a line drawn from N. Forland to Cape Gris Nez and the coast of France and Spain, on the west by longitude 6° W. and on the N. by the South Coast of England. (2) a. During daylight (from half hour before sunrise until half hour after sunset): (1) All vessels may engage any aircraft flying below 1000 feet, if not recognized or identified as friendly. (2) All vessels may also engage any aircraft within range which is recognized or identified as hostile, or which commits a hostile act. (3) Aircraft flying at heights greater than 1000 feet and not recognized or identified as hostile, or seen to commit a hostile act, will not be engaged.

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FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air Activity

Rules for engagement of aircraft between North Foreland - Gris Nez to Spain and 6° W. (Contd.)

(b) During night.
(1) Warships may engage any aircraft within range which is not recognized or identified as friendly.
(2) Merchant ships and all other vessels, except warships may only engage aircraft by whom they are being directly attacked, and then only with short range barrage (up to 2000 yards) or with close-range weapons, including 20 mm.
(3) N.C.S.Os. and D.E.M.S. Staff Officers pass to Merchant ships.
(Admty., 131413A to A.G.M. Home and Abroad.)

Mining

Situation report

Sitrep. Operation "Pilgrim" continued. Negative result. 42 around F searched Oropesa Channel between 58E buoy, 14 E buoy and L 2 buoy with negative result.
M.F. 40 M/S Flot. carried out search to (?NE) of QZS 588 and swept 2 blue (?magnetic) in positions:- 049° 33' 00" N. 000° 11' 19" W. 049° 33' 36" N. 000° 11' 08" W.
One red magnetic swept in Havre approaches in position 271° Digue Nord light 3 miles. River Seine clearance completed apart from a few (corrupt group). Negative result from Calais. Belated report of one (?magnetic) swept in Avant Port on 11th Oct. Summary A. (2) - 4.
(Capt. M/S East 130830 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Oyster mines at Ostend.

Admiralty 102054.
(a) In view of fact that mines which have not responded to LL/SA have exploded spontaneously in harbour entrance turns towards possibility of Oyster.
(b) Request explosive sweep and supply of grenades be forwarded to Ostend by mm shoot ships returning from Harwich. Object approach on Ostend pier.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend 131005 to C. in C. Nore.)

Minesweeping off Humber.

Have swept 4 laps total width 14 cables one eastern side of centre line of BS 14 with no result. Unless otherwise directed intend sweeping western half of BS 14 weather permitting tomorrow.
(III) Submit that if no mines found on next sweep best way to search would be in lines of lay increasing G.T.U. commencing latitude 053° 30'. N. with successive laps to northward with M.L. and 3 Danlayers required.
(IV) M/ks. have referred to in F.O.I.C. Humber 121435 not known watch on 2333 kc's. have been set, request confirmation.
(S.O.M.S. 15 131853A to Capt. M/S Grimsby)

Enemy Intelligence

German transports in Sound.

1. My 071719. MAR DEL PLATA was observed passing through Sound southbound 0940 October 4th.

/(2)....

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HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Intelligence

German
transports
in Sound
(Contd.)

(2) German transport BALTENLAND was observed Northbound in Sound at 1215 same day. B3.
(N.A. Stockholm 131206 to Admty.)
O.I.C. Comment: Para. 1 probably correct MAR DEL PLATA has been reported to Oslo and Aarhus recently.
Para. 2. BALTENLAND is not known as a troop transport but probably carries war materials and equipment.

German
main
units.

My 101251 it is now learnt Cruiser passing Northbound through Sound on October 10th was KOLN. KOLN was sighted previous day in Copenhagen.
B 2.
(N.A. Stockholm 131731 to Admty.)
O.I.C. Comment. KOLN which is capable of mine-laying has now probably joined EMDEN and four destroyers in Oslo Fjord for minelaying operations

Kiel
Canal.

Mining results.
It is learnt Kiel Canal has been blocked for last five days owing to steamer being mined and sunk near canal entrance at Brunsbuettel.

(2) 10 - 12 vessels were observed anchored off Langeland on Oct. 10th held up owing to mining Kiel Canal.
(3) B3.
(N.A. Stockholm 131733 to D.N.I.)

Port Facilities

Rouen

D. of S.Ts. 121219A para. 2, regarding Rouen. The availability of the Port to receive shipping has had to be progressively amended in the light of:

(a) Experience and confidence gained by pilots in navigating the Seine under its present condition (e.g. Blockships narrowing channels at La Bouille and causing stronger currents at this point.)

(b) Progress of salvage clearance.

(c) Survey work.

Estimate of length of 180 feet and 14 feet draught was based on the size of vessel which the pilots at that time considered was largest they would be prepared to take round the Blockships after the first salvage vessel had come up the river. With their craft in tow of tugs round the Blockships the pilots are now confident that even without the removal of the OLE WEGGA they could take up with tugs a ship of any length subject to draught restriction 18 feet.

(2) These points have been discussed and agreed at my weekly shipping meetings at which P.S.T.O. S.C. is represented.

(3) Para. 3 of D. of S.T. goes rather beyond the agreed functions of sea transport as set out in BA 33/1 para. 4 of which covers D. of S.T.'s requirements. Concur that S.T.O. should always be consulted as to types of ship which can be accepted.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131353 to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Dieppe...

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13.10.1944
FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSPort Facilities - Contd.Dieppe
and
Antwerp.

Reference communications personnel lists recently forwarded to you, the following important and immediate amendments are notified.
(1) Naval party 1672 has been disbanded, and all ranks and ratings now come under H.Q. VH/F Dieppe.

- (2) Personnel N.A.D.C. Amiens, are now attached Force T.
(3) Force T now has a party number 1740, and its correct address is C/O F.M.O. Antwerp.
(F.O.B.A.A. 131506 to Combrax Portsmouth, Chatham, Devonport, R.M.B. Exmouth, Plymouth, Portsmouth and Chatham, Royal Marine Office Saundersfoot, Signal School, H.M.S. ODYSSEY, H.M.S. COLLINGWOOD (Party Funshore Office), F.M.O. Dieppe, F.M.O. Reading, Director of Personnel Admiralty, H.M.S. MERCURY.)

Ostend

Improving the Channel through wrecks is constantly in mind and there is good prospect that a substantial increase of draft will shortly be acceptable. Passage will always be somewhat hazardous particularly to large unhandy ships such as L.S.Ts. observing that the complete removal of blockships would be very long term job, and is not being attempted. C. in C. Nore's 112145 refers.
(Com. Belgium, 131741A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Early
Information
desired
on Port
facilities.

- (1) D. of S.T. has stressed the paramount importance of obtaining early and accurate port information to enable decisions to be made as quickly as possible regarding the largest type of ship for use in each port.
(2) Greatest care should be taken to report the maximum depth of water available at high water neaps and high water springs as well as the maximum length of ship which can be accepted. This information should be amended promptly as obstructions are removed and development progresses.
(3) D. of S.T. and P.S.T.O. N.W. Europe should be included as info. addressees in all such signals which should be classified "Important".
(A.N.C.X.F. 131859A to all F.Os. and N.O.I.Cs. on the Continent)

Casualties and Defects.

ABNAKI

POWERS with ABNAKI and L.T.538 and tow at 45° 43' N. 20° 25' 30" W. at 1200Z/13 065° 4.5. Tow crippled but still intact. 6772 1566.
(U.S.S. POWERS, 131516Z to C. in C.W.A.)

L.C.P.(L)
52

Following received from TORMENTOR begins:-
L.C.P.(L) 52 caught fire and became total loss tonight report follows T.O.O. 111911/Oct./44.
Ends.
(Com. L.C.B. 131520 to Admty.)

/PRINCESS...

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13.10.1944

FridayWar DiaryHOME COMMANDSCasualties and Defects - Contd.PRINCESS
MAUD

PRINCESS MAUD reports ship struck submerged wreckage on entering breakwater today. Damage if any not ascertained.
(S.S.T.O. Ostend, 131615A to D. of S.T.)

B.C.F. 3203

Please put on BN schedule for JOHN J. POWERS. At 1618Z steel BCF 3203 in Lt. 63 tow filled with water and sank in Lat. 46.12 long. 19.37 deck load barge all wood 169 Ft. by 34 Ft. by 11 Ft. broke loose. Unable to recover. All attempts to sink same unsuccessful. Barge left afloat but burning. Set 120° drift about one mile per hour. Considered a menace to navigation. Our present course 069 speed 4 1400Z WX.5868 1366 waves 25 feet. (C.T.G.27.5 131915 to C. in C.W.A.)

TROJAN III

S.O.S. Engine broken down off Skomar Island - drifting ashore in strong S.W. gale.
(TROJAN III, 132130 to General)
Received 2205 from (MVRP) TROJAN III repairs impossible drifting ashore slow 132205.
(Lands End Radio, 132307A to Admty., C. in C.W.A.)
Received 2218Z from TROJAN III. Is help possible or tug available 132218Z.
(Lands End Radio 132320A to Admty., C. in C.W.A.)
From TROJAN III. Immediate help required now.
(Lands End Radio, 132356A to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

L.C.T. 2454

Regret to report the loss of H.M.L.C.T.2454 on passage from Dartmouth to Portland. Vessel broke down in Lyme Bay and drove ashore in heavy gale on Chesil Beach approx. one mile south of Wyke Coastguard Station at 1845 today. Vessel is a total loss. As far as is known at present there are four survivors, all suffering from superficial injuries and exposure. Further details and names of casualties will be signalled when known.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 132250 to Admty.)

Shipping and ConvoysConvoy
W.A.P.1.

Arrival W.A.P.1 and Escort.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend, 130815 to C. in C. Nore.)

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Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticU/B hunt
by CARD's
Group and
E.G. 9.

Ship made radar contact at 122319 range 16300 yards disappeared 122339 range 8500. Position 40.03 N., 21.44 W., gained sound contact 122400. Continuing depth charge attacks. All times Z. (C.T.G. 22.2, 130045Z to S.B.N.O. Azores, Info. S.O. 9th E.G., Cornavtor, F.O.G.M.A., C. in C. Lant, Admty.)

*This attack
was probably
on U 1217.*

Reference 130045Z. Am closing position of contact my P.C.S. 39.19 N., 19.40 W., 295°, 16 knots. (S.O. E.G.9, 130401Z to S.B.N.O. Azores, Info. F.O.G.M.A., T.G. 22.2, C. in C. W.A.) Correct longitude my 130045Z* to 20.33 W. (C.T.G. 22.2, 130657.)

* Radar contact circulated as "originator omitted".

Corrected by footnote on C.T.G.22.2's 131049 to read "from C.T.G. 22.2".

This is C.T.G. 22.1 (sic) enlarging on my 130045Z as corrected by my 130657Z. Sonar contact regained six times last one at 0106Z. Flight operations hazardous due lack of wind and heavy swell, however am keeping one Avenger over scene. 9th Escort Group now in area. Escorts reported strong odour of diesel following attacks.

(C.T.G. 22.2, 131049Z.)

Note by W.R. 130045Z circulated as 'originator unknown' request originator be corrected to read C.T.G. 22.2.

Have joined C.T.G. 22.2 and placed myself under his orders. (S.O. E.G.9, 131415Z to F.O.G.M.A., Info. S.B.N.O. Azores, C. in C. W.A.)

Request you keep me fully informed of your movements and intentions.

(2) If not in contact at 0001A/14th proceed to search area bounded by lines joining following positions between 0800A/14th and 0800A/15th - (A) 38° 55' N., 21° 10' W. (B) 39° 35' N., 20° 15' W. (C) 38° 40' N., 19° 00' W. (D) 38° 00' N., 19° 55' W. (3) Codeword "Crafty" (024).

(F.O.G.M.A., 131624A to E.G.9, (R) S.B.N.O. Azores, C. in C. W.A., Admty., C.T.G. 22.2, Cinclant, Cominch.)

E.G.9 has been given area of search as in my 131624.

(2) Azores aircraft are being asked to co-operate in south-west half of area and as much to south-westward as possible.

(3) It would be much appreciated if your aircraft could co-operate in area bounded by lines joining the following positions and as much to north-eastward as possible.

(B) 39° 35' N., 20° 15' W. (C) 38° 40' N., 19° 00' W. (E) 39° 15' N., 20° 40' W. (F) 38° 20' N., 19° 25' W.

(F.O.G.M.A., 131640A to C.T.G. 22.2, (R) E.G.9, S.B.N.O. Azores, Cominch, Cinclant, Admty., C. in C. W.A.)

Your 131624A and my 131415Z. 9th E.G. with 2 escorts from C.T.G. 22.2 sweeping 160° from position of last contact 40° 27' 20° 45'. At 2100Z gamma search will be established 070 to 250° 20 miles either side of centre position 38° 50' N., 20° 05' W. Consider search will be better co-ordinated and more efficient if I remain in company with C.T.G. 22.2. Request approval.

(S.O. E.G.9, 131835 to F.O.G.M.A., Info. S.B.N.O. Azores, C. in C. W.A., Admty., C.T.G. 22.2.)

My 131624 and 131640 being passed to C.M.S.F. Amend positions to read - (A) 38° 45' N., 20° 33' W. (B) 39° 07' N., 19° 22' W. (C) 37° 53' N., 18° 42' W. (D) 37° 30' N., 19° 53' W. (E) 38° 55' N., 19° 57' W. (F) 37° 42' N., 19° 19' W.) C.T.G. 22.2 130657 just received refers.

(F.O.G.M.A., 131932A to E.G.9, C.T.G. 22.2, S.B.N.O. Azores.)
/Ceased ...

13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

U/B hunt by CARD's Group and E.G. 9. (Contd.) Ceased flight operations at 1900Z due weather. 9th E.G. plus 2 destroyer Escorts of T.G. 22.2 have formed scouting line 132000Z position 39.50 N., 20.55 W. Weather 4865 2554. (C.T.G. 22.2, 131947Z.)

FORMIDABLE. Technical. (F.O.G.M.A., 131444A.) Details of damage. (C.S. Gibraltar, 131536A.)

Your 112038. The renewal of defective centre turbine reduction gearing of FORMIDABLE is to be undertaken at highest priority at Gibraltar. (2) Preliminary work should be commenced forthwith and further message will be sent to Gibraltar when freight has been arranged for the set of gearing from U.K. (Controller, 131718A to F.O.G.M.A.)

CONTRAMAESTRE CASADO (Spanish Naval Transport) Your 121906* not to B.N.A. Madrid. Whenever passing Strait (CONTRAMAESTRE) CASADO has always worn Spanish Naval Reserve Flag. (2) Concur with S.O.(I) Gibraltar's 121631/. (3) Consider it possible that this vessel may be used for traffic in Loot and War Criminals. (4) Most desirable that when such vessels are proceeding on commercial voyage they should be navicerted - via Gibraltar for Contraband Control as are all other Spanish outward-bound merchant ships. (5) This voyage is regarded with suspicion since Spain has had a bumper wheat harvest this year. It is not clear why this Naval Transport should now be employed for additional wheat traffic when hitherto only merchant ships have been so employed. (F.O.G.M.A., 131657A to Admt.) * Information requested about CONTRAMAESTRE CASADO. / Not yet identified.

South Atlantic

ILLUSTRIOUS. Arrival Capetown ILLUSTRIOUS, RAPID. Simonstown ROTHERHAM. (C. in C. S.A., 131500B.)

13.10.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Aegean Operations.

Enemy intelligence. Now that surface forces have withdrawn from North Aegean it is expected that the enemy will endeavour to run convoys from Volos to Salonika.

(2) It seems probable that complete evacuation of Piraeus area has now taken place.

(3) CAROLA is believed sunk in Piraeus harbour.

(Capt. (S) 1 130025 to 1st S/M F. Appendix 40, S/M Appendix 68, MATROZOS, PIPINOS.)

Ph. Ratnagiris 13th.* At 1010C LOLA heading for harbour entrance 1 destroyer in entrance, 1 destroyer emitting smoke.

(2) Appreciate above possibly sailing tonight for Salonika.

(F.O.L.E.M. 131715C to VIRTUE, VIVID, MATROZOS, M.T.B. 399,

M.T.B. 397, S.O. 51 Force, Capt. (S) 1.) * Not understood.

ZEUS loaded with mines sailed from Salonika escorted by ~~one~~ SOLFERINO on 12th and returned 12 hours later. Sailed again 1101A/13th with further cargo mines. Mines presumably laid in Gulf of Salonika area.

(2) JOHN KNUDSEN presumed sunk in Piraeus Harbour.

(3) Athens evacuated, small number of Germans still present Piraeus.

(Capt. (S) 1 132251A to 1st S/F, PIPINOS, MATROZOS.)

S/M Patrols. (1) VIVID patrolling south of Gulf of Salonika.

(2) MATROZOS patrolling north of Skiathos.

(3) PIPINOS west of Nikaria northbound.

(4) VIRTUE north of Kinaros northbound.

(6) VORACIOUS 34° 23' 23° 32' to Scarpanto Straits.

(7) (?NEREUS) 33° 19' 29° 01' to Malta.

(8) 1st S/M F. 1958A/13.

(9) UNTIRING southbound through Scarpanto Straits.

(S.1 130907A.)

PIPINOS pass East Psara and through 039° 19' 025° 34' arriving 039° 41' 023° 47' at 1703A/14th to patrol in area SS.

(2) From position H of standard route about 2030A/13th VIRTUE proceed East Psara and through 039° 19' 025° 34' arriving 039° 26' 023° 47' at 2002A/14th to patrol in area YY.

(3) MATROZOS leaving area YY at noon 14th to patrol off Gulf of Kassandra East of SS.

(Capt. (S) 1 131029A to PIPINOS, VIRTUE, MATROZOS, (R) 1st S/M F. F.O.L.E.M.)

Joint Naval (Extract.) All times G.M.T.

Army R.A.F. (3) Aegean shipping summary. Photographic R/C

Intell. 12 October revealed following - Crete.

Appreciation. Only Candia covered. 12 H.A.A. guns removed from port and town area and 6 C.D. gun position probably destroyed.

Piraeus. Departed all 5 Red Cross ships and 2 barges. State of harbour as follows. Main. 1 concrete barge and 1 coaster. C.X. reports SS. CAROLA scuttled.

Comment. Not located by photographic R/C which, however, suggests her sunk south side of entrance. Second floating dock no longer visible at quay south of dry dock. JOHN KNUDSEN not located but C.X. reports her scuttled off north Point Psirtalia (or

/Psirtalia...

13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Aegean Operations.

Joint Naval Psirtalia) (probably Psyttaleias Island) blocking
 Army R.A.F. approaches to Naval Dockyard. Fires burning
 Intell. Customs Quay. Port Herakles. 1 oiler, 1 concrete
 Appreciation. barge, 24 caiques Salamis Straits. Departed all
 (Contd.) major shipping. Present 5 oilers, 3 concrete
 barges, 5 caiques.
 Ambelaki. Caiques only. Skaramanga. No shipping
 except inactive tanker OLNA and derelict merchant
 vessel. Mine jetty and south jetty demolished. 14 H.A.A. guns
 evacuated from harbour area.
 Cyclades. Syros. Departed 1 caique, 1 caique, 2 oilers and quays
 in N.E. corner damaged. Reliably reported German Garrison
 evacuated. Melos not covered.
 Khalkis. Considerable turnover small vessels since 7 Oct., but
 39 vessels all types including 18 caiques still present.
 Volos. Arrived 1 Siebel, 2 launches, 1 caique and 1 War
 Parthenope destroyer from Piraeus making 2 destroyers now
 present. Departed ENGERAU and 4 E/R Boats to Salonika according
 C.X. with troops also 2 corvettes, 2 launches, 1 large caique
 not since relocated. ADRIANA LOLO 2 coasters with hatches open
 presumably unloading troops and stores. C.X. reports these al-
 ready being transported away to Larissa 12 Oct. and further
 shipping with troops and stores from Khalkis and Attica expected.
 Salonkia. Good cover showed arrival ENGERAU convoy from Volos,
 also 2 Siebels. ENGERAU apparently unloading. Total 31 vessels
 present including BOURGAS ZEUS SOLFERINO 7 Siebels 8 E/R Boats
 BOURGAS hatches closed steam up presumably ready sail. C.X.
 however suggests may be used as blockship. Conclusions. Success-
 ful passage ENGERAU Volos - Salonika suggests enemy may now
 resume traffic this route. Still no movement away from Leros
 but further convoys always possible.
 (C. in C. M.E. 131310C.)

General.

Seafires. Your 101901 to F.O.L.E.M. On 11th October Admty.
 records show number of Seafires as follows:
 ATTACKER L.III 11 L.IIc 7. HUNTER L.III 11
 L.IIc 7. STALKER L.III 10 L.IIc 0.
 Fayid L.III 3s 4x L.IIc 0. Dekheila L.III 0 L.IIc 3s 4x.
 Malta L.III 4s L.IIc 2s 2x. N. Africa L.III 0 L.IIc 6s 3x.
 making a total of 64 Seafires serviceable and 13 Seafires category
 X. Request confirmation or otherwise of these figures.
 (D.N.A.O. 130548A to Comec.)

/Patras...

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13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Patras Area. Report No. 1. L.C.H. anchored south Cape Papas. Proceeded Patras by road from lightships late p.m. 11th. Contacted Army and Kannelopony yesterday. (3) Political situation still tense but improving due to tact of Kannelopony and presence of British troops. Ares and troops apparently under control and Elas co-operating to some extent with Kannelopony. Spend last night aboard caique near L.C.H. unable to board due swell.

(3) Now loading relief stores into White Ensign caique for distribution in Patras today. Am proceeding Patras in caique. (?Hope) return to L.C.H. tonight.

(5) Will get L.C.H. inside as soon as M/S 13 says O.K. Will visit Katakolo as soon as possible.

(S.N.O. Pat. 130605A to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Byron. Situation report number one for 13th October.

A. A channel 3 cables wide has been swept for contact mines south of line joining the following positions, 1. 038° 03' 30" N. 020° 43' 24" E. 2. 038° 03' 18" 020° 45' 00". 3. 038° 00' 48" 020° 51' 00". 4. 038° 00' 48" 020° 54' 00", and 5 cables wide east of line joining following positions, 1. 038° 00' 48" N. 020° 54' 00" 2. 038° 06' 54" 021° 00' 00" 3. 038° 15' 00", 021° 05' 48".

B. An anchorage for the sweep force was also swept to north and east of Oxia Island.

C. 7 mines were cut in vicinity of 038° 01' 30" 020° 49' 00".

D. Intend tomorrow Saturday widen channel already swept and commencing break through along lat. 038° 15' to Patras Harbour.

E. If necessary, ships not more than 30 feet draught could be sent Loortha Bay or Oxia Island anchorage tomorrow Saturday in readiness for calling forward to Patras Roads.

(S.O. M/S F. 13 131945A to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Enemy G.2 summary No. 46 (Extract.)

intelligence. (3) Albania. Saseno Island off Valona reported evacuated and 21 Corps left Tirana. Following capture Sarande enemy reported evacuated Delvino.

(4) Greece. All important shipping believed left Piraeus and all reports suggest town now clear of Germans. Considerable accumulation stores and personnel in transit reported Volos. White flags observed flying over Corfu 11 October. 100 Marines reported still left on Island. Paros garrison reported moved to Syros 1 October, Nisiros evacuated 7 October, enemy expected withdraw from Heraklion shortly. Efforts now being made evacuate all remaining garrisons, from Cyclades. (A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/13.)

/Operation...

13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean - Contd.

Operation "Manna". (1) My 111859 para. 2 refers. p. 213

A. Name of Ship.	B. Cargo	C. Loading Port.	D. Discharging Port.	E. Arrival time at discharging port.
EMPIRE COPPERFIELD.	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 12
CHISWICK	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 12
EMPIRE ROCK	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 12
FORT LA CLOCHE	Civil Relief	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 17
Vessel	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 17
Vessel	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 17
Vessel	M/T stores	Alexandria	Piraeus	D + 17

(P.S.T.O.M.E. 131126 to P.S.T.O. Med.)

Cositintrep 50. For period ending 2400A/12. Fronts line at 804870, 790906, 770910, 746920, 735940, 695959 50, 690014, FORTUNE fired 46 rounds at 9108 60 men and vehicles. Results not known. Firing ceased because proximity of hospital seen by spotter.

No counter fire. GLOIRE ready cruiser at St. Tropez 1400A/13. NIBLACK arrived St. Tropez 1300A/12. EBERLE arrived St. Tropez 1900/13. BROOKLYN night firing postponed due to serious floating mines situation in anticipated firing area. Fire support destroyers are directed to keep clear of Imperia-San Remo-Ventimiglia area during darkness until further notice. All ships advised to exercise extreme caution operating in above area. (Com. Cdr. Div. 3 (French 131153A to Com. 8th Fleet.)

? Captain Elliott (Roumania B.M.M.) 121145* refers. Complete documentary information of A.C.C. Italy considered by British Resident Minister as too bulky to be provided he suggests that if it is

H.M. Govts. policy to furnish such information Admiralty should ask War Office to arrange for Officer familiar with A.C.C. Italy to be attached to Mission. This officer might obtain valuable reciprocal information and be a useful addition to Mission as at present constituted.

(2) Alternative solution to above would be for Russians to put specific questions which would be answered from Caserta if H.M. Govt. approved in principle.

(3) Information on German controlled shipping is being forwarded to Captain Elliott.

(C. in C. Med. 131217 to Admty.)

*Not identified by W.R. at time of distribution.

M.S.C.I. Amendments.
(C. in C. Med. 131631.)

13.10.1944.

Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

- RICHELIEU. Re refit (technical).
(C. in C. Med. 131730A.)
- M.M.S. 170 sunk. M.M.S. 170 sunk by mine E.N.E. of Gorgona Island off Leghorn at approx. 2045/12.
(2) Two officers and 10 ratings were picked up by a Walrus aircraft and H.S.L. 133.
(3) The following are missing presumed killed by explosion which sank ship in few seconds. (List.)
(4) Board of Enquiry being held.
(N.O.I.C. Leghorn 131755A.)
- VINDICTIVE. V.A. Malta is requested to sail VINDICTIVE to Gibraltar as early as practicable A.M. 122324 refers, and report intended date.
(2) Full advantage is to be taken of this opportunity to transport personnel and stores.
(C. in C. Med. 131750A to V.A. Malta.)
- Situation report No. 458. (1) On 11th October U.S.S. GLEAVES engaged mobile battery in Imperia area sweepers and this destroyer destroyed 27 and 5 drifting mines respectively.
(2) At 2100A/11th 3 M.T.Bs. patrolling off Parenzo were engaged by 2 destroyers and suffered slight damage, patrol was then resumed.
(3) On 12th LOYAL and LOOKOUT carried out effective bombardment of enemy positions, battery and billets in Cesenatico area enemy fired but without success.
(4) COLOMBO bombarded battery on Aegina (?Island) at 0200A/12th.
(C. in C. Med. 131929A.)
- DURMITOR, NEBOJSCA. Capt. Kern C. in C. R.Y.N. has asked that M.T.Bs. KAJMAKALAN and DURMITOR and submarine NEBOJSCA at present at Alexandria, may be allowed to proceed to an Italian port in the Adriatic and operate with other units of the Yugoslav Navy.
(2) Subject to your concurrence, there is no Admiralty objection to this request.
(Hd. of M. 132305A to C. in C. Med.)

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13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U/B dis-
positions.

No indication of any U-Boats at sea in Indian Ocean. Scales in all areas remain W.5.
(C. in C. E.F. 130326Z.)

FORMIDABLE.

Should FORMIDABLE be sent to Eastern Fleet operating on 2 shafts. It is considered propeller on centre shaft should be removed before ship proceeds to Eastern Theatre. F.O.G.M.A. 112038 refers.
(C. in C. E.F. 130332 to Admty.)

SWIFTSURE.

Request confirmation that SWIFTSURE will have been recently docked (corrupt group) to join Eastern Fleet. My 011351 August refers.
(C. in C. E.F. 130437Z to Admty.)

Administration, Scheme outlined in para. four of your 191908/9* small craft. is considered highly desirable.

(2) Detailed information is being forwarded as early as practicable but the answer to para. 2C+ is that present or promised resources are only adequate for present commitments.
(C. in C. E.F. 131002Z to Admty.)

* Considering providing harbour craft on the lines of landing craft or Royal Army Service Corps. Flotillas.

+ Request information present or promised resources likely to be adequate to provide for forward bases and captured ports.

Proposed
Kilindini/
Aden inter-
mediate troop
convoys.

Admiralty's proposal for East African troop convoys 091244/10 refers. Delays mostly due to lack of troopships and repairing defects. Proposal in para. 3 gives constant employment for up to 6 ships up to four of which have 16 day period in Durban every 2 months. Request remarks of P.S. T.Os. addressed.

(2) Escorts are available for such a cycle but following limitations will have to be accepted (a) K.R. convoys and other commitments turned to run between D + 35 and D + 67.
(b) Delay in instituting trade convoys while trooping escorts are redispensed.

(c) When trade convoys are running intermediate troop convoys run in trade convoys independent of C.M/M.C. cycle. Intermediate cycle will then be 39 days instead of 29.

(3) D. of S.T. is requested to give estimate of date when cycle proposed could start operating.

(4) Request F.O.E.A's remarks.
(C. in C. E.F. 151006Z.)

PORPOISE -
patrol report.

PORPOISE 2nd Far East patrol. 11th September left Fremantle to carry out special operation "Rimau" 30th September. 1st phase of operation completed satisfactorily. 11th October arrived Fremantle with 9 friendly Malays and papers from junk.
(C. in C. E.F. 131222Z.)

War Diary.

13.10.1944.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies - Contd.

TALLY HO - (P. 317) TALLY HO 8th Far East Patrol.
patrol report. (2) 30th September 0900. In vicinity Jumpul Bank commenced attack on 3 500 ton coasters escorted by 3 submarine chasers and 2 aircraft. At 0921 fired one torpedo which missed but exploded 72 seconds after firing possibly against anti-torpedo baffle secured to fishing stakes.
(3) 4th October 1247 position 003° 09' N. 099° 55' E. surfaced and engaged 200 ton modern motor vessel with gunfire at 4500 yards range. Enemy turned inshore and ran aground M.T.B. escort returned fire ineffectively. Action broken off after firing 34 rounds.
(4) 6th October position 004° 13' N. 089° 26' E. detected mines close to seaward. At 0831 TALLY HO surfaced to clear line of British ground mine. Submarine chaser which was 4 miles away opened fire once. At 0848 TALLY HO dived for aircraft and at 09(?)30 submarine chaser dropped 3 depth charges close but caused no damage.
1034 position 004° 23' N. 089° 22' E. surfaced and opened fire on submarine chaser range 2000 yards which blew up at 1046 after 5 consecutive hits. Float plane which had also attacked TALLY HO and been hit by .303 incendiary was over submarine chaser at 400 feet when latter blew up. Submarine dived immediately and at 1047 $\frac{1}{2}$ A violent and prolonged explosion was felt fairly close which may have been caused by plane crashing as it is not thought any depth charges could have survived from submarine chaser explosion.
(C. in C. E.F. 131224.)

Administration, Request report in accordance with my 191908A small craft. September be forwarded by signal or air mail as soon as possible. Information is urgently needed to enable Admiralty to initiate measures to ensure availability of necessary numbers of administrative and supply craft, to provide the requisite manpower and arrange supply of maintenance and repair equipment.
(Hd. of M. 132312A to C. in C. E.F.)

13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America and West Indies

Convoy O.N. 256. 55 ships arrived New York 12th October.
(P.D. New York, 130034Z.)

U/B dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 131318Z, Cominch 131523.)

Russian S.Cs. Fifth group Russian S.Cs. have arrived St. Johns.
Request intended destination my 111505.
(F.O.N.F., 131911Z to Admty.)

B.U.S.C.Is. Concur your 121730.
(Cominch, 132012Z to Admty.)

U/B incidents. Para. (A) Following radar contact at 122319
CARD escort attacked sound contact 40.03 N.,
20.33 W. at 122400B further sound contacts
until 130106 all times Z.
Para. (D) 121650 transit A/C sighted a black
object and long wake on course 60 at 06.30 S., 13.00 W.
(Cominch, 132027Z.)

Russian S.Cs., PERIM, PAPUA. Turkish Govt. have hinted that they might accede
to a request from Russian Govt. for passage of
S.Cs. through Dardanelles. Initiative now lies
with Russians. Accordingly F.O.N.F. is
requested to hold the 5th Group of Russian S.Cs.
at St. Johns until further notice. F.O.N.F.'s
111505 and B.A.D.'s 062053 not to all refer.

(2) The sailing of PERIM and PAPUA to U.K. should not be
delayed on this account.

(3) B.A.D. is requested to ask Cominch not to sail the sixth
group to St. Johns. A.M. 042355 para. (2) refers.
(A.C.N.S.(H), 132201A.)

Australia and New Zealand

Digest 996. For 12th October. (Extract).
Amend yesterday serial 995 for 10th October to
read 11th.

(2) During morning eleven ship convoy including
three destroyers, three tankers, one transport, four freighter
transports sighted approaching Balabac Strait from north;
United States submarine subsequently got amongst tankers with
effect.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A., 130740Z.)

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13.10.1944.
Friday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M attack
and sighting
summary.

Para. (A) A/C G/547 sighted U-Boat at 0719Z/13
in 61° 52' N., 01° 45' E.

Para. (B) (1) A/C had disappearing radar contact
at 1650Z/12 in 54° 47' N., 09° 27' W.

(2) A/C had disappearing radar contact at 0200Z/
13 in 60° 00' N., 15° 43' W.

Para. (C) U-Boat was reported at 1700Z/10 in 47° 42' N., 03°
28' W.

(D.D.I.C., 131106A.)

U/B

Estimates.

dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 131350A as amended 131801A, 131401A.)

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

- North Sea. 1. Ostend can now accept ships drawing 5 ft. more than the tabulated High Water of the day.
- Channel. 2.(a). The first oil-pipe line from Dungeness to Boulogne has now been laid, all but the shore terminal. The second one has been started today.
(b). Minesweeping operations at Cherbourg have now been completed.
(c). Calais entrance block will take at least 15 days to clear.
- West coast France. 3. PIORUN and BRISSENDEN are to take 36 40 gallon drums of diesel oil to the F.F.I. forces at Ile d'Yeu.

Foreign Stations.

North Atlantic.

U.G.S. 56.

4. SS. HOWARD L. GIBSON and large British tanker GEO. W. MCKNIGHT were in collision this evening in convoy U.G.S. 56 about 210 miles W.N.W. of Madeira. Both ships burst into flames and were abandoned, but by the evening of 15 October the fires were got under control and both ships proceeded under their own power for Casablanca.

Mediterranean.

- Riviera. 5. The French destroyer LE FORTUNE carried out bombardment near the Franco-Italian frontier today.
- Adriatic & Ionian. 6.(a). A parade of Royal Navy and Commando was held through the streets of Corfu this morning.
(b). Coastal Air Force today in the Gulf of Venice made 6 R.P. hits on a 2/3000 ton merchant ship, sank a M.L. and damaged two others, sank and damaged various other small craft, and bombed Dubrovnik harbour.

/ (c) ...

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Adriatic &
Ionian.
(Contd.)

6.(c). During recent sweeps M.Ls. cut 128 mines in Korcula Channel, Dalamatia.

(d). Valona is reported evacuated. It is reported that this morning the Germans were blowing up the coastal defences of the Zvernee Peninsula and installations in the town and port of Valona, and that this evening the Germans commenced the wholesale burning of Valona.

Athens.

7. It is reported that nine Commando landed at the Piraeus today and made a ceremonial entry into Athens with elements of the Second Para. Brigade.

East Indies.

8. VALIANT sailed from Aden this morning for the U.K.

America & West Indies.

MAGOG
damaged.

9. The frigate MAGOG of Escort Group 16 was torpedoed early this afternoon in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, whilst engaged on a U-Boat hunt. An attempt is being made to beach the ship. There is no further information.

Australia & New Zealand.

Celebes.

10. Lightnings today bombed ship repair yards in Lembeh Strait, and the town and waterfront at Amoerang.

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Nomenclature
of and
authorities
for submarine
sanctuaries.

506 A.Z.

Submarine sanctuaries recently promulgated have been given the following reference letters, and the name of the authority responsible for ordering the sanctuary is shown after the reference letter.

A.G.M. 480 AZ of 071057A (AA) C. in C. W.A.
A.G.M. 482 AZ of 081315A (BB) Capt. (S) 12.
A.G.M. 493 AZ of 112205A (CC) A.C.O.S.
A.G.M. 494 AZ of 112206A (DD) Capt. (S) 9.
(D.A/S.W., 141222A A.G.M. Home Series.)

Sink-at-
sight policy
north of
49° N.

Can reply now be given to my 101838 October observing that Spanish fishing ships persist in working vicinity of Sole Bank despite recent warning given H.M. Ships.
(C. in C. W.A., 141433A to Admty.)

Movements

STRIKER &
FENCER.

A.M. 110157. Arrangements have been made to berth STRIKER and FENCER in King George V dock from 25th October for 25 ton floating crane to berth between and service both ships simultaneously.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 140929A to Admty.)

TYNE.

Your 132010. Berthing of TYNE is occasioning Harbour Master great difficulty. It is hoped to send definite reply on Monday 16th.
(F.O.I.C. Glasgow, 141141A to R.A.D.H.F.)
Your 132010. Approved.
(D.O.D.(H), 142128A to Com. D. H.F.)

IMPLACABLE.

Your 101259. Concur 801 and 880 Squadrons be retained at Machrihanish until 23rd October to complete training and joining IMPLACABLE at Scapa about 29th October.

(2) Intend to carry out short operation in IMPLACABLE between 24th October and 29th October using INDEFATIGABLE's 887 and 894 Seafire Squadrons with which IMPLACABLE is now working up.
(3) Immediately on completion of this operation intend 887 and 894 Squadrons to proceed south as required by you in order to give one weeks leave before embarking in INDEFATIGABLE.
(C. in C. H.F., 141309A to F.O.C.T.)

FURIOUS.

Suggest FURIOUS should now be transferred to the administration of F.O.C. Reserve Fleet.
(C. in C. H.F., 141543 to Admty.)

/BRIGADIER ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Movements - Contd.

BRIGADIER. It is hoped to commence using the Folkestone/Ostend route for military reinforcements as from about 21st October beginning with 1 ship per day.
(2) It is desired to commence with ships capable of using the port at all states of the tide and the only 2 so suitable and available at the moment are PRINCESS MAUD and H.M.S. BRIGADIER.
(3) BRIGADIER is at present engaged in N.M.S.S. and it is requested that you will agree to her being replaced in this latter service by QUEEN EMMA which is available.
(D. of S.T., 141818A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval. Cositintrep no. 192, part 2.
(A) General. Bad weather has delayed sailing of CYRUS and OCEANWAY to Havre.
(B) Pluto Units for laying second Hais Line

Dungeness Boulogne sailed a.m. today.
(C) Unloading figures reference Cositintrep no. 191 part 2 figures for stores and Pol. for Calvados Area should read 4962 and 3291 respectively. U.S. Figures for 11th and 12th still not yet received.

12th October British figures.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Petrol</u>
Calvados	542	667	4750	1166
Dieppe	None	None	3326	None
Boulogne	8	None	None	None
Ostend	247	151	1007	1525
Totals	797	818	9083	2691

(Adm. Ramsay, 140010A to Admty.)

Cositintrep 193, Part II.

Captured Ports: Calais: Report from Salvage Officer states that 15 days will be required to lift ships in the entrance block.
Havre: Recent delay is not due to discovery of more mines but to bad weather.

(B) Unloading figures. 13th October

<u>Place</u>	<u>Troops</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Stores</u>	<u>Pol.</u>
British				
East Calvados	1671	249	4764	2529
Dieppe	1148	17	4456	Nil
Boulogne	34	59	150	Nil
Ostend	1422	320	1041	2790
Total	4275	645	10411	5319
13th October				
United States				
Cherbourg	Nil	Nil	12040	15396
Beaches	4693	545	14600	Nil
Brittany Ports	Nil	6	4309	Nil
Small Ports	Nil	Nil	3147	Nil
Le Havre	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total U.S.	4693	551	34096	15396
Combined Total 13th	8968	1196	44507	20715

12th October
United States

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Situation Reports

Naval. (Contd.)	Place	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	Pol.
	12th October				
	United States				
	Cherbourg	Nil	15	11520	14481
	Beaches	1162	345	14340	66
	Brittany Ports	Nil	Nil	3478	Nil
	Small Ports	Nil	Nil	2991	Nil
	Le Havre	316	67	538	Nil
	U.S. Total 12th	1478	427	32867	14547

United States figures for 11th October still not received.

(Adm. Ramsay, 142333 to Admty.)

Operations

North Sea.

Bombardment
of
Walcheren.

Following is a repetition of 141558 addressed A.N.C.X.F. from S.O. Force T Main. Operation "Switchback" progressing slowly against determined opposition with elements of Walcheren garrison now fighting on mainland. Army now require no bombardment before 18th October but request EREBUS and ROBERTS may be at 48 hours notice to bombard target on Walcheren or at Knocke after that date. (C. in C. Nore, 142024A to EREBUS, ROBERTS.)

Operations

Channel

Patrol.

Pins cover night 14th/15th October. G.C.1 ACTIVE Z.109. G.C.2 HARGOOD Z.9 south. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 141243A to Admty., C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, A.N.C.X.F., F.O.I.C. Portland, F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, F.O.I.C. Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on Broadcasts HD and CN in area C Portsmouth night patrols, C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operations

West Coast France

Patrol.

Am investigating A/C's 141230A report of fishing vessels. (Force 27, 141415A to C. in C. Plymouth.) My 141415A. Nothing sighted in vicinity. Proceeding night intentions in my 141445. (Force 27, 141711A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

/Situation ...

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

West Coast France - Contd.

Situation in Bay of Biscay. (1) O.P.A.S.17 (a) Arcachon vicinity ?(b) 045° 30' N. 002° 15' W. (c) Arcachon vicinity. Intend patrolling night 14th/15th Arcachon to 046° 00' N., 003° 00' W. and visit Arcachon a.m. 15th. Fuel remaining 0800/14th TANATSIDE 77%, ALBRIGHTON 75%.

(2) Les Sables d'Olonne visited. Rumoured German reinforcement of Gironde Mouth from La Pallice by barges inside Ile d'Oleron. Embarked 3 stragglers of French Vendee Parachute Unit now in England. Weather sea 34 wind W.4 cloud 8 visibility 14 miles barometer 100 6.5 overcast.
(Force 27, 141445A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Diesel oil for Ile d'Yeu. Intend PIORUN and BRISSENDEN to embark diesel oil for delivery to Ile d'Yeu on next occasion of carrying out operation "Assault".
(3) S.N.S.O. is requested to place on board above destroyers by 1600/15 diesel oil in 40 gallon drums as follows:- PIORUN - 24 drums, BRISSENDEN - 12 drums.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141804A to S.N.S.O. Devonport, PIORUN, BRISSENDEN.)

12,000 bottles of Medoc from Arcachon. (1) French trawler IENA arrived at 1500/14 from Arcachon having on board Lieut. of Artillery (Reserve) Jean Lawton and Lieut. (late Sous Officer d'Aviation) Marcel Nicolau, both F.F.I. on a mission from General Officer Commanding F.F.I. at Bordeaux.
(2) They are applying for supply of clothing, equipment, arms and ammunition for F.F.I. in Bordeaux area.

(3) Ship contains cargo of twelve thousand bottles Medoc.
(4) Officers and crew are being taken over by Security Control and sent to Interrogation Centre in London.
(5) Guard is being placed on board, and cargo has been sealed by customs.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 141841A to Admty.)

Operations

Western Approaches

ST. KENAN. Your 141209. Position course and speed 058° 23' N., 011° 34' W., 138°, 11½ knots.
(ST. KENAN, 141915A to C. in C. W.A.)

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HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Norway

Patrol. Amend my 132213A. On arrival at 063° 10' N., 007° 00' W. sweep eastward through position 063° 45' N., 003° 30' W. and establish gamma patrol between 062° 30' N., 001° 00' W. and 063° 00' N., 000° 30' E. until further orders.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 141047A to S.O. E.G.6.)

Operation S.J. para. (10). Area 1 until further orders is between 060° 30' N. and 062° 30' N. and 000° 30' W. and 003° 58' E. There will be no flying between last light 14th and first light 15th due to rain.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 141509A to S.O. E.G.6.)

My 141509A not to C. in C. W.A.

Flying area will be shifted at first light tomorrow 15th to area between 062° 12' N., 003° 55' W. and 061° 22' N., 002° 00' W. and 059° 32' N., 005° 30' W. and 060° 25' N., 007° 25' W.

(2) Proceed forthwith through position 061° 52' N., 003° 37' W. at 0700A/15th thence establish Gamma between 061° 16' N., 003° 40' W. and 061° 31' N., 004° 40' W. Probable course of U-Boats 215°.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 142133A to S.O. E.G.6.)

Intended raid on coastal shipping.

Strike by carrier borne A/C against coastal shipping between 062° 30' N. and 064° 30' N. is being carried out on 14th and 15th October spare days 16th and 17th. If operations continue on 16th and 17th VIKING will be informed and her return delayed.

(2) EURYALUS being informed.

(F.O.(S), 141248A to S/Ms. N. of 51° N.)

Investigation of oil patch. Detail 3 escorts to investigate oil patch sighted by aircraft in position 058° 13' N., 001° 45' W. Keep clear of mined area.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 141501A to S.O. E.G.17.)

Your 141501. Arrived in position at 2015A and have searched without result. Asdic and radar conditions poor owing to north-west gale. Continuing search. Have seen friendly aircraft in vicinity dropping light but have been unable to establish communication on R/T 2410 with them.

(S.O. E.G.17, 142345 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

Allied Air Activity

Warning signals re non-corridor flights to Far Shore.

A.N.C.X.F's 131850 para. (2). Ready to start this procedure at 0001A Sunday 15th October. (C. in C. Nore, 141029A to C. in C. Portsmouth.)

Western Approaches Patrol.

Nr.1. 2 Trawlers 50° 16' N., 10° 56' W.? 030° Spanish markings. (A/C RBUN, 141100A to 15 Group.)
Nr.2. 4 Spanish trawlers 49° 11' N., 10° 54' W., 084°, 3 knots. (A/C RBUN, 141145A to 15 Group.)

/Biscay ...

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Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Biscay Patrol. Nr.1. 2 Spanish fishing vessels 45° 05' N., 02° 08' W. stationary. One has W/T equipment. (A/C PBT.42, 141230A to 19 Group.)
Nr.1. 2 Spanish fishing vessels in position 45° 47' N., 03° 28' W. both have W/T equipment. (A/C PBT.15, 141315 to 19 Group.)
Nr.2. Another 2 Spanish fishing vessels position 45° 53' N., 03° 37' W. both have W/T equipment. (A/C PBT.15, 141405A to 19 Group.)
Nr.2. 6 Spanish fishing vessels 45° 30' N., 03° 00' W. stationary. All have W/T equipment. (A/C PBT.42, 141427A to 19 Group.)

patrol off Brown Ridge. Nr.1. Have obtained A.S.V. contact probably a surface vessel. Position 52° 50' N., 2° 50' E. (A/C KUAF, 142005 to 16 Group.)

Mining

Situation Report. Sweep Sitrep. M/S.F.40 completed (? their) clearance of Havre - Dieppe Channel between H.V.3 buoy and positions 049° 50'15" N., 000° 04'54" E., negative results. Oropesa clearance operational "Pilgrim" completed. 3 G.Y. mines swept in positions 050° 03'07" N., 000° 51' E., 050° 04' N., 000° 51'03" E., 050° 02'07" N., 000° 12' E. M/S.F.42 (? 43) Oropesa between L.7 and 14 E Buoys. Negative results. Havre approaches. Negative results. Granton trawl sweepers located 777 type (? mine) in position 275° Digue Nord Light 2.5 miles. Mine was beached and rendered safe. (Capt. M/S. East, 140830A to A.N.C.X.F.)

Efficiency of Snag locator trawlers. In view of poor results so far obtained during the working up of COMITATUS as a snag locator trawler request this ship may be inspected with a view to assessing her efficiency and that of her crew, as this appears to be well below average. In this way it may be possible to lay down definite limitations for the guidance of Admiralty for minimum states of efficiency acceptable for ships allocated in future as snag locator trawlers. (VERNON M/S., 141830A to LOCHINVAR.)

Enemy Intelligence

Probable deep minefield in Skudesnes Fjord. Following for D. of N.I. Norway - Area closed for anchoring and fishing - Skudesnes Fjord. Reference my telegram 1842/24th September, 1942 according Swedish notices to Mariners of October 12th this area is now (? reported) as follows: from position 59° 07.8 N., 5° 14.8 E. through Kalvenes (59° 04.5 N., 5° 24.00 E.) to position 58° 57.00 N., 5° 19.9 E. (N.A. Stockholm, 141107 to Admty.)
Comment: As this area is closed for anchoring and fishing only, this may indicate a deep minefield.

/Reputed ...

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Reputed
E & R-Boats
at Le Havre
& Boulogne.

My O21258A October para. 2. Please proceed with patching of side of one R-Boat at Boulogne, for tow or preferably for shipment in L.S.D. to U.K. (2) The second R-Boat which has broken back is not to be patched but fittings in wheelhouse and compass in accommodation forward to be removed and shipped over in first R-Boat.

(3) Arrangements made for shipment of boat to be reported in advance if possible in order that arrangements for reception in U.K. may be fixed.

(4) Work on boat to proceed subject to non-interference with operational commitments of repair party.

(F.O.B.A.A., 141115A to N.O.I.C. Boulogne.)

Your 092107.

No E/R-Boats at Le Havre. Boulogne not yet investigated. Request location and type of captured German gunnery course at Le Havre.

(C.T.F.125, 141729A to Comnavu.)

KÖLN.

A.M. 111052.

Now reported cruiser KÖLN passed northbound through Sound on 10th October. Report graded B.2.

(D.D.I.C., 141225A to Cs. in C. H.F., Rosyth, Nore, A.C.O.S., F.O.(S), A.O.C. in C. C.C.)

IRISH
CEDAR.

C.U.42 at 1230Z/13 passed IRISH CEDAR in 45.05 N., 29.12 W. on course 253 speed 9 giving call EIKN from Cork to St. John New Brunswick. No previous knowledge this ship.

(C.T.G. 21.5, 141435 to Admty.)

U-Boats

Suspected
U-Boats.

By D/F on 3910 k/cs at 0013Z U-Boat estimated probably within 45 miles of 58° 40' N., 08° 00' W. (D.D.I.C., 140315A to Escorts of U.R.139.)

By D/F on 5895 k/cs at 1720Z U-Boat estimated within 20 miles of 59° N., 04° 40' E.

(D.D.I.C., 141911A to S/Ms. north of 51° N.)

Scuttled
U-Boat at
Brest.

C.T.F. 125's 070947 and Comnavu 091644 are being passed to Admiralty. Request confirmation that Admiralty concur in Comnavu's signal. (A.N.C.X.F., 141141A to Admty.)

Port Facilities

Le Havre.

CYRUS will be sailed for Havre as soon as weather permits.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141546 to Admty.)

/Cherbourg ...

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- Cherbourg.** Following received from ALERT addressed C. in C. Portsmouth begins. Completed operations Cherbourg 1600 today. Intend proceed 0700 tomorrow, expected time of arrival Solent 1600/15th.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 141758A to Admty., C.T.F. 125.)
- Arromanches.** Your 121200A. Sinking draught of all three ships 24 feet. Lengths of EMPIRE ADVOCATE 436 feet, KELBERGEN 400 and PERSIER 415.
(D. of P. (C) 141953A to N.O.I.C. Arrow.)
- Ostend.** Can now accept ships drawing 5 feet more than height high water at Ostend as shown in Admty. (G) table page 209. My limitation draught must be strictly adhered to.
(N.O.I.C. Ostend, 142131A to Com. Belgium.)

Casualties and Defects

- Destroyer refits.** A.M. 042350 para. 4 not to all. The following arrangements have been made for the refitting and radar alterations of the 24th D.F.
(1) TEAZER at Devonport. TERMAGANT and TUMULT at Portsmouth. TROUBRIDGE or TYRIAN at Chatham. TENACIOUS by Palmers at Jarrow. All to be taken in hand about 12th November.
(2) TERPSICHORE at Devonport. TUSCAN at Portsmouth. TYRIAN or TROUBRIDGE at Chatham. All to be taken in hand about 20th December.
(3) If TUMULT refits at Malta substitute TUSCAN for TUMULT in para. (1). A.M. 122306 not to all refers.
(D.O.D.(H), 140030A to Cs. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth, Nore, F.O.I.C. Tyne.)
- TROJAN III.** Received 0033Z from MVRP (TROJAN III). Please receive final request for assistance or tug. Can you give us any assistance or either. 140030.
(Lands End Radio, 140035A to Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)
Received 0212Z. Begins: From (MVRP) TROJAN III. Lifeboat now standing by and tug coming. 140155Z.
(Lands End Radio, 140313A to Admty., C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, R.A.F. 10 Group, F.O.I.C. Milford Haven.)
- Barge WILTSHIRE.** Barge WILTSHIRE being converted by New Medway Steam Packet Co., Rochester for Admiralty services sank during night of 10th October at moorings in Gas House Reach, Rochester. Request early arrangements be made for salvage as wreck is understood to be obstructing fairway and berthing arrangements in the reach.
(W.P.S. London, 141051A to F.O.I.C. London.)

/HEL ...

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS

Casualties and Defects - Contd.

HEL.

Struck buoy K.3 sustained damage to propeller. Please make necessary arrangements after arrival for anchorage Swansea Road estimated arrival 15th October noon. Present speed 6 knots. Master.
(HEL, 141720Z to F.O.I.C. Swansea.)

Shipping and Convoys

C.U. & U.C.
Convoy
Escorts.

C.R. No.135.
Request Task Group and Task Unit Commanders of U.S. Escorts for C.U. and U.C. convoys be made an addressee of all despatches that relate to the employment of their escorts.
(Com. 12th Fleet, 141131 to Admty., C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, C. in C. W.A., C.T.F. 125.)

SS. BORDEAUX.

A.M. 301816 Sept. Following received from S.H.A.E.F. begins: SS. BORDEAUX required for use by S.C.A.E.F. M.W.T. will arrange with French to man fit and make available for "Overlord" operation.
(A.N.C.X.F., 142145A to Admty.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

U-boat Will comply your 131636A*
 hunt. (C.T.G. 22.2 140820Z to F.O.G.M.A.)
 * E.G.9 has been given area of search.
 Request you will take 9th E.G. under your orders
 and operate as a composite group against south-
 south-east bound U-boat. Your 130045 amended by your 130657
 refers.

(2) Request you keep me fully informed of movements and
 intentions of composite group.

(3) I will make proposals based on any intelligence here.
 (F.O.G.M.A. 141057A to C.T.G. 22.2.)

My appreciation on movements of U-boat as follows:-
 Estimated course S.S.E. Speed 3.3 knots.

(2) Furthest on at 0001/16 could be 240 miles from position
 40° 03' N. 20° 33' W.

(3) Consider U-boat may have been hindered by attacks of
 T.G. 22.2.

(4) Propose, therefore, following area of search from 0800/15
 to 0800/16 area enclosed by lines joining following positions.

(G) 36° 22' N. 19° 18' W.

(H) 36° 46' N. 18° 08' W.

(J) 38° 00' N. 18° 47' W.

(K) 37° 37' N. 19° 57' W.

(F.O.G.M.A. 141549A to C.T.G. 22.2 S.B.N.O. Azores,
 Info. E.G.9, Admiralty, C. in C.W.A. C.M.S.F.)

U.G.S.56 Two ships of U.G.S.56 on fire. More information
 SS. H.L. later.
 GIBSON (C.T.F. 63 142152Z.)
 tanker At 2139Z HOWARD L. GIBSON rammed GEORGE W.
 G.W.MCKNIGHT MCKNIGHT latitude 34.07 longitude 21.24. Both
 on fire. ships burst into flame, MCKNIGHT abandoned ship
 at once and GIBSON now doing so. C.C.D.60 in
 AHRENS with HOLTON left at scene with orders
 to rescue survivors and report salvage.

Both ships are certain it is not a torpedoing. Recommend tugs
 be despatched at once from Azores.

(C.T.G.63 142245 to S.B.N.O. Azores, Cominch, C. and R.,
 F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, C. in C. Lant, Cominch.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

G.2 summary (Extract.)
No. 47. (3) Albania. Enemy withdrawal from Southern Albania and Northwestern Greece under way. Valona reported evacuated. 60 Germans N.E. corner Corfu surrendered 12th October. Only a few Marine Gunners now remain.
(4) Greece. Reports of 12th October state Piraeus clear and Greek flag flying from Acropolis. Athens believed clear except northern suburbs. Aegina Islands off Piraeus occupied by Allied troops and Flevos (?Phleva) also believed clear but 50/60 Germans (A.A. gunners) reported remain in Salamis.
(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/14.)

FAVOURITE. Position at 1300 38.28 N. 16.54 E. have serious steering defect and using relieving tackle. E.T.A. uncertain.
(FAVOURITE (BJXW 141448 to Malta W/T.)

Yugoslav Navy. Paras. two and three (A) of Mideast AGA/49784* of 10th October to Troopers refer. Transfer not desired in any case at present owing to -
(a) there already being too many men in Royal Yugoslavian Navy for ships available.
(b) Lack of accommodation at Malta.
(c) Uncertainty as to whether present policy of employing R.Y.N. on active operations will prove successful.
(d) Undesirability of R.Y.N. becoming involved in yet further political trouble which might arise in consequence of arrangement proposed in my Mideast.
(C. in C. Med. 141502 to Admty.)
* Regarding transfer of Yugoslav personnel.

WHIRLWIND, WHIRLWIND and WRANGLER should be used to escort
WRANGLER. VINDICTIVE to U.K. A.M. 122324 not to all refers.
(2) They will subsequently be required to provide escort for two C.V.Es. leaving U.K. for Eastern Fleet about 1st November. A.M. 031525 to C. in C. E.F. refers.
(V.C.N.S. 141601A.)

M/S F.5. Flotilla in company. Intend reaching position 132° 5 miles from 704 at 0430A and then out sweep advance at 7 knots.
(SYLVIA 141602A to S.O. M/S F.5.)

3 S/Ms Further to my 011044 the Greek C. in C. has re-
for R.H.N. requested that three V class submarines should be allocated to the R.H.N. under the April 1942 agreement.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

3 S/Ms
for R.H.N.
(Contd.)

(2) In view of the terms of the agreement it is for consideration that these submarines might be lent to the Greeks on condition that they assisted with British A/S training in the Mediterranean.
(3) Letter follows.
(C. in C. Med. 141611 to Admty.)

KING GEORGE
V.

It is intended that KING GEORGE V shall leave U.K. about 26th October to join the Eastern Fleet.
(2) D.27 in KEMPENFELT with URSA and UNDAUNTED will provide screen throughout. C. in C. Med. is requested to sail KEMPENFELT for Plymouth forthwith.

(3) Admiralty will promulgate route for KING GEORGE V to Gibraltar and C. in C. Med. is requested to arrange onward passage which should include short stay at Malta.

(4) Passage through Mediterranean may also be delayed for purpose of carrying out any practices which ship desires and for which C. in C. Med. can provide necessary facilities.
(V.C.N.S. 141704A.)

Patras
area.

Sitrep 2. L.C.H. 97 anchored near Cape Pappas. M.S. 13 commenced sweeping. Intend following him to Patras (corrupt group.)

(2) Propose commencing discharge of first steamer in Patras Roads into caiques before harbour mines cleared.

(3) Evacuation 1100 security battalion prisoners from Pappas considered urgent for political and supply reasons. Suggest small steamer or 3 L.C.Is. be sent Cape Pappas area to load prisoners from caiques.

(4) Diesel fuel needed Patras for caiques and Olive industry. Will supply limited quantity from L.C.H.

(5) Political situation quiet but still tense. Relief of Athens celebrations without incident. Attended official thanksgiving today.

(6) Distribution of relief food this morning caused good impression local press bare.

(7) Food, medical supplies, under clothing urgently needed. 600 wounded Kalamata.

(8) Army request L.C.Ts. with R.A.F. supplies discharge Pappas Port.

(S.N.O. Pat, 141755A.)

Special Ops. (Extract.)

Sitrep No. 44. (5) In late September a seaborne patrol was established northeast of Ravenna M.63 and is now passing information preparatory to arrival of raiding party.

(Adv. H.Q. Allied Armies Italy 141825A.)

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

ATHERSTONE Sail at 0530/15th S.O.A. 21 knots by N.W. Channel
intercep- direct to 36° 40' N. 13° 50' E. thence along
tion of M.V. "Black" route until Swedish ship AKKA is met.
AKKA. (2) AKKA is to be intercepted and escorted to
Malta, speed being adjusted to arrive daylight
16th October.
(3) C. in C. Med's 121140 refers.
(V.A. Malta 141830 to ATHERSTONE.)

M.E. Balkan (Extract.) Salonika. Naval H.Q. from Piraeus
Sitrep No. installed near Alatinihmills (sic). Comment.
334. Presumably Admiral Aegean. Crete. Force 133
report Germans left Heraklion town by 12 Oct.
Scarpanto. C.X. reports 11 Oct. only Italians
on Island. Naxos. Force 142 report Grn. re-
quested surrender 13 Oct. Lemnos. Grn. 340 11 Oct.
(C. in C. M.E. 141950C.)

South of NIBLACK and PLUNKETT relieved BENSON and FORTUNE
France. at 1730 today and had no firing missions.
Part 2. 100% ammunition and 81% fuel remaining.
Part 3. FORTUNE sank three mines, sweepers sank 2.
Part 4. First airborne task force reports
situation unchanged with occasional artillery exchange. Front
line right flank is 805870 to 793908 to 77 91 to 750923 to
7359 to 7295 to 7197 to 7199 to 6902.
(NIBLACK 142002A to Comcrudiv 3 French.)

Adriatic & Sitrep, No. 26.
Ionian. (1) R.N. and Commando parade through streets of
Corfu this morning. Roses all the way.
(2) Troops from 40 Commando are combing through
southern half of Corfu Island and troops from 2
Commando the northern half.
(3) 5 mines cut in Q.B. 239. Details of swept channels as in
my 142036.
(4) Sarande town not yet considered clear of mines but good
progress is being made.
(5) Weather fine today but deteriorate.
(N.C. Force Mercerised 142211 to F.O.T.A.L.I.)

Situation (1) In Northern Aegean carrier borne aircraft set
report No. K.T. ship on fire and sank 5 caiques on 8th Oct.
459. 2 days later in same area they carried out 2 heavy
bombing attacks on large concentrations of small
craft, sank 3 E-Boats and damaged 6 Landing Craft
2 caiques a flak escort and a trawler. They
also destroyed 2 trains one carrying ammunition
and a locomotive.
(2) On 12th October ARGONAUT bombarded Phleva and VIRTUE sank
200 ton motor vessel and 4 caiques.
(3) French destroyer LE FORTUNE on 13th October engaged troops
and installations near Bordighera.
(4) M.M.S. 170 sunk by mine off Leghorn on 12th October 7
casualties.
(5) During recent sweeps M.Ls. cut 128 mines in Korcula Channel.
(C. in C. Med. 142229A, amended 152131A.)

/Cositintrep...

14.10.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Cositintrep
No. 461
part 4.

(Extract.)
Para. one. Poros. A patrol of special boat service has been to Aegina and report Perdika and C Turlo clear.

Para. two. Northern Peloponnese. A small party is now established in Megara and patrols are operating twelve miles to the east. A party of the R.A.F. Regiment is moving to Sparti to accept the surrender of Greek security troops.

(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/14, Recd. 0040/14.)

Cositintrep
No. 462, part
four.

(Extract.) Greece. Two Para. Brigade. One Company of 4th Para. Battalion with one troop second para. squadron (Royal Engineers) were successfully dropped on Megara airfield 20 miles west of Athens at 1415 hrs. 12 October. The force suffered 25 per cent casualties owing to a high wind.

(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/14.)

Port dis-
charges,
S. France.

Administrative summary No. 31 for week ending 10th October.

(B) For week ended 7 October daily port discharges averaged as follows

Port	Stores (Long tons per day)	Vehicles (No. per day.)
Marseilles	8,881	1,094
Port de Bouc	2,491	-
Toulon	608	476
<hr/>		
Total daily average	11,980	1,570
<hr/>		
(A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O.)		

War Diary.

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Administra- Request your remarks on A.M. 191908 and in par-
tion - small ticular on para. 2A and B as regards Indian ports.
craft. (C. in C. E.F. 140216Z to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

GEN. MITCHELL, Departure U.S.S. GENERAL MITCHELL and GENERAL
GEN. RANDALL. RANDALL escorted by RACEHORSE and REDOUBT in ac-
cordance with C. in C. E.F. 030403 and 070446,
Comsouwespac Sea Frontier 050648 and my 110406.
Signals quoted not to all addressees.
(2) - (6) Arrangements.
(F.O. Bombay 140229Z.)

U/B dis- No fresh information, scale unchanged.
positions. (C. in C. E.F. 140323Z.)

Escorts for Reply to para. 6A of your 121942. Escort probably
K.M.F. convoys available Aden 3rd November certainly by 10th
November. (Portion corrupt, repetition requested)
made available for later voyages. Second voyage
may not be able to leave Aden before about 17th
December depending on commitments ex K.M.F. 36.
(3) Cancel my 110614 and paras. 2, 3 and 5 of my 110402 not to all.
(C. in C. E.F. 140557Z, to P.S.T.O.M.E.)

Proposed K.E.F. as at present augmented could supply escort
Kilindini/ for M.C/C.M. cycle and intermediate troop convoy
Aden inter- cycle under limitation of para. 2B and C of your
mediate troop 131006 October.
convoys. (F.O.E.A. 141010Z to C. in C. E.F.)

SWIFTSURE. Your 130437. SWIFTSURE will have been docked in
October 1944.
(D.O.D.(F) 141126A to C. in C. E.F.)

VALIANT. Sailed VALIANT at 0830Z/14 to Suez to comply with
para. 6 of C. in C. E.F. 030914 E.T.A. Suez 0300Z/
20th S.O.A. 10 knots.

(2) Escorted as far as Perim by R.N.N. TJERK
HIDDES and TRENT. On detaching TRENT returning to Aden and TJERK
HIDDES proceeding at 16 knots to Suez E.T.A. 0300Z/18th for
onward routing to U.K. to comply with C. in C. E.F. 101003 not to
N.O.I.C. Suez.

(3) Tugs AIMWELL and BOLD if no longer required by VALIANT will be
detached in vicinity of 17° to proceed to Massawa via North Chan-
nel.

(4) Request arrangements be made for transit of Canal.
(Com. Aden 141558Z.)

/E.F....

286

14.10.1944.

Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

E.F. Escort
Force.

It is intended to change the title of the Arabia-Bengal-Ceylon Escort Force to "E.F. Escort Force" short title "E.F.E.F." on 1st November, 1944. S.O. Arabia-Bengal-Ceylon Escort Force will become Captain E.F. Escorts short title C.E.F.E.

(2) This is necessary because confusion is arising by coastal force use title which includes Bengal and Arabian, and appropriate because it is likely that the escort and the fleet will work together more than they have previously.

(C. in C. E.F. 141633Z.)

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

U/B hunt off C. Breton I. Obtained Radar contact submarine attacking with depth charges, my position at commencement of current watch 44.23 N. 55.59 W. course 125, speed 9 knots. Weather report 4856 2221. (RIVIERE DU LOUP 140111Z to C. in C. C.N.A.) Lost contact carrying out observant. (RIVIERE DU LOUP 140150Z.)

My 140111Z. Regained contact am attacking with Hedgehog. (RIVIERE DU LOUP 140345Z.)
C. in C. C.N.A.'s 140505* radar contact investigated. Contact opening. Fired star shell at 0006Z. Contact faded.
(2) A/S contact half mile counter attack depth charges 0043. Deliberate attack with depth charge 0052Z. Contact lost. Observant begun.
(3) Contact regained 0334Z. Hedgehog attack 0338Z. Lost contact carrying out observant. (RIVIERE DU LOUP 140630Z.) *Not received.
Complying with your 141007* P.C.S. is 44.12 N. 55.17 W. 105°, 14 knots. Following is an eight figure weather report 09242122. (RIVIERE DU LOUP 141200Z to C. in C. C.N.A.) *Not identified in War Registry.)

SS. QUEEN MARY. Recommend QUEEN MARY be diverted from position R to new positions, X. 39.30 N. 34.59 W. Y. 45.03 N. 26.02 W. thence to position U omitting positions S and T. (Plot (O.D.) 141105A to Com. 10th Fleet C. & R.)

U/B off Sable I. OAKVILLE reports attack by torpedo in 43 N. 60.42 W. at 0930Z SASKATOON, DUNVEGAN have joined hunt. WALLACEBURG remaining with O.N. 257. (S.O. W.6 141150Z to C. in C. C.N.A.) My 141150Z OSHAWA not met. Have directed him to join hunt W.6 fuelled to capacity. Embarked depth charges 13th October. Weather report 0904 1452. (S.O. W.6 141249Z.)
Your 141456Z. At 0836Z in 43.17 N. 60.27 W. torpedo track crossing bow observed by 1st Lt. Coxswain and Lookout. Station S. All A/S contacts non sub. Weather report 2826 1233. (OAKVILLE 141650Z to C. in C. C.N.A. (R) W.6, E.G. 25, Capt. D. Halifax.)

MAGOG torpedoed. MAGOG torpedoed position 049° 12' N. ^{67°} 19' W. (SPRINGHILL 141335Z.) Hold Q3 97 at Father Point. (S.O.E.G. 16 141340Z.) Have been struck by a torpedo aft. (MAGOG 141343Z.)

MAGOG stern blown off by torpedo or mine being beached by TORONTO. No contact obtained as yet. (S.O.E.G. 16 141403Z.)
MAGOG position 120° 6 miles Point des Monts badly damaged bulkhead holding endeavour to beach later. (S.O.E.G. 16 141430Z.)

/MAGOG...

14.10.1944.
Saturday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

MAGOG
torpedoed.
(Contd.)

MAGOG damaged by mine or torpedo in position 120°
6 miles from Point des Monts have requested
Argentia to hold convoy at Father Point. If this
has not already been done suggest you do so.
Acknowledge.
(S.O.E.G. 16 141501Z.)

Hit by acoustic torpedo aft at 1325Z. Second acoustic torpedo
exploded 50 yards on port quarter. Engine room bulkhead hold
consider ship in condition to be towed. Casualties 2 dead, 6
injured C.O. and X.O. well.
(MAGOG 141521Z.)

Your 141403Z. Request speed of MAGOG when hit, and whether
"Cat" was streamed and functional.
(C. in C. W.A. 141633Z to SPRINGHILL.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. 141436Z, Cominch 141541Z.)

CHEBOQUE.*

Information requested whether CHEBOQUE has arrived
U.K.
(F.O.N.F. 141438Z to C. in C. W.A.)
*Torpedoed on 4 October. See Home Commands.

U/B incidents. A. 140930 H.M.C.S. OAKVILLE reports torpedo attack
43.00 N. 60.42 W. About 141335 H.M.C.S. MAGOG
torpedoed 49.12 N. 67.19 W. all times Z.

D. Following radar contact about 140006 H.M.C.S
RIVIERE DU LOUP attacked sound contact. Area 44.23 N. 55.59 W.
from 140043 to 140338. 141315 surface craft attacked sound
contact 32.05 N. 64.10 W.
(Cominch 142110Z.)

Australia & New Zealand.

Digest 997.

October 13th.
(2) R/C Liberator at dawn attacked Seaplane Base
Ialos (1° 8' N. 120° 50' E.) where five float-
planes seen on water; three thereof destroyed by
straffing and buildings set afire by bombing. One floatplane
followed Liberator but did not attack.
(G.H.Q.S.W.P.A. 141035.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M attack
& sighting
summary.

Para. A. A/C reports U-Boat 61° 31' N. 16° 48' W.
1955Z/13. Para. C. L/86 obtained radar contact
61° 24' N. 00° 20' W. 0542Z/14.
(D.D.I.C. 141030A.)

U/B dis-
positions.

Estimates.
(D.D.I.C. 141325A, 141329A.)

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

North Sea.

1. (a). One of the aircraft of 16 Group attacked 4 escort vessels off the Ems with cannon or machine gunfire. Result not reported.
(b) Twenty eight working days is the estimate for clearing the Schelde of mines after the coastal batteries have been silenced.

West Coast
France.

2. Fighting is reported at the mouth of the Gironde. The enemy hold the coast for 19 miles south of Pointe de Graves.

Western
Approaches.

3. CHEBOQUE has been refloated and finally docked at Port Talbot.

Norway.

(Operation "Lycidas")

4. Force 9 consisting of EURYALUS, TRUMPETER, FENCER and 6 escorting destroyers yesterday laid mines in the Leads north of Stadtlandet, and today successfully attacked merchant and flak ships off Trondheim.

Foreign Stations.

South Atlantic.

5. For the fifth consecutive day Allied aircraft outside Spanish territorial waters were fired at by batteries in the Canary Islands.

Mediterranean.

Escort
Carriers.

6. ROYALIST and the four escort carriers still remaining in the Mediterranean are to be retained on the station for the present. The carriers are to be refitted on the station by May 1945 if possible.

Air
Operations.

7. Air operations last night and today were severely restricted on account of bad weather. Balkan Air Force bombed the quays at Split and harbour installations at Donja/Doli (Yugoslavia.)

15.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean - Contd.

Corfu.

8. QUANTOCK flying the flag of F.O.T.A.L.I. entered Corfu harbour this morning and left this evening.

Greece and Aegean.

9(a) Carrier borne aircraft operated in the Northern Aegean with considerable success to-day. They destroyed 4 armoured cars, 3 ammunition trucks, 27 lorries and 29 other vehicles, blew up an ammunition ship and set a coaster on fire.
(b) The arrival of a naval force at Piraeus was delayed on account of a minefield off Cape Turlo. The minesweeper LARNE and a B.Y.M.S. were mined in this minefield to-day: the latter was sunk, but LARNE was towed to Poros. SS. PETRONELLA (water tanker) was also mined and sunk off Cape Kalauri about 27 miles south of Piraeus; and (on 16th October) C. in C. Med. reported the following additional casualties caused by mines off Cape Turlo apparently to-day: the minesweeper CLINTON damaged and proceeded to Poros under her own power, 2 B.Y.M.S. and an M.L. sunk.
(c) After sweeping of a narrow channel ORION, AJAX, BLACK PRINCE and AURORA with four Allied destroyers and attendant minesweepers anchored off Piraeus at sunset to-day. Pending widening of the channel storeships anchored at Poros.
(d) The advance elements of the 3rd Corps also arrived at the anchorage at Piraeus at 1730A to-day. They are to commence disembarking tomorrow.

Roumanian Fleet.

10. The British Military Mission at Bucharest has received a report that the greater part of the Roumanian Fleet, comprising 4 destroyers, 3 gunboats, 3 S/Ms, a S/M depot ship, 2 mine-layers and small craft, fully equipped with stores and ammunition sailed on or about 12th October from Constanza for Odessa or Sevastopol, manned by Russian crews with a few Roumanian technicians. The B.M.M. report that this action is outside the terms of the Armistice under which the Roumanian Fleet was to operate as a Roumanian force under general leadership of the Soviet High Command. The Russians state that these ships had been captured and some Russian officers and men placed on board to complete complement and improve morale. The ships are stated to have been taken to Sevastopol and Novorossisk.

15.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

East Indies

Operation
against
Nicobar
Islands.

(*"Millet"*)

17th October

19th October

11(a) RENOWN (V.A.1), INDOMITABLE, (V.A.(A) E.F.), VICTORIOUS, LONDON, CUMBERLAND, SUFFOLK, PHOEBE and 9 destroyers sailed from Trincomalee to-day to carry out an operation against the Nicobar Islands and Nancowry, which contain airfields and small harbours.

(b) The operations commenced with a bombardment lasting $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours of Car Nicobar (one of the northernmost of the Nicobar Islands) which synchronised with air attacks on that island and Nancowry. At Nancowry, one medium sized and 5 small ships were sunk and fires were started amongst the harbour installations.

(c) A night bombardment of Car Nicobar followed, and later the operations against Car Nicobar and Nancowry were repeated with equally satisfactory results, though on this occasion the enemy were better prepared and hostile fighters attacked our aircraft whilst returning to the carriers. At least 8 enemy aircraft were shot down by our carrier borne fighters.

(d) No damage or casualties were suffered by our ships, but one naval bomber and 3 fighters failed to return.

China

12(a) A Naval Task Force operating in the Central Pacific Islands and Kuriles between 12th and 15th October destroyed 95 enemy aircraft during night attacks on the Task Force.

(b) Bombers and fighter bombers between 12th and 15th October attacked the Central Pacific Islands and the Kuriles.

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

N.O.I.C. At 0900/19th October, N.O.I.C. Cumberland Ports
Cumberland will be reduced to status of resident Naval Officer.
reduced to Change of status is being promulgated to local
R.N.O. civil Authorities and in local orders.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 151650A to Admty. C. in C. W.A.)

Movements.

FURIOUS. Your 141543. Concur.
(D.O.D.(H) 151350A to C. in C. H.F.)

RAVAGER. RAVAGER is required to ferry 40 Seafires and 6
Hellcats to Gibraltar sailing in K.M.F. 35A on
20th October.
(2) Following action by authorities concerned is
requested:
(i) F.O.I.C. Greenock to sail RAVAGER to arrive at Belfast by 18th
October.
(ii) F.O.I.C. N.I. to arrange for loading of aircraft.
(iii) C. in C. W.A. to sail RAVAGER in K.M.F. 35A.
(iv) C. in C. Med. to arrange to collect the aircraft from
Gibraltar. It is suggested that HUNTER should be used for this
purpose observing that congestion at Gibraltar makes it undesirable
for aircraft to be landed.
(3) F.O.G.M.A. to sail RAVAGER to the Clyde as convenient.
(D.O.D.(H) 151617A to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Med., F.O.G.M.A.,
F.O.I.C. Greenock, F.O.I.C. N.I.)

MALAYA. A.M. 111921, MALAYA is to remain in the Clyde for
the present.
(D.O.D.(H) 151942A to Cs. in C. H.F., W.A.,
A.C.O.S., F.O.I.C. Greenock.)
In view of A.M. 151942 not to all addressees cancel my 131118.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 152346A to Admty. Cs. in C. W.A., H.F., A.C.O.S.)

Operations.

Situation Reports.

Naval. Cositintrep No. 194 part 2, naval.
A. Captured ports. Ostend. Ships drawing 5 ft.
more than tabulated height of high water can now
be accepted.

B. Unloading figures. 11th October U.S.

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	P.O.L.
Cherbourg	-	24	15,430	10,680
Beaches	4,835	1,500	13,640	208
Brittany Ports	-	15	3,601	-
Small Ports	-	-	3,425	-
Le Havre	91	34	819	-
U.S. total 11th	4,926	1,573	36,915	10,888

/14th...

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Situation Reports.

Naval.
(Contd.)

14th October - British

	Troops	Vehicles	Stores	P.O.L.
East Calvados	465	364	4,298	2,917
Dieppe	-	-	5,294	-
Boulogne	-	4	397	-
Ostend	1,252	62	2,064	2,000
<u>British total</u>	<u>1,717</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>12,053</u>	<u>4,917</u>
U.S.				
Cherbourg	-	1	8,930	1,379
Beaches	1,102	291	9,115	74
Brittany Ports		Figures not available		
Small Ports	-	-	1,835	-
Le Havre	-	76	252	-
<u>U.S. total</u>	<u>1,102</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>20,132</u>	<u>1,453</u>
Combined total 14th	2,819	798	32,185	6,370
(Adm. Ramsay 152210A to Admty.)				

Operations.

North Sea.

Opening of
R. Schelde.

My 101424 September para. 3 not to Cdre. Belgium.
It is confirmed that 28 sweeping days is the present estimate for minesweeping of river Schelde to allow for probable additional heavy minelaying and the shorter daylight hours available for sweeping.
(C. in C. Nore 151012A to A.N.C.X.F., Com. Belgium.)

Operations.

Channel.

Patrol.

Pins cover night 15/16th October. G.C.1 ACTIVE Z.109, G.C.2 HARGOOD Z.9 S.
(C. in C. Portsmouth 151026A to Admty. C. in C. Nore, V.A. Dover, C. in C. Plymouth, A.N.C.X.F., F.Os. i/c Portland, Milford Haven, Falmouth, Cardiff, Ships maintaining W/T watch on broadcasts HD and CN in area C, HORNET, Capt. (S) 5, VERNON Portsmouth, AGGRESSIVE, ATTACK, N.O.I.C. Newhaven.)

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

West Coast France.

Patrols. Force 27 is to patrol between Ile d'Yeu and Sables d'Olonne tonight 15/16th.
(2) Unless fuel situation necessitates earlier return Force 27 is to leave Gironde area at 1800A/16th and return to Plymouth sweeping north and west along the coastal route.
(3) Force 28 PIORUN, BRISSENDEN sails Plymouth 0500A/16th to reach AA 47° N. 4° W. by 2000A/16th. Thence to patrol in Belle Ile - Gironde area.
(C. in C. Plymouth 151052A to Force 27.)
Carry out operation "Assault".
A. Force 28 PIORUN (S.O.), BRISSENDEN.
B. 0500A/16th October.
C. By most direct route to reach position AA 47° N. 4° W. by 2000A/16. Ushant and Penmarch signal stations are to be spoken on passage, weather permitting.
D. Patrol between Belle Ile and Gironde.
F. Links. G. Force 27 as in my 151052A.
K. Diesel oil is to be landed at Ile d'Yeu a.m./17th or as convenient.
My 141804A not to all addressees refers.
(C. in C. Plymouth 151127A to PIORUN, BRISSENDEN.)
Arcachon report fighting yesterday Gironde mouth. Enemy hold coast 30 kilometers south of Point Graves. Opas 17.
A. Roche bonne. B. Les Sables vicinity. C. Ile d'Yeu.
Weather. Overcast 10/10 cloud. Visibility 12 miles. Wind W.S.W.
Sea 35. Barometer 1002.
(Force 27 151400A to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Operations.

Norway.

Patrol. (P.215) SCEPTRE sailed 1015A/15th October through SA 090° Muckle Flugga 20. SO 061° 13' 002° 59' E. SN 060° 27' 004° 03' E. and SD 059° 05' 004° 03' E. thence to patrol Norwegian coast between 058° 55' and 058° 15' diving by day east of 001° E.
(S.O.S. Lerwick 151019A to S/Ms N. of 51° N.)
My 132331 para. 1 (not to all) no longer concerns you.
(2) Join 6th E.G. who has established "Gamma" patrol between 61° 16' N. 03° 40' W. and 61° 38' N. 04° 40' W. Further orders will be issued by C. in C. Rosyth.
(3) Attention is drawn to Q.Z.X. 170, 233, 854, 816, 698, 736 and 760.
(C. in C. W.A. 151258A to S.O.E.G.5.)
At first light tomorrow 16th proceed to establish "Gamma" between 060° 33' N. 003° 37' W. and 061° 07' N. 004° 52' W.
Probable course of U-Boat 220°.
(2) Flying area as in my 142133A.
(C. in C. Rosyth 151931A to S.O.E.G.6.)
VIKING is remaining within 20 miles of 065° 55' N. 008° 01' E. until further directions. My 141248A not to Admty. refers.
(2) EURYALUS being informed.
(F.O.S. 152157A to S/Ms N. of 51° N.)

/My...

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Norway.

Patrol.
(Contd.)

My 151717 para. A amend to read VIKING patrolling within 20 miles of 65° 55' N. 08° 01' E. (F.O.S. 152214A to Admty.) My anticipated P.C.S. at 0800A/16th October - 060° 01' N. 005° 05' W. 030° 15 knots. C. in C. Rosyth 151931 refers. (S.O.E.G.5 152310 to S.O.E.G.6.)

Operation "Lycidas".

Operation "Lycidas" strike on October 14th. Mines not layed in intended positions. Mines laid between Ristø and Sandø in 062° 14' N. and 005° 22' E. also in Aaramsund Channel in 062° 12' N. 005° 29' E. Flak batteries engaged.

Ramsdysund

- (2) Mining in Ramsdysund, 15th successful.
 - (3) p.m. 15th merchant ships and 2 flak ships successfully attacked in position 063° 54' N. 009° 48' E.
 - (4) No casualties.
- (EURYALUS 152355A to C. in C. H.F.)
Force 9 P.C.S. at 2100A/15th Oct. 064° 33' N. 005° 03' E. 225° 13 knots. Returning to Scapa, following is an encyphered weather report 5371 9257.
(EURYALUS 152359 to C. in C. H.F.?)

Operations.

Northern Waters.

Convoy
J.W. 61.

LAURELWOOD and NOREG sailed in accordance with my 121225A October. LAURELWOOD acting as Cdre. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 150735A to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe.) Request you will sail Russian S.Cs. to arrive Loch Ewe p.m. 16th October. My 091230 not to all refers (C. in C. W.A. 151417A to R.N.O. Fort William.)

Allied Air Activity.

Patrol off
Texel.

Nr. 1. P.C. of 1 merchant vessel 3 escort vessels 52° 58' N. 4° 45' E. 360°. (A/C JDHN 150700 to 16 Group.)

Patrol off
Ems.

Have attacked enemy with cannon or machine gunfire P.C.S. of enemy 4 escort vessels 53° 45' N. 6° 30' E. 240° 8 knots. The height of base of low cloud is 500 feet. (A/C DHJ 150706 to 16 Group.)

Patrols off
Denmark.

Nr. 1. P.C.S. of 4 merchant vessels 54.45 N. 06.40 E. 240° 8 knots. (A/C JDHG 150810 to 16 Group.)

15.10.1944.
Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Allied Air Activity - Contd.

Prohibited flying areas along E. Coast.

A.809 12th Oct. 1944. The following instructions supersede those contained in my A.273 September 26th (not to all addressees.)

To meet attacks by flying bombs launched from aircraft over the North Sea, A.A. guns have been deployed in areas known as the Diver Gun Box and Diver Gun Strip. Details of the area of the Gun Box were promulgated in my A.24 July 20 entitled Essex/Kent, I.A.Z

(2) The Diver Gun Strip northwards along the East Coast from edge of Diver Gun Box at Clacton on Sea. (WM, 6132) up to and including A.A.A.Z. Yarmouth/Lowestoft, namely a point on the East Coast due West of the Cockle Lightship (WH, 0035) and extends in depth between lines running parallel to the coast 10,000 yards out to sea and 5,000 yards inland.

(3) The Diver Gun Box and Diver Gun Strip are prohibited areas for flying by night (i.e. half hour after sunset, until half hour before sunrise) below 6,000 feet.

(4) This prohibition may be suspended over the Diver Gun Strip (excluding the Harwich A.A.A.Z.) at the request of Bomber Command under conditions detailed in A.D.G.B. Operational Instruction Number 17/1944, which has been sent to all addressees.

(5) If for exceptional operational or distress reasons aircraft are forced to fly from seawards by night into the Diver Gun Box or Gun Strip below 6,000 feet, they should as far as possible:-

(i) Approach on a course that is at no time directed towards London, and as much north as 300° as possible.

(ii) Fly at lowest practical air speed, and not exceeding 250 miles per hour.

(iii) Switch on I.F.F. distress code.

(6) These regulations will be effective as from night of 14th Oct.

(7) Appropriate amendments to SD. 158, SD. 533 and SD. 300 will be promulgated. Ends.

(Hd. of Air Br. 151420A to F.O.N.A.S.)

Mining.

Efficiency of snag locator trawler COMITATUS.

VERNON M.S. 14 1830A October ship referred to is no way operated or administered by me. (Cdr. M/S Granton 151045 to LOCHINVAR.)

Laying deep minefield.

Carry out operation "C.D.A.4" 1650A/15 October. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 151107A to C. in C. W.A., PLOVER.)

A.M. 111615. It is desired that APOLLO shall lay a series of five parallel lines of deep mines each consisting of 156 mines spaced at 200 feet the initial line being laid in a direction 203° from position 51° 24' N. 09° 00' W. The initial positions of succeeding lines to be 5 miles apart along a line drawn 248° from the position quoted above. Depth 210 to 240 feet below chart datum.

(2) Mines Mark XVII Assembly 39 with 210 feet depth reels. Supply at Milford Haven will be arranged outfits being allocated serial numbers A.1, A.2, etc.

(D.D.O.D.(M) 151346A to C. in C. W.A.)

/My...

15.10.1944.
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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Laying deep
minefield.
(Contd.)

My 151107A. Sailed PLOVER escort SWEETBRIAR.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 151725A to C. in C. W.A.)

East Coast
sweeping.

Have swept further 10 cables on west side of B.S.
14 making 24 cables in all and 14 cables on east
side of B.S. 18 all without result.

(2) Drifters tomorrow - A. to complete west side
of B.S. 18. B. If no mines found sweep 2 laps of

18 mles as submitted in my 131853 para. 3.

C. Sail so as to arrive Grimsby Road by 0700/17th or when lock
gate opens.

(3) M.L. 211 remaining in company tonight.

(S.O. M/S 15th Flot. 151943A to Capt. M/S Grimsby.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German main
units.

Following received from S.F. Sources

(1) (?German cruiser KOLN) in Swedish (corrupt
group) 9th Oct.

(2) German ship ADMIRAL SCHEER and (?German cruiser
LEIPSIG)* no longer present at Bornholm.

(N.L.O. Northern Group Armies 151125A to A.N.C.X.F.)

*Alternative German cruiser SEYDLITZ.

B.V.138s.

4 B.V.138s active from Trondheim presumably sea
R/C.

(D.D.I.C. 151140A to Force 9, C. in C. H.F.)

Port Facilities.

Reports
required on
Port
Facilities.

In order to check the present capacity of all
ports the following information is to be signalled
to A.N.C.X.F. (Main):

A. Deepest draft acceptable at mean high water
neaps and mean high water spring.

B. Maximum length of ship which can be accepted.

C. Number of berths available and drafts.

D. Number of vessels it is possible to berth on any one tide.

E. Number of berths available in open anchorage for ships waiting
to discharge. (Though in general it is my policy that the
minimum number of ships be held at anchor off ports particularly
in Belgium.)

(2) Information signalled should be agreed by P.E.C. when
applicable.

(3) Any change in the situation should be reported without delay.

(4) Similar reports should be made for new ports as they are
opened. (5) My 131859 not to all is concerned.

(A.N.C.X.F. 151401A to all F.Os. i/c and N.Os. i/c on the Conti-
nent.)

War Diary.

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HOME COMMANDS.

Port Facilities - Contd.

Censor release Ref. No. RR12648 Cite. Shprd. Rear. of details of Ops. Rear 30 is reference. Release time for "Gooseberries" harbours now set for 0030 hours British summer time and "Mul-berries". Monday 16 October. Full restrictions on dimensions and detail of design and construction being observed here pending reply our request clarification. Amendments to final draft of official handout and amendments to censorship guidance already sent in separate cable our reference Ops. Rear 31. We are stopping publication of all still photos and movie film pending receipt from Combined Chiefs of Staff of clarification of restrictions on dimensions and details of design and construction. (S.H.A.E.F. Rear 151600A to Agwar.)

Calais. TN/482. Secret. Ref. signal S.H.A.E.F. forward 16869 of 041030A. Regardless of ultimate decision on use and development of Calais request permission for immediate start on construction by British of Train Ferry terminal at Quai Gare Maritime or Quai Paul Devot When developed facilities will be better than Dieppe but use of both terminals required. British Port Construction Troops and equipment ready to start work if approval given. (Exfor Rear 151700A to S.H.A.E.F. Forward.)

Technical.

German magnetic M/S boat. Your 111150A. Arrangements have been made with U.S. N.O. Rouen for German magnetic M/S boat to be despatched to VERNON Portsmouth by first available ship. (F.O.B.A.A. 151204 to A.N.C.X.F.)

Casualties & Defects.

LOTHROP. N.C.S.O. Clyde 121645A (not to Admtly.) A.S.A. LOTHROP now 31 hours overdue. Unable to trace in Bristol Channel area. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 151201 to C. in C. W.A.)

CHEBOQUE. Your 141438Z. Returning to Bristol Channel, tow parted under stress of weather and CHEBOQUE anchored but dragged ashore. Crew remaining on board were taken off by lifeboat, and following day 15th, CHEBOQUE was refloated and docked at Port Talbot. I much regret that in these unusual circumstances arrival signal to Operational Authorities was overlooked. F.O.I.C. Cardiff's 121052A not to all, but repeated to C.N.M.O. refers. (C. in C. W.A. 151532A to F.O.N.F.)

PORTHREPTA. PORTHREPTA has sustained bottom damage at discharging berth and holed plating starboard side under boilers. Temporary repair being carried out here and ship expected to sail 16th. Dry docking will be necessary. Agreed M.W.T.R. (S.S.T.O. Boulogne 151741 to P.S.T.O. N.W.E.)

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects - Contd.

- L.C.T. 2454. Salvage officer reports L.C.T. 2454 broken in two after portion totally submerged, forward portion badly damaged casualty a constructive total loss. (F.O.I.C. Portland 151846 to Admty. Salvage.)
- B.C.F. 3204. At 1230Z Steel B.C.F. 3204 in L.T. 538 tow with POWERS and ABNAKI Group filled with water and sank in lat. 46.42, long. 16.41, deck loaded wooden barge salvaged. 2000 position course and speed ~~WPBYQE~~ (As received) ~~II9~~, 48.08 13.38, 064, 4.5. POWERS group 47.02 15.49, 064, 6.
NY
W.R. 5668 9656 at 1830Z.
(C.T.G. 27.5 152101 to C. in C. W.A.)

Shipping & Convoys.

- L.C. Transportation commitments. Your 070858 October. DAFFODIL and PRINCESS IRIS are not a C.C.S. allocation to S.H.A.E.F. but were made available by Admiralty to assist in locomotive transportation owing to representations that Army and M. of W.T. had insufficient other means to ship locomotives to continent during phase of rapid post assault advance until ports could accept BEL ships or equivalent.
- (2) This was at direct expense of landing craft movements essential to maintaining our amphibious forces including movements to and from repair, which in U.K. alone total some six thousand individual moves per annum apart from large number of similar lifts by British resources of U.S. Naval craft.
- (3) The three BOWES coasters in your para. 2 together with fourth existing BOWES coaster (A.S.A. LOTHROP) have been designated by M.O.W.T. for a commitment additional to and concurrent with that for which Admiralty require L.S.S. All ships are known to need prior repairs.
- (4) Reference your para. 3 crane ships even if released would not be at Admiralty disposal unless agreed by M.O.W.T. and case for such use would first have to establish that no other vessels more suitable and economical for L.C. transportation were in sight. It would not rest with Admiralty to make that case.
- (5) Apart from loan of both L.S.S. as above S.H.A.E.F. has both British L.S.D. in Home Waters (NORTHWAY and OCEANWAY) M.O.W.T. takes view that landing ships should be used for L.C. transportation commitments whenever not operationally employed and has made this a prior condition to allocation of other vessels for this purpose.
- (6) While reserving opinion on this M.O.W.T. condition in general, and on what is covered by term operationally employed, Admiralty view is that above essential L.C. transportation for which Admiralty is responsible cannot be held up for further discussion of terms.
- (7) It is therefore requested that you will nominate one of the L.S.S. to return to craft transportation duty by 31st October, and the other ship subject to later confirmation in January. (V.C.N.S. 151506A to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Rescue...

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Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys - Contd.

Rescue Tug allocation. Your 131517 (in Policy Section.) Consider essential that rescue tug be assigned each port and beach for offshore salvage of ships and craft outside port limit and in addition that one towing tug be assigned each port and beach for emergency work outside port, particularly in view recurring seasonal blows and storms. My 221955B and 271939 both August refer. Present minimum needs U.S. sector as follows: 1 salvage tug each at Le Havre, Cherbourg, Utah. All Omaha. 2 CORMORANT class at Utah and Omaha respectively, and 1 at Le Havre and 1 at Cherbourg. Total required 4 for salvage and 6 for towing duties CORMORANT class. This requirement is in addition to port clearance and rehabilitation work. Present situation as follows: BRANT at Le Havre on port clearance. A.T.R. 2. A.T.R. 3. SWIVEL and DIVER at Utah for emergency storm salvage work. No tugs for towing duties are assigned although A.N.C.X.F. 311527B August assigned the CORMORANT. Assignment of tugs for emergency towing work is requested. (C.T.F. 125 151737A to A.N.C.X.F. (Cotug.))

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War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

SS. H.L. 23 survivors from ^{GEORGE W.} WILLIAM MCKNIGHT aboard AHRENS
GIBSON tanker 24 aboard CRONIN five missing. HOWARD L. GIBSON
G.W. MCKNIGHT 45 merchant crew 25 U.S.N. all on HOLTON two U.S.N.
on fire 14 missing. Both escorts alongside GIBSON using all
October. hoses. Fire party aboard composed of crew of
GIBSON and HOLTON. Fire confined forward of bridge
but burning both below and topside. Steam and
pump still available on GIBSON and now attempting
steam smothering in addition to other efforts. Issue still in
doubt but making definite progress. Believe MCKNIGHT total loss
but will attempt salvage when GIBSON under control if practical.
(Comcortdiv 60 in AHRENS 150230 to F.O.G.M.A.)

HOWARD L. GIBSON is under control but fire still burning
in No. 1 hold. As soon as fire is out will be able to proceed
under own power at 6 knots. Intend send Horta under escort of
HOLTON unless otherwise directed. Will require extensive re-
pairs to bow and also fire damage. My position 34.07 N. 21.07 W.
Have fire party aboard MCKNIGHT and believe will be able to ex-
tinguish fire. If successful will probably be able to proceed
under own power but request tug stand by. As HOLTON has no sound
gear request relief by local escort if practical.

(Comcortdiv 60 in AHRENS 151237 to F.O.G.M.A.)

Refer your 151652A* and 151706*. Fire out in WILLIAM
MCKNIGHT proceeding Casablanca speed 8 knots escorted by AHRENS.
My position 34.07 N. 21.07 W. HOWARD L. GIBSON proceeding from
same position to Casablanca escorted by HOLTON speed 5 knots.
Both ships proceeding under own power no tug required.

(Comcortdiv 60 in AHRENS 152103 to F.O.G.M.A.)

*Not received by W.R.

U/B hunt Due passage tropical disturbance through area
by CARD and believe movements U-Boat retarded. E.G. 9 has
E.G./9. been advised. Position 15 0800Z 38.21 N. 19.44 W.
Weather 2856 0477.

(Originator not encyphered, recd. via Gib. W/T, *
150804Z to F.O.G.M.A.)

*Presumably CARD.

Your 131049 and your 130045 amended by your 130657 E.G. 9
131935 request confirmation of position and time of last known
contact.

(2) Your 150804 acknowledged.
(F.O.G.M.A. 151258A to C.T.G. 22.2.)

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Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Greek Operations

Aegean operations. R/C report 2 to 3 hundred M.T. on road (2 corrupt groups) ala Y.3198 to Larissa T.3636. Am attacking but would welcome help.
C.S.15 pass to Air Authorities Athens.
(F.O.E.C., 150754A to B.A.F., C.S.15).
Air R/C report enemy firing villages as they withdraw.
(R.A.E.C., 150930 to B.A.F.).

Joint Naval, (Extract).
Army, R.A.F. G1/51403 cypher 15th Oct.
Intelligence Paras. 1 and 2 follow to Troopers and Ankara in a
appreciation. separate signal.
24 hours to 0900/15. All times G.M.T.
(3) Aegean Shipping Summary. Photographic R/C.

14th October reveals following.
Candia. Only change 1 tug 80/100 foot sunk as blockship.
Port Herakles. No apparent demolitions. Skaramanga and Phaleron.
Further demolitions. Salamis Island. Red Cross ships still present.

North Aegean. Khalkis. Departed 1 E.M.S. craft 2 Pioneer landing craft 1 concrete barge 3 launches 3 caiques arrived. 1 launch 6 caiques. Volos. Departed probably for Salonika 1/2 destroyers SS. LOLA and 2 E/R boats possibly as escorts sunk during raid a.m. 13th October barge LAUDON corvette BRIGITTE. SS. ADRIANA on fire. At least 2 other unidentified vessels sunk.
Conclusions. Leros and Rhodes convoys still not departed. Presence Ju.52's Calate airfield may indicate abandonment of intention transport by sea from Rhodes but still possibility sailings from Leros. Sinking of blockship Candia harbour indicates sea traffic here discontinued. Suda Canea still active. Volos-Salonika traffic now resumed after short lull. Khalkis port still active but since occupation Piraeus and most Cyclades islands sea traffic Khalkis expected principally departures northwards.
(C. in C.M.E., 151300C).

Message to Greeks. Message of good wishes to Greeks on liberation and reply.
(F.O.L.E.M., 151816). See Lion Copy.

Patras area. Situation report No.3. L.C.H. (?824) arrived Patras Roads with sweepers 1430 today. Ovation as M/S 13 walked ashore.
(2) Sweeping of harbour commences tomorrow.
(3) Political situation easier now Gendanieve (?Gendarmerie) confined to barracks.
(4) Evacuation Pappas prisoners sufficiently urgent to warrant using L.C.T. to capacity if other craft not available.
(S.N.O. Pat., 151830A to F.O.T.A.L.I.).
Byron situation report 3.
(1) A channel of average width 6 cables has been swept from south of Oxia Island to Patras Road approximately along the latitude 038 degs. 15' N.

RESTRICTED.

IN

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

*Message of good wishes
to Greeks & their reply.*

151816/Sept.

FROM: F.O.L.E.M.

DATE: 16/10/44

RECD: 1003

NAVAL CODE (X) BY W/T

ADDRESSED: Eastern Med. General.

Following message has been made to the Greek Commander-in-Chief, Begins: "At this proud and welcome moment in the History of Greece, I send to you, and with your concurrence to the Officers and men of the Royal Hellenic Navy, the good wishes of all of us in this command. I send too, our hopes that the happiness of your return may soften such tragedies as, I fear, some of you must inevitably find in your homes, which for so long have been suffering under enemy domination. We have been very proud to fight alongside you these four long and trying years, but they are years which have further cemented the old friendship between us. In the immediate present you have much to do in bringing relief to your countrymen who so sorely need it, but when this has been done and you are rested, we look forward to the day when you join us again to continue the fight against the Aggressors. This fight may be long and may be far from Greece, but wherever it may be, we shall welcome you as old friends. When all this is over and done with, we who have served in the Mediterranean Fleet in the past, look forward to the time when we shall once again come back to your pleasant shores, for which we have a very warm corner in our hearts." Ends...

The following reply has been received Begins: "Admiral, Officers and Men of the R.H.N. extend their grateful thanks for what you and all under your command have done for them. Deeply touched by your kind words, we assure you that we will be proud, after the release of Greece, to continue the struggle on your side until the hour of complete Victory." Ends...

151816

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(2)
D.F.S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.H.S.(F)
Sec.
Nav. Sec.
P.A.S.(S)
P.A.S.(L)
H.A. 1st S.L.
U.W.R.
O.L.(5)
D.H.I.(5)
H.(2)
P.N.L.O.

D.of P.(2)
D.of P.(Q)(3)
B.N.L.O.(R.H.N.)(2)
I.P.(2)
W.D.
C.N.I.
Press
M.A. (In)File.

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Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Greek Operations

Patras area (Contd.) (2) An anchorage enclosed by line joining following points and by lines drawn 090 degs. from them to the shore has been swept for moored and influence mines. Negative result.
(A) 038 degs. 15' 30" N. 021 degs. 43' 00" E.
(B) 038 degs. 13' 00" N. 021 degs. 41' 30" E.
(3) A preliminary R/C. of harbour has been carried out clearance for influence mines inside the harbour will be undertaken tomorrow Monday.
(4) Intend widening Channel between Cephalonia and Zante Island and Patras approach channel tomorrow Monday.
(5) 40 mines cut today in same positions indicated in situation report 2 and around position 067 degs. Cape Papas light 6 miles. 6 Static obstructors cut in (?same) area as yesterday.
(6) Intend establishing branch channel to Papas Beach on Tuesday 17th.
(S.O. M/S.F.13, 152135A to F.O.T.A.L.I.).

Situation report No.460. (A) Arrival of Naval Force at Piraeus has been delayed due to thick shallow contact minefield off Cape Turlo. H.M.S. LARNE was mined and a G.Y.M.S. (~~9B.Y.M.S.~~) mined and sunk in this field today 15th Oct.
(B) In my 142229A+ Para.3 for U.S. destroyer substitute French destroyer.
(C. in C. Med., 152131A).
+ Sit. report No.459.

G.2 Summary No.48. (Extract).
Two. Greece and Aegean.
(A) Enemy continues unloading troops at Volos.
(B) Salamis now reported clear.
(C) Syros island evacuated.
(A.F.H.Q., 152215B).

General

N.L.O. Black Sea. Arrived Simferopol p.m. Oct. 13th. Accommodation being prepared for me in Sevastopol and (?expect to) move there before end of month.
(N.L.O. Black Sea, 151015C).

O.M./M.O., S.M./M.S., convoys. Short title of convoys are amended as follows:-
(A) For A.M./A.R.M. substitute O.M./M.O.
(B) For S.M./S.R.M. substitute S.M./M.S.
(2) First convoy affected will be those sailing

/on...

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Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

O.M./M.O., on and after 25th October.
S.M./M.S. (C. in C. Med., 151218).
convoys.
(Contd.)

Escort Your 120912 and C.O.M.E.C. 101901, neither to all
carriers addressees, ROYALIST, ATTACKER, HUNTER, STALKER,
to remain and EMPEROR can be retained in the Mediterranean
in Med. at for the present.

(2) The four carriers should be refitted in the
Med. when they can be spared from operations.
They should all complete by May 1945. If this is
not possible, EMPEROR is to be sailed to reach

U.K. during first week of December and the others as instructed
later.

(3) Request you will investigate possibility of undertaking
work on ROYALIST to improve her efficiency and habitability and
for latter purpose consider also possibility of reducing her
complement.

(4) Spare Seafires and Hellcats will reach Gibraltar in
RAVAGER on 25th October. The aircraft will be in fly-away state
but ferry pilots will not be available from RAVAGER.

(5) Your 120912 para.3. It is regretted that no more Hellcat
carriers can be made available at present.

(V.C.N.S. 151622A to C. in C. Med.).

+ Hush Top Secret.

M.V. Your 121140 and V.A.Ms. 141830. Following has
AKKA. been received from Stockholm and is passed for
your information. Begins in view of uncertain
situation Piraeus Swedish authorities have

instructed Master of AKKA to reduce speed so as to arrive at
Piraeus about October 21st. Ends.

(Hd. of M., 151722A to C. in C. Med. (R) V.A.M.).

Roumanian 261723. R.A.C.58/801. cipher 15 Oct.
Fleet taken From Commissioner. Information from Roumanian
over by sources indicates that Roumanian fleet comprising
Russians. 4 destroyers 3 gunboats, 3 S/Ms 3 torpedo boats
3 S/M chasers, 3 landing craft, 1 S/M depot
ship, 2 minelayers (fully equipped stores and with
ammunition) sailed on or about 12th October from

Constanza for Odessa or Sevastapol manned by Russian crews with
a few Roumanian technicians.

(2) This action by Soviet High Command is outside article 1 of
terms of Armistice which refers. As I interpret this article
Roumanian fleet operates under general leadership, Soviet High
Command but as a Roumanian Force.

(3) Would be grateful for instructions urgently on this point
and action I am required to take.

/ (4) ...

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SundayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Roumanian Fleet taken over by Russians. (Contd.) (4) Additionally following ships collected at Isquil. 7 Monitors, 7 river gunboats river craft training ship. Presume these also will be removed in similar way. (British Military Mission, Bucharest No T.O.O/15 Recd. 1820)

Corfu. Situation report No.27.
 (1) H.M.S. QUANTOCK flying flag of F.O.T.A.L.I. entered Corfu harbour this morning and left 1615.
 (2) No change in general situation.
 (3) L.C.I.292 is being held as accommodation ship and I hope to relieve her by the next bunk - fitted L.C.I. which arrives. My 121025/ para. 3 refers.
 (4) It will be necessary also to hold a 2nd L.C.I.(L) to accommodate crews of L.C.P.(R)'s until these craft leave the area. Request information whether an L.C.T. (4) can be sent to lift L.C.P.(R)'s to Italy as they are now in poor condition and both full (2 corrupt groups) are being used between (corrupt group) and Corfu.
 (5) If it is required to berth food ships alongside at Corfu, a proper survey of wrecks and blown up breakwaters and wharves will have to be carried out. As there are no requirements for Co-op party, I intend this party carries out the above survey as far as possible pending the arrival of suitable personnel to do the job.
 (N.C.F. Mercersised 152105A to F.O.T.A.L.I.)
 / Not received by W.R.

QUANTOCK. Sailed 15th QUANTOCK weather conditions unbroken. (N.O.I.C.Brindisi, 152153 to Admty)

Cositintrep No.463 Part IV. (Extract). Nine Commando and B Squadron of Greek Sacred Regiment left Poros for Piraeus and the Kalamaki Airfield about 2½ miles South of Piraeus by sea night 13/14 October. Both places are reported clear of the enemy. Southern Albania. A small Commando party from Sarande is in Corfu. No Germans were found in Corfu town. About 60 surrendered in Northeast corner of Island. (A.F.H.Q. No T.O.O/15.)

War Diary

15.10.1944
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies

U-Boat
dispositions. No fresh information scales unchanged.
(C. in C. E.F. 150253Z)

W.R.N.S. (Extract) Ref. A.M. 011709 January, 1944. (3) 1350
W.R.N.S. above those already approved are needed.
(5) If W.R.N.S. are not forthcoming, male ratings
will be required in lieu.
(C. in C. E.F. 151019Z)

Chittagong
sea oil
unloading
terminal. (1) Chittagong sea oil unloading terminal has been
agreed by all authorities concerned in U.K.
Chiefs of Staff have been requested to press for
approval of United States agencies to commencement
of preparations for installing sea terminal
forthwith since sea terminal can only be installed
for use during next fine weather (?season) if
supply of material and preparation for installation proceed at
once.
(2) and (3) Re supply of moorings.
(S.A.C.S.E.A. 151210)

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SundayWar DiaryFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West IndiesH.L.GIBSON
G.W.MCKNIGHT
collision.Repetition of C.T.F.63 142245 (q.v.).
(C.T.F.63, 150054Z.)N.S.H.Q.
Submarine
attack
and
sighting
summary.No report since my 122051.
Para. A. H.M.C. ship torpedoed 1325/14 49.12 N.
67.19 W., all times Z.
Para. C. (1) H.M.C.S. RIVIERE DU LOUP Radar
Contact about 0006 and 3 attacks on intermittent
Asdic contacts 0043 to 0338/14 approx. 44.23 N.
55.59 W.
(2) H.M.C. Ship sights torpedo track 0836 14th
43.17 N. 60.27 W.Para. D. H.M.C. Ships UNGAVA and LOCKEPORT 5 attacks on Asdic
contact about 1900/14 approx. 40.34 N. 68.39 W.
(N.S.H.Q. 150421.)U-boat
hunt
off
Sable I.Your 141351Z*. Joined forces 0230Z/15th in
43.29 N. 59.55 W. Area within radius 30 miles
Datum 43.17 N. 60.34 W. swept by W.6. Intend
searching close vicinity south of Sable Island
today assuming U-boat probably sought shallow
water. 9060 1656.
(S.O.E.G. 25 150500Z to C. in C. C.N.A.)
* Proceed to join U-boat hunt.If not in contact with enemy detach four units W.6 under
orders. H.M.C.S. OSHAWA at last light today 15th October to
proceed New York passing through:
K. 43.00 N. 63.00 W. L. 39.30 N. 68.00 W. M. 39.35 N.
72.25 W. thence destination.
(2) E.G.25 return patrol given my 121618 not to all.
(C. in C. C.N.A. 151614Z to S.O.E.G.25.)Stragglers'
reportStragglers arrived week ending 14th October - Nil.
(N.C.S.O. St. Johns N.F. 151147Z.)U-boat
dispositionsEstimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 151320Z.)

H.X.310

Average speed 9.6 knots.
In splitting position 51.04 N. 13.01 W. at 1000Z/3.
All arrived.
(D.T.D. 151408A.)U-boat
incidentsAmplifying report from OAKVILLE states she
sighted torpedo track at 0836Z/14 43.17 N. 60.27 W.
Cominch 142110Z modified accordingly with
evaluation changed to B.
(D) U-boat sighted 32.35 N. 65.40 W. at 1615Z/15.
(Cominch, 151900Z.)

15.10.1944
Sunday

War Diary

FOREIGN STATIONS

Australia and New Zealand

O.21, Following received is passed for information
O.23, Begins, addressed:-
O.24 C. in C. Eastern Fleet. Repeated F.O.S.
 C.T.F.71, S.O. S/Ms. E.F. From (S.8?)
 C.T.F.71 has received the following information
 through Cdre. 7th Fleet from G.H.Q. S.W. Pacific
 Area.

"The Admiralty advise (? through) the U.S. War Department that the provisional addition of Netherlands S/Ms (O.21, O.23, O.24 as well as O.19 and ZWAARDFISCH) to be assigned to the S.W. Pacific Area will form part of the 8th Flotilla to be maintained by (?MAIDSTONE)."

(2) MAIDSTONE maintenance facilities and repair staff are already barely adequate for present commitments of 6 "S" Class and 3 "T" Class with ZWAARDFISCH and O.19 in addition. Your 071051Z September refers.

(3) MAIDSTONE cannot undertake the maintenance of O.21, O.23, (? and) O.24 in addition to present commitments. T.O.O. 140508Z. (F.O.S. 151048A to Admty.)

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarine
attack
and
sighting
summary.

Para. B. A/C V/330 obtained A.S.V. contact at 2108Z/13 in 61° 48' N. 02° 20' E.
Para. C. (1) A/C O/330 obtained A.S.V. contact at 1858Z/13 in 62° 00' N. 00° 20' E.
(2) A/C N/59 obtained A.S.V. contact at 0926Z/14 in 60° 45' N. 16° 30' W.
(D.D.I.C. 151035A.)

U-boat
dispositions.

Estimates
(D.D.I.C. 151416A, 151417A.)