

THE NAVY.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

MINUTE PAPER.

(This side only to be written on.)

D.3158/7.26.—C.8944.

SUBJECT:

Naval Representatives,
C.O.-I.C.

It is requested that a diary of operational-intelligence may be supplied to D.N.I.

It is suggested that the diary be set out under the following headings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Nature of Report</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Date should indicate date of event, etc. and not receipt of intelligence.		

Diary should be brought up-to-date weekly.



Director of Naval Intelligence,
24th January, 1941.

21/5

~~By [unclear]~~
~~[unclear]~~

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING:.....

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE?

DATE OF
EVENT.

NATURE OF REPORT.

ACTION TAKEN.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT.	ACTION TAKEN.

Lt Com Lubne

Re DNI's minute concerning diary

I have spoken to DNI re this.

He does not want us to do much ~~with~~ ^{with} the early reports but would like us to give a brief summary of the more recent matters.

More concerned with starting diary

from now

I have run out a rough list of local intelligence reports showing action taken as shown by files in this room.

There seems to be two matters that we might get further information on by

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING: ^{24^m} 25th January 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE?

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT.	ACTION TAKEN.
7.1.41	Signalling reported off Kiama.NSW. (From both Sea & Land)-	Army investigated. Negative result to date.
8.1.41	M.R.O.Elliott Heads:N/Coast.NSW. Strange craft- 50 ft.long:deckhouse in stern: Resembled Jap.sampan.	No action taken.
9.1.41	Submarine off Newcastle. Report by a Miner. No superstructure.(Airintel)	Air search. Negative result.
9.1.41 18.1.41	Native at Tonga reports sighting 3-funnel ship,(warship) at Boeng.	Report not received until 21.1.1941. No action taken.
12.1.41	Aircraft-carrier sighted at Kuliki 3°27 S: 151°54 E:	A.C.H.Moresby investigating:
13.1.41	Submarine off Evans Head. NSW. At 1445K and later at 1715K.(Airintel)	Air search 13/1 within 30 miles of area: Negative.
13.1.41	Report of flashing light at sea.	Confirmed as being by local fisherman.
16.1.41	Submarine off Terrigal. NSW. (Aircraft: Airintel & NOCS:	Air & Naval search: Both negative.
17.1.41	Lights reported 10/12 Miles West of Nauru. (Verey lights or rockets). A.R.O.Nauru.	Passed to "MANOORA".
17.1.41	Report of Parachutist descended near Yanakie Aerodrome. Report from Fish Creek, Gippsland.	Investigated by Officer of Air Intelligence. Reports that evidence was conflict- ing: Lack of confirmation: He suggests that individual saw flock of birds.

J.M. LUKE, Lt. Col. R.A.N.
[Signature]

TO:
THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING:..25th..January..1941..

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE?

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT.	ACTION TAKEN.
20.1.41	Passenger aboard "ATUTA MARU" on arrival Sydney 1930K/20-1-41, said he sighted what he thought to be a MINE off Port Stephens, NSW.	Passenger interrogated further by S.O.(I), Sydney. Report unconvincing. Air search.
20.1.41	Submarine reported off Kembla.NSW. By two road workers. (1915K)	D.O.D. and D.O.I. decided "No action".
20.1.41	Lights flashing to seaward reported by woman. Dusk: Between Iluka and Woody Head).	S/L.Pindell reported matter to local Police for investigation. Army also are enquiring.
21.1.41	Fast craft, like M.T.B. or Submarine, sighted by fisherman, 0530K/21, ST.Helens, East Coast, Tasmania.	Air search negative.
24.1.41	Mr.Sambell, Phone Ventnor 2, Phillip Island - rang Naval Staff Room at 1930K : three men reported sighting object like Submarine, $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile off shore; $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of Nobbies.	Notified to Army and Air:

[Handwritten signature]

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING....31st.January,.1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
24/1/41	Natives report searchlight and 4 ships well out off Sifola about 1100Z/24. (Sifola 2 miles South of Yandina 9° 4' S. 159° 8' E. - Aircraft passed a.m. 25/1 sighted nothing.	Appreciation written. Further report on 31/1.
25/1/41	Japanese ship "SEIKAI MARU" arrived Tarawa from Caroline Isles. Visit is suspicious. According to previous arrangements she was not due for 6 weeks, stated "to see if copra can now be shipped". Owners were aware license to export copra was refused - vessel has no cargo - carries 6,000 gallons fuel oil as ballast. European Government Officer accompanies ship to Butari-tari same day.	No action.
27/1/41	N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reports - European reports having sighted a submarine off Kununa Mission Station a fortnight ago. Kununa is approx. 20' South of Buka Island passage.	No action.
27/1/41	Resident Commissioner Gilbert & Ellice Islands advises that owing to prevailing adverse weather there is likely to be a concentration of shipping at Ocean Island within the next few days.	Seen by all services.

J.M. LUKE. Lt. Col. R.A.N.
[Signature]

NO: DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING..31st January..1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
28/1/41	Dutch cruiser "JAVA" class and Dutch tanker entered Rabaul 0010Z/28 (signal from C.O.I.S. 0731Z/12 stated that convoy 4 ships will be escorted by Netherlands cruiser "JAVA" (This may link with report of 4 ships off Sifola on 24/1/41).	
28/1/41	Message received through Air Intelligence and Communications Censors Sydney "On 27th January Swedish ship "OSCAR GORTHAM" passed a black ship with guns accompanied by prize ships in Mariannes 18° 7' N. 146° 7' E. direction not stated - This may be an attempt to throw out a false cue.	
28/1/41	Message received from D.N.O. Hobart that Cape Bruny Lighthouse while communicating with Cape Maatsuycker Lighthouse was cut out at 2047K/28 by what seemed to be an Aero engine. No statics were apparent.	Enquiry reveals. - Not possible.
29/1/41	A.R.O. Rabaul reports that investigation has shown there was no substance in report of the sighting of an aircraft carrier on as per his 0033Z/22.	
	C. in C. East Indies signalled details of attempts made by use of D/F and W/T to trap Indian Ocean raider. Now presumed to have withdrawn S.E. to reappear elsewhere.	

TO:
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING....31st. January, 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT.	ACTION TAKEN.
29/1/41	<p>Air Intel, Rabaul reports interviewed Captain of Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" - he has just completed successful convoy - now fuelling - preparatory to intercepting vessel bound U.S.A. to N.E.I., to escort her. E.T.A. 0220Z/30.</p> <p>R.A.A.F. Pearce reports that D/F located W/T activity in Japanese code - confirmed by Jandakot D/F station.</p> <p>Resident Commissioner, Gilbert & Ellice Islands Colony reports searchlight flashes have been observed South of Butaritari at 1230Z/28. Information sources - W/T operators, Butaritari and Master of small vessel "JOHN BOLTON" anchored there. Neither source regarded as reliable. "SEIKAI MARU" is anchored at Butaritari.</p>	
30/1/41	<p>Serial No. 27. Unidentified ship reported by Lighthouse keeper at Cape Everard at 0115K/30 passing West. No description available. No action taken as considered to be probably fishing trawler.</p> <p>Resident Commissioner Gilbert & Ellice Islands reports "SEIKAI MARU" expected to leave Butaritari for Tarawa 0130Z Jan. 29. She had not made any application for export license of copra.</p>	

TO:

DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK ENDING.....31st January, 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
30/1/41	C.O.I.S. has reported Japanese D/F and W/T Intelligence, Japanese Cruisers "ASHIGARA" and "NATORI" in Saigon area 28/1. Battleship, cruisers "ABUKUMA" and "KUMANO" and Seaplane carriers "MIZUO" in Peracelle, Sama and Tourane area off coast of Indo-China.	
30/1/41	Resident Commissioner, British Solomon Islands reports sighting by a native on 27/1 of a submarine off the reef at Star Harbour, San Cristobal Island, Solomons 10° 40' S. 162° 20' E.	No action
31/1/41	The following message was sighted in Sydney today: from Mitsubishi Tokyo to Mitsubishi Sydney: - "Considering American participation in European war send back families and dispensable staff gradually without exciting general attention. Do not disclose this instruction outside". M.I. remarks that the wives of well-known Japanese are booked to leave on 4th March, 1941.	Air Intel, Squad. Ldr. Malley considers this a very ominous sign. Always been done before previous actions taken.
31/1/41	Further report from Resident Commissioner, Gilbert & Ellice Islands about searchlight flashes off Sifola on 24/1. States also seen by 3 natives at Butaritari. Flashes consisted of light swinging across sky six times. Thinks reports are authentic.	No action.

TO:

DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

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WEEK ENDING.....31st January, 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
31/1/41	Master of s.s. "BANGALOW" reports that at 0245K/31 when 8 miles North East Cape Hawke he passed a large steamer heading North speed 2 knots. She had all lights burning also floodlight aft and floodlight amidships under Port bow light. Also what appeared to be flag painted on Port quarter. Unable to identify (D.O.D. decided action. Suggest possibility of ship broken down temporarily. Norwegin "TALABOT" and possibly "MALOJA").	No action.

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COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
1/2/41	Signal intercepted from F.O.C. North Atlantic to effect that one Pocket Battleship and one cruiser were in position 008° 15' N. 025° 04' W. at 1730Z January 29th.	This most likely placed the "ADMIRAL SCHEER" which has been unlocated for months past.
1/2/41	<u>Submarine Sighting.</u> D.N.O. Queensland 0220Z/1 - Report received from reliable civilian Southport that he sighted a submarine 1½ miles off Southport half submerged steering North submerged soon afterwards and not seen again. Time 1015K/31.	Air Search instituted - negative result. Investigation made by Air, Military and Naval Intelligence - <u>Result:</u> Sighted from reporter's home - 2' inshore - naked eye - by man and wife - both gave different descriptions - Coast-watchers state a launch was in approximate position at that time - nothing else - <u>Conclusion:</u> Report of no substance.
1/2/41	Unidentified ship. Serial 28. Port Moresby report smoke and hull of vessel sighted 0900Z/41/1. No description.	No action.
3/2/41	A letter from the Chinese Consulate Macassar Celebes to Minister Foreign Affairs Chungking - states that the Japanese realizing that the natives in the N.E.I. are too backward, politically to be responsive to propoganda are concentrating on an approach to them by religious means. One Masaga, Professor of Theology in Tokyo, has been sent to N.E.I. to organize the "Islam Association".	Included in Japanese Intelligence Report.
3/2/41	Consular Shipping Adviser San Francisco advises (1516/30/1/41) "Hirokawa Maru" arrived Yokohama 23rd Jan. due back here 20th Feb. Sailing now cancelled and ship taken over by Jap Govt. (A.1). Other	Included in Japanese Intelligence Report.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
4/2/41	<p>Mine sighted at Apollo Bay 0030Z/4. Police reported a floating mine 1 mile S.E. of East Point Bunbury</p>	<p>"BERYL II" and "DURRAWEEEN" proceeded to locate and despatch mine - an attempt was to be made to secure the mine for identification purposes but owing to darkness intervening the mine was sunk by rifle fire at 1840K/4.</p>
5/2/41	<p>French Submarines in Indian Ocean C. in C. East Indies reports "Censorship of mail from French Ship "SONTAY" reveals following - French submarines "ELONGENS", "ESPOIRE", "MOUGE" and one other accompanied by tanker which victualled and fuelled them at sea reaching Tamatave non-stop from Dakar about 16th January. 2 have left for Indo-China and 2 are remaining Tamatave. Graded A.1. Name of tanker is "LOT" and it is presumed she will be accompanying submarines to Indo-China.</p>	
5/2/41	<p>Burns Philp Sydney report anxiety about their ships "NEPTUNA" and "TULAGI" now in Mandated Territory Waters.</p>	<p>Passed to Port Moresby.</p>
5/2/41	<p>German ship "PORTLAND" left Talcahuano 0220Z/30th January may be proceeding East or West. Reported to have 14 days fuel but this cannot be relied upon.</p>	
6/2/41	<p>Air Searches carried out to cover Convoy U.S.9 movements S.E. Victorian Area - aircraft reported two ships which are believed to be "AEON" and "MACKARRA" descriptions did not exactly fit -</p>	<p>Signal was sent instructing them to break W/T silence and report position - no answers - a second air search over area sighted nothing - a third search commenced p.m. at 1945 four ships sighted and identified - "AEON" "MACKARRA" "IRON PRINCE" "NEW ZEALAND STAR".</p>
7/2/41	<p>NIL.</p>	

COMBINED OPERATIONAL - INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
8/2/41	<p>A.R.O. Suva reports that Governor of New Caledonia has positive information received from officers of Japanese merchant vessels that all Japanese ships have received orders to return to Japan for March 1st.</p> <p>Anir reported derelict passed bearing West going North at 0020 G.M.T. 8/2/41, and what appeared to be men in boat.</p> <p>Anir reported Japanese ship, one black funnel, red band, white star, 2 masts, one stump derrick, black hull bearing West steering South passed at 2030 G.M.T. Moresby suggested "TOKYO MARU"</p>	<p>Appreciation made in daily minute to D.C.N.S.</p> <p>Moresby have diverted aircraft to investigate. Results negative.</p> <p>C.W.R. advised that description did not fit and suggest "TIHUKU MARU" bound to Noumea.</p>
10/2/41	<p>Serial No.29. 2 Unidentified sightings off Cape Northumberland, South Australia. Later signal from N.C.S. Adelaide suggesting they were "MIRRABOOKA" and "BARWON".</p>	<p>N.C.S. satisfied ship was "MIRRABOOKA"</p>
11/2/41	<p>A.W.A. Report jamming of Rabaul W/T by Japanese.</p> <p>Report from A.R.O. Rabaul of message received from Londip 004° 28' South 152° 22' East of firing going on. Sounded like gunfire. Flying Boat sent to investigate. Two ships in Rabaul detained pending investigation - "MAETSUYCKER" and "MACDHUI".</p> <p>At 0706 G.M.T. Rabaul reported "V.H.M. calling on 6610 kc/s gave call sign followed by series of L's. Coonawarra asked by Naval Board if they had broadcast any message on 6610 kc/s replied "No call sign A.1 was heard calling VHP on 6610 kc/s. Bad morse was logged as call sign A1 was written as L's.</p>	<p>This has happened before as wave lengths used are similar - Linked with reports of firing and LLL message this report appeared to be significant but investigation of LLL message revealed its insignificance.</p>

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END.....14th February, 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL - INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
11/2/41	<p>Report of aircraft investigating firing report is negative - "MAETSUYCKER" has sailed from Rabaul clearing search will be carried out by aircraft.</p> <p>A.R.O. Rabaul reports large Black ship, three masts, travelling South passed at 0500Z, February 8th.</p>	<p>Air report considers sound heard could not have been firing.</p> <p>No action taken. N.C.S. believe ship to be Japanese with two masts in this area at this time - "TICHUKU MARU".</p>
12/2/41	<p>Caretaker of wreck "ADMIRAL WYLIE" in position 8° 56' South 15° 20' East reports ship about 5,000 tons painted black, funnel yellow with red band came from South 8/2/41 stopped for 15 minutes then steamed North. Position strongly suggests "MAETSUYCKER" but description being checked.</p>	<p>No further action. No further information received.</p>
12/2/41	<p>Large quantity of oil covering area an acre floating at sea at Gap, Waratah Bay at noon.</p>	<p>No action.</p>
14/2/41	<p>Two mines swept up 1½ miles from position where "NIMBIN" was sunk North of Newcastle. As this is in prohibited area considered to be old field. This suggests delay action mines and links in with report from New Zealand at present under investigation that divers on "NIAGRARA" saw 6 mines on sea bed.</p>	<p>No action.</p>
14/2/41	<p>Unidentified ship Serial No.30 off Gabo as number of ships known to be in area.</p>	<p>N.C.S. identified as Trawler "MARY CAM".</p>

J. H. H. H.
Lt Comdr
15/2/41.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END. 21st. February, .1941

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
18/2/41	D N O Hobart reports vessel sighted off East Coast of King Island by Sergeant of Guard at 2115K/18. It was showing bright light, came from south to within 4 miles of coast and then made off towards Victoria at high speed.	Hobart are making further inquiries. Serial No. 33. Appreciation complete suggesting fishing craft. (Cancelled).
18/2/41	Serial No. 34. Officer in charge Archer Point reports darkened ship passed northbound at 1333Z/18.	Subsequently cancelled.
18/2/41	A R O Nauru reports light of ship 2 miles off west coast during night.	Nauru advise no ship in sight at daybreak.
19/2/41	Unidentified ship No. 35. U S S Wilsons Promontory reports large cargo vessel bearing 220° 26' at 0920Z/19th.	Description fits in with ss "CORNWALL" on passage Sydney to Melbourne but doing 14 knots instead of 12 knots as routed. Signal sent to Cornwall to break W/T silence and report position - no reply - Cornwall sighted 6' off Heads at 0530k/20th. Position fits in. Presumed ship is Cornwall ahead of schedule. Cancelled. Identified as "Cornwall."
20/2/41	Post Master	QQQQ message intercepted from "KAIWARRA" on 2338Z/19 at position 33-525 169-58E. Later - "Kaiwarra" cancelled this message at 0030Z/20.
20/2/41	Post Master Currie King Island reports lines foreman working at Aerodrome about 5 miles north of Currie reports having heard guns firing to the N.E. There appeared to be two salvos about 12 to 15 shots at 1518K. At 1522K one single louder report was heard from same direction 1542Z/20.	Phoned Cape Wickham lighthouse and Post Master Currie. Evidence not conclusive and suggest sounds on island. No action by Navy on this.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END...21st February, 1941...

COMBINED OPERATIONAL - INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT.	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
15/2/41	Ocean Isle reports two ships approaching after dark 09202/14 not further sighted.	"Maloja" only ship known to be in area - N.Z.N.B. informed who asked Ocean Isle for description - Reply received that description not available - considered opinion that report valueless.
16/2/41	"Achilles" aircraft reported sighting suspicious vessel in 34'S 152'E.	N.C.S. consider vessel to be "Tampa."
16/2/41	Aircraft on passage Port Moresby to Tulagi sighted two ships in position 09° 50'S 152°E - one merchant ship and one tanker. Description may fit raider "Narvik" and tanker "Ole Jacab."	Sighting regarded as very suspicious - ships not identified - given serial Number 32. Port Moresby instructed to institute whole scale air search maximum strength - search not commenced till dawn 17/2/41 - Negative report. with exception of Dutch M.V. Bantom in area - further search ordered in vicinity of Louisiade. Overseas and Home station authorities informed. Searches continue negative.
16/2/41	N.O.I.C P.T. Moresby reports that unidentified ship serial 31. sighted off Kitava on 8/2/41 has been identified as "Maetsuycker"	
17/2/41	A German Mine was swept up on the beach near Apollo Bay.	Considered to be from old mine field. (second one which has surfaced in this area). Naval Party rendered mine safe and held for examination.
17/2/41	Resident Commissioner Gilbert & Ellice Islands reports that an inflated rubber sphere was washed up on Ocean Island on 16/2/41.	Considered to be Japanese Aircraft mining buoy - N.Z. informed.
17/2/41	Native reports a flying boat at 04002/13 over Tabar Isle and Yimcerc Isle.	A 18.10 in vicinity at this time.
18/2/41	A.C.H.Q. Darwin reports unidentified ship in 10° 17' S. 140° 1'E at 0008Z/18th giving full description.	Identified as American "WICHITA" signal sent to Darwin.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END. 21st. February, 41

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
20/2/41	P.M. Currie rang to say that searchlights had been sighted from North East on 17th between 2000 and 2030K. Some informants considered flashed to be lightning.	Appreciation made and conclusion reached that as fire burning on King Island explosions most likely occurred in fire - No evidence of ship losses or damage anywhere - Report of little substance. Noise only sounded like gunfire. <i>No action regarding searchlights.</i>
20/2/41	QQQ from "TEKOA" at 1607Z from position 35° - 42S 103° - 54E. Later reported that she had altered course from approximately 270° to 016°. Suspicious ship altered course to 050°.	Cancelled at 1919Z/20.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END..28th. February, .1941..

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
22/2/41	Ship sighted by Nauru considered by N.B. to be "JOHN BOLTON". A.R.O. Nauru agrees.	
22/2/41	Aircraft reported over Syansford, near Geelong, identified as Sopwith Pup.	
23/2/41	A.R.O. Rabaul reports fast steamer sighted by natives passed Nissan about 0400Z/22 steering North. No details. Awaiting advice from Moresby.	MMS suggest ship is "SYOHEI MARU" alternatively if ship was steaming south not north it could be "EIHUKU MARU" sighted at Kessa at 0715/22.
23/2/41	Pocket battleship attacked "CANADIAN CRUISER" in position 06°36'S 047°18'E at 1608Z/21st and Dutch Ship "TANTAU PANDGANG" in 08°24'S, 051°35E. Searches being carried out by "GLASGOW" who established contact but lost it, "CANBERRA", "SHROPSHIRE", "CAPETOWN", "ENTERPRISE" "CERES" "HERMES" "EMERALD" "AUSTRALIA." Bogus "RRRR" made by Mauritius Radio to bluff enemy that warships are approaching from South.	Battleship is not yet located 28/2/41.
24/2/41	P.W.S.S. Hobart sighted Japanese V/S Morse from three vessels at about 0001K/24th. Consider most probably Japanese chasers en route for Japan. D.O.D requested air search at dawn; D of O & I Air Board did not order search.	Appreciation made. Air search not made because of bad weather. Sighting proved to be very doubtful.
24/2/41	Resident Commissioner Gilbert & Ellice Isles reports sighting vessel 0530Z/23 15 miles N.E of Ocean Isle - description fits in with American vessel "ADMIRAL WILLIAMS" due Tarawa 24/2 from Fiji - vessel altered course considerably which is unexplained.	Signal made suggesting "ADMIRAL WILLIAMS" - later definitely identified as this ship.

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.WEEK END..28th.February.1941...COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
24/2/41	Southern Command report that five civilians heard aircraft in Forestiers Peninsular at 2030K/22.	Linked with sighting of three ships on 24/2/40 (Presumed whale chasers) - the possibility is that raiders are operating in the vicinity of Storm Bay. Appreciation made. S.O.(1) Hobart telephoned to ascertain weather conditions prevailing at 1530K/24th reported perfect weather. Air Intelligence informed, subsequent investigations by telephone with S.O(1) Hobart disclosed that Army had not informed him of Air sighting - reference the three ships at entrance to Storm Bay - they were not sighted - three distinct notes were heard in Japanese Morse on P.W.S.S. Radio. Judging by intensity of note they placed ships 15 to 20 miles away. This cancels appreciation. D.O.D and D.N.I. informed.
24/2/41	A.R.O Rabaul reports that a chinaman sighted ship believed to be Japanese proceeding south-east between Tanga and New Ireland. Moresby claim it to be "KOZIU MARU" but Movements Section consider "OKITUU MARU." No action until we hear further from Moresby.	
24/2/41	S.O. 20th M.F. reports live mines swept up in positions 090° - 11.6' and 091° - 11' from Norah Head Lighthouse.	
27/2/41	Brookvale (Sydney) control point at 0750 reported a ship 20 miles bearing 040°. Description light superstructure like cruiser cutaway stern colour grey.	Investigations revealed ship to be HMAS "WANEGO"

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK END..28th. February, .1941.....

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
27/2/41	Flying boat en route to Australia from New Zealand reported vessel in 32°S 154-21'E course 045-12 knots. Hull Black funnel black white band, superstructure brown, 2 masts, four S.P, bridge amidships time 0415Z.	Identified by MMS as MV "CORINDA"
28/2/41	Cape Naturaliste reports sighting at 2300H/27th six groups mast headlights SW to SSW 18 miles going north. Cannot identify.	Suggest Japanese whale chasers returning home. (6 chasers + 11 other Mam arrived PM)
28/2/41	HMS "LEANDER" intercepted and captured Italian M/S "RAMB I" in position 1°N 68°30'E. (Ramb I scuttled the ship by burning).	Appreciation written drawing attention to other German and Italian ships last known in Massawa and East African Ports suggesting adequate air reconnaissance to cover approaches to Japan.
28/2/41	Dutch C in C reports a black ship (unidentified) had intention at 0222Z/27 to enter Balat Bay South of Talawing (Sourabaya) but altered course and disappeared in southerly direction. Reconnaissance by seaplane will be made at 0631Z/27.	This could be unidentified ship No. 32. <i>J. H. K.</i> <i>Lt Comdr</i>

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END..7th.March,.1941

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
1/3/41	Esperance Radio reports that at 8.22 8.23 8.24 pm ETA intercepted message QQQQ only. Signal was very weak strength 2 (normal strength is 7). There was much interference and static - signal appeared deliberately jammed - Neither name, position or course was signalled. Nothing further heard.	Consulted Duty Cmdr. Nothing to be done pending further information.
2/3/41	Unidentified ship Serial 36. Cape Willoughby Light reported steamer East 1215Z/1.	The "Wanganella" was only ship which may have been in this vicinity if she had disobeyed routing instructions. Signal sent to "Wanganella" - Answer definitely identified sighting as this ship
2/3/41	D.N.C. W.A. reports arrival of Japanese whaling mother-ship "NISSIN MARU" NoZ with 6 chasers at 0230Z 28th.	This is normal movement of Whaling Fleet.
2/3/41	Airtel Archerfield report that Lighthouse Keeper Sandy Cape observed 1330K/2 a plane grey, red white and blue marks, blue in centre flying N.E turning to south very fast.	Enquiries proceeding. Enquiries made at all Air Stations in the area failed to identify plane. Arrangements have been made to communicate with Sandy Cape lighthouse at 0900K/3rd. Aircraft was land-plane; therefore if hostile could come only from A/C Carrier.
2/3/41	Emirau reports unidentified aircraft flying high at 0200 a.m.T. March 2. Course due North. Seen and heard flying very high.	Appreciation made linking this with known presence of "KAMOI" Japanese Aircraft carrier and the aircraft sighting at Emirau suggests that "KAMOI" was 250 to 300 miles off the North coast of New Guinea on 2nd and 3rd March. Aircraft from Abaul to carry out search of approaches at dawn 3/3/41. Negative report.
3/3/41	"TIHUKU MARU" from Noumea to Spencer Gulf to load wheat. Air search intended to check whether ship	

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEK END. 7th. March. 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
3/3/41	<p>was on course for S.A. cancelled owing to minor defect.</p> <p>Submarine report. Archerfield reported that an Instructor Sergeant and his pupil from Amberley sighted an object taken to be a submarine 3$\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Cartright Point. Object submerged. Bubbles seen. Search by one aircraft from Archerfield. Time of sighting 0640Z/3.</p>	<p>Air search conducted. Report negative. Graded C4. No further action.</p>
4/3/41	<p>Further report of submarine sighting near Mudjimba Is. (3 miles north of Cartright Point) at 1102K/4th. Report stated that 2 pupils in an Anson observed disturbance in water, on investigating they noticed slimy substance on surface.</p>	<p>Air search by Hudson result negative. Appreciation of reports given a D grading.</p>
4/3/41	<p>Report of unidentified aircraft outside Sydney Heads at 0900K/4th. Aircraft detected by sound detector and later sighted from Dover Heights.</p>	<p>Later identified as a Wirraway.</p>
5/3/41	<p>Townsville 0600K/5. Four men on beach report seeing rockets fired about 40 miles out to sea, from Mackay bearing about 90° from Flat top Island time 2300K/4.</p>	<p>Hudson aircraft carried out extensive search round ocean 0545K to 1000K. All vessels identified. Air search negative.</p>
5/3/41	<p>"CANBERRA" and "LEANDER" sighted one merchant ship and one tanker in position 8°40'S 61°25'E at 1205Z/4. Tanker was Norwegian "KETTY BROVIC" and ship German "COBURG" which left Massawa 21st February. KETTY BROVIC captured by Pocket Battleship 2nd February. Both ships were sunk.</p>	
6/3/41	<p>Airintel, Townsville report that two additional men saw rockets 6, at $\frac{1}{2}$ minute and 6 at 1 minute intervals.</p>	

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK END 7th March 1941

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
6/3/41	Admiralty state that possibility of Pocket Battleship proceeding to Far East by way of Timor Sea cannot be ignored. At 15 knots she would pass through that area between 7th and 9th March. Air Searches are to be instituted to cover area during the period.	Darwin commenced air searches on large scale.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
8/3/41	<p><u>Unidentified Ship No.37</u> A resident reports seeing a vessel stationary off Scotts Head on 4/3/41 at midnight saw vessel again at midnight on 5/3/41 second time a motor launch went round bay and out to vessel.</p>	<p>Scotts Head is 17' North of Smoky Cape (N.S.W.) report made by coast watcher, further information being sought. Ships in vicinity were "Koolya" "Eihuku Maru" at 1400Z/4 and at 1400Z/5 "Bonabo" "Arakun" "Burander" "Bangalow"</p>
8/3/41	<p><u>Unidentified Aircraft</u> Cairns Airadio reports that Guards heardplanes off coast at about midnight.</p>	<p>Reported from Air Intel, Archerfield, investigations proceeding. Later identified as 3 motor car engines that were bogged in the vicinity.</p>
10/3/41	<p>Report of sighting of black painted ship vaguely seen steering towards Bagabag Is. at 2130Z/2.</p>	<p>Appreciation made linking this report with Emirau aircraft report of 2nd and D/F bearing from Moresby on 3rd. Suggest firstly, reconnaissance by Japanese seaplane carrier "KAMOI", secondly possibility of German raider "Narvik" passing through Dampier Strait by night.</p>
11/3/41	<p>Report of warship anchored off Tefa, Tanga Group, about 45 miles N.W. of Anir on 3rd March.</p>	<p>Action nil. Appreciation written.</p>
11/3/41	<p>A.R.O. SALAMAUA reports strange aircraft sighted Salamaua 0220Z/10/3 very noisy flying 3000 ft. and two to three miles distant en route Lae to Wau.</p>	<p>Squadron Leader Malley states constant air traffic takes place between Lae and Wau - intend ^{writing} further intelligence. _{writing}</p>
11/3/41	<p>A.R.O Rabaul reports - Natives report submarine close in to Lindenhaven on 2/3/41. Report investigated and considered reliable. Searchlights seen in same area 28/2.</p>	<p>No action. Appreciation completed.</p>

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDS 14/3/41

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
11/3/41	Report of seaplane considered German at Dilli on 3rd March.	
11/3/41	Report from Qantas Agent Dilli of unknown Flying Boat crossed coast near Dilli Harbour. Same type as Japanese Flying Boat Dornier.	
12/3/41	Serial No.38. 7,000 ton motor vessel sighted by "MAETSUYCKER" on 8/3 about 80 miles North of Sandy Cape. Squat funnel, heavy cross-trees, no samson posts.	
12/3/41	Further report from Qantas Agent Dilli confirming unidentified plane at Dilli March 3rd. Cannot describe.	
12/3/41	"RAMB II" sighted in position 01°35'S, 124°51'E at 0930/12/3 Dutch report. Position is in Molucca Passage, West of Celebes.	
13/3/41	Qantas Agent reports another seaplane of same type over Dilli 2320Z/12/3. He considers probably from Dutch cruiser in area.	Appreciation written.
14/3/41	Warship described as flotilla leader about 4,000 tons, double turrets fore and aft, one funnel, Portuguese flag sighted by Dutch air patrol and now in Dilli Harbour. See appreciation.	
15/3/41	C.O.I.S. signal to S.O.(I) Hong Kong suggesting that censorship reveals Portuguese sloop "GONCALO VELHO" is expected at Dilli from Macao - requests confirmation of movements. Left Macao 15/3.	

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDS 14/3/41

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
15/3/41	<p>Nissan reports "Aircraft report over Nissan 1300Z March 14th." Nissan later reported to cancel advice as he was not convinced of truth of report after questioning native. S.O.(I) Port Moresby considers report possibly engine of schooner, but European thought it aircraft engine.</p>	

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
19/3/41	ARO Noumea that March 18th 1630, 2 white vessels sighted off Moindou Reef - appear to be warships. Later information vessels still visible and appear to be patrolling passage - reports emanate from native observer.	
19/3/41	Report from Moresby that aircraft sighting at Salamaua on 10/3/41 was civil aircraft.	
19/3/41	Moresby reports, the Master of Administration vessel "LEANDER" reported by W/T March 17th that ships and planes frequently seen by Tench Island natives.	Appreciation written (see Noumea sightings file) Report received later advising that R.A.A.F. planes have flown in the vicinity.
19/3/41	District officer Madang conducting sweep to 100 fathom line as black ship off Bagabag 2/3 may have been in approaches to Madang.	
20/3/41	Buka reports smoke seen on horizon west of Passage A.M. March 19th and searchlight 4 a.m. local time March 20th Buka.	"Momoyama Maru" arrived Rabaul 0020/20 from Noumea is only ship in vicinity. As report made direct to S.O(I) Moresby await his comment.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
15/3/41	Nissan reports aircraft over Nissan 1300Z/14/3.	Subsequent investigations reveal report doubtful.
15/3/41	Reference report of warship near Dilli - Qantas Agent reports No warship in Harbour. S.O.(I) Hong Kong reports that Portuguese ship "CONCALO VELHO" left Macao for Timor on 15/3/41.	Appreciation written.
17/3/41	D/F Bearings possibly from "RAMB II" in position 20° N 131° E.	
17/3/41	S.O.(I) Wellington reports that at 1000Z/13 sixteen large ships in two lines were sighted between Keppel Isle and Vavua burning navigation lights and using masthead flash lamps. The ships were steering in a S.W. direction.	
17/3/41	Dilli reports greyish coloured steamer and Dornier appeared off Dilli 0630K.	Considered Dutch Patrol
18/3/41	Darwin reports KNILM Pilot reports that Dutch Air Force sighted north of Timor on 17th March - grey ship funnel amidships two masts 4 guns appearance A.M.C.	Appreciation written suggesting "RAMB II"
18/3/41	A.R.O. Noumea reports plane flying over La Foa March 16th at 2100. Plane not sighted but engines heard	
18/3/41	Port Moresby reports that European on Wuvulu Island (West of Admiralty Group) sighted strange ship on 28th Dec. 1st Jan. 3rd Jan. 22nd Jan. Consider too vague to appreciate. Possibly raider rendez-vousing or Japanese patrols. Further information is expected.	

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
26/3	Report from Master ss "TAMBUA" bound Sydney to Newcastle at 0940Z/26. "Violent explosion position 033°34'S 151°57'E. A vessel's navigation lights visible before explosion now disappeared. "Tambua" later reported vessel was bearing 270° distant one mile, at time of explosion. No shipping other than "Tambua" known to be in area.	Air search ordered for 0600K/27, H.M.A.S. "Sydney" instructed to leave Sydney 0730K/27 to support air search. Searches negative. Aircraft from Rathmines sighted wreckage in 33°17'S 152°10'E at 1700. "St Giles" proceeding to locality. "St. Giles" arrived at dark ordered to remain and search at dawn 28/3. Five survivors arrived at Newcastle from Red Funnel Trawler "MilliMummul" the vessel was sunk by the explosion of an old mine brought to the surface in her trawl.
27/3	Floating mine reported in 38°25'S 149°13'E at 0630K by "BAROSSA".	Passed to 20th M.S.F.
27/3	Report from Moresby of aircraft off Kerema steering east at 1500Z/26. Port and white light seen. Grade C.	Port Moresby is investigating
27/3	"ELSA ESSBURGER" arrived Kobe. Also ship possibly "ERMLAND" and Italian vessel 2,500 tons, slender yellow funnel. Tonnage fits "SOMALIA" escaped from Kismayu.	

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK END { 28th March, 1941

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
22/3	C.Z.M. (Dutch Authorities) replied to enquiries advised no further knowledge of warship sighting but showed "RAMB II" sighting of 12th March at 8°35'S 124°51'E.	Appreciation submitted.
22/3	Darwin reported following message received from aeradio from Dutch Aircraft - Sighted submarine on surface 460 kilometres bearing 285 degrees from Darwin. Submarine submerged on sighting. T.O.O. 0435Z/22	Three aircraft sent out orders to bomb on sight. C.Z.M. informed. Searches negative. Patch of oil sighted 30 miles from position. Appreciation submitted.
22/3	Italian sloop "ERITREA" arrived Kobe. Suggest probably warship sighted on 11th and 12th.	
24/3	QQQQ from "IRON PRINCE" 39°08'S 141°50'E near Cape Nelson. Message cancelled.	
24/3	Port Moresby reported two unidentified merchant ships flying Dutch flag. M M S consider them to be "Melampus" and "Noesaniwi". "Immediate" reply made.	
24/3	Signal sent to C. in C. East Indies requesting latest information with regard to Italian warships and merchantmen in East African area.	
25/3	Reply received to effect that most ships are still accounted for and general exodus has not taken place. Ships "ARABIA" and "SOMALIA" have sailed.	

Q: DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDED 4th April, 1941.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE.

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
31/3/41	Cape Willoughby report of unidentified ship N.E.5/7 miles course N.W. at 1445Z/30. M.M.S. unable to identify. Serial No.41	Subsequently M.M.S. identified as "ARGOSY LEMAL". Serial No. cancelled.
1/4/41	Mine submerged 10' sighted 38° 58' 30" S. 114° 16' 30" E. at 0140Z/1. Group 58 proceeding to investigate.	Result of search negative.
1/4/41	Unidentified ship sighted 1440K 36° 53' S. 150° 12' E. (Serial No.42)	
2/4/41	Unidentified ship sighted 0706 and 0708K 39° 15' S. 147° 18' E.	Air Search commenced at 0700K 2/4. Serial Nos. later cancelled both ships identified as Dutch "MOUDFERLAND"
3/4/41	Unidentified ship (Serial No.44) sighted N.E. of Low Head (Tasmania). Later identified as "DUNDULA". Unidentified ship (Serial No.45) sighted by B.M.P. by plane 145° 30' E. 40° S. Later identified as "Kini".	
3/4/41	Unidentified ship No.46 - 2 ships bearing 138° - 25' from Newcastle at 1600K/3. One ship large other small no description; came from West; steered South then disappeared East; much smoke.	Aircraft despatched from Rathmines for search.
3/4/41	Unidentified ship No.47. Eddystem Pt. Tasmania ship 20' North to S.E. at 1700K/3.	Action - Identified as "DUNDULU" by M.M.S.
3/4/41	Unidentified ships reported by Coast-Watcher Auietyum.	Appreciation submitted. Serial No.48.
4/4/41	Report of big explosion Eastern side Palm Island 18° 40' S. 146° 40' E. at 1155K/4. Nothing seen, sounded like mine.	Search by two Hudsons 1750K negative. Further search

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE.

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN.
29/3/41	Report received from American ship "JEFF DAVIS" that at 1100K/29 she observed splashes Lat. 34° 20' S. Long. 151° 40' E. resembling gunfire splashes. "JEFF DAVIS" position at 1130K/29 was 15 miles 130° True from Cape Banks, Botany Bay.	Army, Air & Navy informed. N.O.C.S. received original signal. 3 Hudson Aircraft took off from Richmond, would be in vicinity 1315K/29. D.N.I. informed by 'phone. "JEFF DAVIS" is due Sydney late this afternoon. S.O.(I.) will board her on arrival. Air Searches negative. N.O.C.S will make a final signal. Appreciation submitted.
29/3/41	B.N.A. Buenos Ayres reports that all Italian ships have been received orders to put to sea.	
29/3/41	Solomon Islands Resident Commissioner reports Natives saw aircraft Noon 19/3/41 flying very high going West. No details.	Appreciation to be written by Sub-Lieut. Ryan. (Appreciation held waiting developments).
	Report from Coast-Watcher at Forster, N.S.W. begins: "Fishing vessel "Sea Hawk" Master Heynatz reports sighting object like small vessel about 20 tons, seven miles E.S.E. of Charlotte Heads 2 miles outside "Sea Hawk" Daylight 29th. Object disappeared very suddenly "Sca Hawk" searched vicinity found no trace."	N.O.C.S. obtained further particulars from Harcourt by 'phone. Appreciation submitted.
30/3/41	QQQQ from "PORT WAIKATO" near Pitt Island, Chatham Group.	D.N.I. informed. N.Z. Station, N.B. have not been informed of this signal by N.Z.N.B.
31/3/41	Thursday Island report unidentified ship pass North of T.I. into Greater N.E. Channel at 1415Z/30	Staff informed Port Moresby this ship is unidentified. By daylight this ship should be well within range of Port Moresby. Air reconnaissance considered at Port Moresby a A.C.H. matter (no identified ship serial no. issued by M.M.S.). H.M.A.S. "VIGILANT" is in this area. Subsequent investigations proved ship to be a lugger.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
5/4/41	Telephone report from S.O. Hobart of light and flash seen by "PORT TARONGA" 0100/4 and 10 minutes later - No action.	
5/4/41	A.C.H. Darwin report message from K.N.I.L.M. Pilot that a Japanese Tanker is lying motionless in position 37' N.N.W. of SAVU Island time 0139Z/5. No action proposed unless order by C.W.R.	Appreciation written. No operations by A.C.H.
6/4/41	A.W.A. reports message from "MATTHEW FLINDERS" in position 039°19'S 135°37'E suspicious vessel following her.	M.M.S report "Matthew Flinders" west bound from Kembla. Two large ships are east bound in this area. Nothing else west bound. Message received 0800K/5. Air Force and D.O.D. informed also D.O.I. Message later cancelled.
7/4/41	Mine washed ashore at TOUELEY (N of Norah Head) early 7/4. N.O.C.S. requested to inform as to period mine had been in water.	
7/4/41	N.O.C.S. reports mine is of 1 X STAR Type and has been in water for about one month.	
8/4/41	Unidentified ship reported by Light house Keeper Cape Nelson at 0645Z/7. (Serial No.49) Later cancelled. Unidentified A/C sighted over Wedge Is. (Tas) at 2040. Navigation lights showing P.W.S.S. verified sighting. Further advice awaited from Air Force.	
10/4/41	Gunfire reported east of Short Land Is. Probably thunder. No action.	
11/4/41	From 5/4/41 further reports on unidentified sightings off Aneityum received from A.R.O. Port Vila, A.C.H. Moresby, Resident Commissioner Port Vila.	

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDING 19/4/41

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
15/4/41	Serial No.51. Tanker reported in position 20°17'S 105°30'E at 2130Z/10/4. No description Report made by "Somersetshire" on 15/4. Appreciation written. C.Z.M. was unable to identify.	
15/4/41	Serial No.52. Anir reports (a) Black ship 2 masts one funnel bearing east steering north 0204Z/13. (b) Small white object bearing west going south. 2209Z/13. Appreciation written - No intelligence to link up with this sighting.	
16/4/41	Unidentified aircraft over Newington Magazine at 0200K. Flying low no navigation lights, engine throttled back.	Appreciation written.
18/4/41	Object sighted off coast N. of Perth 1508H/18 - submerging reported.	Aircraft searched. Result negative.
19/4/41	Report from QANTAS agent Dilli advising 5th Japanese test flight postponed indefinitely. Considered unusual as tender already at Dilli. Bad weather suggested as explanation. Dilli later advised Tokyo gave reason for postponement by wireless as "actual circumstances" and recommended advice be passed to Canberra.	Appreciation written.
	Report from Batavia of Japanese troop movements at Haikun and Taiwan and concentrations at Kaiwan Taiwan and Kyushu.	Appreciation written.
	Report of four vessels off Vila and native report five cruisers no flag off Port Havana. Later report six vessels off Vila on course south - one warship.	Appreciation written suggesting vessels were "Java" escorting Dutch convoy. Signal advising identification sent to Vila by D.N.I.

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
12/4/41	<p>Reports of gunfire heard 10/4/41 from Faisi (Shortland Is) and Auki (Malaita).</p> <p>Destroyer (2 funnels) heading S.W. sighted 20 m. from east-bound Qantas machine (in position 90 m. 116° from Koepang) 0620K/12/4 - Identified as Dutch.</p> <p>Italian Submarine "GALILEO FERRARIS" from Massawa probably located on bearing 345° from Darwin at 1106Z/11/4.</p>	<p>Appreciation submitted.</p>
12/4/41	<p>Launch behaving suspiciously at Shoalhaven and Crookhaven. Flares on beach. Unidentified ship believed to have contacted launch and to have hoisted it.</p>	<p>No action - believed fishing vessel. Launch subsequently identified - above suspicion.</p>
13/4/41	<p>N.O.I.C. Newcastle reports an explosion seen by two residents 4' bearing 135° from Flat Isle (south of Newcastle) time 1130K/13 - column of water 80 ft. high - sound heard - no ships in vicinity.</p>	<p>D.O.D. has instructed that ships be warned to keep clear - this is near "Nimbin" area - only supposition is that explosion was a mine. Reasons for explosion unknown.</p>
13/4/41	<p>Ship resembling warship with 2 funnels sighted at Cape Astrolabe (N. Malaita) by native. Given Serial No.53. Appreciation written.</p>	
14/4/41	<p>"NYUGAT" seized by Dutch in position 11°18'S 123°44'E en route Sourabaya at 0830Z/13.</p> <p>Further report from Aneityum of daily reports of planes heard last at 2200Z/12.</p>	
14/4/41	<p>"ELSA ESSBURGER" sailed from Kobe. Ship unidentified but resembling "REGENSBURG" in harbour.</p>	

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
20/4/41	Aircraft reported over Wollongong. Richmond consider it to be a Hudson - Identified as a Hudson.	
20/4/41	Signal from C.Z.M. stating that Japanese are preparing an aerodrome about 30 miles E of Dilli. Darwin Airintel instructed to request Dilli agent to investigate.	
21/4/41	A.C.H. Sydney reports explosion from Norah Head and Red Head - explosion to seaward approx due East entrance Lake Macquarie. No ships in vicinity - Seaplane investigating.	Air Search negative - further report 2 mine-sweepers in vicinity heard nothing, unusual, minesweepers at gunnery practice.
24/4/41	Airintel Moresby reported definite volcanic disturbance at time of previous reports of explosions from Shortland Is. and elsewhere.	
25/4/41	Unidentified Ship (Serial No.54) sighted off Port Kembla. Later identified as "PORT MELBOURNE".	
25/4/41	Unidentified aircraft over Ponerihaven (New Caledonia) Navigation lights seen. Observer believed engine single motor.	
14/4/41	Signal lights at Arama, New Caledonia. Native report of two ships with appearance of warships at Onnde. Appreciation written concerning above two.	

TO:

THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDING 4th May 1941

COMBINED OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTREDIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
30/4/41	Report from resident (Ouvea Is.) that vessel two funnels appearance warship sighted 1330 April 30th N.W. direction also a plane flying over island. Captain of R.A.A.F. Catalina was at 1330 flying over Ouvea Island and reports he did not sight any vessel.	Appreciation submitted.
2/5/41	At least six aircraft reported off Burai (New Caledonia) Native report.	Appreciation submitted.
3/5/41	<p>Head Lightkeeper KINGSTON sighted at 1730K 10-12 miles W.N.W. three vessels described respectively -</p> <p>(i) Large vessel - high amidships like man-o-war</p> <p>(ii) About $\frac{1}{2}$ size of large vessel</p> <p>(iii) About $\frac{3}{6}$ size of large vessel</p> <p>Course at sighting North. Course changed at 1750K to W.N.W. or E.S.E. No lights shown at darkness 1800K.</p>	Appreciation submitted.

TO:
THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WEEK ENDING 12/5/41

COMBINED OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE CENTRE

DIARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Most SECRET

DATE OF EVENT	NATURE OF REPORT	ACTION TAKEN
5/5/41	Report of aircraft heard 2000K from Cockle Creek (South Tasmania).	No action
7/5/41	Report of one white light of vessel sighted by Port Kembla Battery - Estimated speed 30 knots - in sight for 5 mins. distance 6000 yds. approx - steering south. Disappeared behind Perkins Is.	Discussed with D.C.N.S. and D.O.D. No action.
8/5/41	"RRRR" from "WELTERVREDEN" south of Canton Island cancelled as ship was "Achilles".	
9/5/41	Object possibly a mine sighted at night by "KORANUI" in 43°16'30"S 148°16'30"E.	
11/5/41	Smoke of unidentified ship off Vila.	Air search from Gavutu negative.
11/5/41	Unidentified ship (large, grey, two funnels) off Rotuma Island (N. of Fiji)	Appreciation written. "Westralia" "Manoora" informed.
7/5 - 10/5	Report (E.5) of aircraft heard over Cape Peron (near Fremantle).	No action. M.I. investigating.
12/5/41	Telephone report of two aircraft seen over Port Phillip.	Enquiries made by telephone and report discounted.

SECRET

Serial No. DS/1.

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE -AUSTRALIA
AND ADJACENT WATERS.

D.N.I.

D.D.M.I.

D.O.I.

Submitted:

DAILY REPORT 0800/16 - 0800/17.

AUSTRALIA STATION.

W.S.S. Gabo. Aircraft reported over CABO 1845K/16 has been identified as one of four aircraft which, engaged on an astro-navigational exercise, took off from MALLACOOTA at 1815/onwards for RICHMOND.
0845Z 16/5

ADJACENT AREAS.

(1) ENEMY MERCHANT SHIPS.

C.O.I.S "MUNSTERLAND" which departed NAGOYA 11/5 arrived YOKO-
1427Z 14/5 NAMA 14/5.
Distance is about 220 miles. Time of departure and arrival are not known, but it appears that a direct course was not taken.

(2) RAIDERS.

C. in C. Sth Vessel closely resembling INDIAN OCEAN raider No. 16
Atl. was sighted on 3rd. May in position 58°(?) 45'S 24°
0909N 15/5 29'W.
At 12 knots this ship could reach Western limits of AUSTRALIAN Station about 27th May.

(3) JAPANESE ACTIVITIES.

Cdr. Kennedy Fifth JAPANESE test flight from PALAU to DILLI is
0515/15/5 expected to take place on 19th May.
Airintel Darwin The tender "NUSHI MARU" is expected at DILLI on 17th
win May.
2340Z 14/5

Phelan (N).
Bratton (M).
Ch. Roy Booth (A).

C.O.I.C.
17th May, 1941.

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUSTRALIA
AND ADJACENT WATERS.

SECRET

Serial No. DS/2.

D.N .I.

D.D.M.I.

D.O.I.

DAILY REPORT 0800/I7-0800/I8

Australia Station

Nil.

Adjacent Areas

- C.Z.M. I055/I7. Unidentified aircraft over Kalabahi N.E.I.
(C.O.I.C. Appreciation No.I3 submitted)
- C.O.I.S. 0309/I7 2. LA MOTTE PICQET which departed Saigon 5th May
has returned.
- N.S.H.Q Ottawa 3. It is reported that a Japanese ship recently
1837/15/5. arrived at Seattle behaved suspiciously off Honolulu
pursuing a circuitous route. Investigations are
proceeding as to whether ship contacted any suspicious
merchant vessel

G. P. Bradshaw (A)
A. S. Bradshaw (A)

18 May '41

C.O.I.C. copy
1/15

18-5

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
AUSTRALIAN & ADJACENT WATERS

S E C R E T

D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/3

not for reproduction
Daily Report 0800/19 - 0800/20

Australia Station

SWACH 0734Z/19

Pl-20 1330H/19 Search between bearings 273° - 343° from 32°01'S 115°27'E to depth of 300 miles. Object clearing search ahead of 2540.

Adjacent Areas

C.Z.M. 0827Z/19

Identified Ship - Black painted vessel sighted by natives from Tanjong Mali (about 9 miles east of Tanjong Oisina - S.W. extremity of Timor) - One funnel, two masts - Course from east to west; stopped 10 miles east from Tanjong Mali; Then steered south.

Considered to be Norwegian tanker "ORA".

2. JAPANESE ACTIVITIES

Airintel Darwin
1100Z/19

Japanese Flying Boat landed Dilli 19/5. Expected to depart A.M. 20/5.

3. ENEMY UNIT IN INDIAN OCEAN

C. in C. E.I.
1734Z/18

D/F position formerly in vicinity Chagos Is. now considered to be ~~more~~ to westward.

Catalina searched former position without result and is searching further.

H.M.S. "Cornwall" and "Glasgow" also searching further.

Phyans (N)
Rutcher (M) C.O.I.C.
(A) 20/5/41

fr.

D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.S.I.

Submitted:-
(Portions marked with red line are not to be reproduced.)

AUSTRALIA STATION

S.W.A.C.H.
0720/20/5

1. Anti-submarine air patrols being carried out off Fremantle during daylight hours 21/5, in view of approach of "Queen Mary".

S.W.A.C.H.Q.
1036/20Z

2. Clearing search Pl-20 off Perth was completed with negative results.

A.C.H.Q. Perth
1616/20Z to
HMAS "Sydney"

3. An unconfirmed report was received that H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" or a similar ship had been sighted in the searchlight beam to the North of Rottnest Island at 1920 local time. "Sydney" was instructed to lead "QUEEN MARY" through searched channel as far as fairway buoy and to report if she was the ship sighted. H.M.A.S. "Sydney" reported that she was not the ship sighted.

HMAS "Sydney" to
ACHQ Fremantle

Airintel
Moresby 1323/20/5

4. Reports indicate further sightings at Aneityum (New Hebrides).

A.18-10 now at Vila has been ordered to search A.M.21/5 and if possible to alight and investigate the reports.

A series of reports was received from Aneityum during March and April of unidentified aircraft and ships. Panair flights were considered to be responsible for at least some of the aircraft reports although times did not coincide. The ships passed at night at fairly regular five day intervals. No description was possible but vessels were presumed to be oil-burners owing to absence of smoke. Signal lights were seen. Air searches on 7th April were negative.

ADJACENT AREAS

C in C A & W.I.
1008/18
N.S.O. Monte Video
2141/19/5

The following German merchant ships sailed from ports on the west coast of South America on 17th May.

- a) "QUITO" (1575 tons - 13½ knots) from Coquimbo.
 - b) "BOGATA" (1605 tons - 13½ knots) from Coquimbo.
- Both vessels have powerful W/T installations.
- c) "RHAKOTIS" (8,110 tons - 13 knots) from Antofagasta.
 - d) "ERLANGEN" (6,101 tons - 13 knots) from Puerto Montt.
 - e) "FRANKFURT" (5,500 tons - 13½ knots) from Talcahuano.
- All are reported to have ample fuel.

Comment - In view of presence of ships (German) in Japan more suitable as either raiders or supply ships it is considered unlikely that these ships will proceed to the Australia Station.

Admiralty
2217/14/5

("PORTLAND" which departed Talcahuano 30/1/41 is known to have acted as a prison ship for raiders in the South Atlantic.)

Ref. report
from C.Z.M.
0827Z/19
Serial No.DS/3

2. On further investigation N.B. have suggested to C.Z.M. the possibility of the sighting off South coast of Timor on 19/5 being the Dutch "BONTEKOE" which was bound from Thursday Is. to Sourabaya.

G.J. Broadbank (N)
A.S. Broadshaw (A)

21st May 1941

MOST SECRET

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.N.I.~~
~~D.D.M.I.~~
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/5

(Portions marked with red lines are not to be reproduced).

AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref. Serial No. DS/4
Para. 3
S.W.A.C.H. 2206Z/20
S.W.A.C.H. 2236Z/20
D.N.O. W.A. 0205Z/21
S.W.A.C.H. 0636/21
S.W.A.C.H. 1010/21

Following the report that a camouflaged ship resembling a cruiser had been twice sighted momentarily in a searchlight beam north of Rottneest Island, H.M.A.S. "BONTHORPE" searched the channel and a diverging air search was carried out commencing 0915K/21 to a depth of 300 miles. Also anti-submarine air patrol was carried out off Fremantle during daylight hours on the 21/5. All searches were negative and air operations have been discontinued. D.N.O. W.A. considered the presence of an enemy warship improbable but as the "Queen Mary's" paravane was not functioning she was escorted through the searched channel by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY". The position of the reported sighting is about 5 miles N.N.E. of Rottneest Island approx 10 miles from the mainland.

C. in E. East Indies
0420Z/8/4

Comment - Apart from the two Italian destroyers "Cesare Battisti" and "Vincenzo G. Orsini" which were considered to have escaped from Massawa during late March or early April, there are no German or Italian warships that could have reached the Australia Station by this date at 15 knots, according to latest Admiralty dispositions.

(b) If the sighting were suspicious it would seem likely in view of the negative result of the air search, that the vessel proceeded in a Southerly direction after being sighted.

Ref. C.O.I.S.
0319Z/9/4/ and
0725Z/25/4

(c) Although the "ELBE" and "REGENSBURG" which departed from Yokohama and Kobe fully laden on 3/4/41 and 22/4/41 respectively could be anywhere on the Australia Station at 15 knots, there has been no intelligence to suggest the possibility of an enemy unit being in the area at the time of sighting except the sighting of three ships off Kingston on 3/5/41.

(d) It would seem most unlikely for any enemy unit to proceed so close inshore to a known operational area.

Ref. Serial DS/4
Para. 4

2. Reference Airtel report of Sightings at Aneityum (New Hebrides) on 20/5.

Ref. A.R.O. Vila
2306Z/20
0449Z/21

A.R.O. Vila has now reported "Coast Watcher Aneityum reports reliable whiteman sighted a light like steamer passing West 1000Z/20. Course approximately west. Bearing from Aneityum not stated. Graded B.2."

Ref. Serial DS/4
Para. 4.
Airtel Moresby
2245Z/20

The air search of Aneityum Island area to be conducted from Vila by A.18-10 has been delayed by reason of the aircraft being unserviceable until 1700K/21. The search is to be made as soon thereafter as possible.

Comment - A.R.O. Vila's report presumably refers to the same sighting as reported by Airtel yesterday. There is no shipping known to be in the area. (Serial No. 58).

218/-10
ARRIVED

A NEITYUM
RT 2246Z/21

ADJACENT AREAS

Ref. Appn. 13
Airintel Melbourne
1450K/21

Unidentified Aircraft at Kalabahi 16/5 - The possibility of this aircraft having been a D.H.89 from Koepang - Dilli service on a special flight is being investigated by Airintel Darwin.

Ranner ^{Ray} ^{Lieut}
(N)

Barimol (M)

AS Bradford (A)

C.O.I.C.

22nd May, 1941

G.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

MOST SECRET

Serial No.DS/6

0800/22 - 0800/23

D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with red line are not to be reproduced).

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref.Serial DS/5
para.1.
S.W.A.C.H.0650Z/21

An outer anti-submarine air patrol took place between 0700H and 1730H ahead of "Queen Mary" which departed from Fremantle at 0500H/22.

A.C.H.0940K/22
0947K/22
1149K/22

2.The Laverton routine air patrol off S.W.Victoria which was scheduled to take place at 1315K/22 has been postponed until 24/5.

Airintel, Northern
Area - 0236Z/22

3.W/T Intelligence at Townsville.
Northern Area reported deliberate W/T interference on two occasions on 22/5 by a station with a call sign RYU on 5700 K/Cs.

Comment - This is a Russian call sign and it has been ascertained that there ~~was~~ heavy traffic on 5705 kcs.

4.Aneityum Sightings

Ref.Serial DS/5
Para.2.
Airintel, Pt Moresby
2206/21Z
2331/21Z

A.18-10 left Vila to conduct search in the Aneityum area at 0509K/22 and landed at Aneityum at 0846K. The search was carried out with negative results and aircraft landed Noumea.

Comment - a) The air search although negative cannot be regarded as conclusive as the sighting occurred 33 hours previously and the vessel sighted would have been beyond the searched area at 7 knots.

- (b) The following sightings could be linked -
- (i) Large two-funnelled grey steamer off Rotumah noon, 11/5.
 - (ii) Vessel off Vila, 10/5.
 - (iii) Sightings New Hebrides, Loyalty Islands and New Caledonia between 16/3 and 2/5.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Ref.Serial DS/5
Page 2
Airintel Darwin
1106/22Z

Aircraft sighted over Kalabahi 16/5 - This aircraft has now been identified as being a D.H. 89 from Dilli (Portuguese Timor).

Ref.Serial DS/1
& DS/3 - Airintel
Darwin 2257/21Z

2.Palau - Dilli Flight - The Japanese Flying Boat "Uranami" which arrived at Dilli on 19/5 on its postponed fifth experimental flight departed at 0600/21K. The tender "N USHI MARU" also left at the same time.

Airintel Darwin
1106/22Z

It is reported from Dilli that the Flying Boat refuelled there with 1200 gallons, regarded as excessive for a direct return flight. Darwin A.I. Section considers that reconnaissance flights are indicated.

Comment - a) The F/Bs used in these flights appear from previous reports to be Type 97 (4 engines 700-800 h.p.) with slight modification. No information is available as to petrol capacity or consumption but this type has a range at full load of 2250 miles. The distance from Dilli to Palau is approx 1200 miles.

Report Capt E.C.
Johnston 23/1/41
R.A.A.F. Summary
No.57 Para.2

Airintel Darwin
1223/17Z

F.E.C.B. No.202(A)

(b) The present flight was originally to have been undertaken from Palau on 19th April in company with the seaplane "Suranami" for portion of the journey. Helen Reef (Caroline Group)- North of Western extremity of Dutch New Guinea has been the subject of special Japanese interest and is almost directly on the line of flight. While there has been no report of a second F/B on this occasion aerial reconnaissance of potential bases and alighting areas between Northern Australia and Helen Reef could be undertaken, particularly the ARU Islands and Dutch New Guinea where there has been ample evidence of Japanese infiltration.

(c) The South China Sea bases would also be within range although earlier reported experimental flights by these aircraft have been east of the Phillipines.

(d) Intelligence in respect of this flight included W/T frequencies and it is suggested that on the occasion of the sixth flight and return a D/F watch be kept with a view to ascertaining the aircraft's movements.

Commander Kennedy
0515/15/5

[Handwritten signature] (N)

[Handwritten signature] (M)

[Handwritten signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.

23rd May, 1941

[Small handwritten mark]

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.N.I.~~ *2415*

Serial No.DS/7

D.D.M.I. 0800/23 - 0800/24

D.O.I.

(Portions marked with red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Batavia 0520/20
0521/21

Dutch Light Cruiser "TROMP" escorting three merchant ships and accompanied by the tanker "PENDOPO" will rendezvous at Cairns A.M. June 4th en route to Suva from N.E.I.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Conroy (N)

Becker (M)

St. J. Doolin (A)

C.O.I.C.

24th May, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

~~D.N.I.~~

SerialNo:DS/8

D.D.M.I.

0800/24 - 0800/25

D.O.I.

MOST SECRET

(Portions marked with red line are not to be reproduced)

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

ACHQ 0007/24z
ACHQ 0356/24z

A clearing search ahead of "QUEEN MARY" (Bairnsdale to 60 miles East of Eden and depth of 180 miles) was conducted by three aircraft from Laverton, with negative result.

S.O. 20th.
M/S Flotilla
OI44/24Z

2. A mine is reported to have been swept up and sunk in 87 fathoms, its position being approximately 22 miles South-West of Norah Head N.S.W. and about 3½ miles North-north-West from the position in which the trawler "MINNIMUMUL" sank.

Comment- It would appear that this mine belongs to the ----- field laid within the 100 fathom line off Norah Head in October-November 1940.

B. ADJACENT AREAS.

Nil Report.

G. L. Cannon (N)
J. S. ... (M)
A. S. Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

25th May, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/9

D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Q. Darwin
0216Z/25

It is intended to carry out aircraft reconnaissance exercises off Cape Don (80 miles N.N.E. from Darwin) with Auxiliary vessel "TERKA" representing luggers each with a submarine in tow. Time of commencement of exercises to be signalled later.

O.I.C. Archer Point
T.O.O.0347/26Z

2. It was reported from Archer Point (8 miles south of Cooktown) that a ship which passed southward at 0340Z on the 26th had refused to hoist signal letters in reply to station signals.

Comment - The vessel was, however, identified as the Dutch ship "BANTAM" (K.P.M) which left Thursday Island on 24th May and is due in Melbourne on 4th June.

Airintel Perth
A1-44 1615/26Z

3. A report was received from Perth that an unidentified vessel had been sighted coming from the south into the Channel off Fremantle and then turning west. No time stated.

Airintel Perth
A1-45, 2005/26Z

An air search was immediately conducted by aircraft with flares. In the interim the vessel was identified and the aircraft returned to Pearce at 0210 local time 27th May.

The reason for this apparent lack of co-ordination was that all telephonic communications between Perth and Pearce and Fremantle were out of order at the time.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report.

J.R. Howard 27/5 (N)

P. Williams (M)

W. J. O'Connell (A)
P6

C.O.I.C.

27th May, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Serial No: DS/IO.

~~D.N.I.~~

D.D.M.I.

D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced.)

MOST SECRET
))) -----(((

A. AUSTRALIA STATION.

Darwin 2323/26Z

One Hudson aircraft departed from Darwin at 2316/26Z on patrol of north-west coast to Broome and return.

Airintel Moresby
0145/27Z

- W/T Interference - Moresby-Gavutu
2. Moresby reported apparently deliberate W/T interference from two unidentified stations at 1900/25K when Moresby was working Gavutu on 6675 K/Cs.

Comment - R.A.A.F. Signals are investigating. Considerable amount of traffic uses approx this wave length.

Ref. Serials DS/4
Para. (4)
DS/5 Para. (2)
DS/6 " (4)
Airintel Moresby
0607/27Z

3. Aneityum Sightings
Port Moresby Air Intelligence Officer reports having interviewed the pilot of A.18-10 on his return from the search conducted on 22/5. The reports from Aneityum generally are discounted as coming from an unreliable observer. Also this officer's appreciation is that reports of aircraft refer to Pan-Air Machines and Catalinas en route from Canton Is. to Noumea, and that lights appearing as a directed beam or signalling were actually lightning reflected on cumulus cloud.

Comment - Reports have been received of various sightings (other than aircraft) at Aneityum since 16/3. The above signal appears to indicate that all such reports should be discounted. It is considered however, that only the series of signal flashes reported are assessed as being unfounded (although on 14/4 such a flash was seen by the Coast Watcher). On the other hand the reports of lights from passing vessels cannot be dismissed, with the exception of that of the 20/5 (DS/4, 5 & 6, as will be seen from the following:-

A.R.O. Vila 0057/Z 3/4
0754Z/5/4

Craft showing 3 joint port holes lights 16/3, 21/3, 31/3 and 4/4. The craft was sighted by all white residents at different times. Graded A.3.

A.C.H.Q. Pt
Moresby 1313Z/27

4. A report from Emirau states that Kanakas report steamer East of Emirau steering north at 0900K today Tuesday. Unidentified and do not intend to search."

Comment - There have been several reports on the Australia Station over recent weeks that can be linked with this report viz. unidentified ship sightings at Rotumah, Vila and Aneityum but none of these have been substantiated by subsequent intelligence. All the German merchant ships that have recently departed from Japan could have

* Daily Summary

reached the area.

B. ADJACENT AREAS.

Nil Report

A. K. S. (N)
Prasad (M)
T. J. Mallick (A)

C.O.I.C.

28th May, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No.DS/11

~~D.N.I.~~
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Airintel Darwin
0620/28Z

It is reported that aerial reconnaissance has shown 27 Japanese pearling luggers and their mother-ship to be in the Melville Island area ~~at 1300/28Z (13/5)~~.

Airintel Darwin
2330/13Z

Comment - The same number of craft were reported in approximately the same position on 13/5 and their presence numbers and activities were then described as normal. ✓

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

R. Laundry (N)

Pringle (M)

S. J. O'Connell (A)

C.O.I.C.

29th May, 1941

SECRET

D.N.I.

Reference Airintel Moresby Signal 0607Z/27
(Aneityum Is. Reports)

D.C.N.S.

C.N.S.

Since the beginning of April we have received a series of reports of suspicious ship and aircraft sightings from the Coast Watcher Aneityum Island. Some of these have been discounted while most of the aircraft reports have been attributed to Pan-Air and Catalina aircraft flying between Noumea and Canton Island.

2. Aneityum Island is the southernmost island of the New Hebrides Group approximately 270 miles by sea N.E. of Noumea. Apart from the native population there are several white residents -- plantation owners and missionaries on the island and several Japanese residents on the western side. The island is approximately 70 miles North of the nearest shipping route between Noumea and Suva although there is a six weekly inter-island steamer Service with the Island. The Coast Watcher is a white resident connected with a Timber Company.

3. Some of the ship sightings which were reported as being confirmed by several other white residents on the island have never been identified nor has any satisfactory description been given as the vessels on each occasion have been sighted during evening or night. Air searches have been carried out in the area with negative results. It has been suggested that the sightings may indicate the presence of Japanese luggers in the area as these are known to operate from the D'Entrecasteux Reefs approximately 400 miles further north while some of the light flashes sighted have been seen on the western side of Aneityum Is. where the Japanese live.

4. A Flying Boat visited the island on 22nd May with a view to investigating the reports. This signal which is a report of the investigation suggests that the reports generally should be discounted as the informer in many instances is not reliable. It is considered however that this refers to the series of signal flashes that have been reported; as on other occasions the coast-watcher has reported sightings as being confirmed by several other white residents.

Reference report of Japanese entering R.A.A.F. Premises at Vila on 21/5.

Air Intelligence (Security) advise that there are only xxx 3 R.A.A.F personnel stationed at Vila including two W/T operators. They are unable to advise as to what local arrangements have been made re security nor how the R.A.A.F. Premises are situated as regards public surroundings. Further enquiries are to be made.

Reference "Monoyama Maru". This vessel was formerly the British built "War Leopard" (1918) which explains the sighting of the word "War" on the bow.

[Signature]
Naval Representative
C.O.I.C. 28/5/41.

AIR INTEL have

now ascertained that

RAAF Premises ^{at Vila} are in a prohibited & restricted area

according to local law. Further enquiries as to our rights ^{decision} are being made

[Signature] 28/5

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/12

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

- S.W.A.C.H.0237Z/29 | Clearing search from Pearce to cover approach of H.M. Transport "Zealandia" at 1500K/29. Search abandoned because of weather. ✓
- S.W.A.C.H.0800/29 |
- Airintel 0511/29Z 2. Gavutu (Solomons) reports that a European who arrived Tulagi on 27/5 reported that reliable natives at Bellona 11°20'South 159°50' East on 13/5 sighted at 1300K large 2 funnel ship 5 to 10 miles seaward steering north from West of Bellona.
- Airintel Moresby 2235Z/11/5 Comment - Bellona Is. lies about 15 miles N.N.W. of Rennell Island and 100 miles south of Tulagi. This native report could possibly link up with the unidentified ship off Vila at 2010Z/10/5 approx 25 miles out. The result of an air search was negative. ✓
- C.W.R.Wellington 0254Z/12/5 Other recent two funnel ship sightings are as follows:- Large steamer two funnels sighted from Rotumah at noon local time May 11th. This vessel could have been off Bellona Is. at 21 knots on the 13/5.
- A.R.O.Noumea 1730Z/30/4 Two funnel vessel appearance warship sighted 1330 April 30th off Ouvea Island. Air Search was negative.
- Richmond 1840K/29 3. An air operation is to be carried out commencing at 0700K 30/5 to search an area bounded by 033°37'S 151°21'E 033°24'S 154°32'E 035°08'S 153°43'E 035°22'S, 150°30'E. Object surface vessels, also "Adelaide" which is to be reported as enemy by concealed method and towed target to be bombed. Four aircraft being employed. ✓
- By hand from Army D.Officer Southern Command 2050K/29 4. Report from Naval Staff Officer (Hobart) at 1855K that a report came from the Post Master at Naracoopa (east side of King Is) that a search light had been seen about N.E. from Naracoopa and it was over the horizon. It was first seen at 1830K and was still there ¼ hr. later. It seemed to be sweeping round and was travelling very slowly. Navy stated that they would report it to Melbourne. ✓
- Comment - After investigation, and finally communicating with Queenscliff, the Duty Officer there said that several searchlights had been operating both from Point Nepean and Queenscliff from 1745K to 2100K/29/5; and that two were still in operation at 2100K. This officer said that fishermen at King Is. had often seen these searchlights before. There is no doubt that this is the explanation.

AUSTRALIA STATION (contd)

A.C.H. Darwin
0645Z/29/5

5. The following luggers have been sighted by Aerial Reconnaissance in the areas and on the dates indicated:
- (a) 18 - Gourdon Bay - 28/5
 - (b) 1 - Legrange Bay - 28/5
 - (c) 6 - Off Cape Filzier - 28/5
 - (d) 13 - Off Eighty Mile Beach 30 miles S.W. of Cape Frezier - 28/5
 - (e) 1 - 27 miles N.N.E. 27/5 ✓
- 39 - of Cape Ford

The total number of luggers known to have been in Northern waters on 27/28/5 is therefore 66. 27 Japanese have been sighted off Melville Is. on 28/5.

Comment - Assuming that all the sighted luggers are Japanese the position is still normal as the average strength of the Japanese pearling fleet is 60 to 70 luggers. The areas mentioned are amongst those usually fished by the Japanese.

20 Minesweeping
Flotilla
0804Z/26
0744Z/28
0701Z/29

6. Further mines have been swept up by the 20th Minesweeping Flotilla off Norah Head (N.S.W.)

Comment - These are all considered to belong to the original "Nimbin" field laid last October/November which is being extensively covered. ✓

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Lanner (N)
Barker (M)
J. Maclean (A)

C.O.I.C.
30th May, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.O.D.~~
~~D.N.I.~~
~~D.D.M.I.~~
D.O.I.

31/5

Serial No.DS/13

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

C.inC Archer
Point 0715/29Z

Cooktown police report having been advised Rocket light seen near Mabel Is. position west of T.T Isle 318° true 3 miles bearing of light 314° true.

Comment - N.O.I.C. Townsville is to check with light-houses and other appropriate sources in the vicinity and will report if the sighting is confirmed.

An interim appreciation has been submitted suggesting some local activity ashore.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

[Signature] (N)

[Signature] (M)

[Signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.
31/5/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.
)))-----(((

D.O.D.

~~D.N.I.~~ 114

D.D.M.I.

D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line
not to be reproduced)

Serial No:DS/14.I4.

MOST SECRET.
)))-----(((

A. AUSTRALIA STATION.

N.O.I.C.
Townsville
0350Z/30

With reference to Cooktown Report of Sighting at Mabel Is:
N.O.I.C. Townsville now advises:
Light was sighted P.M. on the 28th. and that the Lighthouse
Ship Cape Leeuwin is maintaining a watch.

A.C.H.Q.
S.E. Area
0112/Z30

2. It was proposed that the "HOBART" should represent an
enemy battleship in order to exercise Shore Based Aircraft;
which would carry out exercises in locating, shadowing, and
attacking.

A.C.H.Q.
S.E. Area
0159Z/31

It was found impracticable to carry out these exercises,
but the arrangement made for bombing on Monday will stand.

A.R.O.
Rabaul
0430Z/31

3. A report was received from Buks Is: that a large funnel
steamer was reported proceeding in a Southerly direction from
Kessa about 1700Z/30/5.
Comment: Appreciation No; I6 is attached.

Rec Moresby

----- AN AIR SEARCH HAS BEEN INSTITUTED BY A.C.H. MORESBY EARLY THIS
MORNING.

22082/3

B. ADJACENT AREAS.

Nil report.

Laund (N)

Pratt (M)

Ray (A)

C.O.I.C.
I/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. ~~3/6~~
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No.DS/15

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Central Area
0200/2Z

1. It is reported from South Head Battery that an aircraft had been heard over South Head at 2315K on 1st June. The aircraft was apparently flying in a westerly direction emitting a low drone. No service or civil aircraft were in the air at the time.

Comment - This report was not confirmed by other local sources and was subsequently graded D.5. The visibility was bad and there was a thick fog at the time.

Airintel Moresby
0200/1Z

2. A report was received from Vanikoro that an armed two masted passenger vessel carrying three biplanes had been at Graciosa Bay for two hours on the 27th May. Graciosa Bay is towards the western end of the North coast of the island of Ndeni in the Santa Cruz group.

This vessel was identified as the A.M.C. "MANOORA" which has since returned to Sydney.

Airintel Moresby
1440/1Z

3. Another report from Vanikoro at the same time stated that a two funnelled warship, heading north east, had been sighted off Carlisle Bay on 29th May. (Carlisle Bay is some twenty five miles east of Graciosa Bay also on the north coast of Ndeni).

This signal was mutilated in many parts and a repeat has been asked for. At the end of this signal, it is reported that the 2 funnel warship headed for S.E. which contradicts the Moresby signal as their report was N.E.

A.R.O. Tulagi
1145Z/1

Airintel Moresby
1745/1Z

A Flying Boat was despatched from ^{GAVUTU} Laventon at 1800Z on 1st June to search the Santa Cruz group and a Catalina flying boat also left Vila to search the New Hebrides on the same day.

A.C.H. Moresby
0556/2Z

Both these searches were negative. The following movements have been ordered for 3/6:
A24-1: to search Eromanga, Tana and Aneityum Islands and the Loyalty Group. On completion of search she will land at Noumea.

A.R.O. at Noumea has been advised.

A18-12: is to proceed from Vanikoro to Gavutu.

Comment - As no grading of this report is available nor is there any indication as to whether the sighting was reported by a native or otherwise to the coast watcher at Vanikoro (approx 80 miles from Carlisle Bay) it can only be added to the series of sightings of unidentified two funnel vessels which have been reported from the Solomons, New Hebrides and New Caledonia areas over the past few months. In view of the proximity of Carlisle Bay to Graciosa Bay a request has been made to the A.R.O. Tulagi for a check on the date and reliability of the second sighting as it would appear possible that both were the "MANOORA".

S.O.(I) Townsville
0435/2Z

- 4. A pigeon landed on the deck of the "ORMISTON" at about 0001Z/16 which was off Percy Island. This island is approx 100 miles north of Rockhampton, and 25 miles from the coast of Queensland. A rubber ring marked "355" inside a steel container or band, outside a second ring marked "ARP". The pigeon is being held on board the "ORMISTON" which is at Townsville.

Comment - This pigeon probably belongs to a racing group of which there are many in Queensland, at the same time may be a Carrier Pigeon belonging to the Army. Both possibilities are being checked up. At the same time pigeons are known to be carried on raiders.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

S.O.(I) Wellington
to C.S.Singapore
A.C.N.B.1055/1

Unidentified ship off Atafu - A vessel described as a steamer was reported from Atafu at 2340Z on 29th May. She was on an easterly course and had one funnel. No grading of this report was given.

N.B.to S.O.(I)
Wellington
0849Z/2

The Swedish vessel "PARRAKOOLA" Los Angeles to Sydney could have been in position steering westward.

Comment - Atafu is an island in the Tokelau group, some 300 miles due north of Samoa.

[Handwritten signature] (N)

[Handwritten signature] (M)

[Handwritten signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.
3/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.N.I.~~ *A/B*
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No.DS/16

(Portions marked with marginal red line
are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Moresby
0501/3Z

1. A.24-1 carried out a search in the Loyalty Group including Eromanga, Tana and Aneityum Islands on 3rd June and landed at Noumea. Result negative. A18-12 proceeded from Vanikoro to Gavutu.

(Reference report two funnelled warship Carlisle Bay 29th May).

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report.

Laund (N)

Ridge (M)

John F. Weicker (A)

C.O.I.C.

4th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. 570
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/17

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced)

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Q. Melbourne
0725/3Z
0142/4Z

A routine diverging search between bearings 105° and 195° from Gabo Island to a depth of 200 miles was carried out by aircraft from Laverton with negative result.

D.N.O. S.A.
0631/4Z
D.N.O. (Tel)
2130/4K

2. A floating mine has been reported 4 miles N.W. of Robe (S.A). A demolition party is to leave Adelaide on the morning of 5/6 to examine and detonate the mine which has been secured in shallow water.

Comment - Robe is about 12 miles south of Cape Jaffa. Having regard to recent winds, seas and currents it is probable that the mine has drifted in a south-easterly to easterly direction.

"HERTFORD" struck a mine on 7/12/40 near Neptuna Island to the west of Kangaroo Is. According to latest reports, mines were laid in this area by Raider No.33 from the Indian Ocean in October 1940. Examinations of the mine will reveal its age. If old it is suggested that it belongs to the field laid by No.33; otherwise, that it has been laid by another raider, a neutral, or one of the three ships sighted off Kingston on 3/5.

No intelligence of recent minelaying activities elsewhere on the Australian coast has been received. All mines recently swept up off the N.S.W. coast belonged to the "Nimbin" field laid in October/November 1940.

N.O.I.C. Port
Morrison 0555Z/4

3. Two native fishermen reported an object resembling a submarine off Lutheran Mission 4 miles N.W. of Salamaua at 0500Z/26 May, making noise like aircraft then submerged horizontally and disappeared. Graded D.5. Probably whale.
4. Master Administration ship "Sirius" and another European on board reported strange unusual type of ship in position 004°10'South 151°51'East on 30th May which appeared to submerge. Graded C.4. Native craft reported in vicinity earlier.

Comment - The position of the second sighting is just out of Rabaul and approx 360 miles distant by sea from the Salamaua sighting. In view of the low grading and age of both reports and the fact there has been no intelligence to suggest possibility of submarines operating in the area, it is suggested that little credence should be given to the reports until fuller details are available by Air Mail. The only enemy or potential enemy submarine known to be in the Pacific other than Japanese are Vichy French based at Saigon and possibly two large Italian submarines that are believed to ~~be~~

be in Japanese waters.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Pennington (N)

Shue (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.
5/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No.DS/18

D.N.I.
D.C.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

N.B.1041/4Z

1. The Dutch ships "JAPARA", "NOESANIWI" and "TOSARI" escorted by the Cruiser "TROMP" left Cairns on 4th June for Panama. Assuming a speed of 12 knots they are due at Panama on 4th July. The "Tromp" is to act as escort as far as Fiji, where the convoy will disperse and take different routes.

N.O.I.C.Darwin
2014/4Z

2. Distress signals (RRRR followed by a series of S.O.S.) were intercepted by Coonawarra at 1949Z on 4th June on 6610 K/Cs. No position or call sign was given. A D/F bearing of 322° was obtained - third class or reciprocal.

Comment - This D/F bearing passes through the Atlantic shipping lanes and the reciprocal through the Tasman Sea, New Zealand and the Pacific. In view of the fact that the bearing was third class and that no other Australian or New Zealand stations picked up any distress signals from the Tasman or Pacific, it is thought that the signals must have come from the Atlantic. The majority of traffic from merchant shipping is broadcast on this frequency.

Groote Eylandt
to Navy Melb.

3. A report was received from Groote Eylandt that a large dark brown monoplane with red white and blue circles and two engines, had circled low over the aerodrome and then flown away.

Comment - The aircraft was a Hudson en route from Townsville to Darwin, where it arrived at 0357Z having made a reconnaissance of a recently completed runway at Groote Eylandt advanced Operational Base during this flight.

Airintel Darwin
1047/5Z

Airintel Moresby
0402/5Z

4. The sighting of a two funnelled vessel off Carlisle Bay on 29/5 is now stated to be an unconfirmed native report.

Further information has been requested, but it appears even more probable that the date has been misstated and that the two sightings (Graciosa Bay) both refer to the "MANOORA".

Airintel Melbourne
1745/5K

5. The Master of the "WALLARAH" reports that a floating object was observed 3½ miles out from Broken Head, bearing 235° Magnetic. Broken Head is 12 miles south of Norah Head on the N.S.W. coast.

The object appeared to be like a big benzine drum painted black with barnacles and did not have horns.

N.O.C.S.
0735Z/5
0814Z/5

Comment - Judging by the description given by the Master of the "WALLARAH" the object does not seem to be a mine; this was his opinion also. At the same time this sighting is within 16-20 miles of the mine-field laid off the N.S.W. coast last year.

Serial No. DS/18 (contd)

D.N.O. S.A.
1530Z/5

- 6. A mine has been reported by the Master of "KAPARA" about 45 miles west of Cape Catastrophe. An apparently successful attempt was made to sink it by rifle fire.

DS/17

Comment -- On the direct line this position is 260 miles from Robe where the mine was washed up on 4th June. In the absence of a report on the age of the latter mine, it is suggested that this mine is also from the Spencer Gulf field reported as laid by No.33.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Laund (N)

Mitchell (M)

By J. J. J. J. (A)

C.O.I.C.
6/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial NO.DS/19

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Following receipt of advice from Rabaul that a volcanic eruption was imminent, A24-3 (Catalina F/B) was ordered to leave Rabaul and proceed to Buka Is. A later report indicated that all volcanoes were normal except Matupi (Island in Blanche Bay, Rabaul). In this case the temperature and volume of gas were gradually increasing but after a small eruption at 2145/5Z there was little more than the normal amount of steam.

A.C.H. Moresby
2201/5Z
2340/5Z

Moresby 0413/6Z

2. The ~~Catalina~~^{EMPIRE} F/B A18-10 arrived at Port Moresby from Townsville at 0413/6Z.
3. A clearing search ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" en route to Fremantle has been arranged for today.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

North of Australia Station - As from 3rd June French Merchant ships passing through Sunda Strait (Between Java and Sumatra) will be stopped by Dutch Naval Forces and if found to be carrying suspicious persons or cargo will be ordered to Tanjong Priok for further investigation.

Laundy (N)

Alyce (M)

John T. Wischer (A)

C.O.I.C.

7th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/20

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref. Serial No.
DS/19 Para.3
S.W.A.C.H.
1030/7Z

1. The clearing search ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" en route to Fremantle was completed with negative result.

S.W.A.C.H.
0735/6Z

2. An outer anti-submarine air patrol is to be established today for the "AQUITANIA", which is approaching Fremantle; also an anti-submarine patrol in the Gage Roads Area (off Fremantle) during daylight hours.

D. N. O.
S.A.
0211Z/7.
0810Z/7.

3. A further mine has been reported from the Spencer Gulf Area- 35° 9'S 136° 30' E - near Wedge Island.

Comment - No report has yet been received regarding the probable age of the mine at ROBE on 4/6 and present intelligence would suggest that the above mine is one laid by Raider No. 33

Glenn N.
Wainwright M.
AS Bradshaw A.

C.O.I.C.8/6/41.

10/6 C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/21

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.R.O. Rabaul
0600/9Z

1. The District Officer at Kavieng, the northernmost point of New Ireland, reported that an aircraft had passed on a westerly course at 7,000 feet at 1140 local time on 9th June. ✓

Comment - Further information about this sighting has been requested. In its absence, it is suggested that the aircraft might have been a Japanese reconnaissance machine from one of the Naval units of the Fourth Fleet which has been exercising in the Mandates. ✓

N.L.O. Batavia
0527/7Z

An unconfirmed report stated that unknown warships might have been in a position 2° north 157° East at 0400 hrs. on 3rd June. This point is close to Kapingamarangi (Greenwich Is.) and less than 500 miles from Kavieng. ✓

N.O.I.C.
Thursday Is.
0423/9Z

2. A report was received from Mitchell River that two explosions had been heard off the coast between Mitchell River and Topsy Creek at 0001Z on 4th June. The explosions were also heard ten miles inland. ✓

Comment - Mitchell River flows into the Gulf of Carpentaria from Cape York Peninsula. Apart from the Mitchell River Mission Station, not far from its mouth there are no settlements in this area.

No Japanese luggers have been reported anywhere in the vicinity and it is possible that the explosions may have been connected with the volcanic activity at Rabaul on 5th June. ✓

Ref. Serial DS/18
Res. Cmr. Brit.
Solomon Is. 8/6/41

3. In response to a request for further information as to the ship stated to have circled Santa Cruz from 27/5 to 29/5, it is now reported from Vanikoro that the ship moved between Santa Cruz and Tinabula about 16 miles to the north until 29/5 and that the informant is reliable. ✓

Comment - The vessel sighted on 27/5 in Graciosa Bay has been identified as the "MANOORA".

It is considered that the confusion concerning details may be due to deficiencies in communications between Santa Cruz and Vanikoro and that this confusion extends to the date mentioned. The "MANOORA" would have passed Tinabula on its way south but only on 27/5. ✓

S.W.A.C.H.
0721/8Z
0953/9Z

4. An anti-submarine patrol of Gage Roads (off Fremantle) was carried out during daylight hours 9/6 with negative result. ✓

A clearing search ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" from Cape Leeuwin to a depth of 300 miles was completed with negative result. In both cases poor visibility is stated to have reduced the effectiveness of the search. ✓

Airintel Moresby
2346/7Z, 2003/8Z

5. Air Intelligence Officer Vila reports having investigated the question of Japanese penetration in the Loyalty Islands. He received the fullest co-operation from the ✓

Resident Commissioner who states that no Japanese have been on Lifou Island for eighteen months and then only fishermen. The Resident Commissioner also stated that he had recently been around Ouvea and Mare (the other principal Islands in the Group) and nothing was known of the arrival of Japanese. In view of this report it was considered unnecessary to visit other islands or continue the investigation.

Chambers (N)

Spetchley (M)

C.O.I.C.

AS Bradshaw (A)

10th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No.DS/22

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref. Serial DS/21
Para.1
A.R.O.Rabaul
2330/9Z
Airtel Moresby
2201/9Z
0002/10Z
A.R.O.Rabaul
0015/10Z

1. (a) Further details of the aircraft sighting over Kavieng were reported and it was also ascertained that none of the Service or Civil aircraft in the area could have been responsible for the sighting.

(b) District Officer Lorengau (Manus Is.) reported that a ship burning coal passed on a Westerly course at 1610/9Z. The ship was unidentified - Serial No.62.

Comment - Appreciation No.17 written linking the above two sightings and suggesting that a Japanese long-range aircraft was carrying out a trial flight from one of the bases in the Caroline Is. in conjunction with a naval auxiliary.

It was further suggested that searches by long range aircraft, north of Kavieng be conducted and that a D/F watch be kept covering the area for the next few days.

(c) Kavieng later reported the following -

(i) Three large and two small ships manoeuvring off Sali (near Fangalawa Bay, New Ireland) at 0600/9Z and later departing at dusk in smoke.

(ii) Native report of a flying boat landing and fuelling near Balus Plantation (to S.E. of North Cape, New Ireland) on the morning of the 9th.

Comment - Both points of sighting are on the N.E. Coast of New Ireland within approx. 30 miles from Kavieng.

All reports appear to link and suggest that the aircraft refuelled from supplies made available by the ships sighted off Sali. As a flight, Truk or Ponape to New Ireland and return would be within the range of this type (probably T96 Heavy Bomber, Naval Air Service) it is suggested that an extensive reconnaissance was being undertaken, the ship sighted off Lorengau being also used to provide the aircraft with D/F aids to navigation.

The presence of a total of five ships reported as 'manoeuvring' off Sali is unusual, no earlier report having referred to such a number or similar activities.

The following searches are to be carried out during 11/6 -

(i) One F/B from Gavutu to search the Solomon Islands Area.

(ii) One Catalina F/B from Rabaul to carry out perimeter patrol Tanga, Lihir, Tabar, Emirau, Mussau, Lorengau landing at Kavieng.

(iii) One F/B to proceed from Moresby to Gavutu reporting any sighting en route.

Northern Area H.Q.'s have suggested that simultaneous photographic reconnaissance of Ponape and Truk be undertaken by two Catalinas and the matter is under consideration.

A.R.O.Rabaul
0230/10Z

A.C.H. Northern Area
0900/10Z

0916/10Z

0926/10Z

Northern Area H.Q.
0556/10Z

Ref.DS/21 Para.5. 2. In connection with the recent investigation which indicated that there has been no Japanese infiltration of the Loyalty Group, an aerial search of the Mare and Ouvea Islands area was carried out on 8/6 with negative result.

A.C.H. Darwin 0010/10Z 3. One Hudson aircraft departed from Darwin at 2349/9Z on patrol of North-West Coast to Broome and return.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

North of Australia Station

S.O.(I) Esquimalt 2314/9Z U.S. Naval authorities Seattle have advised that the Japanese tanker "KYOKUYO MARU" left Los Angeles on 23/5 for Japan where she was due to arrive 7/6; but that on 27/5 and 28/5 she was practically hove-to in Mid-Pacific. They are investigating.

Comment - The "KYOKUYO MARU" is a 17,000 ton oil-refinery ship, commissioned in 1938. It is one of the eleven tankers and whalers suspected of supplying fuel to German raiders and reported as having been blacklisted by the British Government.

Press 24/5

The following ships regarded as possible raiders left Japan recently - "Elbe" 8/4, "Regensburg" 22/4, "Elsa Essberger" and "Ramses" 8/5. The "Ada" left Kobe 16/4 but it thought to be under charter to Yamashita. "British Advocate" "Ole Jacob" and "Tannenfels" which were connected with the Indian Ocean raiders have not been sighted for several months. ~~The "Harvik" and "Manjo Maru" were last sighted in the Louisiades on 16/2.~~

It is possible that the "KYOKUYO MARU" was waiting to rendezvous with one of these ships but the value of the report is minimised by the vague location given and the lapse of time since the rendezvous.

Suspicious Japanese ship movements in the vicinity of Honolulu have previously been reported.

N.S.H.Q.Ottawa 1837/15Z

Randall (H)

Perival (M)

Sm. Hamer (A)

C.O.I.C.

11th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No.DS/23

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Airintel Moresby
1606/11Z

Serial DS/21
Appn. No.17

Airintel Moresby
1606/11Z

1. The following details of the various sightings in the Kavieng area have been received from the Catalina A24-3:

(a) Aircraft over Kavieng on 9th June - At 1040K the aircraft approached Kavieng from the East and departed towards the North without actually crossing the town at 1130K. An aircraft also approached a point four miles South-East of Kavieng from the East and turned North. Witnesses are certain of the times but the suggestion is that this was definitely the same sighting as the aircraft was a monoplane.

(b) Flying Boat landing and fuelling at Balus Plantation on 9th - A native stated that between 1030 and 1200 hours he saw a small monoplane with no markings alight on the water 20 miles South-East of Kavieng on the East coast. A man emerged and appeared to refuel from one tin which he threw away, although no tin has since been found. The aircraft then took off towards the North-East.

(c) Ship sighting from Sali - This occurred on Sunday 8th June, not 9th as previously stated. Three Europeans state they saw ships and smoke, but the numbers are now indefinite.

Comment - It is suggested that the timber ship "EDNA", which is a coal burner and left Kavieng at 1300/8K for Honolulu, might have contributed to this sighting.

(d) A reliable native stated that an aircraft flew over a place 70 miles from Kavieng on the East coast at 0100K/10th on a southeasterly course. It will also be noted that this report has not previously been received. If correct it indicates further reconnaissance of the East Coast of New Ireland.

A.R.O. Rabaul
2315/8Z

C.W.R.
1750/11K

2. In connection with the recent aircraft and ship sightings in the Kavieng area, W/T intelligence revealed that a Japanese Naval Air Unit was giving out weather reports hourly on 10th June from a position either 3° North or South and moving slowly in a Westerly direction from 160° East.

Comment - This latest intelligence tends to confirm still further the fact that the Japanese have been carrying out air operations in collaboration with naval auxiliaries between either Truk or Ponape and the Bismark Archipelago. They have apparently taken no trouble to conceal their movements in this instance which leads to the conclusion that they are growing bolder in this direction which is important in view of their known practice of carrying out extensive reconnaissance before action.

Airintel Moresby
0356/11Z

3. A report was received from Emirau that Kanakas had sighted a ship and an aircraft at moonrise on 10th June, east of Emirau. The ship was close inshore and heading in the direction of Mussau (approximately North West).

Serial DS/22
Para.I.(C)(i)
Serial DS/21 Para.I.
Serial Ds/22
Para.I.(C)(ii)

Comment - The "Canberra Maru" which left Brisbane on 6th June could have been in this position, but it is possible that this sighting may be connected with the report of ships off Sali on the N.E. Coast of New Ireland at 0600/9Z and the reports of aircraft from Kavieng on 9th June. No description of the ship or aircraft was given.

A.C.H.Townsville
1135/11Z
Serial DS/22
Para.I. Comment

- 4. The three searches which took place yesterday all had negative results:
 - (i) One F/B from Gavutu searched the Solomon Is. area.
 - (ii) One Catalina from Rabaul carried out a perimeter patrol Tanga-Mussau-Lorengau and landed at Kavieng.
 - (iii) One F/B proceeded from Moresby to Gizo in New Georgia.

The disposition of Flying Boats at 0741/11Z was:
Empire Boats (1) Moresby (1) Vila (1) Gizo
Catalinas (1) Kavieng (2) Gavutu

Comment - Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining final reports from the aircraft at Kavieng and Gizo owing to atmospheric conditions.

A.C.H.Townsville
1135/11Z

- 5. The following search is to be carried out during 12/6 - One Catalina from Gavutu to search an area of approx 75 by 60 miles east of San Cristobal at 0001Z.

A.C.H.Q.Melbourne
0856/10
1629/10
0940/11

- 6. Three routine air searches were carried out by aircraft from Laverton yesterday, including two parallel track searches in Bass Strait and a routine search off the coast of S.W. Victoria from the South Australian border to King Island. The results in all cases were negative.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

North of Australia Station

C.O.I.S.
0207/10Z

The "MUNSTERLAND" which left Yokohama on 5th June arrived at Kobe on 9th June.

Comment - The comparatively short run to Kobe took four days which suggests that she may have carried supplies for trans-shipment en route.

[Signature] (N)

[Signature] (M)

[Signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.

12th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/24

D.N.I.
D.C.D.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. Townsville
1241/11Z
11 Squadron
2319/11Z
0035/12Z
0423/12Z

Postmaster
Macksville NSW.
11/6/41
S.O.(I) Sydney
0100Z/12

S.O.(I) Sydney
7/3/41
Serial No. 37

1. With reference to various sightings in the vicinity of Kavieng, the search, by one Catalina from Gayutu, of an area of approximately 75 miles by 60 miles east of San Cristobal was completed on 12/6 with negative result.

2. It was reported from Scotts Head (N.S.W) that a small launch or sailing ship was seen going out to a vessel at sea off Scotts Head at 2040K/11 and that the lights of the distant vessel were seen. Scotts Head is 28 miles south of Coff's Harbour on the N.S.W. Coast. A further report states that the bright light at sea was extinguished and that the launch changed course and proceeded north. The observer was a distance of approx. 3 miles from the launch.

Reference may be made to another similar report from Scotts Head in which a stationary vessel was seen at midnight on 4/3 and 5/3, a motor launch going out to the vessel on the latter occasion. This vessel was unidentified.

Comment - The connection between the launch and the vessel is possibly a coincidence and the light may have come from the "WOLLONGBAR" which was in the vicinity at the time.

A.C.H. Townsville
0106/12Z
0135/12Z
0249/12Z
0305/12Z

3. A.C.H. Townsville reported the sighting of an unidentified ship (Serial No. 63) southbound off Double Island Point (Qld) at 1730/K11. The ship which was seen at 15 - 20 miles distance was described as being a cargo vessel of 7000 tons having one funnel, straight bow, cruiser stern.

A parallel track search by two Hudsons from Archerfield was ordered between 26°08'S and 27°53'S to a depth of 220 miles. This search was carried out to a depth of 155 miles but then abandoned because of darkness. The target was not sighted.

Comment - Double Island Point is 85 miles North of Brisbane. On the assumption that the ship continued on its course the vessel at 10 knots would have been outside the area searched at 0530/12K. The ship (light only) sighted off Scott's head 2040/11K could not have been in the vicinity.

A.C.H. Townsville
0305/12Z

4. A further sighting was reported by A.C.H. Townsville of a vessel off Byron Bay at 1035/12K. This was described as a passenger ship approx 2000 tons southbound distant 15-20 miles.

Comment - Considered to be the "NEO HEBRIDIAS" (700 tons) making coast north of route due to heavy weather.

N.O.C.S.
1155/12Z

5. It was reported by the pilot at Moruya Heads (N.S.W) that a small vessel showing sidelights was sighted 1½ miles north of the Pilot Station at 1015Z. On being challenged by morse lamp, the vessel did not reply but immediately extinguished its sidelights. The vessel was approximately the size of a seacatnet fishing vessel.

N.O.C.S.1155/12Z

It is stated that there are a number of such vessels in this area and that they often proceed to different fishing grounds at night.

Comment - This type of vessel is of approximately 50 - 60 tons and in view of the location the explanation suggested appears highly probable.

- 6. War Signal Station Albany reported having received at 2330/12Z a distress signal indicating attack by a surface raider. This was repeated three times and then faded but no position or call sign was given. Applecross received nothing and Esperance also reported that nothing was heard atmospheric conditions having been very adverse for interception. Accordingly no further action was being taken.

Comment - The last raider intelligence in the Indian Ocean was the D/F bearings on 2 enemy units operating south of the Chagos Group on May 17th, 18th and 19th.

Another enemy unit that was considered to be in the Capetown - St. Helena area (South Atlantic) according to D/F bearings on May 26, could have reached the western limits of the Australia Station but there has been no intelligence to suggest this.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Reynolds (N)

Ernie Mitchell

A. Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.
13/6/41

D.N.O. W.A.
1415/12Z

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/25

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Serial DS/24 Para. 3. 1. The ship sighted off Double Island Point was identified as the "KOTA RADJA" bound from Panama to Brisbane. ✓

" DS/24 Para. 4. 2. As previously suggested, the "NEO HEBRIDIAS" (Noumea to Newcastle) was the ship sighted off Byron Bay. ✓

A.C.H.Q. Melbourne
0302/13Z
0856/13Z

3. A parallel track air search ahead of "QUEEN MARY" from Bateman Bay to a point 65 miles south of Mallacoota to a depth of 180 miles was carried out at 1300K on 13th June with negative results. ✓

A.R.O. Rabaul
0450/13Z

4. A report was received from the District Officer at Manus Island that an aircraft of unknown identity had cruised over Lorengau Harbour at a great height on June 13th at 0015Z. The engine was clearly heard by all Europeans, but, the aircraft was not sighted. ✓

Comment - Although the presence of an aircraft in this position is undoubtedly connected with the series of other sightings in the area, it is impossible to link it definitely with any particular aircraft sighting by reason of the fact that the machine was not sighted. All these sightings are considered to be Japanese aircraft. An unidentified coal burning ship passed Lorengau on a westerly course at 1610Z on 9th June, but there is no evidence to connect these two incidents. ✓

The Catalina F/B flew over Lorengau on the final stage of the perimeter patrol Tanga - Musgau - Lorengau - Kavieng but ~~previously~~ ^{2 days} previously ~~by~~, 11th June. ✓

A.C.H. Townsville
to 11 Squadron
Moresby 0750/13Z

The Catalina at Rabaul has been ordered to stand by.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Canter (N)

Ridge (M)

Ray Dooi (A)

C.O.I.C.

14th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

44,16/16

Serial No. DS/26

0800/14K-0800/16K.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET.

A. AUSTRALIA STATION.

A.R.O. Vila
0535/14Z

1. A report was received from Vila that a cargo vessel had been sighted due West of Vila (10 miles) at 0430/14Z. The vessel was of approx. 7000 tons, 2 masts, squat funnel, 4 samson posts, bridge amidships, superstructure and funnel buff, hull black, raised forecastle and poop. It was proceeding on a Southerly course at 9 knots when sighted and subsequently changed course 10 miles off PANGO and proceeded Eastwards.

C.W.R. 1425/14Z

A.C.H. Northern Area considered possibly "TABIAN" and proposed no action. C.W.R. have advised that "TABIAN" has 3 masts. M.M.S. consider vessel more likely to be either Swedish "NUOLJA" (Singapore- Valparaiso) or the Dutch "SLOTEDIJK" (Sourabaya- Panama). Both these vessels passed Thursday Island, the former at 1430/5Z, the latter at 0025/9Z. As neither has been on the Australia Station previously N.O.I.C. Thursday Island has been asked for descriptive details of the vessels.

S.O.I. Sydney.
0216Z/14.

2. Two distress calls have been reported as follows:
 - (a) "ADMIRAL CHASE" heard-
 - (i) 'QQQ QQQ QQQ L22' at 1249/12Z when just east of Salitary Island. (off N.S.W. coast 30° south)
 - (ii) "SoS SOS SoS at 1251Z/13 off Broken Bay.

Both times signals were weak and atmospheric were very bad. No position or call sign was heard on either occasion. Sydney Radio states S.O.S signals were Japanese station J.O.C. which they heard sending S.O.S. at the time.

A.R.O.
Noumea.
0700Z/14.

- (b). Local intelligence officer reports that Noumea wireless station June 13th 2340 local time intercepted during 26 minutes a distress signal, vessel giving two call signs JOCJ and JOCF calling Suva. "KORYU MARU" replied to the call.

COMMENT.

JOC is a Japanese shore station, JoCJ and JOCF are Japanese ship call signs. It is suggested that if the SOS distress messages are authentic/originate from a Japanese vessel in view of the fact that all ~~the~~ such messages are confined to Japanese W/T stations. The absence of any reference in the above signals to a position somewhat discounts their authenticity.

B. ADJACENT AREAS.

North of Australia Station.

Japanese Transport Movements. 21
S.O. (i) Shanghai reports that ~~27~~ Destroyers and 27 transports were reported from the vicinity of Wenchow on the night of 12/13th June proceeding south.

C in C. China
064Z/14

The coastal area in the vicinity of Swatow has been declared closed to shipping from midnight Japanese time 16th/17th June by proclamation issued by the C in C Japanese China Fleet.

C in C China 1
1029Z/14.

COMMENT.

Swatow is 400 miles south of Wenchow.
 Canton is 200 miles S.W. of Swatow. Tainan, capital of
 Formosa is 150 miles to Seaward of Swatow.
 It would appear that further troops are being mobilized at
 Formosa with a view to using ^{THEM} for a fresh drive against
 China. OR Possibly INDO CHINA & THAILAND.

A council meeting in Tokyo 24/4 is reported to have planned a
 settlement of the China incident regardless of costs and the
 use of troops in Indo China for an attack on Yunnan.
 Considerable air force reinforcements are known to have
 gone to Formosa recently.

This intelligence also links with the F.E.C.B report that
 the Japanese War ministers southern expansion plan was to
 include.

1. The total bockade of South China.
2. The sending of a strong force to Thailand and Indo Chi
 China to occupy Yunnan and the Burma road.
3. The requisitioning of Naval Bases in Thailand and
 Indo China, with permission to Lay mines in the
 neighboring coastal waters.

F.E.C.B
 27/5/41.
 C.O.I.S.
 0903Z/3.

F.E.C.B
 27/5/41.

Donald N.
Wulfran M.
J. Maclean A.

C.O.I.C.15/6/41.

17/6
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No.DS/27

~~D.N.I.~~

~~D.O.D.~~

~~D.C.N.S.~~ (Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

~~D.D.M.I.~~

~~D.O.I.~~

17/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Airintel Northern
Area 1415/16Z
1420/16Z

1. It was reported by the Captain and Observer of an aircraft from No.24 Squadron (Townsville) returning from a cross country flight to Bowen that when 5 miles S.E. of Ayr they saw the navigation lights of an aircraft at 2119/16K. Our aircraft switched on its headlights as a greeting whereupon the strange aircraft turned off its navigation lights leaving on a white light. It turned left and ran on a parallel course to our aircraft 286° for about 2 miles when it was lost in cloud. Northern Area was unable to identify the plane but did not propose to instigate an air search and suggested that shipping be warned.

Comment - The position of the sighting is approx 50 miles S.E. of Townsville and approx 5 miles inland near the mouth of the Burdekin River.

The report indicates that the unidentified aircraft was first sighted proceeding N.N.E. after which it changed course to W.N.W. and went into cloud. Assuming that the possibility of the aircraft being a civil plane has been exhausted by Northern Area's enquiries, the plane could be a seaplane operating from a raider but no description is available to enable identification, there has been no recent intelligence to suggest that any raider is on the Australia Station and the area is not one likely to be reconnoitred for observation of shipping, particularly at night.

Airintel Moresby
2111/16Z

Air Intelligence Officer, Moresby, suggests the possibility of the aircraft being a civil one engaged in illegal opium running and states that the Burdekin Mouth is a notorious picking up place. He has also suggested a check on the whereabouts of a civil pilot referred to in his Signal AI.279.

Ref. Serial WS/5
Para.1.
11 Squadron
0332/16Z

2. The aircraft dispositions previously ordered by Northern Area H.Q. have been effected except that the Catalina to proceed from Moresby to Kavieng has been delayed at Rabaul by weather conditions and the F/B from Vila is at Noumea.

C.W.R.0550/16Z
A.C.H.Townsville
1109/16Z, 1120/16Z
Northern Area
1523/16Z

One flight of Hudsons from Townsville is to proceed to Port Moresby and Kavieng 17/6 as a preliminary to photographic reconnaissance of Kapingamarangi Is. The present disposition which allows at least two F/B's in the Rabaul area for reconnaissance is to be continued for the present.

Ref. Serial DS/24
Para.4.Ds/25. Para.
2.
A.C.H.Townsville
0505/15Z

3. With reference to the sighting from Cape Byron at 0035/12Z which had been considered to be the "NEO HEBRIDAIS" making the coast on account of heavy weather, N.O.I.C. Newcastle reported that the first landfall of the "NEO HEBRIDAIS" was at Sugarloaf Point at 0545/14Z.

C.W.R.
1140/15K

4. Comment - Sighting now identified as the "ADMIRAL CHASE" which arrived in Sydney, 2010/13Z, three days ahead of E.T.A

Ref. Serial DS/26
Para. 1

N.B. 1608/14Z

- 4. The cargo vessel approx. 7,000 tons, sighted west of Vila at 0430/14Z is considered to be the Swedish "NOOLOJA".

B. ADJACENT AREAS

EAST of Australia Station

Rose Bay 15/6

The Captain of the Catalina Flying Boat VIIAFF reported that he had sighted a ship of 5,000 tons at 0400/14Z steaming west at 10 knots in lat. 0035°N, Long. 163°4'W.

N.B. 0146/16Z

Comment - This ship cannot be identified and N.B. New Zealand has been informed.

Flannery (N)
Irving Buchanan (M)
H. J. Dani (A)

C.O.I.C.

17th June, 1941

18/6

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.N.I.~~
~~E.O.D.~~
~~D.C.N.S.~~
~~D.O.I.~~
~~D.D.M.I.~~

Serial No. DS/28

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced). 18/6/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. Townsville
1840/16Z
11 Squadron
0925/17Z, 2300/16Z
11 Squadron
0013/17Z

1. The following movements of aircraft took place yesterday -
A flight of 3 Hudsons left Townsville at 1822/16Z and arrived at Kavieng 0545/17Z, having landed at Moresby en route.

The Catalina A24-1 which was delayed at Rabaul by bad weather reached Kavieng at 2305/16Z.

2. The following searches and reconnaissance are to be carried out today (18/6).

(1) One Flying Boat from Lorengau to search an area of approximately 120 by 240 miles as far north as the Equator and as far East as Emirau, returning to Lorengau.

(2) One Flying Boat from Rabaul to carry out reconnaissance around Buka Island and thence North West parallel to the coast of New Ireland approx 60 miles off shore to a point some 60 miles east of Emirau. The aircraft will return on a parallel track 30 miles nearer the coast by way of Tangar Island. Both these flights to commence at 2000/17Z.

(3) The 3 Hudsons from Kavieng are scheduled to carry out photographic reconnaissance of the Kapingamarangi Islands and to sweep visibility distance on the return flight to Kavieng. W/T silence is to be kept on the outward flight.

Comment - The aircraft were originally instructed to be over the target at 0030/18Z, but owing to the lack of refuelling equipment at Kavieng, it is necessary for a pump to be flown from Moresby. The Flying Boat departed at 1911/17Z. In the circumstances the Hudsons' E.T.D. is not known.

With regard to the two latter reconnaissances the "TOKYO MARU" was estimated to be in a position 00°30'S 151°10'E on a course of 135° on 15/6.

3. A report has been received from Central Area of an aircraft sighting on the Beach Road 16 miles east of Murwillumbah on the N.S.W./Queensland border. The report states that a small monoplane carrying swastika markings flew in from the direction of the sea, while at the same time, a woman wearing headphones who had been seated in a yellow sedan car, jumped out and waved to the aircraft.

The sighting was at 1700/16K and the matter was not reported to the Intelligence Officer, Evans Head, until 1200/17K. On further investigation the time of sighting was given as 1230/16K and it was stated that the woman "appeared" to wear headphones.

Comment - The occurrence was seen by a woman who repeated it to a Light Horse officer. The report is, however, somewhat discounted by the change of details given at a later stage. No aircraft from Evans Head were air-borne on that day, as the aerodrome was unserviceable. Investigations are still proceeding.

A.C.H. Townsville
0825/17Z

A.C.H. Townsville
0910/17Z

A.C.H. Townsville
0807/17Z

A.C.H. Townsville
1200/17Z

11 Squadron 1226/17Z

Seaplane 1320/17K
Seacophone

H/F Telephone
1430/17K

A.R.O.Rabaul
0340Z/17

4. A possible submarine sighting from Lokon, 90 miles S.E. of Kavieng on 9/6 comes from the D.O. Kavieng. A white resident heard the noise of an engine and the description given by natives who allegedly saw the machine suggests a submarine.

Comment - It is possible that the Flying Boat which was reported as having refuelled 13 miles S.E. of Kavieng on the same day may have also been responsible for this report.

Serial DS/22
Para.I(C)(ii)

5. No further intelligence has been received regarding the aircraft sighted at Ayr on 16/6, but investigations are still proceeding.

Serial DS/27
Para.I.

6. Moresby reports that Japanese telephony was heard at 2006K/16 on 600 metres bearing 120° Rabaul. The signals, very strong and apparently very close, were not oral, but a succession of RRRRR, and seemed to be deliberately jamming somebody. Nothing could be heard underneath. Information has been requested as to whether the bearing was reciprocal.

O.C.Rabaul Radio
Received 16/6
A.I.Moresby
0541Z/17

Comment - There were no Japanese merchantmen on or near the line of bearing at the time. The British "MALAITA" was proceeding from Tulagi, whence she departed 15/6, to Rabaul via island ports. It is possible the signals came from a Japanese lugger in the vicinity of the Solomons as some of these are known to be fitted with powerful W/T equipment.

It is to be noted that there have recently been several Japanese signals of the distress type and this may indicate general W/T exercises between units over a large area of the Pacific are being carried out.

Serial DS/26
Para.2(a) & (b)

B . ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

C.O.I.S.
0442/15
N.B.0009Z/17

Two Japanese Naval Units were believed to be in the approximate positions of 00°N 154°E and 003°N 154°E respectively on 13/6. The former was either the aircraft carrier "RYUZO" (7,100 tons) or the seaplane carrier "KAMOJI" (17,000 tons). The latter was the new auxiliary cruiser "KATORI" (5,800 tons) which is the Flagship of the submarine fleet.

Comment - This report further supports the view that the recent sightings and reports from the Bismarck Archipelago region are of Japanese ships and aircraft, that have been exercising in the area. The previous report that units of the Combined Fleet are operating in the Mandated Is. is similarly confirmed.

Serial WS/5
Para.A(1)

Count (N)

Perival (M)

C.O.I.C.

AS Bradshaw (A)

18/6/41

19/6

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No.DS/29

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

19/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref. Serial DS/28
Para. 2.
11 Squadron
0323/18Z
0642/18Z

0342/18Z
0509/18Z

1. The aerial searches and reconnaissance ordered for 18/6 from Lorengau Rabaul and Kavieng resulted as follows -
 - (1) F/B from Lorengau - Nil sightings.
 - (2) F/B from Rabaul on return to its base reported nil sightings and that north of Lat. 2°S visibility was only 5 miles.
 - (3) The three Hudsons from Kavieng carried out a parallel track search at 15 miles interval on a bearing of 047° to the Equator. The search was then abandoned due to weather conditions which were unsuitable for photography and the aircraft returned to Kavieng. During the search the "TOKYO MARU" was not sighted.

Serial DS/28
Para. 3.
Airintel Northern
Area 2330/17Z

2. With reference to the aircraft sighting at Murwillumbah on 17/6 it is now reported that a complete check has been made of all aircraft in Northern Area, and that no aircraft was known to be in the position given. The original report is graded E.5.

Serial DS/28
Para. 6
Airintel Moresby
2358/17Z

3. With reference to Japanese telephony heard at Rabaul on 600 metres at 2006/16K, it was reported from Moresby that the sense was determined by A.W.A. Rabaul as 120° and that on the following night about the same time (2046/17K) the same signals were heard by A.W.A. Moresby which however has no D/F equipment.

N.O.I.C. Thursday
Island 0325/17Z

Thursday Island has also reported that on 16/6 a very strong station was heard on 600 metres transmitting speech with a decided foreign accent. N.O.I.C. Thursday Island suggests that the bearings of some Station were probably being given.

11 Squadron (Moresby) is setting a D/F watch for the night of 18/6.

Comment - The bearing given by Rabaul is now confirmed but it is difficult to add to previous comment in the absence of -

- (a) the text of the signals, call-signs etc;
- (b) at least two D/F cuts to determine the source.

D.N.O. S.A.
0800/18Z

4. A mine has been reported washed ashore 27 miles north of Kingston (S.A) and a party is being despatched by road to deal with it.

Comment - This is probably another mine from the field laid by Raider No.33 last year. Other mines apparently from this field have been reported as follows -

Robe	4/6
Cape Catastrophe	5/6
Wedge Island	7/6

Serial DS/17 Para. 2.
" DS/18 " 6.
" DS/20 " 3

Laverton 0846/18K
A.C.H.Q. Melbourne
2334/17Z

5. The following diverging searches (navigational exercises) were carried out by aircraft from Laverton with negative results:-
 - (a) Between bearings 107° and 217° from Barwon Heads to a depth of 90 miles.
 - (b) Between bearings 217° and 228° from Barwon Heads to a depth of 140 miles.

Gabo Is. 0115/18Z

6. The lightkeeper at Gabo Island reported sighting the smoke of a steamer at 0115/18Z at a distance of 30 miles on a

bearing S.E., the course of the steamer being westerly. Unidentified, Serial No.67.

Comment - May refer to the "ANATINA" from Panama. Identification is being awaited from Wilson's Promontory approx 180 miles from Gabo Island.

- 7. The lightkeeper at Cape Nelson reported sighting the smoke of a steamer at 0730/18Z at a distance of over 20 miles on a bearing S.W., the course of the steamer being East. Unidentified, Serial No.68.

Comment - May refer to the "IRON WARRIOR", Whyalla to Newcastle. Identification is being awaited from Cape Otway, approx 95 miles from Cape Nelson.

Cape Nelson
0730/18Z

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

W/T Intelligence reveals that a Japanese warships was in position 1°24'North or South 154°12'E at 1900/17K. The same unit was in position 4°18'North 154°12' East at 1900/16K. A.C.H. Townsville has been advised.

Comment - Although the unit is not identified, this report is further evidence of Japanese activity in the area north of the Bismarck Archipelago and Admiralty Islands. The position given is approx 30 miles N.W. of Kapingamarangi Is. which is to be the object of photographic reconnaissance by aircraft from Kavieng. This reconnaissance is to be attempted again today 19/6.

C.W.R.
2005/18K

A.C.H. Townsville
0710/18Z

11 Squadron 2247/18Z

Glaunder (N)

[Signature] (M)

[Signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.

19/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No. DS/30

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

20/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

11 Squadron
0351/19Z

1. The photographic reconnaissance of Kapingamarangi Islands ordered for yesterday (19th June) resulted as follows - 3 Hudsons left Kavieng at 2225/18Z, but the operation was abandoned approximately 12 miles from Kapingamarangi at 0012/19Z owing to thick cumulus clouds at between 2000 and 3000 feet over the island.

A parallel track search at one five mile interval was carried out on the return journey with negative results. The aircraft landed at Kavieng at 0245/19Z.

A.C.H. Townsville
0900/19Z

2. The following air operations are scheduled for today, 20th June -

(1) One Empire Flying Boat and one Hudson to proceed from Kavieng to Rabaul and to report all shipping sighted en route.

(2) 2 Hudsons to carry out photographic reconnaissance of Kapingamarangi and return direct to Rabaul. Photographs are to be taken from different heights and W/T silence maintained except in an emergency. All sightings and reconnaissance reports are to be submitted on landing.

With regard to this reconnaissance, the flight Commander has been authorised to decide the date and time of departure, which will be dependent on the weather being suitable for photography.

(3) If the weather is unfavourable for reconnaissance today (20th June) the two Hudsons concerned are to return to Rabaul from Kavieng, having first obtained photographs of the Kavieng aerodrome.

A.C.H. Townsville
0640/19Z

A.C.H. Townsville
1040/19Z

Commandtel
Brisbane
19/6

3. A report was received from the Military Reporting Officer at Seaview, Queensland (approximately 10 miles North of Mackay) that an aircraft had been heard at 0730 hrs. on 18th June.

Comment - Townsville advise that no service aircraft were in the vicinity and the machine was apparently not sighted.

It is possible that this report may be connected with the unidentified aircraft over Ayr two days previously, 16th June, but as that sighting took place at night, no description was possible. Seaview is approximately 120 miles from Ayr also on the coast.

The report was graded C.2 and enquiries are proceeding.

COMMANDTEL
BRISBANE
19/6

Serial DS/27 Para.1.

Ref. DS/29 Para.4.
D.N.O. S.A.
0815/19Z
WS/4 A. Para.7.

4. It is reported that the mine washed up at Kingston on 18th June was in the same condition as that recovered on 4th June at Robe - covered with barnacles and at least 7 months old.

DS/29 Para.7.

5. The sighting off Cape Nelson at 0730/18Z is now identified as the "IRON WARRIOR".

6. On arrival in Melbourne "KAURI" reported that when in a position 38°41' S, 144°29' E at 0655/18Z the W/T operator heard faint SSS, strength 2, made twice on 595 metres. Nothing else was heard.

Comment - This position is approximately 60 miles S.S.E. of Gabo Island.

A.C.H. Darwin
1627/19Z

7. During a patrol from Darwin, a fleet of 42 luggers was sighted on the pearling grounds 80 nautical miles on a true bearing of 229° from Broome.

Comment - There appears to be nothing unusual in this disposition. 22 luggers were in this area on 11/6.

DS/29 Para.3.

Airintel Moresby
1035/19K

8. Further to the report of Japanese W/T on 600 metres for which No.11 Squadron at Moresby was keeping D/F watch on the night 18/6 it is now reported that a carrier wave was heard for 10 to 15 seconds at 2058/18K on a bearing 176 or its reciprocal 356.

Comment - The reciprocal 356 leads through the Carolines from Moresby.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

Major Gray
2245/19K

An intercepted cable from Montreal reports that a U.S.A. ship carrying evacuees from Hong Kong when passing through the Strait of Formosa sighted 100 Japanese warships steaming south.

Comment - No time is given. It is to be noted that in the past Montreal advices have proved very unreliable. It is possible that the sighting refers to the convoy of ships, 21 destroyers and 28 transports, reported off Wenchow on the night 13/14 June. It was considered that this convoy was Formosa bound.

WS/5 Para.1.E.

N.B.0201/19Z

2. Further D/F bearings indicate that the Japanese "KATORI" flagship of submarines, with a submarine force in company, was in the vicinity of Truk at 1030/18Z.

Comment - The "KATORI" ~~or the Aircraft Carrier "SORYU"~~ thought by D/F bearings to be in position 003°N, 154°E. This further confirms information that the submarine fleet was operating in the mandates area.

C.W.R.1003/18K

WS/4. Para.E.1.

Handwritten signature (N)
Handwritten signature (M)
Handwritten signature (A)

C.O.I.C.
20/6/41

Handwritten signature

2/16
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

~~D.N.I.~~
~~D.O.D.~~
D.C.N.S.
D.D.M.I.
D.O.I.

Serial No.DS/31

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced). 21/6/41

MOST SECRET

Submitted.

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Serial DS/30
Para.2.

11 Squadron
2255/19Z
2325/19Z

A.C.H. Townsville
0616/20Z
1131/20Z

1. With regard to the air operations from Kavieng scheduled for 20/6, reports have been received as follows -
- (1) One Empire Flying Boat and one Hudson departed Kavieng for Rabaul and the former was reported as having arrived.
 - (2) Two Hudsons again attempted photographic reconnaissance of Kapingamarangi Islands. They took off from Kavieng at 2225/19Z but the reconnaissance was abandoned at 0020/20Z owing to unsuitable weather. The aircraft landed at Kavieng at 0230/20Z and are to proceed to Rabaul at dawn on 21/6.

Air Intel Moresby
0131/20Z

A.C.H. Townsville
0416/20Z

2. It has been reported from Vila that lights were seen again at Aneityum on an easterly course at 0830/19Z. A.C.H. Townsville was unable to identify but suggested the sighting as being "MIRRABOOKA" and did not intend to search. M.M.S. state that the "MIRRABOOKA" should have passed at approx 0800/18Z and A.C.H. Townsville has been so informed. Unidentified - Serial No.71.

Brit.Res.Commr.
New Hebrides
0336/20Z

A later signal states that the observers were the coast watcher and all white residents and grades the report A.1. Reference is also made to flashing lights which are stated to have been seen at 1000/15Z and on several previous occasions. It is suggested that these were directed to the dwelling of a Japanese trader who acted suspiciously on 15/6.

Serial DS/10
Para.3.

Comment - This sighting recalls the various reports received from Aneityum since 16/3. Recently certain of these reports were discounted by the Captain of an aircraft who investigated during a visit to the Island on 22/5. In spite of his opinion, it was considered that the sightings of lights from passing vessels were authentic. The above intelligence tends to re-establish the validity of the earlier reports as to signal flashes from the passing ships and it is suggested that the whole series with the exception of aircraft sightings can be attributed to the activities of Japanese fishing craft.

In view of the number and frequency of the sightings a full investigation of the matter by an Intelligence Officer e.g. Air Intelligence Officer, Vila, in company with A.R.O. Vila, may be worthy of consideration.

Laund (N)

Percival (M)

W. J. Owen (A)

C.O.I.C.

21/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/32

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced). 22/6/41.

Submitted.

MOST SECRET.

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

- A.C.H. Townsville 0130/21Z
Serial DS/31
Para. A1(2)
Serial DS/30
Para. A3
AI.N.A. - 2355/19Z
AI.N.A. - 0605/21Z
- Serial DS/31
Para. A2
AI.N.A. - 0605/21Z
- Serial DS/29
Para. A4
Serial DS/30
Para. A4
D.N.O.S.A.
1141/21Z
- Two Hudsons from Kavieng landed at Rabaul at 2310/20Z, as per instruction.
 - Further to the report of the hearing of an aircraft at Seaview, Queensland, on 18/6, investigations indicate that, although many people were interrogated, only one man and his wife heard the engine, which they alleged was at sea.
 - Further to the sighting of lights on an easterly course off Aneityum Is. on 19/6, A.C.H. Northern Area have decided not to make any search.
 - Further to the report of the mine washed up near Kingston (South Australia) on 18/6, it is now reported that the mooring wire parted four inches below the lower bulldog grip. Examination indicated fracture of some strands, the inference being that the wire was cut.

Comment - Apparently either in the course of mine-sweeping, or by a ship's paravane.

- D.N.O. Tasmania 0545/21Z
- A report was received from the D.N.O. Tasmania that a heavy explosion to seaward of The Gardens St. Helens had been heard by a fisherman at 2100/20/6. The report is graded B.2 and it was suggested that a mine which had been washed ashore might have been responsible, although no fragments had been found.

Comment - Assuming that a mine was responsible for the explosion, it appears probable that it ^{belonged to the} ~~was~~ laid by No. 33 on her way around Tasmania last year. This mine may have been cut loose by a ship's paravane or in the course of mine-sweeping activities, or it may have broken loose and drifted North from the Hobart area where two others have previously been sighted:
(1) mine swept up in Storm Bay 1/1/41.
(2) mine (or similar object) reported by the Master of "Koranui" 20 miles S.E. of Cape Pillar on 9/5/41.
St. Helens is on the East coast of Tasmania approximately 120 miles North of Cape Pillar, which is at the South Eastern extremity of the Tasman Peninsula.

- Cape Otway reports an unknown vessel one masthead light only visible passed East, distant 12 miles, at 1943/21Z. Serial No. 72.

Comment: Two possibilities are the Panamanian Tanker "Ohio", Singapore to Sydney and the Dutch "Zaanland", Fremantle to Sydney, both due 24/6. Identification sightings of these are being awaited from Wilson's Promontary and are expected in approximately 11 hours. Airintel Laverton Southern Area have been notified.

AI. Melbourne
0747/22K

9

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

Naval C.in C.
Netherlands Indies
0741/20Z
C.in C. Netherlands
East Indies 0333/21Z

The French ship "Compiegne" bound for Saigon was intercepted on 19/6 by a Netherlands' Patrol Boat and brought to Batavia for searching. Of her 1,320 passengers 910 were found to be military and 2 to be Germans, one of whom was interned, while the other, who was a Jew, was allowed to continue his voyage. No contraband was found.

F.E.C.B. Intell. Summ.
30th Apr.- 6th May.
F.E.C.B. Intell. Summ.
No.1948(34)

Comment: The "Compiegne" is reported to have left Dakar on 30/4 for Indo-China with German Officers passengers aboard. Dutch Naval units have been instructed to stop and investigate all Vichy-French ships passing through Sunda Straits. If the flag, crew or passengers are suspect, or the vessel is carrying tin, rubber, oil or war material she will be taken into Batavia.

Commander Kennedy
0813/5
Serial DS/19
Para.B

Randall N.
... M.
J.F. Maller A.

C. O. I. C.
22/6/49

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.
D.C.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/33

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

24/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

1. Following the report of an S.O.S. Signal received 1858/22K, an aerial search was carried out by aircraft from Richmond between bearings of 048° to 179° from Green Cape to a depth of 200 miles, one aircraft searching the shipping lane from a point 23 miles N.N.E. of Green Cape to a point 30 miles south of Cape Howe. These searches were completed with negative result.

2. The ship reported unidentified off Cape Otway at 1943/21Z Serial No.72, has now been identified as the "KATOOMBA" which arrived Melbourne seven hours ahead of E.T.A.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

It is known that the Japanese warship, call-sign Ke No.2, which was in position 1°24'N or S, 154°12'E at 1900/17K, has, after being as far North as approx 6°N on 19th - 20th June, was in position 1°24'N or S, 150°12'E at 1900/22K.

The units previously reported in positions 00°N, 154°E and 03°N 154°E have returned to the vicinity of Truk.

Ref. Serial WS/6
Para. A.1.
A.C.H. Melbourne
2039/22Z, 2054/22Z
2057/22Z, 2251/22Z
0550/23Z

Serial DS/32
Para. A.6.

Most Secret
Sources

Serial DS/29
Para. B.

Laund (N)

George B. at [unclear] (M)

[Signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.

24th June, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/34

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

25/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. Darwin
1031/24Z

1. The pilot of a Qantas aircraft reported having sighted a steamer of some 7000 to 8000 tons approx 60 miles South East of Timor on the direct line from Dilli to Darwin at 0650/24Z.

The vessel which was steering E.N.E. at an estimated speed of 14 knots was described as of the passenger/cargo type, one funnel, 2 masts, name painted out, well deck fore and aft and upper works brown. The visibility was good.

A.C.H. Darwin
1031/24Z
Airintel Darwin
1241/24Z

Comment - A discrepancy exists in the two signals from A.C.H. Darwin and Airintel, Darwin, reporting this sighting. Whereas the former states only one funnel, the latter states two.

The Dutch ship "TABINTA" bound from Batavia to Thursday Island might have been in this position if she had taken the southerly course around Timor. This however, is contrary to the latest routing instructions and no advice that such a route would be taken has been received by N.B. Furthermore, she has 3 masts and both signals state the vessel has only two.

An air search has been ordered for today (25th June). 3 Hudsons left Darwin at 1956/24Z to search over an area from approx 60 miles ahead of the point of sighting, covering a sweep on either side of the ship's original course to a depth of approx 185 miles and converging to a point approx 185 miles ahead.

A.C.H. Darwin
1737/24Z
2000/24Z

2. The following air search was carried out on 24/6. 2 Hudsons from Rabaul proceeded to Lorengau with the object of carrying out photographic reconnaissance. Thence a search for surface vessels was carried out with negative results between Emirau Island and New Hanover as far down the coast of New Ireland as Tabar Island and taking in Simberi on the return flight.

One Hudson was later reported bogged on Lorengau aerodrome, but is expected to return to Rabaul today (25th June) at 2200/24Z. The other aircraft landed at Rabaul at 0515/24Z.

A.C.H. Townsville
1000/23Z

A.C.H. Townsville
1815/24K

3. The 3 Hudsons at Rabaul have now been instructed to return to Townsville on 26/6 if their duties have been completed. Full reports are to be furnished of the two aerodromes at Rabaul and those at Kavieng, Lorengau Buka and Namatani. These reports are to be based on the experience gained by landing at each aerodrome, or, where this was not advisable, by air reconnaissance and photography. It has been decided that a reconnaissance of Kapingamarangi is not now required.

No air operations have been planned in this area for today beyond the return of the Hudson from Lorengau to Rabaul at the earliest possible opportunity.

C.W.R. 1725/24K

A.C.H. Townsville
1047/24Z

A.C.H.Q. Melb.
0647/24Z

4. The following air operations have been ordered from Laverton for today (25th June):
(1) A parallel track search, commencing 0900K, from 10 miles south of Barwon Heads and following the coast to Cape Bridgewater to a depth of 50 miles, object

MARY

surface vessels. 6 Ansons to operate.

A.C.H.Melbourne
1937/24K

(2) One Hudson is to proceed to Hobart via the west coast of Tasmania searching all inlets. The aircraft is to remain at Hobart until Friday (27th June) and carry out A.S. patrol and search for mines ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" commencing half an hour before time of sailing. The patrol is to be maintained until the ship is well clear of port or darkness forces the aircraft to return to Cambridge. 2 x 250 lbs. A.S. Bombs may be carried.

A.C.H.Q.Darwin
0056/24Z

5. It is intended to carry out aircraft reconnaissance exercises from Darwin between Cape Wessel and Cape Don in conjunction with H.M.A.S. "Goulburn" and H.M.A.S. "Burnie", both ships to represent enemy destroyers, one with a prize in tow.

It is requested that a watch be set on 150 kc/s at a zero time which will be advised later.

6. JAPANESE MERCHANT SHIPS - A new N.Y.K. freighter "ONOE MARU" 6,667 tons arrived Thursday Island on 23rd June en route for Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. She is a brand new ship, completed 1940, was previously on the run Japan - Karachi. No details including speed are known and the only information available is from agents advices.

Comment - It would appear this vessel is taking the place of the older and slower monthly N.Y.K. passenger liners of the "SUWA MARU" class for this trip.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil

Ran (N)

Percival (M)

J. Mallee (A)

C.O.I.C.

25/6/41

X

26/6

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/35

(Portions marked with marginal red line are 26/6/41
not to be reproduced).
Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref.Serial DS/34
Para.A.1.
A.C.H.Darwin
0336/25Z

1. With reference to the steamer sighted approx 60 miles S.E. of Timor an aerial search by three Hudsons from Darwin was completed 25/6 and the ship has now been identified as the "WEST HONAKER" proceeding by a route outside the 100 fathom line and delayed by weather. ✓

Do.

2. On the same search 15 Japanese luggers were sighted at anchor in the vicinity of Melville Island. ✓

Comment - This number is regarded as normal.

Serial DS/34
Para.4.
A.C.H.Q.Melbourne
2246/24Z,1445/25K

3. The parallel track air search (10 miles S. of Barwon Heads - Cape Bridgewater to depth of 50 miles) scheduled for 25/6, carried out by six aircraft from Laverton with negative result. ✓

A.C.H.Townsville
0048/25Z
0450/25Z
1000/25Z

4. A Catalina F/B from Gavutu carried out a search on 25/6 for the 60 ton motor vessel "BALUS", four days overdue at Vanikoro from Tulagi with Europeans on board. The search covered east coast San Christobel - ULAWA - West Coast Malaita - TULAGI. All islands in this area were examined but the aircraft reported nil sightings. A further search by the same F/B is to commence from Gavutu at dawn 26/6 extending to Vanikoro via Graciosa Bay and Utupua Island. The aircraft is to report from Vanikoro and to endeavour to return to Gavutu. ✓

1119/25Z

Serial DS/34
Para.A.3
A.C.H.Townsville
1000/25Z,1119/25Z

5. The Hudson aircraft bogged at Lorengau is now expected to depart for Rabaul at 2000/25Z. All three Hudsons from No.24 Squadron are expected to return to Townsville on 27/6. ✓

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil

[Signature] (N)

[Signature] (M)

[Signature] (A)

C.O.I.C.

26/6/41

M/S 2/4

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/36

(Portions marked with marginal red line are 27/6/41
not to be reproduced).

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. Townsville
0741/26Z
2157/26Z

1. The 3 Hudsons at Rabaul left at 0610K today (27th June) for Townsville via Moresby, Horn Island, Cooktown and Cairns.
They have been instructed to obtain photographs and report fuelling facilities at Horn Island, Cooktown and Cairns.

11 Squadron are to make a general change-over of aircraft in accordance with maintenance and equipment arrangements.

A.C.H. Townsville
0001/26Z

2. The Hudson which had been bogged at Lorengau arrived back at Rabaul at 0825K yesterday.

DS/35 Para. 4.
A.C.H. Townsville
0315/26Z

3. The M.V. "BALUS" was located by the Catalina F/B at Graciosa Bay yesterday. The aircraft returned to Gayutu and has been ordered to proceed to Moresby today (27th June).

DS/34 Para. 4(3)
A.C.H. Q. Melb.
0706/25Z

4. One Hudson aircraft proceeded to Hobart on 25/6 and searched all inlets on the west coast of Tasmania with negative results.

Erisbane Radio
0800/26Z

5. The British ship "TIME" reported two strange ships of about 10,000 tons in a position approximately 40 miles N.E. of Double Island Point proceeding N.N.W. at 1600/26K.

N.B. 1236/26Z

Comment - The vessels were identified as the Dutch "POELAU TELLO" and "TALISSE" proceeding northwards on the route for southbound shipping.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

C.Z.M. 0941/25Z

1. The N.Y.K. passenger liner "ASAMA MARU" (17,000 tons) is due to arrive at Tandjoeng Priok on 2nd July to convey German women and children to Japan en route for Germany. She has a speed of 19-21 knots.

Comment - No change of programme consequent on the outbreak of war between the Soviet and Germany has so far been notified and nothing is known as to whether the Japanese intend to evacuate their nationals beyond a press report to this effect on 23rd June.

C.O.I.S. 0109/25Z

2. The Vichy French Sloop "AMIRAL CHARNER" (1,969 tons) left Saigon on 21st June.

WEST of Australia Station

Information Summary
No. 56 Indian
Censorship

Intercepted letters from Portuguese India reveal that the German ship "DRACHENFELS" (6,342 tons) which is at Marmagoa, has been prepared against the necessity of being scuttled.

Comment - This doubtless applies to the other two German ships in this port - "EHRENFELS" (7,752 tons) and "BRAUNFELS" (7,347 tons) and may indicate that "DRACHENFELS" is preparing to depart.

Lawrence (N)
(M)

AS Bradshaw (A) G.O.I.C. 27/6/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.
Submitted.

(Portions marked with marginal red line
are not to be reproduced).

Serial No.DS/37

28/6/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/36 Para.1.
A.C.H.Townsville
0810/27Z

1. The 3 Hudsons from Rabaul en route to Townsville landed at Cairns 27/6 and are remaining over-night.

11 Squadron has completed the change-over of its aircraft, the present disposition being as follows -

1 Empire F/B Vila
1 Catalina F/B Gayutu
1 Catalina F/B Rabaul
3 Empire F/Bs)
2 Catalina F/Bs) Moresby

A.C.H.Melbourne
2351/26Z

2. A 5 hour anti-submarine patrol ahead of "QUEEN MARY" was scheduled for 27/6 but was not completed owing to bad visibility. One Hudson aircraft detailed to carry out the patrol returned to Cambridge and thence to Laverton.

A.C.H.Melbourne
1032/26K
0141/27Z

3. An outer anti-submarine patrol by aircraft from Richmond is to be established 28/6 ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" proceeding Sydney - Jervis Bay escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE".

B. ADJACENT AREAS

WS/6 Para.E.3.
Airintel Darwin
1325/27Z

1. With reference to the projected sixth Japanese Test Flight Palau - Dilli, it is reported that the tender "ASAHI MARU" was due to arrive at Dilli on 27/6, the Flying Boat being expected on 29/6. Call signs and frequencies are given as follows:

Aircraft - JBFOY - 11110 K/cs.
Tender - IMLI - 8280 Kcs.

A.L.O. Bandoeng
0400/9Z

Comment - The course reported to have been taken on previous flights was Palau - Kobe (? Tobi) - Gebe - Tobalai - Buru - Kambing - Dilli, which is practically a direct route. The Japanese have been required by N.E.I. to keep out of sight of territorial waters and of land except in bad weather when land may be flown over.

On the fifth test flight a different Flying Boat to that above mentioned was engaged and was reported as having refuelled at Dilli with an excessive quantity of fuel indicating the probability of extensive reconnaissance on the return flight.

It is accordingly suggested that a D/F watch be kept on this occasion with a view to checking over the aircraft's movements on both the outwards flight Palau - Dilli and the return flight, expected to take place on 1/7.

Ref. WS/6 Para.B.2.

A.I. Darwin
0001/22Z

2. The B.B.C. Eastern Broadcast announced at 2100/26K that the "ELBE" which sailed from Yokohama early in April and is said to have been acting as a supply ship to the "BISMARCK", was sunk off Cape Verde Islands.

Airintel Moresby
0131/27Z
Press 27/6

Comment - In the absence of any official advice it is not known whether this vessel is the "ELBE" 9,200 tons, 17 knots which departed Yokohama on 8/4, or a small German vessel of 1200 tons bearing the same name the movements of which are unknown. It would appear most unlikely

that a vessel as small and slow as the latter would be operating as a supply ship in the Atlantic.

As no intelligence has been received since the "ELBE" "REGENSBURG" "ELSE ESSBERGER" and "RAMSES" departed Japanese ports April/May the report suggests the possibility that these units may also have proceeded to the Atlantic.

C.O.I.S
0140/26Z

- 3. Of the 10 German ships in Japan for which it was reported on 20/6 that Chinese crews had been recruited or were being recruited, it is now reported that 3 of the ships are the "ODENWALD" ex "Assuan" (5,098 tons) at Yokohama the "TEIYU MARU" ex "AUGSBURG" (6,512 tons) and the "TEIYO MARU" ex "Saarland" (6,725 tons).

Round (N)

Fercival (M)

D. J. D. J. (A)

C.O.I.C.

28/6/41

104
DO.
DC (M)
D401
001

29/6

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/38

(Portions marked with a marginal red line
are not to be reproduced)

29/6/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

1. The following operations were carried out yesterday (28th June) by aircraft from Richmond with negative results:

A.C.H. MELBOURNE
I724/28K

I723/28K

- (i) An outer A.S. patrol between Sydney and Jervis Bay from I030K to I330K ahead of "QUEEN ELIZABETH" escorted by HMAS "ADELAIDE"
(ii) Security and A.S. patrols between I400K and I600K over Port Jackson and Jervis Bay by 6 Wirraways based at Mascot and Nowra.

A.C.H. Townsville
2340/27Z

2. The following movements of aircraft took place on 28/6:

- (1) 3 Hudsons from Cairns landed at Townsville at 0745K, having returned from carrying out reconnaissance in the Bismarck Archipelago.
(ii) The Empire F/B A18-10 arrived at Townsville from Moresby at 0240Z. The aircraft is remaining overnight before proceeding to Sydney.

A.C.H. Townsville
0305/28Z

3. The following air searches and patrols are scheduled for today (29th June) in connection with the departure of "QUEEN MARY" and "QUEEN ELIZABETH" from Sydney and Jervis Bay respectively:

A.C.H.Q. Melbourne
0216/28Z

"

0801/27

0216/28Z
I058/28K

- Richmond (i) An outer A.S. patrol from Sydney Heads from I130K to I730K.
(ii) An outer A.S. patrol from Pt. Perpendicular from I300K to I700K.
(iii) Security and A.S. patrols between 0645K and 0900K over Port Jackson and Jervis Bay by 6 Wirraways from Mascot and Nowra.
(iv) A parallel track search from Cape Howe to Pt. Perpendicular to a depth of 315 miles commencing at I230K. Object surface vessels. One aircraft is to stand by at Moruya for shadowing duties.

A.C.H.Q. Melbourne
0217/28Z

I058/28K

- Laverton (v) A diverging search from Cape Howe between the bearings I06° and I96° to a depth of 300 miles commencing at I230K. One aircraft is to stand by at Mallacoota for shadowing duties.

4. The following operation and movements of aircraft are to take place today:

Ref. DS/34
para 6

A.C.H. Townsville
0815/28Z

A.C.H. Townsville
0815/28Z

C.W.R. I307/28K

A.C.H. Townsville
0815/28Z

- (i) One Hudson from Archerfield has been instructed to obtain a photograph of the N.Y.K. freighter "ONOE MARU" when she is approaching Brisbane at I500K.
(ii) One Empire F/B is to move from Moresby to Rabaul in accordance with the instructions that two Flying Boats are to be based in the Rabaul area until further orders to carry out periodic reconnaissance within a radius of approximately 300 miles.
(iii) The Empire F/B A18-10 is to proceed from Townsville to Rose Bay for engine change.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Palau-Dilli Flight

A.L.O. Bandoeng
0400/28Z

As the result of interception at Bandoeng, A.L.O. Bandoeng has communicated the following information which was sent from Palau to Dilli on 25th June.

The Flying Boat "SAZABANI" will leave Palau today (29th June) and return on 1st July.

While the aircraft is airborne, Dilli coastal station has been requested to communicate with "ASAHI MARU" between 40th and 50th minutes hourly on 12,000 kc/s, while the Dilli aeradio station has been asked to communicate with the F/B at the same times on 6540kc/s.

Airintel, Darwin
II55/28Z

The tender "ASAHI MARU" was due to arrive at Dilli on 27/6, but did not arrive on that day. A message from Dilli suggests she may possibly be working Kambing or Wetar and arriving Dilli a.m. 29th, but in view of the above information, she may not make Dilli until later.

Rowley (N)
Mumford (M)
A. S. Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.
29/6/4I

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/39

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.
Submitted.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

1/7/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. ?
0253/30Z

1. 2 Flying Boats from Rabaul are to carry out a search for surface vessels today from Namatanai (New Ireland) to a point 2° North of the Equator.

A.C.H. Darwin
1438Z/29

2. TIMOR SEA - Following the report that "WEST HONAKER" was in a position at 0650/24Z which was approx 140 miles from the position of sighting given by the Qantas pilot; A.C.H. Darwin advise that they consider the noon position given for the 23rd and 24th June constitute reasonable confirmation that the vessel sighted on 24th was the "West Honaker".

D.N.O. N.T.
0322Z/29

Meanwhile D.N.O. Northern Territory has asked N.O.I.C. Thursday Island to confirm the "West Honaker" position as given.

A.C.H. Darwin
1131/30Z

The Qantas Pilot reported the vessel as having 2 funnels but this was considered doubtful by A.C.H. Darwin and by the A.O.C. Northern Area who was a passenger in the plane. The height of observation was 8000 feet.

~~Comment - It is difficult on the facts available to reconcile A.C.H. Darwin's conclusion that the vessel was the "West Honaker".~~

B. ADJACENT AREAS

DS/38 Para.B.
Airtel Darwin
1115/30Z

PALAU-DILLI FLIGHT - The Japanese Flying Boat and tender arrived at Dilli yesterday (30th June) at 1330 and 1400 hours local time respectively.

Rowley (N)

Wainman (M)

Wueste (A)

C.O.I.C.

1st July, 1941

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. 217
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S. (Portions marked with marginal red line are not
D.O.I. to be reproduced).
D.D.M.T. Submitted.

Serial No.DS/40

2/7/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Townsville
0853/30Z
0003/1Z ✓
0901/1Z

1. On 1/7 2 Flying Boats from Rabaul completed a search for surface vessels from Namatanai (New Ireland) to a point 2° North of the Equator. A Flying Boat from Gavutu also carried out a patrol from a position North of Malaita Island to a point North of Tanga Is. In both cases nil sightings were reported.

Ref.WS/7 Para.A.4. 2. It is now reported that two mines of the same type as that reported on 29/6 have been stranded in the vicinity of Cape Otway, one on a sand beach and one on rocks at Station Beach approx 3 miles west of Cape Otway. One is described as covered with marine growth, the other as clean but rusty, all horns on both being bent.

D.N.O. Vic.
0347/1Z
W.S.Cape Otway ✓
0415/1Z

Comment - The description of these mines supports the conclusion that all are from the old field. The first of the three has been rendered safe and from examination is considered to be 6 - 8 months old.

Supt. Roper River
Mission 0134/1Z

3. A report has been received that 3 Rose River natives visited Bickerton Island early in May and saw an "upright stick" in the water moving around the north coast of the Island and finally stopping in the last Bay on the north coast. Later, a seaplane is said to have landed in that Bay when the submarine rose to the surface and contacted the plane. Both craft made their departure on the same day as the plane arrived. The informant states that he is unable to vouch for the accuracy of the report.

Comment - Bickerton Island is between Groote Eylandt and the mainland, 30 miles North of Rose River and 65 miles north of Roper River.

While the account is circumstantial in its detail it is apparent that its accuracy or otherwise depends not only on the reliability of the native observers but also on the correctness of the interpretations and deductions made by the white interrogator.

The report is not regarded as significant for the following reasons:-

- a) The water in the vicinity of Bickerton Is. is shallow and difficult of navigation;
- b) It is considered improbable that a Japanese submarine or seaplane would be engaged in reconnaissance in this area as although it is sparsely inhabited there would be a substantial risk of detection and pearling luggers could do the work without arousing suspicion.
- c) The seaplane would normally have been based on some ship, as to the presence of which there has been no intelligence;
- d) The event referred to happened almost two months ago and there has been no corroborating intelligence from other sources.

The report may be explained by the following circumstances:-

- (i) Groote Eylandt is a Qantas stopping place for Empire Flying Boats;
- (ii) The Dutch cruiser "JAVA" passed north of

Thursday Is. 2030Z/8/5

of Arnheimland early in May. She carries a seaplane which has however, a range of only 146 miles at 150 m.p.h.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

- 1. A Japanese warship is believed to have been in the position 2°121' North or South and 158°12' East at 1900K/30/6, the ship having moved south from its last position.

C.W.R. 1655/1K

Comment - Taking the latitude as north the position is approx 220 miles E.N.E. of Kapingamarangi. The same unit on 22/6 was thought to be 230 miles east of Kapingamarangi and has appeared to be moving about south of the Mandates for some weeks now.

- 2. The German merchant ship "HAVENSTEIN" (8,000 tons) at Dairen is reported as preparing to sail although her German crew is still ashore. The "URSULA RICKMERS" (5,100 tons) also at Dairen, may also be about to sail.

D.N.I. Ottawa
0337Z/30/6

Comment - These are the only German ships at Dairen. The fact that the German crew is still ashore may relate to the report that the Japanese are giving covering Japanese nationality to Italian and German ships in Japanese ports intending to use them coastwise, and to the more recent information that Chinese crews are being hired for such ships.

S.O.(I) Wellington
1027M/9/6

The report also recalls the information received that German ships in Japanese ports have been ordered to load goods intended to have gone to Germany via Siberia and that they are presumably to attempt to run the blockade.

C.O.I.S. 0709/20Z

Germany must be very short of merchant tonnage and it is suggested in view of the general movement and preparation in South American ports that an early attempt may be made to run the blockade under the protection of the Japanese flag.

N.C.Flag 0409Z/28

WEST of Australia Station

The British ship "WEST POINT" reports that she received part of a Q distress signal at 1130/26Z when in position 007°00'N, 085°30'E. The only portion of the signal read was "QQQQ?? 12N 088°16' East." The message was made once, the morse speeding up towards the end and finishing abruptly. The commercial strength of the signal was 2/3 and atmospherics were bad.

C. in C. E.I.
1702/30Z

It is assumed by C. in C. East Indies that 12N refers to unknown degrees 12' North. N.C.S.O's are to question masters who were in the vicinity of 088°16' East.

Comment - The longitude 88° East passes approx through Calcutta. The only recent intelligence is to suggest the possibility of an enemy unit being in the Indian Ocean was Admiralty's recent

Admiralty 1338B/27

signal stating that poor D/F bearings on June 23rd indicating the presence of an enemy unit either in the Indian Ocean or South Atlantic but probably the latter.

Ranney (N)

Perival (M)

A.S. Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

2/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/41

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

3/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Ref.DS/34 Para.5.
A.C.H. Darwin
2300/1Z
A.C.H. Darwin
0445/2Z

1. 3 Hudsons left Millingimbi yesterday to carry out patrol and exercises in conjunction with H.M.A.S. "GOULBURN" and H.M.A.S. "BURNIE" returning to Drysdale at 0421/2Z.

The aircraft reported sighting of Japanese luggers approximately 20 miles north-west of Cape Fourcroy, Bathurst Island.

Comment - This is a normal disposition.

A.C.H.Q.
0918/1Z
A.C.H.Fremantle
0954/2Z

2. A clearing search ahead of the convoy U.S.11 was carried out by aircraft from Pearce yesterday (2nd July) from King George's Sound to a depth of 300 miles with negative results.

A.C.H.Townsville
0901/1Z,0814/2Z

3. A Flying Boat proceeded from Rabaul to Gavutu yesterday (2nd July) and reported nil sightings.

A.R.O.Rabaul to
N.B.0430/2Z
Airintel Moresby
0821/2Z
Navy Message
0815/2Z

4. An unidentified aircraft was reported by Assistant D.O. at Wau as having flown over Mt. Thompson (10 miles north of Wau) at 1115K on 2nd July and having been seen high over Bulolo going towards Lae. The I.O. Port Moresby has requested an investigation and report from Chater or O'Dea and Sedgers.

Two flying boats were sent this morning on a track search along lines running approx 300 miles west of Rabaul and along the southern coast of New Britain, commencing at 0630K.

Comment - No description of the aircraft sighted is yet available. In its absence and in the absence of information as to the source of the sighting no grading of the report is possible.

The aircraft sighted over Kavieng on 9/6 and Rabaul 15/6 were considered from the descriptions received to be Japanese Heavy Bombers. There have, however, been no reports from the North Australian Station Area to suggest resumption of the reconnaissance of 8/6 to 15/6 beyond the location of a Japanese warship in position 2°12' (N or S) 158°12'E at 1900K/30/6.

WS/6

B. ADJACENT AREAS

DS/38 & 39
Para.B.
Airintel Darwin
0137/2Z

PALAU-DILLI FLIGHT - The Japanese F/B and tender left Dilli yesterday (2nd July). The tender is described as having a white hull, 2 masts and heavy top gear.

EAST of Australia Station

The following enemy merchant ships have departed from Eastern South American ports;-

C.in C.Sth Atl.1755N/
N.O.(I) Montevideo(28
2345Z/29
S.O.(I) Freetown
0944N/28
1524/28

- (a) Italian "MONBALDO" from Para 28/6
 - (b) Italian "MAGGIO" from Pernambuco 30/6
 - (c) German "NATAL" from Santos 28/6;
 - (d) German "FRANKFURT" from Rio de Janiero 28/6.
- Other enemy merchant ships in these ports are preparing to sail.

[Handwritten signatures]
(N)
(M)
(A)

C.O.I.C.
3/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/42

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

4/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

D.N.O. Brisbane
0302/3Z

1. A report (graded C.3) was received from the police at Coolangatta that 4 fishermen saw a submarine two miles east of Danger Reef at 0630K yesterday (3/7). The object sighted was seen for two minutes and then submerged.

Telephone from
S.O.(I) Brisbane
1530/3K

It was ascertained in a telephone conversation with S.O.(I) Brisbane that the object was stationary before submerging, and was sighted from two separate boats. Weather conditions were fine to moderate with a slight N.N.E. wind blowing but no sea close in near the area of sighting.

The local police grade the reliability of the informants as being fairly high. All four men considered that the object was a submarine. (One (ex - A.I.F.) said he had seen submarines abroad during the last war and claims to have seen the mast and conning tower of one on this occasion two miles away between himself and the sun. The fishermen went out again during the day and cannot be interrogated by S.O.(I) Brisbane until today (4/7).

Comment - Coolangatta is on the Queensland/N.S.W. border and Danger Reef is 40 miles from the shore. There are 25 to 34 fathoms of water in the vicinity of the sighting.

During the last two months there have been four unconfirmed reports of possible submarine sightings in Australian waters:

DS/40 Para.3.

- (1) By 3 Rose River natives at Bickerton Is. early in May - not graded.

DS/17 Para.3.

- (2) By two native fishermen 4 miles west of Salamaua (26/5) graded D.5. and thought to have been a whale.

DS/17 Para.4.

- (3) By the Master of the Administration ship "SIRIUS" and another European on board 22 miles west of Rabaul (30/5) Graded C.4.

DS/28 Para.4.

- (4) By a planter at Lokon (90 miles S.E. of Kavieng in New Ireland) who heard the noise of an engine and received a description corresponding to a submarine from local natives (9/6). Not graded, but probably connected with the report of a seaplane near Kavieng on the same day.

None of these were graded very high at the time nor have any been substantiated by later intelligence.

F.E.C.B.1948(35)

A Yokohama report, graded A.3, on 14/6 stated that a German submarine was then undergoing repairs. At 8 knots this vessel could just have reached the position of this sighting if it departed on the 14th which would appear most improbable.

F.E.C.B.1948(26)

At least one Italian submarine is thought to have reached Japanese waters during March or April.

WS/6 E.2(2)
WS/7 B.1(c)

The Japanese submarine fleet has recently been operating in the area of the Mandated Is., but it is thought that the flagship of the submarine fleet ("KATORI") with a submarine force in company is now on its way back to Japan. However, 2 flotillas of submarines are permanently based in the Mandates.

A.C.H. Townsville
1153/3Z

In connection with this sighting three searches were carried out yesterday off the Queensland and N.S.W. Coasts by aircraft from Archerfield all with negative results.

Searches are scheduled today (4th July) by aircraft from Richmond and Archerfield both to a depth of 20 miles to seaward to commence at the beginning of civil twilight.

Richmond aircraft will search from Cliffy Point (20 miles south of Coffs Harbour) as far north as Jumpin Pin (southern extremity of Stradbroke Is.) while aircraft from Archerfield will operate from Jumpin Pin to 16 miles north of Double Is. Point.

Aircraft from Richmond searching between Evans Head and the southern tip of Stradbroke Island, reported sighting a whale at 0742 hrs. this morning (4/7).

This position is roughly 155 miles from Coolangatta.

Result negative →

Richmond 0756/4K

DS/41 Para.4. ✓
A.C.H. Townsville
1153/3Z

2. The aircraft sighted over Wau and Bulolo on 2nd July has now been identified.

DS/41 Para.4. ✓
A.C.H. Townsville
1153/3Z

The track search yesterday by two Flying Boats along lines running approx 300 miles west of Rabaul and along the southern coast of New Britain was completed with negative results.

Cooktown Radio ✓
0200/3Z 3/7
N.O.I.C. Thursday Is.
0130/3Z ✓
0250/3Z

3. Cooktown Radio reported having intercepted the following from the "CLAN COLQUHOUN":-
(a) distress signal giving her position as 010°28'S, 138°40'E;
(b) a signal as to her being stopped by a cruiser;
(c) a cancellation of the earlier raider report.

Comment - The cancellation is considered genuine as the Dutch Cruiser "TROMP" was in the area at the time.

S.W.A.C.H. 0745/2Z ✓
0750/2Z, 1053/3Z

4. Two clearing searches ahead of the convoy U.S.11A were carried out yesterday (3rd July) by aircraft from Pearce, both with negative results.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

S.O.(I) Sydney ✓
2145Z/3

An intercepted press message states that it is reliably reported from Manila that the Japanese Government has ordered all ships in Phillipine Is. waters to return home immediately.

Comment - There has been as yet no official confirmation of this report but F.E.C.B.1948(36) reported that the following Japanese ships cancelled their next projected passages to Manila -

"Kongo Maru" - 8,624 tons - 19 knots

"Azumasan Maru" - 7,623 tons - 18 knots

Similarly the passages to U.S.A. of the following have been cancelled -

"Nako Maru" - 7,145 tons - 18 knots

"Nankai Maru" - 8,146 tons - 18 knots

There has been no recent indication of a general withdrawal of Japanese shipping from the trade routes. There have, however, been indications that ships of a type calculated to be useful in the event of war are being speedily diverted from the Merchant Service and fitted out.

Round (N)
at checker (M)
14/10/41 (A)

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I. Submitted.

Serial No.DS/43

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

8/7/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

27°S
151°29'E

WS/8 Para.A.3.
A.I.O.Central Area
L/L
1830K/7

N.O.C.S.0957Z/7

1. With regard to the report of the Master of the coastal vessel "PELTON BANK" that his ship had struck a heavy object off Barrenjoey on 5th July -
 - (a) "Warrego" reports a small asdic contact in vicinity of "Pelton Bank's" position and a firm contact in position 033°37'27"S, 151°29'E. She attacked with depth charges but all contacts were later considered not to be submarine contacts;
 - (b) it is now reported that a diver examined the hull of the ship with negative results. The general conclusion drawn from an interrogation of the crew is that the object struck was probably a drum or buoy.

WS/8 Para.A.4.(b)
A.C.H.Darwin
2153/6Z
0456/7Z

2. With reference to the unidentified ship (Serial No.75) reported 50 miles N.W. of Darwin at 0914/6K the aerial searches conducted from Darwin resulted as follows -
 - (a) The aircraft engaged on the Security Patrol as far East as Wessel Island reported sighting the "MARELLA" and "ORANJE".
 - (b) The aircraft searching the vicinity of Bathurst and Melville Isl. reported 5 Japanese luggers and 2 from Darwin off the former Island.

Comment - Neither "MARELLA" nor "ORANJE" could have been in the position of the sighting of the 6th.

Airintel Laverton
1550/7K

3. The Captain of a civil airliner on the Tasmania run reported that he had sighted from a height of 1500 feet a large spherical object resembling a mine at 1100/7K and again at 1200/7K, its position being on a beach one mile from the N.W. corner of Low Head Aerodrome. This report is graded B.2.

Airintel Western
Junction L/L
1735/7K

A similar report of a subsequent sighting at 1604/7K described the object as red in colour and rusty, with attachments at its base, and having the appearance of either a buoy or a mine.

B.N.O.Hobart.

Naval Authorities from Hobart are investigating.

Comment - Low Head Aerodrome is at the mouth of the Tamar River on the North Coast of Tasmania and almost due south of Wilson's Promontory.

WS/6 Para.A.4.

Although one mine and possibly two others have been reported on the east coast of Tasmania, no mines have been previously reported on the North Coast. The easterly set of the current may have carried a mine there from the Cape Otway area where several mines from the old field have recently been found. Mines are also known to have been laid about the same time off Wilson's Promontory.

WS/7 Para.A.4.

WS/8 Para.A.6.

4. Following the report of a vessel sighted by natives at 1730/6Z off Vila and subsequently identified as the "WEST HONAKER" a Catalina Flying Boat on a trial flight from Vila searched a triangular area South-West of Vila - Eromanga and reported nil sightings.

Brit.Res.Commr.
2131/6Z,0444/7Z
A.C.H.Townsville
0510/7Z

B. ADJACENT AREAS

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

C.O.I.S.
0441/6Z

1. The Japanese cruisers "ASHIGARA" (10,000 tons, 10 - 8") and "NATORI" (5,170, 7 - 5.5") and at least one flotilla of destroyers have moved from north of Hong Kong to the Hainan area.

Comment - The two cruisers are the main units of the South China Fleet. The destroyer Flotilla is probably the 11th also of the South China Fleet.

C.O.I.S.0712/23
F.E.C.B.1948(36)

At least one "MOGAMI" class cruiser (7,000, 15-6") and the minelayer "SIMSU" were in the Hainan area on 26th June.

C.O.I.S.0313/5Z

2. An Unidentified German ship similar to the "KULMERLAND" (7,300 tons) was registered at Yokohama on 29th June. On 1st July a new unidentified German unit of about 3000 tons was observed at Kobe. There is some activity among German ships at Kobe, their new Chinese crews having arrived.

Comment - This first vessel is presumably "BURGENLAND" (sister ship to "KULMERLAND") which has been at Kobe since the outbreak of war, and which has on several occasions been reported ready for sea. "KULMERLAND" was reported to have returned to Bordeaux with prisoners in April last. There are no German ships under 5000 tons known to be in Japanese ports. The Italian raider "RAMB II" 3,685 tons arrived Kobe 22nd March.

Admiralty 1735B/28/6

On 20/6 it was reported that 6 Chinese crews for German ships in Japanese waters had already been recruited. These would appear to have now reached Kobe.

C.O.I.S.0709/20Z

C.O.I.S.0313/5Z

3. At Dairen the "HAVENSTEIN" has been manned by a Chinese crew and the "URSULA RICKMERS" is also to take Chinese crew. It is believed that both ships will sail for Japan under the Japanese flag in the near future with a cargo consigned to Germany.

Comment - On 30/6 the "HAVENSTEIN" (8,000 tons) was reported to be preparing to sail although its German crew was still ashore, and the "URSULA RICKMERS" (5,100) was also thought to be about to sail. They are the only German merchant ships at Dairen.

D.N.I.Ottawa
0337Z/30/6

WS/8 Para. C.2.

Randall (N)

Spencer (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

8/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.T.
Submitted.

Serial No. DS/44

(Portions marked with marginal red line 9/7/41
are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/43
D.N.O. Tas.
0214Z/8

1. Possible Mine - Low Head ^{Tas} A search of the beach N.W. of Low Head aerodrome by a Naval party revealed old rusty bell-buoys and a red painted dinghy bottom up.

Comment - The red object resembling a mine reported by the pilot of the airliner was most probably a buoy which possibility was suggested by the pilot himself.

WS/8
DS/43
A.C.H. Darwin
0456Z/7

2. Serial No. 75 - An air search from Darwin located 7 luggers in position 11°40'S, 129°44'E at 0100Z/7. M.M.S. consider that the two-masted vessel sighted by "Koolama" at 2314Z/5 was one of these luggers and the Serial No. has been cancelled. A.C.H. Darwin came to the same conclusion and consider that mirage was responsible for the confusion.

A.C.H. Darwin
0707/8Z

3. U.S. 11A - An anti-submarine patrol was kept up over Gage Roads during daylight hours as a protection for convoy U.S. 11A and a clearing search N.W. of Fremantle to a depth of 300 miles was conducted with negative results.

S.W.A.C.H.
1015Z/8

4. BARRENJOEY AREA - H.M.A.S. "Warrego" was to continue A/S Search until 1200K/8. M/S operations were then to be resumed if search was negative.

DS/43
WS/8
N.O.C.S.
0130Z/8

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Launey (N)

Fercival (M)

Quay Owen (A)

C.O.I.C.

9/7/41

[Handwritten mark]

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.
Submitted.

Serial No.DS/45

10/7/41

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

N.O.C.Thursday Is.
0001Z/9

1. THURSDAY IS. - It is reported through the Malay personnel of local luggers, that 2 sampans are working new rich patches off Merkara shoal which the Thursday Is. luggers are working and that many more are on their way there. It is suggested that this will constitute a severe setback for local industry.

Comment - Merkara shoal is 75 miles west of Thursday Island. As the Japanese fishing fleets in the Darwin Area are composed of luggers it would appear that these sampans have arrived from Japanese fishing areas further north, possibly the Mandated Islands or N.E.I. (Celebes). It is remarked -

F.E.C.B.1402
5/3/41

- (a) that Thursday Is. is a focal shipping point;
(b) that some Japanese fishing craft are known to be fitted with W/T and used by the Japanese Navy as reporting craft.

S.W.A.C.H.
0810/8Z, 0815/8Z
0935/9Z, 0936/9Z

2. CONVOY U.S.11A - An anti-submarine patrol was maintained over Gage Roads during daylight hours yesterday and a clearing search N.W. of Fremantle to a depth of 300 miles conducted with negative results.

A.C.H.Townsville
0810/8Z, 0855/9Z

3. BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO - Two searches were carried out yesterday by aircraft from Rabaul:
(i) One Flying Boat proceeded to Lorengau and Kavieng and returned to Rabaul at 0730Z;
(ii) One Flying Boat searched an area between Tanga Is. and Nissan Is. to a depth of 250 miles to seaward (N.E). The approximate dimensions of the area searched were 250 by 75 miles.
Both aircraft reported nil sightings.

A.C.H.Townsville
0810/8Z
0430/9Z

A.C.H.Townsville
0040/9Z, 0430/9Z

4. One Hudson on a transit flight from Archerfield to Bundaberg patrolled the shipping lane. All sightings were identified.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

EAST of Australia Station

N.Z.N.B.
1748M/8
C.W.R.Wellington
1200/9Z

It is reported that an aircraft was heard over Tarawa on 6/7 and sighted over Makin and Butaritari on 7/7.

Comment - Tarawa, Butaritari and Makin are amongst the Northernmost Islands of the Gilbert Group. U.S. Units engaged in the vicinity were
(a) U.S.S. "SWAN" en route Vanikoro (dep. 29/6) - Pearl Harbour;
(b) U.S. Flying Boat Squadron engaged on reconnaissance of the Ellice Group.
Although Makin Island was expressly excluded from the itinerary owing to its proximity to Jaluit and the consequent possibility of arousing Japanese suspicions, C.W.R. Wellington is of the opinion that the aircraft came from the U.S. Navy seaplane tender.

N.B.0656/18/6

NORTH of Australia Station

The French vessel "COMMANDANT DORISE" (5,500 tons, 1917) left Saigon on the 5th July and is believed to be bound for France. It has been suggested to the Commander in Chief N.E.I. that she should if possible be intercepted and searched.

Comment - The "COMMANDANT DORISE" is a cargo vessel with some passenger accommodation. The Dutch have intercepted 3 French vessels since the beginning of June.

JAPANESE

The British Naval Attache Tokyo, has reported that the Japanese Fleet Summer leave has been curtailed to 12 hours and that 2 more Battleships, making seven in all, are in Yokosuka.

Comment - Yokosuka is the major Japanese Naval base at the mouth of Tokyo Bay. It is difficult to assess the significance of the move without any information regarding the movements of cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers and submarines of the Combined Fleet which are all believed to be somewhere in home waters.

Except for the recent addition of units of the Base Defence Force (chiefly auxiliaries) and (1 destroyer flotilla) there has been no really significant movements in South China area to suggest a major move South.

Army and Air strength have if anything been reduced in the South over recent weeks. If Japan intends moving South it is considered her first move will be to take over Camranh Bay for use as an advanced Naval Base.

Most recent intelligence suggests, however, that if Japan proposes to strike (outside of China) in the near future, her course of action probably will be to move against Russia in the North.

- 2. Tokyo radio has confirmed the report that the Japanese Merchant Fleet, which is the third largest in the world, has been ordered to concentrate in the Pacific.

This concentration is to take place by the end of August, by which time the Japanese expect a decisive result in the Russo-German War.

It is understood that this concentration is to enable merchant ships to be fitted out as transports.

- 3. From the Secretary, the Department of External Affairs, it is learnt that a large importing firm in Melbourne, has had all further orders refused by Japanese Houses, on the ground that the Japanese Government is refusing to issue export licenses.

- 4. It is reported that the Commercial Attache of the Japanese Legation yesterday suggested that the Japanese would be satisfied with our approval of a token release of 500 tons of copra from New Guinea. The original request was for 13,000 tons. The reason given by the Attache was the shortage of shipping in the South Pacific.

Comment - Japan has for some time been protesting against the copra embargo although in the first 4 months of 1941 she obtained 26,000 tons compared with 23,000 tons for the whole of 1935 which was the peak year in the period 1935-40. It is to be noted that Japan is aiming to keep

C.in C. China
0241Z/7

WS/6 B.1.
F.E.C.B.1948(35)

C.in C. China
1511Z/8/7

B.B.C. News
Broadcast 1900/9K

Dept. of Defence
Co-ordination
9/7/41

ditto

F.E.C.B.1948(34)

P.S. to page (2) - Paragraph (1) "Japanese" Comment -

C.O.I.S.
1110Z/8

Latest information from C.O.I.S. states that in view of the increased Press and Radio attacks on French Indo-China, irrespective of an early attack on the U.S.S.R., it is considered probable that Japan will ~~enact~~ ^{carry out} preliminary occupation of South Indo-China. ✓

Comment - In view of the value of Camranh Bay as a Naval Base for major operations and other areas of Indo-China as potential Army and Air operational bases, Japan is anxious to thwart the possibility of our using these bases for future action against her.

her merchant ships in her own waters, and at the same time to forego future rights of commerce for which she has long fought hard. This move may be significant of war against us in view of recent German pressure upon her or it may be precautionary against any action we may take as a result of moves which Japan has in mind. Such moves may of course not necessarily be directed against British territory, and Japan may, in taking such suggested action, be counting on British non-interference while at the same time she takes all precautions for the protection of her shipping.

Randall (N)

Wright (M)

Sho (A)

C.O.I.C.

10/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. 11/7
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.
Submitted.

Serial No.DS/46

(Portions marked with marginal red line are 11/7/41
not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/42 Para.A.1.
Airintel Northern
Area 0606/10Z

1. With reference to the recent reports of submarine sightings 3/7 and 6/7 in the vicinity of Danger Point, the corvette H.M.A.S. "BENDIGO" reported that she passed through the area during the period and encountered hundreds of whales between Barrenjoey and Moreton Bay within 12 miles from land.

Comment - This report supports the suggestion that the objects originally sighted were, in fact, whales.

Northern Command
L/L 1130/10K

2. Information has been received that at 1845/8K definite signals were seen from a position in the Gladstone area near Mt. Larcom (Qld.). These were said to be in morse too fast for the informant to pick up and to be given by red and white lights which were high and bright like a star but larger than a plane's navigation lights.

Comment - Mt. Larcom (approx 90 miles N.W. of Bundaberg) has an elevation of over 2000 feet and is visible for some distance to seaward.

Pending investigation the only recent intelligence with which this report can be linked is that of the supposed submarine sightings 3/7 and 6/7 off Danger Point (Qld.) and the reported pyrotechnic flare 6/7 off Barrenjoey (N.S.W.).

WS/8 Para.A.3.(c)

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

It is reported that in addition to the failure of the Cocos Island - Batavia submarine cable, the cable between Darwin and Sourabaya has been broken 100 miles North of Darwin. The latter is expected to be repaired on 12th July and work is already in progress on the former. Meanwhile as an emergency measure a radio link between Cocos Island and Sourabaya has been instituted in order to provide a link with the Far East.

The traffic handling capacity of this Service is, however, limited and the security of cable communication with the Far East is reduced since interception of traffic on the radio link is possible.

Comment - The almost simultaneous failure of both cables clearly points to sabotage of communications, a not unusual prelude to hostilities. The purpose being to hinder communication with Hong Kong, Singapore and all British possessions in the Far East as well as the N.E.I. the present action may indicate some early and important move on Japan's part and supports previous intelligence that this will include operations southwards.

Although the Japanese F/B tender "ASAHI MARU" left Dilli on 2/7 and could, in the absence of other advice as to her movements, have been responsible for either but not both

DS/45 P.S. Page 2
para.1.

Keep secret
in file 7/-

cuttings, it is more probable that a Japanese lugger or mother ship was responsible as this type of craft, fitted with diving apparatus, would be able to move in the vicinity of the cable routes without arousing suspicion.

It should be mentioned that an unidentified two-masted ship was reported by the "KOOLAMA" in position 12°12'S, 129°56'E (approx 50 miles N.W. of Darwin) at 2314/5Z. An aerial search conducted by Darwin on 7/7 revealed the presence of 5 Japanese and 2 Darwin luggers in position 12°S 129°E (approx 110 miles N.W. of Darwin). The vessel sighted by the "Koolama" was considered to be one of these, A.C.H. Darwin suggesting that a mirage was probably responsible for the confusion. Both the positions mentioned are in the area through which the Darwin - Sourabaya Cable runs and the second position corresponds roughly with the reported location of the break.

WS/8 Para.A.4(b)
DS/43 Para.A.2.
DS/44 Para.A.2.

2. It is reported that there are now 7 German ships in Yokohama. It was known that the "ODENWALD" "SPREWALD" and "HAVELLAND" were there. In addition there are
- (1) An unidentified ship similar to the "Kulmerland" of about 6000 tons;
 - (2) An unidentified ship of about 12,000 tons;
 - (3) Two tankers of about 3000 tons each, funnels aft and similar to the vessel departed from Yokohama on 5th July.

No ~~ARRANG~~ armaments are visible on the 12,000 tons ship. It is thought possible that this ship may be a raider and that the other 3 vessels are to act as supply ships.

Comment - It would appear probable that 3 of the 4 new units reported are the German ships "BOGOTA" "QUITO" and "RHAKOTIS" all of which have been missing since they departed from South American ports on the 17/5/41. The descriptions all fit. "BOGOTA" and "QUITO" are sister ships of 1,200 tons, built 1938 and have a funnel aft. They departed from COQUIMBO together on 17/5. "RHAKOTIS" is 6,800 tons built 1929 and is very similar in appearance to "Kulmerland". She departed Talcahuano on 17/5.

All other ships that departed from South American ports at the same period have since been accounted for.

The fourth unidentified ship of 12,000 tons described as resembling the new Glen type, suggests being a raider. The size and general appearance resembles that of the Indian Ocean raider types.

It is possible that one of the Atlantic raiders (such as No.21) which were considered to have probably gone back to Germany may have proceeded to Japan via the Horn using the other units from South American ports as supply ships.

WEST OF AUSTRALIA STATION

N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires
2132Z/7

A C.3 report states that the German merchant ship "ERLANGEN" was to leave Mar del Plata on 7/8/41 for a Brazilian port, keeping in territorial waters. Members of the crew stated that they expected to join other German ships in Brazil and sail together escorted by a German raider or cruiser.

her merchant ships in her own waters, and at the same time to forego future rights of commerce for which she has long fought hard. This move may be significant of war against us in view of recent German pressure upon her or it may be precautionary against any action we may take as a result of moves which Japan has in mind. Such moves may of course not necessarily be directed against British territory, and Japan may, in taking such suggested action, be counting on British non-interference while at the same time she takes all precautions for the protection of her shipping.

Randall (N)

Wright (M)

Sho (A)

C.O.I.C.

10/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. 187/1217

D.O.D.

D.C.N.S.

D.O.I.

D.D.M.I.

Submitted.

Serial No.DS/47

12/7/41

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/42 Para.A.1
DS/46 Para.A.1.
L/L S.O.I.Brisbane
2100/11K

1. SUBMARINE SIGHTINGS, COOLANGATTA - A C.I.B. watcher, who was posted on a high point near Tweed Heads subsequent to the previous sightings on 3/7 and 6/7, reported the appearance of a submarine at 1115/11K. He saw it through field glasses and is convinced that it was not a whale. During the preceding night, at 0200/11K he says that he saw four flashes to seaward. No ship is known to have been in that locality at the time. The report is graded B.4.

Comment - This is the third occasion on which a submarine is alleged to have been sighted in this neighbourhood this month. Shortly, the facts of the two previous sightings were as follows -

- a) 3rd July - 2 miles E. of outer Danger Reef - Shortly before sunrise the occupants of three fishing boats saw what they considered to be a submarine. The sea was calm and the visibility good, and the object in the case of Edds and Ellis was judged to be about one mile away and in the case of Hargraves and Grey about 3 miles. The witnesses are experienced fishermen and are stated to have a good knowledge of the appearance of whales. They are sure it was not a whale and say that it disappeared too quickly for a surface craft. In the former case it was described as between 12 and 20 ft. in height with length 100 ft, and in the latter as a solid rectangle with a smaller rectangle on top. Report is graded B.5

- b) Dawn 6/7 - 5 m. N.N.E. of Point Danger - This sighting was made by Gray and Hargraves (two of the six fishermen who observed the object sighted on 3/7) from a fishing boat. First Gray sighted an object at an estimated distance of 3/4 m. to the N.E. It was thought by both to be a cloud at first but disappeared while they were discussing its identity. Half an hour later what appeared to be a stick was sighted (again by Gray) in approx the position of the first object. On this occasion the first suggestion was that it was the mast of a small craft. Thereafter Gray alone saw the gradual appearance (seemingly broadside on) of the object and its subsequent disappearance. It finally appeared as a flat base 60' to 70' long with a superstructure 3' wide and 6' high and a "lump" 4'/5' high at one end. The "stick" was originally above the superstructure but had disappeared by the time the object was fully visible and was not seen again.

The object then turned end on (the lump, disappearing from view) and settled into the sea taking several minutes to pass out of sight.

The sea was calm and visibility good at the time and at the time of the latest sighting the sun was just showing above the horizon. Report graded B.5.

Gray saw several submarines during the last war and is definite that the object was not a whale. All observers have impressed Intelligence officer as being reliable witnesses and are given good character by the local police.

The above evidence was not held of sufficient weight to displace the improbability of a strange submarine being in that neighbourhood, but might, it is suggested be reconsidered in the light of this last sighting when a fuller report is available. On the other hand, it may be recalled that H.M.A.S. "BENDIGO" reported large schools of whales along this portion of the coast.

As to the lights which was seen flashing at 0200 hours, little significance can be placed upon such a happening in waters known to be frequented at night time by fishing boats.

DS/46 A.1.

A.C.H. Townsville
1330/11Z

2. In view of the above submarine sighting a search is being despatched today from Archerfield to cover a track as far as Lord Howe Island with the object of locating a possible parent ship in the vicinity of Middleton or Elizabeth Reefs.

DS/40 Para. 2.
Airtel Archerfield
1025/11Z

3. MT. LARCOMB LIGHTS - The red and white lights reported to have been seen signalling in morse from Mt. Larcumb above Gladstone (Qld) have been further investigated by the M.I. at Rockhampton. The M.I. reports that he considers the light to have been a star.

Beam Wireless
to N.B. 11/7

4. Willis Island - A radio message from Willis Island picked up by Rabaul states that a red light was sighted to seaward at 1915/11K about four miles distant. On the watcher's door being opened the light disappeared.

Comment - Willis Is. is some 250 miles east of Cairns and no ships are known to be in the vicinity. A fuller report is being obtained.

Airtel Northern
Area 0805/11Z

5. COOKTOWN - M.I. at Cairns reported yesterday by telephone that 2 reliable witnesses state that they heard two distinct aircraft flying north over Cooktown at 2359/7K and 0015/8K. There is some support from natives who were reported to have seen navigation lights at approx the same time.

Comment - No such aircraft were reported as being airborne at that time in Northern Area's daily signal re irregular movement of aircraft. Investigations are proceeding.

A.C.H. Townsville
2335/10Z
0535/11Z

6. Transit flights were carried out on 11/7 by two Empire Flying Boats, one from Gavutu to Pt. Moresby and one from Rabaul to Gavutu. Both reported nil sightings.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

N.E.I.C. in C.
0957/11Z

1. Serial No. 77 - A report from N.E.I. states that a coastal watch in Manipa Straits (between Ceram and Buru)

It is reliably reported from Rio de Janeiro that the German merchant ship "HERMES" is carrying fuel oil in barrels.

Comment - The "ERLANGEN", ex Puerto Montt, arrived at Mar del Plata on 3/6. Five other enemy merchant ships have sailed from South American ports over the past two weeks. The "ERLANGEN" is the only other German ship which has been mentioned in recent intelligence as about to sail.

WS/5 C.2.

Glenn (N)

Lang (M)

Ray (A)

C.O.I.C.

11/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I. *12/7/41*
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.
Submitted.

Serial No.DS/47

12/7/41

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/42 Para.A.1
DS/46 Para.A.1.
L/L S.O.I.Brisbane
2100/11K

1. SUBMARINE SIGHTINGS, COOLANGATTA - A C.I.B. watcher, who was posted on a high point near Tweed Heads subsequent to the previous sightings on 3/7 and 6/7, reported the appearance of a submarine at 1115/11K. He saw it through field glasses and is convinced that it was not a whale. During the preceding night, at 0200/11K he says that he saw four flashes to seaward. No ship is known to have been in that locality at the time. The report is graded B.4.

Comment - This is the third occasion on which a submarine is alleged to have been sighted in this neighbourhood this month. Shortly, the facts of the two previous sightings were as follows -

a) 3rd July - 2 miles E. of outer Danger Reef - Shortly before sunrise the occupants of three fishing boats saw what they considered to be a submarine. The sea was calm and the visibility good, and the object in the case of Edds and Ellis was judged to be about one mileaway and in the case of Hargraves and Grey about 3 miles. The witnesses are experienced fishermen and are stated to have a good knowledge of the appearance of whales. They are sure it was not a whale and say that it disappeared too quickly for a surface craft. In the former case it was described as between 12 and 20 ft. in height with length 100 ft, and in the latter as a solid rectangle with a smaller rectangle on top. Report is ~~ex~~ graded B.5

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As to the light which was seen flashing at 0200 hours, little significance can be placed upon such a happening in waters known to be frequented at night time by fishing boats.

DS/46 A.1.

A.C.H. Townsville
1330/11Z

2. In view of the above submarine sighting a search is being despatched today from Archerfield to cover a track as far as Lord Howe Island with the object of locating a possible parent ship in the vicinity of Middleton or Elizabeth Reefs.

DS/40 Para. 2.
Airtel Archerfield
1025/11Z

3. MT. LARCOMB LIGHTS - The red and white lights reported to have been seen signalling in morse from Mt. Larcumb above Gladstone (Qld) have been further investigated by the M.I. at Rockhampton. The M.I. reports that he considers the light to have been a star.

Beam Wireless
to N.B. 11/7

4. Willis Island - A radio message from Willis Island picked up by Rabaul states that a red light was sighted to seaward at 1915/11K about four miles distant. On the watcher's door being opened the light disappeared.

Comment - Willis Is. is some 250 miles east of Cairns and no ships are known to be in the vicinity. A fuller report is being obtained.

Airtel Northern
Area 0805/11Z

5. COOKTOWN - M.I. at Cairns reported yesterday by telephone that 2 reliable witnesses state that they heard two distinct aircraft flying north over Cooktown at 2359/7K and 0015/8K. There is some support from natives who were reported to have seen navigation lights at approx the same time.

Comment - No such aircraft were reported as being airborne at that time in Northern Area's daily signal re irregular movement of aircraft. Investigations are proceeding.

A.C.H. Townsville
2335/10Z
0535/11Z

6. Transit flights were carried out on 11/7 by two Empire Flying Boats, one from Gavutu to Pt. Moresby and one from Rabaul to Gavutu. Both reported nil sightings.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

N.E.I.C. in C.
0957/11Z

1. Serial No. 77 - A report from N.E.I. states that a coastal watch in Manipa Straits (between Ceram and Buru)

M.M.S.

sighted an unidentified merchant vessel heading south on 0745/10Z. It is now considered that the vessel concerned was probably the British "AUTOLYCUS" and the Serial No. has been cancelled.

DS/45 B.2.
C.in C. China
0241Z/7
C.in C. N.E.I.
1035Z/10

2. The French vessel "COMMANDANT DORISE" which departed Saigon 5/7, passed Sunda Strait 0600Z/10/7. She was searched and allowed to proceed. She is bound for Madagascar.

Comment - It was previously reported that the "COMMANDANT DORISE" was bound for France.

Pennington (N)

Percival (M)

St. J. Dorn (A)

C.O.I.C.

12/7/41

P.S. Reference C.O.I.C. Appreciation of Japanese
Situation dated 12/7/41, Appendix B - Japanese Naval
Forces -

Latest F.E.C.B. information shows that the new Japanese
Aircraft Carrier "ZUIKAKU" 15,000 tons, 12-5" guns,
carrying 48 aircraft (sister-ship of "SHOKAKU") is
believed to be in commission.

Comment - This brings the number of Japanese aircraft
carriers to nine.

F.E.C.B.1948(38)
8th July, 41

#1317

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

MOST SECRET

Serial No. DS/48

(Portions marked with marginal red line
are not to be reproduced).

13/7/41

Submitted.

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/47 Para A2
ACH Townsville
2030/11Z
0225/12Z
Airantel N. Area
0225/12Z
DS/47 Para A4
NOCS 0405/12Z

1. The search conducted by three aircraft from Archerfield with the object of locating a possible submarine parent ship in the vicinity of Middleton and Elizabeth Reefs was completed 12/7. One vessel was sighted and identified, otherwise the result was negative.
2. With reference to the report from Willis Island of the sighting of a red light, later advices were to the effect that everything was normal, apparently intended to indicate that the sighting had been investigated and was not regarded as suspicious.
3. The Harbour Master at Beachport, South Australia, reported yesterday (12/7) that a floating mine had been sighted 3 miles South West of Greytown. A party is to be despatched to-day to render the mine safe.

DNO S.A.
DL1835/12K

Comment - Beachport is at the North head and Greytown at the South head of Rivoli Bay, 25 miles S.E. of Robe.
Since the 4th June this is the third mine to have appeared in the vicinity of Robe, and the fifth on the South Australian coast. The other four mines were all found to be of considerable age and presumably came from the minefield laid towards the end of 1940.

WS/6 Para A4

ACH Townsville
0840/11Z
0335/12Z

4. A transit flight was carried out by a Catalina Flying-Boat from Moresby to Rabaul yesterday (12/7), no sightings being reported.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

SUNDA STRAIT - French Merchant Ships.

(i) On the 8th July Sunda Strait patrol boat intercepted and searched "Francois L.D.", which was unescorted and in ballast. The ship carried four passengers and was allowed to proceed, nothing suspicious being found. Information was received from "Francois L.D." that "Cap Tourane" had gone to Madagascar.

A.N.L.O.
0911/10Z

F.E.C.B. 1948 (34)

Comment - "Cap Tourane" left Dakar on the 30th May with a large force of French troops including officers of high rank, all of whom were said to be pro-De Gaulle. She was reported to be bound for Saigon via Madagascar. "Francois L.D." also left Dakar at the same time.

C. in C. N.E.I.
1035/10Z

(ii) "Sikiang" passed Sunda Strait for Sourabaya on the 10th July.

F.E.C.B. 1948 (35)

Comment - "Sikiang" was due to leave Diego Suarez on the 15th June for Saigon, part of her cargo consisting of 1553 tons of graphite for Yokohama. Although there was no evidence as to the ultimate destination of the graphite, it appears from intercepted correspondence that the French are supplying Japan with graphite in exchange for piece goods.

GERMAN SHIPS IN JAPANESE WATERS

It is reported that the Elsa Essberger arrived at Yokohama on the 9th July.

COIS 0449/10Z

Comment - The Elsa Essberger (6,100 tons, 1938) departed Japan on the 8th May 1941, the same day as "Ramses", and subsequent to the departure of the "Elbe" and "Regensburg" in April. The "Elbe" is the only other unit that has been reported on since, although the report of her interception in the North Atlantic last month has not yet been confirmed through official channels.

COIS 0823/15Z

EAST of Australia Station

SOUTH ATLANTIC

It is reported that the German ship "Hermes" was intercepted in position 004° 03' N. 034° 40' W. by the A.M.C. "Canton" after a two hour chase. Although the "Canton" fired to prevent the crew abandoning ship, the "Hermes" was immediately scuttled.

H.M.S. "Canton"
2254/10Z

Comment - "Hermes" sailed from Rio de Janeiro on 27/6. It is known that she was prepared for scuttling. It was reliably reported from Rio de Janeiro that she was carrying fuel oil in barrels.

WS/7 Para B3.

DS/46 Para B.

Lawrence (N)

Dutchman (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

13/7/41

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/ 49

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

15/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Townsville
0706/14Z

- The following movements of aircraft, took place yesterday (14/7)
 - One F/B proceeded from Vila to Noumea;
 - One F/B proceeded from Moresby to Thursday Island
 Both aircraft reported nil sightings.

Comment - These two aircraft are to return to their bases today (15/7). The Flying Boat from Thursday Island is to return to Moresby via Deliverance Island and carry out reconnaissance of the island in order to investigate a report of Japanese activities.

D.N.O. Vic.
0638Z/14

- A mine has been washed ashore at a point 6 miles west of Cape Otway and 2 miles east of Glen Aire River. An R.M.S. party arrived at approximately 0800K today to examine it.

Comment - This is the fourth mine washed ashore in this immediate vicinity since 29/6. Pending receipt of a report on its condition it is suggested that it most probably is from the old field.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

Nil Report

Lawrence (N)

George Watson (N)

H. Roy Owen (A)

C.O.I.C.

15/7/41

16/7

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/50

16/7/41

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

1. With reference to the movements of aircraft scheduled for 15/7 -
- (i) One F/B proceeding from Noumea to Vila reported nil sightings;
 - (ii) One F/B proceeding Thursday Is. to Moresby carried out a reconnaissance of Deliverance Is. in order to investigate a report that Japanese were alleged to have been digging and possibly storing arms there. The reconnaissance did not reveal any sign of the ground having been disturbed and there were no indications of past or present habitation.

Comment - The report referred to is probably that contained in a recent F.E.C.B. Intelligence Summary stating: "Two reports, latest 28th August 1940, speak of Japanese "digging in" at Deliverance Is. in the Torres Straits".

2. The master of the "JOHN BOLTON" and a passenger reported that when in position 4°50'S, 149°31'E at 1345Z on 13th July they sighted a ship's rocket fired about 30 miles away N.E. The report was graded B.2. No local vessels were known to be in the locality and the D.O. Salamaua has been requested to advise the times of departure of the "MACDHUI" and its E.T.A. Kavieng.

Comment - The "JOHN BOLTON'S" position was approx 7 miles S. of Garove Is. and 53 miles N.W. of Willaumez Peninsula, New Britain, the estimated position of the rocket being therefore approx 23 miles E.N.E. of Garove Is.

The "JOHN BOLTON" is a small wooden cargo vessel of 193 tons, registered at Samarai, having a service speed of 5-6 knots. Her usual employment is amongst the islands around New Guinea. No advice as to the "Macdhui's" movements has been received beyond the fact that she was routed from Salamaua to Kavieng.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

EAST of Australia Station

Further information has been received to amplify the report of an aircraft over the northernmost islands of the Gilbert Group on 6th and 7th July.

It is now reported from Wellington that a silver aircraft coming from the west circled Butaritari, at 2100Z (0900 hrs. local time) at a height of some 15,000 feet and went away in a southerly direction. An aircraft, possibly the same was heard above the clouds over R Tarawa on the same day at 2030Z (0845 local time) and 2345Z (1145 local time). The time of sighting over Butaritari was mutilated in the signal which may account for the discrepancy assuming that only one aircraft was operating.

The Administrative Officer at Tarawa considered from the sound that the machine was multi-engined.

The U.S. Navy Seaplane tender which was carrying out aerial survey is stated to have been at least 650 miles away at the time.

A.C.H. Townsville
2335/14Z, 0034/15Z

0005/15Z
0345/15Z
0745/15Z

F.E.C.B. 1402,
2nd Ed. A,

N.I.O. Rabaul
0935/15Z

DS/45 Para. B.

S.O. (I) Wellington
1108/15M

Comment - This would appear to rule out the theory previously held by C.W.R. Wellington that the aircraft was a U.S. Naval airplane, as it is most unlikely that such a reconnaissance would involve flying 1300 miles, partly in the dark.

It is therefore suggested that the aircraft was a Japanese reconnaissance machine, probably of the Heavy Bomber Type operating from Jaluit for the following reasons -

- (1) Butaritari is 263 miles and Tarawa 330 miles from Jaluit and the technique of the operation bears a strong resemblance to that employed by the Japanese in their reconnaissance of the Bismarck Archipelago last month i.e. aircraft leaving the Carolines at dawn and arriving over New Ireland about 1000 hours, travelling at 150 m.p.h.
- (2) The aircraft is stated to be multi-engined;
- (3) The height suggests that photographic reconnaissance was the objective; ALTHOUGH THIS MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO MORE THAN ONE PLANE
- (4) The sighting bears a strong resemblance to the aircraft reported over Rabaul on 15th June, which was stated to be like a DC.3 in type and not camouflaged, also flying at a height of 15,000 feet. The machine over Butaritari is described as "silver".

NORTH of Australia Station

C.S Singapore
0507/14Z

The "ODENWALD" formerly "Assuan" (an oil burner of 5,098 tons built in 1923) departed Yokohama 11/7.

Comment - This ship has been at Yokohama since 15th Sept. 1939. She is one of the ships for which Melchers in Shanghai, have recently supplied Chinese crews and has a service speed of between 10½ and 14 knots. It would appear probable that this unit has either been taken over to enter the Japanese coastal trade or is about to attempt to run the blockade loaded with German goods previously destined to Germany via Siberia.

F.E.C.B.1948(36)
F.E.C.B.1948(37)

WEST of Australia Station

ENEMY RAIDER ACTIVITY - With reference to the reported presence of a raider in the vicinity of 008°N 088°E on 26th June, the "SHENKING" reported sighting a modern cargo vessel of 9,000 tons bearing N.Y.K. markings in a position 2°N 078°E course 135° on 16th June. It has been impossible to identify this vessel. (E.C.B.)

WS/9 Page 7 Para.1
F.E.C.B.1948(37)

Handwritten signature (N)

(M)

Handwritten signature (A)

C.O.I.C.
16/7/41

*Max. Dyce
Request for
distribution
copies*

Latest Order of Battle of Russian Air Force is attached. (FAR. EAST)

APPENDIX "A" TO DAILY SUMMARY NO. 30.

The following Order of Battle of the Russian Air Force (Far East) as at the end of June has been received from Singapore. The figures are supplied by Air Ministry.

<u>MILITARY DISTRICT</u>	<u>FIGHTERS</u>	<u>BOMBERS</u>	<u>TRANSPORTS</u>	<u>MILITARY REGGE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
SIBERIA	111	111	12	120	132
TRANS-BAIKAL	188	180	36	200	604
1st. I.R.B.A.	235	60	24	47	366
2nd. I.R.B.A.	141	120	36	47	344
PACIFIC NAVAL COMMAND	47	111	111 (Naval A/o)	150	197
TOTAL	611	360	108	414 150	1643

COMMENT

- (i) Heavy Bombers comprise one-third of the total bomber strength.
- (ii) I.R.B.A. = Independent Red Banner Army.
- (iii) The three Military Districts have as H.Q.
 - Trans-Baikal.....Chita
 - 1st I.R.B.A.....Voroshilov
 - 2nd I.R.B.A.....Khabarovsk
- (iv) The Naval Aircraft are presumably based on Vladivostok where the Russians are known to have two Seaplane tenders-"AMUR" and "KRASNAYA STRELA"
- (v) Previous advices estimated the strength of the Russian Air Forces in the Far East at 1200.

P.E.C.B. 1948(37)

17/7

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/51

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

17/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

N.I.O. Rabaul
0114/16Z
Airintel Moresby
0526/16Z
A.C.H. Townsville
0645/16Z
N.B. 0706/16Z

1. Following a report of an unidentified ship sighted at 0840/16K off Simberi Island (New Ireland Group) on what appeared to be a S.S.W. course a Catalina Flying Boat from Rabaul located the vessel and identified her as the "YAMAGIKU MARU", due at Noumea on 22/7 from Kobe.

Administrator
Norfolk Is.
2245Z/15

2. Norfolk Island reported an unidentified ship of cargo type passing the island at a distance of 10 to 15 miles at 0630Z/15/7. The vessel was long and low in the water and had one funnel amidships and two masts.

Comment - On the assumption that she is off her course the vessel sighted may be the "SILVAPLANA", a Norwegian ship on her way to Australia from Panama. The raider reported as probably being in the vicinity of 8°N 38°E (East of Ceylon) on June 26th could have reached the position of sighting at an average speed of 14-15 knots.

C. in C. East Indies
1942Z/13

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

C.O.I.S. 0846Z/15

It is reported from Kobe that the German merchant ship "R.C. RICKMERS" (5,198 tons, 1921) has been renamed the "TRIFUKU MARU" and is painted with Japanese colours.

Comment - The "R.C. RICKMERS" has been at Kobe since September 1939.

Several other German merchant ships in Japanese ports have been reported under the Japanese flag or receiving Japanese names or Chinese crews, but the "R.C. RICKMERS" has not previously been mentioned in this connection. The only German ships in Japanese waters remaining unaffected are "HAVELLAND" and "SPREEWALD" at Yokohama, and "SCHARNHORST" "BURGENLAND" and "WINNETOU" at Kobe besides the new arrivals reported on 5th and 9th July.

WEST of Australia Station

N.S.O.I. Montevideo
1954Z/14

1. A report graded B.2 states that the German merchant ship "ERLANGEN" (3,564 tons) was to be ready to sail on 14/7.

Comment - The "ERLANGEN" left Puerto Montt on 17/5/41 having been at that port since November 1939. She arrived at Mar del Plata on 3/6/41 in ballast. It appears that since then she has been loading and her impending departure has been several times rumoured. An earlier report stated that she would leave for a Brazilian port (keeping within territorial waters) and from there would sail with other German ships under escort of a German raider or Cruiser.

1631Z/3/6

2132Z/7/7

2. It is reported by Admiralty that they have no information about the Raider No.16 but that she is believed to

Admty. 3745B/15

be in the South Atlantic.

WS/9 W.of Aust.Stn.
4 & P.S.

Comment - No.16 is known to have sunk the "TRAFALGAR" on 24/5 in the South Atlantic. ~~She~~ It has been suggested that she may have been responsible for the raider activity reported east of Ceylon last month which would mean that another Raider possibly No.46 is in the South Atlantic. If the Indian Ocean report is correct there clearly must be one raider in each area.

WS/6 B.3
WS/7 B.2(b)
WS/8 B.

C. JAPAN'S SOUTHWARD ADVANCE

The following intelligence has been received supplementing C.O.I.C. Appreciation of Japanese situation dated 12/7/41 -

D.N.I. 16/7

(1) "SUWA MARU" and "KOGYO MARU" have cancelled their sailings from Japan.

Comment - Both these ships are normally engaged on the Japan - Australia run.

Do.

(2) MITSUBISHI, Sydney, following receipt of a cable from Japan have appointed a firm of Accountants in Sydney as attorneys to conduct their business, the power of attorney to become operative on the outbreak of war.

C.I.C. China 0940/15Z

(3) C.I.C. China reports that on 2nd July the decision of the Japanese Government, communicated to Berlin, was to obtain facilities in Southern Indo-China pending developments in Eastern Siberia. Berlin was asked to assist in obtaining Vichy's consent and was informed that the protection of Indo-China against British aggression was aimed at, also that Japan has no Northern ambitions. A later report is quoted that the occupation will take place by force unless the present negotiations for a peaceful occupation produce a satisfactory result by 20th July.

It is stated that the facilities sought include free use of Saigon and Camranh for naval and merchant ships and the establishment of air bases at the following aerodromes:

Saigon, Bien-Hoa, Phnom-Penh, Kompong-Trach - Nha-Trang, Soc-Trang, Tourane, Siemreap

Comment - The potential threat to Malaya is apparent from the fact that the Southernmost of these aerodromes are within 300 miles of the Malayan coast.

Rooney (M)

Wulfsberg (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C
17/7/41

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

Serial No.DS/52

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

18/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

Nil Report

B. ADJACENT AREAS

EAST of Australia Station

DS/50 Para.B.

Further aircraft sightings have been reported from the Gilbert Islands, leaving little doubt that the Japanese are carrying out reconnaissance in this area with Heavy Bombers, of either Naval or Army type.

Cable from Res.
Commr. 0640/16Z

On 14th July, an aircraft was reported over Tarawa at 1015 hours, local time travelling on a S.E. course; another report from Beru described an aeroplane travelling N.W. at 1230 and at Butaritari at 1530 an aeroplane engine was heard above the clouds.

The aeroplane was described as a large silver monoplane with twin engines, taper wings and one ~~single~~ single tail fin.

DS/50 Para.B.

Comment - The above description fits a Japanese Heavy Bomber Army or Navy, and the reasoning in support of such a conclusion applied in the case of the aircraft reported from the same islands on 6/7 applies equally here. The distances of the respective islands from Jaluit, and the times of sighting and courses of the aircraft, indicate that the bomber left Jaluit on the morning of the 14th and proceeded to Beru via Tarawa and returned via Butaritari.

NORTH of Australia Station

JAPANESE

C.O.I.S.1006/16Z
1007/16Z,1008/16Z

Warship Movements - It is reported that in addition to the normal China Fleet there are present in China waters Japanese Naval Forces as follows -

- (1) Newly formed Third Fleet consisting of the cruiser "NAGARA" (5,170, 7-5.5") (Flagship) and apparently the cruiser "KINU" (5,170, 7-5.5"); the mining vessels "ITSUKUSHIMA" "YAYEYAMA"; "TYOGEI" Sub. Depot Ship; 11 submarines; 12 minesweepers; 6 submarine chasers; 1 store ship; approx 20 auxiliaries; part of whole of 1st Base Unit. 2nd Fleet is also included. The submarines have been drawn from the Sixth Fleet. "NAGARA" returned to Formosa area on 16/7. The position of the remaining units is not clear but some are near Formosa.
- (2) The 2nd A/C Carrier Squadron consisting of "SIRYU" and "HIRYU". Both are in the Formosa area.
- (3) The 7th Cruiser Squadron consisting of 4 "MOGAMI" Class cruisers is on passage from Kure to Sama (Naval base on south coast of Hainan).

Comment - The newly formed Third Fleet apparently refers to the force that has recently been created and sent to augment the South China Fleet.

It would now appear that the Japanese Naval Forces in the Hainan-Formosa area apart from a substantial fleet of auxiliary craft and submarines comprise at least -

- 1 8" Cruiser ("ASHIGARA")
- 4 6" Cruisers - "MOGAMI" "SUZUYA"
"KUMANO" "MIKUMA"
- 3 5.5" " " "NATORI" "MAYA"
"KINU" "NAGARA"
- 2 Aircraft Carriers - "SORYU" and
"HIRYU"

GENERAL SITUATION

N.O.I.C.Sydney
0907/17Z

Admiralty.
1957 8/15.

S.O.I.Sydney
0531/17Z

A press message intercepted by censorship from a U.S. correspondent in Shanghai states that Japan has ordered full mobilisation. ~~As yet there is no confirmation from other sources. Official sources report mobilisation increased control of communications and disembarkations and cancellation of~~
Shipping Movements - Censorship reports the receipt of various cables by shipping agents for Japanese firms indicating the curtailment of overseas trade e.g. Kanematsu, Kobe cable Kanematsu Wellington that a new export regulation act is proclaimed and export permission is temporarily suspended.

Cables also indicate that the "MOMOYAMA MARU" has been withdrawn from the Australian run in addition to the "KOGYO MARU" and "SUWA MARU".

Randall (N)
E. Batchelor (M)
E. J. Davis (A)

C.O.I.C.
18/7/41

19/7

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/53

(Portions marked with marginal red line
are not to be reproduced).

19/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H. Darwin
0742Z/18

1. On returning from Darwin Standard Patrol No.1, aircraft reported 20 Broome luggers between Broome and Port Hedland, but no Japanese luggers.

Comment - Recent reports have shown Japanese luggers to be in the area west of Bathurst Is. Although it is customary for Japanese luggers to operate off Broome none have been reported there this season. In view of the economic value of the Broome pearling reefs this would suggest that Japanese luggers are purposely keeping as far north as possible in view of the general political situation.

D.N.O. S.A.
0601/18Z

2. The police at Robe report that another mine is ashore 14 miles north of Robe.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

C.O.I.S. 0718/16Z
0507/14Z
DS/50 Para.B.

Enemy Merchant Ships - The "ODENWALD" (formerly "Assuan") (5,098 tons) which departed Yokohama 11/7, is reported with the "SPREEWALD" as being back in dock.

C.O.I.S. 0351/16Z
0846/15Z
DS/51 Para.B.

The "TEIFUKU MARU" (5,198 tons - formerly the German "R.C.RICKMERS", which on the only occasion when it was previously mentioned by its new name was called "Trifuku Maru") departed Kobe 14/7 flying Japanese colours.

Comment - It would appear that both "ODENWALD" (1923) and "R.C.RICKMERS" (1921) are being used in the Japanese coastal trade.

Hammer (N)

Percival (M)

A. B. Baerthel (A)

C.O.I.C.

19/7/41

22/7
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/54

(Portions marked with marginal red line are 22/7/41
not to be reproduced).

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

N.B.0857/20Z
0902/20Z, 2357/20Z
0010/21Z
A.C.H.Melbourne
2324/20Z

1. An unidentified ship was sighted 22 miles off Cape Otway on course 90° at 1745/20K. (Serial No.79).

Comment - Subsequently identified as "COLAC" and Serial Number cancelled.

Adelaide Radio
21/7
D.N.O. S.A.
1315/21K

2. The Yugo-Slav "ZVIR" reported sighting a suspicious ship at 0930/21K in position 37°S, 139°E steering 315°.

Comment - ~~Identified as~~ ^{Commanded to be} "CANBERRA MARU".

DS/47 Para.5.
Airtel N. Area
1504/21Z, 1650/21Z
A.C.H. Townsville
1725/21Z
DS/51 Para. 2.
Serial No.78

3. COOKTOWN (QLD) - A report was received from Cooktown that a strange aircraft had been sighted east of the town travelling south at 2330 hours yesterday (21/7). The machine was again sighted at 2358 hours to the west of the aerodrome heading north. On both occasions a small light was visible.

After further investigation the aircraft was still unidentified, and in view of this report and the unidentified shipsighted off Norfolk Island on 15/7, A.C.H. Townsville has ordered one Hudson to carry out a search today (22/7). The search is to follow a line approx 120 miles offshore from a point opposite Hinchinbrook Island as far north as Cape Melville, thence to the 150th degree of longitude and back to Townsville, forming a rough triangle -- to commence at 0730K.

Comment - This is the second occasion on which strange aircraft have been reported over Cooktown this month.

During the night of 7/8 July two aircraft were heard flying north at 2359/7K and 0015/8K, while natives reported having sighted navigation lights at approx the same times. Although investigations were carried out, it was impossible to identify the aircraft.

This sighting bears a close resemblance to the previous one in the following respects:-

- (1) The times at which the aircraft appeared over Cooktown are almost identical (within half an hour of midnight) on a Monday night at an interval of exactly 2 weeks;
- (2) The aircraft again carried a light which does not indicate any particular attempt at concealment;
- (3) The aircraft departed in a northerly direction.

On this occasion twenty eight minutes elapsed between the first and second sightings, which would have given the aircraft time to have landed somewhere south of the town for an undisclosed purpose.

From the recurrence of the same type of sighting at an interval of two weeks it appears unlikely that hostile reconnaissance is being carried out, as neither the time of night nor the locality seem particularly appropriate,

although it was stated previously that there is a German Mission in the vicinity. It appears more likely that the aircraft are engaged in some illicit opium or other smuggling activity in the neighbourhood with a rendezvous on Monday nights.

In view, however, of the presence of an unidentified ship reported from Norfolk Is. on 15/7, the possibility of shipborne reconnaissance cannot altogether be dismissed, and the air search from Townsville today is being conducted with this in mind.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

- 1. GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS - The "ODENWALD" (formerly "Assuan" 5,098 tons, 1923) again departed Yokohama 19/7. She was flying the Japanese flag and had a name written in characters; her hull was black, her superstructure dark brown, her funnel black with a white band round the centre and the letter "O" painted on it in red.

Comment - Her immediately previous movements at Yokohama were:-

- (a) departed 11/7;
- (b) returned to dock 16/7.

- 2. It is reported that the "SPREEWALD" (5,083 tons - 1922) has returned to anchorage in harbour painted all grey.

Comment - This vessel was previously reported as being in dock at Yokohama with "ODENWALD" on 16/7. It would appear probable that both these units are being employed in the Japanese coastal trade.

- 3. VICHY FRENCH WARSHIPS - The sloop "AMIRAL CHARNER" (1,969 tons - 3-5.4" guns) arrived Saigon 19/7.

Comment - With the Vichy French Cruiser "LA MOTTE PIQUET" and the Vichy French Submarine "PEGASE" she departed Saigon 22/6 for exercise off Camranh. "LA MOTTE PIQUET" returned 26/6.

C.S.Singapore
1401/20Z

0507/14Z

C.O.I.S.0718/16Z

C.S.Singapore
1401/20Z

C.O.I.S.0301/21Z

0344/4Z

Handwritten:
Gandy (N)
George D. Atchey
W. G. Wesche (A)

C.O.I.C.

22/7/41

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/55

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

23/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/54 Para.3.

COOKTOWN SIGHTING - The search conducted by air from ^{CRFT} Townsville, which was sent out ~~today~~ ^{YESTERDAY} following the report of an unidentified aircraft over Cooktown on 21/7 produced negative results.

Airintel N.Area
0500Z/21

A further report from the Military Authorities, Cairns, states that 6 garrison members heard and saw the plane which sounded multi-engined. Investigations are proceeding.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

In consideration of latest information which indicates a Japanese intention to occupy bases in South Indo-China or some other move in a southern direction the Far East Commander in Chief has ordered reconnaissances for 23rd, 24th and 25th July to be conducted in the morning and evening of those days. In this reconnaissance the forces of the N.E.I. and the U.S. Asiatic Fleet have been requested to co-operate, the former over Kuantan and Poeloe Laoet, Kuching and possibly Talaud, Morotai and Sorong and the latter west of Manila. These reconnaissances cover the gaps -

C.I.C: China
0820Z/22
to C.Z.M. Batavia

- (a) between the southern end of the Malay Peninsula and S.W. Sarawak and
- (b) between the N.W. extremity of New Guinea to Noumea Is. across the Molucca Passage.

WEST of Australia Station

WS/9 B.1.

With regard to the failure of the Cocos Island - Batavia and the Darwin - Sourabaya cables, reported on 10/7, the following information is now to hand -

Minute to D.N.I.
21/7/41

- (1) Cocos Island - Batavia cable - interrupted 2/7, communication restored 12/7. The opinion of Naval and Civil technical officers is unanimous that the break was caused by Seismic disturbance;
- (2) Darwin - Sourabaya cable: interrupted 10/7, communication restored 21/7. This cable is 61 years old and cable officials consider the break was due to natural causes, although it occurred in comparatively shallow water and within the scope of a diver.

Rand (N)

Perival (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

23/7/41

J. R. Jara

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are
not to be reproduced).
Submitted.

Serial No. DS/56

24/7/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.T. 1110/22Z
1050/23Z
0315/23Z

Darwin 0510/23Z
0915/23Z

1. The following movements of aircraft took place on 23/7:
 - (1) One Empire Flying Boat proceeded from Brisbane to Noumea;
 - (2) One Empire Flying Boat, Gavutu to Vila;
 - (3) One Empire Flying Boat, Vila to Gavutu;
 - (4) A Hudson was also sent from Darwin to Bathurst Is. to effect a change of guards. On return the pilot reported having sighted 9 Japanese and 2 Darwin luggers about 20 miles off the west coast of the island, on a course of approximately 40°. He also reported 3 Japanese luggers within the three mile limit near Rocky Point (on the west coast of Bathurst Is.) and marks of landing parties on the beach.

Comment - Bathurst Is. area is a usual ground covered by the Japanese pearling fleet. The number of luggers on this ground has been consistent since the beginning of the season.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

THE JAPANESE SITUATION -

1. GENERAL - Press messages contain the following items of interest:-
 - (1) From Montreal - Information reaching high government authority indicates Japanese intends to march troops southward and march may be already begun;
 - (2) Japan has established complete censorship of Radio and Cable communications.
2. Merchant Ships - The Soviet Naval Attache states that all Japanese ship sailings via Tsuruga (Japan) to Vladivostock have been suspended until further notice.
3. Warships, Transports and Auxiliaries - The above Soviet source states further that Japanese Naval units are off Southern Hokkaido and Northern Honshu.

Comment - The points specified namely Tzukouai and Fukuyama in Hokkaido and Amidito in Honshu are the logical location for a concentration assuming an attack on Vladivostock and ~~for~~ ^{on} the Maritime Province is intended.

4. The Dutch Consul-General Kobe reports -
 - (a) Eight supply ships left Kobe and twelve transports left Osaka 19/7;
 - (b) Supply ships loaded with timber and other materials are leaving Kobe at frequent intervals;
 - (c) Two aircraft mother ships, three cruisers and 28 submarines steering westerly were sighted 21/7 by a Java-China-Japan Line vessel when approaching Kobe.

S.O.(I) Sydney
0310Z/23

Press Message

B.N.A. Tokyo
1626Z/22

ditto

CZM.

0539Z

Comment - Reports (a) and (b) could conform with operations necessary to the conduct of the war in China. In view of the imminence of a Japanese move into Indo-China, however, and the gradual augmentation of her naval strength in the South China - Hainan area recently, it would appear probable that at least the units referred to in report (c) are bound for that area.

Stanley (N)

[Signature] (M)

A. B. Baeathur (A)

C.O.I.C.

24/7/41

25/7

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/56⁵⁷

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced). 25/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

N.I.O. Rabaul
0615/24Z

1. An unidentified ship (Serial No.81) was sighted west of Anir at 0502Z yesterday (24/7) steering south. Naval Intelligence Officer, Rabaul, advised that the first half of the message from Anir giving this report had not been received and that it had not been possible to contact Anir and obtain a repetition.

A.C.H. Townsville
1755/24Z

A search is to be carried out today (25/7) commencing at 0001Z by aircraft from Moresby who will search an area of approx 90 by 150 miles between Murua (Woodlark Island) and New Georgia. The southern extremity of this area is approx 300 miles south of Anir.

S.O. (N.C.S)
24/7

Comment - Anir (or Feni) Island is off the south-eastern extremity of New Ireland. The unidentified ship sighted off Norfolk Island on 15th July has had ample time to have reached the area.

WS/10 Para.2.
S.O. (N.C.S)
24/7

2. NORFOLK ISLAND (Serial No.78) - It has now been established that the ship sighted off Norfolk Island on 1st July was not the "SILVAPLANA".

Comment - Admiralty report a D/F indication of the presence of an enemy unit in the Indian Ocean on 17th and 21st July and suggest this to be probably the raider which attacked "MAREEBA" and "VELEBIT". This would rule out the possibility of the same unit having been in the position of the Norfolk Is. sighting on 15/7 as previously suggested, unless, as would appear unlikely, there was more than one raider operating in the area.

Admty.1911/22B

3. COOKTOWN - The Air Intelligence Officer, Northern Area, who has been investigating the report of aircraft flying over Cooktown, has now confirmed the original grading (C.5) and considers the possibility of aircraft having been responsible as most unlikely.

DS/54 Para.3.

4. CEDUNA (South Australia) - Several people, including 2 members of the R.A.A.F. Radio Staff, observed lights 20 - 30 miles to sea during the first 2 hours of 24/7. The lights were described in one case as being to sea in a S.E. direction in a fast moving object, appearing in a green, red and white sequence, the coloured lights blinking fast, the white light slowly. In another case they were reported as being a loom of flash light alternatively green, red and white S.W. of Ceduna, which was observed in different positions suggesting movement in a S.E. direction.

4 M.D. 1345/24K
D.N.O. S.A.
0449/24Z

Comment - There are several beacons off Ceduna in a S.W. direction some of which flash white red and green lights. The majority are approx 5 miles from Ceduna. The area is also an important fishing area from which small craft are operating. It would appear probable that the distance of sighting as claimed is incorrect and that lights from either the beacons or fishing craft off shore were responsible for the sightings.

S.C.1345/24K
D.N.O. S.A.
0221/24Z, 0332/24Z
S.O.(I) Adelaide
R440/24K

DS/48 Para.A.3.
DS/53 Para.A.2.

5. A mine was reported by the ss "ECHUNGA" approx 14 miles about due south from Cape Willoughby. The M/S "Coolebar" sank the mine by rifle fire and reported it as painted green, rusty, and partly covered by marine growth. Five horns were visible.

Comment - This is the seventh mine to have been discovered off the South Australian coast since 4/6. From its description it would appear to be from the old field.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

WEST of Australia Station

Admty.1911/22B

It is reported that there were indications of the presence of a German unit in the Indian Ocean on 17th and 21st July. No call signs were heard, but it is thought that the W/T traffic was inter-communications between the raider and its supply ship possibly arranging for the transfer of prisoners from "MAREEBA" and "VELEBIT".

NORTH of Australia Station

Most secret political
advice Circular
No.176 dated 23/7

1. JAPANESE SITUATION - It has been reported through official channels that Vichy has, due to extremely strong insistence of the Japanese, granted Japan permission to occupy Indo-China. The report states that Vichy has asked Japan to make a public declaration of its intention to respect French sovereign rights over the country and to promise the withdrawal of its troops when "the emergency" has passed.
2. A press message from the New York Times Shanghai correspondent states that it is an open secret that previously reported Japanese troop movements consist of considerable reinforcements to North Manchuria. All signs indicate that the Japanese have decided to take sides soon in the Russo-German struggle.
German nationals have been warned to remain at Shanghai instead of summering at the usual Northern China ports. This is believed to indicate the possibility of Russian submarines isolating Shanghai in the event of Russo-Japanese hostilities. It is understood that the Russians are bringing submarines from the Baltic to the Pacific via the northern route.
3. The Japanese have suspended all wireless traffic ~~extending~~ excepting for distress signals or urgent signals concerning navigation.

Montreal-Melbourne
1422/24K

Circular Cablegram
from Berne to all
Post Offices.

R. ... (N)

(M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

25/7/41

26/7

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/58

(Portions marked with marginal red line are 26/7/41
not to be reproduced).

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

DS/57 Para.A.1.

1. Following the sighting of an unidentified ship off Anir Island a search was carried out by aircraft from No.11 Squadron.

A vessel was sighted and shadowed but was then identified as the Russian ship "ASHKHABAD" bound for Port Pirie for loading lead cargo.

Comment - The arrival of this ship together with information received from Censorship intercepts indicates that several Russian ships may shortly be expected in Australian waters.

L/T D.N.O S.A.
2005K/25/7
L/T N.I.D.
2027/25/7

2. A mine has been reported on the beach 9 miles to the South of Robe. Examined by a constable of Robe, it was stated to be of the same type as others found in that locality. The mine has six horns visible, all of them bent; other horns are buried in the sand. Arrangements for the disposal of the mine are being made.

Comment - This is the eighth mine reported on the South Australian coast and the fifth in the vicinity of Robe.

L/T Sgt.Lonergan
N aracoope
King Is.
2350K/25

3. The Naval Coast-watcher at Naracoope, King Is., reported seeing a navigation light 6 or 7 miles to the N.E. at 2000K/25.

At 2045K and until 2315K he saw the apex of a moving searchlight beam on a north-easterly bearing.

Comment - On investigation it was found that the searchlight battery at Queenscliff was operating during the period in question. It is known that these searchlights, can be seen from King Is. especially when there are low-lying clouds, as there were last night.

As regards the navigation light it is likely that the "Anita May", southbound for Tasmania, or some other ketch which has slipped out was responsible for the sighting.

A.I.Archerfield
1350Z/25/7

4. A report from Thursday Island, graded B.2, states that 15 Japanese sampans and 30 luggers are working Cook shoal.

Comment - Cook Shoal is 70 miles N.W. of Thursday Island and 40 miles N.N.E. of Merkara shoal. This report would appear to confirm a previous report that 2 sampans were working off Merkara shoal and that many more sampans were on their way to that locality.

It is to be observed that sampans do not normally work in these waters. It would appear that the sampans have arrived from Japanese fishing areas further north, possibly the Mandated Islands or the Celebes (N.E.I.).

It is suggested by Airintel, Archerfield, that the luggers could be useful in an evacuation of Japanese from Australia or that in the case of war the luggers could be

N.O.C. T.I.
0001Z/9/7

A.I.Archerfield
1350Z/25/7

scuttled and their crews taken aboard the sampans. He also suggests that a patrol vessel could usefully operate in the vicinity of Cook Shoal.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

1. NORTH of Australia Station

Australian N.L.O.
0645Z/25

Aircraft and other reports indicate that at least 4 out of 5 Japanese merchant ships in the Dutch East Indies waters are leaving them in a north-easterly or easterly direction regardless of their previous destination.

C.O.I.S. 2145Z/3
N.S.H.Q. Ottawa
1942Z/10
Most secret political
sources 23/7

Comment - Evacuation of ~~many~~ ^{Japanese} merchant ships from the N.E.I. has not previously been reported. Evacuation of ships from the Philippines and the east coast of America began towards the beginning of this month. An increased tonnage, however, has been made available for the west coast of South America, besides an increase in the South Seas and coastal traffic.

2. EAST of Australia Station

C. in C. Atl. Stn.
2331N/24

Enemy Merchant Ships in South American Ports - It is reported that the Italian aeroplanes "IBATA" flying from Natal to St. Vincent and "ROME" flying from St. Vincent to Natal, made clearing searches on 24/7 for enemy merchant ships leaving South American ports.

Admty. 2343B/23
N.S.O.I. Montevideo
0121Z/22

On the same day the following ships sailed -
(a) "ERLANGEN" (German) at Mandel Plata since 3/6/41;
(b) "TEBRO" (Italian) from Santos;
(c) "ANTONIO LIMONCELLI" (Italian) from Maranham.

C.I.C. Atl. Stn.
2343B/23
N.S.O.I. Montevideo
0121Z/22

Two other Italian ships have been given permission to sail, viz. "STELLA" and "AFRICANA" at Pernambuco.

The Italian "HIMALAYA" at Rio de Janeiro is reported to be loading slowly and has not yet bunkered.

Comment - An earlier report stated that the "ERLANGEN" would leave for a Brazilian port (keeping within territorial waters) and from there would sail with other German ships under escort of a German raider or cruiser.

Ramsey (N)

(M)

C.O.I.C.

26/7/41

*cf. NSD(I) Montevideo 2312 2/7/6.
N.A. Rio de Janeiro 2001 2/30/5 H. J. ... (A)*

~~SECRET~~
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No. DS/59.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

MOST SECRET.

Submitted.

A. AUSTRALIA STATION.

1. ROBE. A mine was discovered on the beach 14 miles south of Robe on the afternoon of 26/7. Some of the horns were bent, it appeared badly buffeted though there was not as much green growth as the last one. It has not yet been destroyed but an R.M.S. party is being sent 27/7.
Comment. - This is the third mine in the last week to be found in this locality. They are all considered to be from the old field.
2. Aircraft Movements. An Empire flying boat flew from Gavutu to Rabaul and a Catalina from Gizo to Tulagi. There were nil sightings reported.

B. ADJACENT AREAS.

North of Australia Station.

JAPANESE

3. PORTUGUESE TIMOR. Airintel Darwin has reported that another Japanese flight from Palau is due on 8th August.
Comment. - This will make the 7th experimental flight, one more than the original six agreed to. There have been previous indications that this further flight would take place, which is evidence of Japan's desire to increase her influence in this area.
4. CAROLINE ISLANDS. Intelligence from most secret source suggests the presence in Truk of a special landing party from Kure.
Comment. - Kure is a major Japanese naval base. Special landing parties consist of marines and have in the past been used as shock troops in landings in China. Following the operations by shore based aircraft and naval units south of Truk last month, this intelligence offers further evidence of the probable nature and direction of an attack in the event of Japan going to war with Britain.
5. INDO CHINA. Two separate reports state that about 40,000 Japanese troops will land in AKYAB, INDO CHINA between 27th and 30th July while the main force will be in the Saigon area.

West of Australia Station.

6. RAIDER IN INDIAN OCEAN. The "Sophocles" due at Capetown from Karachi on 15/7 and reported overdue on 19/7 arrived in port 20/7. The "Cromarty" from Fremantle due in Capetown on 16/7 was reported as overdue on 20/7 and no advice has subsequently been received as to her arrival.
Comment. - ~~It is possible that the raider which it is assumed is responsible for the loss of "Mareeba" and "Velebit" in the Bay of Bengall last month has also accounted for the "Cromarty".~~ There were indications from W/T traffic that a raider and supply ship were in the Indian Ocean on the 17th and 21/7.

L/L.
S.O.(1)
Adelaide.
D.N.O. S.A.
1203Z/26.

Airintel Darwin
1140/26Z

S.O.(1)
Capetown 1015/20B.

Adty. 1911/22B

M. Saunders

AM
M.
A.A. Bhaerath core 27/7

447917
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.O.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/60

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

29/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Townsville
0815/28Z

1. Aircraft Movements - An Empire Flying Boat flew from Port Moresby to Townsville. There were nil sightings reported.

Airintel Darwin
0230/28Z

2. ROPER RIVER (Arnheim Land) - A report from Roper River Mission states that natives sighted an aircraft, with navigation lights showing, going towards Groote Eylandt on the evening of 27/7.

No aircraft from the Australia Station were in this area at the stated time.

Goulburn Is.
21/7

Comment - Roper River Mission reported a sighting by natives of "a seaplane and upright stick moving in the water off Bickerton Island early in May". There is also the native report of Japanese overseas pearlers having established a fuel dump between Cape Stewart and Blythe River (less than 150 miles by air from Bickerton Is.)

The reliability of the native observers in the area is unknown. S.O.(I) Darwin has advised in connection with the Bickerton Is. report that it is probable that they have either seen or heard of the landing of Qantas aircraft at Groote Eylandt and that a civil aviation motor boat was mistaken for a submarine.

The possibility of Japanese aircraft being in the area is considered unlikely because of -
(a) Inaccessibility of place to ^{FOREIGN} shore-based or ship-borne aircraft;
(b) There is nothing of any reconnaissance value in the area.

3. A report from D.N.O. South Australia states that the mines found at Robe on 25/7 and 26/7 have been rendered safe. Both are thought to have been laid 6 to 8 months.

JAPANESE

S.O.(I) Sydney
0211Z/28

4. It is reported that Mitsubishi (Sydney) have been instructed by their Head Office (Tokyo) to prepare to close their office and return all their staff.

1400Z/28

5. The Japanese ship "CANBERRA MARU" due Sydney 0830Z/28 had not yet been reported at 1400Z/28.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

S.O.(I) Sydney
0920Z/28/7

6. JAPANESE - A source of press information usually considered reliable, reports that the Japanese are planning to occupy the Natuna Islands which lie midway between Borneo and Malaya, alleging the necessity for ~~for~~ protecting Japanese interests in Indo-China.

Comment - The Natuna Islands are at present under Dutch ^{is} control and a group of Dornier Flying Boats ~~are~~ based there from time to time.

7. A United States source reports that all French merchant shipping in the vicinity of Indo-China or in Indo-Chinese

Admty.2255B/27/7

ports may be taken over by the Japanese. Instructions have therefore been passed for the interception of Vichy French ships eastbound or passing through Sunda Straits and for their detention pending clarification of the Far East situation. The N.E.I. have been asked to co-operate.

Cdr. Kennedy
0813/5/6

Comment - N.E.I. Naval vessels have been intercepting all French ships passing Sunda Straits since 3rd June.

FECB.1948(25 to 39)
2 April/15 July

- 8. A number of French ships have recently left Saigon for Tametave, Dakar and Marseilles and one at least of these was simply in ballast but only 3 ships have been recently reported bound for Saigon, viz.
 - (a) "SIKIANG" (7,000 tons, 1914) from Reunion to Saigon via Sourabaya, passed Sunda Strait 8/7/41;
 - (b) "COMPIEGNE" (10,000 tons, 1923) from Dakar to Saigon, stopped in Sunda Straits 19/6/41, later proceeded from Batavia;
 - (c) "DUPLIEX" (7,100 tons, 1914) from Marseilles to Saigon, carrying troops, passed Sunda Straits, 15/6/41.

FECB.1948(32)

In addition the "MARECHAL JOFFRE" (11,400 tons, 1930) and "BERNADIN DE ST. PIERRE" (10,100 tons, 1924) would appear to be operating a Service between Far Eastern Ports.

EAST of Australia Station

Most secret sources

- 9. JAPANESE - Confirmation is awaited of a report that a Japanese warship is operating in the area between the Ellice Islands and the Santa Cruz Group.
- 10. ATLANTIC It would appear that another air reconnaissance has been carried out by Italian planes between Natal and St. Vincent and further departures from South American ports can be expected. The German ship "STELLA" and the Italian "AFRICANA" have permits to sail from Pernambuco.
 - The "ANTONIO LIMONCELLI" previously reported as having left Maranham, is now reported still there but likely to sail very shortly.
 - The German ship "NORDENEY" has been refused permission to sail from Rio de Janeiro.
 - The German ship "HAGEN" was heard calling Pernambuco by W/T on 5/7 in position 02°35'N, 38°55'W. There has been no previous indication of this ship being in the South Atlantic and it is thought one of the German ships out of South American ports has been using the "HAGENUS" call sign.
 - An attack on the "A.B.W. DE LIDVARD" by an unknown vessel in 12°35'N, 17°52'W would appear to confirm the presumed presence of an enemy raider in the North Atlantic.

C. in C. S.A.
2331N/24

DS/58 B.2.
N.A. Rio 2041Z/23
2129Z/25

C. in C. S.A.
0155N/27

Rugby 1955Z/27

Lowndes (N)

GP atch (M)

AS Bradshaw (A)

C.O.I.C.

29/7/41

30/7
C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

D.N.I.
D.C.D.
D.C.N.S.
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I.

Serial No.DS/61

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced).

30/7/41

Submitted.

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

- 1. An outer anti-submarine patrol and two clearing searches by aircraft from Richmond and Laverton were provided for U.S.11B. Results were negative.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH of Australia Station

- 2. The Japanese merchant ship "KASIMA MARU" (9,908 tons) which on 21/7 gave by radio her anticipated date of arrival at Townsville as 27/7 subsequently turned back before reaching Thursday Is. where she was due 24/7. She was sighted by aircraft on 26/7 on a N.E. course some 430 miles S.W. of Palau and approx 180 miles N. of her known position on 21/7.

EAST of Australia Station

- 3. Japanese Warship - A later check on the position of the Japanese warship which was thought to be operating between the Ellice Islands and the Santa Cruz Group showed her to be in the vicinity of the Gilberts on a northerly course.
- 4. U.S. Intelligence Officer Los Angeles reports that the Japanese vessel "HEYO MARU" which was expected to arrive at Acapulco, Mexico P.M. 27/7 had on board spare engine parts for a raider.

Comment - S.O.(I) Wellington reported on 27/7 of a damaged raider being at Easter Island and in the event of this report being substantiated, it would appear possible that "HEYO MARU" is carrying spare parts for the same ship.

H.M.C.S."PRINCE ROBERT" is at present en route to Easter Island to investigate the report.

- 5. JAPANESE SITUATION - Orders were issued on 28th July by the Japanese Admiralty to the effect that merchant ships may enter any port in N.E.I. but only British or U.S. ports if specifically ordered and in the meantime they were to remain 50 miles outside any such port of destination.

Aust. N.L.O.
Batavia 0711Z/28/7

Most secret sources

WS/11

Most secret sources
A.C.H.B.0721/29Z

Laundy (N)
Percival (M)
D. J. O. W. (A)

C.O.I.C.
30/7/41

3117

C.O.I.C. DAILY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL-INTELLIGENCE

Serial No. DS/62

~~B.N.I.~~
~~D.O.D.~~
~~D.C.N.S.~~
D.O.I.
D.D.M.I. Submitted.

(Portions marked with marginal red line are not to be reproduced.)

31/7/41

MOST SECRET

A. AUSTRALIA STATION

A.C.H.Q. Melb.
0931/30Z

- ✓ 1. CONVOY U.S. 11B - Two clearing searches were carried out yesterday (30/7) by aircraft from Laverton ahead of Convoy U.S. 11B with negative results.

D.N.O. S.A.
2333Z/29

S.O.(I) Adelaide
1230K/30
1430K/30

- ✓ 2. Cape Border - Neptune Islands (S.A) - A green light, resembling a ball, was sighted between Neptune Is. and Cape Border, S.S.E. from the former and N.W. from the latter, and observed from both places at approx 1619Z/29. It was described as falling seaward, as being at a height of 10 degrees, visible for one second from the former place, a few seconds from the latter. No known ship was in the vicinity at the time.

✓ The S.A. Meteorological Bureau did not consider the sighting to be a meteorite from the description. S.O.(I) Adelaide advised that several similar sightings had recently been reported from the S.A. Coast and a full report is being made. He states there are a number of Germans living in the localities involved.

Comment - Neptune Islands are at the entrance to Spencer Gulf, and Cape Borda is that N.W. point of Kangaroo Island. Cape Borda is approx 35 miles from the South Neptunes and approx 40 miles from the North Neptune Island. From one or other of the places of sighting, the distance of sighting was probably at least 20 miles. It would therefore appear that neither a rocket, nor the light of a ship or aircraft was responsible as none of these would have been visible at that distance. It would appear probable that some natural phenomena is responsible.

B. ADJACENT AREAS

EAST of Australia Station

Admty. 1658B/29
S.O.(I) Wellington
1227M/29

- ✓ 3. Easter Island - The report of a raider lying disabled at Easter Island, which H.M.C.S. "PRINCE ROBERT" has been sent to investigate is, in view of the absence of raider reports ^{in Pacific Area} since Christmas 1940 and lack of permanent anchorage at Easter Island, announced as having been graded D.4.

NORTH of Australia Station

C.S. Singapore
0414Z/29

4. French Warships - The French submarine "PEGASE" which with the French sloop "AMIRAL CHARNER" and the French cruiser "LA MOTTE PIQUET" departed Saigon 22/6 for exercise off Camranh, returned Saigon 26/7.

DS/54 Para. B.3.

Comment - The "AMIRAL CHARNER" and the "LA MOTTE PIQUET" had returned previously.

WEST of Australia Station

Admty. 1658B/29

5. RAIDER ACTIVITY - D/F indications on 25th and 29th July point to the presence of a raider in the southern Indian Ocean probably in the area between the Kerguelen and Amsterdam Islands.

Comment - The following is a list of possible raider

indications in the Indian Ocean area since 1st June:-

- (1) "MAREEBA" and "VELEBIT" are presumed sunk about 26/6 about in position 8°N 88°E;
- (2) D/F indications on 17th and 21st July considered to be possibly communication between a German raider and her supply ship possibly arranging to transfer prisoners from the "VELEBIT" and "MAREEBA";
- (3) The British ship "CROMARTY" (4,974 tons - 10 knots) has not yet been reported arrived at Capetown from Fremantle where she was due on 16/7. She was reported overdue on 20/7.

C. in C. E.I.
1942Z/13

Admty.1911B/22/7

S.O.(I) Capetown
1015/20B

Handwritten signature (N)

Handwritten signature (M)

Handwritten signature (A)

C.O.I.C.

31/7/41